

Leisure operators to benefit from summer savings

By **Pete Hayman**

More than 40 per cent of British people are planning on spending the money saved on bills during the summer on leisure activities, according to a new report by National Savings and Investments (NS&I).

The *Quarterly Savings Survey* revealed that 42 per cent of people believe that they save an average of around £77 a month during the summer, a period when 48 per cent said that they spend around £110 a month on leisure activities.

A further 43 per cent of people said that the warmer weather encouraged them to feel more relaxed with their



Warm weather encourages people to spend more during summer

spending habits, while entertaining children on school holidays and the cost of socialising also impact upon the population's summer leisure spending levels.

The report also revealed that more than half (60 per cent) of the people surveyed were inclined to spend more on holidaying during the summer rather than the winter, and 39

per cent admitted that they were more likely to spend money at restaurants and bars.

A series of measures has been recommended by NS&I that could help to reduce summer spending and make the most of savings on bills, including the use of 'days out' vouchers, researching local walking and cycling routes and getting involved with free local council activities.

The results of the *Quarterly Savings Survey* follows a report by Visit Britain, which predicted that the weak pound could see five million more domestic holidays being booked this summer, as well as increased numbers of overseas visitors.

Fire-ravaged Cutty Sark to reopen next summer

Popular attraction to open to the public three years after nearly being destroyed

By **Luke Tuchscherer**

Cutty Sark, the historic tea clipper situated in Greenwich, south London, is set to reopen in summer 2010, three years after it was ravaged by fire.

A £25m restoration project was already underway to protect the ship from corrosion and to make it more accessible to visitors, but the fire – which was caused by an industrial-sized vacuum cleaner that had been left switched on – has now added a further £10m to the scheme's original cost.



The historic tea clipper was damaged by fire in May 2007

The cost of reconstruction has been partly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, which awarded the scheme a £11.75m

grant in June 2007. Once finished, the work will protect the vessel from corrosion and will also make it more accessible to visitors.

The restoration project will see the Cutty Sark suspended 3m (3.8ft) above its current position in order to enable visitors to walk underneath the ship and view its hull design.

There will also be a glass canopy installed, meeting the ship at the waterline and covering the dry dock, creating 1,000sq m (10,763.9sq ft) of space for events.

Calls for Conan Doyle attraction

A campaign has been launched to convert the home of Sherlock Holmes' creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, into a visitor centre.

The Surrey Hills Society is behind the scheme to utilise the house in Undershaw, Surrey, which was boarded up by Waverley Council in 2007.

The society said that the creation of a visitor centre at Undershaw "could be the catalyst for the reshaping of the whole of Hindhead Crossroads".

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Clapham Junction plans withdrawn

Ambitious £400m mixed-use development shelved after opposition from council

By Pete Hayman

Plans for the £400m redevelopment of Clapham Junction in south west London have been withdrawn after the joint venture behind the scheme encountered opposition from the local authority.

Metro Shopping Fund, which comprises Land Securities and Delancey, submitted a planning application to the London Borough of Wandsworth for the mixed-use scheme in September last year.

The project included two new entrances for Clapham Junction railway station, capable of accommodating a 1.6 million increase in users, as well as a two-level pedestrian street with cafés, bars and a 1-acre rooftop garden with restaurant and an arthouse cinema.



The initiative would have included an arthouse cinema and cafés

But James Ritblat, chief executive of Delancey, has revealed that proposals, which also included new public spaces and residential units, were shelved after Wandsworth Council withdrew its support for the development.

Ritblat said: "We are all deeply disappointed and frustrated that, despite many

years of close cooperation and support from Wandsworth, to ensure that our proposals met all of their objectives for the location, the council has now seen fit to entertain a recommendation for refusal.

"We've invested significant resources but the lack of council support has forced us to withdraw our application."

£5m Burns Monument Centre opens to the public

By Pete Hayman

The new £5m Burns Monument Centre in Kilmarnock, East Ayrshire, which is Scotland's first purpose-built ancestral history facility, has been officially unveiled by First Minister Alex Salmond.

Situated in the town's Kay Park, the new facility incorporates an archive centre, a registration service and a local and family history library, along with a collection featuring 1,500 volumes of poetry, songs and letters, written by the iconic Scottish poet, Robert Burns.

It is anticipated that the Burns Monument Centre, which has been inspired by the 250th anniversary of the poet's birth, will make it easier for local residents, as



The facility will include a vast archive of Robert Burns' works

well as Scotland's 40 million displaced nationals, to research their family roots.

Salmond said: "2009 is a unique year for visitors to Scotland to join in the celebration of the country's great contributions to the world. I am delighted to open

the Burns Monument Centre during our Homecoming year.

"Homecoming extends an invitation to people around the world, with a family link or an affinity for Scotland to come home, reconnect and play a part in the dynamic, modern country we are building."

Buckingham Palace should extend opening

MPs committee wants revenue from Queen's home to fund work on other palaces

By Pete Hayman

Buckingham Palace's opening season should be extended in order to raise money for the repair of other, dilapidated, royal palaces and monuments, according to a new report by a committee of MPs.

The Committee of Public Accounts has criticised both the DCMS and the Royal Household after it was revealed that there is currently a £32m backlog of maintenance at sites, with critical repairs being deferred despite a warning from the committee in 2001.

According to the report, the condition of the Victoria and Albert Mausoleum at Frogmore House near Windsor Castle, Berkshire, has deteriorated to such an extent that English Heritage has placed it on the



The palace is currently open to the public for 63 days every year

Buildings at Risk register. Despite the number of official engagements and running costs involved, the committee argues that Buckingham Palace should open for more than 63 days each year given that other buildings, including the Houses of Parliament, remain open for

most of the year despite having to cater for similar obligations.

In 2007-08, the palace generated more than £7m despite its limited opening season, and it is believed that by remaining open for longer could help top up the available funds for repair schemes.

Legacy funding for Northern Ireland culture

By Caroline Wilkinson

Six Northern Ireland projects combining arts and sports will benefit from £1.31m in funding from The Legacy Trust UK.

The organisation is funded by the Big Lottery Fund, the Department of Culture, Media and Sports, and Arts Council England. Northern Ireland joins Scotland and Wales and nine English regions that have been earmarked to receive a portion of the trust's £40m pot.

The Northern Ireland's Legacy Trust programme, called Connections - Connect-



The grants will go towards arts schemes in Northern Ireland

ing Cultures: Inspiring Excellence, comprises six themed projects: dance and sport; physical theatre/circus and gymnastics; music/poetry and

sport; children's theatre; children's sport and disability; and arts and sport.

Culture and arts minister Gregory Campbell said: "The potential for the creation of innovative and lasting relationships between arts, sport and across the community should be exploited to its fullest potential through each programme. It is a very exciting piece of news for young people who are involved in sports and the arts."

The projects will commence in September 2009 and run until June 2012.

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IN BRIEF

New course to attract minorities to fitness

► YMCAfit is to run a free kids' fitness instructor course to get more women from black and minority ethnic (BME) communities to work in the fitness industry and participate in physical activity. The course is the fourth of five government-funded programmes to run since November 2008, aimed at unemployed women from Bangladeshi, Pakistani or Somali communities in London's Newham and Tower Hamlets areas. The 10-week scheme offers BME women the chance to become a qualified kids' fitness instructor and is the second time it has run following a pilot in February 2009.

CLL outlines new five-year strategy

► Sports trust Carlisle Leisure (CLL) has launched a five-year strategy following a year's consultation with agencies in the North Cumbria area. The document outlines a range of key areas and themes including sports development; stronger, safer communities; children and young people; adult health and wellbeing; learning and leisure; and facility development.

Revamp plans for Meadowside revealed

► Meadowside Leisure Centre in Burton, Staffordshire, is set to undergo a major transformation. East Staffordshire Borough Council has revealed its initial plans and artists' impressions, produced by Maber Architects, of how the revamped leisure facility will look when it reopens in summer 2010. The £5m scheme includes a refurbishment of the gym with upgraded equipment and studio facilities, the introduction of a new crèche and soft play area and improvements to changing rooms.

New study to chart industry progress

Latest Working in Fitness Survey looks to reveal this year's trends in the industry

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

SkillsActive's sixth UK Working in Fitness Survey - one of the largest annual surveys of people working in the UK health and fitness sector - has been launched online.

Conducted by SkillsActive and the Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs), the online survey has been created to give insight into how the fitness industry rewards its workforce as well as salary levels, job satisfaction and spending on training.

Liz Smith, research manager at SkillsActive, said: "In previous research for our Sector Skills Agreement we estimated an average 8,500 job openings a year in the fitness industry to meet staff turnover and the creation of new positions.

"One of the survey's aims is to find out whether the industry is doing enough to



The survey aims to assess how the industry can attract new staff

attract new, as well as retain existing staff to meet these future demands," she added.

The confidential survey will run until 17 July 2009 and is open to any full-time, part-time, or self-employed professionals in the fitness industry.

Jean-Ann Marnoch, registrar of REPs, added: "It's really important that as many people take part as possible to get a good representation of jobs in

the industry and to be able to identify issues at a local level. By representing your views we can show what the industry is doing well and where improvement is needed.

"For example, last year we found fitness professionals were positive about remaining in the industry but continued to report a need for improvements in the areas of salary and career progression."

New sports centre for St Davids

By **Pete Hayman**

Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) has unveiled designs for a proposed £1.3m dual-use sports complex, which is to be established on the site of St Davids Swimming Pool in Wales.

The pool will close on 7 June in order to make way for the new complex, which will include a four-court sports hall, a health and fitness suite with dedicated changing facilities and two extra changing rooms.

PCC has already invested in a new multi-use games area and the upgrade of three tennis courts at the site, while further work is due to be carried out to improve the exterior of the adjacent secondary school.



The £1.3m complex will replace St Davids Swimming Pool

Cottons Limited has been appointed by the council to construct the new centre, having previously built new leisure centres at Fishguard and Haverfordwest. The latter features a swimming pool, a Technogym-equipped gym, sauna and steamroom and a studio cycling room.

Hatton launches Manchester centre

The new club, owned by pro-boxer Ricky Hatton, offers a dedicated boxing area

By **Pete Hayman**

Boxer Ricky Hatton has opened a new £2m fitness centre in Hyde, Manchester, following eight months of development.

Formerly occupied by a print works, the 1,000sq m (10,764sq ft) Hatton Health and Fitness Centre features an 85-station Cybex-equipped gym, two Power Plate machines, a boxing area - including two rings, bags and speed balls - as well as two studios offering a range of classes, such as Spinning and conditioning.

Facilities at the centre, which had already secured more than 300 members ahead of its opening, also include a refreshment area, a shop selling Hatton's clothing line, a



The boxing studio features two rings, punch bags and speed balls

sauna and changing rooms. Wellbeing treatments and therapies are also provided as part of the offering, and is included in a number of membership packages.

Club manager Nigel Wilkes said: "We were keen to create a

place where women and families would feel comfortable, as well as attracting other members of the community."

Depending on the Hyde site's success, Hatton is considering opening more fitness centres in the future.

London's Queen's Club gym gets a refurbishment

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

Queen's Club in West Kensington, London, has had its fitness facilities refurbished.

Established in 1886, the club was named after its first patron Queen Victoria and is one of the first Lawn Tennis and Racquet clubs in the world.

The facility, owned by members from the Lawn Tennis Association, has had its gym doubled in size to 1,800sq ft (1,672sq m). The new gym,



The gym is equipped by Cybex

converted from former meeting rooms, has been fitted with £50,000 worth of Cybex kit,

including 15 CV stations and strength equipment from the Eagle and VR1 Dual ranges.

There is also a dedicated stretch area and two treatment rooms for massages and physiotherapy. The old gym has been transformed into an aerobics studio. The club also offers 45 lawn tennis courts - 12 grass, 10 indoor, eight shale and clay, four plexi and four artificial grass courts, in addition to two racket, two regular tennis and three squash.

GLL is appointed as operator of six Hackney centres

Sports trust Greenwich Leisure (GLL) has signed a 15-year partnership agreement with Hackney Council to manage six leisure centres in the London borough.

GLL has managed the facilities for the past three and a half years on an interim basis and has achieved Customer Service Excellence

accreditation for all six centres and Quest accreditation for five of the sites.

One of the facilities, Clissold Leisure Centre in Stoke Newington, has also been accredited by the Inclusive Fitness Initiative.

The new partnership will see £7.4m invested into developing the facilities.

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IN BRIEF

Camelot theme park reopens

► Camelot Theme Park in Charnock Richard, Lancashire, has reopened just two months after its owner, Prime Resorts, went into administration. The park was acquired by The Story Group and has been leased to Knights Leisure, a newly-formed group led by the former chief executive of Prime Resorts, Roy Page. The park will now remain open for the summer season until 6 September.

Mumbles Pier plans to move forward

► Swansea Council has announced that plans for the restoration of Mumbles Pier in South Wales are to move forward, after it was recommended that a development framework for the area be adopted. An extensive public consultation has been held to gather the opinions of local residents on the proposed £39m mixed-use scheme, which is designed to transform the historic site into a visitor and tourist attraction.

Plymouth City Museum completes revamp

► The Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery has completed a £1.4m refurbishment of its facilities. The refurbishment scheme, led by Plymouth City Council, focused on the reconfiguration of the collection in the museum's Atrium Gallery on the first floor balcony, the revamp of the ground floor and the creation of a new coffee shop and retail space. As part of the redevelopment, the museum has introduced Art Bites, a free 20-minute tour and presentation focusing on the new art displays. The scheme has been funded by a £756,000 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, as well as match funding from the DCMS.

Teesside's wheel attraction delayed

New Middlesbrough city centre attraction postponed despite planning permission

By Pete Hayman

Plans to establish a new 40m (131.2ft) wheel attraction in the centre of Middlesbrough, north east England, have been delayed after that a suitable wheel could not be obtained.

World Tourist Attractions (WTA) is behind the proposals for the attraction, which was to be situated in the town's Centre Square and feature 30 glass-sided observation pods capable of accommodating up to five people each.

Middlesbrough Council provided planning permission for the scheme on 9 April, so that the wheel could remain in place for an initial six months at no cost to the council before a decision was made on whether to renew its stay for a longer period.

However, the council has now confirmed that the



An artist's impression of how the site of the wheel would look

attraction will not be in place for the foreseeable future, although it has reassured local residents that efforts are continuing to ensure that the scheme becomes a reality.

Mayor Ray Mallon said: "Unfortunately, WTA has informed us that for technical reasons, they are unable to provide a suitable wheel for us in the immediate future.

"While this is disappointing, the council and WTA remain committed to this project and we'll work together to ensure a wheel can be installed at the earliest opportunity."

WTA currently operates a number of similar attractions, including ones in Belfast, Manchester, Windsor, Brisbane, Brussels, Glasgow, London, Paris, Perth and Singapore.

New home for Lakeland museum

By Helen Patenall

Lakeland Motor Museum at Holker Hall in Cumbria will be relocated to a new purpose-built premises at Backbarrow near Newby Bridge.

Former Blue Mill carton packaging sheds have been redeveloped to provide a larger display space for the museum's 30,000 exhibits, which tell the story of more than 100 years of motoring history.

A new exhibit on all aspects of road transport history will now be presented, while existing displays will be enhanced with improved information boards.

Managing director, Edwin Maher, said: "We collect, preserve and interpret



The new museum facility will open to the public in 2010

motoring heritage for the public benefit and to provide educational opportunities, while providing a visitor experience via an awakening of motoring memories."

The museum, which was established in 1978, will remain open to the public until 1 November, and the new facility will open in spring 2010.

English Heritage saves Open Days

English Heritage, the government's advisory body for the historic environment, has confirmed that it has taken over one of the country's largest voluntary cultural events, Heritage Open Days.

Concerns had been raised over the future of the annual event, which sees more than 3,500 historic buildings open to the public for free throughout September, after the Civic Trust in England went into administration earlier this year.

Among the buildings expected to open as part of this year's planned Heritage Open Days is the Churchill Archives Centre in Cambridge, which contains the personal papers of Sir Winston Churchill.



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IN BRIEF

Recession cancels Heston pool plans

► Plans for a £20m leisure centre in Heston, Hounslow, have been shelved as a result of the uncertain economic climate. The proposals included replacing the town's existing swimming pool, and building a learning disability resource centre and community rooms. The executive committee will meet again later this year to discuss other options.

New Redcar leisure centre gets green light

► A £13.8m leisure facility will soon replace the ageing Redcar Leisure Centre in North Yorkshire. The centre will form part of the wider Coatham Links scheme, which will provide the town with improved leisure, retail and health facilities alongside public open spaces and new homes. The leisure centre will feature a six-lane, 25m swimming pool, a leisure pool and a children's pool, as well as a sports hall, a fitness studio and a separate junior gym, and a performance space featuring a dance floor. Two outdoor five-a-side football pitches will also be built.

Shooting association calls for 2012 boycott

► The Sportsman's Association has launched a campaign to dissuade all UK shooters from assisting in the running of shooting events at the London 2012 Olympics. A decision by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG) to hold the shooting events at a temporary site in Woolwich instead of Bisley in Surrey, the home of British shooting, has angered the association. However, LOCOG has defended its decision due to Woolwich's proximity to the Olympic Village and the likely costs involved with bringing Bisley up to Olympic standards.

Worcestershire CCC plans new hotel

Cricket club signs deal to develop 122-room Premier Inn at its New Road ground

By **Luke Tuchscherer**

Premier Inn, the budget hotel chain, has agreed a deal with Worcestershire County Cricket Club (WCCC) to build a new hotel as part of the redevelopment of the New Road ground.

The 122-room property will form part of the second phase of the club's plans to improve and expand its home ground.

Planning permission has already been granted for the development of an 80-bed-room hotel at New Road, but WCCC has now submitted amended plans to increase the size of the hotel to 122 rooms.

Mark Anderson, UK and Ireland property director for Premier Inn's owner Whitbread, said: "We have plans to



WCCC's New Road ground is currently undergoing redevelopment

increase the number of Premier Inn rooms in the UK from 38,000 to 55,000 within the next five years.

"To do this means thinking laterally and partnering with other organisations that also have expansion plans."

WCCC chief executive Mark Newton added: "This agreement with Premier Inn is the key component if our plans are to come to fruition and we are delighted to be working with an organisation with such impeccable credentials."

UCL plans new £16m sports complex for Preston

By **Helen Patenall**

Plans have been submitted for a new £16m sports centre at The University of Central Lancashire (UCL) in Preston, which will provide new sporting facilities to its students and to local children during the school holidays.

The new complex will feature a sprung timber sports hall with more than 300 retractable bleacher seats and a viewing gallery, able to accommodate



Plans include a new sports hall

regional and national sporting events, conventions, exhibitions and academic examinations.

Activity studios, squash courts, multi-functional spaces and changing rooms will also be built, while a pre-school complete with sensory, nature and hard play areas is also planned as part of the scheme.

Paul Morris, director of facilities management, said: "The facilities will be the best the city can offer and local school children will benefit when we open it out during the holidays, as we do with Preston Sports Arena."

Chester City FC places itself into administration

Chester City Football Club, which was recently relegated from the Football League for the second time in nine years, has announced that it has entered voluntary administration.

Refresh Recovery has been appointed to oversee the running of the club after its debenture holders approved the measure in a bid to safeguard the long-term future of the club.

In a statement, Martin Shaw of Refresh Recovery said: "Supporters can be assured that our aim is to find a new owner for the club so that professional football continues to be played in Chester from the start of the new season."

Sutcliffe opens Olympic boxing facility

New Sheffield venue to be used by elite British boxers ahead of the 2012 Games

By **Pete Hayman**

A new boxing facility, to be used by elite British boxers in preparation for the 2012 London Olympics, has been unveiled by sports minister Gerry Sutcliffe at the English Institute of Sport in Sheffield.

It is hoped that the new venue, which has been funded by the government, UK Sport and Sport England, will enable the British boxing team to build on its success at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Both the British Podium Development squads will now be based at the English Institute of Sport after the British Amateur Boxing Association signed a four-year agreement with operator Sheffield International Venues.



Sutcliffe hopes the new facility will ensure future boxing success

Richard Caborn, president of the Amateur Boxing Association of England and MP for Sheffield Central, said: "Great Britain is the new Cuba for boxing and now we have a facility that underlines that. GB Boxing has opened a facility to match the goal and vision of its

coaches and I am confident we can achieve further success.

Sutcliffe added: "We have congratulated GB Boxing for their success at European and Olympic contests but those are in the past – this is the future. This is a world class facility and that doesn't happen by chance."

New facility for Liverpool

A new £850,000 community sports facility has opened in Fazakerley, Liverpool.

The centre, funded by the European Regional Development Fund, boasts two multi-use AstroTurf pitches with changing and shower facilities.

The project has been supported by Liverpool City Council (LCC), Liverpool Active City and the Fazakerley Community Federation.

Keith Turner, LCC's executive member for leisure, said: "One of our key aims is to get children taking part in more physical activity and this excellent new pavilion and playing field will be the focal point for sport in the local area."

£93m stadium funding secured



The new Falmer Stadium is to open ahead of the 2011-12 season

By **Pete Hayman**

Brighton and Hove Albion Football Club has secured full funding for its £93m stadium project at Falmer, East Sussex, after Tony Bloom took over as club chair.

Bloom will fund the majority of the £93m development after replacing previous chair Dick Knight, who has stepped down after 12 years to become the club's new life president.

The scheme includes a 22,500-seat stadium, which has been designed by KSS Architects. The rest of the funding will be provided through a number of grants available to the club.

Buckingham Group Construction has already started work on the venue after amended plans were approved by Brighton and Hove City Council in February. It is expected that the stadium will be completed

IN BRIEF

Chelmsford centre set for £1.5m revamp

► The Riverside Ice and Leisure Centre in Chelmsford, Essex, is to undergo £1.5m of improvement works. Chelmsford Borough Council approved funding for the redevelopment, which will be carried out in parallel with previously approved maintenance and repair work. The scheme, which will be carried out during the next two years, will include the £100,000 modernisation of the swimming pool's changing area and the £170,000 improvement of the reception and cafeteria.

New lease of life for Portishead pool

► An outdoor swimming pool in Portishead, Somerset, has reopened to the public after Portishead Pool Community Trust took over the management of the facility. The 33m (108ft) swimming pool, which first opened in 1962, had been set to close after North Somerset Council said that it could no longer afford to subsidise it. However, the pool has now reopened after a revamp of the facility was carried out in partnership with a team from the UK television spin-off of the American makeover programme *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*.

Rugby development for Ferndale

► A £2.8m development dubbed Rhondda Life will provide Ferndale in Wales with a new leisure complex centered on the country's national sport. The four-year project will replace Ferndale Rugby Club with a new two-storey Rugby Club complete with an events pavilion and a fitness centre, as well as a 20-bedroom, three-star hotel, bars, a restaurant featuring the history of Welsh rugby, a café and heritage suite and offices.

IN BRIEF

Shepherd Neame picks up Punch pubs

► Shepherd Neame has announced it is to acquire 13 freehold pubs from Punch Taverns for £14.86m. The properties are all based in the south east of England, and comprise three managed houses and 10 leased pubs. The deal brings Shepherd Neame's portfolio to 378 pubs. Jonathan Neame, chief executive, said: "This is an excellent opportunity to acquire a package of high-quality individual pubs within our core trading area. The acquisition is in line with our strategy and will further improve the quality of our pub estate." The purchase will be financed by a new five-year loan, believed to be worth £15m, arranged by The Royal Bank of Scotland and the Lloyds Banking Group. The company's existing £10m revolving credit facility has been extended from 2012 to the end of 2014.

Absolute Leisure businesses up for sale

► Bars, restaurants and clubs formerly owned by Newcastle-upon-Tyne-based operator Absolute Leisure have been put up for sale after the firm was placed in administration. Property agents Christie + Co are managing the sales of six of the companies nine businesses on behalf of administrator Begbies Traynor. The portfolio includes the 2,475sq ft (229.9sq m) Lounge pub and nightclub and the 4,300sq ft (399.5sq ft) 260-cover Cocomo's Restaurant both in Newcastle's city centre. Other businesses include: the New Angel Hotel in Whitby, which features a bar, restaurant and nightclub; the Tuxedo Princess - a nightclub on a boat; and two Purple Door-branded bars in Hull and Doncaster.

Lingfield Park set for 2010 opening

£29m scheme includes a four-star hotel and upgraded facilities for racing teams

By **Tom Walker**

The £29m redevelopment of Lingfield Park racecourse in Surrey is on track for completion next year, following its recent topping out ceremony and the appointment of a general manager for the venue's new hotel.

The development, which started in May 2008, includes a four-star 116-bedroom hotel financed through a franchise agreement with Marriott International, a golf clubhouse to complement a new 18-hole golf course with a leisure club and spa. The hotel rooms have been designed to offer guests panoramic views, overlooking the racecourse.

Following the topping-out ceremony last month, racecourse operator Arena Leisure has appointed Sean Quinney – formerly of Hertfordshire's Down Hall Country House



The 116-room hotel will be operated by Marriott International

Hotel – as general manager of the Lingfield Park Marriott Hotel & Country Club.

The development has also included enhancements to the racecourse such as a new stable staff lodge, redesigned stables and veterinary unit along with a horsebox park and entrance. Construction work, being carried out by Kier

South East, is expected to be completed by the start of summer 2010 and the project has been part financed through a £23m term loan.

Arena Leisure operates a portfolio of seven UK racecourses including Lingfield Park, Doncaster, Royal Windsor, Folkestone, Southwell, Wolverhampton and Worcester.

SUFC stadium to include casino

By **Tom Walker**

Southend United Football Club (SUFC) has announced that it is planning to include a casino as part of a new 22,000-seat stadium development at Fossetts Farm in Essex.

The £46m scheme, which was given the go-ahead by the government last September after being called in for a public inquiry, has now been altered to incorporate the proposed casino, as well as a new football academy.

According to the *Southend Echo* newspaper, SUFC chair Ron Martin said that the proposed football academy would not be viable unless the casino, which is set to be



The £46m stadium is set to open by the 2010-11 season

operated by Rank Group, was included in the plans.

Martin told the newspaper: "When we were approached by Rank Group to include its planned casino for the town in the development, it was the obvious answer. Without it, the football academy would not be a feasible proposition."

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IN BRIEF

Expansions approved for Aberdeen hotels

► Aberdeen City Council has awarded planning permission for two hotel expansions. The five-star Marcliffe Hotel will be extended to include a further 228 bedrooms, a reception, a function area and a lounge, leisure and spa facilities and a new underground car park. The three-and-a-half storey, city centre Bells Hotel will also be extended to comprise ten stories featuring 217 bedrooms, a restaurant and a bar, as well as a basement car park.

Martin brothers to open eighth venue

► Entrepreneur brothers Tom and Ed Martin are preparing to open their eighth gastro pub on London's Kings Road later this month. Called The Cadogan Arms, the 325.1sq m (3,500sq ft) 75-cover gastro pub will offer seasonal British food. The kitchen will be led by head chef Darius Endriukaitis. The Martins' other venues include The Botanist on Sloane Square in Kensington and Chelsea, and The Empress of India in Victoria Park.

British firm to invest in Japan's love hotels

► A British company is planning to invest £50m in Japanese "love hotels", according to *The Times*. The newspaper reported that the AIM-listed group Japan Leisure Hotels (JLH) is trying to raise the capital to exploit the still-falling Japanese property market and funding difficulties among would-be consolidators of love hotel chains in Japan itself. Love hotels provide rooms at an hourly rate, providing a discreet space for couples. JLH already has six hotels in its portfolio and is looking to expand in an industry that turns over more than £31bn a year.

Rezidor to open fashion hotel in June

The hotel is the first of 30 Missoni-branded properties to open in the next decade

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

Rezidor Hotel Group intends to open its first Missoni-branded hotel in Edinburgh in a joint venture with the Italian fashion house in early June.

The five-star, 136-bedroom Hotel Missoni Edinburgh will open on the Royal Mile comprising a bar and a restaurant as well as conference rooms. The opening will be shortly followed by the launch of the portfolio's second property – Missoni in Kuwait City – this autumn.

Additional facilities will include a 1,000sq m (10,750sq ft) spa, two tennis courts, a private beach, numerous swimming pools and meeting rooms, as well as a 400sq m (4,300sq ft) ballroom.



The fashion house hotel will offer 136 bedrooms and a restaurant

Missoni aims to open 30 hotels over the next decade – designed by Milanese

architects Studio Thun - in partnership with The Rezidor Hotel Group. Initial focus will be on Europe and the Middle East, with further expansion planned into the North and

South American and Asian hospitality markets.

"It's stylish, intimate, contemporary and eclectic design combined with the best of bars and restaurants will make this a truly unique hotel experience," said Kurt Ritter, chief executive officer of Rezidor.

£250m hotel planned for London

The hotel will be situated on Puddle Dock in Blackfriars, London

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

A new £250m hotel is being planned for the banks of London's River Thames as part of the redevelopment of the Mermaid Conference and Event Centre on Puddle Dock in the city's Blackfriars district.

Designed by Alsop Architects on behalf of developers Heatherfield, managed by Blackfriars Investments, the 28,000sq m (301,390sq ft),

five-storey hotel comprises a conference centre, ballroom and a gym and spa facilities. The scheme, submitted to the City of London for approval, also includes bars and restaurants and a rooftop terrace.

Alsop's designs for the area also incorporate improvements to the public realm.

These include a network of improved public walkways and a new ground level walkway by the River Thames.

London hoteliers report mixed results

First signs of recovery in capital, but misery continues for cities outside London

By **Pete Hayman**

Hoteliers in London have reported a 0.9 per cent increase in average room occupancy during April compared with the same period last year, according to new figures from PKF Hotel Consultancy Services.

However, the statistics revealed that room rate decreased by 10.6 per cent to £123.85 at hotels across the capital, which has been attributed to the extensive use of promotional offers designed to attract visitors over the Easter weekend.

Meanwhile, regional hotels have reported a sharp decline in the three main performance indicators after reporting double digit decreases in room



London operators reported a small increase in average occupancy

rate, occupancy and yield as a result of the recession.

Hotels in Birmingham reported a 20 per cent fall in occupancy and a 15 per cent reduction in room rate, while Leeds hoteliers suffered a 24 per cent fall in occupancy and a 9 per cent fall in room rate.

Robert Barnard, partner at PKF, said: "While the buoyant

occupancy figures for London are indicative of the capital's resilience to virtually every kind of economic, political, biological and climatic turbulence, hoteliers are clearly sacrificing margin in order to fill their beds. The longer the recession continues, the more it will eat into margins and the harder it will be for hotels to survive."

Restaurant reopens at Glyndebourne Opera house

The restaurant has been themed with theatre props

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

Glyndebourne opera house's restaurant, the Middle and Over Wallop, has reopened in Lewes, Sussex, following an extensive renovation to mark Glyndebourne Festival's 75th birthday.

The new 343-seat restaurant has been designed by Brighton-based architects Miller Bourne and interior designer Nigel Coates to span three levels and includes an extension that offers views of the South Downs.

Designed with a theatrical edge, the restaurant displays serpentine banquettes, Swarovski crystal chandeliers, towering waiter stations and props from past opera house productions.

Confidence gradually returning to hospitality sector

The business confidence of the European hotel and restaurant market has increased, despite predictions that certain parts of the sector are to suffer over the next 12 months.

According to KPMG's European Business Outlook Survey, 33.5 per cent of the 1,200 service sector firms expect levels of business activity to grow over the next year, compared to 22.1 per cent which forecasted a decline.

The survey, which included 200 restaurant and hotel businesses, used net balances of -100 and +100 to evaluate the level of positive and negative attitude towards future business conditions. In the 12-month outlook for the volume of business activity, the net balance improved from -27.2 in October 2008 to +11.4 - higher than the levels of confidence in April 2008 (+9.7).

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IN BRIEF

£50,000 awarded to Walsall arts project

► Goscote Monumental Art Project in Walsall has been awarded £50,000 by Arts Council England, West Midlands. The project will provide opportunities for local people to assist in the creation of artworks for Walsall's new Palliative Care Centre. Three artists will work with children and adults from Goscote, Leamore and Harden, as well as patients and families accessing services at Little Bloxwich Day Hospice, to inspire art for the new centre.

Westminster Theatre plans approved

► Plans to build a new theatre on the site of the former Westminster Theatre in London have been approved by Westminster City Council. The original theatre building, built as a chapel in 1766, was so damaged by fire that it was demolished in 2002, but now there are plans for a new 314-seat theatre and smaller cabaret stage to be built on the site. The project also features a restaurant and residential apartments. The new theatre has been designed by Tim Foster and is expected to be operational by the end of next year.

Council denies theatre closure plans

► Scarborough Borough Council has refuted a local media report that it is planning to close the 2,015-seat Futurist Theatre as part of a £10m refurbishment of the town's South Bay and Spa complex. The *Yorkshire Post* reported that the venue could be set to host its final summer in 2010 after a report by consultants Driver Jonas recommended that axing the theatre would offer the best option for the South Bay and Spa redevelopment scheme.

UK Centre for Carnival Arts launches

Facilities to include performance and training space as well as hospitality zone

By Caroline Wilkinson

The new £7.3m UK Centre for Carnival Arts has opened in Luton, Bedfordshire, providing a base for UK and international performances and training.

The 1,402sq m (15,091 sq ft) building offers performance and rehearsal areas, teaching rooms, a bar and crèche, community facilities and a central courtyard linking the centre's two halves.

Along with Luton's International Carnival, the centre is set to contribute more than £34m to the regional economy. It is expected to attract national and international visitors, from artists and creative entrepreneurs to school children and the local community.



The new centre will aim to teach a range of expressive skills

Barbara Follett, minister for culture, architecture and the East of England, said: "The UK Centre for Carnival Arts has created a beacon of cultural excellence in one of the East of England's most disadvantaged towns.

The centre will allow people of all ages and backgrounds to learn new creative and expressive skills; ones which will enable them to make an invaluable contribution to the both cultural wealth and the future workforce of our region."

New performance centre for University of Kent

By Caroline Wilkinson

Plans to build a new performance and arts centre at the University of Kent are expected to go ahead after the university received a £4.5m grant from the Colyer-Fergusson Charitable Trust.

The new Colyer-Fergusson Building will contain rehearsal and performance space and will be built on the Canterbury campus to provide opportunities for music-making by



The centre will be built on the university's Canterbury campus

students and to facilitate increased involvement by the local community.

Funding has also come from the government's Matched Funding Scheme, as well as from other donations.

Director of Music Susan Wanless said: "Sir James Colyer-Fergusson was a great supporter of Music at Kent, attending many of our concerts. As a musician himself, he would have been delighted in seeing so many of the university community making music, and clearly appreciated their talent and commitment."

£13m Aberdeen arts centre development put on hold

The development of a new £13m contemporary arts centre in the Union Terrace Gardens in Aberdeen, Scotland, has been jeopardised after new plans were submitted for a wider redevelopment of the proposed site.

Although plans for the centre, a partnership between Aberdeen City Council and Peacock

Visual Arts, were approved last year, development has been put on hold until at least December 2009 so that Scottish Enterprise can investigate separate plans for the site.

The larger scheme, proposed by billionaire Sir Ian Wood, would include a piazza but it's uncertain if the arts centre would be integrated.



SPORT AND LEISURE STATISTICS

FORECASTS FOR THE SPORT AND LEISURE INDUSTRIES

The Sport Industry Research Centre publishes two annual reports, *Leisure Forecasts* and *Sport Market Forecasts*. These reports provide valuable insight into future market trends.

Both publications are essential references for industry practitioners, consultants and researchers.

Leisure Forecasts

This publication identifies the way in which economic trends, new technologies and new consumer priorities will shape the leisure industry over the next five years. It is divided into two sectors, leisure in the home and leisure away from home, providing analysis for 24 distinct leisure markets.

Sport Market Forecasts

This publication is produced in conjunction with Sport England. It provides detailed economic information on consumer spending for the entire sports market. It is divided into sport goods and sport services, providing economic analysis for 10 sport markets.

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IN BRIEF

Yorkshire Moors net £3m funding boost

► Natural England has announced that it is to invest more than £3m to help preserve and enhance more than 5,500 hectares (13,591 acres) of Yorkshire moorland over the next 10 years. The funding will be paid through a green-farming scheme administered by the natural environment agency to encourage landowners and graziers to help protect heather and footpaths on Ilkley and North York Moors for the benefit of wildlife and the public. Plans include the upgrading of footpaths and gates to improve public access to the moorland.

Revamped park for Rugby residents

► Caldecott Park in Rugby has reopened following a £1.4m refurbishment, thanks to an award from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The eight-month landscaping project has provided residents with a multi-sports area designed for football and basketball, two new play areas, the reinstallation of a water feature and a statue, a tree-lined entrance, improved park furniture and railings, as well as a new café created from a Victorian toolshed. A ranger will also be based in the park.

Grant secured for Gyllyngdune Gardens

► Cornwall-based leisure trust Carrick Leisure has received a £936,000 grant from the Big Lottery Fund's Parks for People programme, towards the £2.3m refurbishment of the Gyllyngdune Gardens and Princess Pavilion Theatre. The project includes the creation of a new visitor and education centre, a café and bar, a children's play area, a glasshouse and improvements to the Edwardian Park, which overlooks the sea.

Birmingham set for £11m City Park

Plans for eight-acre park include formal gardens, recreational space and fountains

By Pete Hayman

Birmingham City Council (BCC) has unveiled new plans for the construction of the city's first urban park for 125 years, despite missing out on Lottery funding for the scheme around two years ago.

The council has now decided to fund the £11m project itself, which will see the creation of an 8-acre (3.2-hectare) area of parkland between the city's Moor Street railway station and Eastside Locks.

Recreational space, formal gardens and water features are included in the plans, as well as areas for events, and it is hoped the development will lead to further private sector investment in the Eastside area.

A full business case for the scheme, designed by architects



The new £11m park is expected to be fully funded by the council

Patel Taylor, is expected to be submitted to BCC later this year, with the view of starting construction in 2010 and completing the project by 2011.

BCC leader Mike Whitby said:

"The new park will provide a cornerstone for the wider regeneration of Eastside, a key element of the Big City Plan,

encouraging more people to live, work and enjoy both the area and wider city. It is part of £6bn worth of public-funded projects that will transform the city over the next decade.

"Alongside developments such as the VTP Tower, and new university campus, this project will help regenerate the area."

Elizabethan garden reopens at Kenilworth Castle

By Pete Hayman

A historic garden at Kenilworth Castle in Warwickshire, originally designed by Robert Dudley, 1st earl of Leicester, in a bid to impress Queen Elizabeth I, has been reopened by English Heritage.

Using a 16th century description of the site, as well as archaeological investigations and historical research, EH has helped recreate the Elizabethan garden at a cost of £2.1m over the last six-years.

At the centre of the restored garden, first unveiled in 1575, is now an 18ft (5.5m) carved marble fountain alongside an aviary, carved arbours, a terrace, pear trees and wild strawberry plants.

Simon Thurley, English Heritage chief executive, said:



The 16th century garden has been recreated at a cost of £2.1m

"The recreation of an Elizabethan garden on such a scale is unusual. This is to gardens what The Globe was to theatre. It is a world-first, made possible by the research of English Heritage archaeologists, historians and gardeners.

"Leicester's garden was as much a work of art as it was of horticulture and our recreation,

set among the sandstone ruins of his once splendid buildings, is a beautiful reminder of how sumptuous the Elizabethan culture was."

The project, supported by the Wolfson Foundation, as well as local residents and societies, also included the revamp of Leicester's gate-house and stables at the castle.

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To register for an information pack please apply to
Martin Tiffin, Programme Leader
(martin.tiffin@bournemouth.gov.uk).

Tenders will be invited from suitable operators, with a return date of 31 August 2009, for the attraction to begin operating in Spring 2010.



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The expense of break clauses

Tenants must make sure they avoid potential pitfalls



ANDREW WADE is a partner at **Lawrence Graham LLP**, and a member of the **Leisure Property Forum**.

In the current financial climate, many tenants will be looking to exercise break options in leases, to rid themselves of onerous obligations. Also some landlords will seek to prevent reliable tenants, paying above current market rent, from breaking their leases. A tenant who wishes to do so must comply with all the conditions in a break clause – one of which is usually to pay the rent up-to-date.

A trap for the unwary is that the tenant must usually pay the rent that has fallen due – which, as rent is often paid in advance, may include rent for a period well beyond the break date.

Consider a situation where there is an option to break on 1 April, but rent is payable quarterly in advance on one of the usual quarter days, 25 March. The tenant must pay a full quarter's rent in advance for the period to 23 June, even though the lease terminates on 1 April. The tenant then has the option to try to recover the 'overpaid' rent. However this may be costly and, legally, success is not guaranteed.

Bear in mind also that time is usually of the essence where break clauses are concerned. Therefore, the tenant will have no option but to pay the rent in full by the break date – otherwise the landlord may claim that the break was not validly exercised, leaving the lease in place.

Leisure centre for Welsh college

Metrix's £12bn St Athan development to include large leisure element

By **Helen Patenall**

Metrix Consortium's proposals for a £12bn defence technical college at the former RAF airbase in St Athan, South Wales, incorporate a new community leisure centre.

Plans submitted to the Vale of Glamorgan Council outline a sports centre comprising 12 sports courts plus two squash courts; an eight-lane, floodlit athletics track; 12 outdoor sports pitches for rugby, hockey, football and cricket; and a fitness suite with cardiovascular equipment and a free weights area.

A 25m, eight-lane swimming pool will also be built to Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) standards, while a crèche on site will accommodate the needs of the military personnel with any available spaces being open to community use.



The site includes a large leisure element

The planning application will be processed within the next 16 weeks and, if approved, construction on site is expected to start in autumn 2010, with the academy and sports facilities opening in 2014.

London's Olympic Greenway link underway

By **Helen Patenall**



The 1.4-mile walkway will open in 2011

Work on the Greenway cycle and walking route is underway in east London, with completion scheduled for 2011.

The 2.3km (1.4-mile) stretch will be resurfaced and widened, while new signage, seating and improved access points will provide enhanced access for spectators arriving at the Olympic Park.

The work is being carried by Volker Fitzpatrick, following designs of London-based architects Adams and Sutherland,

Competition launched to revamp Southend Pier

A design competition to transform the 1.33-mile, fire-damaged Southend Pier in Southend-on-Sea has been launched by the borough council.

In collaboration with the Landscape Institute and the Royal Institute of British Architects, Southend-on-Sea Borough

Council has created a design brief with the intentions of re-establishing the pier as a "must-see destination for all visitors".

The council wants to transform the Grade II-listed pier, built in 1830, into a cultural destination with perhaps a gallery, events or performance space.

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The alcohol consultation leads to better regulation



KURT JANSON is policy director at Tourism Alliance

Policy work can often be likened to the effect of water on a stone – each drop has almost no perceivable impact, but after time, the water results in considerable changes to an otherwise impermeable material. It's a slow process and it's impossible to pick any one drop and say that it was the one that made the difference.

Which is what makes the current consultation that the Home Office is undertaking on a mandatory code for licensed premises somewhat unusual. The code is being introduced as part of a strategy to reduce binge drinking and anti-social behaviour associated with some bars and clubs, and the Home Office is proposing a set of mandatory conditions for all licensed premises.

Leaving aside that the dramatic decline in the pub sector and the existing Licensing Act mean that there does not really need to be a mandatory code, this is one time you can actually point to the moment that policy changed. The moment came at a Home Office consultation meeting with industry representatives. Usually, a department outlines its plans, the industry highlights the problems and the department then ignores them.

However, this meeting was attended by the Better Regulation Task Force. The resultant consultation document is not perfect, but it is a shock to see most of points made by the industry incorporated into the proposals.

If only the Better Regulation Task Force attended all government meetings on new legislation.

Cross-border boost for Ulster

Number of visits to Northern Ireland from south of border up by a quarter

By **Pete Hayman**

New figures from the Irish Central Statistics Office have revealed that the number of people from the Republic of Ireland holidaying in Northern Ireland last year increased by 26 per cent.

There was also a 14 per cent increase in the number of cross-border trips made by residents from the Republic of Ireland in 2008, which helped to contribute to a 16 per cent increase in tourism revenue generated for the Northern Irish economy.

Northern Irish tourism minister, Arlene Foster, said: "The increase in visitor numbers has exceeded expectations for growth in 2008 and the statistics reinforce that Northern Ireland has a unique and appealing range of things to see and do.

"Closer to home markets are key to delivering long-term growth for our tourism industry. Short-term opportunities



Giant's Causeway has gained popularity

are available through the strong euro. However, to maximise the benefits in the future, we must continue to promote an excellent and value for money experience across Northern Ireland."

'Patchy' forecast for South West tourism



Visits to the area are likely to fall in 2009

By **Pete Hayman**

Tourism businesses in south west England are likely to face a challenging 2009, despite the anticipated increase in the number of UK residents holidaying at home, according to new research from South West Tourism.

In the new report, which outlines key predictions for the 2009 holiday season, the regional tourist board for south west England warned that visitor numbers could decrease by up to 8 per cent following a poor start to the year.

Shake-up for Welsh tourism advisory panel

The Welsh Assembly Government has announced plans for an overhaul of the Tourism Advisory Panel, which was established in 2006 to provide policy guidance to help improve Welsh tourism.

Increased industry representation is at the heart of the changes that have been announced by Alun Ffred Jones, the Welsh heritage minister, following a

review last year that recommended the creation of a new national level public/private sector partnership.

Jones said: The two tourism summits which were held at the end of last year were a valuable opportunity to strengthen working relationships. This partnership will comprise key sector representatives from the industry."



The new initiative will target the sports and active leisure sectors

New fast-track scheme launched

Apprenticeships initiative targets the leisure sector

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

The government has launched its £1.9m Apprenticeship Expansion Programme (AEP) in sport and active leisure, created to help fill the skills gap of Level 3 instructors and to get more than 1,400 people involved in apprenticeships during the next two years.

AEP is led by the National Skills Academy for Sport and Active Leisure (NSA) in collaboration with training provider Lifetime - the Centre of Excellence for Fitness for National Employers. The

programme is designed to meet the additional expenses, such as training and management costs, associated with expanding apprenticeship schemes up to Level 3.

Apprentices will be equipped with the necessary work-based skills through Lifetime, which will provide government-funded training in Level 2 fitness instructing during a four-week course and a Level 3 personal training qualification in five weeks. They will then enter the workplace to complete their NVQ in order to help fill their skills shortages.

Youngsters facing tough prospects

Less than half of UK companies are currently planning to recruit school leavers and graduates this summer, according to new research from the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and professional services firm, KPMG.

More than 500 companies were questioned as part of the new Labour Market Outlook report, which has revealed that school leavers

are set to be the worst affected this summer.

Only 17 per cent of employers said that they were looking to recruit 16-year-old school leavers, while only a third plan to take on 18-year-olds.

The outlook for graduates is slightly more positive, however, even though less than half of companies are planning to recruit young people leaving university.

Do not forget to invest in the future

Opportunities are out there for employers to recruit staff who will return the investment

On 18 May, more than 200 key industry figures gathered at the beautifully refurbished Langham Hotel in London to witness the finalists of the Olive Barnett Award demonstrate why they deserved to be in the final eight of the competition.

The award is designed to recognise excellence in customer facing roles for hospitality, leisure, travel and tourism employees under the age of thirty, and their professionalism, talent and outstanding customer service skills were clear to see in the presentations – both as individuals and as a team – they gave on the night.

Their future as successful hospitality managers is assured even in these tough economic times. They are just what the industry is looking for and are excellent ambassadors for their companies in particular and the industry in general. But what of the other aspiring hospitality recruits who perhaps need more mentoring, more assistance in achieving their goals no matter the level of entry?

Does the current economic climate mean that the industry will batten down the hatches and simply say "The time isn't right"? Or is investment in the long-term growth of the sector still on the agenda?

The opportunities are out there for employers to recruit and train staff who will respond to this investment. Springboard is currently running an Into Work programme for the unemployed, providing training in CV writing, interview and customer service skills followed by mentoring for the first 13 weeks of employment. In addition, government funding now provides companies with a grant of £1,000 when employing those who have been unemployed for six months or more.

They will also support employers with an additional £1,500 contribution towards training costs through Train to Gain providers. The Future Jobs Fund, which is aimed at encouraging young people between the ages of 18 and 24 into work, will also assist employers to the tune of £6,500 per employee for each newly created position.

So while times may be tough as an employer, don't ignore the long view. Consider such initiatives as Springboard's redundancy support programme. Whichever outlook faces your company, there are opportunities to ensure that we recruit and retain employees within the industry – and develop their potential to become future award winners.



RHONA MENNIE is senior customer relationship manager for Springboard UK





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Chronic Respiratory Disease Exercise Instructor Course

BLF bursaries are now available for the September intake of this innovative distance learning course.

Developed by Loughborough College, the University Hospitals of Leicester and the British Lung Foundation (BLF), with funding and input from Rotherham PCT, the course has been submitted for endorsement at level 4 on the Register of Exercise Professionals. It covers:

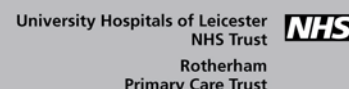
- Physiology and pathology of respiratory disease
- Managing breathlessness
- Management of chronic respiratory disease
- Referral pathways
- Responses to exercise and exercise prescription

The BLF bursary, funded by Air Products, is available to exercise professionals who meet the following entry requirements:

- Level 3 equivalent qualification as recognised by REP's
- 100 hours practical exercise instruction over the past year, with some experience of working with clients with COPD/respiratory disease
- A current valid first aid certificate
- Current CRB disclosure form
- Endorsement from a local pulmonary rehabilitation team

Instructors taking up a bursary will be expected to work with local Breathe Easy support groups to set up exercise classes within the community.

For more details or an application pack please log on to www.lunguk.org/supporting-you/blf_active/ or contact Danielle Smreczak using the details below



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Link4Life is a Cultural trust established in April 2007 working across the borough of Rochdale and is now embarking upon a major restructuring exercise of its Sports and Leisure Division.

This award winning service has a bright future ahead.

You could be part of it. If you have the drive, flair, creativity and dedication to make a lasting difference to sport and leisure across our distinct townships we want you to join us.

Operations & Projects Manager – Ref L9009

Salary: £35,079- £39,460pa

Forming part of a new team the post holder will report direct to the Head of Sports and Leisure. Taking responsibility for all range of diverse sports and leisure venues including a theatrical, community, state of the art fitness provision this post is crucial to the continued success of the company. This post will help us to realise our full potential as we enter a new and exciting era. Capable of providing leadership across the sporting network you will play a central role in our work to widen access to sport and recreation across the borough of Rochdale.

You will also take the lead on the major capital scheme programme currently taking place across the borough. The council has committed some £34million to refurbish and replace sports & leisure venues including our new Heywood Sports, Culture & Leisure Village and this post holder will be expected to co-ordinate the delivery of this scheme as well as providing operational support to the venues.

You will have excellent organisational and inter personal skills, project management experience, a proven track record of successful partnership working with sports agencies and will possess a sound knowledge of general community development and policy.

You will also bring knowledge, expertise and diplomacy to our work and will build on our track record of achieving excellence for our work with hard to reach groups, to make a real difference to provision across the borough.

Business Development Manager- Ref L9010 (2 posts)

Salary: £28,947 - £33,328pa

Responsible directly to the Operations & Projects Manager these post holders will manage on a day to day basis our sports & leisure venues. You will need to bring significant experience of facility operation together with a detailed understanding of community outreach work. The opportunity to be involved in new build developments and shaping the future of an award winning organisation should appeal to those determined to pursue a career within sports and leisure management.

Group Fitness Manager – Ref L9011

£27,573 - £31,439pa

We are currently looking for a highly self-motivated and commercially focused manager for the continued development of our fitness offering across all leisure centres within Link4Life.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate exceptional leadership and customer service skills, and will have a proven track record in achieving results. Responsible for the daily management of our fitness centres within our sports and leisure venues this post will build on our successful membership base and seek to develop a sustained customer profile.

The Trust is currently undertaking a Pay and Grading Review – therefore the grade of these posts may change. It is anticipated that implementation of the review will take place on 1 April 2010. For an informal discussion please contact John Taylor, Head of Sport & Leisure 07527 385775

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For an application pack, please phone 01706 926217 / 926215 (24 hours), email jobs@link4life.org visit www.link4life.org, or call in or write to Link4Life, PO Box 428, Floor 6, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale OL16 1ZZ (quoting job reference). CVs are not accepted and applications must be received by 26 June 2009.

Link4Life is the trading name of Rochdale Boroughwide Cultural Trust Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered Office: Floor 6, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1ZZ. Registered in England, No: 6052980. Registered Charity No: 1118610

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Ref: SR-CSCLSD50

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We expect you to have experience of managing and monitoring budgets, research techniques and a track record of good performance monitoring, including the management of quality assurance systems. In addition, experience of developing marketing plans, evidence of partnership working and compiling funding applications, project development, planning and implementation is required.

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For all vacancies unless otherwise stated and to apply online please visit www.northeastjobs.org or www.sector1.net or Tel: (01429) 523331.

Closing date: Wednesday, 24th June 2009 at 12 noon.

For more information and to apply online please visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk

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Location: National Small-Bore Rifle Association
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Main role: Assisting in the planning, programme and implementation of services and activities, together with daily management of the sport and leisure centre.
Own transport would be an advantage.
Career orientated, 'hands on' and 'can do' person who would develop services and activities within the centre, ensuring successful delivery of front line services. Must be self motivated and a team player. Supervisory/ Duty Management experience in similar facility is desirable.
Successful candidate must be flexible for shift pattern which includes evenings and weekends. Job description and person specification available by e-mail or phone.

Operations Manager

The National Small-Bore Rifle Association is looking to develop the potential of its multipurpose leisure centre on Bisley Camp to improve its community services.

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We welcome your application and ask for a C.V. quoting your current salary to: Mrs Dee Fuller, Personnel Manager, NSRA, Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Surrey, GU24 0NP
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This is an excellent opportunity for someone wishing to develop their career within the swimming industry. Please contact Jackie Brownstone 01707 602596 or e-mail: qss@queenswood.org
Closing date for applications is 3rd July 2009.

Queenswood is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All appointees undergo the Enhanced CRB Disclosure process



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embrace the games

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Cheshire & Warrington 2012 Programme Co-ordinator

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You will be a dynamic individual who is up for the 2012 challenge. You will have experience of partnership working, of inspiring others and will have perfected the art of persuasion. You will be based at the Cheshire & Warrington Sports Partnership in Northwich but, as you will work across the Partnership, you will need your own transport. This is a fulltime fixed term position (4 years), with an immediate start.

Application forms and further details are available from Rebecca Pratt on 0844 815 6151.

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Shortlisted candidates only will be contacted.



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Ref **ABS2544**

£22,048 – £23,394. 29 hours per week at Various locations. Ref **ABS2877** (6 posts)

>> You are Degree qualified or GTC registered. As well as a proven experience working with children in education, sport, health, leisure and/or recreation industry you have experience in managing projects in this field. Ability to travel is essential.

>> You will be required to support current and develop new, high quality opportunities for school pupils to participate in regular, frequent, safe and fun physical activity (incorporating sport, play, health and active travel). You will oversee the development and implementation of the Active Schools network within a nominated Community Schools Network.

Closing Date: 26 June 2009



www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/jobs



BritishBlindSport

Registered Charity Number 271500

Regional Development Officer (Young People)

South West region
Salary: £21,000 Fixed term contract until the end of January 2010, flexible hours,

For visually impaired people, British Blind Sport is the UK's National Disability Sports Organisation and the leading voice in the world of sport.

The work of the organisation enables visually impaired people to access and enjoy sport and recreational activities, across every age group and at every level, from those just starting out to those competing at the Paralympics.

Now in the third year of funding from the Big Lottery Fund, British Blind Sport is seeking to employ a Regional Development Officer who will focus on providing sporting opportunities for people aged 11-25 in the South West region. As well as identifying new activities, the post holder will need to be able to communicate effectively with young people, encourage them to manage and create new clubs and events and support them in developing appropriate personal skills.

Reporting to the National Development Manager and communicating regularly with your voluntary regional steering group, you should have proven experience of working in sports development in a professional or voluntary capacity. You will also require solid administration and organisational skills. If you are self motivated, enthusiastic and would relish this challenge - then we'd like to hear from you.

For an application pack telephone 01926 424247
or email: development@britishblindsport.org.uk

CLOSING DATE: 12th June 2009 INTERVIEW DATE: 19th June 2009

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Funded by the National Lottery through Big Lottery Fund

Richard Huish College Outstanding Opportunities



A Beacon College with over 1800 full-time 16-19 year old students and over 500 post-19 students, with an outstanding reputation for its results and student enrichment.

Two dynamic, committed and enthusiastic professionals are required to join the successful Huish Sport Team. Alternatively, for the right applicant, the roles could be combined into one full time position.

Part Time Sport Development Coordinator

22.5 hours per week. Up to £27,505 p.a. pro rata

This exciting and challenging position includes the Further Education Sports Coordinator (FESCO) role and the supervision of the Huish Dome indoor facility. You will be an excellent communicator with strong networking skills and the ability to liaise well at all levels.

Part Time Huish Sport Performance Coordinator

15 hours per week. Up to £27,505 p.a. pro rata

This new position will support the planning and delivery across the Huish Sport Performance programmes to enable students to achieve their full potential within their chosen sport alongside an academic programme.

For an informal discussion about these positions please contact Gavin Whitworth on (01823) 320869.

Closing date for applications: Friday 26th June 2009 at 12pm

For an application form and further details, please see our website, email pamc@richuish.ac.uk or call the college direct.



Shaping your future

We actively promote equal opportunities and welcome applications from all sections of the community



South Road, Taunton, TA1 3DZ 01823 320800

www.richuish.ac.uk

6 x Community Sports Coaches

(Basketball, Cricket, Gymnastics, Hockey, Rugby League & KS1)
Salary: £18,675 - £20,610 pa 1 year fixed term contract

The Archbishop Lanfranc School Sports Partnership is looking to appoint 6 Community Sports Coaches, from September 2009. The Partnership is committed to providing high quality teaching in schools and providing pathways to community clubs.

About the Job:

- To deliver high quality coaching to young people aged 5-19 in local schools and clubs in Croydon.
- To strengthen links with NGBs and clubs, feeding into existing structures and creating new partnerships.

About you:

- Minimum level 2 coaching qualification in the relevant sport
- A flexible attitude towards evening and weekend work
- Subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure

Closing date: Friday 26th June 2009

Interviews: w/c 6th July 2009

For further information and an application form please contact Becky Forshaw on 020 8689 1255 (option 2) or beckyforshaw@hotmail.co.uk



The Archbishop Lanfranc School



"Enhancing people's lives in the Humber sub-region by widening access to improved opportunities in sport and active recreation"

The Humber Sports Partnership is a partnership of key agencies committed to providing strategic leadership for sport to ensure high quality opportunities to take part in Sport and Active Recreation across the Humber.

We have two vacancies for self motivated, dynamic individuals to support the team. We are looking for experienced people with competent skills and the ability to meet targets.

Sports Development Officer

(Voluntary Sector Support)

2 Year Contract

Salary: £22 - 25,000 (dependant on experience)

Location: The Octagon, Walker St, Hull

The post-holder will provide support to a range of National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of Sport locally as well as support for delivery of other key areas of work such as safeguarding, the sport unlimited programme and PE and School Sport. Applicants will also be expected to build on current partnerships with NGBs, Local Authorities and other voluntary sector partners.

Basketball Development Officer

Rolling annual contract (dependant upon meeting annual targets)

Salary: £18,500 - 22,000 (dependant on experience)

Location: The Octagon, Walker St, Hull

The HSP working in Partnership with England Basketball is seeking to recruit a Basketball Development officer to work across the Humber sub-region.

Applicants will be expected to build on current partnerships with England Basketball, Local Authorities and the local voluntary basketball network. Experience of Basketball Development would be an advantage but is not essential.

Applicants should have some relevant experience in sports development work and preferably some sports related qualifications. A good knowledge of the current issues within sports development is important, along with a commitment to working in a flexible, 'can do' environment.

Applicants should have a full driving licence and access to their own transport in order to travel.

For application packs contact The Recruitment Line on (01482) 594319 (answer machine) or Email recruitment@goodwin-centre.org

www.humbersport.com

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Check and Satisfactory References.

CLOSING DATES for both Posts: 26th June 2009

INTERVIEW DATES:

Sports Development Officer: 14th July 2009

Basketball Development Officer: 9th July 2009

Both interview dates will take place in Hull.





4Arts&Heritage | 4Entertainment |
4Fitness & Health | 4Sport&Leisure

Link4Life is a Cultural trust established in April 2007 working across the borough of Rochdale and is now embarking upon a major restructuring exercise of its Sports and Leisure Division.

This award winning service has a bright future ahead.

You could be part of it. If you have the drive, flair, creativity and dedication to make a lasting difference to sport and leisure across our distinct townships we want you to join us.

Operations & Projects Manager – Ref L9009

Salary: £35,079- £39,460pa

Forming part of a new team the post holder will report direct to the Head of Sports and Leisure. Taking responsibility for all range of diverse sports and leisure venues including a theatrical, community, state of the art fitness provision this post is crucial to the continued success of the company. This post will help us to realise our full potential as we enter a new and exciting era.

Capable of providing leadership across the sporting network you will play a central role in our work to widen access to sport and recreation across the borough of Rochdale.

You will also take the lead on the major capital scheme programme currently taking place across the borough. The council has committed some £34million to refurbish and replace sports & leisure venues including our new Heywood Sports, Culture & Leisure Village and this post holder will be expected to co-ordinate the delivery of this scheme as well as providing operational support to the venues.

You will have excellent organisational and inter personal skills, project management experience, a proven track record of successful partnership working with sports agencies and will possess a sound knowledge of general community development and policy.

You will also bring knowledge, expertise and diplomacy to our work and will build on our track record of achieving excellence for our work with hard to reach groups, to make a real difference to provision across the borough.

Business Development Manager-

Ref L9010 (2 posts)

Salary: £28,947 - £33,328pa

Responsible directly to the Operations & Projects Manager these post holders will manage on a day to day basis our sports & leisure venues. You will need to bring significant experience of facility operation together with a detailed understanding of community outreach work. The opportunity to be involved in new build developments and shaping the future of an award winning organisation should appeal to those determined to pursue a career within sports and leisure management.

Group Fitness Manager – Ref L9011

£27,573 - £31,439pa

We are currently looking for a highly self-motivated and commercially focused manager for the continued development of our fitness offering across all leisure centres within Link4Life.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate exceptional leadership and customer service skills, and will have a proven track record in achieving results. Responsible for the daily management of our fitness centres within our sports and leisure venues this post will build on our successful membership base and seek to develop a sustained customer profile.

The Trust is currently undertaking a Pay and Grading Review – therefore the grade of these posts may change. It is anticipated that implementation of the review will take place on 1 April 2010 For an informal discussion please contact John Taylor, Head of Sport & Leisure 07527 385775

Help us to provide high quality leisure and cultural services in the borough of Rochdale

For an application pack, please phone 01706 926217 / 926215 (24 hours), email jobs@link4life.org visit www.link4life.org, or call in or write to Link4Life, PO Box 428, Floor 6, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale OL16 1ZZ (quoting job reference). CVs are not accepted and applications must be received by 26 June 2009.

Link4Life is the trading name of Rochdale Boroughwide Cultural Trust Company Limited by Guarantee. Registered Office: Floor 6, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1ZZ.
Registered in England, No: 6052980.
Registered Charity No: 1118610

www.link4life.org



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Physical Activity Co-ordinator

Grade SO2, £28,515 to £30,090

two year fixed-term post

Ref: CC/0568

This is an exciting opportunity for you to help us increase adult participation in sport and physical activity in Havering. It's a two year fixed term post in which you'll make a significant contribution to getting Havering Active!

You must be confident and pro-active with excellent communication and organisational skills. You'll work with key partners and agencies including NHS Havering, community groups, local authority departments, facility providers and other bodies to develop a sustainable programme.

You should have a degree in a related field with sound physical activity or sports development knowledge and experience. You must also have a track record of achievement working in a physical activity, sports development, health or related field.

This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974; you will be expected to undertake a satisfactory disclosure. Having a criminal record will not necessarily debar you from obtaining a position with the Council.

Any disabled applicant meeting the essential criteria set out in the person profile for a job will be guaranteed an interview.

Apply online at www.havering.gov.uk/jobs CVs will only be accepted in addition to a completed application form. You can also contact our recruitment line on 0870 700 3208 (8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 5pm on Saturdays) or e-mail lbhavering@tribalresourcing.com

Closing date: Monday 22 June 2009. (We reserve the right to close this post early).

Interviews: Wednesday 1 July 2009.

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HEALTH CLUB MANAGER

OTE £40,000 + relocation contribution

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It has been successfully trading under the same owners since 1992 who have invested heavily to ensure the quality and range of facilities satisfy the demands of its up-market fitness and rackets users. This investment will continue in order to maintain its position at the cutting edge of programming innovation and social activities.

Applications are invited from ambitious candidates who will be required to demonstrate their ability to take the business forward and their commitment to succeed. Boundless enthusiasm and in-depth experience of people management are pre-requisites.

Suitably qualified candidates are invited to email their CVs together with a letter of self introduction to: MD@beechdown.co.uk

The Beechdown Club, Winchester Rd
Basingstoke, Hampshire



www.beechdown.co.uk



HISTORIC SCOTLAND

Admissions Manager Edinburgh Castle

£28,114 - £33,036 (Band D)

Ref: HSC/09/098

This is a permanent, pensionable post.

Apply on-line by visiting our website at www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/jobs

For a hard copy application pack, please email hs.recruit@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or telephone 0131 668 8880/ 0131 668 8868 or write to Human Resources, 3.10, Historic Scotland, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH quoting the reference number.

Closing date for completed applications is Wednesday 24 June 2009.

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THE NATIONAL TRUST

Visitor Services Manager

c.£22,000 + benefits

Dunster Castle – Minehead, Somerset

We want everyone to be inspired by a visit to ancient Dunster Castle, with fine interiors and sub tropical gardens. We want people to feel a connection with this special place, and to love it as much as we do. You'll lead and inspire an expert team of colleagues and volunteers, making sure visitors get the most out of their time at the property, and that we continue to reach out to new visitors and new supporters. You've a brilliant way with people and experience of developing marketing initiatives and events. This role is temporary for up to 12 months to cover maternity leave.

Please apply online at www.ntjobs.org.uk quick search reference NT09/03874.

Closing date: 21 June 2009.

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HEAD OF OPERATIONS

£50-55Kp.a. Ref: 18/09

Reporting to the Director you will be responsible for the day to day running of the Museum's operation, with a strong emphasis on delivering a high quality visitor experience. Responsibilities include front and back of house functions, interaction with visitors, gallery and site quality, security and events planning. The successful candidate will manage a large team, and will coordinate activity with other departments.

This is a new post and an exciting challenge, offering a high degree of autonomy. As such the incumbent will be expected to optimize the shape and modus operandi of the department to meet its objectives. A strong background of organisational leadership, the determination to apply the highest standards and team motivation skills will be key attributes.

CLOSING DATE: 19 JUNE 2009.

To download/request an application pack please visit our website: www.mosi.org.uk/about-us/vacancies, e-mail recruitment@mosi.org.uk or call 0161 606 0105.

Development Manager (Preston Hall & Park)

Grade L - £29,714 to £32,475 Post ref: (10001)

With experience of managing projects, people, and budgets, you will oversee the delivery and operation of the Museum redevelopment and Park improvements, to deliver a seamless visitor experience.

You will have a relevant degree or equivalent, an appropriate professional or technical qualification, good communication and IT skills, plus experience of delivering services in a heritage or leisure visitor facility.

This post is for an initial term of five years, 2009-2014. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application packs are available to download from www.stockton.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively you can contact the Recruitment Team, Tel: (01642) 526992 or email: recruitment@stockton.gov.uk

Closing date: Friday 19 June 2009

Interviews will be held the week beginning 13 July 2009.



SCARBOROUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL TOURISM AND CULTURE

Two fantastic opportunities have arisen for creative and innovative individuals to manage, develop and implement effective sales development plans for the renowned Scarborough Spa, Whitby Pavilion and Filey Evron Centre facilities.

Executive Manager (Entertainments and Conferences)

Salary £36,945 to £39,785

Responsible for the day to day management of the venues, the development of marketing and sales plans to maximise business opportunities, the sourcing and programming of entertainment and events as well as the expansion of current conference meeting and incentive business. The ideal candidate will have had extensive experience in Venue Management with commercial insight and superb management and organisational skills. Good financial acumen is also required as well as excellent sales and negotiation skills.

Sales Development Manager

Salary: £26,784 - £28,353 per annum

Responsible for maximising total business sales and opportunities, developing to its fullest extent productive revenue from income streams, both new and existing, including (but not limited to) Conference, Meeting and Incentive Markets and ancillary earning facilities. The ideal candidate will have had extensive experience in a sales environment and have excellent management and organisational skills. Good financial acumen is also required as well as exceptional communication and negotiating skills.

Application packs are available from any Customer First Centre or by contacting Customer First, telephone 01723 232323 option 4, e-mail customer.first@scarborough.gov.uk or jobvacancies@scarborough.gov.uk Vacancy details are also available from www.scarborough.gov.uk and www.oneplacenorthyorks.com

CLOSING DATE FOR BOTH POSTS: 12 Noon, Tuesday 30 June 2009. INTERVIEW DATE: 14 July 2009

Scarborough Borough Council



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news & jobs at www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

VisitEngland unveils a new pub tourism campaign

Traditional English pubs to become unofficial tourist information centres in an effort to heighten their profile

By **Tom Walker**

VisitEngland, the national tourism agency, has launched a campaign to make pubs an integral part of England's visitor experience by transforming them into unofficial tourist information centres.

The 'Inn England' initiative has been created to promote the importance of traditional English pubs to both domestic and overseas tourists. The campaign is also hoped to help struggling pubs diversify into providing tourism services that

can act as a starting point for visitors to discover the activities offered in a local area.

VisitEngland's head of marketing, Amanda Smyth, said: "Pubs are a key part of England's brand, history and way of life.

"They are often the cornerstone of a local community and a great way to discover more about a destination, be it the produce on the menu, the history of the people and surroundings, or the great walks and activities in the area," she added.



England's pubs will no longer be an untapped resource for tourists

Sport England urges action to raise participation

By **Luke Tuchscherer**

Sport England is calling for "everyone in sport" to do more to increase participation by people with learning difficulties.

The organisation's chair, Richard Lewis, made the plea as Sport England announced it would be investing £200,000 at this year's Special Olympics GB Summer Games.

To be held in Leicester between 25 -31 July, the event



Summer Games are for all ages

is open to people of all ages with a learning disability.

Lewis said: "The games offer a chance for more than 2,700

athletes of all ages to realise their potential and experience the thrill of competing in a major sporting event.

"Progress is being made in opening up sporting opportunities, but there is a long way to go. Every sport, and all those involved in running sport, need to show the determination and ambition to ensure that everyone can benefit from sport's power to transform lives," he added.

London projects get £16m boost

Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, and the Home and Communities Agency (HCA) are to invest £16m in two regeneration projects. The HCA will contribute £13m and £3m respectively to Clapham Park in Lambeth and £600m Hale Village scheme in Haringey, which will include a new hotel and green space.

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