The Football Association (FA) is awaiting the green light to build grassroots football hubs in Liverpool and West London after establishing facilities in Sheffield.

New centres have launched in the South Yorkshire city as part of a pilot for the Parklife Football Hub Programme, which is being funded by the FA, Sheffield District Council and the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

St George’s Park Sheffield Graves was one of the first sites to open.

Continued on back cover

**FA ramps up grassroots facilities programme**

The Football Association (FA) is awaiting the green light to build grassroots football hubs in Liverpool and West London after establishing facilities in Sheffield.

New centres have launched in the South Yorkshire city as part of a pilot for the Parklife Football Hub Programme, which is being funded by the FA, Sheffield District Council and the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

St George’s Park Sheffield Graves was one of the first sites to open.

Continued on back cover

**Sugar levy should pay for activities**

The hundreds of millions of pounds the government is expecting to generate as a result of its soft drinks sugar levy should be pumped into physical activity initiatives outside schools as well as within them, according to Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson.

Launched last month, the government’s obesity strategy set out its plan for physical activity within schools, encompassing a recommendation of 30 minutes of dedicated time every day, funded by the levy. The levy – which will be applied to all soft drinks with a certain amount of sugar – is expected to generate £520m (US$684.6m, €604.9m) for the Treasury.

Grey-Thompson urged the government to spend the revenue on physical activities outside school time

However, ukactive chair Grey-Thompson stressed that while it was “encouraging” that schools were being encouraged to promote physical activity, with Ofsted monitoring progress, a slice of the fund should be earmarked for initiatives during the school holidays.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=T8Y4B_O

**FA ramps up grassroots facilities programme**

The Football Association (FA) is awaiting the green light to build grassroots football hubs in Liverpool and West London after establishing facilities in Sheffield.

New centres have launched in the South Yorkshire city as part of a pilot for the Parklife Football Hub Programme, which is being funded by the FA, Sheffield District Council and the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

St George’s Park Sheffield Graves was one of the first sites to open.

Continued on back cover

**Sugar levy should pay for activities**

The hundreds of millions of pounds the government is expecting to generate as a result of its soft drinks sugar levy should be pumped into physical activity initiatives outside schools as well as within them, according to Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson.

Launched last month, the government’s obesity strategy set out its plan for physical activity within schools, encompassing a recommendation of 30 minutes of dedicated time every day, funded by the levy. The levy – which will be applied to all soft drinks with a certain amount of sugar – is expected to generate £520m (US$684.6m, €604.9m) for the Treasury.

Grey-Thompson urged the government to spend the revenue on physical activities outside school time

However, ukactive chair Grey-Thompson stressed that while it was “encouraging” that schools were being encouraged to promote physical activity, with Ofsted monitoring progress, a slice of the fund should be earmarked for initiatives during the school holidays.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=T8Y4B_O
£33m Oriam centre opens

A £33m sporting facility in Scotland has opened at Heriot-Watt University’s Edinburgh campus. The national sports performance centre has been backed by £24m from the Scottish Government and £9m from partners, sportscotland, Heriot-Watt University and Edinburgh City Council.

The partners include the Scottish FA, Scottish Rugby, Basketball Scotland, Netball Scotland, Scottish Handball, sportscotland Institute of Sport and Scottish Squash and Racquetball.

The new multi-purpose development aims to be a collaborative environment to support Scotland’s up-and-coming sportsmen and women, their coaches and volunteers, to train and prepare for competition at the highest levels. The centre will also welcome students, staff, the local community and sports groups.

Facilities include a Hampden Park standard grass pitch, an outdoor synthetic pitch, four outdoor natural grass football pitches, two rugby pitches, a 12-court sports hall, a 120-station fitness suite, a café and private dining area.

Other facilities on the site include a four-court sports hall with climbing wall, two newly developed exercise studios, eight squash courts, including Scotland’s only glass back show court, video analysis facilities, an indoor 3G synthetic pitch, The Heart of Midlothian Football Academy and a jogging course.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=E6q7B_O

Sport strategy triggers CIMSPA review

CIMSPA, the professional body for the UK sport and physical activity sector, has set out to undertake a full governance review as it bids to fulfil its responsibilities set out in the government sport strategy.

The review is being led by Anthony Collins Solicitors and is consulting across the sector, taking in submissions from industry stakeholders such as the Royal College of Physicians, Sport England and ukactive.

Concluding later this month (September), the review will end with the recruitment of a permanent chair following the exit of David Stalker, who spent six years with the body.

Andy Reed, the former Labour MP who recently delivered a review on the County Sports Partnerships (CSP), will take over as the organisation’s chair in the interim.

CEO Tara Dillon said there was ‘work to be done’.

Tara Dillon, CIMSPA chief executive, said that the body had “changed beyond all recognition” under the stewardship of Stalker but the “hard work doesn’t stop here”.

“To continue to attract investment in the sector we need employers to take a place at the table and deliver workforce development plans,” she added.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=E6q7B_O
Equality in sport a ‘long way off’

Disabled people do not have adequate access to grassroots sport clubs and facilities and there is a “long way to go” before the situation improves, said the chief executive of the British Paralympic Association (BPA).

According to Tim Hollingsworth, there are still barriers to participation for disabled people because of limited physical accessibility to grassroots sporting infrastructure and the inability of some clubs to integrate individuals effectively.

Talking to Leisure Opportunities ahead of the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games, Hollingsworth said that since the transformational London 2012 Games – in which Team GB won 120 medals – facilities had improved and participation had increased at disability-specific sports clubs, but work needed to be done to improve the experience at mainstream sports clubs.

“I still think we have a long way to go in the general accessibility of sport within local communities for disabled people,” said Hollingsworth. “Clubs and local authorities should be asking ‘is it actually possible for disabled people to play sports with the facilities that are available?’

“There’s also an issue around social accessibility; can clubs offer adequate opportunities? Do they have the coaches to integrate disabled people? I don’t think there’s anything like the cumulative evidence you’d want to see.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=s2u5P_O

‘House of Sport’ to be established

Organisations in the sport sector are being invited to move into the ‘House of Sport’ – a London-based office designed to facilitate collaboration and efficiencies.

The concept – devised by London Sport – will see several sport and physical activity organisations work under the same roof across three floors of an office in the capital’s Dover Street.

London Marathon has provided the space, which will be run as a not-for-profit venture, with money generated from rent reinvested in services which help the organisations “promote increased levels of physical activity and wellbeing”.

Around 150-200 people will be able to occupy the office at any one time. The facility will provide shared networking space and “collaborative hot desking”. Organisations that wish to apply for space in the facility must fill out an expression of interest form ahead of the office’s official opening in early 2017.

Peter Fitzboydon, London Sport CEO, said the initiative was a “landmark opportunity” for firms in the sector to collaborate and promote physical activity in London.

London Sport has its own objective of getting one million more Londoners physically active by 2020. “The House of Sport project is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to provide a practical solution to inspiring new opportunities in the capital,” Fitzboydon said.

“This new venture will have a real impact on saving money and reducing wasteful bureaucracy for the numerous organisations that make up our sector in London,” added London Sport chair Kate Hoey.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=prz5Z_O

AFC Wimbledon given a clear path to new stadium

AFC Wimbledon’s proposal to build an 11,000-capacity stadium close to its spiritual Plough Lane home has moved a step closer as a result of the Mayor of London declining to intervene in the planning process.

Sadiq Khan wrote to Merton Borough Council to clear the local authority to make a decision on the League One football club’s proposal itself, without the input of City Hall, following a short consultation period.

The move to develop the £20m complex – which will also include more than 600 residential homes and a range of leisure facilities – appears now to be a formality and will go ahead.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=H8jzK_O

Government makes Road World Championships bid

The government has followed through with its commitment to bid for the UCI Road World Championships – and has set aside £24m to host it in Yorkshire.

The proposal was first revealed in last year’s Autumn Statement as part of chancellor George Osborne’s Northern Powerhouse strategy, in which rugby league was also pledged financial backing and a 2021 World Cup bid.

Welcome to Yorkshire put the bid together is association with British Cycling and UK Sport, although the Treasury has “guaranteed to underwrite the full cost”.

North, south, east and west Yorkshire will all feature in the race route, and the competition will take place over three days with the full road race and races for under-18s and under-23s.

The county hosted a stage of the Tour de France in 2014 – and event which generated millions of pounds for the local economy.

“Yorkshire has everything a bike race could wish for,” said Sir Gary Verity, Welcome to Yorkshire chief executive.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=bp7d_O

Read Leisure Opportunities online: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/digital
**Fitbit unveils latest edition of tracker wristbands**

Tech firm Fitbit has launched its latest fitness wristbands – Charge 2 and Flex 2.

Charge 2 features a heart rate tracking tool, has a large display area and allows for interchangeable bands. Charge 2’s heart rate tracking tool makes it easier to maximise workouts, better track calorie burn and get a better picture of overall health.

Flex 2 is a swim-proof fitness wristband and is water resistant up to 50 meters. It tracks pool swims including laps, duration and calories burned in the Fitbit App. Its SmartTrack automatically recognises workouts, such as walks, runs, rides, elliptical, sports, aerobic workouts, and swims.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=e8p2Z_O

---

**Experts criticise obesity strategy**

Experts and campaign groups have poured scorn on the government’s Childhood Obesity Strategy, describing it as a “missed opportunity”, “embarrassing” and “too weak”.

The government released the 13-page document on 18 August, as part of a strategy to significantly reduce England’s rate of childhood obesity within the next ten years.

Key points in the strategy include the introduction of a soft drinks industry levy across the UK and the recommendation that children should have at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day, with 30 minutes in schools and the other half-hour during home time.

The food and drinks industry has also been challenged to cut sugar in products by at least 20 per cent by 2020, including a 5 per cent reduction over the next year.

However, the strategy has been roundly criticised for not going far enough.

The Obesity Health Alliance said the measures weren’t ambitious and had let down the next generation who will pay the price for the government’s failure to take strong action.

The alliance – which is a coalition of 33 national charities, medical royal colleges, and campaign groups – said: “The government’s plan is underwhelming and a missed opportunity to tackle the obesity crisis and its devastating burden on the health of both society and the NHS.

“We live in an environment where children and their families are bombarded by junk food advertising and many everyday foods and drinks are stuffed full of fat and sugar. This is fuelling the huge numbers of children we are seeing who are overweight and obese.”

Action on Sugar added that Prime Minister Theresa May had failed the nation with the release of such a weak “obesity strategy”.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=fsZ2y_O

---

**Warwick council to invest £12m in two leisure centres**

Warwick District Council currently has

Warwick District Council plans to invest £12m in two leisure centres over the next 18 months, with an external contractor to be appointed to manage its facilities.

The cash will be invested in Newbold Comyn and St Nicholas Park centres.

The Newbold centre in Leamington will include extensions, as well as alterations to the existing leisure centre building. There will be a bigger entrance foyer, a four-court sports hall, wet change facilities, refurbished dry facilities, a climbing zone, three multi-use studios and a larger fitness suite.

Plans at St Nicholas Park in Warwick include an extension together with internal and external alterations to the existing leisure centre building. There will be a new entrance foyer, new wet and dry change facilities, a spin studio, two multi-use studios and a bigger fitness suite.

Warwick District Council currently has six leisure centres and it has stated that by appointing an external operator, it will be able to retain some control over pricing and access for local clubs and organisations.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=3W9S_O

---

**DLL in brand marketing push**

Racquet and fitness club operator David Lloyd Leisure (DLL) is relaunching its brand – a strategic move which will be supported by a nationwide marketing push.

The group’s integrated campaign, called Come to Life, will include the brand’s first ever national TV advert and a major marketing effort involving social, interactive and digital channels as well as outdoor ads, door drops and in-club communications.

The TV ad focuses on the breadth of offering at DLL facilities, the company’s inclusive family approach and the amenities available at its clubs – conveying the idea that DLL is the place for everyone, whether they are a two-year-old or an 80-year-old looking to get active.

The campaign follows a significant investment and expansion programme which has seen DLL invest £80m in refurbishing and developing 77 of its existing UK clubs. It has also opened four new clubs – in Newbury, Glasgow, Antwerp in Belgium and Colchester.

Speaking to Leisure Opportunities, DLL chief executive Glenn Earlam said the campaign is part of a strategy to strengthen awareness of the company’s offering.

“There are too many people in our target market who don’t know who we are or what we do,” Earlam said. “In research we conducted, there was only a 59 per cent prompted brand awareness. We’re good at sales – at impressing people with our facilities and converting them into members if they visit – but we’re not very good at getting them there in the first place.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=zbZ7_O
NEW EDUCATION & NEW LEARNING

SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

NICK EASTWOOD
Deputy Chairman
Increase your profitability! Maximising leisure facilities and building a brand: the Wasps story.

DR MIKE BRANNAN
Deputy National Lead
Strategic plan for the next four years: better outcomes by 2020.

RAJA SAGGI
Head of B2B Marketing
Optimise your mobile marketing for maximum return.

Save £299
Register for your FREE ticket before 1st August
WWW.LIW.CO.UK

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: WWW.LIW.CO.UK
Revenue boost for The Gym Group

Growth in membership helped revenue at The Gym Group rise to £36.1m in the first six months of 2016, from £28.9m in the same period in 2015, representing a year-on-year increase of 25.1 per cent.

In its interim report for the half year to 30 June, results showed that pre-tax profits stood at £3.4m, against a £3.3m loss over the same period in 2015.

The increase in revenue was mainly due to the 22.8 per cent growth of members in the half-year period to 420,000, from 342,000 in the same period in 2015. Average revenue per member, per month, has increased by 1.6 per cent to £14.31, from £14.08 last year.

The Gym Group has 80 sites nationwide, with six gyms opening so far this year and more scheduled before the end of the year to meet the 2016 target of 15-20.

With 450 low-cost gyms in the UK, the business believes there is substantial opportunity for growth in the market.

CEO and founder John Treharne said progress had been made in 2016

The company expects to rollout out more gyms at an overall cost of between £1.3m and £1.4m per site. The interim report said: “We have substantial firepower from which to fund and develop the business, with a total of £40m of available financing facilities.”

John Treharne, The Gym Group CEO, said: “Our rollout is on track with six sites opened in H1. We remain on target for 15-20 for the year and have a strong pipeline for 2017.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=8Q5W9_O

Fitness4Less launches Apex sessions

Budget health and fitness club operator Fitness4Less is introducing four Apex gym floor sessions into 12 of its sites.

The Apex programme, which is provided by the Physical Company, is a series of 30-minute ‘ready-made’ gym floor group training solutions. The sessions encourage members to make the most of gym facilities and innovative kit on the gym floor. Fifty members of staff across the 12 locations and two Topnotch Health Clubs in the group have completed the training, and the clubs will be rolling out Ignite, Agility, Strength and Core sessions. Sessions will be delivered by gym instructors and personal trainers

Agility is the favourite session for Apex ambassador Dame Kelly Holmes. The 2004 double Olympic gold medal winner said: “Apex gives people the opportunity to work in a group environment with a range of different exercises and a variety of equipment. It’s impressive how the instructors get really involved in the sessions and give teaching points: it feels like a personal training master class.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=h6u8z_O

Revenue boost for The Gym Group

Growth in membership helped revenue at The Gym Group rise to £36.1m in the first six months of 2016, from £28.9m in the same period in 2015, representing a year-on-year increase of 25.1 per cent.

In its interim report for the half year to 30 June, results showed that pre-tax profits stood at £3.4m, against a £3.3m loss over the same period in 2015.

The increase in revenue was mainly due to the 22.8 per cent growth of members in the half-year period to 420,000, from 342,000 in the same period in 2015. Average revenue per member, per month, has increased by 1.6 per cent to £14.31, from £14.08 last year.

The Gym Group has 80 sites nationwide, with six gyms opening so far this year and more scheduled before the end of the year to meet the 2016 target of 15-20.

With 450 low-cost gyms in the UK, the business believes there is substantial opportunity for growth in the market.

CEO and founder John Treharne said progress had been made in 2016

The company expects to rollout out more gyms at an overall cost of between £1.3m and £1.4m per site. The interim report said: “We have substantial firepower from which to fund and develop the business, with a total of £40m of available financing facilities.”

John Treharne, The Gym Group CEO, said: “Our rollout is on track with six sites opened in H1. We remain on target for 15-20 for the year and have a strong pipeline for 2017.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=8Q5W9_O

Fitness4Less launches Apex sessions

Budget health and fitness club operator Fitness4Less is introducing four Apex gym floor sessions into 12 of its sites.

The Apex programme, which is provided by the Physical Company, is a series of 30-minute ‘ready-made’ gym floor group training solutions. The sessions encourage members to make the most of gym facilities and innovative kit on the gym floor. Fifty members of staff across the 12 locations and two Topnotch Health Clubs in the group have completed the training, and the clubs will be rolling out Ignite, Agility, Strength and Core sessions. Sessions will be delivered by gym instructors and personal trainers

Agility is the favourite session for Apex ambassador Dame Kelly Holmes. The 2004 double Olympic gold medal winner said: “Apex gives people the opportunity to work in a group environment with a range of different exercises and a variety of equipment. It’s impressive how the instructors get really involved in the sessions and give teaching points: it feels like a personal training master class.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=h6u8z_O

Revenue boost for The Gym Group

Growth in membership helped revenue at The Gym Group rise to £36.1m in the first six months of 2016, from £28.9m in the same period in 2015, representing a year-on-year increase of 25.1 per cent.

In its interim report for the half year to 30 June, results showed that pre-tax profits stood at £3.4m, against a £3.3m loss over the same period in 2015.

The increase in revenue was mainly due to the 22.8 per cent growth of members in the half-year period to 420,000, from 342,000 in the same period in 2015. Average revenue per member, per month, has increased by 1.6 per cent to £14.31, from £14.08 last year.

The Gym Group has 80 sites nationwide, with six gyms opening so far this year and more scheduled before the end of the year to meet the 2016 target of 15-20.

With 450 low-cost gyms in the UK, the business believes there is substantial opportunity for growth in the market.

CEO and founder John Treharne said progress had been made in 2016

The company expects to rollout out more gyms at an overall cost of between £1.3m and £1.4m per site. The interim report said: “We have substantial firepower from which to fund and develop the business, with a total of £40m of available financing facilities.”

John Treharne, The Gym Group CEO, said: “Our rollout is on track with six sites opened in H1. We remain on target for 15-20 for the year and have a strong pipeline for 2017.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=8Q5W9_O

Fitness4Less launches Apex sessions

Budget health and fitness club operator Fitness4Less is introducing four Apex gym floor sessions into 12 of its sites.

The Apex programme, which is provided by the Physical Company, is a series of 30-minute ‘ready-made’ gym floor group training solutions. The sessions encourage members to make the most of gym facilities and innovative kit on the gym floor. Fifty members of staff across the 12 locations and two Topnotch Health Clubs in the group have completed the training, and the clubs will be rolling out Ignite, Agility, Strength and Core sessions. Sessions will be delivered by gym instructors and personal trainers

Agility is the favourite session for Apex ambassador Dame Kelly Holmes. The 2004 double Olympic gold medal winner said: “Apex gives people the opportunity to work in a group environment with a range of different exercises and a variety of equipment. It’s impressive how the instructors get really involved in the sessions and give teaching points: it feels like a personal training master class.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=h6u8z_O

Revenue boost for The Gym Group

Growth in membership helped revenue at The Gym Group rise to £36.1m in the first six months of 2016, from £28.9m in the same period in 2015, representing a year-on-year increase of 25.1 per cent.

In its interim report for the half year to 30 June, results showed that pre-tax profits stood at £3.4m, against a £3.3m loss over the same period in 2015.

The increase in revenue was mainly due to the 22.8 per cent growth of members in the half-year period to 420,000, from 342,000 in the same period in 2015. Average revenue per member, per month, has increased by 1.6 per cent to £14.31, from £14.08 last year.

The Gym Group has 80 sites nationwide, with six gyms opening so far this year and more scheduled before the end of the year to meet the 2016 target of 15-20.

With 450 low-cost gyms in the UK, the business believes there is substantial opportunity for growth in the market.

CEO and founder John Treharne said progress had been made in 2016

The company expects to rollout out more gyms at an overall cost of between £1.3m and £1.4m per site. The interim report said: “We have substantial firepower from which to fund and develop the business, with a total of £40m of available financing facilities.”

John Treharne, The Gym Group CEO, said: “Our rollout is on track with six sites opened in H1. We remain on target for 15-20 for the year and have a strong pipeline for 2017.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=8Q5W9_O

Fitness4Less launches Apex sessions

Budget health and fitness club operator Fitness4Less is introducing four Apex gym floor sessions into 12 of its sites.

The Apex programme, which is provided by the Physical Company, is a series of 30-minute ‘ready-made’ gym floor group training solutions. The sessions encourage members to make the most of gym facilities and innovative kit on the gym floor. Fifty members of staff across the 12 locations and two Topnotch Health Clubs in the group have completed the training, and the clubs will be rolling out Ignite, Agility, Strength and Core sessions. Sessions will be delivered by gym instructors and personal trainers

Agility is the favourite session for Apex ambassador Dame Kelly Holmes. The 2004 double Olympic gold medal winner said: “Apex gives people the opportunity to work in a group environment with a range of different exercises and a variety of equipment. It’s impressive how the instructors get really involved in the sessions and give teaching points: it feels like a personal training master class.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=h6u8z_O
The Matrix International Show returns on October 13 & 14, 2016.

Showcasing our vast range of new and existing Matrix products, the MIS promises to challenge the expected and deliver the unexpected, whilst welcoming international guests and hosting a unique networking opportunity.

Look out for news and announcements on Facebook and Twitter as more details are revealed.

Scan the code now to book your place for free entry to this exclusive event and register to receive the latest updates.
SP& Wellness

MPs urge government to ban microbeads in products

Cosmetic companies should be banned from using plastic microbeads in products like exfoliating scrubs and toothpaste because of the marine pollution they are causing, the UK’s cross-party Environmental Audit Committee is urging.

“Trillions of tiny pieces of plastic are accumulating in the world’s oceans, lakes and estuaries, harming marine life and entering the food chain,” said Environmental Audit Committee chair Mary Creagh. “The microbeads in scrubs, shower gels and toothpastes are a part of this plastic pollution problem.”

It is estimated that 86 tonnes of microplastics are released into the environment every year in the UK from facial exfoliants alone. Details: http://lei.sr?a=c4F7Y,O

Spas invest in visiting practitioners

A growing number of spas are realising the importance of using visiting practitioners (VPs) to differentiate themselves and stand out in a crowded marketplace.

Visiting practitioner programmes – which can include everything from top yoga teachers and Rolfing experts to muay thai champions and spiritual shamans – can also boost a spa’s profits, with some spas reporting a jump of up to 40 per cent.

“The programme is an additional revenue, and we can see an increase in profits, room nights and food and beverage during the months we host a popular VP,” said Carina Lipold, wellness project director for resort and spa brand Six Senses.

Six Senses has had a VP programme since its inception in 1995 and has around 100 experts in its database. It charges between US$150 (£133, €122, £176) and US$250 (£222, €222) for a one-hour session, and splits the revenue 50/50 with the VP.

But not all VP programmes need to be so extensive to be successful; wellness destination Como Shambhala has had a VP programme since 2000, and has around eight active practitioners, with energy workers and Rolfing experts particularly popular.

And there is an added benefit: “Many of our visiting experts have their own loyal followers or ‘tribes’ who seek them out and then book stays at our wellness retreats, resorts and hotels,” said Monica Barter, group operations director for Como Shambhala.

Barter said the programme is worth up to 30 per cent of the company’s annual revenue. Details: http://lei.sr?a=y9m3m_O

DLL and Elemis strike beauty deal

Members at David Lloyd Leisure’s health and racquet clubs will be treated to luxury face and body products after the operator tied up a deal with British skincare and spa brand Elemis.

Locker rooms at its 82 clubs will begin offering complimentary Elemis hand wash and body lotion.

Products will also be available at the club’s four Amida spas in Beckenham, Chelsea, Farnham and Hampton.

Noella Gabriel, Elemis Therapies co-founder and creator, said: “We are thrilled to be entering David Lloyd clubs and its Amida spas this month. It is the perfect relationship with Elemis and David Lloyd Leisure, both representing the very best of British within the health and beauty industries.”

Paul Batty, head of procurement at David Lloyd Leisure, said: “David Lloyd Leisure is excited to welcome Elemis into all of our UK clubs. There is a clear strong synergy between the two brands through the product offering, service and customer care. David Lloyd members can now feel that extra little bit more pampered on each visit to their club.”

David Lloyd Leisure relaunched its brand last month, following a significant investment and expansion programme which has seen DLL invest £80m in its existing UK clubs. Details: http://lei.sr?a=6X7W4_O

Farm life and luxury spa combined in Kent

A farm estate in the English countryside has opened a new purpose-built spa on its grounds with a focus on combining wellness and the natural environment.

Green Farm near Ashford in Kent is located in a conservation area and surrounded by 12,500 acres of ancient woodland and traditional pastures, but located just 37 minutes from London by train.

The spa features two treatment rooms and offers exclusively ESPA massage, beauty and holistic therapies, and also features a walled garden for relaxation with hot tub, log-burning stove, outdoor shower and water feature, as well as a sauna.

“The essence is a boutique luxury spa, with a focus on the natural environment,” said Maryann Richmond-Coggan, owner of Green Farm. “So in April, there are optional walks around the farm and lots of wood animals and lambs in the fields.

“In May time, evening hot tub listening to the nightingales and optional walks through the bluebells.” Details: http://lei.sr?a=4V6P5_O

The spa features a walled garden with hot tub
BARR + WRAY
CREATORS OF WELLBEING AND RELAXATION
Interior Design | Engineering Design | Pool + Thermal Installation | Maintenance

UK + Europe
Barr + Wray
T: +44 141 882 9991
E: sales@barrandwray.com

Middle East + Asia
Barr + Wray Dubai
T: +971 4320 6440
E: sales@barrandwray.com

Asia Pacific
Barr + Wray Hong Kong
T: +852 2214 9990
E: sales@barrandwray.com

www.barrandwray.com
Following the acquisition of Hotel Designs, the formerly known Hotel Summit has been rebranded to stay current within an ever changing and evolving industry.

With the perfect mix of business meetings, networking and educational seminars the Hotel Designs Summit ensures your time is well spent.

For more information, please contact Jade Oliver on 01992 374054 or email j.oliver@forumevents.co.uk
HOTELS

De Niro’s London hotel approved

Hollywood star Robert De Niro has been given the go ahead to build his planned luxury hotel in London’s Covent Garden after the deputy leader of the local council hailed the design as “one of the finest schemes we have considered in years.”

Planning permission for The Wellington Hotel has now been granted, enabling the star of Taxi Driver and Raging Bull to increase his burgeoning hospitality portfolio.

Architects Kohn Pedersen Fox have designed the 83-room hotel, which will be housed in six adjacent buildings, three of which are Grade II listed. Substantial renovation, including the creation of new storeys, will take place to the interiors of three of the buildings, but the historic facades will be retained.

Speaking about the plans in May, De Niro – who has partnered with development firm Capital & Counties Properties and hospitality operator BD Hotels – said: “London is one of the most exciting and cosmopolitan cities in the world, so it makes perfect sense to develop a hotel that represents all of that in the heart of this city in Covent Garden.”

The hotel will have 83 guest rooms, a spa, two restaurants, a café, a private members’ club and a roof garden on the top of one of the buildings on Wellington Street. Construction will begin next year with an opening planned for 2019.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=a3K9G_O

‘Hotel train’ launched in Ireland

Hotel, train and river-cruise operator Belmond launched “Ireland’s first luxury rail experience” on 30 August, with 10 sleeper carriages designed by James Park Associates to evoke Dublin’s Georgian architecture.

The Belmond Grand Hibernian – which can carry up to 40 passengers in 20 en-suite cabins – will transport guests on three-day journeys across the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, stopping in Dublin, Belfast and Cork.

Belmond purchased the 10 carriages and locomotive from Irish Rail earlier this year. The carriages were painted with a midnight blue and silver livery in Kilmarnock, Scotland, before being transported back across the Irish Sea for this next stage in development. A team of 40 craftsmen from specialist outfitters Mivan Marine Ltd in Belfast have built the interior cabins, as well as two dining cars and an observation carriage. All interior furnishings are supplied by local businesses, including hand-crafted stone counters.

James Park’s design elements are inspired by Ireland’s ancient folklore and traditions, and the flora and fauna passengers will see in the passing landscape.

“It’s very important to Belmond that we work with local experts and craftsmen to create a truly authentic train that reflects the spirit of the countries through which it will travel,” said Belmond MD Gary Franklin.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=M9v9r_O

The Hollywood star’s London hotel is scheduled to open in 2019

Belmond operates luxury trains and cruise ships around the world

The government’s Tourism Action Plan, published last month (August) contains some remarkable statistics. We already knew that 2015 was a record-breaking year for inbound tourism, but what is astonishing is that 2016 looks set to be even better. In the six months to June 2016 there were 17.3 million international visits to the UK, a 2.2 per cent increase on the same period a year earlier, with strong rises in visits from Europe and North America.

Of course this data refers to the period before Britain voted to leave the EU. The consequent fall in the value of the pound looks set to bring even more international tourists to our shores. For American visitors to the UK, prices are now 30 per cent lower than two years ago. In the month after the June EU referendum, Cheapflights, a price comparison website, reported a 33 per cent rise in searches for flights into the UK from Canada and a 20 per cent jump for flights from the US. A Tourism Alliance survey of businesses that cater for overseas visitors showed that nearly a fifth reported a rise in forward bookings during July.

American tourists have always been our biggest spenders. Now that they will be arriving in greater numbers, there is no better time to fine-tune our customer service skills in order to wow guests and keep them coming back. The Institute of Hospitality is delighted to kick-start its autumn webinar season on 6 September with Simon Hudson, a hospitality expert from the University of South Carolina, who will deliver his unique insights into what US tourists are looking for.

As Prime Minister Theresa May announces a £33m commitment to fight the ‘barbaric evil’ of modern slavery, another webinar in our new series highlights how hotels regrettably and often unwittingly provide a safe haven for human traffickers and their victims. The webinar presents exclusive primary research and explains what hospitality employees can do to prevent, mitigate and eliminate the risk of modern slavery (or human trafficking) taking place in their businesses.
Cyborgs and art included on MuseumNext agenda

American Museum of Natural History president Ellen Futter and Cyborg Foundation co-founder Neil Harbisson are among the names scheduled to speak at the global MuseumNext conference in New York.

Starting on Monday 14 November, the two-day conference, which looks at the future of museums, will open with a roundtable session addressing changes in audiences, shifting storylines, and the need for “next narratives”.

Tony Butler, executive director of Derby Museums Trust will conclude the second day’s talks, before an evening event to wrap up the conference.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=D5m3g_O

Jim Clark museum plans filed

A museum celebrating the successes of racing driver Jim Clark is on the cards after plans were unveiled by the Scottish Borders Council to celebrate the life of the two-time Formula One champion.

To be financed in-part by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) pending approval, the £1.65m (£2.2m, €1.9m) project would see the existing Jim Clark Room in Duns expanded and redeveloped to allow a selection of cars and trophies to go on display.

Plans for the development were lodged in August, but the museum’s programming is being left to public opinion.

An online survey by the Scottish Borders local government is asking how interested visitors would be in Clark’s upbringing, personality, rise to the world title, the teamwork behind his success, racing cars, the development of motor racing as a sport, and Clark’s overall influence and legacy.

“It is envisaged that the redeveloped museum will attract tourists and motor racing enthusiasts alike, thus contributing to the local economy and the Scottish Borders generally,” said a design statement submitted with the plans. “The proposed alterations respect the original design of the building, whilst also addressing issues with the condition of its fabric, by creating a contemporary, visitor attraction for the 21st century.”

If plans are approved and HLF funding is granted, it is hoped the development will be completed by 2018 in time to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Clark’s death at the Hockenheimring in Germany.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=P7d5P_O

BP sponsorship ‘poses questions’

Oil giant BP’s sponsorship of cultural attractions in the UK has not breached the Museum Association’s (MA) code of ethics – although it has raised significant questions around sponsorship arrangements in general, said the body. The MA’s judgement refers to a report published by lobby group Art Not Oil, which alleged BP had a “corrupting influence” over the institutions it sponsors.

Published last May, the in-depth report drew on hundreds of emails, documents and correspondence released through the Freedom of Information Act, revealing alleged interference in curatorial decision-making and museum security from BP at national institutions such as the British Museum, National Portrait Gallery, Tate and Science Museum.

After studying the report, the MA’s ethics committee ruled that the evidence outlined had not broken its code of ethics, with the body emphasising that its remit during the investigation was to consider the relationship between a museum and a sponsor rather than commenting on the global practices of BP.

In regards to allegations of BP having undue influence on curatorial decision-making, the committee said that it recommends against seeking direct approval on acquisitions or exhibition content, as it may “give the appearance of undue sponsor influence”.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=w4U6Q_O

Roald Dahl exhibition opens in Wales

The Wales Millennium Centre has opened its largest exhibition yet, celebrating the life and works of the much-loved children’s author, Llandaff-born Roald Dahl.

The Wondercrump World of Roald Dahl, which moved to Welsh capital following its stint at London’s Southbank Centre, coincides with what would have been the writer’s 100th birthday on 13 September.

The exhibition features artefacts, letters and manuscripts from the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre, as well as interactive and “magical” elements which illustrate the many sides of the remarkable man, who recorded his experiences as a schoolboy and as a WWII fighter in the memoirs Boy and Going Solo.

“It’s fantastic to be able to celebrate the world’s greatest storyteller with The Wondercrump World of Roald Dahl in Cardiff, the city of his birth,” said Steve Gardam, director at the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre.

“This will inspire hundreds of young minds to go on to create worlds of their own.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=x8Y7j_O

The ethics surrounding BP’s sponsorship has been questioned
THE ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Thursday 6 October - The QEII Conference Centre, London.

The essential event for owners, managers and marketers of a visitor attraction, for opinion formers and tourism or heritage professionals.

VAC is a national conference organised by the industry, for the industry where you can:

- Get involved in a unique forum for industry professionals.
- Network and share experiences.

Don’t miss this opportunity to:

- Understand your business in the context of the wider visitor attractions market.
- Keep up to date and find new directions for your business.

Join our mailing list to receive regular conference updates. Early bird and multiple booking discount registration rates apply.

www.vacevents.com
TOURISM

Government eyes Brexit boost

The UK government is capitalising on a weakened pound by unveiling a series of measures designed to boost the domestic tourism sector.

Dubbed the Tourism Action Plan, the new initiatives have been planned to make Britain the choice destination for inbound tourists, welcoming more international visitors than ever before and increasing the number of “staycations” as Brits opt to holiday on home soil.

To make it easier for people wanting to explore the UK, the government will implement a new GREAT tourism rail offer, with a series of single-booking itineraries encouraging travel around the country.

For seasonal workers, such as those working in the hospitality sector, a flexible apprentice scheme will allow businesses to train staff over a period of 18 months rather than 12 months. To help bed and breakfast offerings, the government is planning to introduce regulatory changes to allow the accommodation providers to serve alcohol. It is also modifying vehicle licensing to allow B&B owners to pick visitors up from stations.

The plan will look to draw tourists to locations outside of London.

Scots coastal tourism worth £323m

Scotland’s coastline has become a major tourism revenue generator and its worth to the Scottish economy is now estimated at £323m.

The figure comes from a new VisitScotland insight paper, titled Coastal Tourism in Scotland which was published last month.

The report shows that there has been a steady increase in domestic tourism at Scottish seaside locations since 2010.

Between 2010 and 2014, domestic trips increased by 6 per cent to an average of 1.5 million trips, while spend went up 9 per cent to £33m.

According to the report, the west of Scotland attracts the largest number of domestic visitors, with an average of 612,000 trips a year, generating £112m in spend.

Malcolm Roughead, CEO of VisitScotland, said: “Scotland boasts an incredible coastline with some of the finest beaches in the world, with seaside breaks playing a vital role in the country’s visitor economy. Our Coastal Tourism in Scotland paper gives a fascinating insight into who visits our beaches, and why. It is no surprise that the beautiful and mysterious Sandwood Bay captures the imagination of so many people around Britain, but its majesty can only be truly appreciated at first hand.”

Details: http://lei.sr?la=w4g4X_O

Details: http://lei.sr?la=4P9Z2_O

The Tourism Action Plan is supported by a £10.2m funding partnership between VisitBritain and Expedia, which will be used to advertise Britain to several key markets including the US, Germany and France.

In an attempt to draw international visitors to parts of the UK outside of London, the government has announced that projects in alternative regions will get part of its £40m Discover England fund – a lifeline the Tourism Alliance said last year would help create thousands of jobs.

Details: http://lei.sr?la=4P9Z2_O

Read Leisure Opportunities online: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/digital

Twitter: @leisureopps

©CYBERTREK 2016

R

ural tourism is a significant component of the UK tourism industry. In 2015, 20m overnight trips were taken to rural destinations while day-visitors undertook a further 335m trips. Together, these visitors spent £20.7bn, sufficient to support 380,000 jobs.

The value of tourism to the rural economy, combined with decreasing revenue for farming operations, has prompted the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee to hold an inquiry to determine what more can be done to help farmers diversify and boost the sector.

While there are a number of factors such as regulations and funding that could be addressed to allow rural businesses to better compete with urban and overseas destinations, there are two primary issues that need to be tackled – planning and broadband.

One of the main barriers to tourism growth in rural areas is the current planning framework which does not provide sufficient guidance. To grow, rural tourism requires both the maintenance of the natural and historic landscape and the ability for businesses to develop and expand. Because these requirements can be contrary, there needs to be strong guidance in place.

However, when the new National Planning Policy Framework was developed, the detailed tourism guidance was replaced by a guidance that relates only to developments in town centres. The resultant vacuum has added uncertainty, increasing costs and delays as applications get bogged down in the appeals process.

The second main barrier to rural tourism growth continues to be the availability and quality of broadband services. While 10Mbps is sufficient to meet the needs of most SMEs, a study of tourism businesses in the New Forest found that only 8 per cent of businesses received this. A similar survey of tourism businesses in Cornwall found that 55 per cent had speeds of less than 10mbps.

So, while a lot could be done to reduce regulation and improve promotional and developmental funding for rural businesses, the core issues of being able to locate a business and to let the world know that you are there need to be addressed first.

The plan will look to draw tourists to locations outside of London.

Scotland’s coastline has become a major tourism revenue generator and its worth to the Scottish economy is now estimated at £323m.

The figure comes from a new VisitScotland insight paper, titled Coastal Tourism in Scotland which was published last month.

The report shows that there has been a steady increase in domestic tourism at Scottish seaside locations since 2010.

Between 2010 and 2014, domestic trips increased by 6 per cent to an average of 1.5 million trips, while spend went up 9 per cent to £33m.

According to the report, the west of Scotland attracts the largest number of domestic visitors, with an average of 612,000 trips a year, generating £112m in spend.

Malcolm Roughead, CEO of VisitScotland, said: “Scotland boasts an incredible coastline with some of the finest beaches in the world, with seaside breaks playing a vital role in the country’s visitor economy. Our Coastal Tourism in Scotland paper gives a fascinating insight into who visits our beaches, and why. It is no surprise that the beautiful and mysterious Sandwood Bay captures the imagination of so many people around Britain, but its majesty can only be truly appreciated at first hand.”

Details: http://lei.sr?la=w4g4X_O

Details: http://lei.sr?la=4P9Z2_O

The Tourism Action Plan is supported by a £10.2m funding partnership between VisitBritain and Expedia, which will be used to advertise Britain to several key markets including the US, Germany and France.

In an attempt to draw international visitors to parts of the UK outside of London, the government has announced that projects in alternative regions will get part of its £40m Discover England fund – a lifeline the Tourism Alliance said last year would help create thousands of jobs.

Details: http://lei.sr?la=4P9Z2_O

Read Leisure Opportunities online: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/digital

Twitter: @leisureopps

©CYBERTREK 2016

R

ural tourism is a significant component of the UK tourism industry. In 2015, 20m overnight trips were taken to rural destinations while day-visitors undertook a further 335m trips. Together, these visitors spent £20.7bn, sufficient to support 380,000 jobs.

The value of tourism to the rural economy, combined with decreasing revenue for farming operations, has prompted the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee to hold an inquiry to determine what more can be done to help farmers diversify and boost the sector.

While there are a number of factors such as regulations and funding that could be addressed to allow rural businesses to better compete with urban and overseas destinations, there are two primary issues that need to be tackled – planning and broadband.

One of the main barriers to tourism growth in rural areas is the current planning framework which does not provide sufficient guidance. To grow, rural tourism requires both the maintenance of the natural and historic landscape and the ability for businesses to develop and expand. Because these requirements can be contrary, there needs to be strong guidance in place.

However, when the new National Planning Policy Framework was developed, the detailed tourism guidance was replaced by a guidance that relates only to developments in town centres. The resultant vacuum has added uncertainty, increasing costs and delays as applications get bogged down in the appeals process.

The second main barrier to rural tourism growth continues to be the availability and quality of broadband services. While 10Mbps is sufficient to meet the needs of most SMEs, a study of tourism businesses in the New Forest found that only 8 per cent of businesses received this. A similar survey of tourism businesses in Cornwall found that 55 per cent had speeds of less than 10mbps.

So, while a lot could be done to reduce regulation and improve promotional and developmental funding for rural businesses, the core issues of being able to locate a business and to let the world know that you are there need to be addressed first.
Are you thinking of buying, selling, reviewing or leasing health & fitness sites in 2016?

CONTACT THE PROFESSIONALS:
Lyndon Yeomans Property Consultants LLP
11 Savile Row, London W1S 3PG
Tel: 020 7437 9333

www.lyndoneyomans.co.uk

RETAIL AND LEISURE EXPERTS
INDEPENDENT NO NONSENSE ADVICE

WILD
Commercial Property
01244 321 555
www.wildcp.co.uk

TO ADVERTISE call +44 (0)1462 431385 email leisureopps@leisuremedia.com

PROPERTY DIRECTORY

Isle of Wight property experts covering all sectors of the leisure industry.

CONTACT: 01983 527727
Nick Callaghan, Lisa Mercer or Janet Morter
www.hose-rhodes-dickson.co.uk

LEISURE PROPERTY FORUM
CORPORATE MEMBERS’ DIRECTORY

Holder Mathias
Tel: 02078707035
Howard Kennedy LLP
Tel: 020 3753 5507
www.howardkennedy.com
Indigo Planning
Tel: 020 8605 9400
www.indigoplanning.com
James A Baker
Tel: 01253 789343

John Gaunt & Partners
Jones Lang Lasalle
Tel: 020 7493 6040
www.joneslasalle.com
Knight Frank LLP
Tel: 020 7861 1525

Lambert Smith Hampton
Tel: 01202 493018

Land Securities Properties Ltd
Tel: 020 7747 2398
www.leisurepropertyforum.org

Land Securities Properties Ltd
Tel: 020 7747 2398
www.x-leisure.co.uk
L&Q
Tel: 0207 853 4562
Legal & General Investment Management Holdings Ltd
Tel: 020 3124 2763
www.lgim.co.uk

Holder Mathias
Tel: 02078707035
Howard Kennedy LLP
Tel: 020 3753 5507
www.howardkennedy.com
Indigo Planning
Tel: 020 8605 9400
www.indigoplanning.com
James A Baker
Tel: 01253 789343

John Gaunt & Partners
Jones Lang Lasalle
Tel: 020 7493 6040
www.joneslasalle.com
Knight Frank LLP
Tel: 020 7861 1525

Lambert Smith Hampton
Tel: 01202 493018

Land Securities Properties Ltd
Tel: 020 7747 2398
www.x-leisure.co.uk
L&Q
Tel: 0207 853 4562
Legal & General Investment Management Holdings Ltd
Tel: 020 3124 2763
www.lgim.co.uk

For membership information please contact Michael Emmerson
info@leisurepropertyforum.org

www.leisurepropertyforum.org

Roberts Limbrick Ltd
Tel: 03333 405500
www.robertslimbrick.com

RPS Group
Tel: 0207583 6767

Savills (UK) Ltd
www.savills.com

Shelley Sandzer
www.shelleyandsandzer.co.uk

The Leisure Database Company
Tel: +44 (0)20 3585 1441
www.leisuredata.com

TLT LLP
Tel: 0117 917 7777
www.tlt Solicitors.com

Trowers Group
Tel: 020 7121 6432

Tragus Group
Tel: 01983 527727
www.tragroup.com

Wagamanama Ltd
Tel: 0207 423 8084
www.wagamanama.com

Wagamanama Ltd
Tel: 0207 009 3620
www.wagamanama.com

Williamson Dixon
Tel: 01932 584700
www.willmottdixon.co.uk

Plus there are more than 70 other companies represented by individuals.
**Bats threaten Chelsea FC plans**

Chelsea FC’s plans to build one of the largest stadiums in England have hit a stumbling block – a local population of endangered bats.

The club submitted its plans for the £500m (US$660m, €584m) project to London's Hammersmith and Fulham council last year, but it has been asked to provide more evidence of how it will protect the nearby grade I-listed Brompton cemetery and its population of nocturnal mammals. The council wants more detail about the impact of piling works on the cemetery's catacombs – identified as a hibernation roost for bats – and the effect caused by artificial lighting.

Designed by Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron, the development would see the demolition of the club's existing 41,600-capacity Stamford Bridge ground and its surrounding buildings, and its replacement with a 60,000-capacity stadium.

The new development would include a club shop and museum, as well as a separate restaurant or café.

The building of the project would require excavation works and the construction of external concourse areas.

The council has reportedly written to AECOM, strategic planner on the scheme, to seek more certainty over the proposed phasing of this process and any measures taken to mitigate noise, dust and road closures for local residents and businesses.

The club had previously explored the possibility of moving to Earls Court, White City or Battersea Power Station.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=u4e4u_O

---

**Heatherwick hits back on bridge plan**

British designer Thomas Heatherwick has launched an impassioned defence of his Garden Bridge project in London, arguing that the project has been used as a political football by “people with an agenda” and those “who love to sneer.”

The scheme – a 367m (1,200ft) planted River Thames crossing linking South Bank and Temple – has attracted controversy and negative headlines over the allegedly opaque procurement process and the public funding required to build it.

Heatherwick hit back at his critics on the BBC’s *Newsnight* programme, stating that any rejection of the project at this stage would show that “we have suddenly become a society who have no confidence in ourselves”.

“There’s all sorts of people who want to get their little agenda and pin it onto this project,” he said. “But it’s a truly amazing project. How can it possibly be a bad thing to stitch the city together better, to create new public space that we have never had before, to create new views for all of us?”

*Newsnight* report uncovered a £22m funding gap that will raise more questions about who will shoulder the cost of the bridge. According to the BBC, private funders have withdrawn over the last year, and an estimated £30m shortfall is actually closer to £52m.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=F8B9V_O

---

**UNESCO to develop ‘satellite visitor centres’**

Two architecture studios hope to show how remote heritage sites can be served by ‘satellite’ visitor centres through their own design for a tourist hub which celebrates an uninhabited Scottish archipelago from a location on a nearby island.

Scottish studio Dualchas Architects and Norway’s Reiulf Ramstad Architects, who are working in the UK for the first time, have unveiled their masterplan for the St Kilda Visitor Centre. They propose the design will convey the story of Eneko Atxa

The design will converge on a September in the hotel's basement.

Museum interior specialists Casson Mann were selected to work on the project – their first restaurant design – because of their storytelling expertise. The brief called for the design to convey the story of its Michelin starred chef, Eneko Atxa, and his Basque heritage.

“All our museum experience is about transforming stories into engaging spatial experiences,” said studio founder and director Roger Mann. “This has been a similar challenge, albeit with a shift from a direct to a subtle emphasis in the way we link narrative to materials and invite emotional and functional connections.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=d6a5e_O

---

**‘Storytelling design’ for London restaurant**

Exhibition designers Casson Mann have designed a colourful story-filled restaurant for five-star London hotel One Aldwych.

The restaurant, called Eneko, opened on 1 September in the hotel’s basement.

Museum interior specialists Casson Mann were selected to work on the project – their first restaurant design – because of their storytelling expertise. The brief called for the design to convey the story of its Michelin starred chef, Eneko Atxa, and his Basque heritage.

“All our museum experience is about transforming stories into engaging spatial experiences,” said studio founder and director Roger Mann. “This has been a similar challenge, albeit with a shift from a direct to a subtle emphasis in the way we link narrative to materials and invite emotional and functional connections.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=6dase_O

---

**Heatherwick to develop ‘satellite visitor centres’**

Two architecture studios hope to show how remote heritage sites can be served by ‘satellite’ visitor centres through their own design for a tourist hub which celebrates an uninhabited Scottish archipelago from a location on a nearby island.

Scottish studio Dualchas Architects and Norway’s Reiulf Ramstad Architects, who are working in the UK for the first time, have unveiled their masterplan for the St Kilda Visitor Centre. They propose the design will convey the story of Eneko Atxa

The design will converge on a September in the hotel's basement.

Museum interior specialists Casson Mann were selected to work on the project – their first restaurant design – because of their storytelling expertise. The brief called for the design to convey the story of its Michelin starred chef, Eneko Atxa, and his Basque heritage.

“All our museum experience is about transforming stories into engaging spatial experiences,” said studio founder and director Roger Mann. “This has been a similar challenge, albeit with a shift from a direct to a subtle emphasis in the way we link narrative to materials and invite emotional and functional connections.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=d6a5e_O

---

**‘Storytelling design’ for London restaurant**

Exhibition designers Casson Mann have designed a colourful story-filled restaurant for five-star London hotel One Aldwych.

The restaurant, called Eneko, opened on 1 September in the hotel’s basement.

Museum interior specialists Casson Mann were selected to work on the project – their first restaurant design – because of their storytelling expertise. The brief called for the design to convey the story of its Michelin starred chef, Eneko Atxa, and his Basque heritage.

“All our museum experience is about transforming stories into engaging spatial experiences,” said studio founder and director Roger Mann. “This has been a similar challenge, albeit with a shift from a direct to a subtle emphasis in the way we link narrative to materials and invite emotional and functional connections.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=d6a5e_O
Join the LPF

MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES:

- Regular networking opportunities
- A full programme of leisure property related early evening seminars
- Details of forthcoming LPF events and other industry dates on our website
- Members’ rates to LPF seminars and events
- Complimentary places at some events
- A free subscription to Leisure Opportunities magazine, which features regular LPF columns, tenders, for sale adverts and property news
- A 10% discount on property advertising in Leisure Opportunities magazine
- A dedicated LPF monthly email bulletin, delivered straight to your mailbox
- Access to the full listing of all our members

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Michael Emmerson, LPF Administration
E: info@leisurepropertyforum.org
T: 01462 471932  F: 01462 433909
W: www.leisurepropertyforum.org

Major UK Visitor Attraction

- Strategically located
- Renowned DVA
- Fully capitalised
- Established profitability
- Large scale planning permissions granted

Offers in the region of £7.5m

For more information please contact:
Matthew Lamb
Matthew.lamb@gva.co.uk

Mole Valley District Council is building a soft play and café facility at Meadowbank Park, near the heart of Dorking town centre in Surrey.

We are looking for expressions of interest from prospective tenants to lease the new soft play and café facility from August 2017 when the construction is due for completion.

The facility is part of a wider development that includes a new 3G football pitch, changing rooms, stands and club house. A new outdoor play area near the planned soft play and café facility has recently opened.

Visitors to Meadowbank can park at nearby St Martin’s Walk public car park.

The café will serve visitors to both the soft play and the park and will benefit from an outside patio area overlooking the playground with a total seating area of ca. 108 sq. metres. The soft play floor to ceiling height will allow up to three storeys of play with potential for more with reduced head room, with a play equipment area of ca. 287sq. metres.

If you are interested in leasing the soft play and café facility from Mole Valley District Council, please get in touch using the details below.

Sally Hewetson
T: 01306 870 619
E: sally.hewetson@molevalley.gov.uk
W: www.meadowbankdorking.co.uk
TRAINING

Future Fit signs Reebok deal

Health and fitness training provider Future Fit Training has teamed up with Reebok Archon so trainers and their clients can effectively measure, evaluate and improve their performance.

The Reebok Archon Platform uses a series of algorithms, which combine to standardise and regulate fitness testing and assessment, providing data across strength, power, agility, coordination and endurance.

By inputting an individual’s scores set against their personal profile – including gender, age, weight and wingspan – Reebok Archon provides an accurate and real-time representation of someone’s fitness.

Once a user has registered their details and created a personal profile at archon.reebok.co.uk they can choose from 12 optional assessments they wish to complete.

They then do the activity and upload their metrics. Immediately, they will be given a status of their assessment and progress. From here they can use educational content and videos to help them improve.

The deal will improve trainers’ ability to measure and evaluate clients Charts and tracked statistics give the user information about their progress. Users can share content with friends and on social media.

Future Fit Training, which educates fitness professionals, said that the platform is the perfect tool for its trainers and graduates, who will be able to register on the platform via a bespoke student zone.

They will also become Archon adjudicators, meaning they will be able to validate inputted scores and become fitness assessors.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=e1E0t

PHE recruits clinical champions

Public Health England (PHE) is recruiting more clinical champions as part of its drive to improve the health and wellbeing of people.

The role of a clinical champion is to recognise the potential of physical activity and incorporate it into patient care. PHE is looking for six clinical champions - two for London (nurse and midwife) and one each for the South East, South West, East Midlands and West Midlands (GPs).

PHE launched a national physical activity framework – Everybody Active, Every Day – in October 2014. The document showed that 45 per cent of women and 33 per cent of men are not active enough for good health, and that 26 per cent of women and 19 per cent of men are physically inactive.

The clinical champions programme provides peer-to-peer training with a specialist interest in physical activity through one-off education and development sessions. Following a successful pilot, PHE is extending the scheme. The aim of the programme is to educate clinicians around the areas of physical activity and its benefits, risks of inactivity, statistics regarding inactivity, exercise physiology in primary and secondary prevention, motivational interviewing and local provisions for physical activity.

In July, the Royal College of GPs announced that physical activity would be given greater prominence by local GP practices.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=egG8P_O
LEISURE OPPORTUNITIES TRAINING DIRECTORY

Call +44 (0)1462 431385

TRUST THE EXPERTS* TO DELIVER THE EXPERT TRAINING YOU NEED.

Premier Training provides the expert training YOU need.

- Recruitment Solutions
- In house training
- Corporate rates
- New Health and Wellbeing Qualification

* The Premier Training International Industry Survey was conducted between August and September 2014, involving over 400 employers, Personal Trainers and Personal Trainer Students.

CONTACT US NOW
EMAIL: corporate@premierglobal.co.uk
OR CALL: 03333 212 092
www.premierglobal.co.uk

#FITFORYOU

TRAINING INTERNATIONAL

Hit the Ground Running with an

Active IQ Qualification

Discover the opportunities available to your students when you become an Active IQ approved centre. We will ensure you are fully prepared to offer students everything they need to start their careers in the active leisure sector.

Visit: www.activeiq.co.uk/join
To become approved and get your first 5 registrations free - quote ‘5REG15’

Connect with us
#activequalifications

TRAINING & EDUCATION DIRECTORY
For more details on the following courses visit www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

Company: Premier Training International Ltd
Location: Nationwide, UK
- Become a Personal Trainer
- Qualify with Premier Training and work for PURE GYM!
- Become a Gym Instructor - guaranteed interviews!

Company: Lifetime
Location: Nationwide, UK
- Personal Training Diploma
- Lifetime PTA Global Maxima
- Personal Training Diploma

Company: Focus Training
Location: Nationwide, UK
- Become a Personal Trainer
- GP Exercise Referral
- Exercise to Music Instructor
- Become a Gym Instructor

Company: Origym
Location: Nationwide, UK
- Online Personal Training course

Company: Amac Training Ltd
Location: Various, UK
- Become a Gym Instructor or Personal Trainer

Company: Human Kinetics
Location: Online
- Conditioning to the Core Online CE Course
- High-Performance Training Sports Online CE Course
- Bodyweight Strength Training Anatomy CE Course

Company: YMCA Fitness
Location: Nationwide, UK
- Specialise with our GP Exercise Referral Courses
- Become a world-class Sports Massage Therapist
- Become a world-class Yoga Instructor
- Become a world-class Personal Trainer

TO ADVERTISE CALL +44 (0)1462 431385

For more details on the following courses visit www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

TO ADVERTISE CALL +44 (0)1462 431385

TO ADVERTISE CALL +44 (0)1462 431385
Could your business perform better?

Better people performance means better results for your business.

CREW training programmes will:

- Inspire great customer service
- Develop interactive talks and shows
- Enhance presentation skills
- Boost retail and FOH confidence
- Improve team morale

www.crew.uk.net
info@crew.uk.net
0845 260 4414
Mark Warner Summer and Winter Season Vacancies

We are an award winning travel company who offer year round seasonal employment to our staff in picturesque Mediterranean beach front hotels and scenic winter ski resorts. Seasonal life with Mark Warner allows our staff to strike a great balance between working and socialising.

Waterski and Wakeboard Instructor – Summer 2016

Salary: Competitive

We have a great opportunity for a BWSW UKCC Level 2 Qualified Waterski and Wakeboard Instructor to come and join one of our Mediterranean based teams for the rest of the summer. The ideal candidate will be a newly qualified instructor with at least one or two teaching assignments in their work experience.

Hotel Manager – Winter 2016/17

Salary: Competitive

We are looking for skilled hotel managers who are looking for a new challenge this coming winter season. The ideal candidate will have experience managing multiple teams across a Chalet-Hotel environment in the Alps as well as being able to demonstrate their own exposure to all relevant departments – front of house, housekeeping, catering, logistics.

Mark Warner offer a comprehensive benefits package: we provide all transport to and from resort, comfortable accommodation, meals and overseas travel insurance. In the summer you can use all resort facilities completely free of charge. In the winter we also provide you with your season lift pass and equipment hire.

Please send your cv and cover letter to recruitment@markwarner.co.uk clearly stating which role you are applying for.

Duty Office Manager

Job reference: CLL500056CWE

Service: Facilities, Assets and Housing

Location: Rhyl Leisure Centre

Salary: Grade 6, SCP 24-28, £21,745 - £24,717

Permanent / External vacancy

Denbighshire Leisure is a leading supplier of sports and leisure facilities in North Wales, currently operating 9 leisure facilities plus maritime services and theatres. We take a commercial approach to facility management yet aim to provide excellent opportunities for all.

An opportunity has arisen for a proactive team player to join our Duty Manager Team at Rhyl Leisure Centre – a busy wet/dry facility with 1,000 fitness members and a very busy swimming lesson programme.

You will need an eye for detail, have exceptional customer service skills and a passion for the leisure industry. You will need to set high standards in all that you do and help others to do the same.

The right individual will take a hands-on approach to service delivery & be able to work under their own initiative to ‘get things done’.

The main duties include the management of facilities & activities programmes and can be delivered in a hands on or hands off manner.

If you are interested in this vacancy, please apply on-line via the Job Ref. CLL500056CWE. 

Closing Date: 25 September 2016

www.leisureopportunities.com

Fortnightly leisure recruitment, training, property and news publication which gets you the right job or the perfect candidate for your vacancy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Company</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sports Facilities Assistant</td>
<td>Chelmsford, UK</td>
<td>New Hall School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Trainer</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
<td>énergie group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Leader</td>
<td>Sutton, UK</td>
<td>Parkwood Leisure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time Receptionist</td>
<td>Rotherhithe, London, UK</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifeguard</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
<td>University of London</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Assistant (Lifeguard)</td>
<td>Oxford, UK</td>
<td>Oxford Brookes University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Trainer</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
<td>Waverley School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receptionist (casual)</td>
<td>Thetford, UK</td>
<td>Parkwood Leisure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Club Deputy Manager</td>
<td>Hilton Dartford Bridge, UK</td>
<td>Livingwell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Manager</td>
<td>Cardiff, UK</td>
<td>Parkwood Leisure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events Coordinator</td>
<td>Hemel Hempstead, UK</td>
<td>Glendale Golf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations Manager</td>
<td>Staines Upon thames, UK</td>
<td>Nottingham, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Manager</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
<td>Highgate School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Assistants</td>
<td>Farham, Hampshire, UK</td>
<td>London N6, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Membership Consultant</td>
<td>Scarborough, UK</td>
<td>Fareham, Hampshire, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Coordinator</td>
<td>Nuneaton and Bedworth, UK</td>
<td>Fareham, Hampshire, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Managers</td>
<td>Bath, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trainee Duty Manager</td>
<td>Bath, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Assistant</td>
<td>Thetford, UK</td>
<td>Parkwood Leisure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Assistant</td>
<td>Bath, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness Instructor</td>
<td>Lincolnshire, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Manager</td>
<td>Bath, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports Assistant</td>
<td>Bath, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Coordinator</td>
<td>Nuneaton and Bedworth, UK</td>
<td>New Forest District Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness Adviser</td>
<td>Bristol, UK</td>
<td>University of Bristol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P/T Swimschool Coordinator</td>
<td>Middlesex, UK</td>
<td>Aspire Leisure Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Assistant</td>
<td>Middlesex, UK</td>
<td>Aspire Leisure Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Positions</td>
<td>Various, UK</td>
<td>Perform Better Limited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Sales Product Specialist</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
<td>Warwickshire, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aquazone Swimming Instructor</td>
<td>Aston University</td>
<td>Legacy Leisure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swim Manager</td>
<td>Aylesbury, UK</td>
<td>Legacy Leisure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Recreation Assistant</td>
<td>Melton Mowbray, UK</td>
<td>Aylesbury, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Membership Consultant</td>
<td>Various, UK</td>
<td>GLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Consultant</td>
<td>Various, UK</td>
<td>GLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Consultant</td>
<td>Various, UK</td>
<td>GLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Consultant</td>
<td>Various, UK</td>
<td>GLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Consultant</td>
<td>Chichester, UK</td>
<td>GLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure Attendant</td>
<td>Ringwood, UK</td>
<td>GLL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness Instructor</td>
<td>Peterborough, UK</td>
<td>truGym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Teachers</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Leader</td>
<td>Sutton, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Advisor</td>
<td>Stowmarket, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Club Manager</td>
<td>Maidstone, UK</td>
<td>Legacy Leisure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifeguard</td>
<td>London N6, UK</td>
<td>Woolwich, London, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellbeing Officer - Sport</td>
<td>Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council</td>
<td>Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Recreation Assistant</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Manager</td>
<td>GLL</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store Manager</td>
<td>Cardiff, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre Manager</td>
<td>Chesham - Chilterns, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Fitness Instructor</td>
<td>Coventry, UK</td>
<td>University of Warwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front of House Receptionist</td>
<td>St Albans, Herts, UK</td>
<td>University of Bath</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more details on the following jobs visit www.leisureopportunities.co.uk or to advertise call +44 (0)1462 431385
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner Support Assistant</td>
<td>Move GB</td>
<td>Bath, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales Manager</td>
<td>énergie Group</td>
<td>Forest Hill, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Service Advisor</td>
<td>Move GB</td>
<td>Bath, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Consultant</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duty Manager</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Spellthorne, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Manager</td>
<td>The Gym Group</td>
<td>Rotherham, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming Teachers</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Fareham, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Promotional Staff</td>
<td>énergie group</td>
<td>Forest Hill, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Dev Manager</td>
<td>HR Solutions</td>
<td>Southampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Front Of House Supervisor</td>
<td>Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club</td>
<td>W Yorks, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant General Manager</td>
<td>Ilkley Lawn Tennis Club</td>
<td>W Yorks, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casual Fitness Instructor</td>
<td>Parkwood Leisure</td>
<td>Bristol, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Manager</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Plymouth, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Exercise Instructors</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Fareham, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf Services Supervisor</td>
<td>Glendale Golf</td>
<td>Nottingham, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness Instructor</td>
<td>énergie group</td>
<td>Milton Keynes, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Assistant</td>
<td>Soho Gmys</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Employed Personal Trainers</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Studley Leisure Centre, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spa Therapist</td>
<td>Bedford Lodge Hotel</td>
<td>Newmarket, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 2 Gymnastics Coach</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Redcar, Cleveland, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Sales Manager</td>
<td>eGym</td>
<td>Nationwide (UK travel), UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Trainer</td>
<td>Amac Training Ltd</td>
<td>London, surrounding areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Manager</td>
<td>Xercise4Less</td>
<td>Hartlepool, Wakefield UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and Marketing Manager</td>
<td>Xercise4Less</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Trainer</td>
<td>Xercise4Less</td>
<td>National role, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Consultant</td>
<td>Xercise4Less</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialise with our GP</td>
<td>YMCAfit</td>
<td>Nationwide, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise Referral Courses</td>
<td>Royal Armouries Museum</td>
<td>Leeds, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Service/Front of House Assistant</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-Skill Diploma apprenticeship</td>
<td>Everyone Active</td>
<td>Various locations, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GP Exercise Referral</td>
<td>Focus Training</td>
<td>Nationwide, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spa Therapists</td>
<td>Coworth Park</td>
<td>Nationwide, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beauty Therapist</td>
<td>Wyboston Lakes</td>
<td>Wyboston, Bedfordshire, UK</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
British Cycling will lobby for “smart investment and better infrastructure” in a bid to capitalise on Team GB’s performance at Rio 2016. Great Britain’s track cycling team smashed UK Sport’s maximum target of 10 medals by going one better, with standout performances by Laura Trott and Jason Kenny.

The national governing body’s (NGBs) president Bob Howden said that cycling had “once again captured the nation’s imagination” and that there was a “growing appetite to get more people on bikes”.

“We will continue to campaign for stronger political leadership, smart investment and better infrastructure,” he added.

Over the past seven years, British Cycling has ploughed more than £10m of Sport England funds into the building and renovation of purpose-built facilities.

However, the body’s chief executive Ian Drake said there was “still work to do in order to create a comprehensive network of facilities”, while in April one of Team GB’s gold medal-winning athletes, Joanna Rowsell-Shand, told Leisure Opportunities that more facilities would improve potential athletes’ chances.

“I’d like to see more facilities in the UK,” she said. “We’ve currently got five indoor velodromes, but [I want] more road circuits. It must be so easy to build tarmac roads, I don’t understand why we don’t have more of them.”

British Cycling received £30.3m from UK Sport and £32m from Sport England over the organisations’ latest funding cycles. Details: http://lei.str?=a=Z4P2s_O

‘Smart investment’ needed for cycling

Howden said cycling had ‘captured the nation’s imagination’ in Rio

FA looks to ramp up grassroots scheme

Continued from front cover

St George’s Park Sheffield Graves has already opened, with a second Sheffield centre in Thorncliffe opening in a month’s time.

The programme is now expected to be pushed out nationwide, with the funding partners – and the Premier League – ploughing in £200m (US$261.9m, €234.4m) to replicate the model in other cities. Planning applications are now being considered for proposed sites in Liverpool and London.

The move is part of the governing body’s drive to increase the number of quality facilities for grassroots football in inner cities, and subsequently boost the number of people playing the sport at community level.

Artificial pitches will offer double the amount of playing time that can be accommodated on natural pitches. They are also unlikely to become susceptible to being frozen or waterlogged.

The facilities in Sheffield will host league matches for up to five resident clubs. Once the centres are fully-operational, they will be open to the wider public. Designed to be self-sustaining, the centres will be operated via a charitable ownership model. Details: http://lei.str?=a=5x4Z_O

FA chief executive Martin Glenn said the centres marked the start of ‘something big’ for grassroots

Howden said cycling had ‘captured the nation’s imagination’ in Rio

Leisure Opportunities that more facilities would improve potential athletes’ chances.

“When I look over there and see those people getting on those bikes, I just think, ‘This is something that really matters’ — that’s why I do this job,” he added.

“It’s about making our sport accessible to the masses, and it’s about creating a sustainable future.”

Leisure Opportunities - Issue 24 - October 2016

©CYBERTREK 2016

www.leisureopportunities.co.uk