Fitness First will double the pace of its UK and Australia club transformation programme – citing encouraging business results – as the gym chain bids to ignite a roaring recovery.

The company is reporting the first growth in UK membership since 2009, with revenues up by between 5 to 15 per cent in each of the 19 UK clubs to have been rebranded so far this year, prompting the decisive march forward. As a result, 66 UK clubs and 50 clubs in Australia will be transformed by the end of 2014. Continued on back cover

Legal challenge leaves Spurs in stadium limbo

Premier League football club Tottenham Hotspur may be forced to play a season away from home thanks to a legal wrangle over the club’s new stadium development.

Plans for the £400m 58,000-seat stadium, being built next to Tottenham’s current home of White Hart Lane, have been challenged by landowners at the High Court because of a compulsory purchase order of land that was approved in July.

“The club has revised its construction programme in order to take the shortest possible time to construct,” said a statement issued by the club on Wednesday 10 September.

“This now therefore involves the club moving away from the Lane during construction for a period of one season, to start at the beginning of a season in order to comply with Premier League rules.” The club went on to say it was “undertaking due diligence on alternative stadium options,” with Milton Keynes thought to be a likely temporary venue for Spurs, after representatives from the club visited the 32,000-seat Stadium mk for the recent Capital One Cup clash between MK Dons and Manchester United. Other options include rotating between Wembley, the Olympic Stadium and Stadium mk, depending on the fixture schedule and availability of the grounds.

Earlier this month, Queens Park Rangers football club encountered similar problems, with a local car dealership refusing to move in order to make way for the club’s proposed new stadium.

For the Tottenham development, the club says Archway Sheet Metal Works and the Josif Family have challenged the decision, which will now go to the High Court, meaning for the 2017-2018 season at least, the club will be without a home. Details: http://lei.sr?r=a-c4P3N

Center Parcs chief forms consultancy

Don Camilleri, director of construction for Center Parcs, has left the UK holiday village company to start his own consultancy firm called Hospitality and Leisure Concepts.

Known for his work with Center Parcs to produce and evolve the five separate Center Parcs within the UK, Camilleri is hoping to branch out and advise a new variety of clients, while still providing support to the leisure village enterprise when needed. The new consultancy has already gained several clients, including Corinthia Hotels, for which Camilleri is a non-exec director on its QP Management arm board.

After completing the latest Center Parcs Woburn Forest, with a multi-sensory Aqua Camilleri worked at Center Parcs for 28 years

Sana spa, Camilleri is looking for a new challenge. “I’ve perfected five Center Parcs villages and I believe someone else can take the reins and go further,” he told Leisure Opportunities. Details: http://lei.sr?r=a-f3Z9C

Leisure opportunities

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EPL clubs splash £835m on transfers

The collective buying power of English Premier League clubs remains unrivalled in world football, making the competition the richest football league in the world.

Heading into the last day of the 2014 summer transfer window (1 September), analysis by Deloitte showed that gross transfer spending by EPL clubs had already reached £780m – surpassing last year’s previous record by more than £100m. After all business was concluded, the total figure reached £835m.

The amount spent by EPL clubs dwarfed the money dished out by rivals in the Spanish La Liga, with most of the £450m paid out by the league’s two giants, Barcelona and Real Madrid. In total, EPL clubs spent more money on summer transfers than all the clubs in the German Bundesliga, the French Ligue 1 and Italian Serie A put together.

Dan Jones, partner at Deloitte’s Sports Business Group, commented: “It has so far seen a higher level of spending than in any previous window, with a new record gross spend in a single window for a single Premier League club, and has included a record transfer fee for an individual player in English football (Angel di Maria to Manchester United).”

Jones added that there are a number of factors contributing to this summer’s massive spend, including the showcase for global talent a World Cup provides.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=m7W2M

Teenage girls put off sport by ‘ugly’ PE kit

Almost half of UK 16-year-old girls say their fondness for sport and activity is being hampered by having to wear their school PE kit, according to newly-published research.

A study carried out by Virgin Active to support its Active Inspiration campaign found that 39 per cent of girls, rising to 46 per cent among 16-year-olds, said they enjoy being active but hate the PE kit. Meanwhile, 48 per cent of girls admit to making up excuses to get out of PE lessons and 28 per cent of 16-year-old girls say that they avoid sport as wearing their PE kit makes them feel ugly.

The findings follow a recent cross-party parliamentary report that concluded a number of reforms must take place to make school sport more accessible to girls, and are the latest in a long line of studies outlining the barriers that conventional PE lessons pose to young females.

To tackle the issue of ‘ugly’ PE kits, Active Inspiration campaign partners the Women’s Sport and Fitness Foundation (WSFF) and Virgin Active have teamed up with designer Lexie Sport and a group of girls from Isle of Portland Aldridge Academy, where PE kit has been a barrier to girls taking part in physical activity. The girls were challenged by Lexie Sport founder Lily Rice to create their perfect PE kit before choosing a winning design by 13-year-old Emily Marshall.

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

Changing the traditional PE kit could have a big impact on participation
York's £37m stadium is good to go

Work on a £37m sports stadium to house both York City Football Club and the York City Knights Rugby League team is set to start in May, after more than a year of delays, from plans which originally date back to 2009.

The 8,000-seat stadium – designed to easily expand to 12,000-seats should the need to increase capacity arise – is scheduled to be built within a timeframe of 18 months. The stadium is due to open in late Q3 2016.

A consortium led by Greenwich Leisure Ltd (GLL) has been awarded a contract by City of York Council to oversee and build the new development, which will also include a swimming pool, gym and several artificial football pitches.

Also being constructed as part of the development are a number of retail outlets, including stores from Marks and Spencer and Next on the 339,000sq ft (31,494sq m) land area. The Council is investing approximately £8m into the project, with the rest of the funding coming from grants and revenue generated through commercial developments.

Work was due to start on the project earlier this year, but a combination of unseasonably cold weather and the discovery of great crested newts – which are a protected species under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 – led to lengthy delays.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=22T2h

Manchester United posts record revenues

Manchester United Football Club’s poor start to the post-Ferguson area on the pitch doesn’t appear to have hampered the club’s finances so far, after it reported record revenue of £433.2m in the year to the end of June.

Despite a disappointing campaign under David Moyes, finishing seventh in the Premier League last year, the club turned a “core profit” of £310m thanks to TV rights, merchandise sales, matchday revenue and competition bonuses. However, this year is expected to be a slightly different story, with the club absent from the lucrative Champions League for the first time in 20 years.

United forecasts that revenue and profit will fall in 2014-15 as a result – down to £395m and £95m respectively – while it remains unclear how the nigh-on £200m spent in the summer transfer market will affect the club’s books.

Executive vice chair Ed Woodward was quick to talk up the results and suggested the appointment of Dutch manager Louis van Gaal – in place of Moyes – would lead to a reversal in the Manchester club’s on-field fortunes.

“We are very proud of the results achieved in fiscal year 2013 as we once again generated record revenues,” said Woodward. “With Louis van Gaal at the helm as manager, and the recent signing of some of the world’s leading players to further strengthen our squad, we are very excited about the future and believe it’s the start of a new chapter in the club’s history.

“Louis’ footballing philosophy fits very well with Manchester United and he has an impressive track record of success throughout his career, winning league titles with every club he has ever managed.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=14q9r

Large golf resort planned for outskirts of Edinburgh

Planning consent has been granted for a hotel and leisure development on the edge of Scotland’s capital Edinburgh – the latest project in what is fast-becoming a mini-boom for the nation’s golf course sector.

The deal sees a consortium of British businessmen put its weight behind a development of almost 500 acres on the outskirts of the Scottish capital. The development will include a 240-bedroom resort hotel and a championship golf course designed in conjunction with golfing legend Sandy Lyle, who says the high-profile development has the potential to rival any golf course in Scotland.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=8W4P

Boggis appointed Sport and Recreation Alliance CEO

Emma Boggis has taken up the role of CEO for the Sport and Recreation Alliance, replacing interim CEO Sallie Barker.

Prior to her appointment, Boggis was non-executive director for the British Paralympic Association and head of the government’s Olympic and Paralympic Legacy Unit.

Boggis has also held roles as private secretary to David Cameron, deputy head of mission and political counsellor with the Foreign Office, and deputy director of social policy and legislation for the Cabinet Office.

In her role as CEO, Boggis will take over all responsibilities for delivering and shaping the direction of the Sport and Recreation Alliance, aiming to keep the organisation in the centre of the UK sports sector.

“We are really pleased that Emma will be joining us to take the Alliance forward with our plans to continually modernise our services and be an effective voice for the sector,” said Andy Reed, Sport and Recreation Alliance chair. “Emma has a proven track record in her work with the Legacy Unit and has impressed with her insight and experience.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=56hec

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Olympic champion Trott joins Matrix cycling team

Laura Trott, one of the superstars of the London 2012 Olympics, has joined the Matrix Fitness – Vulpine cycling team.

As well as the sporting prowess Trott offers, Matrix Fitness MD Jon Johnston believes there is “no better person to inspire youngsters to get active”. Trott, the current British road race champion, will join the team at the start of 2015, with Matrix Fitness – Vulpine recently announcing plans to register as a UCI professional team next year.

Johnston said Trott was both an ambassador for cycling and a role model for young people who “shared many values and objectives” with Matrix Fitness. 

Details: http://lei.sr?a=V5V8A

PayasUgym launches new Fitness Marketplace service

Online gym pass provider PayasUgym has launched an innovative new Fitness Marketplace enabling customers to search and choose gym passes, fitness classes and memberships from more than 2,000 gyms and health clubs across the country.

Described by the company as ‘a UK first’, the PayasUgym Fitness Marketplace provides a ‘shop window’ for gym operators to promote the services they offer. In addition, customers can read hundreds of thousands of independent gym reviews which have been left on the PayasUgym website to help them make their decision. Until now, potential gym users have relied on time consuming multiple web searches of gym operators own websites to find and locate the services they require.

PayasUgym CEO Jamie Ward said: “The launch of our marketplace means we now provide customers with a genuine ‘one-stop shop’ to find and compare local gyms, and in doing so we provide gym operators with an innovative solution to market their products and attract new customers.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=w7S9m

Industry to rally for Fitness Day

An industry-wide coalition of physical activity advocates is urging Britons to lace up their trainers and get moving on Friday 26 September as part of National Fitness Day – the largest celebration of physical activity in the UK.

Founded by the énergie Group, ukactive is now coordinating the day, which will see thousands of people don their exercise gear and flock to gyms, health clubs, leisure centres and parks around the country to take part in free ‘Power Half Hour’ exercise events.

Les Mills, Better Gyms, British Military Fitness, Club Company, Energie, Everyone Active, Fitness First, Lifestyle Fitness, Gym Group, Places for People, Pure Gym and Spirit Health Clubs are just some of the major fitness providers inviting the public to try a variety of free sessions at more than 1,000 sites – from indoor cycling, exercise to music classes and swimming to yoga, boot camp and pilates. More venues are joining daily and are searchable through the digital activity finder at www.nationalfitnessday.com.

“We’re a nation that just sits down too much. There’s a multitude of reasons for that, but right at the top of the list are lack of accessible opportunities to exercise and lack of motivation,” said David Stalker, CEO of ukactive and director of National Fitness Day. “The initiative is about removing the barriers by making physical activity enjoyable and open to anyone through free sessions, on their doorstep. If National Fitness Day can inspire people across the UK to move even just a little bit more, then we’re on our way to a happier, healthier nation.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=D4b8N

Treharne: Indie gyms should lobby local MPs

The Gym Group CEO John Treharne has highlighted the role individual MPs can play in lifting physical activity up the political agenda, noting that lobbying local representatives can be an effective means for independent gyms to be heard.

With less than a year until the next general election, Treharne said it is important that politicians recognise the role that the health and fitness industry has to play in reducing the strain on the NHS, noting that now is a pertinent time to reiterate the compelling case for physical activity.

“The UK’s health crisis is placing a massive burden on the NHS and it’s a pity that the government doesn’t do more to support the physical activity sector – be it through reducing VAT on gym memberships, or incentivising employers to subsidise fitness programmes,” Treharne told Leisure Opportunities in a recent interview.

“It will certainly be interesting to see whether any of the major parties offer policy support in their upcoming manifestos. Treharne said the fragmented nature of the UK gym sector – estimated to comprise 6,000 gyms, but with the majority operating in silos – means it’s important for discussions to happen both at government and local level.

“I think on a national scale, ukactive is an effective representative of the major players in the health and fitness industry, but 80 per cent of UK gyms are small independents, making them very difficult to mobilise,” he added.

“For these businesses, I think lobbying local MPs to get behind physical activity is the most effective way to spread the message and ensure policymakers take note.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=g2P2u

Fitness sessions will be taking place across Britain on 26 September

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Details: http://lei.sr?a=D4b8N

Co-founders Ward (left) and Neil Harmsworth

Details: http://lei.sr?a=V5V8A

The Gym Group CEO John Treharne

Details: http://lei.sr@a=g2P2u

Details: http://lei.sr@a=w7S9m

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Joins Matrix Cycling Team

Becomes a UK first

Trolls Trott

PayasUgym Launches

Fitness Marketplace Service

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UK cycling more popular than ever

Cycling in the UK is more popular than ever, with a 14 per cent increase in bike sales over the last five years causing the market to grow from £639m in 2008 to £754m in 2014, according to research.

To commemorate National Cycle to Work Day (4 September), market research company Mintel recently produced a raft of statistics spotlighting the spread of cycling across the UK.

In the year that saw Yorkshire host the start of the Tour de France, participation has grown across the country with 35 per cent of adults describing themselves as cyclists and a further 31 per cent say they would consider cycling in the future. As has been evidenced in cities like Bristol, the number of people community on two wheels has also increased, with 28 per cent of current cyclists in the UK saying that they usually ride to their place of work, up from 25 per cent who said the same in 2013.

With its vast network of cycle lanes and hire bikes – and two new superhighways potentially on the way – London is unsurprisingly the UK’s busiest city for cycling, with 45 per cent of the Inner and Greater London population identifying themselves as frequent cyclists.

But safety concern is still the biggest barrier to wider participation. Nearly 40 per cent of the public believe cycling would be safer in towns and cities if cyclists were separated from other traffic, while 32 per cent of adults believe it’s too dangerous to ride a bike on the road, suggesting the 19,000 deaths or injuries from cycling on UK roads last year loom large in their minds. Details: http://lei.sr?a=z9m3M

Olympian Kate Haywood heads into fitness

Double Olympic swimmer Kate Haywood has swapped the famous rings for REPs by embarking on a new career as a fitness instructor. Former BBC Young Sports Personality of the Year Haywood – who represented Team GB at the Beijing 2008 and London 2012 Olympic Games – has launched Straightline Energy fitness sessions, which will be held across number of parks in Wandsworth, London.

Haywood has taken her knowledge of fitness and nutrition from her days as an Olympic athlete and, having qualified as a REPs trainer, developed an extensive training programme to get Londoners fit and healthy. The sessions are designed to challenge and push those who are either new to fitness or seeking to reach new goals. They cover strength, speed, endurance, aerobic and anaerobic training.

“Our saw an opportunity to create a fitness training programme that can bring Olympic-style training to residents in South West London,” said Haywood.

“The sessions are designed to get people outdoors and really challenge themselves; being trained by an Olympic athlete gives people access to a level of expertise and professional quality of training that is not readily available to amateur athletes or those embarking on a fitness regime for the first time.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=h7G9W

Brain could be retrained to favour healthier foods: study

The brain could potentially be retrained to prefer healthy foods, helping people with weight loss and healthy eating plans, according to a small-scale pilot study published in the journal Nutrition & Diabetes.

Conducted by researchers at the Harvard Medical School and other research centres in the US, the study observed how the brain’s reward system responds to healthy and unhealthy food. The research looked at a part of our brain that seemingly gives us rewards by releasing chemicals such as dopamine in anticipation of our consumption of food. The scientists have recommended further research be carried out.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=N3A9u

RunKeeper to reward users with gifts for fitness feats

Fitness tracking application RunKeeper has partnered with mobile reward service Kilp to give users gifts and brand samples when they reach their exercise goals.

The offering comes as a number of technology producers turn to the carrot and stick method for motivating fitness enthusiasts and people looking to lose weight.

For example, Pavlok’s fitness tracking device will soon look to shock users with a buzzer, give away their money or shame them on social media if they fail back into bad workout habits or fail to get out of bed.

The latest move from RunKeeper will see users receive a pop-up congratulations message and the opportunity to click-through to redeem their gift when they achieve certain goals. Initially the service will see 10 gifts and rewards offered, with smartwatch maker Pebble, Quaker Oats and P&G’s Secret Deodorant among the first brands to join the programme.

Also included are song downloads sponsored by specific brands, which users can unlock when they achieve certain personal landmarks. Details: http://lei.sr?a=W7f7P

Details: http://lei.sr?a=ZS93M
HOTELS

WHG snaps up Manchester’s Lowry Hotel

Manchester’s Lowry Hotel – currently thought to be home to several of Man United’s expensive summer signings – has been bought by Westmont Hospitality Group (WHG) and its investment partner Mount Kellett Capital Management for a reported £40m.

Newly-arrived United stars Marcos Rojo, Radamel Falcao, Louis Van Gaal, Daley Blind and Angel di Maria have all been photographed at the five-star hotel in recent weeks, which was sold by Rocco Forte Hotels in early September.

WHG – which has strategic alliances with renowned hotel brands including Intercontinental, Fairmont, Leading Hotels of the World, Hilton and Marriott – will now operate the site, but it is to retain the existing senior management team.

A spokesperson for the hotel group told Leisure Opportunities that the 158-room Lowry would now be subject to a refurbishment programme, which will see improvements made to the suites, foyer and reception area. They were unable to confirm the reported selling price for the hotel – which opened in 2001.

Speaking after the sale, Sir Rocco Forte said: “I am very proud that we created the Lowry as a first-class hotel in 2001 with an outstanding team and, in the process, played a role in the renaissance which Manchester has enjoyed in recent years. I wish the team at the Lowry, its customers and its new owners the very best for the future.” Details: http://lei.sr?a=W7r6R

Accor purchases 13 UK hotels

French hotel group Accor has spent £71m on acquiring 13 UK properties as it looks to gain ownership over the hotels it currently leases.

The transition away from the often-popular asset-light strategy deployed by other hotel groups comes as the business looks to set about re-structuring under the guidance of new chief executive and chair Sébastien Bazin.

The group will now feature two main divisions, its HotelInvest sector, which will act as a property investor, while the other will be known as HotelServices, with a designated role of running hotels and managing brands.

Accor, well known for its Ibis, Novotel and Mercure hotel brands, has purchased the 13 hotels from investment group Tritax.

“These transactions demonstrate Accor’s ability to act swiftly in implementing the strategy announced nine months ago,” said John Ozanga, chief operating officer of HotelInvest.

“It’s an important step forward in the significant restructuring that we are leading in HotelInvest, fully aligned with our objectives which include creating value by optimising return on capital employed, while strengthening our position as the largest owner of economy and midscale hotels in key European markets.”

The group’s acquired portfolio, which includes 12 Ibis and one Ibis budget hotels, represents 1,194 rooms across the UK.

Accor’s entrance into UK ownership comes as hotel rival Kempinski has announced it will be temporarily without a presence in the UK, after its contract ended for The Stafford London, currently owned by Britannia Hospitality. Details: http://lei.sr?a=27rjy

Just in time for the 2014 Christmas party season, every UK food vendor will have to accurately track, record and communicate to the public 14 of the most common foods to cause allergic reactions. This applies to cafes, canteens, restaurants, hotels, pubs, take-aways, motorway service stations, festival caterers, schools, hospitals and prisons. In fact, anywhere that food is eaten out of home. When you consider that some eight billion out-of-home meals are served every year, the enormity of the task quickly becomes clear.

The introduction of new Allergen Regulations on 13 December 2014 is mandatory for all EU member states.

The British Hospitality Association estimates the cost of implementing the new allergen regulations for businesses will be between £90-150m per year on sourcing and management processes, adapting menus and websites and training staff. To support businesses, the BHA has created a Guidance Toolkit, designed to help hotels, restaurants and caterers understand and implement the new regulations and minimise implementation costs for the business. The Toolkit will be supported by a series of Regional Workshops and its aim is to minimise the cost and impact of the regulations for food vendors, and offer guidance and support to all BHA members.

While some food vendors may view the new regulations as excessive, this EU legislation is binding for all member states. It is designed to ensure that food businesses can confidently inform their customers about food allergens so that customers are able to make informed choices about what to eat.

Hospitality, as an industry is continually striving to attract bright new talent and achieve its vision of shaping the future of hospitality and tourism as a driver for international competitiveness and economic growth. It must therefore be devoting both time and energy into training its staff, continually evolving and raising its standards. Only by investing and training our workforce will we become a world class industry. Understanding and implementing the new allergen regulations is a good start.
DON’T MISS THE HEALTH CLUB AWARDS AT LIW!

The 4th annual MEMBERS’ CHOICE Health Club Awards take place on 30th September on the first night of LIW where the best clubs in the UK will be honoured once again.

Make sure you don’t miss out on the passion & excitement at this prestigious event.

BOOK YOUR TICKETS NOW AT

www.healthclubawards.co.uk
Fitness is moving into the great outdoors, and the LIW show floor will once again be extending its presence outside.

HAGS SMP will be launching its new outdoor Fitness Range, Trinity Cycle, whilst Parkour Generations will be showcasing its high flying skills, as well as an exciting new range of diverse workouts.

The Playbus Company will be displaying its double decker buses, which convert into comprehensive mobile play centres, whilst Innovative Leisure is going to be on hand to discuss every aspect of its comprehensive product range.

The British Association of Leisure Parks, Piers and Attractions (BALPPA) will be bringing an exciting line-up to LIW this year for members, with events including an extensive seminar programme, two free lunches and an exclusive BALPPA reception at Drayton Manor Park.

There will be a number of seminar highlights and these include BALPPA CEO Paul Kelly talking about effective public relations (PR) when a disaster strikes and Indoor Play guru Neil Scot hosting an interactive session where he’ll discuss new ideas and innovations in the FEC sector.

New to LIW this year, Parkour Generations will be on stand H684, in addition to holding demonstrations in the outdoor area to showcase 'MOV’, its revolutionary new small group training programme.

Split into Circuit MOV’, Flow MOV’, JumpMOV’, BalanceMOV’ and TribalMOV’, each programme offers a natural method of bodyweight exercises that encourage people to step outside of their comfort zones and use the fundamentals of movement in a fun, accessible environment to improve their levels of fitness and wellbeing.

This year’s keynote theatre is sponsored by Life Fitness and will host exclusive sessions on the latest industry topics. On Tuesday, retention guru, Paul Bedford, will review retention strategies operators can make; Keith Smith from KLS Limited will define small group training and its importance in the member journey and Stuart Stokes, from Refer-All, will present real data on services and trusts successfully delivering public health interventions.

Leon Rudge, technology solutions manager at Life Fitness, will start the Wednesday sessions discussing how technology impacts our industry, followed by Nick Mennell explaining how to create experiences that inspire exercisers and another session from Keith Smith, this time exploring the personal trainer experience. Wrapping up the Thursday sessions will be Unique Results’ James St Pierre, outlining the seven habits of successful gym owners.
Leisure Industry Week (LIW) is the leading exhibition dedicated to the entire leisure industry.

Whether you’re an independent operator, trainer, or you work within a corporate gym or leisure facility, LIW is your must attend event of 2014. Join us for unrivalled networking, leading exhibitors bringing you the very latest fitness equipment, live demos of new training methods, CPD education, and much more. Visit LIW 2014 and stay ahead of the game.

@li_w #LIW2014
Closure of Leeds spa blamed on daily deals websites

The UK’s first five-star women-only spa – which opened in 2005 – has closed, citing daily deal websites and increased competition as reasons for its demise.

Developed by the County Durham-based Ebac Group – a European manufacturer of bottled watercoolers and domestic dehumidifiers – the 4,800sq ft (446sq m) Waterfall Spa was located at the Brewery Wharf development in Leeds city centre.

“Over the past three years the spa business has changed dramatically and the combination of daily deal sites and increased competition has made the business unviable,” said a statement on the spa’s website.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=h2e7z

Yoga pilot scheme added to Heathrow spa experience

Global airline alliance SkyTeam’s Exclusive Lounge, which opened in 2009 at London Heathrow Airport’s Terminal 4, is offering a two-month yoga pilot project to customers on any of its 13 member airlines.

This scheme builds on SkyTeam’s existing 1,600sq ft (149sq m) relaxation facilities at Heathrow, including a wellness centre that offers spa treatments, an oxygen bar, three full-body massage chairs, five showers, a green botanical wall featuring more than 60 different species of plants, four day-beds, two VIP meeting rooms and a wine bar.

The pilot yoga studio “will have yoga mats and a video showing a series of easy-to-follow sequences,” according to SkyTeam.

“Behind the design concept of each SkyTeam Exclusive Lounge is a focus on our customers’ wellbeing, taking them away from the hectic airport terminal and into a tranquil environment,” said Fatima da Gloria, brand and communications director of SkyTeam. “Yoga is renowned for improving the mind and body through its focus on stretching and breathing.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=d2q7K

P&O cruise floats wellness concept

Set to join the P&O fleet in March 2015, the greatly anticipated 1,082ft (330m) cruise ship Britannia, which is 20ft (6m) longer than the Eiffel Tower, will boast expanded wellness offerings at sea.

The ship has 15 public decks for a maximum of 3,647 passengers and 1,400 crew members, in addition to a signature Oasis Spa, alfresco terrace bar called The Retreat, plus the first Oasis Villa, salon menu and spa shop.

The Oasis Spa – to be operated by Steiner Leisure – will feature a hydrotherapy suite with heated loungers, waterbeds, salt cave, hydrotherapy pool providing reflexology, massage jets and air recliners. Product lines available at the spa have been added to the menu to include Elemis, La Therapie, Phyto, Bliss and Sebastian. The new spa shop will stock retail products from these companies.

The salon blowout menu, which includes blow dry, hair styling and makeup application, will be available at the ship’s hair salon.

Britannia’s maiden cruise leaves Southampton on 14 March 2015

Britannia will also have four pools as well as a gym and dedicated sports space called The Arena for short tennis, cricket or football.

A total of 13 dining experiences will be open to passengers, plus a chance to join P&O’s newly developed Cookery Club where cooking classes are delivered by leading chefs, such as British chef James Martin.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=e8e8j

Franz Linser joins GSWS board of directors

Plans for the new £25m St Michael’s Spa & Wellness Resort in Falmouth, Cornwall, have taken a step further forward having been given unanimous approval by the Falmouth Town Council Planning Committee.

Having met with the current St Michael’s owner and project developer Nigel Carpenter, the council has agreed on the plans on the basis that a layer of car parking and four eco lodges that were originally planned for the site are removed.

The plans are now to be put forward to Cornwall Council, which will make a final decision in early November. The Poynton Bradbury Wynter Cole-designed project would see the existing St Michael’s hotel and spa facility become part of a larger development using the site of the former Falmouth Beach hotel.

The new destination spa will house seven treatment rooms, a beauty salon, swimming pool, relaxation areas and a new conservatory.

Other facilities housed at the site include a hydrotherapy pool, sauna and steamroom, experience rainforest showers, relaxation areas, an outdoor Finnish sauna and a spa café with spa gardens. In terms of hotel facilities, there will also be 30 new hotel suites and 51 ocean-facing apartments. There are also plans for restaurants, retail facilities and a health club.

Work is hoped to start next year and will last for 18 months. Details: http://lei.sr?a=g4A5B
Halal summit to spotlight trends

This year’s international Halal Tourism Conference in Europe will launch an index of Muslims’ travel habits and current trends, shining light on a market said to be worth millions to the UK tourism industry.

The conference – which takes place in Andalucia, Spain, from 22-23 September – will unveil the Muslim Travel Index Europe 2014 which uses travel research from residents from the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Malaysia to outline current travel preferences and perceptions among Muslim communities.

According to the latest figures, the halal tourism sector was worth £84bn in 2013, representing around 13 per cent of global travel expenditure, and this figure is expected to reach £193bn by 2020. In London, there are around 13,400 Muslim-owned businesses, making up 33.6 per cent of the total SME’s in the capital.

Meanwhile, recent research produced by UK tourism agency VisitBritain found that Middle Eastern visitors are the biggest shoppers of all UK inbound tourists, noting that the average visit from a Kuwaiti citizen delivers £4,000 to the UK economy, compared to the £1,343 spent by the average French tourist.

“The recent Muslim Travel Index Europe 2014, which surveyed tourists from Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and UAE who travel to Europe, revealed that 93 per cent said it was important that the country they travelled to caters for a halal lifestyle,” said Tasneem Mahmood, director of Birmingham-based event organisers CM Media.

“This shows the demand is there and it means that UK companies can plug that demand. We predict that supplying the halal tourism market could potentially be worth millions of pounds to UK businesses.”

The two-day conference will host around 500 delegates and exhibitors from the Middle East, Far East and Europe, including those currently active in halal tourism and countries looking for help to break into the sector.

Speakers due to appear at the event include Kempinski Hotels VP for IMEA development Chris Nader, Indonesian tourism ministry DG Esthy Reko Astuti, as well as co-founder of HalalBooking.com Elnur Seyidli.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=v8c2V

London: Most expensive EU city for culture

A visit by two people to an art gallery, a museum, a heritage site, the opera, the ballet and a classical concert in London will cost £256, making it the most expensive city for culture in Europe, according to a recent survey.

The research – conducted by Post Office Travel Money – looked at 12 of the top European travel destinations, with London coming out higher than the likes of Paris, Rome and Vienna.

Paris and Barcelona were second and third at £251.56 and £241.58 respectively, while Warsaw was by far the cheapest destination, with a culture trip costing a mere £63.40.

The survey said prices were high in London despite the fact a lot of major museums in the capital are free, though even with this amendment, two tickets for the Royal Ballet in London cost £91, while a pair of tickets to the opera would set people back £117.50, keeping London in the top four regardless.

By contrast, two tickets to the ballet in Warsaw would cost £20.13, with an opera ticket coming in at the same price. While London was deemed the most expensive of the 12 European cities surveyed, culture costs have actually seen a drop of 21 per cent since 2009. Culture prices in Rome and Vienna were also down by 36.1 per cent and 27.3 per cent respectively, while costs in Amsterdam jumped 37.3 per cent. Details: http://lei.sr?a=k5e2f
**RAF Museum invites entries for revamp competition**

A competition has been launched to find a landscape design team for the RAF Museum’s highly-anticipated revamp. The attraction is undergoing a £23m renovation as it builds up to the centenary celebrations of the Royal Air Force in 2018.

The winning team will help achieve the master plan designed by architecture firm Wilkinson Eyre in 2011. The four-phase renovation of the site in Hendon, London, is known as the Centenary Programme and includes: refitting of the 1915 factory, due to be completed in December; restoring public-use 1931 buildings by 2016; creating a new exhibition and entrance by 2016; and refitting the hangar with a visitor centre and exhibits by 2017. Details: http://lei.sr?a=a3k5y

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**Beefeater Gin launches visitor centre in London**

British brand of London Dry Gin, Beefeater, has recently opened its new visitor centre and exhibition space in London.

Following a competition held in 2008, Lee Boyd Architects and Four-by-Two design consultants made the winning bid to construct an extension that has tied two of the Beefeater sites’ original buildings together; creating a new point of entry and allowing visitors to move freely inside the distillery without interrupting its daily routine.

Designed to immerse the visitor in the story of gin and the history of London, the centre now features a retail space, as well as several interactive exhibition galleries where individuals can learn about gin’s dark beginnings and the history of the Beefeater brand.

This is followed by the Still Room – where the visitor discovers the production process – and has a small sample of the end result at a sleek new gin bar. The outside of the new extension is clad in undulating copper-coloured cladding, giving a nod to not only Beefeater’s traditional copper distilling process, but also the surrounding industrial heritage. Details: http://lei.sr?a=s8R6k

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**Council backs Robin Hood attraction**

Plans for a Robin Hood-themed attraction in Sherwood Forest are still very much alive, despite the public collapse of a £13m deal earlier this year.

Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) has said it is still fully committed to building a visitor centre by 2017 “in order to do justice to the legend of Robin Hood”, with investors in the project still reportedly very interested in making the idea become a reality.

The multi-million pound visitor attraction was due to open in Q1 of 2015, but in June, NCC pulled a deal it had with Discovery Attractions, citing failure to secure enough funding for the project, despite the fact Discovery attested it had secured £60m of funding pledged from a range of overseas and UK investors.

With multiple interested parties, NCC has said a formal process of finding a new external partner for the visitor centre development will start soon, though Discovery Attractions has previously stated it would build the attraction “with or without the council’s backing.”

“Following the launch of the formal tendering process in late October, we are now aiming to secure a partner organisation by the summer of 2015, with a view to the new attraction being open at some point in the summer of 2017,” said NCC’s Steve Bradley. Details: http://lei.sr?a=A3G8y

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**Inverness could house new science attraction**

Inverness could become home to a science-themed visitor attraction to help educate and develop careers in the sector, as the Scottish city seeks to build on the announcement of a planned Science Skills Academy.

Despite details remaining scarce, The Inverness Courier reports that part of the facility’s funding has already been agreed for the project, with a number of locations now being considered across the city.

Complementing the proposed Highland Science Skills Academy, which recently secured £150,000 in funding, the science-themed attraction would be used to draw additional visitors to the city, while also helping to deliver an impact on the development of certain scientific careers.

“We are working with partners at the moment to bring a large scale multi-million pound investment to the city centre, which will stimulate public interest and provide a welcome economic boost for the city centre,” said Highland Council leader Drew Hendry.

“It will be cutting edge and a game changer in the public’s perception of science. It is highly ambitious and in my view will bring a lot of excitement to the city centre. We are currently at the very early stages of discussing and developing this and are trying to lever in funds from outwith the Highlands.”

It is thought that jobs will be created as part of the visitor attraction, with additional office space for science and technology companies also being suggested for the development.

Given that space in the city centre is limited, the facility could potentially be housed inside, or in place of, an existing property. Details: http://lei.sr?a=W7B8p
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**£30m Feethams leisure development underway**

Work on Darlington’s long-awaited £30m Feethams leisure development is due to begin by the end of September, with developer Terrace Hill announcing that funding is now in place to progress with the full construction of the project.

The development is to feature a nine-screen multiplex Vue Cinema, an 80-bedroom Premier Inn and a number of restaurant chains. Among the restaurants and eateries present will be a Hungry Horse offering from pub giant Greene King.

Funding for the Niven-designed project was expected to come from outside investors, however Terrace Hill recently merged with fellow developer Urban and Civic to raise £120m on the Stock Exchange. As a result, Terrace Hill now plans to build and finance the project for its own portfolio. The council believes the impending start proves developers have faith in Darlington and its ability to serve as a profit-maker for both local businesses and investors.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=X5D5D

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**Foster joins row over ‘Boris Island’ airport**

Lord Norman Foster – whose architecture practice was behind designs for the ‘Boris Island’ airport discounted by the Airports Commission – has become the latest high-profile figure to vent frustration over the decision.

The panel set up to decide on the best way to increase air travel capacity around London concluded that the Foster + Partners-designed proposal for a new four-runway airport in the Thames Estuary had “substantial disadvantages that collectively outweigh its potential benefits.”

The Tourism Alliance appeared to be the voice of reason in the aftermath, with policy director Kurt Janson noting it was important to: “Respect the process and not turn the Commission’s finding into a political football, as this will simply delay the development of additional capacity.”

For his part, mayor of London Boris Johnson – whose vehement support of the project prompted the ‘Boris Island’ moniker - was less phlegmatic. He blasted the Airport Commission’s “myopic” decision and said its report would be consigned to the “long list of vertically filed reports on aviation expansion that are gathering dust on a shelf in Whitehall.”

Now Lord Foster – one of the world’s most famous architects and a key figure behind the airport project – has weighed in with his views, joining Boris Johnson in questioning the relevance of the Airport Commission.

“I predict that Londoners will be scathing in their condemnation of today’s announcement, when confronted with the inevitability of the blighting influence of Heathrow – the risks, noise and environmental impact of over-flying London – and its inability to cope with predicted growth,” said Foster in a statement on the Foster + Partners practice website.

“The outcome of this process calls into question the validity of the Commission.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=s1vV2

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**RAF site may transform into mixed-use development**

North Lincolnshire Council has reportedly submitted a last-gasp bid to buy RAF Kirton, with plans for a major new business, housing and leisure development it says will create thousands of jobs.

The 305-acre site is being sold off as personnel have been relocated to nearby RAF Scampton and the local authority has placed an undisclosed bid for the land, the Scunthorpe Telegraph reported.

The deadline for bid for the site – which opened as an airbase in 1916 and played a key role in WW2 – was noon Friday 29 August, with the sale to the successful bidder to be completed by the end of September.

“We are in the final stages of completing the documentation required to bid for the whole camp,” North Lincolnshire Council leader Liz Redfern told the paper.

“If successful, the council will merely act as an enabler to secure this site for local people to create employment. We will then seek partnerships to develop the employment sites and housing development. We could have the potential to develop a site that would deliver employment and homes and leisure activities for our residents for years to come.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=h3c4H

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**Contracts exchanged for Swindon’s Regents Circus**

UK Commercial Property Trust (UKCPT) has exchanged contracts to acquire the Regent Circus leisure development in Swindon for £40.5m from Ashfield Land.

The Regent Circus project is in the process of being created and will be home to an array of leisure and retail facilities, anchored by a six-screen Cineworld cinema and a Morrison’s supermarket.

Set out over 97,000sq ft (9,015sq m), the leisure development is being viewed as a catalyst for further regeneration of the Wiltshire area, with 94 per cent of facilities on offer coming under a pre-let status.

The deal will conclude later this year with the leisure element set to open in early 2015.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=A6G2T

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22 squadrons were at the base during WW2

![RAF site may transform into mixed-use development](Image)

**Foster + Partners designed plans the airport hub for the Thames Estuary**

Foster + Partners plans the airport hub for the Thames Estuary

The developers are planning an opening date for late 2015

**Contracts exchanged for Swindon’s Regents Circus**

![Contracts exchanged for Swindon’s Regents Circus](Image)
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CIMSPA embarks on aquatics partnership

The Chartered Institute for Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA) has announced a new partnership with aquatics bodies the Institute of Qualified Lifeguards (IQL) and the Institute of Swimming (IoS) to deliver its pool plant operator qualifications.

CIMSPA’s tie-up with the IQL – the awarding body of the Royal Life Saving Society – and IoS, which is the premier training provider for the ASA, brings together the three biggest organisations in aquatics. The full suite of CIMSPA qualifications organised and delivered by the IoS, with external quality assurance and certification provided by the IQL.

Under the terms of the three-year agreement, CIMSPA will work with both organisations to review and develop the qualifications, introducing more tutors and improving resources and quality assurance systems in order to maintain standards.

The move is in line with the institute’s new business plan, approved by members in November 2013, which determined that CIMSPA would no longer deliver education, but instead focus on setting the highest standards for training within the sector.

New course covers training older adults

Active IQ has announced the launch of a new qualification designed to provide learners with the skills to design and adapt exercise programmes to meet the needs of older adults.

There has been a slew of recent evidence highlighting the importance of exercise in maintaining quality of life for older people. Separate research studies have found that exercise taken by those in their twilight years can improve brain function, stave off depression and prevent cancer.

The new Level 3 Award in Designing Exercise Programmes for Older Adults (QCF) is aimed at fitness instructors wishing to work with individuals in the older age bracket, taking into account the extra considerations required for putting together an effective exercise programme. Participants will also be taught how to interpret the amount of physical activity clients can do and how to assess health issues.

“For the first time we’re offering a qualification designed to cover the needs of this age group,” said Suzy Gunn, operations director of Active IQ. “The needs of the older generation can be different to young adults and exercise plans need to be designed and adapted around what physical activity individuals can do, whilst taking health issues into consideration,” said Suzy Gunn, operations director of Active IQ. “The new qualification gives learners and training providers the opportunity to address these particular issues.”

Participants will be taught the specifics of assessing clients’ needs

“CIMSPA has more than 40 years’ experience in providing pool and spa plant training. This new partnership is great news for the institute and pool plant operators,” said interim chief operating officer Tara Dillon.

The partnership with the IoS and IQL took effect from 1 September 2014. Course prices, partner discounts and course content will not alter for the next 18 months to minimise the impact on customers and candidates.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=y7y8Q
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General Managers
Company: truGym
Location: Various locations, UK
Weekend Sports Supervisors
Company: University of Essex
Location: Essex, UK
Personal Trainer
Company: Pure Gym Limited
Location: Various locations, UK
Fitness Apprenticeship
Company: énergie group
Location: Wilmcote, UK
Head of Finance
Company: The Life Leisure Trust
Location: Gwent, UK
Recreation Assistants
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: North Somerset, UK
Duty Manager
Company: GLL
Location: Royal Borough of Greenwich
Dry Attendant p/t
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Loughborough, UK
Fitness Apprenticeship
Company: énergie Group
Location: Harlow, Essex, UK
Facilities Manager
Company: The Gym Group
Location: Nationwide, UK
Customer Relations Manager
Company: Fusion
Location: Tunbridge Wells, UK
Dance and ZUMBA Instructors
Company: Aston University
Location: Birmingham, UK
Fitness Instructor
Company: énergie group
Location: Dundee, UK
Dry Operations Manager
Company: Fusion
Location: Wilnham, UK
Dry Operations Manager
Company: Fusion
Location: Oxford, UK
Membership Consultant
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Watford, UK
Development Officer (NGBs)
Company: Northamptonshire Sport
Location: Northamptonshire, UK
Group Exercise Instructors
Company: énergie group
Location: Bramley, UK
Recreation Assistant
Company: GLL
Location: London Borough of Islington, UK
Participation Manager
Company: Tower Hamlets
Location: London, UK
Gymnastic Coaches
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Fareham, Hampshire, UK
Health Works Activator
Company: Eastleigh Borough Council
Location: Eastleigh, Hampshire, UK
Fitness Instructor
Company: Aston University
Location: Birmingham, UK
Sports Development Manager
Company: Tower Hamlets
Location: London, UK
Recreation Assistant x 2
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Exeter, UK
Receptionists (2 x Part Time)
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Exeter, UK
Lifeguards
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Cleveland, UK
Fitness Motivator
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Loughborough, UK
Duty Manager
Company: GLL
Location: Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park
Group Exercise Instructors
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Hertfordshire, UK
Fitness Instructors (3 posts)
Company: Ipswich Borough Council
Location: Ipswich, UK
Duty Manager
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Exeter, UK
Assistant Sales Manager
Company: Kirklees Active Leisure
Location: Huddersfield, UK
General Manager
Company: Fusion
Location: Thornton Heath, UK
Recreation Assistants
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: North Devon, UK
Swimming Teachers
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Bristol, UK
General Manager
Company: GLL
Location: Amersham, UK
Membership Manager
Company: énergie group
Location: Warrington, UK
Senior Fitness Motivator
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Warwickshire, UK
Exercise Referral Instructor
Company: GLL
Location: Royal Borough of Greenwich
Assistant General Manager
Company: The Gym Group
Location: Glasgow Quay, UK
General Manager
Company: GLL
Location: Cambridge, UK
General Manager
Company: GLL
Location: East Manchester, UK
Assistant Manager
Company: GLL
Location: Waltham Forest, UK
General Manager
Company: The Gym Group
Location: Hemel Hempstead, UK
Assistant General Manager
Company: The Gym Group
Location: London Kingston, UK
Freelance Tutor
Company: YMCA
Location: Bristol and South Wales, UK
Personal Trainer
Company: énergie group
Location: Various locations, UK
Fitness Instructor
Company: énergie group
Location: Wallington, Surrey, UK
Casual Trampoline Coach
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Romford, UK
Sales Advisor
Company: GLL
Location: cambridge, UK
Fitness Instructor
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Exeter, UK
Duty Manager
Company: Redgrave Sports Centre
Location: Buckinghamshire, UK
Sports Facilities Manager
Company: Moseley School
Location: Moseley, Birmingham, UK
Area Manager (East)
Company: LED Leisure Management Ltd
Location: Honiton, Devon, UK
Lifeguard
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Clevedon, UK
Personal Trainer
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Staines, UK
Membership Advisor
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Exeter, UK
Swim Teacher
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Malvern, UK
Lifeguards
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Warwickshire, UK

Membership Sales Manager
Company: énergie group
Location: Long Eaton, UK

Sports Facilities Officer
Company: Brighton & Hove City Council
Location: Brighton, UK

IT / Sales (part-time)
Company: énergie group
Location: Ely, UK

Pool Trainer and Assessor (NPLQ)
Company: GLL
Location: Rugby, UK

Fitness Instructor (part-time)
Company: énergie group
Location: Ely, UK

Swim Teachers
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Nuneaton, UK

Club Manager
Company: 3d Leisure
Location: London, UK

Fitness Apprentice
Company: énergie group
Location: Ely, UK

Membership Consultant
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Fareham, UK

General Manager
Company: The Gym Group
Location: Colchester, UK

Assistant General Manager
Company: The Gym Group
Location: Leicester, UK

Cafe/Bar Manager
Company: Fusion
Location: SSS 4LN, UK

Senior Fitness Motivator
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Ashdown, Poole, UK

Regional Sales Manager
Company: Sports Art Fitness
Location: North, UK

Lifeguard/Swimming Instructor/Aqua Fit Instructor
Company: Darwin
Location: Swanage, Dorset, UK

Swimming Instructors
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: North Somerset, UK

Sports Centre Manager
Company: Arsenal Football Club plc
Location: Islington, London, UK

Fitness Instructor
Company: énergie group
Location: Maidstone, UK

Fitness Instructor
Company: énergie Group
Location: Croydon, Greater London, UK

Lifeguard
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Shipston on Stour, UK

Duty Manager
Company: Arsenal Football Club plc
Location: Islington, London, UK

Trainee Personal Trainer
Company: The Training Room
Location: Nationwide, UK

Football Operations Manager
Company: Fusion
Location: N22 5QW, UK

Dry Operations Manager
Company: Fusion
Location: SE25 4PT, UK

Membership Consultant
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Staines, UK

Personal Trainers
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Hampshire, UK

Membership Consultant p/t
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Wallington, UK

General Manager
Company: GLL
Location: Rugby, UK

General Manager
Company: The Gym Group
Location: Bedford, UK

Football Coaching - USA
Company: UK Elite Soccer
Location: US

Fitness Instructor (Part Time)
Company: énergie group
Location: Lincoln, UK

Membership Sales Consultant
Company: énergie group
Location: Lincoln, UK

Splash Team Member
Company: Bulls
Location: Bognor Regis, UK

General Manager
Company: GLL
Location: Manchester, UK

Swim Teachers Level 1 and 2
Company: Brio Leisure
Location: Various locations, UK

Membership Sales Executive
Company: Momentum Excel
Location: London, UK

Club Manager
Company: Handpicked Hotels
Location: West Yorkshire, UK

Franchise Opportunities
Company: Fit4Less
Location: Nationwide, UK

Operations Manager
Company: Xercise 4 Less
Location: Nationwide, UK

Membership Consultant
Company: Xercise 4 Less
Location: Nationwide, UK

Sales and Marketing Manager
Company: Xercise 4 Less
Location: Nationwide, UK

Personal Trainers Needed
Company: Lifetime
Location: Nationwide, UK

Intensive Personal Trainer
Company: Lifetime
Location: Nationwide

Gym Instructor
Company: Amac Training Ltd
Location: Nationwide

Personal Trainer
Company: Amac Training Ltd
Location: Nationwide

Personal Trainers
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Warwickshire, UK

Weekend Beauty Therapists
Company: Center Parcs Ltd
Location: Bedfordshire, UK

Spa Directors
Company: GOCO Hospitality
Location: Asia

Red Spas Manager
Company: Scarlet Hotel
Location: Cornwall

Spa Manager
Company: Bedford Lodge Hotel
Location: Newmarket, UK

Spa Senior Therapist
Company: Luxury Collection
Location: Warsaw, Poland

Commercial Manager
Company: National Trust
Location: Herefordshire, UK

Duty Manager
Company: Merlin
Location: Missouri-Kansas City, US

Duty Manager
Company: Legaland Discovery Center
Location: New York, US

Head of Marketing
Company: Merlin
Location: New York, US

Supervisor - Admission
Company: Legaland Malaysia
Location: Johor, Malaysia

Front Office Assistant
Company: Legaland Malaysia
Location: Johor, Malaysia

Water Park Operations Manager
Company: LEGOLAND California
Location: California-Carlsbad, US

Marketing Manager
Company: Merlin
Location: Florida-Orlando, US

Promotions Manager
Company: Sea Life
Location: Florida-Orlando, US

Marketing Coordinator
Company: LEGOLAND Florida
Location: Florida-Winter Haven, US

General Manager
Company: Merlin
Location: Arizona-Tempe, US

Vice President - Regional Business Development
Company: Picsole
Location: North America

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Fitness First eyes London domination

Continued from front cover

Of the rebranded Fitness First sites, two of the standout performers have been the Tottenham Court Road and South Kensington clubs. Encouraged by this, Fitness First is now looking for potential sites predominantly in central London, amid plans to open up to 10 new clubs over the next five years.

The strategy came into force with this month’s launch of the new flagship Bishopsgate Fitness First – the gym chain’s first new opening since its scrape with administration in 2012. The site boasts a raft of innovative equipment and looks set to rival the two ‘tech-savvy’ London offerings recently announced by competitor Virgin Active.

“London has always been a strategic focus for us and opening a hi-tech club like Bishopsgate, our seventh club in the square mile, further stakes our claim as the capital’s top fitness brand,” Fitness First CEO Andrew Coslett.

“Our new brand will reach 155 clubs globally and over 500,000 members by the end of 2014 – sending a clear message that we aim to continue rewriting the rules of the fitness industry.”

The Bishopsgate launch marks a milestone in the company’s ongoing recovery and comes at a time when the group is undergoing a £270m global makeover, implementing a training overhaul and planning expansions in Asia. "We’re attracting and retaining more members, which shows that the enhanced experience and transformed clubs are already helping members to crack the motivation code,” added Coslett. “This puts us in a position to go further for our members, and rollout even quicker than we planned. We know our business works best when our members are getting the most from their workout.”

Details: http://lei.src?=j4P6D

UK alcohol consumption: Record low

UK alcohol consumption fell once again in 2013, plunging to the lowest level this century, according to figures from the British Beer & Pub Association’s (BBPA) Statistical Handbook 2014.

In 2013, alcohol consumption per capita fell 1.7 per cent, with the handbook identifying a strong downward trend in consumption over the past decade – per capita consumption has fallen a substantial 18.1 per cent since 2004. The handbook’s section on alcohol-related-harm shows falling trends in several key indicators. Drinking by young people has fallen; in England in 2013, 39 per cent of 11-15 year olds had ever drunk alcohol, compared to 43 per cent in 2012 and 61 per cent in 2001. Among 11-15 year olds who drank in the last week, the average weekly consumption was 8.2 units, compared to 12.5 units in 2012 and 9.8 in 2001.

“It's great to see trends in alcohol harms coming down, showing that investment by the industry and partnership with government, through targeted measures, is having a positive impact,” said Brigid Simmonds, BBPA chief executive. “But despite the recent cuts in beer duty, Britain's consumers are still subject to some of the highest tax rates for beer in the EU. Let's hope we see another tax cut next year.”

Details: http://lei.src?=X4Y7m

Simmonds: Government must offer more support