Manchester City Football Club (MCFC) has unveiled its plans to develop a new £100m training and education complex next to the Etihad Stadium.

BAM Construction, part of the Royal BAM Group, has been selected to build the 80-acre City Football Academy which will include a 7,000-capacity stadium, 17 full-size football pitches, an academy building with classrooms, a sports science centre and a dedicated media centre. The site is currently being prepared for building work to start and the complex is expected to be completed in time for the 2014-15 season.

MCFC has also donated 5.5 acres of remediated land on the site for community use, and is also supporting the creation of education and leisure facilities for local residents. The site will be linked to the Etihad Stadium - MCFC’s current home - by a footbridge and will enable players, staff and officials to be housed on the same complex.

The project has the full support of Manchester City Council (MCC). One of the major aims of the development is to provide opportunities and boost local businesses in the east of the city.

Sir Richard Leese, leader of MCC, said: “This project lies at the heart of the ambitions we share with Manchester City Football Club – to create a centre of sporting excellence in the city that will be the envy of the world.”

Patrick Vieira, former MCFC and France star and the club’s current football development officer, said the academy would be the “best in the world”.

“It is a long-term commitment from the football club and I’m really excited about it because once you’ve seen the plans and images, you can’t wait for the work to start.

“I think the club is creating something fantastic because when you are a footballer, you want to develop yourself and you are looking for the best facilities to achieve those aims.

- For more information and artist’s renderings of the project see: http://lei.sr?a=U2o6o

The City Football Academy will include a 7,000-capacity stadium and 17 full-size pitches

Battersea overhaul to begin next year

The new Malaysian owners of London’s Battersea Power Station have announced that work is expected to begin on the historic site’s regeneration during the second half of 2013.

A consortium comprising SP Setia, Sime Darby and the Employees Provident Fund acquired the site earlier this summer and will start preparations later this year.

The first phase of redevelopment will include multiple residential buildings standing above a commercial podium, which will house restaurants, a gym, a swimming pool and a spa.

A theatre also forms part of the first phase, along with a 6-acre (2.4-hectare) park open to the public and linked to Battersea Park.

Viñoly’s masterplan includes hotels and a theatre

Ian Simpson Architects and de Rijke Marsh Morgan are behind the design of the first phase in accordance with the original Rafael Viñoly masterplan for the regeneration scheme.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=fjz9Y

For more information and artist’s renderings of the project see: http://lei.sr?a=U2o6o
Paralympic legacy plans announced

The London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) has committed £2m towards a new disability sports festival, which will form part of the Olympic Park’s Paralympic legacy.

New sports, leisure and employment opportunities also form part of the vision for the Olympic Park to become a part of the city that promotes inclusive opportunities.

The Paralympic Legacy Programme will help create new homes, public spaces and sporting venues, while a range of sports will be introduced such as wheelchair rugby.

LLDC chair Daniel Moylan said: “Thousands will be inspired to get involved in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and we want to make sure there are opportunities for everyone.

“Just as we have set the blueprint for legacy, we are also setting the standard for providing accessible venues and parklands, along with employment and training opportunities for disabled people.”

London mayor Boris Johnson added: “The Paralympics have captured our hearts and minds and the success of ParalympicsGB provides us with new heroes to emulate.”

Details: http://lei.st?a=G8C3i

Scottish FA launches participation initiative

The Scottish FA has launched a new Futsal initiative aimed at increasing participation of 12-18 year olds in football.

Futsal is designed to embrace the fast-paced, skill based indoor alternative to the traditional game to re-engage young players and help reduce the fall out in the 'late teens' age group. The initiative follows research conducted by the Scottish FA, which highlighted a significant drop-out rate of players in the age group at secondary school due partly to boredom in traditional football.

Olympians to get separate honours list

Prime Minister David Cameron has announced that Olympians and Paralympians will get their own honours list this year. The move means that athletes will be recognised separately to the traditional New Year’s honours, which hands out a pre-determined amount of awards.

The limited number of available honours and the unprecedented success of Team GB athletes during the 2012 Games - 29 gold medals in the Olympics and 31 (counting) in the Paralympics - prompted senior civil servant Jonathan Stephens last month to announce that a medal would not mean an "automatic gong".

Stephens’ comments were followed by a report by the Public Administration Select Committee, which recommended ending the practice of awarding honours to sports personalities for "doing the day job".

In response, Sport and Recreation Alliance (SRA) chair Andy Reed called on the government to make sure there wasn’t a decrease in the amount of honours for sports people. Those fears have now been allayed as the move ensures there’s no restriction on the number of honours.
Lee Valley White Water Centre near Waltham Abbey, Hertfordshire has opened its doors to the public, less than five weeks after British pair, Tim Baillie and Etienne Scott, won the team’s first ever gold medal in the canoe slalom.

It’s the first Olympic venue to open for public use and the first of four that will be operated by Lee Valley Regional Park Authority (LVRPA). The Authority will also be responsible for the Velopark, the Hockey Centre and the Tennis Centre located in the Olympic Park.

Sport England has invested more than £11m of National Lottery funding in Lee Valley White Water Centre and Lee Valley Velopark to ensure facilities can be adapted for use by the community after the Games.

Jennie Price, Sport England chief executive, said: “Sport England’s investment means that both the White Water Centre and the Velopark have been designed to ensure they offer a fabulous experience to community users as well as elite athletes.”

LVRPA is also set to invest £4.5m in redeveloping the White Water Centre in order to create improved visitor amenities and new athlete facilities. Details: http://lei.sr?a=a5K5g

Jevans named CEO of England Rugby 2015

London Olympic Games Organisation Committee (LOCOG) director of sport Debbie Jevans has been appointed as the new chief executive officer of England Rugby 2015 – the organisation responsible for delivering the 2015 Rugby World Cup.

The appointment will come into effect in October and will see Jevans replace the outgoing Paul Vaughan, who has stepped down from the role by “mutual consent”. England Rugby 2015 board member and RFU CEO Ian Ritchie welcomed the appointment of Jevans – “one of the architects of London 2012.”

England Rugby 2015 chair Andy Coslett said: “Rugby will benefit from her experience in leading large teams to deliver major sporting events to a global audience.”

Jevans added: “This has been an extraordinary journey and I am looking forward to putting my experience in to delivering an exceptional Rugby World Cup in 2015.” Details: http://lei.sr?a=of9A8

Lord Coe to stand to become next BOA chair

Lord Coe, chair of the London 2012 organising committee (LOCOG), has announced his plans to become the next chair of the British Olympic Association (BOA).

Current chair Lord Colin Moynihan announced his intention to step down from the post following the conclusion of the London 2012 Olympic Games.

The new chair is set to be elected later this year. Coe is already a non-executive board member of England’s 2018 World Cup bid company. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=hoNoN

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Ray Hatton opens Metro Fitness

Ray Hatton, father of former world champion boxer Ricky Hatton, has opened his first fitness club and has announced plans to build the venture into a chain of gyms.

Metro Fitness - located at the Merseyway Shopping Centre, Stockport - has been launched as a premium-offer budget gym. Split over two levels, the club has been laid out in a way that has been designed to provide a large selection of equipment, supplied solely by Cybex - the company which was also appointed to provide all the equipment at Ricky Hatton’s club which opened in 2009.

The Metro Gym offers specific workout zones including a women-only area, virtual spin, Vario suspension training, a large free-weight space, functional training area and Power Plate facilities. Monthly memberships have been priced to start at £19.99.

Ray Hatton said: “Our aim is to marry premium service and facilities with affordable, flexible pricing. People are tired of paying too much for health clubs who in some cases treat them purely as a number.”

Ray will work alongside his son Matthew on the venture, which will offer a full programme of weekly group exercise classes that are free to members. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=n5H5C

£7.4m plans for Wyre Council facilities

Members of Wyre Council’s cabinet are to discuss new proposals for a £7.4m investment in improvements to local leisure centres at a meeting scheduled for 12 September.

It follows a comprehensive review of provision and the local authority has now set out new plans for an overhaul of services and to redevelop its existing facilities.

The plans will benefit three leisure centres, with Thornton Leisure Centre to receive a £3.4m upgrade that will deliver an extreme sports facility and improved fitness provision.

Poulton Leisure Centre will be allocated £1.7m for a new spa and further studio space, while Garstang Leisure Centre will benefit from £3.2m to integrate a new pool.

However, the council confirmed Fleetwood Leisure Centre does not need additional funding at present after having received substantial investment in recent years.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=w5W4L

Tone completes Taunton indoor cycling studio

Tone Leisure has announced that it is to launch a new indoor cycling studio at its Wellsprings site in Taunton, Somerset.

The leisure trust has invested £40,000 in the new facility, including the acquisition of 24 new Keiser M3 spinning bikes.

Tone’s commercial director Joel Chapman said: “We had noticed for some time that our studio class numbers had been growing in all our Taunton sites despite the general downturn in the economy.”

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=s5L3P
CYQ is the UK’s leading awarding organisation for qualifications in health, fitness and wellbeing, providing a suite of recognised qualifications for students aged 14 plus.

94.5% of centres would recommend CYQ to other training providers.

CYQ Centre Satisfaction Survey 2012
New research has claimed that individuals can be obese and “metabolically” healthy, with no greater risk of developing cardiovascular disease or cancer than non-obese people.

The study – the findings of which were published in the European Heart Journal – was led by Dr Francisco Ortega, who is affiliated to Spain’s University of Granada.

Dr Ortega is also affiliated to Sweden’s Karolinska Institutet but undertook the project at the University of South Carolina, US, under Professor Steven Blair.

As part of the research, 43,265 people recruited to the Aerobics Center Longitudinal Study between 1979 and 2003 completed a questionnaire and a physical examination.

Participants were tracked until they died or until the end of 2003, with nearly half (46 per cent) of obese individuals found to be metabolically healthy by the research team.

Obese-yet-healthy individuals had a 38 per cent lower risk of death than unhealthy peers, while there were no “significant differences” compared with normal weight participants.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=z8O5L

Franchise operator Anytime Fitness is looking to speed up its search to find suitable UK franchisees to expand its chain of 24-hour clubs.

In May 2010, the company announced plans to have up to 50 clubs open in the UK and Ireland by the end of 2012.

So far, however, only five Anytime Fitness clubs have opened in the UK with another 18 sites being identified across the country.

James Cotton, operations director at Anytime Fitness UK, said: “As it’s a new franchise in the UK, now is a great time to get in early as there are still fantastic territory opportunities up for grabs.

“We are aiming to have at least 13 sites open by the end of the year and will provide our franchisees with all the support they need including help with premises, technology, marketing and training to help them achieve both their and their members’ goals.”

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=l2Q7Z

Leisure trust 1610 has reopened the Exmoor Fitness Centre in Dulverton after closing it earlier this year.

The trust, which owns and operates the site, said the temporary closure was due to “concerns about falling gym memberships and the long-term viability of the facility.” Following a public consultation with local people keen to keep the facility open, 1610 has increased opening hours and launched a new group exercise programme – to be held at the local primary school in Dulverton.

Johnson Health Tech UK’s commercial division - Matrix Fitness - has announced that Olympic cycling champion Dani King will become a brand ambassador for Matrix and its associated brands. Matrix has already created a group of elite and up-and-coming athletes who reflect the company’s mottos of ‘commitment’ and ‘striving for excellence’, together with the Matrix brand positioning of ‘Expect More’.

She will join other Matrix ambassadors which include James Cracknell and Sally Gunnell.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=z8O5L

The research claims obese people can be “metabolically” fit and healthy.
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LIW PROMOTIONAL FEATURE

Matrix Fitness Reveals Hero Products at LIW

LIW sees the official launch of three new premium commercial cardio-vascular product lines from Matrix Fitness. The new products will all be available in 7, 5 or 3 series versions to accommodate different facilities, budgets and user needs.

The three product lines are the ClimbMill – a revolution in stair-climbing technology – the new Ascent Trainer®, purposely designed to reflect the optimal natural range of movement, and the Suspension Elliptical – featuring a patented design that eliminates friction, resulting in the smoothest, most efficient motion possible.

One of Australia’s leading aquatic brands is launching in the UK in Autumn 2012

Launched in 2005 and endorsed by Swim Australia, Vorgee has grown to be one of the most well-known brands in the Australian Swim Industry.

Proudly partnered with STA (Swimming Teachers’ Association), Vorgee will be located alongside them, on stand P120 at LIW, showcasing a wide range of products including goggles, swim caps, training equipment and water confidence at the LIW. There will also be Vorgee team members from both Australia and the United Kingdom on hand to introduce attendees to the Vorgee brand and culture.

Outdoor fitness – is it better outside?

From bootcamp drills to back to school games, outdoor fitness classes are using innovative ways to get us fit in the great outdoors. But how will this ever growing market affect the clubs and leisure centres, and how can they work together to encourage more people to take regular exercise?

In order to get some valuable insight into this thriving sector, LIW commissioned Leisure-net Solutions to produce a research report. So, to find out how outdoor fitness could affect your business, and what operators and consumers think about ‘green gym’ exercise, join Leisure-net Solutions’ Managing Director, Mike Hill, on the 18th September at 10:30, in LIW’s Keynote Theatre he will share the findings from the report.

Mike will discuss the evidence on the benefits of outdoor fitness, the current market, and what the future could look like. Top line results from the research reveal that currently 55% of operators offer outdoor fitness classes, whilst 100% of those questioned said they plan to start offering outdoor classes within the next year. With close to half of the consumers saying they prefer to exercise outdoors, it is clear that finding out more about outdoor fitness is essential for the industry.

New LIW Mobile App Launched

The team behind Leisure Industry Week have launched a brand new multi platform mobile app designed to enhance visitor experience before, during and after the event. The free app will provide the functionality for visitors to plan their trip by populating an agenda straight from the seminar programme; this agenda can also be accessed and populated via the list of speakers.

Event Manager, David Sanvoisin said “We’re really pleased with this year’s app. We launched our first one last year and the reception was fantastic with just under 4000 downloads. We anticipate that this year’s one will be even more popular.”

The LIW mobile app includes the full seminar programme, exhibitor list, Twitter updates, floor plan and more. Visitors can scan the QR code below to download the app.
The European Tour Operators Association (ETOA) has expressed its disappointment that the government has chosen not to name a new minister solely responsible for tourism, following the resignation of John Penrose (see p.1).

In a statement, the association said tourism was “far too important” to the UK economy to be left without a direct political representative.

The statement said: “Prime Minister David Cameron recognised the importance of the visitor economy in a keynote speech after he came to power in 2010; the growth he hoped for from emerging economies is achievable, but only with intelligent policies in place.

“We’ve learnt that there will no longer be a minister solely responsible for tourism as part of a downsizing exercise in the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

“Therefore we are calling for the role to be moved to the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) - which would be the natural home for a tourism minister.

“The tourism sector accounts for 8.9 per cent of UK GDP. It is also third in terms of UK exports after the chemical and financial services sectors, contributing £17bn to the UK economy. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=R7v6J

Tourism Alliance chair Michael Hirst said:

“The group has demonstrated a clarity of thought and purpose that has been conspicuous in its absence from government policy.” Read more: http://lei.sr?a=b5u7F
We have a new minister for tourism as a result of the recent Cabinet reshuffle. While we regret the departure of John Penrose, who for the last two years has been a great supporter of the industry, we welcome Hugh Robertson, his former colleague who, in addition to his responsibilities for sport, now takes on the tourism portfolio. Whoever is the minister, however, we will continue to press the government on key issues.

The recent additional £2m funding for VisitEngland and the £8m to promote Britain to the Chinese market (not all of this sum will be for tourism) shows that the government recognizes some of tourism’s needs. But there are other issues, equally important which need to be addressed if the industry is to create the jobs it has potential to create and to enable it to make its full contribution to the growth of the UK economy.

The one step that the government could take which would make a huge difference to the UK economy is to make Britain’s tourism industry competitive with the rest of Europe by reducing the level of VAT for accommodation and attractions. All but three other EU member states operate a reduced rate of VAT for hospitality services – France is seven per cent, for example, Germany and Spain are eight per cent, Italy is ten per cent – all of which makes Britain uncompetitive.

By our estimates, if we could reduce the rate of VAT in the UK to five per cent for accommodation and attractions, it would boost business throughout the country, help create 78,000 jobs and yield a £2bn bonus to the Treasury within ten years.

A further barrier to growth is the UK’s visa system which acts as a deterrent particularly to visitors from the BRIC countries – potentially, our richest source market. The complexity and cost of the UK visa system is costing the British tourism industry (and the UK economy) many millions of pounds.

With the new minister, we’ll continue to press home these messages. One of the greatest tourism legacies of the Games would be a decision to enable the UK to play on a level playing field with the rest of Europe.

Travellers paid more on average for hotel rooms across the world during the first half of the year for the first time in five years, according to new research from Hotels.com.

The online agent’s latest Hotel Price Index (HPI) has posted a 4 per cent increase in prices compared with the first half of 2011, although average prices remain at 2005 levels.

First published in 2004, the HPI examines prices actually paid for hotel rooms and currently stands at 108 - below the peak of 119 reported during the first half of 2007.

The latest figures include a 6 per cent increase in Pacific room prices and a 5 per cent growth in North American rates. Latin America, Europe and the Middle East were up 1 per cent. Hotels.com president David Roche said: “The hotel industry bounced back in the first half of this year from a number of natural and political crises in 2011.

“While initially it may not seem good news for consumers, hotel prices are still only around their 2005 level, representing great value for travellers.”

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=k4W8X

**HOTELS**

**Room prices on the up ‘globally’**

**James Caan acquires final two Von Essen properties**

James Caan has acquired the last two hotels from the former Von Essen portfolio through his Hamilton Bradshaw investment vehicle.

The former Dragons’ Den star purchased the Ston Easton Park hotel near Bath and Sharrow Bay hotel in the Lake District.

Von Essen went into administration with debts of around £300m in April 2011. The 27 former Von Essen hotels has since been sold to a number of operators, with Halcyon Hotels and Resorts acquiring seven last December.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=J9R8q

**Scottish cities among top Europe locations**

A new report from analyst STR Global has included the Scottish cities of Inverness, Edinburgh and Stirling among the top five European locations for hotel occupancy.

The cities came second, third and fifth respectively, while other Scottish locations such as Dundee (seventh), Glasgow (11th), Aberdeen (12th) and St Andrews (17th) also featured on the list.

In addition to its ranking on the occupancy list, St Andrews also came second highest in terms of revenue per available room (RevPAR).

According to the analyst, the summer increase in occupancy reflects major investment by the international operators present in Scotland - including Marriott and Hilton.

Danny Cusick, president, Americas, Scottish Development International, said: “Scotland encourages global brands to take full advantage of our burgeoning tourism sector.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=s6A8O

Edinburgh was judged as Europe’s third most popular hotel destination
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The new £35m Mary Rose Museum will open to the public in early 2013, slightly later than originally expected. Located at Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, the new Wilkinson Eyre-designed attraction was first slated to open in autumn 2012, although no exact date had been set. Construction work on the iconic museum - undertaken by Warings Group - has been completed but the final fit out of interiors will take longer than initially thought.

A spokesperson for the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard said: “We are delighted to have taken possession of the building from Warings. Although fit-out was already underway, this will now be our main focus over the coming months with the many thousands of artefacts being installed in their cases. This whole process remains technically very challenging and we want the museum to be outstanding in every way before opening our doors, so it’s envisaged that the museum will open in 2013.”

When open, the new attraction will feature a walkway that will enable visitors to view parts of the hull of Henry VIII's former flagship. Work on the preservation of the ship’s structure was completed in 2011.

PGAV Destinations has published new research offering “groundbreaking” insights into the planning and processing of family holidays – both domestic and overseas. The Art of the Family Vacation has been compiled by H2R Market Research on behalf of PGAV, which involved more than 700 families across the US taking part in an online panel.

According to PGAV, some findings had “firmly cemented long-held understandings” of families on holiday, but others “look to redefine how destinations prepare”.

The research reveals the most important considerations about potential destinations for families, with a combination of democracy and autocracy in decision-making.

Edinburgh Zoo has revealed its latest initiative to benefit from the presence of two giant pandas at the attraction. The new Panda Keeper Experience will offer guests an opportunity to behind-the-scenes access to the UK’s only pandas.

Marketed as an “entirely unique and extremely exclusive” opportunity, the one-hour packages are available from £1,000 for up to four people. Earlier this year, a study by Scottish Enterprise estimated that the pandas could attract £28m worth of additional visitor expenditure for the local economy.

PGAV awards museums/schools partnership funding

Arts Council England (ACE) has announced the to regional applicants which are to receive a share of £3.6m through the agency’s Museums and schools programme.

The project is one of a number funded through the Department for Education in response to an independent review of cultural education undertaken by Darren Henley. The regional museums will work with schools and national museums to increase the number of educational visits by schools.

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ARTS & CULTURE

DCMS names new chair for ACE

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) has named Sir Peter Bazalgette is to replace Dame Liz Forgan as the new chair of Arts Council England (ACE).

Sir Peter’s appointment for a four-year term is effective from 1 February 2013 and was one of the last acts performed by Jeremy Hunt in his former role as culture secretary.

Earlier this year, it was announced that Dame Liz Forgan – who will remain as chair until 31 January 2013 – would not be reappointed, having been selected for the post in 2008.

A former creative director at television production group Endemol until 2007, Sir Peter is current chair of English National Opera and serves on the advisory board of The Space.

During the past 20 years he has built a reputation as one of the most ‘powerful’ people due to his development of reality TV and his role in promoting lifestyle programmes.

During his time at Endemol, Bazalgette was credited with popularising the format of reality show Big Brother not just in the UK but around the world. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=B3R5j

Mace sponsors ‘Phantom Railings’ at British Museum

Mace has announced its sponsorship of the British Museum’s “Phantom Railings” project - a public art intervention which is designed to focus on London’s wartime memories.

The multi-disciplinary firm is currently involved with the development of the museum’s new World Conservation and Exhibition Centre, which is scheduled to open in 2014.

“Phantom Railings” is an interactive sound sculpture using the movement of pedestrians to “evoke the ghost of a lost iron fence” removed during the 1940s and never replaced.

ACE extends loan initiative to new region

Arts Council England (ACE) has announced the extension of a loan scheme for cultural/creative firms into a second region, following a successful pilot launched across London earlier this year.

Yorkshire and Humber businesses will now be able to apply for funding of £5,000-£25,000 – plus support and advice – as part of the Creative Industry Finance initiative.

It is thought the programme will mostly benefit businesses who have been unsuccessful in securing funding from other sources and for small- to medium-sized firms looking to grow.

Applicants will have to be based in the Yorkshire and Humber region, or one of 33 London boroughs, in order to benefit.

ACE regional director Cluny Macpherson said: “Arts and cultural organisations are at the heart of the creative industries, providing a powerhouse of R&D to a sector that is invaluable to regional economies” Details: http://lei.sr?a=P1G0i

New-look West Wing opens at Russborough

Irish arts minister Jimmy Deenihan has officially opened the new-look West Wing at Russborough House in Blessington, County Wicklow, following a major revamp and conversion project.

Originally built in part to house racehorses during the mid-18th century, the wing was entirely converted into residential accommodation after Sir Alfred and Lady Beit acquired the property in 1952. The West Wing now offers two self-catering apartments accommodating up to 16 people. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=y2W5r

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall revamp gets green light

Liverpool City Council has given its backing to a £11.5m redevelopment of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Hall.

At a mayoral cabinet meeting, the council agreed a capital contribution of £2m towards the plans to refurbish the Grade II*-listed building. The city’s contribution will help Liverpool Philharmonic lever a further £9.5m of investment to complete the refurbishment of the City Council-owned building, which is the home of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra (RLPH), and considered of the UK’s premier arts and entertainment venues outside London.

The funding is, however, contingent on Liverpool Philharmonic successfully attracting this additional investment from a range of bodies including Arts Council England (ACE). Should these applications be successful, Liverpool City Council will modernise and refresh the current building lease to Liverpool Philharmonic.

Earlier this year, Liverpool Philharmonic secured seed funding of £634,000 from ACE to appoint architects Caruso St. John to lead a design team in the first steps towards a major refurbishment of the 1939 building, which is the home of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra (RLPH), and considered of the UK’s premier arts and entertainment venues outside London.

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Rocco Forte unveils Vita Health

Rocco Forte Hotels has unveiled Vita Health – a new approach to preventative health, in partnership with integrated medicine physician Dr Nyjon Eccles.

The concept has been made available at Rocco Forte’s Verdura Golf and Spa Resort in Italy and will be the first time Eccles’ treatments will be combined with a resort stay.

Vita Health Wellness Centre will be located within the resort’s 4,000sq m Verdura Spa and will feature four individually-tailored programmes, with Eccles specialising in nutritional, non-invasive and anti-ageing medicine.

The programmes will be offered in one- and two-week sessions and will focus on core issues – stress management; detoxification; weight loss; and better ageing. Each bespoke programme combines advanced natural therapies, with a specific diet and exercise plan, thereby improving and correcting current health issues while reducing future risks.

The experience involves detailed testing in order to gain a complete picture of the guest’s health as well as optimising results.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=H6t6v

The Caledonian to feature Guerlain Spa

The Caledonian, A Waldorf Astoria Hotel in Edinburgh, Scotland - managed by Hilton Worldwide - will house the UK’s first Guerlain Spa following a £24m (US$38m, 30m euro) redevelopment of the property.

To be operated as a beauty spa, it will be open to both hotel guests and non-guests.

Facilities at the spa include three large treatment rooms, a swimming pool, steamroom, sauna, spa pool and a relaxation space. There will also be a 24-hour health and fitness suite. In a statement, a spokesperson for the French perfume house said treatments will mirror the company’s core values.

“The treatment menu at the Guerlain spa will reflect luxury, emotion and refinement with a collection of indulgent treatments created using Guerlain products and respecting the origins of the signature massage from 1939 when the brand opened its first ‘Institut de Beaute’ in Paris,” the statement read.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=E1W6t

St Michael’s Hotel to double size of spa

St Michael’s Hotel and Spa in Falmouth, UK, has decided to double the size of its spa, adding a full wet spa and thermal area.

The expansion comes as the hotel aims to cater for increased demand for spa services. Wellness consultancy Spa Creators is advising on the project and its director, Alistair Johnson says the hotel is bidding to become Cornwall’s top destination spa. There will be 10 treatment rooms in total, as well as experiences like Vichy and Rasul, there will be an emphasis on finding unusual and exciting treatments.
Princess Royal officially opens Northumberlandia

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal has officially opened Northumberlandia - one of the world’s largest human landforms near Cramlington, Northumberland.

The Charles Jencks-designed scheme features a reclining female figure standing taller than eight storeys and was built on Viscount Ridley’s Blagdon Estate.

Northumberlandia and its adjacent water bodies are the result of around £3m of investment by the Blagdon Estate in conjunction with The Banks Group.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=J6j2t

Pitsea pool to close under major regeneration plans

Basildon Council has confirmed that Pitsea swimming pool is to close if regeneration plans put forward by London and Cambridge Properties (LCP) are approved on 13 September.

The proposals will lead to the transformation of the town centre and are set to be considered by the local authority’s cabinet at next week’s meeting. Basildon Council cabinet member for environment Malcolm Buckley admitted that shutting the pool is not a “universally popular decision” but said the town needed the investment.

Trebor to design and construct five GLL sites

Trebor Developments has been appointed by Greenwich Leisure (GLL) to design, develop and construct five leisure centres within the Waltham Forest locality.

The five projects, which will consist of refurbishments, extensions and new build leisure centres, will see the leisure provision in Waltham Forest transformed over the next two and a half years with a capital value of £16.6 million, funded by the local authority. Trebor is working on the developments on a phased basis, with work on the first two projects set to commence in early 2013.

Approval for £360m Belfast scheme

Northern Ireland environment minister Alex Attwood has approved planning permission for the £360m Royal Exchange project, which is to transform a part of Belfast.

It is one of the largest applications ever dealt with in the province and is centred on the north-eastern quarter of the city – an area which has been in decline for years.

The new proposals include a 25-bedroom hotel, a cultural arts centre and 200 apartments, as well as cafés and bars and 50,000sq ft (4,645sq m) of retail floorspace.

It is hoped the combination of retail, arts and leisure facilities will ensure the scheme will see a “new vibrant environment beyond normal shopping hours” created in Belfast.

A number of existing buildings are to be demolished as part of the project, although work to restore other listed buildings and façades will also be undertaken.

Attwood said: “The economic, physical and social benefits will impact positively on many people’s lives whilst sympathetically rejuvenating the historic centre of Belfast.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=K5Y7T

Derby velodrome plans given final green light

Multi-million pound plans to build a new velodrome and sports centre near Derby’s Pride Park Stadium have been given the green light by the Environmental Agency.

Members of Derby City Council’s (DCC) cabinet had previously approved the appointment of Bowmer and Kirkland as the preferred contractor for the scheme, with Morgan Sindall named as reserve contractor.

The firm held off competition from four rival bidders for the contract, which included BAM, Galliford Try and Interserve.
Brighton Seafront Opportunity

- Prominent location on one of the UK’s most popular seafronts
- Interest is sought for innovative and creative proposals based on mix of retail, art and leisure uses
- Available site for temporary period of 3 years
- Site area approx 6,700 sq m.
- Subject to Planning Permission

For further information please contact:
Jane Pinnock
Seafront Estates Surveyor
jane.pinnock@brighton-hove.gov.uk
01273 290568
or
Toni Manuel
Seafront Development Manager
toni.manuel@brighton-hove.gov.uk
01273 290394

OPOPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE INDOOR CLIMBING WALL
from Medina Leisure Centre, Newport, Isle of Wight

One section was manufactured by Rock Works in 1994; it is constructed of coated plywood panels fixed to a metal frame and is 4.8m high x 9.6m length. It has 2 sections, one general purpose with shallow scoop features, whilst the other is a higher standard technical section with small features evenly distributed to provide thin edges – both have sockets for bolt on holds.

The second section was manufactured by DR Climbing Walls Ltd in 1996. It consists of resin coated plywood panels fixed to steel frame and is 5.85m high x 4.88m width; there are overhangs of 3m and 2m and an adjoining vertical return right angle section which is 5.85m high x 3.2m length.

Some of the wall is in storage and it is planned to remove the remaining sections between 24th and 28th September 2012 and placed them in storage.

The Council invites offers for the purchase of these walls, fixtures and fittings – with the successful company collecting them by 2nd November 2012.

DEADLINE FOR OFFERS: NOON ON FRIDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2012.

For further information or to arrange a viewing please contact paul.broome@iow.gov.uk tel: (01983) 523767

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Odeon unveils Apprenticeship Academy

Odeon Cinemas – one of the largest cinema chains in the UK – has announced the launch of its Apprenticeship Academy, which offers jobs and work-based training for young Londoners.

The operator is working in conjunction with national training partner Lifetime which has led to more than 20 people aged between 18- and 22-years-old offered posts.

Recruits will be given the opportunity to develop counter and customer service skills, with a Customer Service Level 2 qualification – equivalent to 5 GCSEs – awarded upon completion.

Odeon group and UK HR and legal services director Mike Stevens said: “The Odeon Academy will enable the young people to develop their theoretical and practical knowledge as well as enhancing their career opportunities within Odeon.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=p6w5H

STA partners with Swimtime

The Swimming Teachers Association (STA) has formed a new partnership with Swimtime, provider of swimming lessons for children.

The agreement will mean that youngsters who learn to swim with Swimtime will benefit from STA’s International Learn to Swim Programme (ILSP). Swimtime delivers 12,000 lessons every week through a nationwide network of franchises.

STA’s ILSP has been designed specifically for swimming teachers and is supported by a range of awards that develop skills for life. The incentive-based programme, which promotes the importance of water safety, consists of five levels to provide babies, infants and children of all ages, a structured, progressive and transparent swimming and water safety scheme.

All Swimtime teachers will also now be trained using STA’s Level 2 swimming teaching qualifications. The qualifications sit on the QCF framework at Level 2 with Ofqual, which provides teachers with the skills required to professionally teach swimming to people of all ages.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=p6w5H

Premier Training to launch new diploma in Norwich

Premier Training International (PTI) has revealed it is to launch the new Diploma in Fitness Instruction and Personal Training at its Norwich training venue, Easton College.

The first course is scheduled to commence on 5 November as part of the provider’s plans to increase outreach and support aspiring professionals throughout East Anglia.

It is a full-time course that will incorporate the Certificate in Gym Instruction and Certificate in Advanced Personal Training.

Read more: http://lei.sr?a=m5n5W

A lasting legacy for disability sport

Over the summer we have marvelled at the achievements of Olympic and Paralympic athletes. The country has been immersed in a spectacular display of skill, determination, commitment and sheer endeavour. Thoughts of a rain-soaked summer have paled into insignificance as we have followed the exploits of the athletes – their hard-won successes and heart-breaking disappointments.

Perhaps the Paralympic Games have made the most telling mark on the British public, raising the awareness of disability and the understanding of what can be achieved by disabled people in the sporting arena. In tandem with the transformation of the east London landscape, it is hoped that there will be a lasting transformation of attitudes towards disability and not simply a temporary surge of supportive praise for the achievements made in the stadia.

However, it could be all too easy to lose the momentum and revert back to a situation where disabled people are not given the opportunities that could change their lives both on the sports field and in society as a whole. Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson fears that benefit cuts may affect both elite athletes and the legacy of widening access to sport for disabled people - and, of course, this extends to general well-being and participation in society.

There is a huge opportunity for employers within the hospitality, leisure and tourism industry to support the legacy intent through a proactive approach to the employment of disabled people. Organisations such as the Employers’ Forum on Disability make it easier for employers to recruit and retain disabled employees. Organisations such as The Springboard Charity work with specialist agencies and employers to facilitate the recruitment process.

We would be delighted to hear from employers who want to play their part in making the Paralympic legacy a reality in our industry.
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Sports Coaches, LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia
Female Fitness Instructors x4, LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia
Female Fitness Operations Manager, LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia
Leisure Contracts Manager, LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia
Fitness Instructor, University of East London, London, UK
Centre Manager, The Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Tyne & Wear, UK
Assistant Leisure and Operations Manager, Vauxhall Recreation Club, Luton, UK
Duty Officer, Wellington College, Crowthorne, Berkshire, UK
Casual Coaching Opportunities, Enfield Council, London, UK
Fitness Leader, Brynunan School, Dorset
Various Positions, 360 Play, Various, UK
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Visitor and Commercial Operations Manager, National Trust, Stansted, East Grinstead, West Sussex, UK
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Head of Marketing, Visit Peak District & Derbyshire, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, UK
Children's Party Leader, Everyone Active, Middlesx, UK
Sports Development Manager, Westway Development Trust, London, UK
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Bar and Catering Services Manager, Bangor University, Wales, UK
Membership Sales Consultant, énergie group, Newbury, UK
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Crèche Supervisor, Everyone Active, Sutton, London, UK
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Front Of House, Everyone Active, Sutton, London, UK
Personal Trainer, Pure Gym Limited, Various, locations, UK
Customer Advisor, GLL, Amersham, UK
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Fitness Manager, Everyone Active, Sutton, London, UK
Leisure Assistant, GLL, West London, UK
Front Of House, Everyone Active, Sutton, London, UK
Customer Advisor, GLL, Amersham, UK
Female Fitness Instructors, Active Connection, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Lifeguards (F/T and P/T), The Hogarth Group, West London, UK
Duty Managers, Everyone Active, Sutton, London, UK
General Managers, The Gym Group, Various, locations, UK
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Wish you were here?

Hi...

My first week in Aberdeen has just been amazing - who ever said it was the frozen north is lying. 1st September and was 25 degrees. Met some really friendly people this week - went out with some of them to an amazing seafood restaurant last night. You'd love it...

Walked the stunning Aberdeen beach on Tuesday and went to the Beach Leisure Pool - what a great facility. Spent an afternoon on the Kings Links Golf Course on Wednesday with Dave and we are planning a visit to the indoor Tennis Centre on Friday. Talk about an action packed first week! Have loads more planned for next week including a visit to the Linx Ice Arena...talking of which, I better get my skates on!

Anyway, will send you another post card when I eventually go on holiday. Won't bore you any more about my new job as a Director with Sport Aberdeen....

Sport Aberdeen is a dynamic and forward thinking leisure trust which, following a recent strategic organisational review, are looking to recruit three newly created Director level positions.

Applicants for each role should have a natural flair for strategic leadership, be highly motivated and possess a strong level of commercial acumen. You will be capable of managing partnerships and people effectively, have excellent communication skills and will be ready to meet challenges head on.

**SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

Responsible for the creation and delivery of leisure, sport and lifestyle activities that meet the diverse needs of residents, visitors and partners. The role will require vision and entrepreneurial flair to help the business to grow and flourish.

**BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

Responsible for leading and managing the business development function and services, providing business support to high standards, that facilitates business growth while complying with legal, governance and accountability frameworks.

**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**

Responsible for leading the effective and efficient management, operation and development of all indoor and outdoor sport, leisure and recreation facilities and centres.

**SALARY: ALL POSTS CIRCA £55,000 – £60,000**

For further information, including full job descriptions, some information on the organisations future plans and details on how to apply, please visit the dedicated web page of our recruitment advisors, The Urquhart Partnership Ltd., at www.upwebsite.com/sportaberdeen

Email queries can be sent to Campbell Urquhart, Managing Director, The Urquhart Partnership Ltd. at cu@upwebsite.com

**CLOSING DATE: MONDAY 1st OCTOBER 2012**

www.sportaberdeen.co.uk

Sport Aberdeen is registered in Scotland as a charity, no SCO40973
The énergie group is the UK’s fastest growing fitness franchisor. We operate close to 100 clubs across the UK and Ireland under our four key brands énergie Fitness Clubs, Fit4less, SHOKK Youth Gyms and énergie Fitness for Women.

We have opportunities for experienced and motivated individuals in the roles of membership sales, fitness instructor, customer service and personal training. Our clubs operate in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Eire; you can find the exact locations on our ‘club finder’ page at www.energiefitnessclubs.com

Our clubs are not owned by large corporate groups but by individuals who have committed their money, time and energy into creating clubs where the members matter.

If this sounds like the type of business that you would like to be a part of, we invite you to enquire via our ‘career’ site at www.energiefranchise.com with a cover note including the role and location that you are interested in.

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**PURE GYM NEEDS YOU!**

With plans to open 30 gyms over the next 18 months, we are looking for Gym Managers, Assistant Gym Managers and Personal Trainers to join our rapidly growing team.

- **FROM £10.99 A MONTH**
- **NO CONTRACT**
- **OPEN 24/7**
- **OVER 40 FREE CLASSES A WEEK**
- **OVER 220 PIECES OF EQUIPMENT,** including PowerPlates and TRX

If you think you’ve got what it takes to be a part of our incredible expansion plans then please get in touch by emailing recruitment@puregym.com today.

www.puregym.com

*Price ranges between £10.99 and £24.99 depending on location and pre-opening offer. See website for details.

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**PERSONAL TRAINERS -**

Guaranteed interview opportunity with the UK’s most exclusive fitness company.

At Home Fitness has led innovative approaches to Personal Training since 2004. Coinciding with LIW 2012, we launch our unique Selection Zone™ guaranteeing Personal Trainers the chance of an interview and lucrative career.

Go to the Selection Zone™, answer the questions and within 24 hours you’ll know if you’ve earned a place on our Selection Day. Exceptional PFS will get their own At Home Fitness business launched within weeks, ready for the New Year rush.

At Home Fitness helps Personal Trainers run fitness businesses training customers at home. We set high standards and have quality partnerships with industry leaders like The Training Room and Discovery Learning. We only accept the very best Personal Trainers so that we can guarantee exceptional service to our customers.

Find out if you’re good enough at the Selection Zone: www.athomefitness.co.uk/selection-zone

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The following roles are in Saudi Arabia and offer full expatriate package – 1 year contracts

**FEMALE FITNESS INSTRUCTORS** qualified in Personal Training and who have the ability to teach at least 3–4 Group exercise classes.
Salary 1800-2000 USD per month (tax free)

**FEMALE PILATES INSTRUCTORS** ideally with both Matt and Reformer experience and qualifications, for both group and one on one sessions.
Salary 2250-2500 USD per month (tax free)

Both if the above roles are for a leading ladies only spa and wellness site in the capital of Saudi Arabia, Riyadh.

Please send your CV and photograph to jbradford@activeconnection.co.uk or call 00 44 208 878 3180 for more details.

Vacancies listed are for female only sites in Saudi Arabia. So, for religious and cultural reasons we can only accept applications from female candidates.

www.activeconnection.co.uk
Lead the future at The Gym

The Gym Group, the UK’s fastest-growing low-cost gym operator is seeking to recruit an exceptional Regional Manager, six more General Managers and four Assistant General Managers.

Backed by £29.5m of funding, we have opened 26 gyms already, eight more coming soon and a pipeline of 20 clubs per year over the next few years. Each of our clubs has 5000+ members and an annual turnover of £1million for which managers have P&L responsibility.

These roles require extraordinary managers with commercial ability, as well as the skill, energy and determination to drive our business.

Regional Manager
£40,000-£45,000 + c20% bonus

The role
• Exciting multi-site role overseeing new openings and a growing portfolio
• Responsible for driving and delivering the commercial performance for each gym in your region
• A key leadership role, responsible for recruiting new team members and providing ongoing support to the club management team

The candidate
• An experienced leisure professional with multi-site, regional management experience
• Preferably has experience of opening new H&F sites
• Preferably has experience of commercially exploiting a significant online platform within the leisure industry
• Will be organized, thorough and innovative, with strong planning skills
• Strong communicator with excellent people management and leadership skills and with natural drive and motivation

General Managers
Gloucester, Chelmsford, North Harrow, Wembley, Manchester, Ashford, Kent
£25,000-£35,000 + c20% bonus + optional PT income

The role
• To oversee pre-launch marketing for the brand new facility
• To drive and deliver the commercial performance
• To recruit, train and develop their own team

The candidate
• Proven management experience, preferably in H&F
• Track record of driving sales and marketing activities
• Ideally, already a GM or a Sales or Operations Manager
• REPS level 2 qualified or be prepared to qualify

Assistant General Managers
Bournemouth, Gloucester, Chelmsford and London Vauxhall
16,000-£20,000 + optional PT income

Supporting the GM by driving local sales and marketing, managing a team of PTs and promoting brand standards, you must have experience of operational gym management, driving sales and marketing and of managing PTs and be at least REPs level 2 qualified

HOW TO APPLY:
Our ideal candidates will see themselves as industry-leaders of the future and be capable of making a significant contribution to the growth and development of this groundbreaking business. As a growing company we can offer promotion opportunities as we expand. We’ll reward you in line with your performance and offer you a competitive benefits package including 20 days holiday rising to 25 days plus bank holidays, private medical insurance and pension scheme.

If you see yourself as an industry-leader of the future, please apply in confidence by submitting your CV and a covering letter via our recruitment website: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/gymgroup
Pyramids Centre, Portsmouth
Manager - Fitness & Spa

Southsea Community Leisure Limited is a social enterprise running The Pyramids in Portsmouth, one of the South’s largest leisure offerings. We are now looking to add new talent to our team by recruiting an experienced manager to drive performance in the leisure club and spa.

We are looking for a highly commercial manager / manageress with a strong understanding of the fitness and spa sector who can make a substantial impact on performance.

With the in-built capacity to inspire and motivate the leisure team to deliver outstanding service to members and guests - you will also deliver across a range of revenue lines. This diverse role will see you taking full accountability of this busy fitness club as well as the substantial spa offering.

The successful candidate must have proven management experience in a Leisure Club or Spa and have worked extensively to performance and revenue targets. We’re looking for a polished individual with an eye for detail and a passion for service.

A few must haves:
• Driven membership sales / membership retention in a health club environment
• Previous Spa experience
• A related degree or NVQ Level 4
• Fitness and leisure based qualifications e.g. REP’s Level 3, NARS / NPLQ, Pool Plant etc.

This role attracts a package of circa £24k + bonus + benefits.

For further details, job and person specification please e-mail kathy@pyramids.co.uk. To apply please forward your CV, current package details and a covering letter to gary.milne@pyramids.co.uk or alternatively by post to -

Gary Milne, Managing Director, Southsea Community Leisure Limited, The Pyramids, Clarence Esplanade, Southsea, Portsmouth, PO5 3ST

Closing date Friday 5th October 2012.

02392 799977
pyramids.co.uk

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Everyone Active
One million active customers. How?

The pledge we made is being achieved by using the data we collect, which aids our understanding of our customers activity behaviour and the communications we execute. Plus with the re-launch of our award winning innovative online service called Everyone Active ONLINE we are delivering a new and better activity experience in-centre and online.

30 mins activity
5 days a week

New Leisure Centres
This year so far, 3 new contracts have been won and 1 retained to manage a further 4 leisure venues in partnership with local authorities by Everyone Active. They include centres in Ely, Daventry, Melton and St Albans which will all be operational between September to November 2012. And to start the new year, Westcroft Leisure Centre in Sutton will re-open January 2013. All in all its been a very rewarding time for Everyone Active.

Join our winning team
Due to the expansion of Everyone Active, there are numerous job vacancies advertised on our website www.everyoneactive.com or now with leisure media www.leisureopportunities.co.uk
We are passionate about our people. Employees are our greatest asset and its our aim to develop them in a way that enables each individual to realise their potential.

At this years Fitness Industry Association awards (FLAME), Everyone Active was awarded Leisure Operator of the Year 2012. This is the third year running that the company has achieved this accolade and is down to the dedication of all the staff at the 80 leisure centres across the country.

In addition, the Leisure Centre of the Year 2012 was awarded to Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre and Everyone Active ONLINE collected the Spark of Innovation award which recognises outstanding innovation and commitment to the fitness industry.
Assistant Recreation & Operations Manager

**Competitive salary – circa £20k, plus comprehensive in-house & external training provided and free use of gym & sports facilities.**

A fantastic opportunity has arisen to join one of the area’s most prestigious private member’s clubs, providing leisure, fitness, conferencing and banqueting facilities of the highest standard.

This ‘hands on’ position requires a dynamic, results driven manager with a proven track record in the leisure industry.

Within this diverse role you will have a broad range of responsibilities including:
- Front of House Management
- Finance
- Marketing
- Facilities Management
- Tennis Management
- Health and Safety
- IT
- Human Resources.

For a full application pack with job description please email us on reception@vauxclub.co.uk

Closing date for applications: Sunday 7th October 2012

Vauxhall Recreation Club, 20 Gipsy Lane, Luton, LU1 3JH

www.vauxhallrecreation.co.uk

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Receptionist / Duty Manager

**Competitive salary plus excellent benefits to include use of private health club facilities.**

The Hogarth Group are currently looking to recruit a professional Receptionist / Duty Manager for The Park Club in West London.

The Park Club, a leafy jewel set in beautifully maintained grounds just off Acton High Street, features a full complement of activities for all the family and beauty therapy treatments, as well as a host of social events for all.

Candidates must be enthusiastic, flexible and hard-working and have previous experience in a customer service environment.

The role will involve managing reception and responsibility for the full operation of The Park Club whilst on duty.

If you would like to apply for the position please send CV and cover note to Patricia Ledlie, email: patricial@theparkclub.co.uk

www.theparkclub.co.uk
Development Officer (Community Sport Hubs)
3 year fixed term contract
Salary: Up to £30,000 ∙

The community sport hub initiative, sportscotland’s contribution to the Scottish Government’s 2014 legacy plan, is an exciting and innovative approach to the development of sport in local clubs. It is designed to increase the number of people of all ages participating in sport in communities across Scotland.

Golf Services Manager
Salary: Up to £30,000 ∙

With four 18 hole, including the nationally renowned Hazlehead, two 9 hole and one 6 hole training course you will need to get into the swing of this exciting new role immediately.

Course management, golf development and supporting 5 clubs are your main priorities along with client management for the course maintenance contractor.

Development Officer (Older Peoples Activity)
2 year fixed term contract
Salary: Up to £30,000 ∙

With an aging population and increasing numbers of our community living longer we need to provide stimulating and accessible community sport, leisure and physical activities that will improve the quality of life.

In partnership with NHS Grampian & Aberdeen City Council you will develop a sustainable programme of physical activity opportunities and ensure that all programmes under-pin national and regional plans and frameworks for improved public health and lifestyle changes.

CLOSING DATE OCT 1st 2012
For further information, including details on how to apply, please visit the dedicated webpage of our recruitment advisors, The Urquhart Partnership, at www.upwebsite.com/sportaberdeen
Email queries can be sent to Campbell Urquhart, Managing Director, The Urquhart Partnership Ltd. at cu@upwebsite.com

Working at the heart of a dynamic and forward thinking organisation, you’ll be highly motivated with a flexible approach that can combine a keen sense of business acumen with a creative development flair!

Capable of managing partnerships effectively, together with being an excellent communicator, your interpersonal skills and flexible approach will make you an effective team player.

Let’s get Aberdeen active
INFLUENCE, INNOVATE AND INSPIRE
Help us build on our London 2012 Legacy

Assistant Director - Operations
£65,040 - £77,658 (Fixed Term Contract until March 2015)
Enfield, North London

The award-winning, 10,000 acre Lee Valley Regional Park stretches an incredible 26 miles along the leafy banks of the River Lee, from Ware in Hertfordshire to the Thames at East India Dock Basin. Whether it is white water rafting, athletics, golf, horse riding, ice skating, fishing, cycling, bird watching, camping or simply exploring the countryside Lee Valley Regional Park offers something for its five million annual visitors.

Following on from the superb London 2012 Olympic Games comes this unique opportunity to oversee the operations of our Parklands and Venues which include four fantastic Olympic sites: Lee Valley White Water Centre, Lee Valley VeloPark, Lee Valley Hockey Centre and Lee Valley Tennis Centre plus the award-winning Lee Valley Athletics Centre and heritage sites, nature reserves and farms. Managing the senior Parkland and Venues staff, you will ensure that each venue/site is run to its full potential offering a first class customer experience, adhering to health and safety regulations and performing against budget.

You will need a formal leisure management qualification or equivalent but, more importantly, you must have substantial experience at a senior level in the leisure industry working with elected Members and senior staff. First class communication skills are key as, not only will you deal with many staff across a range of disciplines, you will need to at times present complex information to a varied audience.

If you have the desire to build on the success of the 2012 Games and ensure a lasting legacy for future generations to enjoy at Lee Valley venues and open spaces, please complete an application form, found on our website leevalleypark.org.uk and return it to: jobs@leevalleypark.org.uk or The HR Team, Myddelton House, Bulls Cross, Enfield EN2 9HG. Alternatively, please call 01992 709 839 for an application pack.

Closing date: 5 October 2012
Interview date: 17 October 2012

More details & more Sports jobs on www.sportsjobs.net or call 01690 676379
Agency interviews in major UK cities
Plenty of cultural advice on KSA when we meet you

www.leisureopportunities.co.uk
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Agency interviews in major UK cities
Plenty of cultural advice on KSA when we meet you
MANAGING DIRECTOR, WICKSTEED PARK
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
c.£60,000 + bonus + benefits

As ‘the Home of Children’s Play’, Wicksteed Park is Northamptonshire’s leading visitor attraction and attracts over half a million visitors a year to its 27 rides and other attractions. Owned by the Wicksteed Charitable Trust, which will shortly be celebrating the 100th anniversary of its foundation, the Grade II listed Park comprises some 147 acres of green spaces (including a County wildlife site and ancient water meadows) which it promotes to a wide audience. The Park hosts one of Europe’s largest free playground areas which is open 364 days a year, in the summer months employs nearly 350 seasonal and casual staff engaged in a diverse range of services including rides and attractions, associated retail and catering activities, a growing camping park, public events and private functions as well as managing a lodge site and the stewardship of an environmentally significant area. The Trust has recently been awarded a major grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the restoration of the lake and other areas within the Park itself. For more information, see www.wicksteedpark.co.uk.

We are now seeking to appoint an experienced leisure industry professional to develop the Park for future generations. Qualified to degree level, you will have a strong commercial focus to develop all parts of the business through effective planning, marketing and operational efficiency; providing customer attractions that encourage visitors to return regularly and maintaining the strong heritage of the Park.

You will be a natural, hands-on leader who can motivate and inspire staff to deliver industry-leading levels of customer satisfaction. You will also be a strategic thinker capable of anticipating changing customer demands and additional revenue opportunities from a diverse range of sources, all within the context of an environmentally sensitive site with a wealth of memories. A key feature of this rôle will be the delivery of strong financial and marketing performance through identifying, evaluating and executing sometimes competing investment strategies in a business model that balances charitable output (including educational resources and engagement with local stakeholders) with multi-functional, seasonally affected revenue streams.

Benefits include pension, life assurance and medical insurance schemes, plus a performance related bonus.

To request a full Job Description, please email as detailed below.

Application by CV and covering letter emailed to jenny@wicksteedpark.co.uk or posted to: Jenny Course, HR Manager, Wicksteed Park Ltd, Kettering NN15 6NJ

Closing date is 30th September 2012.

No Agencies.
Eden Project to expand horizons

Cornwall’s environmental visitor attraction, The Eden Project, has unveiled plans for a new exhibition space, in conjunction with Cornwall College. HOW2 will primarily be an education centre, backing Eden’s environmental message. Visitors will gain an insight into how they can put the green ideas into practise.

According to Eden’s head of media relations, David Rowe, the centre will allow “blue collar expertise to be turned into green collar expertise,” and is aimed less at pulling visitors and more at providing education, sharing learning and showcasing ground-breaking technologies. There centre will also run a programme of lessons and demonstrations, which will be filmed or recorded and made available on the web. HOW2 will also provide a business club for sharing ideas and problem solving. Subject to planning and funding, the site should be completed in mid 2015. Details: http://lei.sg?r=af1e2e

Vue to operate multiplex in Farnborough

Plans for a new cinema and restaurants in Farnborough have taken a major step forward after a formal agreement was signed by Rushmoor Borough Council, developer St. Modwen and cinema operator Vue. The planned development at The Meads - which is owned by St Modwen - forms a key part of the regeneration of the town centre and will include a number of new restaurants totalling 35,000 sq ft as well as the Vue cinema. Planning permission has now been granted and the cinema is scheduled to open by summer 2014.

Web reviews ‘crucial’ to restaurants

A study by two University of California Berkeley economists has claimed a half a star’s improvement on a recognised online review site could increase a restaurant’s bookings.

In the report – published in the September edition of the Economic Journal – professors Michael Anderson and Jeremy Magruder studied the effects of positive online ratings on 300 restaurants in the San Francisco area.

Data was collated to form a star system on Yelp.com, a popular US site. When results were made visible, the pair found that a restaurant with a rating that was improved by just half a star – using a scale of one to five – was much more likely to be fully booked at peak times.

A restaurant given an extra half-star rating resulted in the restaurant being fully booked on up to half (49 per cent) of the nights it was open for business.

Half a star can help restaurants become fully booked

The researchers wrote: “The findings of this study demonstrate that - although social media sites and forums may not generate the financial returns for which investors yearn - they play an increasingly important role in how consumers judge the quality of goods and services.”

Details: http://lei.sg?r=af1e90