

# leisure opportunities

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## Andy Murray's Scotland hotel nears completion

The refurbishment of a luxury hotel in Kinbuck, Perthshire, Scotland, owned by Wimbledon 2013 Champion, London 2012 Olympic Gold Medalist and British tennis number one, Andy Murray, is nearing completion. The five-star Cromlix Hotel, located near Murray's home town of Dunblane, will feature five suites, 10 bedrooms, a chapel, reception hall, two drawing rooms, a conservatory, library, meeting rooms and a Chez Roux restaurant using locally sourced produce.

The hotel, which sits in 36 acres of landscaped grounds, was bought by Murray in February for £1.8m.

"I have obviously been pretty busy recently," he said, "but I've been keeping in touch with the refurbishment work at Cromlix and am delighted with its progress."



Murray bought the hotel near his hometown of Dunblane in February for £1.8m

Cromlix House was built in 1874 as the family home for the Edens, who own the surrounding 2,000 acre estate.

The hotel will be managed by Inverloch Castle Management International (ICMI).

The company's managing director Norbert Lieder said: "Cromlix will be one of Scotland's leading luxury hotels and Chez Roux will be among the best restaurants in the area."

ICMI already manages eight other renowned independent properties in Scotland, including Inverloch Castle near Fort William, the Greywalls Hotel in Gullane and the Atholl in Edinburgh.

Plans were held up in July after a colony of rare bats was found in the roof and walls of the historic building, meaning work could only be carried

out during certain hours.

The Cromlix Hotel, which is now taking bookings, is set to reopen in the first quarter of 2014 and will create 40 new jobs for the area.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=M8d5m>

### Strong trading results for pubs and hotels

Pubs, hotels and restaurants have enjoyed their strongest three months of trading since 2007, according to a new quarterly survey from the business lobby group CBI.

Within consumer services, the survey shows that a balance of 15 per cent of businesses saw a rise in business volumes, while a balance of 28 per cent were optimistic about their future prospects.

It is thought the increase was in part due to the warm weather witnessed in the UK this summer.

*Continued on the back cover*

### QPR in talks over new stadium plans

Queens Park Rangers Football Club (QPR) has begun initial talks over the possibility of building a new 40,000-capacity stadium.

It's believed the club is looking into a site at Old Oak Common in West London – close to its current home of Loftus Road, which has a capacity of 18,400 and has been deemed too small to fit in with QPR's plans of becoming a regular Premier League club.

The club's discussions with Hammersmith and Fulham Council – and the Greater London Authority – are thought to be at an "advanced stage", although a spokesperson declined to comment on the exact nature of the talks. If the talks are successful, once



QPR's Loftus Road ground has been deemed too small

built, the stadium could form a part of a larger redevelopment of Old Oak Common, where a 100-acre area has been identified as being suitable for regeneration.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=B2Hon>

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**SPORT**

**SRA: focus on disability sports**

The Sport and Recreation Alliance (SRA) has called for disability sport to be made a priority after revealing that less than a third of UK sports clubs cater for disabled people. The Alliance's nationwide sports club survey – the biggest ever conducted in the UK – shows that while clubs are keen in theory to provide for disabled people, many are struggling to offer the basic equipment and infrastructure.

Only 32 per cent of the UK's sports clubs have access to appropriate equipment for disabled people to participate fully in sporting activities, compared with 89 per cent that have access to equipment for non-disabled people.

There is room to improve in providing trained coaches too, as only 8 per cent of volunteers and staff at UK sports clubs have received training to amend and adapt their



Less than third of all UK sports clubs cater for disabled members

sport to make it more inclusive. Commenting on the new figures, Andy Reed, chair of SRA, said: "A big culture change still needs to take place in many mainstream sports clubs.

"The lack of trained staff and appropriate equipment are also glaring issues – and these things can be remedied far more easily than is often perceived." *Details: http://lei.sr?a=X3T3x*

**Sport to deliver social change for Shankill, Belfast**

A partnership of local and central governments is using sport to deliver social change in the Shankill area of Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The Department for Social Development has teamed up with Belfast City Council (BCC), Department for Culture, Arts and Leisure

(DCAL) and Sport Northern Ireland to fund a £770,000, full-size 3G pitch and floodlit facility at the Hammer Complex, off Agnes Street.

The facility will be leased to Springfield Star Football Club, who will manage the site. *Details: http://lei.sr?a=H8Q5Z*

**Sports participation up in Scottish school**

There has been a 13 per cent increase in the number of school children in Scotland getting involved in sports during term time.

Sportscotland figures show that participant sessions increased to 5,063,000 during the academic year 2012-13 from 4,499,000 in 2011-12 – a rise of more than half a million.

The increase has been attributed to the government's Active Schools campaign, which aims to provide more and higher quality opportunities for children to participate in school sport and to increase capacity through the recruitment of volunteers who deliver the activity sessions. In 2012-13 Sportscotland invested a total of £11.9m into the Active Schools Network, which delivers the



Sports participation among Scottish school children is up by 13 per cent

programme. As a result of the investment, the number of people delivering Active Schools supported sessions has risen by 22.3 per cent from 15,792 in 2011-12 to 19,321 in 2012-13, with more than 16,000 being unpaid volunteers. *Details: http://lei.sr?a=B6j6p*



## World Cup 2014 tickets go on sale

Tickets for the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil have gone on sale – despite worries that some of the stadia are still under construction.

FIFA, the world governing body for football, expects demand for tickets to match that of the 2006 Germany World Cup, when more than 3.3 million tickets were sold.

According to FIFA, there were about seven applicants for every ticket of the 64-match tournament in 2006.

Prices for the 2014 World Cup tickets range from around £58 for group stage matches to £633 for the most expensive final tickets at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro.

However, there has been concern over the fact that some of the stadia are to host matches are still being built. Last week, sports minister



Brazil will become the fifth country to host the FIFA World Cup twice

Aldo Rebelo admitted he was “worried” about delays to the construction of some of the new facilities. Rebelo warned that five of the venues – in Manaus, Curitiba, Cuiaba, Porto Alegre and Natal – will not be delivered on time unless construction work is accelerated on the venues. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=5x5R3>*

## Match day staff warning to football clubs

HM Revenue and Customs is to write to around 50 professional UK football clubs as part of efforts to ensure they pay the minimum wage to the armies of staff they rely on delivering their match day experiences and team analysis.

Tax officials have warned clubs that failure to pay staff – such as mascots, ball boy supervisors, physio interns and performance analysts – could result in fines worth £5,000 and even prosecution.

The clubs are to receive the warning letters directly from tax inspectors, who will also be conducting spot checks on earnings. It is understood that the action has been prompted following allegations by mascots that they were not paid.



Some clubs avoid paying match staff such as mascots and game analysts

The UK’s national minimum wage laws make it illegal not to pay people classed as workers.

In April, Reading FC made headlines after it advertised a year-long internship with no salary or expenses. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=V6w7c>*

## BAE Systems to continue as innovation partner to UK Sport

Aerospace and technology giant BAE Systems will continue to act as UK Sport’s official research and innovation partner in the run up to the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

The £800,000 agreement means athletes will have access to BAE technology as they seek to

apply scientific innovation to their competition performance as well as training, recovery and injury prevention. It’s the second phase of a partnership which has so far benefited more than 20 Olympic and Paralympic sports. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h6z4Q>*

## Football’s first ever rule book goes on display

The British Library in London has put the 1863 FA Minute Book, containing the first written rules of association football, on display alongside the Magna Carta and a copy of Shakespeare’s First Folio.

Handwritten and compiled 150 years ago, the rulebook has been valued at £2.5m and is considered one of the most significant documents of modern social history.

The book has gone on display at the library’s Sir John Ritblat Treasures Gallery and is the centrepiece of a larger exhibition on football, marking the 150th anniversary of The Football Association (FA).

Greg Dyke, chair of The FA, said: “The importance of the 1863 FA Minute Book cannot be underestimated. Without it, quite simply, the world would be without its most popular sport.” *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=woE6x>*



The three-day event will feature 1,700 athletes

## £190,000 investment for Special Olympics

Sport England is to invest £190,000 of National Lottery funding for this year’s Special Olympics GB National Summer Games. More than 1,700 disabled athletes from England, Scotland and Wales will take part in the Games, competing in 12 sporting disciplines over three days.

Sport England CEO, Jennie Price, said: “The Special Olympics offer athletes the opportunity to realise their potential and experience the thrill of competing in a major multi-sport event.

We’re committed to making sport a practical choice for many more disabled people, and hope the Special Olympics in Bath will encourage more young people with intellectual disabilities to get involved in sport. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=K4p2K>*



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## HEALTH & FITNESS

# Not enough exercise for UK kids

Half of UK children could be at risk of suffering from poor health in later life due to sedentary lifestyles.

Figures published in the *BMJ Open* journal show that 50 per cent of all seven year olds spend an average of 6.4 hours a day sitting down, failing to reach recommended exercise levels.

The report – the first objective, UK-wide study of children's physical activity levels – also shows that girls are significantly more inactive than boys. Only 38 per cent of all girls achieve current recommendations for daily exercise, compared with 63 per cent of boys.

There are social and demographic variations too – overall activity levels were lowest in children of Asian (Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi) origin.



Half of the UK's seven-year-olds are failing to get enough exercise

Scotland is the most active of UK nations while children in Northern Ireland are the least active.

The study looked at 6,500 children born between 2000 and 2002. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=2r4b9>*

## 'Inspiring' storytelling platform for gyms

A new project has been launched to bring together stories, insight and inspiration from the health and fitness industry encouraging gyms and their members to have a wider reaching social impact.

The digital storytelling platform was developed by Ray Algar of Oxygen Consulting to capture the social impact of projects powered by gyms and gym-goers worldwide. Inspiring stories of gyms doing social good have already been published from the UK, Denmark, Italy, Brazil and Canada.

The project encourages clubs to collaborate with their members and other stakeholders in fundraising to create a positive social impact for those in need. By doing this, clubs can



Inspiring stories are told through Gymtopia like this one in Brazil

also enhance their image as well as reputation.

"I believe Gymtopia can help the global health and fitness industry to connect, engage and strengthen communities," said Algar. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=t8C2E>*

## Dundee University centre reopens after revamp

The University of Dundee has completed a redesign and refurbishment of its Institute of Sport and Exercise.

The six-week, £450,000 redevelopment has included the addition of a training suite, re-flooring, re-wiring, extending network

capabilities, redecoration and new equipment.

The 150 capacity, 450sq m (4,800sq ft) gym, has 88 Precor fitness machines, 75 of which are cardiovascular. There is also a 50sq m (540sq ft) training suite, for personal training. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=f8T4d>*





**LEISURE  
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## Smith and Campbell to headline REPs National Convention 2013

LIW will once again play host to the REPs National Convention on the 25th and 26th of September with headlining keynotes from Life Fitness master trainer, Keith Smith and, Dr Ian Campbell MBE.

Additional programme highlights include a choice of 30 workshops with topics including GP referrals, nutrition advice, new equipment and succeeding in the field of social media marketing.

Attendance will earn participants CPD points and can be booked on the LIW site.

## Physical Company chooses LIW to launch new products to the UK market

Physical Company will be launching two new products at LIW as part of its expansion to the UK this year. The products on show will be the resistance band systems from Stroops Performance – for sports specific power, strength and agility training, and X-Lab – the customisable, modular functional training rig from Torque Fitness.

Physical Company will be at stand H420 where eight demonstrations from its very own master trainers will occur each day, including displays integrating functional exercises with Stroops, X-Lab and Total Gym.

## Power Hour launches at LIW

Power Hour, supported by PT magazine, will rank fitness professionals against one another in unique challenges across LIW's health and fitness section. The challenges have been designed by some of the leading fitness suppliers in Europe with performance data from MYZONE®.

Exhibitors taking part include Matrix, Escape Fitness, Physical Company, Queenax and Precor. Each company has designed 15 minute group exercise challenges which visitors can sign up for in advance of the event.



Seminars will be conducted by Leisure-net Solutions, which carries out FLAME award assessments

## Leisure-net to offer advice on FLAME success

In two seminars, taking place on Tuesday 24 September in LIW Theatre One, Leisure-net Solutions – which carries out the FLAME award assessments in conjunction with Right Directions – will be giving insider tips on how to improve your FLAME score and work towards success in next year's awards.

David Stalker, ukactive's CEO, will outline the major new developments planned for next year's awards. He will then be joined

by Mike Hill, MD of Leisure-net Solutions, and Caroline Constantine, director of Right Directions, which together independently assess the awards each year.

Hill and Constantine will take delegates through examples of best practice from previous FLAME award winners and offer insights into what makes a successful entry.

Session one runs 12:30-13:15 in LIW Theatre One, followed by Session two from 14:30-15:15.

## Scott Brown confirmed to headline BALPPA FEC Day at LIW 2013

The British Association of Leisure Parks, Piers and Attractions (BALPPA) has confirmed that attractions specialist and FEC guru Scott Brown will be flying over from the US to present at LIW on 25th September as part of BALPPA's FEC Day.

Scott Brown, from WDD online, will deliver a keynote entitled "Selling Memories: Creating birthday party experiences that increase sales" where play centres will be able to discover how to increase their party bookings and thus revenue, creating a service centred experience for all. Scott previously delivered customer service training as well as Social Media and Group Sales sessions to UK audiences.

The FEC Day will start with a panel session aimed at start-ups. Led by BALPPA FEC chairperson Janice Dunphy, guests will hear from single and multi site operators about the daily challenges and realities of owning an indoor

play centre as well as the hurdles that they overcame when setting up.

Also speaking is Tony Sefton of Vision XS who specialises in understanding the science of a visitor experience.

Additional topics include the ever evolving public health agenda and how play centre operators can unlock business opportunities through partnerships and collaborations.



Tony Sefton specialises in the visitor experience





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## SPA

# First thermal spa hotel for Bath

YTL Hotels, part of Malaysian conglomerate YTL Corporation Berhad, has announced a new hotel and spa project in the UNESCO World Heritage City of Bath.

The Gainsborough Bath Spa, the company's first Classic Hotel in the UK, will open early in 2014. The hotel will have direct access to Bath's natural thermal waters.

The 99-room property is located on Beau Street and made up of three historical buildings, each with a Grade II listed Georgian façade. It was originally built as the United Hospital in 1824, with designs by renowned 18th century architect, John Pinch.

The lower levels of the new hotel will be home to the Spa Village Bath and thermal pools. Located over two floors, the 1,300sq m (14,000sq ft) spa will offer guests the opportunity to bathe in Bath's thermal waters in three therapeutic pools.



The spa will have direct access to Bath's thermal pools

The spa village was designed to reflect Bath's Roman history and the pools are set within an atrium which is flooded with natural light. The spa will also have Malaysian influences.

YTL Corporation Berhad is listed on both the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange and the Tokyo bourse and trades internationally in construction-related industries and power generation. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=s9A6s>*

## New spa for London's Berkeley hotel

Maybourne Hotel Group has launched the new Bamford Haybarn Spa at the Berkeley Health Club on the 7th floor of the The Berkeley hotel in Knightsbridge, London.

The Bamford Haybarn's aim is to provide a "warm sanctuary committed to caring for the mind, body and spirit" and to bring "the essence of the English countryside to the city."

Bamford Body Collection - created with naturally sourced and organic ingredients certified by the soil association - will be used during treatments.

Treatments will include the 85-minute Bamford Body Signature Treatment combining shiatsu, meridian and swedish massage, reflexology and yogic breathing to revitalise the whole body. This is a new massage created exclusively for the Berkeley and uses hot and cold jade stones.

The spa has also partnered with natural British skincare company, OSKIA, to create facials. OSKIA's 75-minute signature facial uses



The rooftop open-air swimming pool is a highlight of the new spa

specialised facial massage techniques in addition to acupuncture.

Designed by architect Spencer Fung, the spa's treatment rooms have been themed with names such as Willow, Beehive and Log Cabin, incorporating touches that echo their titles.

A spa food menu has been designed and visitors can enjoy a glass of wine from vineyard Chapel Down. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=d5c2X>*





Female changing provision at Titanic Mill



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## Building on 75 years of putting your future first



**PETER DUCKER**

is chief executive of the Institute of Hospitality

**T**he Institute of Hospitality is the home of continuous professional development. It's what we have been doing for 75 years.

It is the great fortune of our industry that eating, drinking and sleeping will never go out of style. There will always be a need for hospitality and leisure managers because the fundamental nature of hospitality provision has changed little over time – not in the last 75 years, not since there was 'no room at the inn' for Mary and Joseph.

But what has changed enormously is the increased professionalism of our industry and for this we must thank those dedicated pioneers who, at a time of immense social upheaval, realised that the key to their many problems was education and who had the vision to establish our founding organisations.

The Institute of Hospitality traces its origins back to the founding of the Institutional Management Association (IMA) in 1938 and the Hotel and Catering Institute (HCI) in 1949. Both organisations came to life under very difficult circumstances and yet many of the issues they faced, such as skills shortages and international migration, were exactly the same as those we confront today, albeit greatly magnified by the ravages of war. Indeed, the IMA's first office in Gordon Square, Bloomsbury, was destroyed during the London Blitz.

The HCI and the IMA merged in 1971 to form the HCIMA which was re-named the Institute of Hospitality in 2007.

Although we are firmly focused on the future – both yours and ours – we think that our anniversary is a good occasion to get together for a spectacular Gala Dinner to celebrate our 75th on 20 November at the Westbury, London. Any excuse for a party! On the night, we will showcase high-achievers within the hospitality and leisure industries by announcing the winners of the 75th Anniversary Awards. The entry process for the awards is very simple and a wide range of prizes have been kindly donated by a selection of London's finest hotels.

## HOTELS

### Plans for Titanic-themed Liverpool hotel

Developer Signature Living has acquired Albion House, the old Liverpool headquarters of the doomed Titanic liner in Liverpool, with plans to turn the historic building into a Titanic-themed hotel.

A planning application was recently submitted, for a scheme envisaging the use of 350,000 sq ft of floor space to create a luxury 350-bedroom aparthotel with a gym, bar and restaurant, named Signature Living Hotel – The Home of The Titanic.

It is thought Signature Living wants to make use of some of the building's existing features – such as the structure's columns and steel rivets – which were created by the same engineers who worked on the ship which sank in 1912.



The portland brick Albion House is located on Liverpool's The Strand

If plans are approved, the developers hope to begin construction sometime in October, with part of the hotel being open by April 2014. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=y6A5V>

### Two new London hotels for citizenM

Netherlands-based hotel company citizenM has revealed plans to open two new hotels in London during 2014.

The first to open will be citizenM Tower of London, a design-led "pod hotel" which will be built over the exit hall of the Tower Hill London Underground Station.

The nine-storey hotel will comprise 370 luxury modular bedrooms over eight floors, a ground floor café, bar, living room spaces and a SocietyM business club on the eighth and ninth levels.

Balfour Beatty has been appointed to construct the £30m development, which will be marketed as the flagship hotel for citizenM. Construction will include a number of sustainable features and the development is designed to achieve a BREEAM Excellent rating.

CitizenM has also revealed plans to build a



The luxury citizenM hotels feature modern designs and space solutions

new hotel located near to St. Paul's Cathedral, north of the River Thames in central London.

Describing itself as a 'smart luxury' hotel group, citizenM opened its first UK hotel in Glasgow in 2010 and last year opened its first London site. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=K4n7k>

### £5m boutique hotel scheme planned for Colchester

The Elysium Group has announced plans for a new £5m boutique hotel, bar and restaurant to be built in the centre of Colchester.

The hotel will be Elysium's first venture into the hospitality sector. It currently operates six bars in Colchester.

The plans will see most of the existing River Lodge venue on Middleborough demolished, with a 50-bed hotel, wine bar and restaurant built in its place. Plans will be submitted to Colchester Council's planning team later this year. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=g4M9R>



# Scottish economy on the rise

As Glasgow prepares for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, VisitScotland has announced that its two main marketing campaigns have brought almost £310m in additional economic benefit for Scotland since January 2012.

The figures represent a rise of 14 per cent on the same period the year before.

VisitScotland's international campaigns target Scotland's main markets including North America, Germany and France as well as emerging markets such as India and China.

The organisation utilised a range of cross media marketing such as ezines, multi-lingual websites, competitions and social media.

The domestic market, which accounts for 84 per cent of Scotland's annual visitor numbers, has been targeted since 2012 through the



Scotland is preparing for a busy 2014 with the Commonwealth Games

organisation's Surprise Yourself campaign. The promotion includes a series of TV advertisements narrated by TV presenter, Neil Oliver.

These figures come as the country gears up to for Homecoming 2014, Ryder Cup 2014 at Gleneagles and the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

## Newcastle, County Down to become tourist town

Northern Ireland's social development minister, Nelson McCausland, has announced plans costing £287,000 to transform Newcastle in County Down into a tourist destination.

The project will include the purchase of a portable cinema, provision of a covered event

space to promote events all year round and the erection of a gateway feature for the town.

The funds also cover the development of a marketing and branding strategy to create a unique identity for the area.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=H8J2z>

## British tourists fuel Spain's tourism boom

British tourists made up almost a quarter of all international visitors to Spain between January and the end of July 2013, according to figures published by Spain's Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism.

The figures revealed that the country has witnessed a 2.9 per cent increase in visitor numbers since 2012, with Spain attracting 34 million international visitors this year.

The number of British tourists who visited the country has increased by 3.4 per cent compared with last year.

Holidaymakers are opting to stay in forms of accommodation other than hotels this year, with the number of people not staying in a traditional hotel last year rising by 4.3 per cent.



British tourists made up 23.3 per cent of Spain's international visitors

For those who choose to visit Spain, 40 per cent decided to stay with family or friends, or opted for rented accommodation instead of staying in a hotel. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=w8r7W>

## Tourism industry has been 'underestimated'



**KURT JANSON**  
is policy director of  
Tourism Alliance

The Tourism Alliance has always maintained that the tourism industry is a UK success story and one of the country's main prospects for providing much needed growth for the UK economy.

Now, the release of the Office for National Statistics' Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) figures for 2011 show that not only was this view right but, if anything, we underestimated the tourism industry's contribution to the UK's economic recovery.

The Tourism Satellite Accounts operate by looking at the sectors of the economy where tourists spend money and assigning a percentage of the expenditure to tourism. These are then aggregated to provide an overall figure for tourism expenditure and employment.

For example, around 90 per cent of expenditure on accommodation is classified as tourism related while only 30 per cent of expenditure on restaurants is counted because most people who go to restaurants are locals. As a result, 90 per cent of hotel employment is classified as tourism employment while 30 per cent of restaurant employment is classified as tourism employment.

The latest TSA figures show that tourism expenditure rose by £8.5bn (7.6 per cent) to £120.8bn in 2011 and that tourism employment rose by 7.7 per cent from 1.55 million to 1.67 million.

The creation of 120,000 new jobs in a single year (the equivalent of the population of Gloucester) is certainly significant. But what is even more impressive is when this level of job creation is compared with other sectors of the economy.

The revenue and employment figures for the UK economy as a whole during 2011 do not make good reading. While total expenditure in the economy increased by 3 per cent, overall employment in the UK fell by 30,000. There were only three sectors that recorded a growth in employment – the finance sector and the two sectors of the economy which are dominated by tourism (entertainment & recreation and transport and accommodation).



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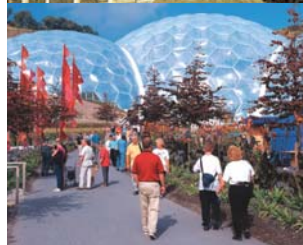
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## ATTRACTIONS & MUSEUMS



The lodge is on the Building's at Risk Register

### JMW Turner's Twickenham home to begin restoration

The Heritage Lottery Fund has offered £134,900 to the Turner's House Trust to begin restoring the home of England's famous landscape artist JMW Turner.

The Grade II listed Sandycombe Lodge was built in 1813 and is now suffering from years of neglect. Extreme weather and damp problems have created further damage to the property located in Twickenham.

Personal resourcing from the Trust, as well as funds from the Architectural Heritage Fund Project, will also help to start the restoration of the building.

It is thought the Trust will launch a £2m Bicentennial Appeal later this year in order to further restore the property and the Trust's artworks for display. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=d5U5v>*

### Barnsley centre gets 12,000 visitors in less than a month

Experience Barnsley has seen visitor numbers pass 12,000 less than a month after the Yorkshire-based attraction opened its doors.

The state-of-the-art museum and archive centre, located in Barnsley's landmark 1930s town hall, has been four years in the making and was backed by £2.6m funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, with additional support provided by the European Regional Development Fund.

Experience Barnsley acts as a heritage attraction for the local area and is the focal point of a number of cultural and learning activities. The attraction also includes a Discovery Centre which includes thousands of items donated by the local community, organisations and other museums.

When the centre opened at the end of June, its first Saturday saw 1,700 people file into its galleries to learn about the area's local history, culture and heritage.

The centre provides information and items exploring a range of historical features and is open to the public seven days a week, free of charge. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=M2M3T>*

## £15m plans for Forth Bridge viewing area

Plans have been revealed to build a £15m viewing platform on the Forth Bridge in Scotland, opening the railway route to the public for the first time.

The bridge, which will celebrate its 125th anniversary in 2015, will see a visitor centre built into its northern Fife tower. A glass paneled lift will lead up to the 330ft (100m) high viewing platform. A second centre will also be opened in South Queensferry, which will act as a base for guided walks to the top of the bridge's south tower.

The railway bridge, built in 1890, is currently seeking heritage listing with UNESCO and still remains a key part of Scotland's railway network, linking Edinburgh with Fife and carrying more than 200 trains every day. Work on the bridge that spanned a decade and



A visitor centre will be built into the base of the northern Fife tower

cost £130m was completed in 2011.

The project, funded by Network Rail, is looking for the facilities to be open by 2015 and it is thought that the attraction could be a significant boost to South Queensferry and Edinburgh. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=E9S3K>*

## Margate's Turner on track for 1m visitors

The Turner Contemporary in Margate – a gallery dedicated to the life of 19th century artist JMW Turner, which opened in 2011 – is on track to welcome its millionth visitor this summer. Director Victoria Pomery said: "By the end of summer 2013 we'll have had one million visitors, which is many more than we'd ever anticipated."

Margate was hit hard by the recession. Until recently, one-third of its shops were vacant, with 800 empty retail properties and 20 per cent unemployment.

But a push by Kent County Council to regenerate the area led to the construction of the £17.5m gallery. Attention is now turning towards Dreamland, the old seaside



The £17.5m gallery has been a major success since its 2011 opening

amusement park which closed eight years ago. The park will re-open at Easter 2015 as a heritage amusement park, following a £10m investment. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=fiF4d>*

## British Geological Survey presents 3D fossils online

The British Geological Survey (BGS) has launched a web database billed as the world's first 3D fossil collection.

The BGS has been using 3D scanners since May 2012 to create copies of the thousands of items stored in its fossil archive.

Users can now view the models online, along with collections of data, high-quality images and stereo anaglyphs. There is also the option to access the fossils using tablets and smartphones. Instructions for 3D printing have also been released. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=c4Q7g>*



The 'Osprey' building will be used as a reception

## Piperdam resort unveils plans for activity centre

Piperdam Golf and Leisure Resort in Angus, Scotland, has revealed plans for a new activity centre that will help them "compete with the likes of Center Parcs."

A planning application has been submitted to build a new multi-purpose leisure and activity centre on the site.

The proposals, designed by Dundee-based Hiddleston and Feist Architects, would cover 8,500sq m (91,500sq ft).

The resort has also recently had plans approved to build 'executive' treehouses for visitors. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=q2C2G>*

## Metropolitan by COMO hotel changes hands

The Metropolitan by COMO hotel on Park Lane, London, has been sold to an unnamed UK investor for around £40m.

More than 100 enquiries were made about the property within a week of it coming to the market – a sign that the capital's hotel property market is recovering.

Owned by Canada Life, the hotel was transformed into a luxury lifestyle hotel in 1997 and also houses the first Nobu restaurant in Europe and the the Colony Club Casino. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=x2D7u>*

## Hand Picked Hotels buys Fawsley Hall Hotel & Spa

Hand Picked Hotels (HPH) has acquired Fawsley Hall Hotel & Spa near Silverstone in Northamptonshire, expanding its country house hotel portfolio to 20 properties.

The Grade I listed hotel was purchased for an undisclosed amount and is part of a strategic expansion by HPH.

HPH was created in 2001 by former lawyer turned hotelier Julia Hands, the wife of financier Guy Hands.

The acquisition is the second this year by the group, following a deal for St Pierre Park Hotel & Golf Resort in Guernsey in June. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=e7e8X>*

## Plymouth City Museum to get £21m expansion

Plymouth City Council has announced plans for a £21m historic and cultural centre to transform the existing Plymouth City Museum in North Hill.

The existing museum will become an interactive centre, three times its current size.

The council plans to bid for up to £13m from the Heritage Lottery's national funding programme, plus smaller bids to other funds. However, due to the economic benefits to the city, the cabinet is being asked to agree to a financial commitment of £3.5M from its Investment Fund.

The project will collaborate with Plymouth University, Plymouth College of Art, the Ministry Of Defense, the Register Office, the South West Film and Television Archives and the South West Image Bank Archive.

Council leader Tudor Evans, said: "It's time to think big. If we want to compete for national and international tourism we must have attractions that people want to visit.



The existing museum will triple in size as part of the £21m investment

When we launched Plymouth as Britain's Ocean City, we meant it. This is one of the major pieces of work that will ensure we live up to our new title.

"This new attraction will transform the way people discover the city's history and culture using the very latest in audio and visual technology. The £21m project will see the museum turned on its head. It will attract visitors in its own right." *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=w3n7H>*

## Coastal towns to receive share of £29m

Seaside towns will be given a share of £29m to help boost growth, with next year's Coastal Communities Fund (CCF) being given a 5 per cent increase on last year.

The CCF was launched in 2012 to invest in seaside towns and villages, to assist them in reaching their economic potential, reduce unemployment and create opportunities for young people in the local area relevant to the project.

Projects from the first year of funding have been forecast to generate more than 5,000 new jobs and create 500 new apprenticeships in the coming years.

Projects which have benefited from the fund include heritage railways in north York and Swanage, pier regenerations in south Wales and training programmes for green tourism.

The fund is financed by the government through the allocation of funding equivalent to 50 per cent of the revenues from the Crown Estate's marine activities in that area.

Successful bids are chosen because of their



The fund has invested in hundreds of seaside projects across the UK

impact on local jobs, training and their ability to drive forward growth. Successful bids from round two will be announced during Q4 of 2013, while nominations for round three will be open to apply in early 2014.

Communities Secretary, Eric Pickles, commented: "This will help our coastal towns make the most of their potential by diversifying their economies and industries so they can become year-round success stories." *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=k4G6f>*





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## Expressions of Interest Invitation to Tender

### WILDWOOD PARK STAFFORD

**Stafford Borough Council** invites expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced organisations who are willing to work in partnership with the Council to secure the re-development of outdoor sporting and recreational facilities at Wildwood Park, Stafford.

The project will need to be completed by Summer 2014 and has a budget up to £425k. The scheme involves the design, supply and installation of innovative facilities including concrete wheeled sports opportunities, dynamic and intuitive play provision, an outdoor gym, a MUGA, refurbishment of existing tennis court, tree works, pathways and hard and soft landscaping.

Organisations who can demonstrate a successful track record in this type of project wishing to express an interest must do so by completing a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire which can be obtained by writing to:

**Sally McDonald, Leisure and Culture, Stafford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford, ST16 3AQ**  
or via email to [smcdonald@staffordbc.gov.uk](mailto:smcdonald@staffordbc.gov.uk)

Completed questionnaires must be completed and returned by 14 October 2013, 12noon.



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## TRAINING

### easyGym accelerates apprentice scheme

Budget gym operator easyGym partnered up with UK training provider Icon Training this year.

The partnership enables easyGym to recruit apprentices who can be trained up the company's way and eventually become a part of the easyGym team. Through working with Icon Training, easyGym have been taking on more apprentices and are currently taking on a minimum of one apprentice per site. The scheme aims to provide "an opportunity for young people applying for these apprenticeships as they receive support from Icon Training's Ofsted grade 1 Skills Tutors whilst working in an environment where progression is a high priority."

Lucy Walton, training and quality manager



The number of apprentices is growing at easyGym across the country

at easyGym said: "Previously, our training was in-house, so working with Icon Training has taken this workload away and enabled us to take on more apprentices, which is growing all the time." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=E2A5C>

### Swim UK helps unemployed lifeguards

Virgin Active has employed eight new lifeguards at its new site in Falmer, Brighton, following free training and qualifications provided by Swin UK.

The eight new staff, all of which completed their Royal Life Saving Society National Pool Lifeguard Qualification for free with Swin UK as part of their Sporting Solutions programme, were previously receiving Job Seekers Allowance, but are now working part or full-time within the leisure industry.

Paul Smith MD, of Swin UK said: "I can't think of better evidence to reflect the effectiveness of our short courses in getting people skilled and into a new career."

Formed by Paul Smith in 1995, the company originally aimed to provide training to the staff of Brighton Swimming School



The new employees at Virgin Active in Falmer, Brighton

to become lifeguards and swimming teachers.

Swin UK courses are now offered to those working within the leisure industry, schools and swimming clubs, as well as free courses to job seekers which have been introduced recently to help the unemployed develop careers in leisure. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=z7x2k>

### Wildwood Trust enters final year of Skills for the Future

Wildwood Trust – a charity that runs a highly successful programme of conservation projects – is inviting applications for its final year of the Skills for Future the Training programme.

The project, which has been running for four years, is funded by a £150,000 grant from

the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The grant funds four trainees per year, with each trainee receiving a bursary of £10,000 for the year of training with Wildwood. The posts aim to gain further academic training and develop careers. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=m2n6w>



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Dianne Eade, Newquay Zoo  
Head of Finance, Human Resources and Administration



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- Duty Manager - Full Time**, Aberdeen Sports Village, Aberdeen, UK
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- Swimming Instructors - Casual**, Aberdeen Sports Village, Aberdeen, UK
- Assistant General Manager**, DW Sports Fitness, Bristol, UK
- Duty Manager**, DW Sports Fitness, Widnes, UK
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- Associate Lecturers – Spa Management**, University of Derby - Buxton Campus, London, UK, UK
- Spa Beauty Therapist**, The Glassworks Health Club, Cambridge, UK



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**Recreation Assistant, GLL, Holton, South Oxfordshire, UK**

**Duty Manager, GLL, Crystal Palace, London, UK**

**Membership Consultant, Everyone Active, Leisure Centre, Stroud, UK, UK**

**Personal Trainer, Pure Gym Limited, Dundee, UK**

**ASA Level 2 Swimming Teacher, Everyone Active, Studley, Warwickshire, UK**

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Clevedon School Sports Centre is "not for profit" charitable trust, established in 2011, to provide outstanding Sporting and Leisure opportunities to the people of Clevedon and students of Clevedon School. The Trustees have a clear vision of creating a centre of sporting excellence. Clevedon is an attractive seaside town south of Bristol and the sports centre is situated in the school grounds, in the picturesque Swiss Valley.

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"The trustees see this appointment as the key to the success of Clevedon School Sports Centre and are therefore looking for an exceptional individual who can buy into the long term vision of the company and is prepared to commit to achieving our goals."

If you are inspired by this opportunity, then please contact David Bishop for further information and to arrange a visit.

An application form and further details are available on the Sports Centre web site.

Completed applications to be emailed or posted to David Bishop at the above address.

**Tel: 01275-337416 Fax: 01275-340935**

**E-mail: [cssc@clevedon.n-somerset.sch.uk](mailto:cssc@clevedon.n-somerset.sch.uk)**

**Closing date for applications:**

**Friday 20th September 2013**

**Interviews to be held 1st October 2013**

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**For full job details and information about how to apply, go to [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk) and click on the "Vacancies" tab. Closing date Friday, 13 September 2013. Interviews are likely to take place at Broughton House during w/c 23 September 2013. Visit us at [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk)**

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**Waterpark Sales Manager**  
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**Sales Assistant**  
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## CIMSPA review progressing well

A business review of the Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA) is gathering pace, with a number of insights already being drawn from the three month process.

Following introductory and group meetings, the review of CIMSPA – the professional development body for the UK's sport and physical activity sector – will now enter the electronic consultation phase before a final revision and review.

So far CIMSPA has learned that it must ensure development of management training, while many members have also said that it should be “a badge of quality.”

The institute has also been encouraged to “empower the regions”, with suggestions that regional budgets should be implemented.

Finally it's been suggested that CIMSPA should support people at the start of their



CIMSPA is based at SportPark, Loughborough University

career, through provision of a career pathway.

CIMSPA trustee David Stalker said: “High numbers of organisations have come forward offering opinions, ideas and support for the institute. I have no doubt that should this support continue, the institute will flourish.”

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=e4q2m>

## UK attractions see rise in visitors numbers this year

*Continued from front cover:* The Association of Leading Visitor Attractions (ALVA) which represents a variety of venues, revealed its members had seen a rise of 22 per cent in their visitor numbers this spring and summer when compared with last year. It is thought

this is in part thanks to good weather, Britain's hosting of successful events and the strength of the euro against the pound.

However, industry leaders feel visitor attractions are having to offer deals and keep prices down despite rising costs.

## Next stage of Commonwealth legacy

The Scottish government has released the second round of grants from its Active Places Fund – a legacy project aiming to get people more active using next year's Commonwealth Games as an inspiration.

A total of 40 projects across Scotland will share £2m in funding – the second allocation of grants from a total of £10m earmarked for the programme.

Projects to benefit from the funding include Bill McLaren Park in Hawick, which has been granted £77,000 to help build three all-weather tennis courts in the town.

Other projects to benefit from the funding include Arbroath Skate Park, Cycle Speedway at Queen Anne High School in Dunfermline, a play park climbing wall in Buchlyvie and a Trim Trail with play equipment at Elphinstone Primary School in East Lothian.



The 2014 Games are being held in Glasgow, Scotland

First minister for Scotland, Alex Salmond, said the Commonwealth Games being held in Glasgow in July and August next year would provide an “exceptional opportunity” to make Scotland and its people healthier.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=g6H6z>

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