

leisure opportunities

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Daily news & jobs: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

£30m Orford Park complex opens

The Queen has officially unveiled a new £30m sport, health and education complex that has transformed a former landfill site in the centre of Warrington, Cheshire.

Orford Park has been developed by Warrington Borough Council and incorporates a 9,000sq m (96,875sq ft) Sports Hub with facilities such as two swimming pools and a 75-station fitness suite.

The gym has been equipped by Technogym and includes the Element and Strength range, as well as the Excite and Cardio range offering the Visiweb digital platform.

Leisure facilities at the Archial Architects-designed Orford Park also include dance studios, squash courts and a sports hall, as well as a library, three GP surgeries and a Diploma Centre for 14- to 19-year-olds.



The Queen opened Warrington's £30m leisure and wellbeing complex

A network of walking and cycling paths around new grass sports pitches are among the exterior facilities at Orford Park.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=h8x4x>



énergie Group's chief executive Jan Spaticchia

énergie cancels IPO and opts for private equity deal

Fitness franchise énergie Group has withdrawn its planned initial public offering (IPO) due to the combination of volatile market conditions and a "very attractive offer" from a private equity firm.

Énergie, which operates 98 clubs across six countries, had previously set out plans to list on the London Stock Exchange's Alternative Investment Market (AIM).

The IPO was to take place by means of a reverse acquisition by Hubco Investments Plc. Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=t2v6k>

New thermal spa opens at Gloucester facility

Aspire Sports and Cultural Trust has announced the opening of a full-service day spa at the GL1 leisure centre in Gloucester, which it operates on the behalf of the local authority.

The £125,000 investment includes new treatment rooms, a spa pool and a thermal suite housing a steam-room, monsoon showers and heated loungers. The wellness thermal suite has been delivered by NOLA 7.

The entire 300sq m (3,300sq ft) spa will be illuminated with energy saving LED mood enhancing lighting.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=1E3h4>

ArcelorMittal Orbit unveiled in London

ArcelorMittal Orbit, the sculpture and visitor attraction designed by Anish Kapoor and Cecil Balmond, has been unveiled at the heart of the new Olympic Park in east London.

The 114.5m (375.7ft) tower has been developed at a cost of £22.7m and is located between the Olympic Stadium and Aquatics Centre.

During and after the 2012 London Games, the new ArcelorMittal Orbit is to be operated as a ticketed visitor attraction offering views overlooking the capital and beyond.

Visitors will be transported to the top in a lift and will be able to return in the same manner, although the use of the 455-step staircase 'orbiting' the tower will be encouraged.



The construction phase took 18 months to complete

The tower was handed over to the London Legacy Development Corporation in May to allow Balfour Beatty Workplace to complete the fit-out ahead of its public opening.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=v7x8f>

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SPORT

'Third of children' unable to swim

The Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) has called for the sport to receive greater priority after research found that as many as one in three children leave primary school without being able to swim.

Drowning is the third most common cause of accidental death in young people and the ASA has met with the government to stress the importance of learning to swim.

The research was carried out in partnership with Kellogg's and also found that nearly 40 per cent out of those children unable to swim had never been offered lessons. It is expected that 200,000 children will leave primary school this summer without being able to swim.

The ASA and Kellogg's presented The 2012 School Swimming Census in the meeting with government, which contains a six-point School Swimming Manifesto.



ASA wants more priority given to swimming in order to help save lives

ASA chief executive David Sparkes said: "Swimming is the only subject on the national curriculum that can save your life so it's essential that government, schools and parents join us in taking action and break the cycle before we create a generation of non-swimmers unable to pass on this life-saving skill."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=P5igD>

Sandwell Council plans for new Wednesbury pool

Sandwell Council chiefs have started drawing up "urgent" plans for the development of a new swimming pool to replace an existing complex in Wednesbury, West Midlands.

Wednesbury Leisure Centre's two swimming pools have been shut for the last six months

due to maintenance work, which has included the removal of asbestos.

However, further issues have since been uncovered, which the local authority said had put the centre beyond economic repair.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=L7L7>

StreetGames receives £150,000 boost

UK sports charity StreetGames has secured £150,000 through Sport England's Sportsmatch programme to match grants from Coca-Cola Great Britain and Network Rail.

The charity was launched in 2007 with the aim of increasing participation in disadvantaged areas in the UK by supporting "doorstep" projects that create opportunities for young people.

Jane Ashworth, chief executive officer of StreetGames, said: "It is wonderful that Sportsmatch has chosen to match the funding of our existing partners.

"It shows that they recognise the importance of ensuring the opportunity and benefits around sport area available, particularly to those from disadvantaged areas."



The charity supports sports projects in communities across the country

Sport England chair Richard Lewis added: "Whether it's volunteering or participating, it's crucial that we get as many young people as possible involved in grassroots sports and StreetGames is helping us achieve this."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=G9L2j>

New £8m fund for disabled sport

Sport England has joined forces with Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson for the unveiling of a new £8m fund to boost sports participation among disabled people.

The Inclusive Sport initiative was launched to coincide with the 100-day countdown to the 2012 Paralympic Games and will allow groups to bid for grants of at least £10,000.

According to *Active People Survey 5*, just 17.6 per cent adults aged 16 and over with a limiting disability or illness play sport on a regular basis.

It is hoped Inclusive Sport will increase the number of disabled people taking part in sport, as well as removing barriers such as a lack of specialist equipment or transport issues.

Sport England chief executive Jennie Price said: "It is an uncomfortable truth that disabled people enjoy fewer opportunities to get



The fund aims to increase the number of disabled people playing sport

involved in sport. Sport England is committed to changing that."

Baroness Grey-Thompson added: "I am delighted this new funding is available and is specifically targeted at improving access to grassroots sport to more disabled people."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=a8td>

Work starts on £5m Welsh football centre

ISG has moved in to commence groundwork at the site of Wales' new £5m National Football Development Centre at Newport International Sports Village (NISV).

Newport City Council is working with the Football Association of Wales (FAW) and the Welsh Football Trust on the scheme, which was approved earlier this year.

ISG was appointed following a tender process held by the FAW, with Boyes Rees Architects and structural engineers Shear Design also involved.

A FIFA 2-Star 3G artificial pitch will be among the facilities and is to be made available to local clubs and community groups as part of an agreement with the FAW. Facilities also include a multi-purpose venue housing



The National Football Development Centre will be located in Newport

the FAW's office and administration headquarters and extensive changing facilities.

Elsewhere, the centre will comprise physiotherapy and treatment suites with an ice bath, as well as a hi-tech video analysis facility.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=K5a4z>

QPR named as preferred bidder for London sports ground

Queens Park Rangers Football Club (QPR) has been named as Ealing Council's preferred bidder to take on the lease of the publicly-owned Warren Farm sports ground in Southall.

The Premier League club is proposing to develop the site as its new training ground,

which will also provide new facilities for community use – including a new pavilion.

Improved football and cricket pitches; an artificial training pitch; and a multi-use games area also form part of QPR's proposals.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=C5m3c>

FT Leisure secures two UK leisure centre contracts

Swimming pool engineering specialist FT Leisure has been appointed to work on new leisure centre developments at Kings Cross in London and Holt Park, Leeds.

The group will work on swimming pool facilities at both schemes, with the Kings Cross centre to include a 25m, four-lane pool with a counter current swim unit.

Holt Park will include a 25m pool, a learner pool and a hydrotherapy pool. FT Leisure will supply and install the water treatment and filtration systems for each.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=b6f8O>



The Welton project boasts a new sports pavilion

Football Foundation grant for Lincolnshire scheme

Welton-by-Lincoln Parish Council has received a Football Foundation grant worth more than £250,000 towards new community facilities in Welton, Lincolnshire.

The scheme represents a total investment of £500,000 and has also been given support by West Lindsey District Council; WREN; and the parish council itself.

LKA Development Services is working in conjunction the parish council to deliver the development, which will include the refurbishment of existing facilities to provide a new sports pavilion.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=G1N9r>

Tokyo, Madrid and Istanbul chase 2020 Olympic Games

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has shortlisted three locations - Tokyo, Japan; Istanbul, Turkey; and Madrid, Spain - to host the summer Olympic Games in 2020. Two other cities - Doha (Qatar) and Baku (Azerbaijan) - were also among the five applicant cities, but lost out in the race to be named candidate cities following a technical assessment.

All three shortlisted cities will now prepare a candidature file with an in-depth description of their "Olympic project".

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Kof8z>

Fusion Lifestyle secures Braintree leisure contract

Fusion Lifestyle is to operate all leisure centres owned by Braintree District Council from 1 September after securing a management contract from the local authority.

Halstead Leisure Centre and Braintree Swimming Centre are among the sites covered by the deal, as well as the new Witham Leisure Centre opening next year.

The contract also includes investment in new fitness suites and studios at Braintree Swimming Centre and an extension of fitness facilities at Braintree Leisure Centre. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=eoU7d>



The programme will teach core gymnastics skills

David Lloyd Leisure unveils Gymnastics All Stars

Health and racquet club operator David Lloyd Leisure has launched a new coaching programme designed to teach young people the core skills of gymnastics.

Gymnastics All Stars is backed by Total Gymnastics – founded by Beth Tweddle – and will help children develop skills in strength, flexibility and co-ordination.

It is initially being offered to three- and four-year-olds at eight clubs across the UK and will be extended to five- to seven-year-olds at those locations from September.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=BoT4u>

New-look Hadleigh facility to open later this summer

The £2.4m Hadleigh Community Facility in Suffolk is on track for a late summer reopening, having undergone an extensive redevelopment since October 2011.

When completed, the centre will include a dance studio, a health and fitness suite, a 25m pool and a community room.

Jennie Jenkins, chairman of Babergh District Council's strategy committee, said: "This redevelopment is the largest investment in community facilities that Babergh has made in decades."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=15C1u>

FIA joins forces with RoSPA

A new partnership to improve the "quality and safety" of the UK's physical activity sector has been announced by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) and the Fitness Industry Association (FIA).

The two organisations have joined forces in order to collaborate in a number of areas, which will include policy, industry schemes, campaigns and training programmes.

More than 3,000 FIA members will be able to access RoSPA services including a telephone helpline offering free initial advice on water and leisure health and safety issues.

Members will also have the chance to report incidents or near-misses for inclusion on the Water Incident Database, as well as preferential rates on RoSPA consultancy, membership and playground inspections.



Dave Stalker (left) and RoSPA head of education/leisure David Rushton

FIA CEO Dave Stalker said: "This builds upon our commitment to health and safety and offers FIA members access to key resources such as the RoSPA helpline, helping those at the coalface of the sector to keep updated and access support when they need it."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=W617w>

Work to start on Windsor gym expansion

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has said that work is to begin on a £320,000 gym expansion at Windsor Leisure Centre, Berkshire, next month.

J Coffey Construction has been selected to carry out the work, which is due for completion in early 2013 and will see around £40,000 invested in new equipment.

Windsor Leisure Centre's BodyZone currently houses 175 stations, including cv machines, fixed and free weights and specialised equipment such as Power Plates.

The work will see the gym expanded upwards onto the second floor and will offer an open exercise floor space, a weight training area and a group cycling suite.



The council said the expansion comes in response to increasing demand

According to centre manager Jes Spencer, the enlarged area will target improved performance through exercise, although no decisions have yet been made over equipment.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=a32tH>

Life Fitness equips independent Stamford school gym

A new sports complex to be used by students, staff and the general public, will open at Stamford Endowed Schools in Stamford, Lincolnshire, next month (June).

The centre includes a 25m swimming pool, a health club, wet and dry areas and a hospitality

zone, as well as a health suite fitted with 40 pieces of equipment from Life Fitness.

Fitness equipment includes the Elevation Engage cv series as well as Signature Strength and Hammer Strength equipment.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=G1T1w>

Gerflor's Fast Track Sports Hall Flooring

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John Havill, Chairman of Three Rivers Partnership comments: "To think how bad the floor looked before and how it looks now is quite remarkable. Gerflor assisted in the project management of the scheme hugely and the sports hall floor refurbishment came in on time and on budget".

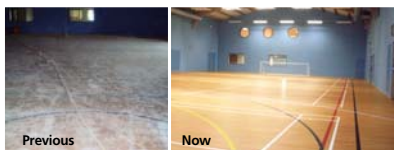
John Havill also added "Our customers love it, in particular the badminton club, some even hinting this is the best sports hall they have ever played in".

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PREPARATION OF SUB FLOOR	£ 3, 524	£0	Monthly Payments £347
INSTALL NEW SPORTS FLOOR	£ 28, 153	£ 22, 692	Term – 60 Months
LINE MARKING (8 Game Lines)	£ 2, 290	£ 2, 290	
PROJECT TOTAL	£ 40, 322	£ 24, 982	
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West Wood expands pilates studios at two clubs

Ireland's West Wood Health Clubs has expanded its group exercise and pilates activities with the creation of dedicated pilates studios at two of its sites in Dublin: Clontarf and Leopardstown.

Each studio has been equipped with 20 Total Gym GTS machines, which were launched at last year's LIW. A further 20 are planned for the chain's Sandymount site.

Total Gym will provide the traditional and evolved pilates programming offered by the GRAVITY Training System.

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



The project allows for an expanded leisure centre

Bridgwater pool 'on course' for completion next year

A new £6.3m swimming pool currently being built in Bridgwater, Somerset, is "on course" to open in early 2013, according to Sedgemoor District Council.

A 25m, six-lane pool; a training pool; and spectator seating form part of the new pool, which adds to dry facilities at Trinity Sports and Leisure that opened last November.

The scheme also allows for an expanded leisure centre offering a 50-station fitness studio and a café. Scott Brownrigg Architects have designed of the pool.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Y1x5v>

Heston Leisure Centre consultation underway

The London Borough of Hounslow has launched a public consultation to gather views from residents and user groups on its plans for a £15m overhaul of Heston Pool.

At the centre of the plans is an improved leisure facility with a wider range of activities. The proposed Heston Leisure Centre will also be more eco-friendly.

Facilities will include a 100-station fitness suite, a 25m main pool and a learner pool, as well as new single sex health suites with a steamroom and sauna.

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

New centre to open in Rochdale

The BIG Games, a showcase of sports, arts and heritage activities, will help mark the official launch of a new £10.8m leisure centre in Rochdale, Greater Manchester, on 7 July.

Rochdale Leisure Centre will include an eight-lane, 25m swimming pool and a 17m learner pool with moveable floor when complete.

The main fitness area will incorporate more than 100 stations, including equipment supplied by Life Fitness, Trixter, Escape and Concept 2, as well as Power Plates.

Life Fitness equipment and Concept 2 rowing machines will also feature in the activity gym area, while the studio will host 31 Star Trac spinning bikes and Escape equipment.

The new KKA-designed centre is being built by Willmott Dixon and forms part of the local authority's wider £33.8m capital programme.



The town's new £10.8m leisure development has been designed by KKA

Rochdale Council cabinet member for culture and leisure Jacqueline Beswick said: "This will be the third multi-million pound sports centre in the borough and, alongside the facilities in Middleton and Heywood it offers a step-change in the quality of leisure here."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=G7i8i>

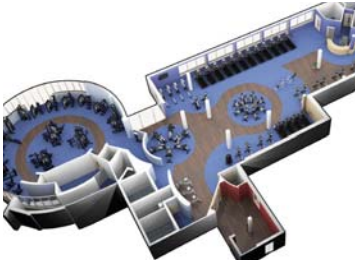
Pulse to manage Northern Ireland facility

Pulse Fitness has been appointed by Magherafelt District Council (MDC) to manage the new-look Greenvale Leisure Centre in Northern Ireland, which is undergoing a major revamp.

The centre is scheduled to open this summer following the multi-million pound project, with facilities to include a new 50m swimming pool and a 100-station fitness suite.

A kids' circuit gym and interactive fitness zone; a four-court sports hall; and a soft play area will also form part of the centre, along with a spa area.

The spa will contain a thermal suite housing a steamroom; an ice station; a sauna; and an experience shower, in addition to a foot spa, heated loungers and a relaxation zone.



Greenvale Leisure Centre will include a 100-station gym when it opens

Among Pulse's initial priorities after securing the contract will be to recruit 50 staff members to oversee the management of the facility and to deliver its programme of activities.

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

Somerset leisure centre set for community-run future

Mendip District Council has announced that members of the local community will have the chance to shape plans for the future of a leisure centre in Glastonbury, Somerset.

A recent council consultation into the future of Tor Sports and Leisure found a number of

people express an interest in the community working to secure the facility's future.

The council will bring in Avalon Leisure to operate the centre on an interim basis, while the community works up plans for its future.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=q3p2S>

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Summit to underline sector's contribution



UFI IBRAHIM
is chief executive
officer of British
Hospitality Association

This is an exceptional year for UK tourism. During the London 2012 Games, the UK will play host to visitors from all over the world – including 30,000 journalists reaching out to more than 4 billion viewers worldwide.

This gives us an unprecedented opportunity to celebrate the strength and dynamism of UK hospitality and tourism. The British Hospitality Association's (BHA) first-ever Hospitality and Tourism Summit takes advantage of this year's events and celebrates the strength of UK tourism and hospitality. The event – taking place on 1 June at the InterContinental London Park Lane – is bringing together industry leaders, investors and high-level officials for discussions that will help shape the future of industry. Our thanks go to InterContinental Hotels Group for its sponsorship of the summit.

Why is such a gathering of some 400 delegates and a great range of speakers so important? Because it will focus on powering links between major events, sports, tourism and hospitality with the objective of driving economic growth in the UK.

Another major BHA event, jointly with Springboard UK, to be held on 11 July at the Royal Horseguards Hotel London, tackles the rising youth unemployment. The Big Conversation is the brainchild of one of Prince Charles's charities – Business in the Community – and its aim is simple: to boost dialogue between employers and youngsters, to find jobs for young people and to encourage work placements and apprenticeships.

The Big Conversation for Hospitality is bringing together 50 senior company executives, chaired by Patrick Dempsey, managing director of Whitbread Hotels and Restaurants, with a cohort of youngsters to promote the development of quality, structured work experience and apprenticeships in the hospitality industry.

We want The Big Conversation to increase the number of young unemployed who can be offered work in the industry by encouraging companies to create new jobs. If we can do this, it would provide a stream of young talent for the sector and make a real difference to the life of so many young people.

HOTELS

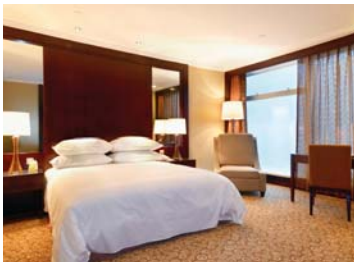
New sector partnership signed

Capita Symonds has entered into a partnership with developer Oxford Hotels and real estate investor Equitum in a bid to capitalise on new opportunities within the UK's £10bn hotel industry.

The partnership is targeting "outright acquisitions" of hotel investments and developments, as well as opportunities to work with stakeholders in the asset management of properties.

Capita Symonds will be responsible for overseeing the design and delivery of hotel refurbishment schemes, while Chris King of Equitum and Simon Wood of Oxford Hotels will move to secure projects.

King and Wood will also look to acquire and finance – on behalf of third party groups – on and off-market projects and the negotiation of new operator agreements among others.



The new partnership will provide "short term and long term" solutions

Tim Smith, director at the international hotel valuation, consulting and brokerage company, HVS said: "The partnership offers both a short term and long term solution to owners and financiers and a real alternative to insolvency and the huge impact on value." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Dj80>

Hotels report 'exceptionally strong' trading in April

Economic concerns and poor weather conditions failed to prevent UK hotel operators from reporting "exceptionally strong" trading during April, according to new research.

The latest preliminary figures from PKF Hotel Consultancy Services showed a 9.7 per

cent growth in rooms yield for London properties, when compared with April 2011.

Regional hoteliers saw rooms yield grow 3.7 per cent and room rate grow by 3.5 per cent, although occupancy was broadly flat. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=v2R6l>

PWC: Jubilee poses challenge for hoteliers

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) has said that London hotels will benefit from June's Diamond Jubilee celebrations but that not all would be able to gain from the events.

The company said the main challenge for hotel operators will be to fill rooms, while restaurants and bars are expected to benefit most from an anticipated influx of visitors.

More than 1,000 boats will participate in a flotilla down the River Thames on 3 June for the Diamond Jubilee, marking The Queen's 60-year reign.

Compared with last year's Royal Wedding, PwC said it was primarily hotels along the route that benefited. If the effect is replicated for the flotilla, only around 10 hotels are situated by the river.



Hotels that could benefit most are those along the Thames flotilla route

PwC head of hospitality and leisure Liz Hall said: "It should be a good weekend for London hotels, but not the golden prize many expect." Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=B9fz>

Irish sector to retain lower VAT

Ireland's tourism, hospitality and leisure industry has been handed a boost after it was announced that the temporary 9 per cent VAT rate introduced in July 2011 will remain throughout 2013.

The reduced rate was implemented by the government in an attempt to increase inbound tourism and create jobs, and applies to products such as hotel accommodation and restaurant meals.

Tourism minister Leo Varadkar has said the measure will be kept until the end of next year to benefit The Gathering Ireland 2013, a year-long programme of festivals.

Varadkar said: "The VAT reduction has enabled businesses to be more competitive and offer lower prices to their customers."

• Meanwhile, Taoiseach Enda Kenny and Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore have launched The



The special 9 per cent VAT rate only applies to tourism sector products

Gathering Ireland 2013, which is set to be the country's largest-ever tourism event.

A programme of festivals and events will take place in a bid to attract more visitors, with plans including a new music festival and international GAA events among others.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=p3S4a>

Figures reveal early year boost for English tourism

New figures published by VisitEngland have reported a 5 per cent year-on-year increase in the number of domestic overnight trips taken in England during January 2012.

According to the latest research, there were 5.4 million domestic trips taken across the

country. Spend grew by 16 per cent to £87mm when compared with January 2011.

However, VisitEngland said January's mild weather could have boosted the figures, with travel in January 2011 disrupted by snow.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n3jjs>

New study explores Dark Sky Park impact

A new report compiled by Ekos on behalf of Forestry Commission Scotland has examined the tourism impact of the UK's first International Dark Sky Park in Galloway.

In late 2009, Galloway Forest Park secured Dark Sky Park status from the International Dark Sky Association for being a prime location for stargazing.

The report includes interviews with local tourism firms, the majority (77 per cent) of which have seen an impact on the number of bed nights since the designation.

Forestry Commission Scotland invested £31,000 in the Dark Sky Park, including a one-off £10,000 cost. Additional visitor spend generated has totalled more than £40,000.



Galloway Forest Park was given Dark Sky Park designation in late 2009

The report concluded: "The Dark Sky Park offers a unique selling point for the region, particularly in the quieter period of the year."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=c2V9f>



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Scottish National Portrait Gallery director appointed

National Galleries Scotland director-general John Leighton has announced that Christopher Baker is the new director of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery.

Baker will take up his new position on 1 August and succeeds James Holloway, who announced his retirement in January.

Having previously served as curator at Christ Church Picture Gallery in Oxford between 1997 and 2003, Baker has held the post of deputy director at the Scottish National Gallery for nearly 10 years.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=14a7M> (.pdf)



Eureka!'s existing gallery will close in November

£200,000 grant for new Eureka! gallery scheme

Monaco-based Stavros Niarchos Foundation has awarded £200,000 towards the creation of a new £2.9m gallery at Eureka! The National Children's Museum in Halifax.

The latest award means the attraction has now raised £2.4m towards the Me and My Body project, which is primarily funded through a £1.45m Wellcome Trust grant.

It is expected work will commence in November, with the existing gallery to close for the duration of the scheme. However, the museum itself will remain open.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=b6n4C>

EDF Energy plans new Sizewell B visitor centre

UK energy supplier EDF Energy has submitted plans for the creation of a temporary new visitor centre at Sizewell B nuclear power station on the Suffolk coast.

Suffolk Coastal District Council will decide the fate of the Parsons Brinckerhoff-designed project, with the Sizewell B visitor centre due to open in late summer.

An existing mobile cabin building to the north of the site will house the visitor centre, which will operate for four years until a permanent attraction is developed.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=15E3M>

Art Fund Prize shortlist revealed

The Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery in Exeter and West Yorkshire's Hepworth Wakefield are among four sites shortlisted for the Art Fund Prize 2012.

The Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh and Guildford's Watts Gallery are the two other institutions in the running to claim this year's £100,000 prize, the winner of which will be revealed at the British Museum – last year's winner – on 19 June.

Earlier this year, a 10-strong longlist for the tenth annual Art Fund Prize was revealed and comprised four newly-opened museums – including the £35m Hepworth Wakefield, which was designed by David Chipperfield Architects.

Meanwhile, the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery; Watts Gallery; and the Scottish National Portrait Gallery all



The Hepworth Wakefield contemporary art attraction opened last year

underwent multi-million pound refurbishments that were completed last year.

Art Fund director Stephen Deuchar said: "These four offer the perfect snapshot of the best of our museums and galleries – dynamic, forward-thinking, inclusive and diverse."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=14e7E>

NMS and Bath museum share sector award

National Museums Scotland (NMS) and Bath's Holburne Museum have been declared joint winners of the 2012 Museums and Heritage award for Permanent Exhibition.

Both attractions underwent large-scale redevelopments last year, with NMS investing £46.4m in the transformation of the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh.

Other winners at this year's awards – held at London's 8 Northumberland estate space – included The Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust (Classic Award); and Historic Royal Palaces for its All the King's Fools exhibition at Hampton Court Palace (Educational Initiative).

The Once Upon a Time exhibition at Potteries Museum and Art Gallery in Stoke



NMS invested £46.4m in overhauling the National Museum of Scotland

won the award for best project on a limited budget, while London's Natural History Museum was handed the prize for best temporary exhibition for its Sexual Nature exhibit.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=noj2m>

MGS members support governance changes

Museums Galleries Scotland's (MGS) transition to a National Development Body (NDB) has moved a step closer after governance changes were backed by its members.

The majority (82 per cent) of the organisation's members voted in favour of the shake-up,

which is a "key milestone" in the process to becoming the NDB for the Scottish sector.

Alterations to the constitution and governance were required to meet recommendations set out in a Museums Think Tank report.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=s3r8Y>



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Irish government initiative to boost arts philanthropy

Irish arts minister Jimmy Deenihan has launched a new initiative to increase philanthropic sponsorship and endowment funding of the country's arts sector.

The Philanthropy Leverage Initiative has been established with €230,000 (£184,000) and will be managed by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

It is hoped the scheme – operating on a pilot basis and to be reviewed at the end of the year – will generate an additional €805,000 (£643,000) for the sector.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=X57Y>



The new centre was constructed at Tilbury Docks

New £3m Cultural Centre added to Southend Pier

A new £3m Cultural Centre – designed by White Arkitekter and London-based architects Sprunt – has been lifted into position at Southend-on-Sea's historic pier.

The 170 tonne facility was constructed off-site at Tilbury Docks and has been added to the pier in a "big lift" operation. Both phases were overseen by Kier.

It is the first structure to be added to the pier head since 2000 and will house a 40sq m (431sq ft) artists' studio and a performance space seating 185 people.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=B8c3B>

ACNI launches new Intercultural Arts Strategy

Arts Council of Northern Ireland (ACNI) has launched its first-ever *Intercultural Arts Strategy* in a bid to recognise the province's increasing cultural diversity.

The strategy urges the promotion of "cultural pluralism" and has six strategic themes, each delivering on the Northern Ireland Assembly's Programme for Government.

A new funding programme will also be launched by ACNI this autumn, which is designed to strengthen ethnic minority arts infrastructure across Northern Ireland.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=HoR2P>

Catalyst Arts recipients named

Arts Council England (ACE) has announced that 173 applicants have been successful in bids to the £30m Catalyst Arts funding programme.

The initiative is designed to help arts organisations become more sustainable and innovative in order to increase their fundraising potential and attract new investment.

Awards are designed to help groups attract money both in the short and long term, which will enable investment in further artistic work.

It is part of ACE's efforts to create a more resilient arts sector, which is among the key aims of its *Achieving great art for everyone* strategy announced in late 2010.

ACE chief executive Alan Davey said: "It's marvellous to see how arts organisations have responded to this opportunity to maximise their fundraising potential."



Catalyst Arts is designed to enhance the resilience of arts organisations

"It's vital that the arts continue to be publicly funded but, with the tough economic climate prevailing, it's also essential to strengthen all the various sources of income that help keep the arts in this country ambitious and excellent."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=18id8>

Red Rose Chain awarded £1m towards new theatre

Ipswich-based Red Rose Chain has secured nearly £1m of Heritage Lottery Fund support towards a new theatre and heritage centre.

The Gippeswyk Hall plans – designed by Nicholas Jacobs and Charles Curry Hyde – will see a 1960s annexe to the rear of the building

replaced with a new sustainable centre, with the current facility no longer fit for purpose.

A purpose-built space for community drama workshops; heritage events; and performances will be at the heart of the new centre.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=d9E7O>

New home for The Photographers' Gallery

The Photographers' Gallery (TPG) has unveiled its new home on Ramillies Street in central London, following the completion of a major £8.9m redevelopment project.

Ireland-based O'Donnell + Tuomey designed the building, which will feature three floors of gallery space and has increased the available exhibition space by 100 per cent.

TPG showcases work by established and high-profile artists, as well as emerging talent from around the world. Work started on its transformation in mid-2010.

Located between two of the exhibition floors is the Studio Floor, which will accommodate an extensive range of talks, events, workshops and courses, in addition to a camera obscura.



The Photographers' Gallery at 16-18 Ramillies Street in central London

Arts Council England contributed £3.6m, while £2.5m came from trusts, foundations, individuals and corporate organisations.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n9h1U>

£20m for Bath spa hotel project

Malaysia-based YTL Hotels has secured a £20m loan from the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) towards the construction of a new hotel and thermal spa in Bath.

RBS' Consumer Industries Team has provided the funding, which will support the acquisition and redevelopment of three buildings in the heart of the historic city.

The Gainsborough Hotel and Spa will be housed in a Grade II-listed building and will become one of the UK's first to use natural thermal water when it opens in 2014.

YTL Hotels took over the development of the new hotel and thermal spa from Bath Hotel and Spa Limited late last year.

Dato Mark Yeoh Seok Kah, executive director of YTL Hotels said: "[The project] will capitalise on one of the city's most unique



The new Gainsborough Hotel and Spa will be sited in the heart of Bath

attractions that have attracted tourists and visitors to the city for generations."

RBS head of consumer industries Neil Parry added: "The YTL team, together with Wessex Water, have a unique opportunity to create a distinctive hotel in a sought-after location." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=s2v3n>

Welsh spa reaps benefits of renovation

The Vale Resort near Cardiff, Wales, has announced a 25 per cent increase in spa bookings, following the completion of a £250,000 refurbishment of its facilities last year.

Last month, the number of bookings for spa breaks increased 20 per cent on the same period in 2010, while day treatment bookings grew 40 per cent in the first four months of this year.

New features were added to The Vale Spa as part of the scheme, including four relaxation zones to extend visits and to enhance the treatment experience.

The relaxation areas - the chill-out, water and slumber zones and the Chromotherapy lounge - were added to existing facilities, which include 19 treatment rooms.



One of the Vale Spa's new relaxation zones added during the renovation

A hydrotherapy bath and a floatation tank also form part of the Vale Spa, which is one of Wales' largest and uses products supplied by Sundari, Thalgo, Jessica Nails and Sienna-X. Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=M4N4n>

UK spas among World Luxury Spa Award winners

York's Cedar Court Grand Hotel and Spa and The Spa at Gleneagles by ESPA in Scotland have been named as the UK-based winners at the 2012 World Luxury Spa Awards.

Spa at The Grand, which offers a number of therapeutic facial and body care treatments,

held off The Dorchester Spa in London to be crowned the UK's Best Luxury Hotel Spa.

The Spa at Gleneagles by ESPA was named the UK's Best Luxury Resort Spa, ahead of Hampshire Spa at Champneys Forest Mere.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=o2Z4p>

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It is not clear if the pension fund will make a bid

New extension for Goals takeover bid deadline

Goals Soccer Centres has said that Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan now has until 11 June to either lodge a takeover bid or confirm its intent to acquire the business.

The Canadian pension fund had received a 14-day extension to an initial 30 April deadline – allowing more time for it to signal its interest in the football facility group, which expired at 5pm on 14 May.

However, an announcement has yet to be made and discussions are set to continue until the latest deadline of 11 June.

Details: [http://lei.sr?a=ZoSgG \(.pdf\)](http://lei.sr?a=ZoSgG (.pdf))

Contractor appointed for Telford ice rink overhaul

Telford and Wrekin Council has appointed construction group Morgan Sindall as the main contractor for the proposed refurbishment of the Shropshire town's ice rink.

The scheme is part of the wider £250m Southwater development and will include internal and external improvements, as well as an extension with soft play facilities.

Meanwhile, a new restaurant or bar will be built to the front of the adjacent bowling alley and Mecca Bingo site. The existing rink will be closed during the project.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=egm5u>

London Assembly member slams Olympic Park plans

London Assembly member John Biggs has criticised the "unacceptable" delay in opening up the entire Olympic Park to the public, following this summer's Games.

As reported in *Leisure Opportunities* (Issue 580), details of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park's relaunch – starting summer 2013 – have been announced by the London Legacy Development Corporation.

However, the phased programme means the South Plaza is not scheduled to open to the public until Easter 2014.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=H2X3f>

RBKC plans cultural placemaking scheme

Culture and creative industries are to be placed at the heart of all future development undertaken within west London's Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

The local authority is rolling out its Cultural Placemaking initiative as it aims to become the UK's first to integrate culture into economic development through planning.

Developed in partnership with consultancies Futurecity and BOP Consulting, the new proposals seek to spark debate and stimulate ideas from across development, planning, cultural and creative sectors to form new thinking and partnerships to create new places. Feedback on the proposals will influence future council policy in this area.



The west London borough is already home to major cultural attractions

The Royal Borough is already home to some of the world's most iconic visitor attractions, arts organisations and creative industries.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=n2G9s>

Olympic Stadium decision delayed

A decision over the future of London's Olympic Stadium has been delayed once again after the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC) extended the bid process by eight weeks.

It comes after issues arose following the issue of the Invitation to Tender (ITT) in January, which LLDC said may have deterred some interested parties from bidding to takeover the venue.

However, LLDC stressed that its aspiration of having the contracts for the conversion of the stadium signed by October had not changed despite the extension.

A 99-year lease is being made available for the Olympic Stadium, which is currently scheduled to reopen after the Games in 2014. West Ham United Football Club are among the interested parties.



The future of London's Olympic Stadium is still to be resolved by LLDC

LLDC chief executive Andrew Altman said: "We have been very encouraged by the quality of the bids so far. However, a number of issues have arisen during the process and we believe it is sensible to give everyone more time so they can be addressed."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=N5M3Y>

£75m for University of Birmingham campus scheme

New leisure facilities are to be provided as part of the University of Birmingham's campus development, which has received £75m from the European Investment Bank and will lead to the overhaul of its teaching, research and campus facilities.

University of Birmingham vice-chancellor Professor David Eastwood said: "We want to undertake significant and exciting projects to develop our estate that will benefit students, staff and the local area."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=R2f9l>

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Our Summer Schools are open for business



GARETH EDWARDS is education director of The Springboard Charity and Springboard UK

With the sun beginning to appear on a more frequent basis it means it's time to launch the Springboard Summer Schools programme in the UK.

The scheme has been operating for nearly 10 years, enabling young people to gain experience in the world of hospitality and leisure. This year, Springboard has added two new schools – one in Leeds and a Scottish Summer School in Edinburgh – to the existing schools in London, Cardiff, Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester.

Springboard is keen to hear from school and college leavers who are yet to decide on a chosen career path but want to 'try before they buy', with engagement in this recognised and tested internship programme that lasts for three weeks. Meanwhile, our Inside Track scheme for university leavers runs over a fortnight, searching for those with the potential to move into management.

As an organisation that carries out regular research we know that the most important factor in getting people switched on to the myriad of career opportunities available to them in this area is a really positive work experience – Springboard's Summer School guarantees that. The conversion rate is impressive with an average 80 per cent getting employment, offered an apprenticeship or returning to school, college or university to get further qualifications.

The Summer Schools build confidence and teach/enhance skills that young people may not even know they have. With much tougher immigration legislation and Europe in the midst of a fiscal crisis, shouldn't we be growing our own Team Hospitality GB – after all, it is an Olympic year.

Recruitment for these programmes are commencing in late May/early June, so if people haven't signed up yet, then they need to log on now to ensure they get the chance to be interviewed and hopefully take some important steps towards a rewarding career within the industry. This summer let Springboard shine a light on your talent.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=g3ZoX>

TRAINING

Conservation skills strategy welcomed

Arts Council England (ACE) has welcomed a new strategy that outlines a framework for conservation education and skills development in the UK over the next five years.

The National Conservation Education and Skills Strategy has been launched by the Institute of Conservation (ICON) to encourage successful learning and research.

A number of organisations – such as the National Trust, Historic Royal Palaces and English Heritage – have endorsed the strategy, which runs from 2012 until 2016.

It is hoped the document will ensure the ongoing effective care of cultural heritage and provides a strategic approach to the provision of education, training and research.



The new strategy is designed to help protect the UK's cultural heritage

ACE's Hedley Swain said: "This strategy will help ensure the protection and preservation of cultural objects for future generations."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=W7Z8m> (ICON)

Alex Khan appointed CEO of Lifetime

Alex Khan has been named the new chief executive officer of Lifetime, one of the UK's leading training providers.

With more than 12 years of experience in the training industry, Khan has joined Lifetime from his role as managing director of education and training at Babcock International Group.

Lifetime founder and chair Heather Frankham said: "Alex has an excellent understanding of apprenticeship funding and delivery within Lifetime's core sectors – fitness, hospitality and care – along with a wide range of other sectors including defence, energy, emergency services, automotive and education."

Commenting on his appointment, Khan added: "This is a time when vocational training and employability skills are so sought after by business, and when investment in young



Khan has joined Lifetime with more than 12 years of sector experience

people is key to the social and economic health of UK plc. With youth unemployment exceeding one million, a demand-driven approach to training and functional skills is a priority."

Lifetime is one of the top 10 apprenticeship providers, training 15,000 learners a year.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Y2W3f>

Premier Training to open Northumbria University venue

Premier Training International (PTI) is to launch its latest training venue at Northumbria University's Sport Central complex in Newcastle-upon-Tyne in June.

The £30m centre was completed in 2010 and officially opened last summer, with its facilities

including a 12m climbing wall, a 25m swimming pool and a fitness centre.

PTI will offer a range of its training courses at the venue, with the Tri-Planar Kettlebell course to be the first – starting on 11 June.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=y2f6F>

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Gladstone Health & Leisure, (part of Jonas Software a division of Constellation Software, Inc.) is the leading supplier of leisure management, point of sale and booking software, to the UK private and public sector leisure and fitness industry.

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Reporting to the Head of Sales and Business Development, we are looking for confident, experienced client facing Senior Sales Professionals who will personally drive growth into the leisure UK vertical market with new name acquisition and identify adjacent vertical markets where existing Gladstone software can be sold into and develop market opportunities.

Please submit CV and covering letter to Human Resources at careers@jonasgroup.co.uk by 8th June 2012

Browse our website for further information at www.gladstonemnm.com

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Fitness Systems are the appointed Freemotion Fitness and True Fitness USA distributors in the UK. We require industry experienced Area Sales Managers require Area Sales Managers for the South, Midlands and the North of England.

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You will need to be comfortable generating your own leads whilst having an impressive range of sales skills including conducting negotiations, and presentations.

Hard working and highly target driven is a prerequisite, if this all sounds like you! we will offer an excellent basic salary plus benefits and a bonus scheme where you will be expected to earn £40,000 plus in your 1st year.

Please send your CV along with a current photo direct to Ian Thorpe: ian@fitnesssystems.co.uk

Please note only candidates who strictly meet all criteria will be contacted for this role.

www.fitnesssystems.co.uk | www.truefitness.com | www.freemotionfitness.com



LIFEGUARDS (LEISURE ASSISTANTS)

LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY (TRAINING AVAILABLE)
£5.45 - £7.19 AN HOUR (AGE RELATED RATES)

We are currently recruiting for casual lifeguards to join the teams at all of our centres within the London Borough of Hackney.

GLL require all lifeguards to hold the National Pool Lifeguard Qualification (NPLQ). However if you do not currently hold this and you are a strong swimmer looking for summer or ongoing part time work, this could be the opportunity for you. If successful at interview we will support you to complete the qualification.

KEY ASPECTS OF THE ROLE WILL INCLUDE:

- Maintaining a safe pool environment through excellent lifeguarding practices
- Delivering excellent customer service.
- Carrying out regular cleaning and maintenance regimes
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THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL HAVE:

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As an Employer of choice for the leisure sector we employ over 4,500 people in a variety of leisure jobs. We are an equal opportunities employer and applications are encouraged from all sections of the community.

If you feel your experience matches this exciting role please go to www.glljobs.org and complete an application form. If you have any questions or require further information please contact the recruitment team on 020 8317 5000 extension 4020



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For more details on the following jobs
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Female Personal Trainer / Health Co-ordinator
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General Managers, *The Gym Group, Plymouth, London West Hampstead and London Stockwell, UK*
FeelGood Supervisor and Assistants, *Leisure in Hyndburn, Accrington, UK*
Lifeguard (Training Offered), *G.L.L. London Borough of Hackney, UK*
Strategy and Partnerships Mgr (Sport & Physical), *Camden Council, London, UK*
Deputy Leisure Club Manager, *Brampton Manor Health Club, Chesterfield, UK*
Course Tutor and Assessor x 2, *Sportswise, West Midlands and London, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited, Various locations, UK*
Group Operations Director Fitness Industry Association (FIA), *London, United Kingdom, UK*
Personal Trainer, *energie group, Redditch, UK*
Sales & Marketing Consultant/ Manager, *energie group, Beckenham London, UK*
Sales advisor and fitness instructor, *energie group, Finchley, London, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Energie Group, Rotherham / South Yorkshire, UK*
Membership sales consultant, *Energie Group, Epsom, UK*
Divisional Facilities Manager, *Fusion, London, UK*
Membership Sales Managers, *Fusion, London, UK*
Sports Centre Manager, *Myerscough College, Preston, UK*
National Manager Scotland, *Skills Active Group, Home working, Scotland, UK*
Part-time Qualified Beauty therapists, *The Glassworks Health Club, Cambridge, UK*
Personal Trainers + Sports/Deep Tissue Massage Th, *The Glassworks Health Club, Cambridge, UK*
Leisure Club Attendant / Fitness instructor, *Crowne Plaza, London, UK*
Outreach Coordinator, *Valley Leisure Ltd, Andover / Romsey / Other sites as necessary, UK*
Part-time Lifeguards, *Everyone Active, Pitsea, UK*
Part-time Lifeguard, *Everyone Active, Wickford, UK*
Team Leader, *Everyone Active, Hertford, UK*
Part Time Membership Consultant, *Everyone Active, Hertford, UK*
Personal Trainers, *The Gym Group, London Wood Green, UK*
Football Head Coach (School and Community Club), *Greenhouse, London, UK*
General Manager, *G.L.L. North London, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Energie Group, Hill Town, Dundee, UK*
Sports Officer, *G.L.L. Mile End, London Borough of Tower Hamlets, UK*
Visitor Services Manager, *York Minster, York, UK*
Product Development Manager, *YMCAfit, Central London, United Kingdom, UK*
Fitness Course: Tutor (part-time position 0.5 FTE, *YMCAfit, Leicester and Birmingham area, UK*
Kettlebell Instructor Award, *Creating Chaos, Various, UK*
General Manager, *Stars Gym, Battersea, London, UK*
Major Donor and Corporate Fundraiser, *Lancashire County Cricket Club, Manchester, UK*
Duty Manager, *Ealing Squash & Fitness Club, London, UK*
Children's Activity Manager, *The Hawthorns School, Surrey, UK*
Communications Coordinator, *Valley Leisure Ltd, Andover, UK*
Swimming Teacher, *Everyone Active, Shipston / Stratford Upon Avon / Warwickshire, UK*
Part Time Membership Consultant, *Everyone Active, Shipston / Stratford Upon Avon / Warwickshire, UK*
Regional Sales Manager, *Gladstone Health & Leisure, Wallingford, UK*
Purchasing Manager, *HB Leisure, North Wales, UK*
Sports Centre Duty Manager (Full-time), *Canterbury Christ Church University, Canterbury, UK*
Recreation Assistant - lifeguard, *G.L.L. Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, UK*
Duty Manager, *Various locations, G.L.L. London, UK*
Health and Fitness Supervisor, *G.L.L. Harrow, UK*
Health and Fitness Assistant Manager, *G.L.L. Mile End, UK*
Business Development Manager-Sports Facilities, *University of Worcester, Worcester, UK*
Apprentice Personal Trainer wanted St Johns Wood, *energie group, St Johns Wood, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited, Wolverhampton, UK*

University Tennis Coordinator, *University of East London, London, UK*
General Managers *The Gym Group, Plymouth, London West Hampstead and London Stockwell, UK*
Personal Trainer, *energie group, Milton Keynes, UK*
General Manager, *G.L.L. Greenwich, UK*
Spa Manager, *The Bannatyne Spa, Hastings, UK*
Sport Participation Manager, *University of York Students' Union, York, UK*
Spa Manager, *The Bannatyne Spa, Inverness, UK*
Football Coaches, *The Sports Factory, New Jersey, United States*
Recreation Assistant, *Everyone Active, Spelthorne Leisure Centre, UK*
Leisure Assistant (Lifeguard), *G.L.L. East London*
Trampoline and Gymnastics Coaches, *Everyone Active, Fareham, UK*
General Manager, *G.L.L. Westminster, UK*
Swimming Teachers, *Everyone Active, Gainsborough, UK*
Sport Development Officer, *Everyone Active, Bristol, UK*
Fit4Less crew member, *Energie Group, Epsom, UK*
Personal Trainer, *energie group, St Johns Wood, UK*
Fitness Instructor Full/Part Time, *energie group, Beckenham, UK*
Regional Development Managers, *ICON TRAINING, Various, UK*
Sales and Service Manager, *The Gym Way, London, UK*
Sport Advisor - Cerebral Palsy Sport, *CP Sport England & Wales, Nottingham (Head Office), UK*
Dual Role - Fitness Instructor / Sales Promoter, *energie group, Guildford, UK*
Duty Manager, *Leigh Sports Village, Wigan, UK*
Senior Personal Trainer / Lifestyle Coach, *Profile Health & Fitness, London, UK*
Fitness Manager, *LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia*
Ballet Teacher, *LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia*
Female Sports and Fitness professionals
Salary - Company: *LeisureForce, Arabia, Saudi Arabia*
Personal Trainers and Classes x4, *LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia*
Health Club Receptionist, *Jubilee Hall Trust, Covent Garden, London, UK*
Energy Club National Volunteer Manager, *Energy Club, Milton Keynes, UK*
Energy Club Regional Volunteer Co-ordinators, *Energy Club, Nationwide, UK*
Pool Water Engineer, *Edinburgh Leisure, Edinburgh, UK*
Qualifications and Awards Project Officer, *Sports Leaders UK, Milton Keynes Office Based, UK*
Spa Manager, *The Bannatyne Spa, Tamworth, UK*
Leisure Assistant, *G.L.L. West London, UK*
Swimming Instructor, *Everyone Active, Spelthorne Leisure Centre, UK*
Duty Manager, *Everyone Active, Spelthorne Leisure Centre, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Energie Group, Various locations, UK*
Personal Trainer and Group Exercise Instructor, *Heights Holdings - nuyi ladies only gym, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia*
Operations Manager - Fitness, *Heights Holdings - nuyi ladies only gym, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia*
Service Manager - Recreation and Culture, *Sefton Council, Merseyside, UK*
Service Manager - Wellbeing, *Sefton Council, Merseyside, UK*
Sport Assistant, *The Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, UK*
Holistic Therapist (Full time), *Ushvini, London, UK*
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Spa Therapist, *Softel London St James, London, UK*
Spa Butler-Receptionist, *Softel London St James, London, UK*
Wellness Director, *Kamlaya Koh Samui, Thailand*
Leisure Assistant, *G.L.L. South London, UK*
Assistant General Manager, *The Gym Group, Edinburgh, UK*
Recruitment Advertising Sales, *The Leisure Media Company Ltd, Hitchin, UK*
Swimming Teacher, *Everyone Active, Cambridge, UK*
Operations Assistant (Lifeguard), *Everyone Active, Gainsborough, UK*
Duty Manager, *Everyone Active, Gainsborough, UK*
Swimming Teacher, *Everyone Active, Southam, Warwickshire, UK*
Recreation Assistant, *Everyone Active, Sunbury Leisure Centre, UK*
General Manager, *The Gym Group, Various locations, UK*
Personal Trainers, *The Gym Group, Ashford Kent, UK*

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SPORTS MANAGER

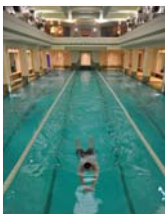
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Salary: £25,000 - £28,000
Reference application form

The Lansdowne Club is a private members club in the heart of Mayfair with a focus on sports, social, business and residential, with a membership of over 8,000.

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The Role

- Delivering excellent member services throughout the sports area
- Ensuring fully-trained, competent and professional staff are in place
- To be fully conversant with all relevant Health & Safety legislation
- Monitoring relevant Key Performance Indicators against targets
- To be part of the Club management team



The Candidate

- The successful incumbent must have a proven and successful track record in a management/supervisory role within a leisure-related industry.
- A leisure-related degree or professional equivalent is required.
- Must be passionate about customer service.
- A team player who will develop and lead the team.



The Lansdowne Club

Applications may be submitted to Mark Anderson, Club Secretary, on Secretary@LansdowneClub.com www.lansdowneclub.com

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The two key areas of responsibility will be to ensure that our members receive a high standard of customer service and as manager, take responsibility for providing an efficient and effective operation. Secondly, to lead and motivate our small sales team to generate additional members.

To be our ideal candidate you will have previous relevant experience of working with customers on the front line, sales knowledge, and have exceptional communication and leadership skills with the ability to organise individuals and teams. The position is rota based and involves some hours of working on the front desk and working a range of our opening hours to include occasional evenings and weekends.

Application forms are available on our website www.harlowleisurezone.co.uk or by telephoning 01279 621512 or email lborhwick@harlowleisurezone.co.uk for an application form and job description.

Closing date for all applications 21st June 2012.

Interviews will be taking place week commencing: 2nd July 2012

Harlow and District Sports Trust – Harlow Leisurezone, Second Avenue, Harlow, Essex CM20 3DT



www.harlowleisurezone.co.uk

Groupon unveils new Scheduler

Daily deals website Groupon has unveiled its new Scheduler online booking system to provide UK firms with the chance to manage their schedules and accept bookings directly.

Designed for service providers such as spa and wellness operators, the new free service is based on technology from OpenCal – a startup founded in 2009 in Vancouver, Canada and acquired by Groupon in September last year.

Once customers purchase a Groupon voucher for services, they can schedule or cancel appointments for the services. Customers immediately receive an email confirmation upon completion of each booking, as well as automated email reminders 24 hours before any scheduled appointments.



Scheduler is the "first in a suite of innovations" to be rolled out in 2012

Groupon UK's Roy Blanga said: "Scheduler is the first in a suite of innovations which we plan to roll-out across selected markets."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=s81s>

Tourism minister to attend BISL report launch

Tourism minister John Penrose has been confirmed as the guest of honour at the parliamentary and media launch of Business in Sport and Leisure's (BISL) new industry report.

The BISL Oliver Wyman Leisure Industry Report is to be unveiled at Riley's Sports Bar in

Victoria, London, on 12 June. It has been produced by consulting firm Oliver Wyman.

It will feature a comprehensive socio, political and economic analysis of the domestic sector, and its contribution to the economy.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=M6Voh>

Rank Group to acquire Gala Casinos

Rank Group has agreed a deal to buy 23 Gala Casinos from Gala Coral Group in a move that will create the UK's largest casino operator.

The deal – worth a total cash consideration of £205m – also includes three non-operating licences, although Gala Coral Group's casinos in Dundee and Gibraltar are not included.

Rank will expand its casino estate to 58 in the UK, with the rebranding of Gala Casinos to take its Grosvenor brand into 11 new cities. The G Casino format will roll out at nine sites.

The purchase and its related costs and expenses will be financed through a new three-year banking facility totalling £175m, together with the group's existing facilities.

Rank chair and chief executive officer Ian Burke said: "This acquisition will deliver a step change in Rank's earnings by capitalising on our proven record of operational excellence in



Rank Group is planning to rebrand the Gala Casinos

the UK sector and will be earnings enhancing in the first full year of ownership."

The deal is to be completed during Q3 2012, subject to approval of Rank shareholders and clearance from UK merger authorities.

Details: [http://lei.sr?a=agWoj \(.pdf\)](http://lei.sr?a=agWoj (.pdf))

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