

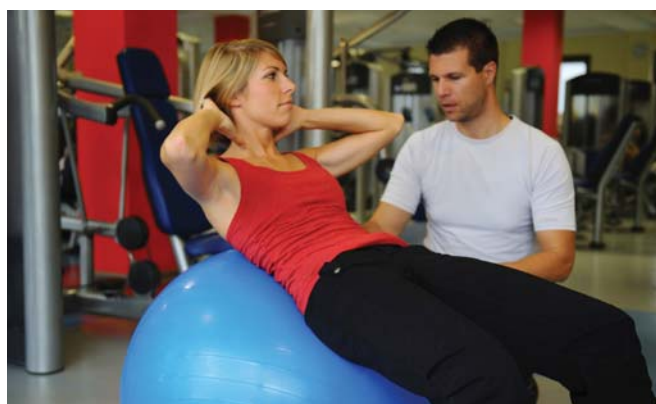
Latest *Working in Fitness* survey results announced

By **Pete Hayman**

SkillsActive, the sector skills council for active learning and leisure, and the Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs) have unveiled the results of the sixth *Working in Fitness* survey.

Almost 1,500 workers from across the health and fitness sector took part in the 2009 study, which is designed to monitor salary trends, training and job satisfaction.

According to the 2009 survey, more than half of the public sector workers who replied to the survey said they had received a pay rise during the course of the year, although less than a quarter of



Almost 1,500 fitness professionals participated in the 2009 study

private sector workers saw an increase in salary.

In terms of pay, the new report has also found that males earn 16 per cent more on average than their female

counterparts, which jumps to 33 per cent for freelance and self-employed workers.

The average number of training days for employees throughout the fitness sector

continues to remain high at six days per year, although more than half said they now pay for their own training.

More than a quarter of fitness workers hold an honours degree, while 11 per cent have obtained a masters or other postgraduate qualifications. A total of 59 per cent have acquired a Level 3 Fitness qualification, while more than a quarter are qualified to Level 2.

Stephen Studd, chief executive of SkillsActive, said: "Given the economic environment, it would be unreasonable to expect the fitness market to remain unaffected. However, it is reassuring to see continued investment in training."

Government threatens FA with £25m funding cut

Sports minister unhappy with failure to implement Lord Burns' recommendations

By **Pete Hayman**

Sports minister Gerry Sutcliffe has warned the Football Association (FA) that it could face a significant funding cut if it failed to implement reforms put forward in 2005.

The recommendations, which were outlined four years ago by Lord Burns' structural review of the national governing body, included the appointment of two non-executive, independent directors as part of efforts to break-up the 'old guard' of the FA Council.



Sutcliffe has called on the FA to "put its house in order"

However, Sutcliffe told the *Guardian* newspaper that the FA has failed to act fast enough to implement the changes and

could now face a £25m cut in grassroots funding from Sport England and the withdrawal of political support.

Sutcliffe said: "Funding is one lever we've got. It would be a last resort. But there has to be, and there already is, a recognition that the status quo is not good enough."

"[The FA must] use this opportunity – where good progress has been made – to put its house in order. If that doesn't happen the influence of the FA will diminish and football as a sport will suffer."

Reopening for Glasgow centre

Glasgow Museums Resource Centre (GMRC) has reopened to the public, following the completion of a multi-million pound refurbishment scheme at the venue.

The unveiling of the new-look centre in Nitshill will enable members of the public to view the majority of the city's extensive museum collection, with approximately one million objects and pieces of artwork housed at the GMRC.

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Mayor urges continued arts spending

Concerns raised over London's future as a "cultural powerhouse" if funding is cut

By Pete Hayman

London mayor Boris Johnson has called for public spending on arts and culture to be maintained to help the industry through the recession.

In a speech to delegates from the arts, business and public sectors at the Victoria and Albert Museum, Johnson said the range of museums, galleries, theatres and concert halls had established the city as a "cultural powerhouse".

According to Arts and Business, increased visitor numbers to cultural attractions had coincided with a 7 per cent fall in business investment.

Concerns have been raised that funding for the arts and culture sector may not recover until 2011, which could have a damaging effect on tourism.



Old Vic artistic director Kevin Spacey (left) with the mayor (right)

However, a spokesperson for the mayor said there were no plans for mandatory admission fees at London's museums and galleries. He added that the mayor "believes there are lessons to be learned from the US about increasing philanthropic giving" after a recent visit to the Met in New York.

Johnson said: "Arts and culture are not a luxury, they are part of this city's DNA, its USP. It is why people want to live and work here and seven out of ten tourists say it is a reason for their visit.

At a time of recession it is more important than ever to invest in the arts."

Scottish Government announces spending plans

By Pete Hayman

The Scottish Government has revealed plans to maintain public spending on the arts, sport and the natural environment, despite an overall cut in expenditure for 2010-11.

Finance minister John Swinney has announced details of the draft budget, which aims to protect frontline services despite having to contend with the first real terms cut in spending since devolution.

Efforts to promote physical activity and to increase participation in sport will be sustained through a £1m increase in investment from £53.9m to £54.9m, while funding will be made available to support arts and culture.

Culture minister Michael Russell revealed that spending



Swinney plans to maintain spending on certain sectors

levels will be sustained in order to help establish Creative Scotland, the body which will represent the cultural industries.

The government has also committed itself to increasing the creation of woodland areas with an additional £15m to be invested each year, while a further £5m will be spent on

providing forest recreation facilities in the Scottish Borders.

However, Swinney said that administration costs have been cut back and departments have been asked to reduce spending on services not considered a priority for 2010-11.

Swinney said: "We have had to face difficult choices about where to reduce planned spending next year. We will meet this challenge while continuing to work with our partners to achieve our priorities and protect programmes that matter most.

"Crucially, that will mean protecting spending on frontline public services. It will mean ongoing investment in our economic recovery plan, including support for skills development and for hard pressed businesses."

Council approves Scarborough Spa plans

Town's Grade II-listed complex set to be transformed into new entertainment venue

By **Pete Hayman**

Scarborough Borough Council (SBC) has approved plans for a multi-million pound revamp of the town's spa complex in a bid to transform the site into a new entertainment venue.

The Grade II-listed building – first opened during the 19th century – will undergo a major upgrade of its interior facilities, including the grand hall, the sun court, and the buffet bar.

Plans for the grand hall include the creation of additional backstage areas, new lift pits, a refurbished dance floor and an extended stage, while the foyer will be renovated and the buffet bar will benefit from a raised floor.

New glass pavilions will be constructed on the first floor terrace area and a roof awning



The historic spa complex will now undergo a major refurbishment

provided for the sun court also forms part of the proposals.

A report submitted to SBC planners said: "The renovation of the spa will enable a wider programme of events to be staged, appealing to a more varied audience and enhancing the business activity by

capturing a greater proportion of the conference market.

"Redeveloping the spa will strengthen the wider South Bay cultural quarter, while also continuing the theme of preserving and showcasing the grandeur of Scarborough's architectural heritage."

Architects selected for Liverpool canal scheme

By **Pete Hayman**

Duggan Morris Architects have been selected to design a new £250,000 pavilion, which is set to be built alongside the Leeds and Liverpool Canal in South Sefton, Liverpool.

The London-based practice's design for the building, which was chosen following an international contest, has been inspired by the profile of a canoeist in motion, and features a number of jetties stretching out into the canal.

Arts Council England, North West, NewHeartlands – one of



The design of the pavilion is based on a canoeist in motion

nine Housing Market Renewal (HMR) schemes – and the Liverpool Biennial art commissioning agency are behind the proposals for the new pavilion,

which will form part of the Arts for Places scheme. The initiative will also involve local authorities and housing associations.

Arts for Places will result in the creation of three public art commissions through the HMR programme, which aims to tackle housing market collapse and transform neighbourhoods in Sefton, Liverpool and Wirral.

Joe Morris, director at Duggan Morris Architects, said: "We believe our design will complement the regeneration already taking place in the area and will enhance the work already completed."

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IN BRIEF

Leatherhead facility revamp advances

► Phase one of the refurbishment of Leatherhead Leisure Centre is scheduled to be completed towards the end of October. The first phase of the 20-month refurbishment, designed by A+G Architects, includes a new frontage, a new 438.6sq m (4,721sq ft) fitness suite and a purpose-built 343.4sq m (3,696sq ft) soft play area on the first floor. The new gym will incorporate 90 cv stations, a wide range of resistance machines and a large free weights area. Other additions to the centre's facilities will include a large aerobics studio with views over the new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and sports field. A new crèche facility will also be opened as part of the first phase while two new glass-backed squash courts, complete with a tiered seating viewing area, will open for use towards the end of October. Work on phase two – which will include the creation of new changing rooms for the gym as well as a sauna, steam room and beauty therapy rooms – will begin later this year and is due for completion in May 2010.

Government funding for Bridgwater sites

► Chilton Trinity and East Bridgwater leisure centres are set to share a £93,000 grant provided by the government's Transformation Fund. The two sites, which are operated on behalf of Somerset County Council by management trust Somerset Leisure, will use the funding to attract more adults with learning difficulties to take part in leisure. Facilities at the centre include two fitness suites, squash court, a floodlit artificial turf pitch and childrens' indoor activity play area.

Marnoch issues newspaper response

REPs registrar welcomes *Daily Mail* article raising issues over training regulation

By **Tom Walker**

The registrar at the Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs), Jean-Ann Marnoch, has written an open letter in response to a recent *Daily Mail* article which questioned the way personal trainers are regulated in the UK.

In an article on 26 August, the newspaper claimed there had been an increase in injuries relating to personal training sessions and that some injuries were down to "the personal trainer's lack of expertise".

The article also questioned the validity of training courses which lead to a personal trainer qualification in a matter of weeks. It also claimed that some medical experts have raised concerns that self-regulatory standards within the fitness industry are not high enough.



The *Daily Mail* article questioned the quality of personal training

In her response, Marnoch welcomed the article and said it raised "key issues" as well as illustrates just how important it is to ensure all personal trainers are members of REPs.

She added: "REPs was set up in 2002 to regulate people working in fitness and has strict entry guidelines developed in partnership with the industry – and every day turns away trainers and instructors who do not meet the standards."

Searle appointed as new FIA chief medical officer

By **Tom Walker**

The Fitness Industry Association (FIA) has appointed John Searle to the newly created post of chief medical officer (CMO).

Searle will spearhead efforts to engage the healthcare sector and has been tasked with raising awareness of the fitness sector's role in both prevention and remedial strategies.

A former consultant anaesthetist and director of intensive care at the Royal Devon and



Searle began work in his new post during LIW last week

Exeter Hospital, Searle became a REPs-accredited fitness trainer following his retirement.

Searle revealed his belief that exercise can be used to benefit healthcare stems from his own experience of using a personal trainer to help tackle the effects of acute rheumatoid arthritis.

Searle said: "I would like to see a personal trainer linked in with every general practice in the country; that's my personal vision. General practices have doctors, they have practice nurses, physiotherapists and counsellors – why not have a personal trainer?"

Leisure-net's membership services survey kicks off

Leisure-net Solutions will include an 'e-enquiry' element for the first time in its annual call-Focus survey.

The survey, which aims to benchmark how the fitness industry replies to telephone enquiries, will also chart how effectively the sector deals with email enquiries.

Mike Hill, managing director of Leisure-net, said the new aspect has been introduced to highlight the problems the industry has with responding efficiently to enquiries.

"The 2009 call-Focus survey will examine whether the industry has improved upon last year's disappointing scores," he said.

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IN BRIEF

Elsenham Golf submits revised application

► Elsenham Golf and Leisure has submitted a revised planning application for a new sports complex near Stansted Airport. Uttlesford District Council rejected the initial application for a multi-purpose sports centre in May as it failed to meet the environmental requirements of the local green belt. If the new application for a smaller facility on the site of the company's existing nine-hole golf club is approved, local residents will be able to access a new swimming pool, a health and fitness suite, a sports hall and squash courts, as well as a restaurant.

New athletics track planned for Wycombe

► Wycombe District Council has unveiled plans to build a new community athletics track and pavilion at the Sir William Ramsey School in Hazelmere, Buckinghamshire. The existing athletics track at Wycombe Sports Centre is set to be demolished to make way for a coachway and park and ride. The new track will offer eight-lane competition facilities, spectator seating for 100 people, a pavilion and floodlights. The plans are currently the subject of a public consultation and full planning permission will be applied for in the autumn.

St Mirren FC put up for sale

► St Mirren Football Club is seeking a new owner after several directors formed a consortium to sell a block of shares giving any prospective buyer a 52 per cent stake in the club. The group, which has put a total of 98,000 shares up for sale, includes current chair Stewart Gilmour, who intends to leave the Scottish Premier League club after 12 years at the helm.

Work starts on THFC training facility

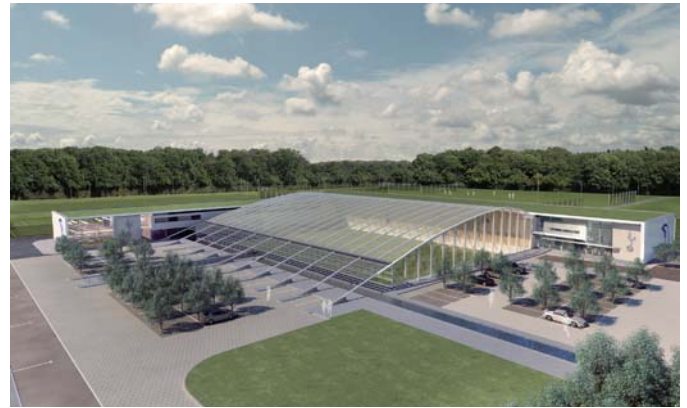
Construction commences on Spurs' multi-million pound project in North London

By **Pete Hayman**

Work has started on a new multi-million pound training centre in Enfield, North London, which will house Tottenham Hotspur Football Club's (THFC) first team, development and academy squads.

The 67-acre (2.4-hectare) Bulls Cross facility is set to feature a two-storey building with a basement, which has been designed by London-based KSS Group to incorporate a 70m x 50m (230ft x 164ft) indoor artificial pitch.

A learning centre for THFC's academy and educational space, a hydrotherapy/swimming pool, medical facilities, a fitness centre, changing rooms and a media



The new centre will boast a similar ETFE roof to the Eden Project

centre also form part of the new building, which will boast a transparent ETFE roof similar to Cornwall's Eden Project.

The centre will also feature 11 outdoor pitches - one artificial pitch and 10 natural grass pitches, a security building and

a groundsman's lodge..

It is hoped that the facility will enable THFC to help develop talent, as well as secure major economic benefits for the local area in addition to the club's £2.3m investment in community programmes.

New research hails impact of state school cricket

By **Pete Hayman**

A report from the Institute of Youth Sport at Loughborough University has revealed that cricket is helping to improve the social wellbeing of pupils at state schools across the UK.

The study, which was undertaken in order to examine the impact of the Cricket Foundation's 'Chance to shine' initiative, concluded that students benefited from increased fitness levels,



Cricket boosts social wellbeing

improved social skills and sportsmanlike behaviour, while the research also claimed that

the sport was seen to be helping to improve the behaviour of young people both on and off the field.

Cricket has helped to benefit areas of social deprivation, while gender barriers for girls are also being removed.

'Chance to shine', which aims to deliver cricket and its educational benefits to at least two million children by 2015, reached 350,000 young people at 3,000 state schools across Britain during 2009.

Work starts on Aberystwyth scheme

Construction work has started on a £1.3m scheme to extend the Carwyn James Building at Aberystwyth University, which houses the institution's sports and exercise studies department.

Eight new teaching and research laboratories will be created as part of the scheme, in addition to the ten existing facilities as part of the project, expected to be completed by summer 2010.

A new two-lane, 400m performance-standard athletics track will also be installed around the all-weather sports pitch in order to replace an existing single lane tarmac track, which is situated adjacent to the Aberystwyth University's sports centre.

Saints confirm stadium revamp plans

£6m scheme to increase capacity of Northampton venue from 13,500 to 17,000

By **Pete Hayman**

Northampton Saints Rugby Football Club (NSRFC) has confirmed plans for a £6m redevelopment of the Franklin's Gardens stadium as part of a deal with supermarket ASDA.

The club plans to increase the venue's capacity to 17,000 spectators after it admitted earlier this year that the last few years had seen the stadium operate at 98 per cent of its current 13,500 capacity.

Proposals include replacing the Sturtridge Pavilion with a new stand as part of the scheme, which will be funded through the sale of a long-term lease on the Edgar Mobbs Way car park (Car Park D) to ASDA.

Keith Barwell, chair of NSRFC, said: "We have sold out of



A new stand will replace the venue's existing Sturtridge Pavilion

tickets for our Heineken Cup match against Munster more than a month ahead of schedule and we have also seen season ticket sales increase for two straight years.

"Furthermore, European Rugby Cup (ERC) is now stipulating that knockout

matches have to be played in a stadium with a minimum capacity of 15,000, which is more than the current capacity.

"We don't want to find ourselves in the situation where we are facing the prospect of taking big games away from Northampton."

Plans for Eirias Park announced



The venue will become the home ground of Rygbi Gogledd Cymru

By **Helen Patenall**

Conwy County Borough Council (CCBC) has unveiled its plans for the redevelopment of the Eirias Park facility in Colwyn Bay, North Wales.

The new stadium, which is set to feature a rugby training pitch, a 2,000-seat grandstand and team changing areas, will become the home ground of Rygbi Gogledd Cymru on its completion in December 2010.

Facilities at Eirias Park will also include a weights room and additional car parking.

Bethan Jones, deputy chief executive at CCBC, said: "Creating a centre of sporting excellence at Parc Eirias is just one element in our vision.

"We believe these proposals, along with others outlined in the Bay Life Development Plan, can stimulate investment, support business stability and result in new employment."

IN BRIEF

Bristol South pool receives funding

► Bristol City Council has earmarked funding worth £200,000 to improve the facilities at the Grade II-listed Bristol South Pool. The funding is the first phase of a planned £7m redevelopment of the ageing pool, with the first phase set to include new changing facilities, internal repairs and general refurbishment works. Deep cleaning and redecoration will also be carried out, as well as improvements to disabled access. Work will get underway in December, with the pool set to close for three months.

Banchory leisure facilities approved

► Aberdeenshire Council has approved plans for a new leisure centre to be built at the Hill of Banchory. The complex will comprise a swimming pool, two sports halls, squash courts, a climbing wall, an aerobics studio, a health & fitness gym, changing rooms and a spa, as well as a café, a conference hall and a crèche. Built on land owned by developer North Banchory, the facility will be leased to the council for 25 years at £1 per year. It will be operated by a private investor with a council contribution towards the facilities and the running costs.

Buckinghamshire pool to be revamped

► Middleton Pool in Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, is undergoing a £250,000 redevelopment. Funded by Newport Pagnell Town Council and a grant from the government's free swimming initiative, the revamp will include the creation of new training and function rooms as well as the introduction of a number of energy-saving methods at the centre.

£7.6m boost for cycling network

The Welsh Assembly Government has announced a £7.6m funding boost towards the completion of a major new cycling and walking network in the South Wales valleys.

It will be used to create 100 miles (161km) of new routes as part of the Valleys Cycle Network, which will follow former tramways, towpaths and railway lines.

The new network will complement more than 250 miles (402km) of existing routes and will improve walking and cycling opportunities for residents of Merthyr Tydfil, Pontypridd, Llantrisant and Pontypool, while also linking up with routes in the valleys.

IN BRIEF

CSL relaunches as Active Nation

► Sports trust Community Leisure Services has rebranded and relaunched as Active Nation to transform itself into a campaigning organisation tackling inactivity. The trust said the move was prompted by Department of Health figures showing that one third of children and two thirds of adults are either overweight or obese – and with just 12 per cent of the population exercising regularly, that figure is expected to rise. A spokesperson for the trust said: "Through innovative sport and exercise programming, Active Nation hopes to educate local communities on the benefits of an active lifestyle, exciting and igniting the nation's enthusiasm for sport and exercise. Active Nation will be campaigning throughout England, inspiring and motivating; persuading the nation to be more active."

New BPL dolphin to promote swimming

► Barnsley Premier Leisure (BPL), the Yorkshire-based sports trust, has adopted a new mascot to help its swimming development team teach schoolchildren about the dangers of water and the benefits of being able to swim. The grey furry dolphin will accompany the team on visits to local schools as part of BPL's swimming for schools initiative. Edward Lim, the leisure trust's swimming development manager, said: "A recent survey revealed that just under half of all Key Stage Two pupils cannot swim before they start secondary school, which shows how important it is to educate the next generation about the importance of learning this vital skill." The trust is looking for a name for the dolphin and inviting local children to come up with suggestions.

Nintendo teams up with Fitness First

Video game to provide users with interactive training sessions and health advice

By **Tom Walker**

Nintendo has launched a new fitness video game on its Wii platform which has been created in collaboration with health club chain Fitness First.

The games company is hoping for the NewU Fitness First Personal Trainer to top the Christmas wish list this year on the back of the success of its WiiFit concept. According to Nintendo, advance orders from UK retailers have "exceeded all expectations".

Due for release in mid-September, the product offers goal-based training, with the option to work out with one of four personal trainers.

It is said that the product will be the first product of its kind to feature a video throughout,



The game has been heavily branded as a Fitness First product

which will provide users with interactive training sessions. The video game includes nutritional advice, which the designers have developed in conjunction with the people

behind the television programme, *You Are What You Eat*.

It is thought there are around 24 million gaming consoles in the UK, the same number as there are UK households.

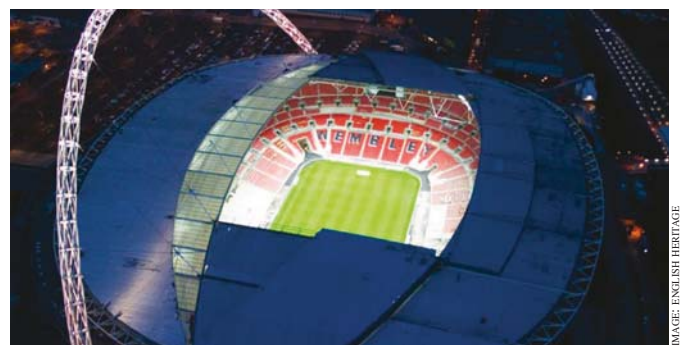
Lottery game to boost sports

More than 130 national sports governing bodies are set to benefit from a new live TV game being launched this autumn.

BingoLotto, which will show on Virgin 1, will donate 20 per cent of every Gamecard sold to good causes.

The Gamecards, costing £2, go on sale at Tesco across the UK stores in September and viewers will need them to take part in the interactive game. The main beneficiaries from the game will be the Central Council of Physical Recreation (CCPR) and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations, but a number of sports bodies will also receive support.

FA extends Carlsberg agreement



Carlsberg will remain as the official beer of Wembley until 2014

By **Pete Hayman**

Drinks company Carlsberg UK has reached an agreement with the Football Association (FA) to extend its sponsorship deal for a further four years.

The extension, which will run from August 2010, will see Carlsberg support efforts to recruit and retain referees at grassroots level in its role as the FA's official referees partner.

Carlsberg will also remain as the 'official beer' of the England national team, the FA Cup and Wembley Stadium until the end of July 2014.

Jonathan Hill, the FA's group commercial director, said: "It's great that we will be able to continue to bring Carlsberg's energy to our top assets and now the key area of recruiting and retaining referees, to the benefit of the amateur game."

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IN BRIEF

Green light for Biggin Hill Airport hotel

► Bromley Council has approved plans for a new hotel at Biggin Hill Airport in Kent. Designed by EPR Architects, the four-star hotel will have 76 rooms, a number of meeting rooms and a brasserie style restaurant. The hotel will be separated into two elements – an air-side public area and a quieter bedroom wing. Public areas will feature terraces with views across the airfield to the terminal building and the neighbouring 'green belt' land. Air crews staying at the hotel will have their own lounge, kitchen facilities and a health and fitness suite. Biggin Hill airport is mainly used by private and corporate jets.

Bespoke Hotel Group acquires Clumber Park

► The Bespoke Hotel Group has taken over the management of the Clumber Park Hotel and Spa near Worksop, Nottinghamshire. The 73-bedroom hotel includes a spa and recently underwent a £400,000 refurbishment. The hotel's spa includes six treatment rooms, a swimming pool and a spa pool and also has a health and fitness suite. The property is owned by Leeds-based Moorgarth Leisure.

Comptoir Libanais sites open in London

► Restaurateur Tony Kitous is to open two Comptoir Libanais-branded venues in London. The Lebanese-themed restaurants will launch later this year in Paddington and the O2 Centre (Finchley Road). The Paddington site will have 30 covers and a large takeaway delicatessen, while the 1,713 sq ft (159.1sq m) O2 site will boast 90 covers. The openings will double the number of Comptoir Libanais restaurants and follow sites in Westfield and Wigmore Street.

UK hotel operators "over the worst"

Rate of decline projected to slow heading into early 2010 according to PwC forecast

By **Pete Hayman**

Hotel operators across the UK are set to experience further deterioration in growth rates before Christmas 2009 but are now "over the worst", according to a new report by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC).

In its latest hotel forecast, PwC predicts a 12.1 per cent decrease in RevPAR for the year, but expects the rate of decline to slow heading into early 2010.

Leisure tourism has helped to offset a significant reduction in corporate travel during 2009, although PwC has warned that the business and conference markets remain critical to the industry's recovery.

PwC has also found that room rates are nearly £20 cheaper on average compared



'Staycations' have helped to reduce the strain on the hotel industry

with 2008, which has seen London slip from second to 22nd in the global list of most expensive destinations.

Robert Milburn, UK hospitality and leisure leader at PwC said: "Room rates have become the sacrificial lamb in the battle

for occupancy, and keeping rates low will continue to make it easier to attract last minute custom. It is a delicate balance and we are not out of the woods yet but, as the economy starts to stabilise, the path has at least become clearer."

Four Seasons London revamp

The Four Seasons Hotel in Park Lane, London, has closed to undergo a major refurbishment scheme.

ReardonSmith is leading the design team responsible for the revamp, which will see a two-storey extension of the north west elevation in order to provide a new executive suite. On the ground floor, a new porte cochere will be built and a new staircase introduced.

The building's double height atrium is to be restored and will include a Tea Lounge area with gallery space.

A rooftop extension to the hotel will house a new spa and fitness suite, with the spa being designed by Eric Parry Associates.

£100m Flaxby golf hotel planned



The Skelwith Group is behind plans for the North Yorkshire venue

By **Pete Hayman**

Plans for a new £100m five-star hotel at the Flaxby Park Golf and Country Club near Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, have been unveiled by York-based developer, The Skelwith Group.

The proposals for the club, which first opened in 2004 and is hoping to submit a bid to host the Ryder Cup tournament in 2022, include a 303-bed-

room property, four helipads, three restaurants, a spa complex, bars, boutiques and conference facilities.

The club already has an 18-hole, championship-standard golf course but the plans include a 27-hole course with Professional Golfers Association approved tour facilities and a 24-hour driving range.

Nature trails throughout the estate will also be created as part of the development.

Premier Inn signs £125m airport deal

Four new hotels to open at three major London airports as part of joint venture

By **Pete Hayman**

Budget chain Premier Inn has unveiled plans for the development of four new hotels at three London airports as part of a £125m joint venture with Arora Family Trust.

The four sites will add 1,570 bedrooms to the Whitbread-owned company's portfolio as part of a 'developer turn-key' deal with the trust, backed by hotelier Surinder Arora.

Two of the hotels will be situated at Heathrow Airport, with 5,400-room and 4,240-room sites set for Terminals 5 and 4 respectively. Meanwhile, a 300-room hotel will be built at Stansted and a 630-room hotel is set to become the first terminal-based budget hotel at Gatwick's North Terminal.



There will be two new Premier Inns at Heathrow Airport

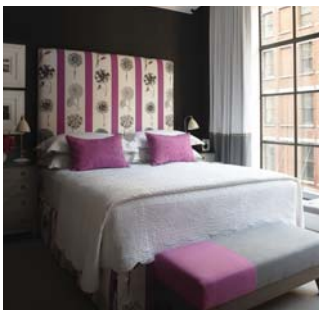
Premier Inn already operates hotels at 14 airports across the UK and Ireland, and expects the four new properties to be opened on a phased basis from autumn 2011 onwards.

Mark Anderson, commercial and property director at Whitbread, said: "As air travel returns to long-term growth, we see opportunities to build

our presence at airports. The success of the budget airlines shows there is an increasing demand for low-cost travel, and that includes accommodation."

Surinder Arora added: "We are delighted to have reached this landmark agreement with Premier Inn, which very much complements our existing Arora Hotels portfolio."

Firmdale reveals plans for £60m London hotel



Firmdale is planning to create a new 100-room flagship hotel

By **Luke Tuchscherer**

A new £60m luxury hotel is to be built on a former bomb site in London as part of an agreement that will also include a 50,000sq ft (4,645sq ft) residential development.

Ham Yard – near Shaftesbury Avenue – was bombed during World War II and has remained derelict since. It was bought at auction for £30m by Tim and Kit Kemp, the husband and wife team who are behind Firmdale hotel group.

Firmdale already has six London hotels in its portfolio, including properties in Covent Garden and Knightsbridge, but the Kemps are aiming to make the new 100-room hotel its flagship site.

OFT against Scottish plans for minimum alcohol price

Speaking at the Regulatory Policy Institute, Oxford, Office of Fair Trading chief executive John Fingleton said that "fixing a minimum price for a product to try to curb consumption has a number of undesirable effects."

Ahead of plans by the Scottish government to introduce a minimum price for a unit of alcohol this autumn, Fingleton said: "The scheme would reduce the incentives of

companies to compete, innovate and cut costs. There is also a political risk that weakening competition can be seen as an attractive short-term option where the alternatives might be to introduce a tax or implement more targeted regulation."

Elsewhere, licensee body Justice for Licensees is to urge a government rethink about the reintroduction of the 17.5 per cent VAT rate.



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IN BRIEF

First meeting for Scottish think tank

► A new think tank comprising 10 representatives from museums across Scotland has met for the first time at the University of Glasgow to discuss the future of the sector. The Museums Think Tank was established following the Museums Summit earlier this year to make recommendations to the Scottish Government as part of a draft national strategy that will determine the future direction of Scottish museums.

London attractions see rise in visitor numbers

► The number of people visiting museums, galleries and other London attractions increased by 8.4 per cent in June, compared with the same period last year. The figures from Visit London also revealed that the total number of visitors for the three months from April to June was up 12.8 per cent on the same period last year. The boost in visitors has been attributed to warm weather and European tourists taking advantage of the weak pound. During the period, visits to paid attractions rose 14 per cent, while free attractions saw a 12 per cent increase.

Renewable attraction for Renfrewshire

► ScottishPower Renewables has opened a new visitor centre at the Whitelee Windfarm in East Renfrewshire. The facility boasts exhibitions on renewable power generation, the construction of the windfarm and the local environment. An education hub will also enable children and adults to learn more about windfarms and renewable energy. Kirk Ramsay, CEO of Glasgow Science Centre, which will operate the attraction, said: "We are proud to be managing the visitor centre at Europe's largest onshore windfarm."

£1m HLF funding for London palace

Work on a 'palace for everyone' set to transform 17th century property

By **Tom Walker**

Historic Royal Palaces' (HRP) plans for a major £12m scheme to improve visitor facilities at London's Kensington Palace have received a £1m funding boost from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

Work on the 'Welcome to Kensington - a palace for everyone' project is set to get underway in June 2010 to transform the 17th century property into an educational and inspirational visitor experience, as well as opening it up to a wider audience.

The scheme will include the creation of new public gardens to link the palace with a neighbouring park, a new visitor entrance leading from the Broad Walk and the Round Pond to establish an outdoor space for public use, and improved access.



Wesley Kerr, chair of HLF London (left), with Sir Trevor McDonald

An inner central 'hub' is also included in the proposals to give visitors a feel of what the palace has to offer inside, as well as new educational and community facilities and clearer routes and signage.

The project is being financed by HRP with the support of donors, trusts, sponsors and charitable foundations, with £8m already secured. A

campaign to raise the remaining £4m over the next two years is now underway.

Sir Trevor McDonald, HRP trustee, said: "This ambitious initiative will enable many more people to explore this palace of extraordinary history; opening its doors, its rooms, its memories, its stories, its gardens and its collections to the widest possible audience."

RAF museum to trial audio tours

By **Martin Nash**

The Royal Air Force Museum at Hendon in north London is to trial mobile phone audio tours.

The test will begin in the Bomber Hall with the tours delivered via the visitor's mobile phone, where the user calls a number and then presses a sequence of keys to learn more about an exhibit.

Tour recordings will also be available on the museum's website, enabling users to download them to their mobile ahead of a visit if they don't want to use their call minutes for audio tours, but still want to hear them.

The museum views the move as having huge potential to increase the visitor experience.



Visitors will be able to access information on mobile phones

There can be several recordings for each exhibit, with different 'layers' to act as an introduction for newcomers, to add fresh insights for students or to offer in-depth views for enthusiasts.

Based on the results of the trial, the scheme could be expanded using the mobile phone method or developed on to dedicated audio devices.

V&A opens new Ceramics Gallery

The Victoria and Albert (V&A) Museum in South Kensington, London, has opened seven new galleries showcasing one of the world's most complete collections of ceramics.

The 3,000 objects that have now been put on display date back to 2500 BC, including Ming dynasty Chinese porcelain, Dutch Delfware ordered by Queen Mary for Hampton Court Palace and a vase painted by Picasso.

A gallery dedicated to Architectural Ceramics contains large-scale objects, while a further two rooms are devoted to factory and handmade 20th century collections respectively, and another gallery accommodates contemporary works.



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IN BRIEF

Council unveils initial Leeds Arena designs

► Leeds City Council has launched a public consultation into the next stage of planning for the city's new arena after initial designs for the proposed venue were revealed. The process will provide local residents with the first chance to view the proposed interior layout and planned location of the arena, which is set to boast the UK's first 'super theatre' layout. Designs for the interior of the new Leeds Arena, which will be operated by SMG Europe, feature a two-tier seating bowl layout with the furthest seats located just 68m (223ft) from the stage.

Major facelift for Hertford arts venue

► Hertford's Castle Hall is set to undergo a major refurbishment after East Hertfordshire District Council (EHDC) agreed to appoint architects to draw up detailed designs for the scheme. EHDC has already earmarked £600,000 to revamp the venue, which could include a new gallery space, a new café and a dance studio, as well as the possibility of screening cinema-quality films and staging a professional pantomime by Christmas 2010.

Irish Arts Council in tax exemption call

► Ireland's Arts Council has urged the government to reject recommendations to withdraw a tax exemption scheme for Irish artists as part of efforts to reform the country's tax system. The agency, which is responsible for arts development in Ireland, has warned that the Commission on Taxation's recommendation could cost the Irish economy €36m (£31.4m, US\$52.1m) in lost tax revenue as young artists leave the country and pursue commercial success overseas.

Grosvenor nets Southampton project

£13m arts complex scheme to transform site of former Tyrrell and Green store

By **Tom Walker**

Southampton City Council (SCC) has named the international property company, Grosvenor, as the preferred bidder for the city's new £13m arts complex.

The 200,000sq ft (18,581sq m) mixed-use scheme, which aims to transform the site of the former Tyrrell and Green department store, was selected from a number of rival bids.

Plans drawn up by Grosvenor's partner architects CZWG for the proposed complex include 75,000sq ft (6,968sq m) of gallery spaces, auditoriums and educational areas as well as restaurants, apartments and retail units.

Royston Smith, SCC's cabinet member for economic develop-



Plans for the new centre were drawn up by London-based CZWG

ment, said: "The Cultural Quarter is a key part of our wider plans for the physical regeneration of the city centre and economic development of the city.

"The proposals are helping to bring in around £175m of

private and public investment to this area of the city."

The arts complex will form a part of the planned new Cultural Quarter for Southampton. Other projects include the Sea City Museum Project, scheduled to open in 2012.

More arts organisations net ACE funding support

By **Pete Hayman**

Arts Council England (ACE) has announced that a further £6.2m is to be invested in a total of 18 arts organisations over the next two years as part of the Sustain initiative.

The £40m Sustain programme was launched in a bid to maintain artistic excellence during the recession, and aims to help organisations that are currently under pressure during the 2009-11 period.



IMAGE: JONNY WILDE

Yorkshire Sculpture Park has received £1.45m ACE support

Among the recipients of the latest awards is Yorkshire Sculpture Park in Wakefield,

which received £1.45m – the largest share of funding – while Halle Concerts Society in Manchester netted £800,000.

London Philharmonic Orchestra (£556,500), Oldham Coliseum Theatre (459,800) and Chichester Festival Theatre (£427,000) also received grants.

10 Sustain applications were declined, however, with ACE still considering bids for a share of a further £31m funding; the latest round of which will be announced in October.

Threshold stone unveiled at new £18m Belfast theatre

A ceremony has been held in Belfast, Northern Ireland to mark the unveiling of the threshold stone on the site of the new £18m Lyric Theatre, which is scheduled to open in 2011.

Designed by Dublin-based architects O'Donnell and Tuomey, the new building on Ridgeway Street will be almost four times the

size of the city's former Lyric Theatre, which first opened to the public in 1968 before closing its doors in January 2008.

Construction work started in March on the new theatre, which will boast a 400-seat capacity auditorium, a 150-seat studio theatre, a rehearsal room, riverfront foyers and a bar.

£2.1m for Liverpool urban park plans

NWDA funding boost for former International Garden Festival site refurbishment

By **Pete Hayman**

Plans for the restoration of the gardens at Liverpool's former International Garden Festival site have been handed a £2.1m funding boost by the North-west Regional Development Agency (NWDA).

Merseyside-based developer Langtree is behind the planned redevelopment, which aims to transform the site – which has remained derelict for the past 25 years – into a major new visitor attraction for the city.

The first phase of the International Garden Festival site scheme will include work to restore the Chinese garden, the Japanese gardens, the lakes and watercourses and the woodland sculpture trails.

Mersey Waterfront, the Land Restoration Trust and Liverpool



Langtree aims to transform the site into a major visitor attraction

City Council are also involved with the scheme, which is in line to receive £1.6m from the Northwest European Regional Development Fund as well.

Steven Broomhead, NWDA chief executive, said: "The agency is working closely with our partners to take forward the redevelopment of this site."

Langtree managing director John Downes, added: "The agency's investment will also cover the management and maintenance of the park for five years, within which time it is anticipated that we will be able to commence development on the balance of the site and secure its long-term future."

First stage of Derbyshire gardens revamp unveiled

By **Pete Hayman**

Belper River Gardens in Belper, Derbyshire have reopened to the public after work on the first stage of a major refurbishment scheme – designed to preserve and upgrade the site – was completed.

Phase one of the project has been carried out by Alfreton-based contractor, EMS Civils, which included piling work to stabilise the banks of the River Derwent and the reconstruction of the walls, the mill lade, paths and the gardens' play area.

The first stage of the project has taken eight months to complete at a cost of around £750,000. Meanwhile, the second phase is expected to get underway in October and will involve the replanting of lost trees and shrubs.



The first stage of the project has taken eight months to complete

Amber Valley Borough Council (AVBC) is also planning a design competition for the third stage, which will focus on the park's Swiss tearooms.

Funding for the new play area established as part of phase one of the Belper River Gardens project was secured

through a £40,000 contribution from AVBC. The scheme has also received a £50,000 grant from the People Millions scheme – run by ITV and the Big Lottery Fund – following a successful funding application by local community group, the Friends of Belper River Gardens.

IN BRIEF

Refusal urged for Peak Park wind farm

► The Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) has urged the refusal of a major wind farm within 1.5 miles (2.4km) of its boundary, arguing that better renewable energy solutions should be pursued for sensitive landscapes than wind farms. The wind farm would have five turbines, with blade-tips up to 126m (413ft) high. The PDNPA says this would make them among the highest in England and visible from most vantage points in the national park up to 20 miles (32.2km) away.

City boatyard set for new lease of life

► British Waterways has unveiled new plans for the regeneration of the historic Taylor's Boatyard, situated in the Chester Canal Basin on the Shropshire Union Canal. The restoration of the Grade II-listed buildings at the 0.5-acre (0.2-hectare) site is set to play a key role in preserving Chester's heritage, while also becoming a commercially viable enterprise in its own right. The boatyard complex currently includes a series of main workshops and a brick foundry, a joinery workshop, canalside work areas and a dry dock area.

£2m boost for Scottish machair preservation

► A new £2m scheme to preserve machair wildlife habitats on the Hebrides archipelago off the west coast of Scotland has been handed a funding boost by the European Union (EU). More than £1m will be invested over a four-year period by the EU Life + fund following an application by a group led by RSPB Scotland, which will match the grant funding in partnership with the local authority – Comhairle nan Eilean Siar (CnES) – and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).

leisure property news

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IN BRIEF

£8m regeneration criteria announced

► The Isle of Man government has unveiled the outline eligibility criteria for towns and villages interested in applying for a share of an £8m funding package to support regeneration schemes. Outline guidance notes have also been made available by the Department for Trade and Industry as part of the Town and Village Regeneration Scheme. The scheme will operate through local committees to promote improvements to island communities.

Maidenhead plans unveiled

► A public consultation into plans for the long-term regeneration of Maidenhead, Berkshire, has been launched by the local authority and the Partnership for the Rejuvenation of Maidenhead (PRoM). PRoM and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead council are seeking comments from local residents on a number of proposals, including how to create a more attractive town centre with improved green spaces.

Design team selected for historic mill

► A historic 18th century mill in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, is set to be redeveloped as a visitor attraction after a design team led by architects Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios was appointed to draw up plans for the site's future. The team has been appointed to examine sustainable solutions for the 212-year-old Ditherington Flax Mills. English Heritage acquired the mill in 2005.

£250m plan for Telford town revamp

Cafés, bars, restaurants and a new pedestrian high street to head transformation

By **Pete Hayman**

Detailed plans for a £250m project, designed to transform the town centre of Telford in Shropshire, have been unveiled by Telford and Wrekin Council (TWC) and the Southwater Event Group (SEG).

It is anticipated that the proposals will provide the town with a thriving night-time economy centred around a pedestrian high street and including cafés, bars and restaurants, as well as a new public square for events and arts.

The project also includes an extension to the SEG-owned Telford International Centre in a bid to attract an additional 200,000 conference visitors each year, while a new leisure hub will also be created. Facilities will include a



The Telford scheme will be based on a new pedestrian high street

revamped ice rink, a new leisure pool and a cinema.

Other aspects of the scheme include two new hotels to provide an additional 450 rooms, four office buildings and a new Learning and Media Centre, as well as a residential development.

TWC leader Andrew Eade said: "After many years of talk and false dawns, we at last have a scheme that can be delivered. This is no longer something that will remain on paper but something that I am certain people will very soon start to see taking shape."

John o'Groats plans revealed

By **Tom Walker**

A masterplan for a major redevelopment of John o'Groats in Scotland has been unveiled by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and consultants, GVA Grimley.

The plans, involving a 5-hectare (12.4-acre) town centre site, incorporate suggestions put forward by local residents and businesses as well as tourists to the region.

A destination focal point such as a sculpture or an artwork has been proposed as part of the scheme and would help to draw 'end to enders' to a main square near the town's harbour.



Plans include a new town centre

The first phase of the four phase scheme would include the restoration or replacement of the John o'Groats hotel, a new harbour square, a refurbished Last House Museum and work to upgrade coastal paths.

Plug pulled on Welsh scheme

Plans for the construction of a new £100m retail and leisure development at Llanfair P.G. on Anglesey, North Wales, have been withdrawn by the company behind the scheme, Ynys Mon Estates.

The Isle of Anglesey County Council has confirmed that it has received confirmation from Ynys Mon that it had pulled out of the Ty Mawr project – to include a cinema, bowling alley and fitness centre – seven months after it was given the go-ahead by planners

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West Hertfordshire 
Primary Care Trust
East and North Hertfordshire 
Primary Care Trust

West Hertfordshire and East and North Hertfordshire PCT is inviting Expressions of Interest for the delivery of the Child Weight Management Programme from suitably qualified and experienced organisations.

Tackling Child Obesity is a strategic aim of both Hertfordshire PCT's as well as being a priority in the Hertfordshire Children and Young Peoples Plan. Reducing obesity in children is a priority within the NHS Operating Framework and the PCT business plan.

Following a tender process, Hertfordshire PCT has appointed, MEND Ltd to provide training for the Child Weight Management Programme for children aged 5-7, and appointed Carnegie Weight Management to provide the training for the Child Weight Management Programme for children aged 8-12 years.

The PCT is now looking for either one organisation that has the capacity to deliver the Child Weight Management Programme for both age groups in all the identified locations, or, two separate organisations that would deliver the service to one age group in all the identified locations.

The service is required for 1 year and is to be delivered in the following locations:

For Age 5-7: Watford – Central, Hertsmere – Borehamwood, Broxbourne – Waltham cross, Stevenage – Bedwell.

For Age 8-12: Watford – Central, Hertsmere – Borehamwood, Dacorum – Hemel Hempstead, Three Rivers – South Oxhey, Broxbourne – Waltham Cross and Hoddesdon, Stevenage – Bedwell, Welhat – Hatfield.

All Expressions of Interest must be received by 5pm, 13th October 2009.

To register an Expression of Interest, you must register your organisations details on www.sid4health.nhs.uk, and then request to participate in cph18_68.

Contact details: adetutu.odunsi@hsmc.nhs.uk

MIDDLESBROUGH MUNICIPAL GOLF CENTRE

SOFT MARKET TESTING

As part of its process of value for money service reviews Middlesbrough Council is interested in alternative methods of managing and developing the Middlesbrough Municipal Golf Centre.

The Council is seeking the views of the market place on the packaging and management of services at the venue and ideas regarding opportunities for investment to develop the service still further for residents of Middlesbrough.

All companies, organisations and interested bodies are invited to apply for the 'Middlesbrough Municipal Golf Centre Soft Market Testing Questionnaire' to express their views on the packaging, format, content and methods of delivering the aims of the review within the framework of the Council's overall vision and key aims.

Following analysis of the questionnaires, a procurement proposal may be brought back to the market place for the management and development of all or part of the services at Middlesbrough Municipal Golf Centre.

Contact the Middlesbrough Municipal Golf Centre on 315533 for copies of the Questionnaire and / or to arrange a tour of the facilities.

Deadline for the receipt of applications: 12 Noon, Friday 23 October 2009.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
SERVING THE LOWER LEA AND OLYMPIC RIVERS



British Waterways and London Thames Gateway Development Corporation are looking for a business partner to manage a new boat base: Limehouse Quay.

The successful partner will develop and manage a new water-based leisure destination in the heart of east London, with the potential to run boat services to the Olympic Park during the 2012 Games.

With a lease of up to 25 years, you will be responsible for procuring commercial boats to fill the Quay and will be able to build effective partnerships with commercial, educational, community and leisure organisations.

We would also like to hear from community and commercial leisure boat operators who would like to move their operation to Limehouse Quay or work with the manager of the Quay to give this part of London a new vibrancy and attract new visitors to the river.

To express your interest and find out more about the plans for Limehouse Quay please visit our website: www.britishwaterways.co.uk/limehousequay



5-a-side Football Centre

Expressions of Interest are invited for the development and management of a 5-a-side football centre.

The London Borough of Havering are keen to enter into a partnership with an external operator that is suitably qualified and experienced to develop and manage a 5-a-side football centre within the borough. The successful operator will develop a scheme, apply for planning permission, construct the facility (if planning permission is given) and manage and operate the facility once open. It is likely that the Council will identify potential sites and will consider these in detail with a partner once they have been appointed.

It is expected that the facility will comprise ten to fourteen 5-a-side pitches.

To register your company's interest and to receive a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire please write to Guy Selfe, Culture and Leisure Services, The Whitworth Centre, Noak Hill Road, Romford, Essex RM3 7YA, email: guy.selfe@havering.gov.uk

Any requests for further information should be addressed in writing to the officer detailed above.

The closing date for initial applications is 6 October 2009; completed questionnaires must be returned to the above address by 5pm on 13 October 2009.



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION
invites tenders from
experienced and qualified individuals or
organisations for the management of the

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE INDOOR TENNIS CENTRE at High Wycombe

The facility is based at Cressex School on land leased from Buckinghamshire County Council. It consists of four indoor courts plus ancillary amenities.

Presently there are 47 years remaining on the lease.

Closing date for tenders is Friday 23rd October 2009.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT:

Andrew Petherick,
6 Oakley Road, Clapham,
Bedfordshire, MK41 6AN
Tel: 01234 213314

Email: ajp@raeleisure.idps.co.uk

LTA BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
TENNIS NATION

Carnegie Theatre and Arts Centre Development and Management Opportunity

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

We are seeking expressions of interest from suitably experienced organisations to develop, manage and operate the Carnegie Theatre and Arts Centre under a partnership arrangement with Allerdale Borough Council.

The Carnegie is located in the centre of Workington on the west coast of Cumbria and is one of the town's key assets having built its reputation as a venue capable of staging a range of activities and events of local and regional significance as well as being an important year round facility for a variety of community groups in the area. Annual admissions to the Carnegie average around 70,000 over the past four years.

Currently managed and operated by the Council, a varied programme of community and arts related activities are provided at the Carnegie through the following facilities and services:

- 336 seat theatre with dressing rooms and other ancillary accommodation.
- Monroes Bar with a combined 200 capacity performance space offering live rock, pop and blues music.
- Café (64 covers) and exhibition space.
- Community rooms for hire (fitness classes, arts/crafts, adult education and other uses).
- Design centre incorporating rented workspaces for small businesses.
- Computerised box office also providing services to local festivals and events.

We are open to all ideas of how these facilities and services can be improved and developed to benefit existing and new customers.

This is a tremendous opportunity to work in partnership with the Council to develop and manage a premier cultural venue and also to maximise its potential as a valuable community resource for local people. Workington town centre has recently undergone a major redevelopment and this is also an opportunity for the Carnegie to play a pivotal role in its further regeneration.

At this stage, organisations are requested to express their interest in writing and provide information on their experience in this area, specifically covering any examples of where similar facilities and services have been provided at other locations.

Once expressions of interest have been considered by the Council, a formal process will be used to identify a preferred partner. This will involve inviting shortlisted organisations to submit proposals from which a preferred partner will be selected to enter into detailed negotiations with.

To register your interest, please contact:

Mr M. Edwards, Leisure Services Manager,
Allerdale Borough Council,
Allerdale House, Workington,
Cumbria, CA14 3YJ.
Tel: (01900) 702709. Fax: (01900) 702716.
Email: mark.edwards@allerdale.gov.uk

Expressions of interest must be registered by letter or by e-mail by Friday 30 October 2009.



NORTH DOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL LEISURE, TOURISM & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

A BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR INVESTMENT IN AN ESTABLISHED TOURIST ATTRACTION, BANGOR, COUNTY DOWN, N. IRELAND

North Down Borough Council is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced Potential Partners to enter into a longer-term agreement to invest in the Council's established tourist attraction at Pickie Family Fun Park, Bangor, County Down. This partnership will include the potential operation and development of the attraction and surrounding area through capital investment, for example in a new feature, such as a mini adventure golf course. Council's Objectives for any partnership arrangement are:

- To provide a first class standard of quality customer service
- To offer services to attract visitors to Bangor
- To offer services to enhance the visitor experience
- To bring innovation of management
- To bring capital investment to the facilities to continue their development

Expressions of interest are initially sought through completion of a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire, which can be downloaded from the Council's web-site www.northdown.gov.uk/tenders or by contacting Anne Poots on 028 9127 8048 or by email: anne.poots@northdown.gov.uk.

A shortlist of no more than five Potential Partners will subsequently be invited to submit full Tender documents with an associated detailed business plan; the Council will however reserve the right not to accept the most economically advantageous (to Council) or any Tender submitted at that time.

Expression of Interest documents sent by post should be registered or sent recorded delivery. An Official Receipt should be obtained for each Expression of Interest document delivered by hand. The closing date for acceptance of any Expression of Interest documentation is 12 NOON ON FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2009.

*Trevor Polley, BA, MBA, Chief Executive & Town Clerk
North Down Borough Council, September 2009*

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Being a solution, not a problem

The government needs to be convinced of tourism's value



KURT JANSON is policy director at Tourism Alliance

One of the interesting things coming out of the slow wind-up to the next election is that all parties have now admitted they'll have to cut public expenditure should they get hold of the reins of power next year. The big question is where these cuts will come from.

Areas such as health, education and policing look reasonably safe as proposals to cut spending in these areas provide little political upside. On the other hand, initiatives and organizations seen as wasteful with little public support present ripe targets – the cutting of the Trident programme has already been announced while other targets include the National Identity Card (Labour) and the RDAs (the Conservative Party).

Over the coming months this list of targets will continue to grow. The task will therefore be to ensure that, when the spotlight of public expenditure inevitably falls on tourism, strong arguments are in place to show that the funding allocated to the sector is warranted. If government was unconvinced of the benefits of tourism during the good years, it is unlikely that it will survive the spending cuts.

The Tourism Alliance is therefore using the party conferences to highlight the benefits of tourism – spending just £1,400 on overseas marketing generates 100 new visitors. These visitors spend £50,000 in the UK, of which around £8,000 goes straight to the Exchequer. The sector has a good story to tell, but we must tell it well.

Mayors in deal to boost tourism

London and New York in move to help each other promote travel

By Pete Hayman

London mayor Boris Johnson has secured a new two-year tourism deal with New York counterpart, Michael Bloomberg, designed to boost tourism between the two cities.

The agreement will see London and New York provide outdoor advertising space to help each other promote travel, while the cities' tourism agencies – Visit London and NYC & Company – will share best practices to maximise tourism opportunities.

It is hoped that the deal can capitalise on the existing levels of tourism between the two cities, with nearly 2 million Americans visiting London in 2008 and more than 1.3 million UK residents travelling to New York.

Johnson said: "London and New York City share many similarities, including a strong sense of optimism and determination, along with a great appreciation for diversity and innovation."



The two mayors at the signing of the deal

"Our common cultural ties, not least absolute dedication to providing world-class services and experiences for both residents and visitors, make the two cities exceptionally well poised to combine knowledge as well as resources to impact the economies and future of the cities."

BAA passenger numbers continue to fall

By Tom Walker



Heathrow Airport bucked the trend by experiencing its busiest ever August

Airport operator BAA has seen a 3.1 per cent decline in the number of passengers it handled during August, despite a fifth successive month of traffic growth at Edinburgh Airport.

Compared with figures for August last year, Edinburgh Airport reported a 4.8 per cent increase in passenger numbers to 928,500. Meanwhile, Heathrow Airport saw its busiest ever August, handling nearly 6.4 million people – an increase of 0.3 per cent.

Cowen launches Irish domestic tourism scheme

Taoiseach Brian Cowen has launched Fáilte Ireland's new €37.5m (£33.2m) Autumn Initiative as part of wider efforts to encourage more Irish people to opt for holidays at home.

The new scheme features the publication of the new Discover Ireland holiday supplement for September and October, which provide a special offer 'cheque'

worth €50 (£44) to be used at selected venues over the next two months.

Funded by participating members of the tourism industry, the Autumn Initiative will be led by Fáilte Ireland to promote a wide range of free activities and attractions across the country, as well as including discount vouchers for sites with admission fees.



Alun Ffred Jones (front right) with staff from the Quay Hotel

Hotel completes Welsh initiative

Deganwy hotel first to complete new training scheme

By **Pete Hayman**

The Quay Hotel in Deganwy, North Wales, has become the first business across the country to complete a training initiative designed to provide visitors with a "unique" Welsh welcome.

Croeso Cynnes Cymreig (A Warm Welsh Welcome) has been developed as part of a joint venture between Visit Wales, the Welsh Language Board, the Tourism Training Forum for Wales and the Welsh Assembly Government.

The three components of the programme include a customer

service course and two self-assessment modules, with a focus on businesses' knowledge of local history, food and culture in order to strengthen a sense of place. The use of Welsh language within the business place is also targeted.

Heritage minister Alun Ffred Jones said: "This new training programme gives those working in our tourism industry the confidence, skills and knowledge to share Wales's language, history and culture with our visitors by providing a high quality welcome which is distinctive to Wales."

Lifetime gains awarding status

Training provider Lifetime has been recognised as an official Awarding Organisation by Ofqual, the regulator of qualifications, exams and tests in England.

The company will now be able to submit full qualifications to the new Qualifications & Credit Framework (QCF) beyond 2010 under the name Lifetime Awarding.

According to Peta Hairsine, Lifetime Awarding organisa-

tion manager, the awarding arm was established following increasing need for 'fit for purpose' qualifications and work-ready recruits to enhance the quality and professionalism of the fitness industry and beyond.

Lifetime Awarding works in partnership with employers and operators to secure jobs in health clubs, leisure centres, hotel fitness facilities and related outlets.

Responding to the threat of redundancy

We need to ensure support is available for those in danger of losing their job

The latest employment figures from the Office for National Statistics make unnerving reading. The unemployment rate was 7.9 per cent for the three months to July 2009. It has not been higher since the three months to November 1996 and it is up 0.7 over the previous quarter and up 2.3 over the year. The number of unemployed people increased by 210,000 over the quarter and by 743,000 over the year, to reach 2.47 million.

Meanwhile, the number of redundancies in the three months to July 2009 was 246,000. Although this figure was down 55,000 over the quarter, it was up 107,000 on the year.

The last of these figures is perhaps the most disconcerting, as redundancy brings with it a range of issues for the individual involved. For the 246,000 people made redundant in the three months to July this year, loss of employment and earnings are likely to have been coupled with a feeling of loss of face and confidence and often a loss of purpose and direction. For the employers involved, there are also challenges. It should be a focus, for responsible employers, to ensure that those they make redundant receive the best support possible. For some employers this is not possible, usually due to a lack of resources.

Now, as a result of government funding and as part of their Into Work programme, the Springboard Charity are delivering support and assistance to those affected by redundancy. The Response To Redundancy Programme is focused on individuals in specific boroughs in London who have left employment within the last six months. The programme provides essential services to help individuals back into sustainable employment, including up to eight days of tailored training to cover employability skills and training needs analysis, information, advice and guidance on hospitality, leisure, travel and tourism, 'industry taster days', vocational training opportunities, CV and Covering Letter building, supported job search and sign posting into other employment in the industry.

The programme provides essential support that employers are often unable to give, enabling individuals to get back on their feet and into employment within the industry as quickly as possible. It's a programme that changes lives and supports the industry – at a time when it is needed most.



 Springboard

JEMELLE GRIF-FITH is head of *Into Work Programmes, Springboard UK. Leisure Opportunities is the official recruitment magazine for Springboard UK*

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BLF bursaries are now available for the January 2010 intake of this innovative distance learning course.

Developed by Loughborough College, the University Hospitals of Leicester and the British Lung Foundation (BLF), with funding and input from Rotherham PCT, the course has been submitted for endorsement at level 4 on the Register of Exercise Professionals. It covers:

- Physiology and pathology of respiratory disease
- Management of chronic respiratory disease
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- Managing breathlessness
- Referral pathways

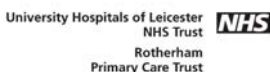
The BLF bursary, funded by Air Products, is available to exercise professionals who meet the following entry requirements:

- Level 3 equivalent qualification as recognised by REP's
- A current valid first aid certificate
- Endorsement from a local pulmonary rehabilitation team
- 100 hours practical exercise instruction over the past year, with some experience of working with clients with COPD/respiratory disease
- Current CRB disclosure form

Instructors taking up a bursary will be expected to work with local Breathe Easy support groups to set up exercise classes within the community.

For more details or an application pack please log on to
www.lunguk.org/supporting-you/blf_active/ or contact
Danielle Smreczak using the details below

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For further information on the role please phone Colin Bridgford on 0161 604 7625 for details of the job description and person specification.

The deadline for applications is 12 noon on 9 October 2009.

To apply, please send a CV and covering letter with details of your current salary and your salary expectation for the role marked 'Private and Confidential' to: Joan Harris, Salford Sports Village, Littleton Road, Lower Kersal, Salford, M7 3AP or email joan.harris@manchesterfa.com

Interviews will take place on Tuesday 20 October 2009.

Manchester County FA are committed to equality of opportunity and welcome applications from all sections of the community.



Leisure East Devon is seeking to recruit a new **Chief Executive** to succeed the current post holder who is retiring in March 2010.

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The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate the energy and desire to provide strong clear leadership to the LED team, focussing on the strategic development and sustainability of the organisation whilst constantly identifying and responding to the changes of customers' needs and expectations.

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For more information, download the job description from our website: www.pmpgenesis.com. To discuss the position, contact Sally Graham on 0800 013 2766 or sallygraham@pmpgenesis.com

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Post 2: Head of Knowledge Management

This is an exciting opportunity to work for StreetGames, the new national partner to Sport England and twice shortlisted charity for the International Beyond Sport Awards 2009. The posts will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check and post holders will be expected to travel.

Post 1 National Programme Manager (Volunteering)

Salary Scale £30,011-£40,741 – dependent upon experience and location. Full-time. Initial contract until December 2011. Location – London or Manchester.

StreetGames is looking for a highly skilled project manager with experience of delivering success in a complex environment. As an experienced manager of staff you will know what it takes to get the best out of people working on The Co-operative StreetGames Young Volunteers programme. Your excellent customer service skills will enable you to build strong relationships with partners including local projects and funders.

The National Programme Manager will anchor the programme and be responsible for delivering the targets and outcomes agreed for the programme. He or she will ensure the quality of delivery and make the best use of resources to the benefit of the young people volunteering in local StreetGames projects. The postholder will lead the development of the volunteering offer.

The Co-operative StreetGames Young Volunteers programme is a national initiative developed by The Co-operative and StreetGames. It is also supported by v, the youth volunteering charity.

Post 2: Head of Knowledge Management

Salary scale £30,011-£40,741 dependent on experience and location. Full-time, 4/5th contracts and secondments considered. Initial contract until March 2011. Location – London or Manchester

StreetGames helps sport to understand what works in developing doorstep sport in disadvantaged communities and why it works. The post holder will lead on programme monitoring and evaluation, develop research collaborations, produce reports and papers, write and deliver workshops as part of a developing learning transfer function. The post will suit a well qualified researcher who is a good communicator, entrepreneurial, self-starting, fast thinking and understands the barriers to participation in sport.

Job packs available at jobs@streetgames.org
Arrange an informal discussion via the above e-address

National Programme Manager (Volunteering)

Deadline Oct 16th 5pm by email. Interviews: Nov 2nd/3rd Manchester

Head of Knowledge Management:

Deadline 23rd Oct 5pm by email. Interviews Nov 10th London

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We are looking for reliable, friendly and enthusiastic people to work as **LIFEGUARDS** at RAF Odiham Swimming Pool. Monday - Friday 30 - 40 hours per week.

We are offering a FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY to attend a Lifeguard course 5th - 9th Oct 2009, exam on 10th Oct 2009 at RAF Odiham Swimming Pool.

Upon successful completion of the course and passing the exam, you will be required to sign a contract committing to working as a full time Lifeguard for 1 year at the RAF Odiham Swimming Pool.

Please send your application to:
ODIAdm-PoolMgr@odiham.raf.mod.uk
 or call 01256 367413 for more information

RAF Odiham

Plymouth City Council



****Sports Development Co-ordinator**

Permanent, 37 hours per week
 Grade E (£20,652 - £22,730)

Ref: 026/9064

This post provides an exciting opportunity to make a real impact on the delivery of sport and physical activity in Plymouth. You will join a well-established Sports Development Unit who have achieved Quest accreditation.

You will plan, implement and manage a number of sports development programmes, initiatives and events, designed to increase access, participation and inclusion. The ability to work in partnership with a number of different organisations to deliver on shared objectives is essential.

You will have a professional approach, with excellent communication skills, a drive to succeed and commitment to delivering a quality service, combined with relevant reasonable experience of working in a sports development field.

For more information or an informal discussion, please contact Louise Oates, Sports Development Manager on (01752) 307026.

Closing date: Friday 9 October 2009.

Anticipated interview date: w/c 26 October 2009.

For an application pack, please call (01752) 668000

or email jobs@plymouth.gov.uk or apply online at www.plymouth.gov.uk/counciljobs

Working towards equal opportunities: applicants welcome from all sections of the community. All suitable disabled applicants for salaried posts are guaranteed an interview. Smoke Free Policy. CVs are not accepted. Plymouth City Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults and as such, thorough vetting procedures will be undertaken:

*Standard Criminal Records Bureau disclosure check.

** Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau disclosure check.



lgps

www.plymouth.gov.uk

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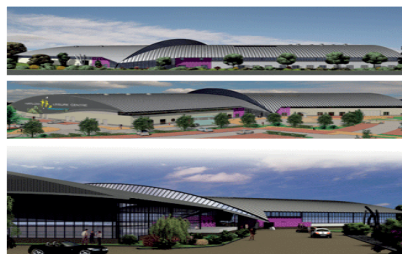
Sports Development Officer

£18 – £21k dependant on qualifications and experience
40 hours per week on a 4 week rota



We are currently seeking a highly motivated Sports Development Officer dedicated to providing our customers with a first class service.

This is an exciting time to join us as we prepare to relocate to the new purpose built wet and dry Leisurezone centre due to open early 2010.



First and foremost you will be a committed advocate of sport and of delivering a first class service to our customers. You will be required to manage all aspects of Sports Development and the swimming programme organising and co-ordinating the delivery of sports and swimming development programmes and special events. You will be confident, motivated and pro-active, ideally educated to degree level or have relevant experience. Your experience of working within this field will ensure that children, young people and adults are offered a wide range of sport and leisure opportunities to meet their needs. You must be able to demonstrate that you can build relationships with outside agencies, have excellent planning and organisation skills and an ability to develop new initiatives and monitor goals and targets. This post holder will work as part of the Duty Management team and will be subject to an enhanced level CRB disclosure check.

If you believe you have the skills and capabilities required for this position telephone or email Lin Borthwick Human Resources Manager for an application form and job description.

Tel: 01279 307304 Email: linborthwick@harlowsportcentre.co.uk. Closing date: 13th October 2009, interviews will be taking place week commencing 26th October 2009.

www.harlowleisurezone.co.uk

Stantonbury Campus

Stantonbury Campus, Milton Keynes, is an exciting place to work. It is a successful comprehensive school with specialisms in the Arts, Applied Learning and Maths and Computing, providing education for 2500 students aged 11 to 18 (with 450+ at Post 16).



FITNESS MANAGER

Starting salary £21,912, 37 hours per week

Leading a team of qualified Fitness and Aerobics Instructors, this is an exciting and innovative role within the management team for Stantonbury Campus Leisure Centre, the most comprehensive leisure facility in MK, which is an integral part of one of the largest schools in the country.

The Fitness Manager runs Aspirations, a large private members gym, and the Shokk children's gym and works extensively with external agencies and the School to serve the community in North MK by developing a range of services to promote the fitness and healthy lifestyles for all ages.

You will have:

- a relevant degree or equivalent qualifications,
- a sound knowledge of the leisure and fitness industry,
- experience in a private members gym,
- management and programming experience,
- organisation and business planning skills,
- the ability to communicate well with a wide range of people,
- ideally, experience of working in a school environment or with children and young people.

All Campus appointments are subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Enhanced Disclosure.

Closing date for this post: 12th October 2009.

Interview date: 23rd October 2009.

Comprehensive details of the post and application forms are available on the Campus' website www.stantonbury.org.uk or from: HR Office at Stantonbury Campus, Milton Keynes. MK14 6BN. Tel 01908 324400 (Fax 01908 324401) or email: HR@stantonbury.org.uk

The Campus is an equal opportunities employer committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of students.

www.stantonbury.org.uk



Canterbury Christ Church University

www.canterbury.ac.uk

Canterbury Christ Church University is the largest centre of higher education in Kent for the public services – notably teacher education and training, the emergency services, health and social care – and a significant provider of programmes in a wide range of academic and professional areas.

CANTERBURY CAMPUS

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND RECREATION

Sports Centre Duty Manager

£19,089 to £20,834 per annum

As a dynamic individual willing to make a major contribution to our new sports centre team, you will be responsible for assisting in the day to day operations of the sports centre including: health and safety, planning staffing schedules and assisting the centre's marketing, organisation and promotion. You will be expected to contribute to maximising income streams and the development of activities. You will also be required to provide leadership and initiate professional development of staff.

With a relevant sport, exercise and fitness related degree or equivalent qualification/experience you should hold relevant gym supervisor, first aid at work and defibrillation qualifications. An interest in a specific element of sport or fitness training or coaching would be desirable.

Application forms and further details are available from www.canterbury.ac.uk Alternatively please call 01227 782475 (answerphone) or e-mail hr@canterbury.ac.uk quoting reference number DM1/APA/LO. No agencies.

Closing date: 9 October 2009.

Interview date: 21 October 2009.



Hertsmere Leisure is seeking suitably qualified and experienced staff for the prestigious new Bletchley Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes which is scheduled to open 4th January 2010.

If you're looking for an opportunity to significantly enhance the local community's quality of life, are dynamic, self motivated and enjoy a challenge to succeed, then this opportunity is for you.

Sports Development Officer

Salary: £25,000 - Full time

Location: Bletchley Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes

Responsible for the development and delivery of a sustained sport and physical activity programme in the immediate community of the new Bletchley Leisure Centre, you will be required to implement and integrate a diverse range of activities ensuring that the aims and objectives set out within the strategies for sport, health and physical activity (both local and national) are being delivered in compliance with the contract specification.

The ideal applicant must have a broad experience, at least 3 years, and be able to demonstrate an understanding of a wide range of sporting structures and pathways.

Operational Positions

Salary: Dependent on position - Full & Part Time

Location: Bletchley Leisure Centre, Milton Keynes

Hertsmere Leisure is seeking suitable applicants to support the existing staff employed at Bletchley Leisure Centre. Ideal candidates will have previous leisure experience and demonstrable skills in the delivery of high quality services

LEISURE ASSISTANTS:

NPLQ qualified, previous experience, first aid qualification desirable

RECEPTIONISTS:

Previous reception, customer service and cash handling experience

FITNESS CONSULTANTS:

REPs registered with a minimum level 2 fitness qualification

FITNESS CLASS INSTRUCTORS:

Minimum level 2 fitness qualification, REPs registered

SWIMMING TEACHERS:

ASA level 2 qualified, previous experience

Membership Services Coordinator

Salary: £16,345 - Full Time

Location: Head Office, London Colney, Herts

Would you like to drive forward Hertsmere Leisure's retention activity across Beaumonts Health Clubs?

Responsible for the coordination and administration of customer communication you will deliver a programme of written and verbal correspondence regarding all aspects of the customer's experience, ensuring motivation and longevity. You will also undertake direct contact with customers cancelling within contract or with outstanding payments and will therefore require excellent communication skills, both written and oral, be well organised and methodical.

The ideal applicant will be analytical, numerate, have a good knowledge of Excel and demonstrate natural enthusiasm, creativity and the ability to effectively contribute to strategic sales and marketing objectives.

Gymnastics Coach

Salary: £11.00 - £13.07 per hour - Part Time

Location: Furze Field Centre, Potters Bar, Herts

We are seeking experienced gymnastics coaches to join our team.

Working with young people of all ages you must possess a relevant national qualification, demonstrate excellent communication skills, enthusiasm and have previous experience of working with children.

Initially this post is for a few hours a week, with the potential to be extended due to programme requirements.

For an application pack please contact the Hertsmere Leisure recruitment hotline on 01727 744250 or email alice.webb@hertsmereleisure.co.uk

Closing date: Monday 12th October 2009

These posts are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and will be conditional upon a satisfactory disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau



Successful applicants will receive notification of an interview within 3 weeks of the closing date.

Hertsmere Leisure promotes a positive attitude towards attendance at work.
Registered Charity No.: 1093653.



High heid yins wanted.

Head of Sport and Physical Activity Development

Circa £42,000

We're looking for a passionate, enthusiastic, advocate, driven by a love for your chosen field. An inspirational force who will lead their team to increase participation. A natural communicator, adept at nurturing relationships with our managers and obtaining buy in from our external partners. And a multi-skilled project manager who can ensure the effective development and delivery of sport and physical activity throughout Edinburgh Leisure.

Head of Golf

Circa £35,000

You'll be tasked with encouraging the development of golf in the city, increasing participation and improving the packages we offer so that they match what today's customers need. You'll also lead and develop our golf and green keeping staff to ensure our courses offer a top quality experience. As such, we're looking for someone with an excellent business head, vision and strategic ability in spades, and people skills by the bucket load. All in all, a bit of a mover and shaker.

Head of Customer Experience

Circa £35,000

We need a pretty special person to lead and develop our customer services strategy. A fresh pair of eyes to lead our continued improvements in customer service levels within the fast moving, ever changing leisure industry. You will have a hands on, can do approach which challenges the status quo and is imaginative and innovative. After all, over 4 million customers are depending on it. No pressure, then.

As the City's biggest health and leisure provider, we offer one of the best rewards packages in the industry. For further details and application packs, visit www.edinburghleisurejobs.co.uk or call 0131 651 2255. Closing date: Friday 9 October 2009.

Edinburgh Leisure

Managing leisure and recreation facilities for the City of Edinburgh Council

Marketing Manager £26,000+neg

London, Liverpool Street.

Experienced Marketing Manager required to join small, dynamic established Destination Marketing & PR Agency.

The candidate must have a solid industry knowledge of marketing mix and be able to apply multiple disciplines to a range of destination, brand, sporting & adventure Clients. Minimum 3-4 years experience is required for this sought-after position.

The Client facing role will have a commercial focus, developing medium and long-term strategies in both B2B & B2C environments, handling Client budgets, planning and executing events, working in tandem with the PR team and completing detailed marketing analysis and recommendation.

Please email your CV to
jobs@captiveminds.co.uk



captive minds

Fitness Co-ordinator

£18,501 - £19,658

Campbeltown Ref: OSF40012/R3

Based at Aqualibrium Leisure Centre

☎ 01546 604625

Closing date

25 September 2009.

**To apply visit
our website**



www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/jobs

www.myjobscotland.gov.uk

Health & Fitness Instructor

£6.77 per hour | Dumfries

We have a 37-hour vacancy for an experienced and enthusiastic fitness professional to join our team. Working a shift pattern, you will provide expert instruction in all aspects of our 80-station fitness suite and studio developing high-quality health and fitness opportunities for people of all ages. You must have a passion for customer care and be able to assist the Health and Fitness Manager drive customer sales and retention forward.

The ability to work as part of a team is essential, and you must be able to use your own initiative to meet targets regarding our members. With excellent customer care skills, you will have a friendly and outgoing personality. Vivo, our Lifefitness Connectivity System is integral to our business and a basic knowledge of IT is desired.

You will ideally possess a recognised Level 2 Gym Instructor and Exercise to Music qualification along with current registration on The Register of Exercise Professionals at Level 2 or above. Applications will be considered from candidates who possess only one of these qualifications as training may be provided. A First Aid Qualification, IT skills and knowledge of Health and Safety would be an advantage.

For further information please contact: Marie Nelson on
(01387) 243558.

**Apply online or call 030 33 33 3000 quoting the job
title and ref number or contact Jobcentre Plus.**

Closing date: 12 October 2009. Ref: 10/375.

Single Status Implementation Pending.

After implementation salary will be £17,739-£19,128.

This post is subject to vetting through Disclosure Scotland.



Dumfries

& Galloway



Operations Manager

**Stadium Health and
Fitness Complex,
Galpharm Stadium, Huddersfield**

Salary Range: £28,353 - £30,546

Kirklees Active Leisure requires an Operations Manager who places great importance on customer care, staff development, and facility standards, whilst working to both financial and strategic targets.

The Stadium Health and Fitness Complex is rated 'Highly Commended' by Quest and comprises:

- A 2000 member Health and Fitness Club
- A 25 metre pool with movable floor
- Dance Studio

The site is a key facility within KAL's portfolio and gives the successful candidate the opportunity to make a real impact in not only the facility and organisation but within the local community as well.

The successful candidate will also hold managerial responsibility for a Satellite Site.

The ability to focus on both strategic objectives and financial targets and develop a strong teamwork ethos to deliver high quality services is essential.

Reporting to the Regional Manager South and Central Kirklees, candidates must have a proven track record of effective management in the Sport and Leisure Sector - preferably in a fitness/membership related environment. You should possess or be working towards a relevant degree or Industry Qualification, and have experience of budget setting, monitoring and management.

**For more information and to apply online please visit
www.kirklees.gov.uk/jobs or alternatively request
an application pack by calling 01484 225121 or email
recruitment@kirklees.gov.uk with your details quoting
reference KAL09/053***

Closing date: Friday 16 October 2009.



kirkleesactiveleisure

Premier Training International Ltd. is one of the leading providers of vocational training to the health & fitness industry. This dynamic training organisation has the following vacancy for a highly motivated and experienced industry professional. This position calls for an exceptional talent with a sound academic and vocational background.

LECTURER, Dudley

Applicants should have at least two years health & fitness experience and at least one-year personal training and/or sports team training experience alongside a relevant fitness qualification.

A1/V1 qualifications are preferred but not essential as is a teaching qualification and teaching experience.

The successful applicant will have excellent communication and organisation skills.

This position attracts an excellent remuneration package.

For further details and an application form please contact

Zoe Cass, HR Assistant

Telephone: 01225 717267

Email: zoe.cass@premierglobal.co.uk

Closing Date: 8th October 2009.



news & jobs at www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

Cities and local areas submit 'City of Culture' bids

Bath refutes DCMS claims as 29 prospective candidates across the UK for 2013 culture role are announced

By **Pete Hayman**

The Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) has revealed that 29 cities and local areas have been put forward as candidates to be the UK's first 'City of Culture' in 2013.

Launched in July, the government-run competition aims to build on the success of Liverpool's status as European Capital of Culture during 2008.

Among the applicants so far are 24 English cities and local areas including Birmingham, Brighton and Hove, Cornwall,

Manchester, Norwich and Urban South Hampshire.

Derry and Belfast (Northern Ireland) have applied, along with Aberdeen in Scotland. A bid calling itself 'The Country-side' and one other city that does not want to be named at this stage have also bid.

However, a spokesperson for Bath and North East Somerset Council rejected DCMS claims that the city of Bath was one of the 29 applicants, saying that at no point had the council indicated it would be submitting a bid on Bath's behalf.



Bath has not submitted a bid, despite being named by the DCMS

British Museum to resubmit extension plans

By **Tom Walker**

British Museum officials are to submit revised plans to Camden Council for a £135m extension, which was initially turned down by the council in June.

The amended plans, drawn up by architects Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, include sinking part of the extension below ground in an attempt to resolve local criticism that the extension proposals will restrict



The museum wants to expand

views of the museum's Grade I-listed Reading Room.

The new plans will go on public display later this month,

although no date has yet been set for the plans to be handed in to the council.

Original plans for the scheme, which featured a 1,000 sq m (10,760sq ft) building at the rear of the museum to replace the former offices of the British Library on Montague Place, encountered opposition from a local conservation group over fears that the project would diminish the museum's existing architectural delights.

Nature reserve for Shipley

The former site of the American Adventure theme park in Shipley, Derbyshire could be turned into a nature reserve if new plans are put into action.

The Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has proposed that the 112-acre site, owned by the county council, be put to good use after the theme park closed in 2007.

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