Find great staff[™]



The news & jobs magazine from Attractions Management

AM2.jobs

20 JANUARY 2016 ISSUE 44

Great white dies after just three days in aquarium

The world's first adult great white shark to ever go on display in an aquarium has died after just three days.

The 3.5m (11.5ft) shark, accidentally captured in a net off the coast of Okinawa, Japan, on 4 January, was taken to the Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium the following day. Keepers at the aquarium say the shark hadn't eaten since its arrival and was having to be taught to swim inside its tank without bumping into the walls.

The aquarium said the male shark had adjusted to its tank after several days "but its condition took a sudden turn for the worse" on 8 January. After



The aquarium is still investigating the cause of the shark's death

having difficulty swimming, the shark was removed from the tank to be unsuccessfully treated by the aquarium's veterinarians.

Keeping a great white shark in captivity is extremely challenging because the fish needs to keep swimming constantly to get oxygen and maintain its body temperature.

Attempts to house great whites in aquariums in the past have had only limited success at best. In August 1981 a great white spent 16 days at SeaWorld San Diego before being released. Then in 1984 the Monterrey Aquarium tried to house a great white for its opening but the animal died after just 10 days. In September 2004 the aquarium successfully put a great white on exhibit, keeping a young female in captivity for 198 days before releasing her and then again in 2006 with a juvenile male remaining at the aquarium for 137 days. More: http://lei.sr?a=8b3g4_A

Are theme parks Dubai's key to 20 million by 2020?

Two major operators of underdevelopment theme parks in Dubai have said that their attractions hold the key to the emirate achieving its goal of 20 million visitors by 2020.

Both Dubai Parks & Resorts and IMG Worlds of Adventure are gearing up for their debuts this year and with the UAE's theme park and hotel sectors experiencing rapid growth, Dubai has been touted as 'Orlando 2.0', emulating what the popular US tourist destination has done to establish itself as the world's theme park capital. *More on back cover*

Italy culture ministry pledges €300m to heritage

Italy's government has approved €300m (US\$325m, £220m) plans to protect its most important heritage sites in need of restoration.

The new move is a much-needed shot in the arm for Italy's heritage sector.

Despite having more UNESCOrecognised World Heritage sites than anywhere else in the world, Italy has historically offered a very low level of financial support to those sites.

Among the sites earmarked for restoration, €13m (US\$14m, £9.5m) will go towards the restoration of Emperor Nero's Golden Palace. Additionally, the medieval walls protecting Siena will be restored over the next three years at a cost of €2.2m (US\$2.4m, US\$1.6m)



€6m will go towards maintenance of Venice

and €6m (US\$6.5m, £4.4m) will be used to maintain the foundations of the city of Venice.

Funds will be made available immediately, with the money to be spread across 241 sites. *More: http://lei.sr?a=n8e8A_A*

GET AM2	Magazine sign up at AM2.jobs/subs	PDF for iPad, Kindle & smart phone AM2.jobs/pdf	Online on digital turning pages AM2.jobs/digital	Twitter 🎐 follow us: @am2jobs
	Job board live job updates AM2.jobs	Ezine sign up for weekly updates, AM2.jobs/ezine	Instant sign up for instant alerts, AM2.jobs/instant	RSS sign up for job & news feeds AM2.jobs/rss

CONTACT US

Leisure Media

Tel: +44 (0)1462 431385 Fax: +44 (0)1462 433909 e-mail: please use contact's fullname@leisuremedia.com

Subscriptions subs@leisuremedia.com

Editor Liz Terry +44 (0)1462 431385

Head of News Jak Phillips +44 (0)1462 471938

AM2 News Editor Tom Anstey +44 (0)1462 471916

Attractions Management Alice Davis +44 (0)1462 471918

Journalist

Kim Megson +44 (0)1462 471915 Jane Kitchen +44 (0)1462 471929 Matt Campelli +44 (0)1462 471912

AM2 Products Editor Kate Corney +44 (0)1462 471922

AM2 Publisher Julie Badrick +44 (0)1462 471919

Associate Publisher Sarah Gibbs +44 (0)1462 471908

Sales

Simon Hinksman +44 (0)1462 471905 Jed Taylor +44 (0)1462 471914 Paul Thorman +44 (0)1462 471904 Chris Barnard +44 (0)1462 471907 Helen Andrews +44 (0)1462 471902

Design

Jack Emmerson +44 (0)1462 471136

Michael Paramore +44 (0)1462 471926 Dean Fox +44 (0)1462 471900 Tim Nash +44 (0)1462 471917 Emma Harris +44 (0)1462 471921v

Financial Administrator Denise Adams +44 (0)1462 471930

Circulation Manager Michael Emmerson +44 (0)1462 471932

Subscribe to AM2: Online: www.am2.jobs/subs Email: subs@leisuremedia.com Tel: +44 (0)1462 471913 Annual subscription rates are UK £31 Europe £41, Rest of world £62 students UK £16

AM2 is published fortnightly by The Leisure Media Co Ltd, Portmill House, Portmill Lane, Hitchin, Herts SG5 TDJ, UK. The views expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher The Leisure Media Co Ltd. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recorded or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright holder, Cybertrek Ltd. Printed by Preview Cromatic Ltd. Distributed by Royal Mail Group Ltd and Whistl Ltd in the UK and Total Mail Ltd globally. @Cybertrek Ltd 2016 ISSN Print: 2055-8171 Digital: 2055-818X To subscribe to AM2 log on to www.leisuresubs.com or email: subs@leisuremedia. com or call +44 1462 471930. Annual subscription rates are UK E31, Europe E41 rest of world E62, students (UK) E16.

Read AM2 online: AM2.jobs/digital

AM2 NEWS



Virtual reality continues to dominate at the start of 2016, with Universal now joining in on the act, debuting its first VR coaster at its park in Osaka themed around Japanese fashion model and singer Kyary Pamyu Pamyu (Crayon Shin-chan).

The addition is part of Universal's Cool Japan videogame, anime, manga and Japanese pop culture attraction, which runs from 15 January through to 26 June.

Known as Kyary Pamyu Pamyu XR Ride, the colourful version of the VR coaster by Mack has been added to their Space Fantasy



The ride immerses visitors in the world of Kyary Pamyu

spinning rollercoaster.

"This is our largest project so far and it's become very impressive," VR Coaster's Thomas Wagner, inventor of the technology, told *AM2*. "It's a very nice gravity

coaster and we have

enhanced and extended the track a lot in VR. The spinning capability of the cars has been switched off so the VR choreography could be precisely planned." *More: http://lei.sr?a=r2s8G_A*

VR EDITION

Tech startup Curiscope touts VR as the alternate future of aquariums

UK-based virtual reality company Curiscope has offered an alternative to keeping large animals captive, debuting a VR shark experience which could become a big part of aquariums in the future.

Earlier this month, a Japanese aquarium acquired the first adult great white to be placed in captivity (see front cover), but the animal died after just a few days.

Curiscope's new VR experience offers a close encounter with a pair of great white sharks.

"They tried to have a great white in captivity several times and we thought it was



2016 is predicted to be the year VR steps into the mainstream

a bad idea and not a good thing," said Curiscope CEO Ed Barton, speaking to *AM2*. "We think VR is the next-best thing for an animals like that where it isn't really fair to keep them in captivity. "Oculus is potentially a great idea for putting into aquariums. You can have live streams in the ocean, you can live record. It's just the start of something very exciting." *More: http://lei.sr?a=F3A3A_A*

Google launches dedicated virtual reality division

Google has launched its own virtual reality computing division, appointing Clay Bavor to run the new arm of the technology giant.

Bavor, who has been named vice president of virtual reality, has prior experience in VR, having overseen Google Cardboard since its launch in 2014.

The company has been gearing up for a full VR launch since the debut of Cardboard, partnering with action-camera maker GoPro in May 2015 to use Google technology to enable 360 degree views with a VR device.

Google announced in November that YouTube – which the company has owned since 2006 – could now support virtual reality video, with users able to use Cardboard and a smartphone to view VR scenes.

Google has also backed VR company Magic Leap, which turned heads in March last year when it transformed its office into a robot-populated first person shooter, to the tune of US\$524m (£352.8m, €486.1m).

Prior to that, the company had invested in augmented reality, with its Google



The company has been gearing up for a full VR launch since the debut of Google Cardboard

Glass prototype. Hailed as the future of the emerging technology, the device was somewhat of a flop, with Google announcing in January 2015 that it would stop producing the prototype, but that it remained committed to the development of the product. *More: http://lei.sr?a=Y3R5k_A*

Alton Towers confirms plans for UK's first virtual reality rollercoaster

Alton Towers has confirmed plans to launch the UK's first ever virtual reality rollercoaster, rebranding its Air ride as Galactica for the space-themed VR experience.

The £12m (US\$17.7m, €16.2m) rollercoaster, designed by Bolliger & Mabillard (B&M), first opened in March 2002. The ride was the first flying rollercoaster and at the time of opening was one of the most expensive rollercoasters ever made and among the most technologically-advanced.

"Galactica uses groundbreaking technology to give riders a breathtaking and completely unique rollercoaster experience,"



Galactica will be the UK's first virtual reality rollercoaster

said Gill Riley, marketing director at Alton Towers.

"There is nowhere else in the world where people can experience the feeling of a flying rollercoaster combined with soaring through the universe. For two minutes, our guests will be transported into space and we believe Galactica showcases the future for theme parks around the world." *More: http://lei.sr?a=W3Y9j_A*



The headset will be available in March

Oculus Rift gets official commercial release date

The consumer version of Oculus Rift will be available to pre-order in March.

Since 2013, Oculus has gone from strength-to-strength, being acquired by Facebook in a US\$2bn (€1.5bn, £1.2bn) deal and forging partnerships with Microsoft and Samsung.

"Long term, I believe virtual reality has the potential to change the way we live, work and communicate in many ways," said Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg. "Today is an important step towards that future." *More: http://lei.sr?a=U4N7W_A*

3

Wanda acquisition paves way for Jurassic World park

Chinese property and entertainment giant Wanda has announced the US\$3.5bn (€3.2bn, £2.4bn) acquisition of Legendary Entertainment, opening the door for a *Jurassic World* theme park in Australia among a host of other future projects.

Producer of films including Jurassic World, The Dark Knight and Godzilla, Legendary's IPs will now be available to Wanda's theme park arm, with the company recently revealing plans for a multi-billion dollar theme park development on Australia's Gold Coast.

Wanda, which is China's largest property developer, is aiming to surpass Disney as the world's largest tourism enterprise by 2020. It hopes to welcome more than 200 million people to its worldwide attractions every year, with tourism income in excess of CN¥100bn (US\$16.1bn, €14.6bn, £10.3bn) annually.

Concept images show the theme park plan laid out like a traditional zoo. Notable features detailed in the artistic



Jurassic World is the fourth-highest-grossing film of all time, generating more than US\$1.6bn

impression include an Aqua Dome, Volcano and Mountain Cave, and multiple natural settings. Although it has not been confirmed, life-sized animatronic dinosaurs would likely roam enclosures, with various rides added to create an authentic *Jurassic World* experience. *More: http://lei.sr?a=V4q6k_A*





New rules restrict most orca contact

SeaWorld agrees stricter orca safety guidelines

SeaWorld has reached an agreement with California state regulators over allegations that the operator's San Diego park failed to train its workers to safely interact with its orcas.

The new safety procedures, still to be given final approval by the California Occupational Safety and Health Appeals Board, will prohibit SeaWorld's trainers in the state from swimming under the orcas, standing on them in almost all cases, or surfing on them, unless it pertains to animal care. *More:http://lei.sr?a=P9y3K_A*

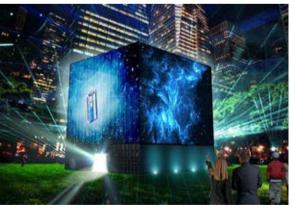
Museum of Science Fiction preview facility coming to Virginia in 2016

The Museum of Science Fiction, coming to Washington DC in 2018, has announced its preliminary US\$3m (€2.5m, £2m) mobile satellite facility will debut in Rosslyn, Virginia, in Q3 2016.

"During our international architectural design competition, several concepts were submitted which featured shipping containers," said the museum in a statement. "The museum's design team is looking at this approach for rapid market entry and quick-stop roadshows."

Grunley Construction are contractors for the project, while Jerry

Twitter: @AM2jobs



The concept for the facility is based on shipping containers

Vanek is operating as lead architect. Architects Emily Yen and Hal Davis are also working on the project.

The 4,000sq ft (371sq m) Mobile Museum will debut with an outdoor science fiction film and lecture series. Once the full facility opens in 2018, the Mobile Museum will tour the country, before being added as a permanent wing to the new facility. *More: http://lei.sr?a=F4C3c_A*

©Cybertrek 2016



VEKOMA'S SUSPENDED FAMILY COASTER

Feet dangling in the air, high speed, exciting curves, guaranteed for **freedom**, **fun**, **thrill** and **excitement**. An exhilarating experience for everyone!

FAMILY COASTERS THRILL & MEGA COASTERS INDOOR & CUSTOM DESIGNED ATTRACTIONS & SPECIALITIES



SCHAAPWEG 18 6063 BA VLODROP THE NETHERLANDS TEL +31 (0)475 409222 FAX +31 (0)475 402115 WWW.VEKOMA.COM

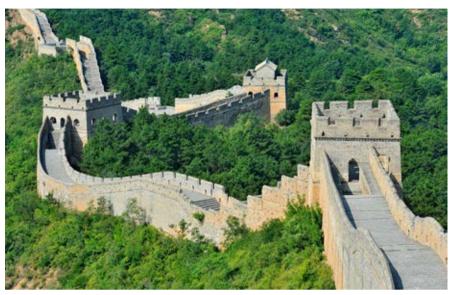
China lays out five-year plan for its Great Wall

The Chinese government has announced a five-year plan to better-protect and preserve the Great Wall of China.

Many parts of the wall have entered a state of disrepair, having been used by nearby villagers – particularly in the 20th century – as a source of stones to rebuild houses and roads, while much of the wall has been lost to tourists illegally taking pieces as souvenirs. Parts have also been demolished to make way for various construction works.

Under the new government initiative, more than 7,000km (4,350 miles) of the Great Wall in Inner Mongolia will be surveyed to identify sections which are most in danger, such as parts which have been damaged by natural disaster or are near major roads and new developments.

The regional government of Inner Mongolia wants to restore the most-damaged sections of the wall by 2020, placing priority on those with the greatest historical significance.



More than 7,000km of the Great Wall will be surveyed to identify sections most in danger

Under the five-year plan, the government has pledged more resources to support archaeological excavation and research for the site, but has emphasised "minimum intervention" to the UNESCO Heritage Site, adding not to "change the status quo" with opposition to building a "new Great Wall". *More: http://lei.sr?a=v3z5d_A*



Titanosaur stretches a massive 122ft

Titanosaur unveiled to public for the first time

New York's American Museum of Natural History has unveiled a world first; Titanosaur – the largest ever dinosaur to go on display.

Opened to the public on Friday (15 January), the humongous dinosaur – which stretches 122ft (37.2m) – is so large its head sticks out of the room it will now call home.

In addition to the giant replica, one femur found at the excavation site will be among five original fossils on temporary view with the Titanosaur. *More: http://lei.sr?a=Y7W9X_A*

Upcoming Giant attraction to support local communities with scholarships

Paddy Dunning – CEO and founder of The Giant visitor attraction – has detailed how each giant will give back to the local community.

With part of the theme of the unique visitor attraction being unlocking humankind's giant potential, a scholarship fund will be set up in each giant's name for local teenagers. Known as The Giant Foundation, the charity will be funded through donations from the visitor attraction itself, in addition to funds from private, public and corporate sponsors.

"We wanted to give back to the community," said Dunning speaking to *AM2*. "We're going to be

Twitter: @AM2jobs



The Giant can become any man or woman from history

linking up with academia in each city to do that.

"Each giant will have its own character and name. We want the giant to be giving the scholarship, not me, not anybody else, the giant. He or she can deliver these educational courses. It a unique thing. There's not many visitor attractions around the world that are giving back like this." *More: http://lei.sr?a=s5M2S_A*

A Global Leader in the Tourism and Leisure Design Industry DEATACK®

©2015 IDEATTACK Inc. All Rights Reserved



MasterPlanning Concept Design Attraction Design Architecture Schematic Design Design Development

Feasibility Study **Brand** Design







Resorts FEC heme Parks Cultural Attractions

Large Scale International Tourism & Leisure Zones



IDEATTACK Inc. 70 South Lake Avenue Pasadena, California 91101 U.S.A. Phone +1 626 463 7353 info@ideattack.com

IDEATTACK[®]



Attractions jobs & news AM2.jobs



3-5 MARCH 2016 **RAAPA 2016**

Moscow, Russia

Organised by the Russian Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (RAAPA), the event is the premier trade show in the Russian amusement industry. Exhibitors from across the sector will be showcasing products, with representatives of the sector encouraged to attend. Email: raapa@raapa.ru Tel: +7 (495) 234-50-15 www.raapa.ru

9-11 MARCH 2016 **IAAPA** Leadership **Conference 2016**

Mexico City, Mexico

Join industry colleagues to understand the value of leveraging your unique story to increase customer retention and build loyalty. Whether you are at the beginning stages of defining your story, need ideas to embrace and integrate your story, or are looking to reinvent your story altogether, the IAAPA Leadership Conference will help you amplify your company's brand. Email: dwilliams@IAAPA.org Tel: +1703/836-4800 www.IAAPA.org

16-20 MARCH 2016 **TED2016: Truth and Dare**

Whistler and Vancouver, Canada A week-long conference about ideas. Onstage, speakers will challenge notions of truth and dare to imagine the future. From this one-week conference, TED Talks will be released throughout 2016. Email: registration@ted.com Tel: +1 212-346-9333 conferences.ted.com

19-21 APRIL 2016

DEAL 2016

Dubai World Trade Centre, **United Arab Emirates**

Held annually, DEAL is the region's most anticipated and biggest attraction



18-20 APRIL 2016 **MuseumNext**

Mansion House, Dublin, Ireland MuseumNext is a major conference on the future of museums. Since 2009, it has acted as a platform for showcasing best practice today to shine a light on

the museum of tomorrow. MuseumNext Dublin will be the eighth European conference and will feature a day of activity highlighting Dublin followed by two days of curated conference sessions. Email: kala@museumnext.com www.museumnext.com/conference

for global and local stakeholders in the amusement and entertainment industries that are looking for a strong entry into these markets. The show in 2015 ushered in more than 300 firms from across 33 countries and attracted 7189 quality trade visitors and 64 new exhibitors. On its 22nd edition, DEAL 2016 expects to witness an even larger gathering of key players and visitors in the amusement industry from Middle East, African, Mediterranean, and Asian countries. With last year's show breaking the record of the number of new and old exhibitors and visitors since the show's inception in 1995, DEAL has developed into an unrivalled platform that gathers exhibitors, buyers, and professionals from the international amusement and entertainment industry. Email: some@iecdubai.com Tel: +971 4 3435777 www.dealmiddleeastshow.com

18-19 MAY 2016 Museums + Heritage Show

Kensington Olympia, London, UK The free-to-attend Museums + Heritage Show offers two days of seminars, features, cultural attraction experts and

Twitter: @AM2jobs

sector suppliers. Those in attendance are given first-rate advice, ideas and tools that they can walk away with and put into practice in their own organisations. An awards ceremony will also take place, recognising the sector's best, with a submission deadline set for 1 February. Email: anna@museumsandheritage.com Tel: +44 1905 724 734 museumsandheritage.com/show

9-11 JUNE 2016

Ecsite Annual Conference 2016 The Graz Children's

Museum, Universalmuseum Joanneum, Graz, Austria

The Ecsite Annual Conference gathers more than 1,000 science engagement professionals. The largest of its kind in Europe, the Ecsite conference is open to everyone interested in public engagement with science. Join this event and its unique balance of large crowds and family-friendly atmosphere, broad thematic scope and focussed state-of-the-art sessions and international perspectives. Email: rdacunha@ecsite.eu Tel: +32 471 49 07 02 ecsite.eu/annual-conference

SAVE THE DATE EURO ATTRACTIONS SHOW 2016

• WHERE THE BUSINESS OF DEBEGINS

EAS

Attractions

Euro

Show

20–22 September

Fira Gran Via, Barcelona, Spain

www.IAAPA.org/EAS

IAAPA

Now Get Even More

Defender

Introducing the new RMF Controller



For over 50 years, Neptune Benson has been synonymous with water filtration and disinfection, serving recreational, industrial, and municipal water markets worldwide. Our relentless focus is on delivering innovative and sustainable technology designed to improve control and efficiency for owners and operators.

The new RMF System Controller is an advanced graphical interface for operating and automating the Defender[®] Regenerative Media Filter. With over 1500 installations worldwide, the Defender is rapidly replacing sand filters as the premier choice for recreational water filtration.

Now Includes:

- Animated graphic display
- Advanced communication & data logging
- Automated capabilities
- Remote monitoring capabilities
 - Through a web browser or smart phone
- greendriveTM VFD connectivity
- ETS-UV connectivity



www.neptunebenson.com/evenmore

Attractions jobs & news AM2.jobs



Alterface Projects is working on a 'magic' wand and gesture tech

Interactive tech from Alterface offers new possibilities

Alterface Projects is continuing to advance the potential of interactive technology in the dark ride environment, working on gesture-led technologies and its "magic" wand concept.

The gesture sensor technology allows ride designers to control their role in the ride experience with simple arm and hand movements. The second new concept under development with Alterface offers masses of possibilities for designers. Alterface's Magic Wand is an intuitive wireless, button-free device that can be used with a mixture of video projection mapping with physical set props.

Because there is little or no hardware involved, these new technologies have the added benefit of being affordable and easy to maintain, says Alterface.



Jurassic War video game offers prize every time

At EAG, Instance Automatics presented a brand new video game offering a "new direction" for the sector.

Jurassic War is a dino-themed shooting game that provides players a prize of a 32mm bouncy ball. Visitors could trial the game at EAG along with many other new releases in the crane, vending, kiddie amusement and redemption sectors.

"Jurassic War is a video prizeevery-time machine and so a new direction from your standard video game," said Ian Eason, director at Instance Automatics. "The player shoots balls at the screen to stop the dinosaurs attacking. The balls you shoot are fully enclosed in the strong all-metal cabinet so not only safe but there are no issues with losing balls during the game."



Stained glass windows inspired the projection show

Projection Studio lights up Windsor Castle at Christmas

The Projection Studio is celebrating its second consecutive festive installation at Windsor Castle in Windsor, UK, with digital art shows inspired by the stained glass windows at a chapel within the grounds.

A single Panasonic PZ21K projector fitted with a portrait adaption kit was used to shoot images onto the castle's central 20m (65ft) -tall tower.

Millumin software served as an ideal control platform for the single projector installation.

"It's fantastic that projected art is being recognised as something that can unify and entertain communities and also boost local businesses very cost-effectively as a result," said Windsor's town centre manager Paul Roach, who commissioned the project.



Minions are a popular plush offering from Whitehouse

Whitehouse launches brand new plush collections

Whitehouse Leisure has made its mark at EAG by tripling its presence on the show floor as the plush company celebrated a newly-awarded two-year agreement with entertainment giant Disney.

The redemption prize specialist provides a wide range of both licensed and generic plush to the amusement and leisure sectors, and focused its efforts on

attracting operators wishing to up their secondary spend offer.

Three stands - Whitehouse Disney, Leisure and Redemption - provided EAG attendees different retail options.

A brand new range of Disney plush will include characters from Finding Dory and Zootropolis characters Nick Wilde the fox and the rabbit Judy Hopps.

AM2 INNOVATION

Crystal Maze creators promise authentic experience

Tom Lionetti-Maguire, co-creator of the upcoming Crystal Maze Experience, has revealed to *AM2* new details about the project which has seemingly captured the imaginations of nostalgic fans of the hit 90s UK game show.

Lionetti-Maguire, along with his partners Ben Hodges and Dean Rodgers, launched an ambitious IndieGoGo campaign in June last year to develop a full-scale replica of the show. The crowdfunding effort by far exceeded expectations, raising £930,000 (US\$1.4m, €1.3m) – nearly half-a-million pounds more than the group's original target goal.

"We've taken a lot of the old games you saw on the show and put in a couple of new ones as well," said Lionetti-Maguire speaking exclusively to *AM2*. "The show will flow exactly as it used to, culminating in your own experience in the Crystal Dome.

"There's no blueprint for *The Crystal Maze*," he continued. "We've learned an incredible amount on the job. Making what you see on that show is an entirely different thing. They were making a TV show and the camera always lies.



Lionetti-Maguire (centre) co-founded the project with Ben Hodges (left) and Dean Rodgers (right)

We need to build this thing for people to come and enjoy it every single day.

"In development we've involved a lot of people who built the original dome, plus people who are film set designers and builders. We want it all to be authentic. We're going to deliver something as good as the original." *More: http://lei.sr?a=f5z8z_A*



The Atlantic Club closed in 2014

Casino waterpark plan for Atlantic City falls through

A bankrupt Atlantic City casino has been placed back on the market after the firm purchasing the property failed to come up with funds for redevelopment.

The property was to centre around an 81,000sq ft (7,500sq m) waterpark, but the agreement fell through with TJM announcing on 4 January that it is now accepting offers from potential buyers for the 800-bedroom hotel and casino, adding in a statement that buyer Endeavour "was not able to generate the additional deposit funds needed". *More: http://lei.sr?a=a2J5B_A*

UNESCO heritage site Skellig Michael offers *Star Wars* boost for Irish tourism

Ireland's tourism body is hoping for a boost off the back of the phenomenal success of *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*, as fans begin to flock to Skellig Michael which played a key role in the film.

The heritage site – which appeared in a key scene at the end of the first instalment of the new trilogy and will be featured in the second release – has been receiving more attention in recent weeks following the film's release.

Tourism officials for Ireland are hoping to capitalise, turning the UNESCO World Heritage Site into a Star Wars hotspot. Tourism Ireland has

teamed up with Lucasfilm,



Skellig Michael is at the heart of Ireland's Star Wars push

releasing a promo video with the crew and director JJ Abrams, discussing why the location was selected. The video has so far attracted 679,000 hits in under a month. In addition to the video, Tourism Ireland has created a dedicated website for *Star Wars* fans, pin-pointing where filming locations were and how to reach them with ease. *More: http://lei.sr?a=q4s2J_A*

AM2 RECRUITMENT

Training that works.



CREW understand that staff development can be difficult and time consuming, but we know that your people can make the difference between a good business and a great business.

CREW training will:

- Inspire great customer service
- Boost retail and FOH confidence
- Enhance communication and presentation skills
- Develop interactive talks and shows
- Improve team morale
- Increase revenue

"As a direct result of CREW training our fund pot for "Gems of the Jungle" at £5000 in August went through the roof and we amassed a further £18,000 in just six weeks. Brilliant!" (summer season 2011)

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



www.crew.uk.net info@crew.uk.net 0845 260 4414

NAMCO UK

The Namco UK business is part of the Bandai Namco group of companies that operate across the globe. It is a Japanese Company that is listed on the Toyko Stock Exchange. The main business units of the worldwide group are toy and hobby products, game software and amusement facilities however in the UK it operates large scale multi leisure facilities.

DEPUTY MANAGER

Romford, Essex, UK Salary: Circa £23k Closing date: 08 Feb 2016

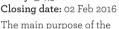


An enthusiastic, driven Deputy Manager is sought to assist the General Manager with the running of this multifaceted leisure business. Situated in The Brewery Retail Complex in the centre of Romford you will be suitably located or be within reasonable commuting distance.

Apply now: http://lei.sr?a=o4u1g

DUTY MANAGER

Tamworth, Staffordshire, UK Salary: £17,500



Duty Manager role will be assisting senior management in the smooth day to day running of the site. The ultimate aim is to make the site that you work in successful and profitable. We can only achieve this if we have happy customers that want to return and tell others about their experience.

Apply now: http://lei.sr?a=y5d5I



Gallery Refreshment Project Manager

Titanic Belfast, the largest Titanic themed, 5 star visitor attraction in the world is looking to Commission a company or individual Project Manager to deliver the next phase



of their Gallery Refreshment programme which is scheduled for completion February 2017.

- This will be a 12 month contract.
- The refreshment will be implemented in two stages.
- Development Stage (March 2016 July 2016)
- Delivery Stage (July 2016 February 2017)
- There will be a review period at the end of the development phase

.....

Contact: Heather Graham for project brief heathergraham@titanicbelfast.com

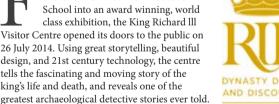
Submission Deadline: 4pm, Friday 5th Feb 2016

Visitor Services Manager

King Richard III Visitor Centre Trust Salary: £24,000 - £28,000 per annum Closing date: 30th January 2016



ollowing the incredible transformation of the former Alderman Newton's School into an award winning, world class exhibition, the King Richard Ill Visitor Centre opened its doors to the public on 26 July 2014. Using great storytelling, beautiful design, and 21st century technology, the centre tells the fascinating and moving story of the king's life and death, and reveals one of the



The King Richard III Visitor Centre Trust is

looking for an enthusiastic, driven Deputy Manager is sought to assist the General Manager with the running of this multi-faceted leisure business. You will drive, motivate and encourage the team to achieve their targets, provide excellent customer service whilst ensuring Company standards of presentation are maintained.





We need someone who can take day-to-day operational responsibility to ensure the consistent delivery of an outstanding customer experience, as well as the following:

- As a member of the Visitor Centre Management Team, to work closely with the Visitor Centre Director in the delivery of the Trust's vision, business plan, and wider strategic objectives.
- To develop a thorough knowledge of the Visitor Centre, the story it tells, the exhibitions, the facilities, and commercial services to ensure the Visitor Centre is efficiently managed to deliver the standards and targets expected of a world class visitor attraction.
- To manage, motivate, and develop the Visitor Services Team to deliver the highest standard of customer care to all visitors at all times.
- To oversee the planning and selection of a range of products to sell in the shop, regularly reviewing sales performance indicators to ensure products meet customer demand and maximise the profitability of the retail offer.
- To manage a volunteer programme that includes recruitment, training and motivation of volunteers to deliver excellent visitor focused services.

RECRUITMENT

For more details on the following jobs visit www.am2.jobs or to advertise call Sarah on +44 (0)1462 471908

Duty Manager

Legoland Discovery Centre Salary: Competitive Job location: Arizona, USA

Duty Manager and Education Supervisor

Sea Life Salary: competitive salary Job location: Arizona, USA

Guest Experience Host - Operations

Sea Life Salary: Competitive 401K Job location: Charlotte, Concord, USA

Visitor Service Manager

Yorkshire Wildlife Park Salary: Competitive Job location: Doncaster, UK

Area Team Leaders (Rides)

Drayton Manor Salary: £18,500 plus benefits Job location: Tamworth, UK

Guest Experience Manager

Legoland Discovery Centre Salary: Competitive Job location: Dallas, USA

Aquarist sea Life Jesolo

Gardaland Resort Salary: Competitive Job location: Verona, Italy

Visitor Services Manager

King Richard III Visitor Centre Salary: £24,000 - £28,000/annum Job location: Leicester, UK

Aquarist

Sea Life Salary: Competitive Job location: Orlando, USA

Business Manager

World Horse Welfare Salary: Competitive + benefits Job location: Somerset, UK

Guest Services Team Lead

Legoland Salary: Competitive Job location: California, USA

Head of Operations

British Postal Museum & Archive Salary: up to £60,000 + Benefits Job location: Central London, UK

Figure Maintenance Studio Artist

Madame Tussauds Salary: Competitive Job location: District Columbia, USA

Deputy Manager

NAMCO UK Ltd Salary: Circa £23k Job location: Romford, Essex, UK

Commercial Manager

Madame Tussauds Salary: Competitive Job location: New York, NY, USA

Master Model Builder

Legoland Discovery Centre Salary: Competitive Job location: Arizona, USA

Duty Manager

Sea Life Salary: Competitive Job location: Auburn Hills, MI, USA

Events and Entertainment Team Leader

Sea Life Salary: Competitive Job location: Weymouth, UK

Operations Manager

Legoland Discovery Centre Salary: Competitive Job location: Georgia-Atlanta, USA



Marketing Executive

Alton Towers resort Salary: £18,000.00 Job location: Staffordshire, UK

Facilities Supervisor

Legoland Salary: Competitive Job location: Winter Haven, FL, USA

Senior Aquarist

Chessington World of Adventures Salary: Competitive Job location: Chessington, UK

Duty Manager

Legoland Discovery Centre Salary: Competitive Job location: Auburn Hills, MI, USA

2016 Team Members

Legoland Salary: Competitive Job location: Windsor, UK

Youth and Education Sales Representative

Legoland Salary: Competitive Job location: Florida, USA

Commercial Sales Operations Team Leader

The Eye Brand Salary: Competitive Job location: London, UK

Guest Services

Team Lead

Legoland Salary: Competitive Job location: California, USA

Events Coordinator

Madame Tussauds Salary: Competitive Job location: London, UK

Duty Manager

Namco UK Salary: £17,500 Job location: Tamworth, UK

For more details on the above jobs visit www.am2.jobs

Dubai Parks & Resorts to boost region's tourism aspirations ahead of 2020 Expo

Matthew Priddy, chief technical officer for the US\$2.9bn (€2.6bn, £2bn) Dubai Parks & Resorts development opening this year, has said that the megaresort's launch will kickstart a tourism influx for the UAE.

"This will kick off that whole 2020 frame of mind, said Priddy speaking exclusively to *AM2*.

"There are numerous parks and developments currently in the region and we don't consider them competition, we consider them complementary. Just like Orlando – a destination city for theme parks – that's going to end up happening here in Dubai.



The resort and its parks are set to open in October 2014

"I can think of half-a-dozen theme park projects under development in the area, not to mention the 2020 Expo. We look at those projects as complementary as they make people looking for that destination to stay a week as opposed to a couple of days. When that critical mass is in play then you're going to have a regionally beneficial development from a both tourist and economical standpoint." *More: http://lei.sr?a=F7N3S_A*

Dubai primed for attractions boom, says Worlds of Adventure CEO Otto

New IMG Worlds of Adventure CEO, Lennard Otto, has said that Dubai is the perfect location for the under-development theme park, praising an up-andcoming economy which he believes is primed for the attractions market.

"This will be one of the iconic attractions to keep momentum moving forward for Dubai," said Otto speaking exclusively to *AM2*.

"The current trend seems to be Dubai becoming 'Orlando 2.0'. The competitive landscape is shaping up quite nicely. There are a lot of attractions coming in which



The park is 80 per cent complete and due to open this year

will eventually turn it into that model where theme parks will be one of the key attractions to drive people here. There's no reason why it can't become that. Dubai has more hotel rooms available than Orlando and the airport is twice as busy. "20 million for 2020 is

the goal for Dubai. It's on target for that and we are here to support that vision." *More: http://lei.sr?a=y4b4u_A*

ADDRESS BOOK

American Association of Museums (AAM) T: +1 202 289 1818 W: www.aam-us.org

Association of American Zoos & Aquariums T: +1 301 562 0777 W: www.aza.org

Association of Art Museum Directors T: +1 212 754 8084 W: www.aamd.org

Association of Independent Museums (AIM) T: +44 (0)1584 878 151 W: www.aim-museums.co.uk

Association of Leading Visitor Attractions (ALVA) T: +44 (0)20 7222 1728 W: www.alva.org.uk

Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC) T: +1 202 783 7200 W: www.astc.org

Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (ASVA) T: +44 (0)]41 229 0923 W: www.asva.co.uk

Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) T: +1 301 562 0777 W: www.aza.org

Australian Amusement Leisure & Recreation Association (AALARA) T: +617 3807 35 08 W: www.aalara.com.au

European Association of Amusement Suppliers Industry (EAASI) T: +39 0522 554 176 W: www.eaasi.org

European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) T: +31 20 520 07 50 W: www.eaza.net

European Network of Science Centres and Museums (Ecsite) T: +32 2 649 73 83 W: www.ecsite.eu

Giant Screen Cinema Association (GSCA) T: +1 919 346 1123 W: www.giantscreencinema.com

Historic Houses Association (HHA) T: +44 (0)20 7259 5688 W: www.hha.org.uk

Indian Association of Amusement Parks & Industries (IAAPI) T: +91 22 6523 1643 W: www.iaapi.org

International Association of Amusement Parks & Attractions (IAAPA) T: +1 703 836 4800 W: www.jaaba.org

International Planetarium Society T: +1 808 969 9735 W: www.ips-planetarium.org

Irish Science Centres Awareness Network (ISCAN) T: +353 (0)51 302 865 W: www.iscan.ie

Museums Australia

T: +61 2 6230 0346 W: www.museumsaustralia.org.au National Farm Attractions Network (NFAN)

T: +44 (0)1536 513 397 W: www.farmattractions.net NAVET

T: +46 (0)33 41 00 09 W: www.navet.com

Outdoor Amusement Business Association (OABA) T: +1 407 681 9444 W: www.oaba.org

The Aquarium & Zoo Facilities Association (AZFA)

E: rlf@tnaqua.org W: www.azfa.org

The Canadian Museums Association T: +1 613 567 0099 W: www.museums.ca

The Canadian Association of Science Centres (CASC) T: +613 566 4247 W: www.canadiansciencecentres.ca

Themed Entertainment Association (TEA) T: +1 818 843 8497 W: www.teaconnect.org

World Waterpark Association (WWA) T: +1 913 599 0300 W: www.waterparks.org

Zoo & Aquarium Association T: +61 2 9978 4797 W: www.zooaquarium.org.au