

Second Victoria & Albert Museum planned for Dundee

By **Pete Hayman**

A feasibility study outlining plans to establish a £42m sister site for London's Victoria and Albert (V&A) Museum in Dundee, Scotland, has been discussed at a two-day conference.

An independent study, commissioned by the Universities of Dundee and Abertay Dundee, Dundee City Council and Scottish Enterprise and carried out by Whetstone Partners and Conran Group, examined the potential impact of the scheme on Scottish creative industries and local tourism. It is hoped that a new landmark building,



The £42m V&A Dundee could open to the public as early as 2013

at the heart of a new water-front development, would house the proposed facility.

Plans would see it act as a national hub for contemporary arts, inspired by Dundee's art

and design heritage, which includes comics, animation and computer gaming.

The report said: "Dundee should celebrate being the birthplace of *Grand Theft Auto*

as well as *The Beano*. If curated carefully, to avoid nostalgia or parochialism, these two themes could provide a useful bridge to popular culture."

Among the guest speakers at the 'V&A at Dundee: Making it happen' event was Mark Jones, director of the museum, as well as representatives from the BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art in Gateshead.

It is anticipated that work could start in the second quarter of 2011, with the new venue set to include around 6,200sq m (66,736sq ft) of internal floor area.

If the plans for V&A at Dundee are realised, the new venue could open in 2013.

British Gymnastics rolls out participation scheme

National governing body aiming to increase number of approved leisure centres

By **Tom Walker**

British Gymnastics is ready to roll out its National Leisure Centre Participation Scheme (NLCPS) after first introducing the initiative last September.

The NLCPS's main objectives are to increase the number of leisure centres across the UK approved by British Gymnastics and participation levels within those leisure centres.

Since its launch, the scheme has been piloted at centres operated by DC Leisure, Greenwich Leisure and



IMAGE: WWW.ISTOCK.COM/EBSTOCK

The scheme will be expanded across the UK during 2009

Dumfries and Galloway. It will now be rolled out nationally throughout 2009 in the build up to 2012.

Research conducted during the pilot period has shown that participation levels can increase by between 50 and 120 per cent in centres as a result of British Gymnastics-endorsement and improved focus.

It also aims to improve standards of the sport's delivery, as currently 25 per cent of coaches employed in unregistered centres are either unqualified or have old qualifications.

The scheme is part of the a strategy to increase gymnastics provision throughout the UK.

Tourism suffers recession blues

The UK experienced a drop in foreign visitors last year as the effects of the economic downturn became more apparent, according to new figures from the Office of National Statistics.

In the three months to 31 December last year, figures fell to 7.01 million visits – 12 per cent below 2007's numbers. Total spend fell to £2.8bn

Total visits over the festive period plunged 17 per cent to 2.11 million.

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Major revamp for Bognor Regis park

HLF grant enables the town's Hotham Park to undergo extensive refurbishment

By **Pete Hayman**

Hotham Park in Bognor Regis, West Sussex has undergone a major restoration project, funded by a £2.2m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

The scheme, which got underway in October 2007 and is led by Arun District Council, has transformed the landscape of the park, with the creation of a new conservation pond and 2 hectares (4.94 acres) of new parkland.

UPM Tilhill has worked on the project, which has seen the renovation of Hotham Park's boating lake, the creation of new Italian and Winter Gardens, and a new community facility established in the lodge next to the main entrance.

The park's clock tower has been restored thanks to a



The park's boating lake has been renovated as part of the work

£25,000 grant from SITA Trust, with its mechanism receiving a complete overhaul for the first time in 200 years, while a new drainage system has been implemented to improve ground conditions.

Dead and decaying trees have also been removed as part of a new tree strategy, which will see more trees removed over the next three years to ensure a sustainable age structure.

Work is still ongoing in certain areas, with new signage and interpretation boards set to be installed, while the ornamental pond will also be refurbished.

U-boat attraction opens to the public in Liverpool

By **Tom Walker**

U534, a decommissioned German U-boat, has opened to the public as a visitor attraction on Liverpool Docks.

One of only four remaining in the world, the vessel was acquired by Merseytravel when its previous owner, the Historic Warships Museum, Birkenhead, went into voluntary liquidation.

The ship has been completely restored and cut into four sections, with glass panels at the end of each section to allow visitors the chance to view inside the vessel from specially-constructed walkways.

Interpretation panels, explaining how each element of U534 functioned during wartime, have been placed adjacent to each viewing glass. Designed by Real Studios, the



The U534 attraction houses exhibits including an Enigma machine

attraction also includes a new exhibition centre offering further information on the history of the boat, which was sunk by the Royal Air Force on 5 May 1945.

Exhibits at the centre include screens showing interviews with surviving crew members, and personal belongings recovered in 1993 when the

vessel was lifted from the North Sea.

Other exhibits include an original Enigma cipher machine, found onboard U534; a hydrophone demonstration, which detects sounds including ships' engines; and a scaled-down model of a U-Boat, which can be made to dive or surface by operating the ballast tanks.

London's Olympic legacy plans announced

Aquatics centre and velodrome to be made available for community use post-2012

By **Pete Hayman**

Legacy plans for the London 2012 Olympic Park have been unveiled by London mayor Boris Johnson, along with communities secretary Hazel Blears and Olympics minister Tessa Jowell.

The proposals have been developed in partnership with the five host London boroughs, and will see the creation of new communities surrounded by parklands and reclaimed waterways, as well as sporting and cultural facilities.

A public consultation has been launched to allow local residents to have their say on the plans, including those regarding the Olympic Stadium, which is to be reduced from 80,000 seats to 25,000 seats after the 2012 Olympics.



The plans will see large areas being turned into communal parks

Plans for the stadium also include world-class athletics facilities capable of staging major international events, as well as the potential to stage cultural and leisure events such as large concerts. In addition, it is proposed that the stadium will house the National Skills Academy for Sports and Active

Leisure, as well as a centre for the English Institute of Sport.

Both the Olympic aquatics centre and the velodrome will be set aside for community and elite sporting use after the Games, while a new arts academy and primary school have been earmarked for the Olympic Village site.

Funding of youth projects a 'dog's breakfast'

By **Pete Hayman**

A funding scheme for sports and leisure projects designed to keep youths out of trouble has been branded as "wasteful, inefficient and bureaucratic" by a government watchdog.

The system which funds the projects was labelled a "dog's breakfast" by Michael O'Higgins, chair of the Audit Commission, following the publication of a new report looking at how sports and leisure activities can help prevent anti-social and criminal behaviour.



The report questions schemes to keep youths out of trouble

The report, called *Tired of Hanging Around*, has revealed that more than £113m would be saved if one in 10 young offenders was kept out of

further trouble, with less than £50,000 needed to support a young person to stay out of the criminal justice system.

According to the report, youth workers spend too much time managing budgets and chasing new funding, and in some cases, the administrative costs involved in bidding for grants is more than the funding applicants hope to receive.

The report also criticised the fact that funding is often fixed and short-term with no guarantee of renewal, resulting in the closure of schemes with a proven track record.

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IN BRIEF

Moray centre reopens following repairs

► Moray Leisure Centre in Elgin, north Scotland, has reopened most of its facilities to customers following a month-long closure for urgent repairs. Freezing conditions over the New Year period resulted in damage to the pipes in the air handling and heating systems. The consequent flood damage has cost around £100,000 to fix. The gym and studio are now back in action, although the air temperature may be higher than normal while the heating system is being reviewed.

Fit for the Future areas announced

► A pilot scheme of Fit for the Future – which offers gym subsidies to 16- to 22-year-olds – will launch in April in Manchester, Torbay, Bristol, Newcastle and Suffolk. Torbay was chosen as it has a large population of 16- to 22-year-olds, while the three cities offer a breadth of urban populations. Suffolk was chosen due to its rural perspective. The FIA has contacted its members in those areas to recruit 50 sites to take part in the pilot.

Yate Leisure Centre revamp complete

► The third and final phase of a £1.8m redevelopment of the Yate Leisure Centre has been completed. The work included the upgrading of the centre's poolside amenities. New dry and wet side changing rooms have been built and a new cycling studio has been added. Previous phases saw the introduction of a health and fitness suite, including 90 pieces of Technogym equipment, set in a purpose-designed area overlooking the swimming pool. The centre is operated by South Gloucestershire Leisure Trust.

Heworth leisure centre gets approval

Gateshead Council green lights plans for the last of five new facilities in the area

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

Plans to develop a new leisure centre in Heworth, Newcastle Upon Tyne, have been approved by Gateshead Council.

The facility is the last of five new centres to be approved as part of the council's £29m Building an Active Future programme, designed to improve the community's health by ensuring access to quality facilities.

Plans for the Heworth centre have been referred to the Government Office North East for final approval, but if completed, could feature a 25m, four-lane swimming pool, a learner pool, a FlowRider surfing and body-boarding attraction, a fitness suite and a boxing gym. There will also be outdoor changing rooms and a multi-purpose room.

If approved, construction work is expected to begin this



Plans for the centre include a four-lane, 25m swimming pool

summer with the view of being completed in winter 2010. The facility is being built on vacant land opposite Heworth Grange Comprehensive School and, once open, will replace the existing but ageing Felling Pool.

Other centres to benefit from the programme include the new Gateshead Leisure Centre, a pre-training camp for London 2012 Olympics, which has closed to undergo a year-long

redevelopment; as well as centres in Blaydon, Dunston and Birtley.

When complete the Gateshead centre will boast a new spectator and viewing area, a café, a 650sq m (6,997 sq ft) gym and changing areas. The existing swimming pool will be refurbished and a teaching pool will be added as well as a sauna and steamroom, and two fitness studios.

Dolphin club revamp completed

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

The £2m refurbishment of Dolphin Fitness Club in Pimlico, London, has been completed.

The independently-operated 929sq m (10,000sq ft) facility underwent a two-phase facelift that resulted in a new swimming pool and a 325sq m (3,500sq ft) gym with 37 stations of Cybex CV and resistance equipment.

There are also three new exercise studios, a sauna, a steamroom, changing rooms and squash courts, as well as a tennis court and a croquet lawn.

The centre also offers an independent health clinic providing holistic therapies and a restaurant. Memberships start



The facility is used by touring squash professionals to train

from £70 per month. This month the club also expanded its class menu to offer kick boxing, salsa and street dancing sessions.

The club's manager, Jonathan Acott, said, "The gym hadn't been refurbished for over 10 years and was in need of a good overhaul."

énergie acquires Fitness First clubs

Health club operator proposes rapid expansion with 80 new clubs in the pipeline

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

The énergie Group has brokered the acquisition of eight Fitness First Clubs in the UK and has confirmed a second franchise agreement with Qatar-based investment group Ghamin Bin Saad Al Saad & Sons Holding Group (GSSG).

GSSG purchased the eight clubs as part of the investment group's plans to grow its portfolio of énergie clubs both in the UK and the Middle East simultaneously. The firm plans to invest in 30 clubs in the UK.

énergie's new Management Services division will operate the clubs on behalf of GSSG. All eight sites will undergo a £1m rebranding over the next eight weeks and two of the clubs, in



GSSG plans to open at least 50 énergie clubs in the Middle East

Northampton and Southampton, will be for women only. The other six clubs are located in Inverness and Dundee in Scotland, Rotherham, Milton Keynes, Swindon and Epsom.

As part of the deal, énergie has taken a 50 per cent stake in

the Milton Keynes site with a view to using it as a national training centre for franchisees.

GSSG has also agreed a development pipeline with énergie in the Middle East, which will see the groups open an additional 50 clubs.

Crystal Leisure Centre revamp comes to an end

By **Helen Patenall**

Crystal Leisure Centre in Stourbridge, West Midlands, has benefited from an £800,000 investment by Dudley Council.

The council has spent £500,000 on a new fitness suite for the facility, which includes interactive cardiovascular and resistance machines, a cycling studio equipped with Trixster bikes, punch bags and free weights.



The new gym has Trixster bikes

A new reception area, modifications to provide easier access for people with disabilities and

maintenance work to the centre's poolside area complete the refurbishment programme. The facility already features a leisure pool, including waves, rapids, slides, waterfalls, an eight-court sports hall and a 25m swimming pool.

The work, delivered on time and on budget, was jointly funded through a partnership between the council and the private sector health and fitness company Alliance Leisure Services.

Wellness centre to open in Covent Garden, London

A new wellness centre is to open in Convent Garden in April.

The centre will be opened by International Collective, a talent agency and production company, and will be called I.N.C Space.

Several of the personal trainers at the centre will specialise in getting actors and dancers

into shape for film and stage roles. Members will receive a detailed lifestyle analysis including: postural and muscle balance assessment; health screening; fitness assessment; goals discussion; nutritional planning and one-to-one training. There will also be a range of classes including yoga and pilates.



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How tourism can beat the crunch

Investment in tourism should be top of the agenda



PHILLIP RIDDLE
is chief
executive of
VisitScotland

The current economic situation is never far from our thoughts and I'm often asked what this means for Scottish tourism and what should be done to ensure that we recover well from the current challenges. While the picture is mixed, with some finding it tough and others continuing to do well, business confidence is suffering.

Although this is a complex area, with no one single answer, the one area that should not be overlooked is investment.

We need more focus on areas that will drive sustainable economic growth, such as investment in infrastructure, investment in quality, more cross-selling and a drive to increase capacity and reduce seasonality. These levers for growth are more vital than ever.

One such lever is our national investment plan. This plan will focus on new investment capable of transforming an area and highlight the need for businesses to continually invest in their existing facilities.

Stronger industry leadership based around such a plan would see Scotland taking charge of its own destiny with a more focused, proactive and structured vision for Scottish tourism. But it's not just about what public bodies are doing: growth for Scottish tourism has to come from all of us.

We shouldn't forget that tourism can play an important role in supporting the Scottish economy. We should also remember that our industry is both varied and resilient: we have weathered crises before and together we can overcome the current environment.

UKinbound questions PM's pledge

Trade body calls for delay to introduction of air passenger duty system

By **Luke Tuchscherer**

UKinbound, the tourism trade association, has questioned the government's support for the industry and called for a delay in the new Air Passenger Duty (APD) system.

Philip Green, the organisation's chair, was speaking at the UKinbound Convention in Manchester when he called into question Prime Minister Gordon Brown's recent pledge to support tourism.

"They are supporting us by complicating and increasing APD and by extending the reach of visa costs requirements," he said. "Is that the kind of support we need? APD adds so much to the cost of a long-haul arrival that any reduction in the currency value will be wiped out. And when the currency is not in our favour, the APD is a huge hindrance."

Green also mentioned a lack of joined up thinking in government, complaining that



Brown has pledged to support tourism

policies directly affect tourism where being handled by immigration and transport departments, rather than the DCMS.

It wasn't all doom and gloom however, as Green praised the government for its acknowledgment of the importance of tourism, saying it was a "huge step forward".

Ireland records slump in inbound tourism



Ireland has seen a fall in inbound tourism

By **Pete Hayman**

New figures released by Ireland's Central Statistics Office have revealed that the number of Irish holidaymakers travelling abroad has exceeded the number of inbound trips for the first time in nearly two decades.

The number of Irish residents travelling overseas in 2008 increased by 2.1 per cent on the previous year, with the number of foreign residents travelling to Ireland decreasing by 2.2 per cent during the same period.

Credit crunch to increase domestic tourism

The UK is set to be Britons' top choice of holiday destination this year, according to new research.

A survey by Continental Research, the London-based market research agency, revealed that respondents aged 20-54 chose the UK as their most popular destination, while most 55-74-year-olds chose Spain.

The study also said that despite the recession 48 per cent of respondents would not be changing their plans. Of the 34 per cent who said that they would, most are looking to reduce their budget or go for last minute bargains.

Overall, 27 per cent said they would be holidaying in the UK rather than another country for their main holiday.

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IN BRIEF

Ripon swimming pool plans postponed

► Plans for a new £3m swimming pool in Ripon, North Yorkshire, have been postponed by Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) due to the economic downturn. The scheme was to be funded from the sale of the city's existing spa baths and through prudential borrowing, but HBC is currently unable to afford the revenue costs of repaying loans. Under plans outlined in December 2007, the new complex would have included a six-lane, 25m pool and a learner pool.

Cardiff ice rink scheme 'on track'

► A new permanent ice rink is still to be built in Cardiff Bay after the city council and Cardiff Devils ice hockey team reaffirmed a commitment to the project. The Devils currently play at a 2,000-seat temporary rink at the city's International Sports Village, which opened in November 2006 with a contract for it to be replaced within five years. Cardiff Council leader, Rodney Berman, insisted that the scheme remains on track well within the time frame to provide a permanent facility, and that the economic downturn has had no impact upon the plans.

Leisure centre to replace Sleaford pool

► North Kesteven District Council has decided against investing in the town's swimming pool, preferring instead to build a new leisure centre in Sleaford. The executive board concluded that "it is not cost effective to refurbish the existing swimming pool as it no longer meets modern standards and the costs involved are prohibitive". A detailed feasibility study will now be undertaken to analyse the scope of the project.

Biggin Hill gets £4m leisure complex

A two-storey facility, including a 25m pool, will replace the town's existing library

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

A new £4m swimming pool and library is to be built in Biggin Hill after the scheme was approved by the London Borough of Bromley.

Suffolk-based developer ISG Jackson plans to build the new complex on the site of the town's existing library, replacing it with a new two-storey facility including a café, meeting rooms and a children's party area, as well as a 25m, six-lane swimming pool.

Ian Gifford, director of ISG Jackson's public division, said: "There is a great deal of excitement over the commencement of the new swimming pool and library facility in Biggin Hill and the



ISG Jackson is behind plans for the new pool and library complex

scheme represents a major investment in leisure amenities by the council.

"We are confident that once completed, the new facility will become an important focal point for the local community, providing a range of services

within high quality, purpose built accommodation."

It is expected that construction work on the new facility will get underway at the end of February, and it is anticipated that it will be ready to open by early 2010.

Horley school site to become new leisure centre

By **Helen Patenall**

A new leisure centre is to be built on the site of a disused school in Horley, Surrey.

Reigate and Banstead Borough Council (RBBC) has acquired the former Court Lodge secondary school site from Surrey County Council to help provide improved community facilities.

The new leisure centre will house a 25m swimming pool, a sports hall, a gym and a dance



Plans include a new 25m pool

studio, as well as around 150 parking places and 15 new affordable homes.

Joan Spiers, RBBC leader, said: "We promised the people of Horley that when they took the additional housing we would ensure they had the necessary community facilities."

The outdated Horley Anderson leisure centre will now be knocked down, although the site's Innes Pavilion will remain standing for use by a local social club and to provide changing facilities for those using the nearby football pitches.

Sutcliffe confirms plans for new anti-doping agency

Sports minister Gerry Sutcliffe has confirmed that a national drugs testing agency, provisionally called UK Anti-Doping, will be launched by the end of the year.

The national anti-doping organisation (NADO) will take on the testing and education responsibilities which are currently performed by the high performance sport agency, UK Sport.

New powers are also set to be granted to the agency to ensure that Britain is at the forefront of anti-doping in the run up to the London 2012 Olympic Games, with £7.2m to be invested in the NADO in 2010-11. This marks a 60 per cent increase on the current anti-doping budget of £4.5m.

DCSF calls for more cricket in school

Ed Balls challenges schools across Britain to find innovative ways to use cricket

By **Pete Hayman**

A competition has been launched by the Department for Children, Schools and Families for schools to find innovative ways of using cricket to improve standards across the national curriculum.

Details of the scheme were revealed by children's secretary, Ed Balls, at the Sports Colleges Conference, which is also designed to develop new methods to increase the reach of cricket for young people.

The first challenge is to increase participation in schools and clubs by focusing on getting more girls involved, small-sided games, and increasing the number of young people who become officials, umpires or scorers.



Cricket could provide far-reaching benefits in a range of subjects

Raising standards across a range of subjects is the second challenge, enhancing young people's learning through the way the history of the sport reflects the development of Britain's former colonies, as well as using maths and statistics to analyse the game.

Balls said: "From the village green to the Ashes tests to playground scratch games, cricket is part of our national identity.

"Cricket is one of the most popular school sports and I'm convinced it can have benefits across the curriculum too."

Isle of Man plans shelved

Plans for the major redevelopment of a sports stadium in Douglas, Isle of Man, have been put on hold by the local authority due to the economic downturn.

Douglas Borough Council is behind the £2.5m revamp of the King George V Bowl ahead of the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games, but it has been unable to find the private and public funding needed to pay for the scheme.

The council has said, however, that it will still go ahead with a ground survey at the stadium in order to assess future improvements to the pitch before remedial works will be considered.

New identity for England Squash



The governing body is hoping to raise the profile of both sports

By **Pete Hayman**

England Squash has announced that it will now officially be known as England Squash and Racketball in a bid to recognise the increasing popularity of racketball in the UK.

The national governing body is already involved in the promotion and development of both sports, and will adopt the new identity in order to represent its current role.

A new website is being developed to increase participation, as well as raising both sports' profiles.

Nick Rider, chief executive of England Squash and Racketball, said: "Squash has always been a popular sport. Racketball is a newer sport and we've seen it revitalise demand for courts.

"Therefore, we felt a new, modern and vibrant identity was needed to represent the core values of both sports."

IN BRIEF

Sportscotland funding for grassroot schemes

► Sportscotland has unveiled a total of £214,105 worth of funding for three grassroot sports projects in the country. Invergordon Football Club has been awarded £62,605 to upgrade its pavilion; Penpont Community Council in Dumfries & Galloway has received £50,000 to assist with the construction of a new multi-use games area at Gadstone Park; while the third grant will see Nethertown Bowling Club in Dunfermline receive £11,500 towards the construction of a new pavilion.

Harrogate pool to undergo renovation

► Starbeck Baths in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, has closed its doors to the public in order to allow work to get underway on a two-month refurbishment of the facility. The centre will reopen on 5 April following the £237,000 revamp, which will include the replacement of floor tiles in the changing rooms, installing new damp proofing measures, and fitting an energy efficient boiler. A revamped reception area is also part of the scheme and is the first stage of a 10-year maintenance plan for Starbeck Baths estimated to cost around £780,000.

Councils agree on Flitwick leisure

► Plans to redevelop Flitwick leisure facilities in Bedfordshire are finally being put in action. A new football centre will be built on land owned by the county council to make way for a new leisure centre on the town's existing pitches. Mid Beds District Council and Flitwick Town Council will now submit a full planning application for the football centre and outline permission for Flitwick Leisure Centre this month.



Hilton Hotels is to cut costs by £175m in light of falling occupancy

European chain hotels suffering

HotStats survey reveals difficult times for operators

By **Helen Patenall**

TRI Hospitality Consulting has published its full-year HotStats survey, revealing a fall in profit, revenue and occupancy for European chain hotels last year.

Seven out of the 10 cities surveyed reported decreases in gross operating profit.

The agency's deputy managing director, David Bailey, said: "Most European hotel markets enjoyed profit growth for the first eight months of 2008, but the rapid downturn since August affected the full-year data."

The three cities surveyed where branded hotels demonstrated an increase in profits for the full year were Berlin, Budapest and Hamburg.

"These cities were not overly exposed to the banking crisis and their hotels did not enjoy such a trading boom during 2007, compared to other cities, hence the profit increases on the back of relatively modest performances," said Bailey.

London had the highest average occupancy of 82.2 per cent for the full year and enjoyed the most profitable hotel market in the survey.

VisitBritain highlights the need for help

Framework Review makes strong case for the government to support the tourism industry

VisitBritain's recent Framework Review makes an admirable case for the government to take the tourism industry more seriously – something ministers and officials have failed to do. And now the industry, which is worth £110bn annually and employs over two million people, is critically vulnerable in a recession.

The review pulls no punches. It suggests that the absence of sufficient infrastructure investment, and a potential 10 per cent drop in overseas visitor arrivals to the UK over the next five years, could lead to 67,000 fewer jobs and an accumulative loss of almost £10bn by 2012.

If the likely loss of domestic visitors to overseas travel is taken into account, the decline would be 114,000 jobs and the loss would rise to £20bn.

A decline of almost 20 per cent in tourism business revenues, brought on by this loss would in turn lead to business failures as many are small, independent owner-operators with limited financial resources.

Of course, there is an upside. The review says that if the government took a more proactive approach to tourism, overseas visitor numbers would potentially increase to 49 million by 2018, creating a UK tourism market of £136bn and creating more than 50,000 jobs.

The review's central theme is that the government's response to tourism has been hesitant and confused. We can only hope the review might encourage it to be more positive.

In the most obvious case, the lack of funding for promoting the 2012 Olympic Games, means that there is a real risk that the full Olympic legacy opportunity cannot be delivered.

Responsibility for tourism is also split between a competing national boards, government agencies, regional development agencies (RDAs) and local authorities. Although all are publicly funded, few bother to work – even to communicate – with each other and therefore waste money.

VisitEngland, representing a country which attracts three-quarters of all overseas and domestic visitors to the UK, has only just been set up.

The organisation may well bring some order to the chaos of conflicting interests, but only if there is powerful leadership. And as the key chief executive appointment is still yet to be made, we have a long way to go.



BOB COTTON is chief executive of the BHA. *Leisure Opportunities* is a member benefit of the BHA, for your free copy call 01462 471913

leisure property news

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Dulwich centre revamp gets approved

£5.5m redevelopment of Grade II-listed centre scheduled to get underway in April

By **Helen Patenall**

Southwark Council has approved a £5.5m refurbishment plan to update Dulwich Leisure Centre.

The Grade II-listed, 19th century building will benefit from an improved swimming pool area, a new gym and new wet and dry changing rooms.

Access for those with disabilities will be incorporated, including hoists into the pool, step-free access and a lift to the first floor studios. Green energy saving features like high-efficiency boilers, roof-mounted solar thermal panels and low energy lighting will also be installed throughout.

In addition, the entrance building and the clock tower on East Dulwich Road will be restored to offer a public space.



Plans have now been submitted for final Listed Building Consent

Cllr Lewis Robinson, executive member for culture, leisure and sport, said: "Dulwich Leisure Centre is going to be vastly improved, and it will hopefully result in a lot more residents attending."

Phase one of the project is set to commence in April, with completion expected by

Christmas. The project has now been referred to the Government Office for London to obtain final Listed Building Consent, which is likely to take four to six weeks.

The council hopes to secure an extra £1.5m of government funding to ensure the future of Camberwell Baths as well.

Castle View proposals called in

By **Pete Hayman**

The £150m mixed-use regeneration scheme of Lancaster's canal corridor, approved by the city council in October, has been called in by communities secretary, Hazel Blears.

The Castle View project, which is being led by London-based urban regeneration company Centros, will now go to a public inquiry later this year, although no date has been set.

Plans feature six public spaces, including a new park leading to the city's canal, new canal-side restaurants and cafés will be created and major



Plans include six public spaces

improvements to the Dukes and the Grand Theatres.

New premises for the Musicians' Co-operative will also be created, as well as 320,000sq ft (29,729sq m) of retail space and 179 residential units.

WCCC pavilion work to begin

Worcestershire County Cricket Club (WCCC) has unveiled plans for the redevelopment of its New Road ground.

The club has appointed consultants McBains Cooper to manage a £2m revamp of the members' pavilion. The old stand will be dismantled and replaced with a new one.

The new two-storey pavilion will house a spectator seating area, changing rooms for umpires and players, a club office and a large dining room.

IN BRIEF

Telford golf centre plans submitted

► Burhill Golf and Leisure, the owner of The Shropshire Golf Centre near Telford, has submitted plans to build a new 50-bedroom hotel and spa to Telford and Wrekin Council (TWC). TWC is expected to decide by 7 April whether to award planning permission for the scheme, which includes a proposed hotel and spa, and a leisure centre with an indoor swimming pool, a gymnasium, a fitness studio and a restaurant.

Worrall Thompson closes four restaurants

► Celebrity chef Antony Worrall Thompson has closed four of his restaurants after failing to secure bank loans. The closures at the Notting Hill, West London; the Lamb Inn and the Greyhound in Oxfordshire; and the Barnes Grill in southwest London – which will result in 60 job cuts – came after Lloyds turned down the chef's request for a £200,000 overdraft. As a result, AWT Restaurants, the chef's holding company, went in to administration on 6 February.

Handball arena plans approved

► Plans for the new London 2012 Handball Arena have been given the green light by the Olympic Delivery Authority's planning committee. Designed by Make Architects with PTW and Arup, the planning application for the 7,000-seat venue has been recommended for approval when it goes before the Greater London Authority. The arena will stage the majority of the handball events and the Paralympic goalball competition.

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FACILITIES CONTRACT

The London Borough of Hillingdon invites expressions of interest from companies who are suitably qualified and experienced to provide a full management and operation of 4 sports and leisure facilities. This includes the new Botwell Green Leisure Centre in Hayes Town due to open in late Autumn 2009. The centre includes a 25m pool, leisure water, sports hall, health & fitness and specialist gymnastics facility.

The appointed company and/or organisation will be required to fulfil management, operation, marketing and promotion responsibilities for the successful operation of the leisure facilities in order to achieve the Council's key strategic aims and objectives. In particular the incoming operator/operators will be required to demonstrate the council is achieving value for money from the operation to benefit the Borough's wide and varied communities.

The Council will be letting a ten-year contract. The contract is due to commence on 01 October 2009 and will be tendered electronically.

Interested organisations will be required to register their interest, from which they will be sent the tender documentations to provide a detailed tender proposal. The tender proposal will be evaluated and a short list of organisations will be invited to a clarification meeting. Site visits will be arranged during the tender process.

Please contact Sally Smith, Procurement Buyer, by e-mailing ssmith10@hillington.gov.uk or by letter to London Borough of Hillingdon, Corporate Procurement Unit (1S/07), Civic Centre, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1UW to express your interest.

**Closing date for return of Tender
Documents is 26th March 2009.**



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Sale of Double Tennis Court Covering and Structure

Erewash Borough Council presently owns a double (2) Tennis Court cover and structure situated in West Park, Long Eaton which has been identified as surplus to current requirements. The council is seeking expressions of interest and subsequent offers from organisations wishing to purchase this asset

The covering structure is equivalent to two full size tennis courts, measuring 40 metres by 42.5 metres (reducing to 40 metres). The covering is a 'Walters' type 'building envelope' with an aluminium frame and a polyester and PVC fabric covering. The successful purchaser is expected to make suitable arrangements to remove the structure using competent dismantlers and comply with any relevant Health & Safety legislation. It is believed Lakesmere Ltd acquired 'Walters' and they may be able to provide advice and/or names of suitable dismantling and re-erection companies.

It is recommended that prospective purchasers view the structure and surrounding area in order to fully familiarise themselves with their obligations should their offer be accepted. Should a purchaser determine not to visit site then no claim due to a lack of appreciation in terms of site requirements will be considered.

To register your interest, request an offer form and arrange a site visit, please contact Emma Hubball, Personal Assistant to the Acting Director of Culture and Leisure Services, at Sandiacre Friesland Sports Centre, Nursery Avenue, Sandiacre, Derbyshire NG10 5AE
Telephone: 0115 907 2268 E-mail: emma.hubball@erewash.gov.uk

Site viewing dates are: 12 March & 17 March 2009
The closing date for the receipt of offers shall be 12.00 noon on Friday 27 March 2009.

(Pictures are of structure as new and not an accurate reflection of the current condition)

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People1st will use the survey to improve industry training

Survey on disability awareness

The research involves a number of industry partners

By **Tom Walker**

People1st has teamed up with VisitBritain and other leisure industry partners to conduct a survey on disability awareness training in the UK.

The aim of the research is to gain a better understanding of the extent to which existing training in the UK tourism industry meets the needs of disabled visitors.

The survey is part of the government's efforts to increase access in the run up to the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games.

In September 2007, the DCMS published a tourism strategy for 2012 setting out a programme of work to increase and improve access to services for disabled visitors in the UK.

An Accessible Stakeholders Forum was set up in April 2008, covering a cross-section of stakeholders in tourism, visitor accommodation, visitor attractions, passenger transport and the hospitality industry.

The results of the survey will be analysed by People1st to help inform an industry-led working group on how to improve access for all.

Together we can weather the economic storm

By working together, sport and active leisure can overcome recessionary challenges ahead

There is no mistaking that this is a difficult time for the economy. As we move into spring, more job losses and redundancies are reported, along with the downturn in consumer spending and rise of repossession figures among homeowners – there really isn't much to celebrate.

Let's not forget that over the last 10 years, however, sport and active leisure has outperformed the rest of the UK economy four-fold in terms of Gross Value Added (GVA) and employment. Yet the recession will put immense pressure on the sector to maintain its position in the economy.

We are a service sector and therefore we attract discretionary spending. Consequently there is now a real concern that this spending will be hit. During this time it is crucial for SkillsActive to work with employers, to help them through this period of turbulence and maintain their status within both the economy and government agenda.

We're taking a four 'R' approach. Retain: where possible encourage employers to retain their staff, facilitate opportunities to access funding for training and keep people on the 'shop floor'. Re-skill: proactively broker training solutions for employers to introduce new skills in the workplace. Re-deploy: encouraging perhaps smaller employers to share both expertise and workplace training. For example, if an apprenticeship programme cannot be completed within one organisation, linking with another to ensure the apprentice can finish the programme. Re-engagement: encouraging employers to open their doors to people who have perhaps been made redundant and offer volunteering places, coaching hours or similar to engage them with the sector.

The fact is that, recession or no recession, increasing the number of people participating in sport and physical activity and adopting an active lifestyle is the key success for all parts of the sector and is an agenda shared with government. And although the last economic slowdown back in 1997-98 did have an impact on the sector, and we witnessed negative growth in employment, I am confident that 10 years on consumers are more health conscious and physically active. That doesn't mean, however, that we should stop encouraging them back through the door. A workforce with more people, better skilled, better qualified will help. And although we will inevitably come up against challenges over the coming months, working together we can and will overcome them.



SkillsActive

STEPHEN STUDD
is chief executive
of SkillsActive



Upskilling the leisure industry

Leisure and sport industry employers want fresh new talent to drive their businesses forward, but in an increasingly competitive market, only first class employees will set them apart from the rest.

That's why education for 14-19-year-olds is changing. The new Diploma and the extension of the Apprenticeships programme will give young people the work-ready skills, knowledge and experience employers are looking for.

The Diploma is designed with the help of employers and universities. It gives young people a fully rounded education, with learning in the classroom and work experience, so they can put theory into practice in real-life work situations.

In September 2008, five Diplomas were launched, and in 2010 the Diploma in Sport and Active Leisure will be taught for the first time. It's been developed with industry experts and will help students to build rewarding careers across a whole spectrum of sport and active leisure roles from fitness instruction and coaching to facilities construction and grounds maintenance.

Apprenticeships – including those in active leisure and learning – also give people skills that are relevant to modern business, including work in leisure centres, gyms, swimming pools, stadiums and private sports clubs, as well as a range of outdoor activities. They are designed by employers for employers. The main difference from the Diploma is that apprentices do most of their learning in the workplace, working towards a qualification such as an NVQ or BTEC.

What they have in common is that both the Diploma and Apprenticeships give young people the skills, knowledge and experience to progress to further and higher education and work.

Support for the Diploma and Apprenticeships is growing, with the likes of Sir Alan Sugar championing the move towards practical learning. He believes that supporting young people is vital to the country's success. That's why he is the 'face' of a new advertising campaign for Apprenticeships. He says: "The Diploma and Apprenticeships involve learning in a real

work environment, giving students the know-how they need to succeed. Businesses require people who will help them to grow, especially in times like these, so it's important employers take these qualifications seriously."

By getting involved and supporting the Diploma and Apprenticeships in your area you can help make sure young people get the skills you need for your business.



Work-ready employees

The key thing about the Diploma, says Sue Beeley, from Sheffield United Football Club, is that it will give sport and active leisure businesses direct input in making young people more aware of what the world of work is actually about.

"I have done numerous mock interviews in schools and universities and the majority of students still have a very hazy understanding," she said.

"By coming in to the workplace and seeing inside the professional world for themselves, they will hopefully be much more able to understand why health and safety, good basic skills, communications skills and strong customer service are important, and why personal attributes like reliability, politeness and enthusiasm will make them much more employable in a competitive world."

"The Diploma will also enable us to open young people's eyes to the wide variety of 'behind the scenes' roles within the industry – a club like ours is not just about players, coaches and managers, but also about catering, hospitality and events, retail, facility management, ticketing and membership and so on."

Like Apprenticeships, the Diploma will encourage more people to seek careers in the leisure industry.

For more information on changes to education for 14-19-year-olds and details of how to get involved visit www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19/employers



Female coaching scheme launched

Sportscotland has launched a new three-year pilot initiative designed to increase the number of women coaches in Scottish sport, as well as supporting the progression of new and existing coaches.

Women in Coaching hopes to address figures, which show that females only hold a quarter of coaching roles in the UK, while only 8 per cent of national and Olympic level coaches are women.

Coaches living or working within the Borders region, Edinburgh, Glasgow and the Tayside and Fife area are being targeted, for swimming, netball, gymnastics, tennis and hockey.

It is hoped that up to 70 female coaches will be targeted, with the opportunity to gain Level 2 and 3 qualifications depending on the length of time spent in the programme.

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Chronic Respiratory Disease Exercise Instructor Course

BLF bursaries are now available for the May 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 3 on the Register of Exercise Professionals. It covers:

- Physiology and pathology of respiratory disease
- Managing breathlessness
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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
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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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There has never been a more exciting time to join Fusion.

We are one of the fastest growing companies in the leisure industry, more than doubling in size over the last two years.

Fusion provides top quality leisure services in Southwark, Lambeth, Croydon, Tunbridge Wells, Milton Keynes, Watford, Hillingdon, Leatherhead (Mole Valley), Hounslow and Oxford. We also have partnerships with a range of other voluntary organisations and schools. We are now seeking to recruit additional enthusiastic professionals to help our team reach for new heights of excellence delivering high quality leisure services with our partners.

In return, you will receive a generous benefits package and opportunities to further your career.

Contract Managers

Ref: CM02F

London and South East
Circa £40,000 to £45,000

This may be your first step into multi-site management and you will already be managing a large wet and dry facility. Working closely with our clients, you will be accountable for the performance of the contract, delivering the business objectives and providing high quality local services with your team of general managers. You will have a track record of strong commercial performance and successful partnership working.

General Managers

Ref: GM04F

London and South East
Circa £25,000 to £37,000

Are you capable of taking on a challenging role to inspire and motivate a team to deliver exceptional customer services? You will already be a General Manager or an Operations Manager in a large facility with a demonstrable record of success. Your strong interpersonal skills and approachability will be as important as your commercial awareness. Whilst driving your business forward, you will be meticulous in your standards, managing the needs of your customers, team and your client.

Sports and Community Development Manager

Ref: SCDM02F

Southwark
Circa £20,000 - £24,000

This post will be required to develop and deliver Fusion's Sport and Community Development Plan for the London Borough of Southwark. The successful candidate will work with local partners, with an aim to promote and develop a wide range of sporting activities and to increase participation in sport and physical activity for all sectors of the community.

If you have excellent communication and project management skills, combined with a background in sports development and/or a leisure related degree, then we would like to hear from you.

Health and Safety Officer

Ref: HSO01F

London
Circa £28,000 to £30,000

We are seeking a Health and Safety Officer to join our Facilities management team. As part of the role you will be responsible for undertaking site inspections and audits across Fusions portfolio, monitoring risk assessment programmes, carrying out in house health and safety training and promoting a positive health and safety culture within the company.

The ideal candidate will have a NEBOSH qualification or equivalent and previous experience within a similar role.

To apply for any of the above positions please email your CV and covering letter to careers@fusion-lifestyle.com quoting the relevant reference number. Closing date: 27th March 2009.

www.fusion-lifestyle.com





GENERAL MANAGER ADIPS LOCATION – SUNDERLAND SALARY: c £30k package

ADIPS (Amusement Device Inspection Procedures Scheme) is the fairground and amusement park industry's self regulated safety inspection scheme which registers competent ride inspectors and the rides they inspect. The purpose of the scheme is to promote and improve fairground and amusement park safety.

ADIPS is overseen by the Amusement Device Safety Council (ADSC) which, as the policy making body for safety, self regulation and technical guidance in the UK amusement rides industry, is the focal point for industry related safety matters. ADSC has representatives from all of the major trade associations in the fairground and amusement park industry and HSE, and provides the Directors for ADIPS.

Following a review of ADIPS' structure we now wish to appoint a General Manager, reporting to the Chair of ADIPS/ADSC, who will take ADIPS successfully through its next stage of development.

THE JOB

- Promote and develop the ADIPS Scheme and ensure that the reputation of the Scheme is enhanced at every opportunity
- Produce and agree with the ADIPS Board, the Business Plan for ADIPS Ltd.
- Ensure the integrity of the ADIPS Scheme through effective control procedures for registration of Inspection Bodies, receipt and distribution of ADIPS documentation and maintenance of an up-to-date and accurate ADIPS database
- Manage the ADIPS compliance and audit programme
- Oversee and direct the day-to-day working of the ADIPS office and ADIPS staff resources

THE PERSON

- Effective communicator and administrator
- Focused on Customer Service
- Good all round business, IT and people management skills
- Knowledge of the industry would be an advantage

WORKING PATTERN

- Five days per week, full time. Occasional work outside normal office hours
- Annual Leave 5 weeks

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT, IN WRITING, TO:
The Chairman, ADIPS Ltd., Business & Innovation Centre,
Wearfield, Sunderland Enterprise Park, Sunderland,
SR5 2TA and marked PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL.
Closing date for applications March 13th, 2009.



Assistant Operations Manager Wahooo! Waterpark – Bahrain City Centre

We need an "Assistant Operations Manager" for our Wahooo!Waterpark in Bahrain City Center which, when completed will be the largest indoor water park in the Middle east with an area of over 15,000 square meters and will employ over 150 staff. The water park will have a 150 m long Lazy River, 190 m long Masterblaster rollercoaster, 3 indoor slides, a 1.8m deep wave pool, and many other pools, rides and slides including a 3m high curling wave surfing machine.

Job Purpose: To work with the Operations Manager to ensure the smooth, safe operation of Wahooo! Waterpark, both Pool side and Front of House, and deliver a first-quality guest experience for all visitors.

Person Specifications

Female Candidate with a degree holder or other recognizable professional qualifications, 5 years experience in a similar position either indoor or outdoor water parks. Health & Safety training certified. Basic understanding of Pool Plant operations. A clear understanding of water quality as per HSE guidelines, Qualified Lifeguard, RLSS trainer and first aider. Demonstrable passion for customer service and the quality of the guest experience. Innovative mind with an eye for detail. Personable with excellent people skills, proven leadership skills. Fluent in English, a second language an advantage.

Salary Package

Basic: £1588/Month (Tax free), Conveyance Allowance: £91/Month. Utility Allowance: £32/Month. Housing Allowance: Unfurnished accommodation up to a rent limit which is currently £8816/- per year. 22 Working days as annual leave. Private medical insurance. Economy Class air ticket every year

If interested, please send us your CV to Opportunities@maf.ae
Or for an informal discussion call 00973 17584444 asking for the Waterpark offices. To know more about MAF please visit our website:
www.majidalfuttaim.com

And to know more about the Wahooo!
Please visit our website www.wahooo.com.bh

Mansfield District Council *Creating a District where People can Succeed*

Business Development Officer

£24,331 - £25,940 pa plus casual user car allowance (subject to job evaluation)

We are looking to appoint a highly motivated, committed and enthusiastic person to provide support to the Leisure Operations Manager in order to raise the profile of sport and physical activity and increase participation.

You will be specifically contributing to improving service performance with respect to the development of new business opportunities, improving marketing of the service and improving performance management.

This is an exciting career opportunity for someone with an understanding of:-

- Performance management and quality systems.
- Marketing and promotions.
- Research techniques and methodologies.
- Influences and drivers impacting on local authority leisure provision.
- Management information systems.
- Relevant legislation.
- Facility operations.

You will be educated to level 5 (first degree level, or equivalent). A professional qualification in a leisure related field (e.g. leisure management, hospitality, parks) or in marketing, and membership of a recognised professional leisure related institute would be an advantage.

You will require a full driving licence, access to a car and must be prepared to work flexible hours.

For an informal discussion after receipt of the application pack please contact Bill Brown, Operations Manager (Leisure Management/Catering) on 01623 463243 or e-mail bbrown@mansfield.gov.uk

ISA Licence will be required from October 2009.

To apply online visit www.mansfield.gov.uk
or to order an application pack call 01623 463005.
Please quote Ref. 7034.

Closing date: 16 March 2009.

Interview date: 30 March 2009.

We value the diversity of our workforce and welcome applications from all sections of the community.



HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Parks Development Manager £33,231 - £39,345 + £788 Inner Fringe Allowance (Subject to Job Evaluation)

It's an exciting time for Parks & Open Spaces in Watford, where the Council is investing significant capital resources into further improving the quality of our Green Spaces.

Having achieved Green Flag status for Cassiobury Park since 2007, we are now striving to ensure these standards are achieved across the Borough to provide a network of high quality open spaces.

We are seeking to appoint a Parks Development Manager who will manage all aspects of the service within either the North or the South area. You will be responsible for coordinating and managing the work with our partners, the community and contractors to ensure high quality standards and that we further improve our high public satisfaction level. Managing an in-house operations team, you will have direct control of operational resources to enable you to respond quickly and efficiently to opportunities and challenges.

As part of the parks management team, you will work with the Parks & Open Spaces Section Head, the other Parks Development Manager and our Head Ranger to drive and sustain high standards and achieve the objectives of our Green Spaces Strategy.

Experience of managing and developing operational teams, as well as managing capital projects and achieving Green Flag awards are important aspects of this post. We are looking to appoint a suitably experienced manager who can bring fresh ideas, innovation and enthusiasm.

For an informal discussion about the requirements of the job and our plans in Watford, please contact Dave Cobb, Parks & Open Spaces Section Head on 01923 278250.

Closing date: Noon on 20 April 2009. Interview date: 7 May 2009.

VISIT: WWW.WATFORD.GOV.UK/JOBS

Contract Monitoring Officer

£21,937 - £25,940 + £788 Inner Fringe Allowance p.a. pro rata
(Subject to Job Evaluation)
Part-time (18.5 hours per week)

An exciting opportunity exists for someone to oversee the Leisure Centre, Colosseum and other contracts ensuring high levels of customer care and compliance with contract conditions.

Significant investment of over £23 million into these facilities has created superb quality facilities and high customer expectations.

If you have the skills to develop partnership relations and ensure that contract outcomes are achieved, we would like to hear from you.

Closing date: 13 March 2009.

For an application pack, please email hr@watford.gov.uk or contact our recruitment hotline on 01923 278307 (24 hours) alternatively you can apply online.

All candidates will need to complete a Watford Borough Council application form as it ensures that skills and experience are judged equally against our role specification.

Committed to quality, equality and opportunity for all.



A bright future...

Parkwood Leisure is the most successful company in its market place. Since 1995 the Company has continued to grow profitably, to the stage where we are running over 75 sites throughout England and Wales. Our established reputation for high quality management and customer focused service provision ensures we continue to be the Market leader in the PFI/PPP market. Our strong track record of increasing usage of leisure centres, through investment in facilities and a flexible approach to community needs ensures that we will continue to grow into the future.

Our success means we have the following exciting opportunities. Come and join our successful and sustainable team

You need to ...

Be passionate about exceeding customer expectations, show commitment to developing our leisure facilities for the local communities, be knowledgeable about the leisure industry, have a recognised, appropriate qualification in leisure management, and understand financial budgets.

We will give you...

Job satisfaction, a rewarding role, the ability to create your own career path, the opportunity to develop and motivate your own staff, the freedom to make your own decisions and take responsibility and recognition for the provision of excellent customer service.

Come and join the success story, a company that has a bright future.

Area Manager Wycombe

Salary: Circa £36,000 + bonus and benefits

This newly acquired contract gives a wonderful opportunity for an individual looking to enhance their career reputation. The facilities sit in the scenic countryside of the Thames Valley and Chilterns, an area of outstanding natural beauty. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to develop his/her potential at this key contract.

General Manager Lewisham

Salary: Circa £36,000 + bonus and benefits

We are looking to recruit a leader to ensure the smooth and successful running of this contract. Situated in the London Borough of Lewisham, this contract has had recent investment in its facilities, which has greatly enhanced the services to the local community, including branching further into art and culture.

Send your current CV and a covering letter, detailing your salary expectations and indicating which position you are applying for, to Sarah Moseley, Human Resources Administrator, Parkwood Leisure, Little Bowbrook, Walton Road, Hartlebury, Worcestershire, DY10 4JA.

Alternatively visit our website or email recruit@parkwood-leisure.co.uk

Applications will be accepted until 16th March 2009 and will be considered on receipt. Interviews will therefore be arranged throughout the process.



Parkwood Leisure is an equal opportunities employer





Angling Coaching Development Manager (ref SDMI)

Salary £30,000

An exciting opportunity has arisen in the sport of angling to appoint a Coaching Development Manager responsible for achieving the targets for increasing the number of qualified, quality and diversity of angling coaches within England.

The sport is undergoing rapid and radical change following the formation of the Angling Trust, the new National Governing Body for angling in England.

We are seeking to appoint a highly motivated individual to lead the development of coach education which includes the management of the Angling Trust Approved Centre and the development of a Coaching Framework for angling. **The role will also involve:**

- working with key partners to establish a single coach education and licensing scheme for angling
- working closely with sports coach UK, Skills Active and other national partners
- developing a Coaching Strategy for angling
- leading the development of UKCC endorsed angling coaching qualifications, learning resources and workforce
- co-ordinating the work of the Angling Coaching Steering Group
- identifying and building partnership to increase the delivery of angling coaching qualifications
- identifying and accessing funding and resources to support the development of coaching.

The appointed person will ideally have a track record in coach development, managing a department or team of people, be self assured, confident, highly motivated and an influential team member.

The successful applicant will be required to contribute to the achievement of the Angling Whole Sport Plan 2009-13 and to adopt a flexible working hours approach including evening and weekend work. Training and support will be provided to the most suitable candidate.

Timescales:

- completed applications to be returned by 16th March
- short listing will take place by 17th March
- interviews will be held between 25th and 27th March

A job pack, including a job description and application form can be obtained from David Compton email: info@anglingdevelopmentboard.org.uk

The post is subject to a criminal records check through the Criminal Record Bureau before the offer of appointments is confirmed.

All applications should be returned to David Compton, The Angling Trust, National Water Sports Centre, Adbolton Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham, NG12 2LU or via email to info@anglingdevelopmentboard.org.uk

For an informal discussion about the post contact Jackie Sheldon on 07971 677 638.

Duty Manager Salary: £14000

THE LORD ROBERTS CENTRE, BISLEY, SURREY

Location: National Small-Bore Rifle Association

Full Time: 35 Hours

Responsible to: Operations/Personnel Manager

Main role: Assisting in the planning, programme and implementation of services and activities, together with daily management of the sport and leisure centre. Own transport would be an advantage.

Career orientated, 'hands on' and 'can do' person who would develop services and activities within the centre, ensuring successful delivery of front line services. Must be self motivated and a team player. Supervisory/Duty Management experience in similar facility is desirable.

Successful candidate must be flexible for shift pattern which includes evenings and weekends. Job description and person specification available by e-mail or phone.

Applicants please send CV and covering letter to: Mrs Dee Fuller, Personnel Manager, National Small-bore Rifle Association, The Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley Camp, Brookwood, Surrey GU24 0NP
e-mail: dfuller@nsra.co.uk Phone: 01483 485512



Duty Manager

£21,937 - £23,405

Based at Abbey Leisure Centre (Selby, North Yorkshire) you will work a 3 week shift pattern, which will incorporate evenings and weekends, an average of 37 hours per week. We are looking for a highly motivated individual with at least 2 years previous experience and a minimum of 1 year in a supervisory role in the leisure industry.

You will have an up to date understanding of all Health and Safety issues and knowledge of quality systems and performance management. In addition you will have the ability to maintain the centres pool plant equipment and will hold a valid pool plant operators certificate. An RLSS National Pool Lifeguard Qualification and First Aid at Work Certificate are essential. Trainer Assessor qualifications and/or a recognised Health and Safety qualification would be desirable.

Possession of a current driving licence is essential as you will be a key holder and be required to attend out of hours call out when necessary.

For further informal enquiries please contact Laura Fairburn, Assistant Leisure Facilities Manager on 01757 213758 or visit our website www.selbyleisure.co.uk

Closing date: Tuesday 17th March 2009.

Interview date: w/c 30th March 2009.

Fitness Co-ordinator

£14,545 - £15,247, 37 hpw

You will work as part of a team in the Fitness suites at both Abbey and Tadcaster Leisure Centres. You will be in charge of inductions and setting programmes tailored to individuals needs. You must hold either a Level 2 Gym Instructor qualification or exercise to music qualification and a valid driving licence. A GP referral qualification would be desirable.

For further informal enquiries please contact Jared Jones, Fitness Manager on 01757 213758 or visit our website www.selbyleisure.co.uk

Closing date: Friday 13th March 2009.

Interview date: Thursday 2nd April 2009.

The above positions are subject to enhanced criminal records bureau disclosures. Disclosures will only be requested in the event of an individual being offered a position. Having a criminal record will not necessarily bar you from employment with this Authority.

Applications for Job Share will be considered sympathetically.

For an application pack:

- Please ring 01757 292119 (24-hour answer machine)
- Email recruitment@selby.gov.uk
- Visit www.selby.gov.uk
- Visit www.oneplacenorthyorks.com

Please be sure to include your full name and title, address with postcode and the position you are applying for.

Selby District Council, Civic Centre, Portholme Road, Selby YO8 4SB.

WORKING FOR EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY



Nacro is the leading crime reduction charity that aims to create safer and more inclusive communities. The Youth Activities section runs a range of practical projects including schemes with adult volunteers, to provide structured activities for young people living in deprived / high crime areas.



Sport Volunteer Co-ordinator

£18,420 + £2,000 LMF 3 year contract

As Sport Volunteer Coordinator you will be responsible for managing and developing Reading's sport legacy volunteer partnership programme. Building on the success of the initial pilot project this 3-year funded programme will work across the borough of Reading to recruit, train and mentor volunteers, services and organisations in order to support grass roots sport across Reading, resulting in long-term sustainable opportunities to increase participation.

The project's aim is to build a sustainable community volunteering structure for grass roots sport and physical activity opportunities across Reading

You will need to be organised, motivated and adaptable with excellent interpersonal skills. Experience of project delivery and a good working knowledge of volunteer development is required. The post will include some evening and weekend work.

For a full application pack please contact Christina Williams on 01784 492192 or email Christina.williams@nacro.org.uk.

CLOSING DATE: 20/03/09

Nacro is registered charity number 226171



Join Tees Valley Leisure and help shape the future provision of leisure in Redcar and Cleveland



OPERATIONS MANAGER

Circa £36k salary and defined benefit pension scheme

Tees Valley Leisure, a 'Not for Profit' leisure trust, has successfully operated a range of leisure facilities on behalf of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council since 1999. It is now into a long term 'partnership arrangement' to deliver new and improved facilities and services for the community. This innovative partnership will provide excellent career development opportunities for individuals who are willing to embrace change and shape the future of leisure provision in Redcar and Cleveland.

Operations Manager – Marketing and Business Development

This is one of two key posts that have been created to best position ourselves to successfully develop and manage the partnership arrangement. Reporting to the Deputy Managing Director, and as a member of the Senior Management Team you will directly influence the management and development of the company. The postholder will have a functional responsibility for a portfolio of leisure centres together with a corporate company wide responsibility for Marketing and Business Development.

This post will play a major role in not only delivering quality services but also in developing and shaping the future of the company and the delivery of leisure provision. Candidates should have a recognised qualification in leisure management and sufficient experience in a leisure environment to manage the demands of this key post. Strong financial management skills and commercial acumen are crucial, together with a track record of achieving tangible improvements in service and facility management.

You will also need a combination of outstanding organisational and communication skills, with the ability to effectively negotiate, leadership and motivational skills, energy and vision. The ability to develop strong relationships with customers, staff, stakeholders and partners is vital. Flexibility and the willingness to challenge convention in leisure service delivery are required for these roles.

For an informal discussion about this post please contact: Paddy Corcoran (Managing Director) on 01642 447700.

Closing date Monday 16 March 2009

For full details and an application form ring Tees Valley Leisure on 01642 447702 or e-mail: annette_king@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

NORTH RIDING COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

'developing the game at every level'



County Football Coach

£16,000 pa (3 days per week £9,600 Pro Rata)

Plus essential mileage allowance 1 year fixed term contract

The North Riding County Football Association in partnership with North Yorkshire Sport, are looking to recruit a County Football Coach with the necessary enthusiasm and commitment to make a real difference to the development of grassroots football.

Embracing the FA's Coaching Philosophy you will be responsible for delivering school-club link programmes that aim to support the pathway for young people from school sport into a structured setting at local FA Charter Standard Clubs. You will also identify, train and mentor a pool of young leaders to run club based football sessions.

Ideally you should be a minimum of an FA Level 2 coach and have varied coaching experience. You should also have excellent communication and organisational skills and be willing to work some unsociable hours. The post will require the need to travel extensively in the local area. The ability to communicate with a variety of people is essential.

For a Job Description, please contact the Football Development Office by telephone (01642 717774) or e-mail Steven.wade@northridingfa.com

To apply please send a CV and covering letter outlining 'how you meet the demands of the post' marked Private and Confidential to, The County Development Manager, NRCFA, Broughton Road, Stokesley, Middlesbrough, TS9 5NY

Closing date: 12 Noon Friday 6th March 2009.

If not informed within two weeks of the closing date, candidates must assume they have not been short listed for interview and will therefore not be notified in writing. The organisation will provide appropriate additional work facilities for disabled applicants.

North Riding County Football Association is committed to, and working towards, equal opportunities in employment.

Choose something better. Choose Derbyshire.

Competition Manager (Part Time) DCC/09/1184

£26,706 - £29,628 per annum, pro rata
Temporary, to cover maternity leave from June 2009 until January 2010

18 hours and 30 minutes per week

Tibshelf School and Tupton Hall School

Responsible for managing a programme of change and improvement in school sport within two school sport partnerships in Derbyshire, using the national competition frameworks as the basis. The successful candidate will have a relevant degree or similar qualification, a good understanding of the PESSCL strategy and sport in schools and experience of partnership working. They will be motivated, enthusiastic and committed to improving the lives of young people through sport and active recreation.

Application packs for all vacancies are available online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/jobs or from Call Derbyshire on 08 456 058 058

Closing date: 22 March 2009

We are an equal opportunities employer welcoming applications from everyone.



For all Derbyshire County Council vacancies see www.derbyshire.gov.uk



www.northlincs.gov.uk

ASSET MANAGEMENT & CULTURE

Bridging the Equity Gap Officer (BTEG)

(fixed term up to November 2012 – subject to continued funding)

Post Number: LECR0206

Grade 7 SCP 26 – 31 £21,937 – £25,940

Hours of Work: 37 hours per week

Location: Epworth Leisure Centre, Burnham Road, Epworth DN9 1BZ

Developing innovative ways of increasing and maintaining participation at the council's leisure facilities, particularly from the hard to reach groups, your key tool will be the council's 'Chequebook' referral scheme.

You will be skilful in developing effective working partnerships and have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. You should have a sound understanding of the diverse needs of the hard to reach groups and be able to work alone, or as part of a team.

For further details please contact Andy Bagshaw, Sports Facilities Manager, on 01724 297256 or 07717587256.

Any offer of employment to this post will be subject to receipt of a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau. The full version of our Recruitment of ex offenders and Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure procedure can be accessed from our website at www.northlincs.gov.uk/northlincs/Jobsandcareers

Application forms, job descriptions and employee specifications are available at www.northlincs.gov.uk

Alternatively application forms are available from the HR Team, Community Services, on 01724 296338 or email hr.services@northlincs.gov.uk.

Please return any hard copy application forms to: Church Square House, PO Box 42, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN15 6XQ.

Closing Date: Friday 10 April 2009



We are Britain's leading Regeneration Agency dedicated to coalfield communities. This post will ensure that CRT Sports Programmes have a lasting legacy for coalfield communities. The successful candidate will manage the Sports Legacy (athletics, rugby and cricket) and GameON Football initiatives.

Developing tried and tested approaches will enhance opportunities for participation, improvement to health and wellbeing, provide training and pathways to work and diversionary activity. Your experience will enable you to deliver sports programmes within a regeneration context that have strong elements of local delivery and which can be sustainable into the future.

Sports Legacy Development Manager

(based in Yorkshire with travel)

Salary £33,932. + essential user car allowance + stakeholder pension scheme

You will need to demonstrate a unique combination of skills and experience:

- significant staff motivation management
- the ability to deliver sports events
- able to convert strategic vision into action on the ground
- an efficient deliverer of performance outcomes
- development of community capacity and exit pathways

You will be an enthusiastic, imaginative and effective programme manager who can work to tight timescales and get things done

For and application pack contact CRT on 01709 765572 or e mail recruitment@coalfields-regen.org.uk

This post is funded until March 2011
Closing date is 12pm Friday 13th March 2009

Interviews will be held on the Tuesday 17th March 2009 – shortlisted candidates will be notified by telephone or e mail.



This post is will be subject to an enhanced CRB Disclosure.



Community Sports Delivery Manager

Salary: Scale F (£24,331 - £28,270) subject to job evaluation

Location: Tavistock, Devon

37 hpw - initially a three-year contract (from Spring 2009) with the possibility of being extended beyond that time.

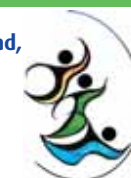
New state-of-the art indoor and outdoor all-weather facilities sports facilities will shortly be completed for the Tavistock Community Sports Hub - the first of its kind in Devon. We are seeking a highly motivated individual to contribute to its success by driving our aim of increasing participation in sport and related activities in the community. Working alongside members of our Sports Partnership, the successful candidate will be responsible for delivering the aims and objectives of the Hub's development plan.

This new role is a great opportunity for someone passionate about sport to deliver many exciting sports programmes in and around Tavistock. It will provide a challenge for an experienced and committed professional who has been successfully involved in project and resource management, leading staff, and marketing and promotion. Above all, you will be a good communicator, able to develop excellent relationships with others and get the job done!

Tavistock College will be the direct employer for this post which is being funded by Sport England's Community Investment Fund. The successful applicant will be required to undertake an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

For full details and an application pack download, see www.tavistockcollege.devon.sch.uk/vacancies or ring 01822 614231 ext. 205.

Closing date: 16 March 2009.



COURSE TEAM LEADER SPORTS STUDIES

Dunstable College

£22,695 - £32,272

Here at Dunstable College we are going through a dynamic period of change. A building programme is planned to ensure that we have first rate facilities to support continuous improvement in everything we do.

We now need more people with a 'can do' attitude to help take us through this period of change; people who are energetic, flexible, talented and full of new ideas.

We are seeking to appoint an experienced and enthusiastic Course Team Leader to be responsible for the quality and provision of Sports Studies. You will have relevant teaching experience within an area of the curriculum, be a good team leader, able to motivate students, and have a proven track record in Course Management, Curriculum Development and Quality Assurance systems.

The successful candidate must have a professional qualification in the area of Sport, and will ideally hold a teaching qualification or be willing to undertake this within the next 2 years. FE experience would be an advantage.

To request an application pack please contact the Human Resources department at Dunstable College, Kingsway, Dunstable, Beds, LU5 4HG; e-mail: recruitment@dunstable.ac.uk or Tel: 01582 477776 extension 349

Closing date: 17th March 2009



Quadron operates in the business services sector throughout Southern England. With a blue chip customer base in operational areas covering Property Services, Environment and Building Conservation, our aim is to deliver excellence.

RECREATION DEVELOPMENT MANAGER circa £25 - £30k pa

An exciting opportunity has arisen for the post of Recreation Development Manager within the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames.

We are seeking a highly motivated and enthusiastic individual who will help develop and co-ordinate sport, health and physical activity for the local community.

You will assist in the development and coordination of sporting opportunities and physical activities with a particular focus on increasing participation amongst groups who are currently under represented. This will involve developing a range of coaching programmes, training, education and helping to support the development of new and existing local organisations. There will be a particular focus on increasing participation amongst BAME groups.

We are looking for a forward thinking, highly motivated and organised individual who will help develop and co-ordinate sporting opportunities and initiatives across the Borough, as well as assisting to deliver and expand a number of existing programmes co-ordinated by the Royal Borough and our partners. You will also work alongside a number of local organisations to maintain the progressive and innovative partnership work already in place.

The roles offer a diverse range of responsibilities and will require some evening and weekend work.

You will need:

- A degree/equivalent qualification/ National Governing Body Qualifications
- A background in sports or community development and experience of delivering a variety of sport and physical activity projects.
- The ability to work within a team, partnership work, develop new initiatives, set performance indicators and monitor goals and targets.
- A commitment to improving opportunities for local under represented groups.
- To be able to prioritise your workload, have good organisational, planning and promotional skills, together with good communication and interpersonal skills to communicate with a diverse audience.
- A clean driving licence is desirable but not essential.

To apply, please email julie.smith@quadronservices.co.uk, for an informal chat about the position please contact Andrew Kauffman, Horticultural Development Manager on 07966 815 769.

Quadron Services is a committed equal opportunities employer welcoming applications across all sectors of the community.

Closing date: 17th March 2009



is looking to appoint a full-time

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

This is a newly created role within the Development & Community Department. Working closely with the Community Sports Trust Manager you will be responsible for devising a strategy and identifying opportunities to increase Community activities undertaken by the Club.

You will have experience of working with diverse communities and in particular working with targeted groups in sport and physical activity. Your role will also see you develop a new rationale for Women & Girls Cricket through all aspects of the game.

You will be innovative in terms of service delivery, and creative in seeking funding streams. A key element of this post will be your ability to build good working relationships with staff and Community & Development partners at all levels.

The successful candidate will be a flexible worker with a hands-on approach, strong organisational and IT skills, and an ability to seek out and respond positively to development opportunities as they arise.

If you would like to join us at Trent Bridge please contact the HR Administrator on 0115 982 3000 for an application form, role profile and person specification. Details can also be downloaded from the Club's website at www.nottsccc.co.uk

Closing date for receipt of applications is Wednesday 18th March 2009. Interviews will be held on Wednesday 1st April 2009

*We welcome applications from all sections of the community
No agencies please*

To apply online visit
www.shropshire.gov.uk/jobs



Community Services

Leisure Services Central Manager

Shrewsbury.

£36,730 - £39,345 pa

You will form part of the Leisure and Outdoor Recreation management team, who have responsibility for increasing participation in a broad range of sports and physical activity opportunities across Shropshire. You will have specific responsibility for all aspects of the development and management of 8 leisure facilities in and around Shrewsbury. This includes the recently opened state of the art Shrewsbury Sports Village, Quarry Swimming Centre, golf course, playing fields and several joint use Leisure Centres.

You will be able to meet the challenge of generating new audiences and developing community partnerships. You will be educated to degree level (or equivalent), be an excellent communicator and have proven experience in the successful delivery of customer care in a complex leisure environment. **Ref: PM258**

For an informal discussion please contact Neil Willcox on 01743 871124.

Closing date: Monday 16 March 2009.

Interview date: Friday 27 March 2009.

HOW TO APPLY:

To request an application pack please contact Shropshire Recruitment Team on, Tel: 0845 6789004 (24 hour answerphone), Email: srt.requestjobpack@shropshire.gov.uk quoting our job reference number.

Details of posts are also available on our website: www.shropshire.gov.uk and we welcome applications submitted online.

CVs are not acceptable.

Shropshire Council will safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to do the same.

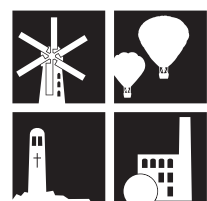
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COMMUNITY SPORTS AND HEALTH CO-ORDINATOR

Scale SO2 £26,706 - £28,270

Job Ref: AVC/09/1269

Do you have a strong background in sports development, schools sports partnership management or sports and activity programming of leisure centres? If so this new post offers a significant career development opportunity working at a strategic level to deliver our new agenda for community sport.

You will develop and deliver community sports plans that co-ordinate with the county sports and physical activity plans and the local Community Sports Network- Amber Valley Active. You will be the Council's lead officer on a number of strategic working groups, including the Children and Young People's Partnership and the Older People and Healthier Communities Partnership utilising sport to stimulate social and physical regeneration.

You will also work closely with the Council's private sector leisure centre contractor to agree and monitor sports development and healthy lifestyle plans to ensure that the recent £22million investment in three new community leisure centres deliver the strategic leisure outcomes set out in the project agreement.

Appointment to the above post is subject to an enhanced check endorsed by the Criminal Records Bureau. This check is being made under Section 7(1) of the Protection of Children Act 1999.

Closing Date: 17 March 2009

Only Amber Valley application forms accepted

Apply on line at www.ambervalley.gov.uk or call the 24 hour hotline on 01773 841666. During office hours you can ring 01773 570222 (Minicom 01773 841490), for a job pack quoting the appropriate post reference number. You can also visit the Council offices to collect a pack. Email: personnel@ambervalley.gov.uk

Amber Valley Borough Council is an equal opportunities employer



Regional Manager – 2 Posts

Multi site based

£31,348 - £34,107 pa (pay award pending)

Ref: KAL09/012

Two outstanding opportunities ideally suited for an adaptable, flexible individual have arisen to join the leading provider of sports and leisure activities in the Kirklees area.

You will be responsible for the effective operation and performance of a number of diverse sites through direct line management responsibility for a number of Operations Managers; driving the development and implementation of Kirklees Active Leisure's Business Strategy at operational level.

This hands on and challenging role offers the opportunity to lead initiatives across a number of sites and across all areas of the business. You will be required to motivate and drive sites to deliver service and facility improvement being measured by a suite of service standards.

You will be required to ensure the effective and efficient use of facilities, resources and staff; and ensure the necessary controls are in place to control budgets without compromising service delivery.

It would ideally suit a person with broad operational management experience who is able to understand the principles of Business Performance and Financial Management and Quality Systems in relation to the post.

In addition we offer subsidised car loan facilities, essential car user allowance, contributory final salary pension scheme and a relocation package.

For further information or to apply online please visit www.kirklees.gov.uk/jobs

Closing Date: Tuesday 17th March 2009.

Kirklees Active Leisure is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

www.kirkleesactive.co.uk

West Bromwich Albion Community Programme

Registered Charity No: 1081948



Sports Development Manager (SDM) £26 – 32,000

Sports Development Officer (SDO) £18 – 24,000

Both posts initially 2.5 year fixed term.

We are seeking to recruit two dynamic and motivated professionals to develop a new area of Sports Development within the Trust and join a nationally recognised Community Programme.

The Sports Development Manager post will take on the responsibility of the Premier League 4 Sport Project and the Premier League & PFA funded Community Sports Clubs project. Specifically, the person will have a focus and knowledge on Club Development and oversee the wider sport offer within the Trust which currently includes partnerships in golf, cricket and dance.

The Sports Development Officer will take on and deliver specific areas of responsibility of the new projects. The ability to engage hard to reach young people into Sport will be essential as will be the ability to organise and deliver high quality provision. Planning, managing to budget and the ability to motivate and develop people will all be vital elements of the role.

For more information please email: jan.lockley@wbacp.co.uk or 0871 271 9840.

To apply for either post send a CV with a covering letter – including current salary to Jamie Bunch, Asst Community Director, The Tom Silk Building, Halford's Lane, West Bromwich, B71 4LG.

Closing date for applications for both posts will be Friday 18th March 2009. Interviews for the SDM will be held on 30th March and interviews for the SDO post, week commencing Monday 13th April 2009.



Regional Officers

Five posts located in the South West (ref RDO1), South East and London (ref RDO2), East (RDO3), West Midlands (ref RDO4) and the North East (ref RDO5).

Salary £22,000 to £25,000

An exciting opportunity has arisen to appoint a network of five additional Regional Officers to build the capacity for the development of angling within the regions and to work with the National Governing Body (NGB) to campaign for the protection of the sport and the water environment on which it depends.

The sport is undergoing rapid and radical change following the formation of the Angling Trust, the new National Governing Body for angling in England.

We are seeking to appoint enthusiastic and energetic people to be responsible for increasing and sustaining the number of people participating in angling. A crucial part of the role will be to support the development of angling clubs and coaches. The Officers will also work closely with Angling Trust member clubs, fisheries, consultatives and individuals to address environmental and other issues affecting their fishing at a local level.

This will include:

- leading the development and management of regional plans for angling to meet national objectives
- establishing structures at regional, county and local level to promote, increase and sustain participation in angling
- identifying and building suitable partnerships which widen the accessibility of angling within the regions
- identifying and accessing funding and resources to deliver the region's share of the key outcomes set out in the Angling Whole Sport Plan 2009-13
- liaising with key stakeholders and partners within the regions that can contribute to and implement regional strategies
- facilitating local campaigns with Angling Trust members in conjunction with a national campaigns team
- recruiting new members to the Angling Trust.

The appointed people will ideally have a track record in sports development, campaigning, some knowledge of angling, be self assured, confident, highly motivated and influential team members.

The successful applicants will also be required to adopt a flexible working hours approach, including some evening and weekend work. Training and support will be provided to the most suitable candidate.

Timescales:

- completed applications should be returned by 16th March
- short-listing will take place by 17th March
- interviews will be held between 25th and 27th March

A job pack including a job description and application form can be obtained from David Compton email: info@anglingdevelopmentboard.org.uk

The posts are subject to a criminal records check through the Criminal Record Bureau before the offer of appointments is confirmed.

All applications should be returned to David Compton, The Angling Trust, National Water Sports Centre, Adbolton Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham, NG12 2LU or email: info@anglingdevelopmentboard.org.uk

For an informal discussion about the post contact Jackie Sheldon on 07971 677 638.

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UK chain hotels face toughest trading in 17 years

RevPAR to decrease by 8 per cent this year – but hotels will still make more profit than in 1990's recession

By **Caroline Wilkinson**

UK chain hotels are facing the most challenging trading conditions in 17 years.

According to analyst TRI Hospitality Consulting, hotels in London will experience a 10 per cent drop in RevPAR this year, followed by a further 0.5 per cent dip in 2010.

RevPAR is expected to decrease by 8 per cent elsewhere in the country in 2009 and by a further 2 per cent in 2010. These predictions are based on the UK economy

contracting by 1.7 per cent in 2009 and growing by 0.2 per cent in 2010.

The number of inbound visitors, which accounts for 50 per cent of London hotel overnight stays, decreased by an estimated 2.7 per cent in 2008 and is expected to drop by a further 0.7 per cent this year, according to VisitBritain.

TRI Hospitality Consulting predicts: "Despite heavy falls in RevPAR, UK hotels will maintain profit conversion at a higher level than they did in the early 1990's recession."



London hotels are set to record a sharp drop in RevPAR this year

Merseyside's waterfront revamp plans submitted

By **Tom Walker**

Plans for Merseyside's waterfront redevelopment have been submitted to Wirral Council.

The scheme's first phase plans were handed in by developer Peel Holdings and include homes, retail and leisure facilities, including bars and restaurants.

The scheme focuses on the Northbank East section of Birkenhead Docks, and is part



The scheme is part of a larger £4.5bn Wirral Waters initiative

of a bigger £4.5bn project, named Wirral Waters, one of the largest regeneration projects in the country.

Lindsey Ashworth, director at Peel Developments, said: "This is an important milestone in the life of Wirral Waters. It's the start of a very long journey that will take many decades to complete."

Wirral Council leader Steve Foulkes added: "These applications, which are a result of close partnership working between Wirral Council and Peel, clearly demonstrate all parties' belief to this scheme."

REPs plans regional events

Following on from the Register of Exercise Professionals' (REPs) Welsh Convention in January, two new dates have been set for conventions in Scotland and the north of England.

Both conventions will be held during the summer, with venues and speaker line ups to be confirmed later this spring.

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