

# Scottish Tourism Forum Weekly News Digest



27 July 2009

Dear STF member,

Welcome to your weekly news digest from STF, the independent forum of Scottish tourism businesses and associations. This digest gives a brief round up of the main stories concerning the industry over the past week.

If you have any comments about any of the issues mentioned in this week's digest I would be glad to hear them. Email [ruth.greig@stforum.co.uk](mailto:ruth.greig@stforum.co.uk)

## STF News

Scottish Government has announced under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 that licensed premises will be allowed to continue to trade from 1 September 2009 to 1 November 2009 where designated premises managers application for personal license is still to be approved. Full details in NewsDigest article below.

STF is running a **short survey** regarding the implications of the **new licensing regulations** and thank members who have already completed the survey. STF ask other members involved in the licensing business to take a few minutes to complete the survey. Please [click here](#). If you are unsure of the new regulations please visit our website for full details of the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005. [www.stforum.co.uk](http://www.stforum.co.uk)

STF met with Scottish Government to discuss the fire regulation industry guidelines for B&B and self catering accommodation, accompanied by representatives from ASSC, FSB and other association members.

STF member Wild Green Travel mentioned in press article [Click Here](#)

Newly released statistics from VisitBritain are available from their [Insight and Market Intelligence Pages](#) and offer a wealth of research findings covering both overseas visitors and domestic tourism along with reviews of trends and forecasts affecting tourism in Britain.

## Scottish Tourism News

17 July 2009 - **New caravan site unveiled in Perth** - [Perthshire Advertiser](#)

17 July 2009 - **Call for 'honest explanation' over resort collapse** - [The Press and Journal](#)

## In This Issue

[STF News](#)

[Scottish Tourism News](#)

[UK Tourism News](#)

[International Tourism News](#)

[Open Meeting](#)

[People 1st Event](#)

[Licensing \(Scotland\) Act](#)

[Immigration Rules](#)

[Training Courses](#)

[Web Poll](#)

[Events](#)

[Competitions and Awards](#)

[Member2Member Offers](#)

[New Members](#)

[Managing Rural Tourism](#)

**STF Swine Flu Web Poll - please cast your vote!**

STF is running a new web poll on the current impact of Swine Flu on tourism. Please vote and tell us if Swine Flu has affected your business. [Click here](#) to complete the web poll.

The latest figures (23 July) about the incidence of influenza A (H1N1) in Scotland since a change to the reporting system have

17 July 2009 - **'£1 million wind farm threat' to Speyside** - [The Northern Scot](#)

18 July 2009 - **Sunday ferry set to arrive early** - [BBC](#)

18 July 2009 - **Claims that tourists have been picnicking on a war grave in Scotland have prompted a hostile reaction from some. But what are the rules for behaviour at a burial ground?** - [BBC](#)

19 July 2009 - **A personal carbon budget will clip our wings** - [Sunday Herald](#)

19 July 2009 - **Families save cash under canvas** - [Scotland on Sunday](#)

19 July 2009 - **VisitScotland to spend £500,000 on new image** - [Scotland on Sunday](#)

19 July 2009 - **Expats bring diaspora home in a bid to help Scotland flourish** - [Scotland on Sunday](#)

19 July 2009 - **On the agenda (Scottish Enterprise)** - [Sunday Herald](#)

19 July 2009 - **New alcohol rules to come into effect** - [Business Insider](#)

19 July 2009 - **Scotland's economy in numbers** - [Business Insider](#)

20 July 2009 - **Edinburgh Rat Race 2009** - [Bike.magic](#)

20 July 2009 - **'Swine flu threat to summer holiday travel'** - [Travelmole](#)

21 July 2009 - **Glasgow hotels are beating recession** - [Evening Times](#)

21 July 2009 - **Minister on track for bypass ruling** - [Press and Journal](#)

21 July 2009 - **Machrihanish Dunes Golf Club** - [Scottish Government](#)

21 July 2009 - **Destination Edinburgh Marketing Alliance appoints Directors and approves Business Plan** - [DEMA](#)

22 July 2009 - **Retail figures show sales boost** - [BBC](#)

22 July 2009 - **First Minister meets Diageo bosses** - [STV](#)

22 July 2009 - **Stevenson vows ministers are committed to airport rail link** - [Herald](#)

22 July 2009 - **Hole in a million for Scottish golf (increased investment in Scottish golf)** - [Scottish Government](#)

22 July 2009 - **Capital's streets rubbish for visitors** - [Scotsman](#)

22 July 2009 - **Aviemore resort firm was over '£58 million in debt'** - [Strathspey and Badenoch Herald](#)

22 July 2009 - **Windfarms spreading like a rash** - [Press and Journal](#)

22 July 2009 - **Take high road for a real taste of**

been published. [Click here.](#)

The **British Chambers of Commerce** is hosting a live WebTV show on Tuesday 28 July at 11am to discuss the current situation, how businesses should prepare for swine flu and how you should react if it hits your business. Laurence Buckman, Chairman of the General Practitioners Committee at the BMA and David Frost, Director General of British Chamber of Commerce will be joined by representatives from two businesses; Robert Stead and Sue Hill.

To submit a question live to the panel visit [www.britishchambers.org.uk](http://www.britishchambers.org.uk) on Tuesday 28 July at 11.00 - 11.30.

## Events

**1 September 2009**

**Global Ambitions: Scotland's International Future**

**Murrayfield Stadium, Edinburgh**

Improving Scotland's international performance and integrating our international activity will be key to growing the Scottish economy in the future. This action learning event will examine Scotland's current position in the global community, share and exchange best practice in international trade and business development and provide practical, experience based information and support to help Scottish businesses grow their export business. Confirmed speakers to date include: John Swinney MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth; Marcia Campbell, Head of Operations, Standard Life; Ian Irvine, Co-Founder and Technical Director, SgurrEnergy; Alan Keir, Group General Manager, Commercial Banking Europe, HSBC; Lena Wilson, Chief Executive, Scottish Development International

The conference will provide the opportunity to network with over 250 business delegates from a range of sectors of the Scottish economy.

For more information email [info@global-ambitions.com](mailto:info@global-ambitions.com)

**4 September 2009**

**Hospitality Industry Trust POETS lunch Radisson SAS Glasgow**

Early bird rate £65 pp bookings post July 31st £70pp.

Email [sophie@eventconsultants.com](mailto:sophie@eventconsultants.com)

**17 - 18 September 2009**

**The Changing Nature of Scotland Perth Concert Hall**

Scottish Natural Heritage's conference explores the changes that are taking place in Scotland's natural heritage. Changes in important ecosystems such as woodland, uplands, marine and fresh waters both urban and rural will be discussed by specialists and business representatives. Day two includes a dedicated session on how the natural heritage contributes to improved health and well being.

For further information and details of how to register please go to our conference website.

[www.eventsforce.net/SNHConference2009](http://www.eventsforce.net/SNHConference2009)

**18 September, The Drumossie Hotel, Inverness**

**H&I Annual Dinner & Business Excellence Awards 2009**

**Scotland** - [Birmingham Mail](#)

24 July 2009 - **Tourist numbers fall by a million** - [BBC](#)

24 July 2009 - **Race is on to be ready for Glasgow 2014** - [BBC](#)

24 July 2009 - **Scots rail and bus firms win top UK transport awards** - [Scotsman](#)

24 July 2009 - **Steep drop in tourist visits costs Scottish economy £200 million** - [Scotsman](#)

24 July 2009 - **Success recipe for food & drink** - [Business 7](#)

25 July 2009 - **City to receive £8m boost from weekend's Gathering** - [Scotsman](#)

25 July 2009 - **Travel etiquette: 'Excuse me, sir, but where is my tip?'** - [Telegraph](#)

26 July 2009 - **Tourism can be an essential part of our economic elite, so long as Team Scotland pulls together** - [Sunday Herald](#)

26 July 2009 - **Foodie for thought with launch of cafes** - [Scotsman](#)

26 July 2009 - **Tribal welfare** - [Sunday Herald](#)

## UK Tourism News

17 July 2009 - **UK holidaymakers opt for a 'staycation' in the Britain** - [Guardian](#)

18 July 2009 - **Wind farm boom for Crown Estate over green expansion** - [Mail Online](#)

20 July 2009 - **Confidence returning to holiday market - report claims** - [Travelmole](#)

21 July 2009 - **Domestic accommodation ratings to be reviewed** - [Travelmole](#)

22 July 2009 - **UK 'is losing 52 pubs each week'** - [BBC](#)

22 July 2009 - **UK recovery 'to take five years'** - [BBC](#)

22 July 2009 - **Pandemic flu service to go live** - [BBC](#)

23 July 2009 - **Flu outbreak 'over worst for now'** - [BBC](#)

24 July 2009 - **New marketing director for VisitBritain** - [Travelmole](#)

## International Tourism News

19 July 2009 - **Airlines will ban swine flu suspects** - [Times](#)

20 July 2009 - **Most annoying passengers revealed by Skyscanner** - [TravelDailyNews](#)

22 July 2009 - **Ryanair slashes Stansted flights** - [Travelmole](#)

These awards provide a unique platform to showcase the achievements of the region's companies and is the key event for the recognition of excellence in a wide range of sectors.  
Single tickets £110 + VAT. Table of 10 £1,110 + VAT. To reserve your space email [lesley.rhind@scdi.org.uk](mailto:lesley.rhind@scdi.org.uk) 01463 231 878

**24 September 2009**  
**Tourism is Everyone's Business**  
**Cowalfest Tourism Forum**  
**Arkinglas House, Cairndow**  
Details to follow. [www.cowalfest.org](http://www.cowalfest.org)

**26 September - 4 October 2009**  
**Kirkcaldy Comedy Festival**  
The Kirkcaldy Comedy festival returns as a bigger and better Festival than the inaugural festival last year. Thanks to funding from EventScotland, the Festival will be expanded from 4 days to 9 days. More details available shortly.

**3 October 2009**  
**Kirkcaldy Light Night**  
Scotland's first 'Light Night' hits the streets of Kirkcaldy Town Centre with the spectacular 'Big Man Walking' being the centrepiece of the family friendly event. More details available shortly.  
**7 October 2009**  
**HIT Aberdeen Dinner**  
**The Marcliffe Hotel, Aberdeen**  
£55 pp. Email [sophie@eventconsultants.com](mailto:sophie@eventconsultants.com)

**9-18 October 2009**  
**Cowalfest**  
Cowalfest in 2009 will be a very special festival. All this set within the breathtaking scenery, so inspirational to artists and writers, of Argyll's Cowal Peninsula with its hills, lochs, firth, forests and the exotic trees and shrubs that flourish in the mild west coast climate, and of course our great diversity of wildlife including red squirrels and eagles, not to mention our wonderfully varied and enticing walks.  
The programme includes: walks: old favourites and exciting new ones; mountain bike rides; horse rides; tours of great houses in Cowal; theatre and food events; wildlife walks and events; music; talks. Full details on [www.cowalfest.org](http://www.cowalfest.org)

**11 November 2009**  
**World Responsible Tourism Day**  
World Responsible Tourism Day, the only global day of action of its kind, is being supported by the UNWTO and leading industry associations. The day is vital for business, for profitability and for our planet. It means taking care of a world that we seek to promote. For more information visit [www.wtmwrtd.com](http://www.wtmwrtd.com)

**16 November 2009**  
**HIT Edinburgh Lunch**  
**Sheraton Hotel & Spa**  
Early bird rate £70 pp bookings post Sept 18th £75pp.  
Email [sophie@eventconsultants.com](mailto:sophie@eventconsultants.com)

**2 December 2009**  
**STF Open Meeting**  
**Eden Court Theatre, Inverness**  
More information to follow.

22 July 2009 - Airline says passengers are willing to stand while flying - [MarketWatch](#)

## Open Meeting "Leading by Example" 1 October 2009



**Venue: Discovery Point, Discovery Quay, Dundee DD1 4XA.** Scotland the brand already enjoys a worldwide reputation disproportionate to its size and population, it is up to us all to enhance this even further, to work together to unlock the economic potential that exists within tourism in Scotland.

Investment in the workforce is investment for the future; leading to development of sustainable growth. Good working practices sit at the core of the TFFC, and people are at the heart of success for tourism. A skilled and positive workforce can make the difference to a business's potential success or failure. We need to develop inspirational leadership, to deliver change and engage with grass roots where the economic growth is generated.

The open meeting will discuss the TFFC review on leadership, investment and customer experience; and seek speakers from public, retail, and business sectors to encourage entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation.

Speakers include:

- Philip Riddle, OBE, Chief Executive, VisitScotland
- Brian Souter, Chief Executive, Stagecoach
- Rebecca Brooks, Director, JAC Travel and Chair of SDMA
- David Valentine, Head of Economic Development, Angus Council.
- David Cochrane, Chief Executive, HIT Scotland
- Ewan Reid, District Forester, Communities Recreation & Tourism for Moray & Aberdeenshire Forest District (2008 Thistle Award Winner)
- Geraldine Hamilton, Crosswoodhill Farm - 2008 Scottish Thistle Award Winner (Customer Care - Accommodation)
- Louise Mearley, and Ann Marie Wilkinson, Ramada Jarvis - winner of 2005 Scottish Thistle Award for People Development (Large Company)
- Iain Herbert, Chief Executive, Scottish Tourism Forum.

### Delegate Rates:

STF members are entitled to ONE free delegate space.  
STF members' guests rate is £25+VAT (max of 3 guests per member)  
Non-member: £50+VAT

To book your delegate space email Elaine Townsend at [events@stforum.co.uk](mailto:events@stforum.co.uk). Visit [www.stforum.co.uk](http://www.stforum.co.uk) for full details.



Sponsor of STF AGM and Open Meeting 'Leading by Example' 1 October 2009

## Consultation Event - Training and Skills 11-14 August 2009

## Competitions and Awards

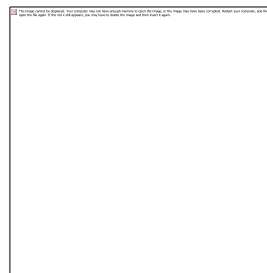


The  
Highlands  
and  
Islands

### Tourism Awards

The regions prestigious hospitality and tourism industry awards has launched two new categories: Most Entrepreneurial Business and Leadership Award.

Nominations can be filed on-line at [www.highland-tourism-awards.co.uk](http://www.highland-tourism-awards.co.uk) The closing date for registration is **31 August** and entries is **7 September**. Shortlist finalists will be announced in October and winners at the Award ceremony at Drummoissie Hotel in Inverness on 20 November 2009.



### Springboard Awards for Excellence 2009 Open for Entries

Hospitality skills champion  
Springboard is now calling for entries to its annual Awards For Excellence.

Now in their

seventh year, the Springboard Awards for Excellence reward inspiring people, organisations and initiatives - those that work hard to elevate the profile of the hospitality industry as an employer and attract and retain talent.

With several awards in each category, there's something for everyone in every sector - and you can submit as many entries as you want. Entries can be made by individuals, teams or partnerships for initiatives that have achieved measurable results over the past year.

To enter the awards, [click here](#).

## Making the most of STF - member2member scheme

Please tell us of any special offers you would like us to advertise to our members and we will feature these on our website, and promote weekly through NewsDigest with a link to the web for more information.

Email [ruth.greig@stforum.co.uk](mailto:ruth.greig@stforum.co.uk) with details of the offers you would like us to promote.

\*Please note: This offer applies to all subscription paying members of STF.

Visit members' section of our website [www.stforum.co.uk](http://www.stforum.co.uk) for full details of offers.

## New Member



The  
Scottish  
Guesthouse  
and Bed

and Breakfast Association (Ghabba) is the only national organisation which represents the

People 1st and STF are running a consultation event 11-14 August.

**Tell us what skills and training challenges your business faces and we'll advise you on we're going to do about them.**

#### What?

You are invited to a consultation event comprising workshops, panel discussion and lunch (free of charge) hosted by People 1st and Scottish Tourism Forum.

#### Where?

Dundee - Tuesday 11 August

Inverness - Wednesday 12 August

Glasgow - Thursday 13 August

Edinburgh - Friday 14 August

#### Why?

So that we understand your concerns, provide you with the support and guidance your business needs and lobby on skills issues on your behalf. Find out what's happening within the skills landscape in Scotland and how your business could capitalise on new opportunities available to the sector. Your concerns and views are critical to People 1st and STF.

[Click here](#) for more information and to register for the events.

## Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 - (Transitional Provisions) Order 2005 (Implementation Update 7)

Scottish Government has announced the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 (Transitional Provisions) Order 2009 which is intended to alleviate the concern regarding the appointment of Designated Premises Manager.

The Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 (Transitional Provisions) Order 2009 will come into force on 30 July 2009. [Click for a copy.](#)

Key issues of this update are:

- To enable a number of licensed premises to continue to trade from 1 September 2009 to 1 November 2009 where the designated premises manager's application for a personal licence has yet to be approved by the licensing board.
- To take advantage of the above, the premises license holder must have nominated the designated premises manager on or before 31 August 2009 and the designated premises manager must also have submitted an application for a personal licence together with evidence of a relevant licensing qualification to a licensing board on or before 31 August 2009.
- The new Regulations exempt distillery and brewery visitor centres and other visitor attractions which are part of alcohol manufacturing sites from the conditions in respect of display areas. Click here for [Regulations](#) and [Executive Note](#)
- Local authority byelaws prohibiting drinking in public places shall continue to have effect but are amended. Click here for the [Order](#) and the [Executive Note](#)
- A list of Accredited Awarding Bodies and qualifications can be found [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/31435.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/31435.html)

Scottish Government intend to introduce a new Alcohol Bill. Click here for the [Alcohol Bill news release.](#)

## Immigration Rules for Temporary workers

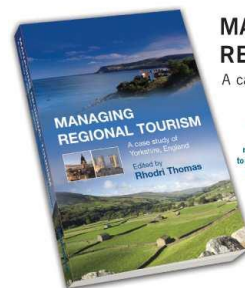
It is important that individuals and organisations sponsoring individuals

interests of the sector.

It is represented on the current Scottish Government Working Party on fire regulation guidelines for the small bed and breakfast sector; it is also challenging the Performing Rights Society on its efforts to apply a license fee to the sector; and it has led the way in seeking direct funding from Scottish Government for Sector Development Organisations like Ghabba.

The Association has decided to join Scottish Tourism Forum because it has recognised that it has won the confidence of Scottish Government as Scotland's trade representative body. We believe that strengthening its roots through links to organisations like Ghabba will be mutually beneficial. On this basis, we also recognise that the attraction of more members into Ghabba will strengthen its effectiveness and ultimately that of Scottish Tourism Forum. For more information visit [www.guesthouseandbscotland.com](http://www.guesthouseandbscotland.com)

## "Managing Rural Tourism" £5 discount for STF members



### MANAGING REGIONAL TOURISM

A case study of Yorkshire, England  
Edited by Rhodri Thomas

"...valuable reading not only for those examining tourism in Yorkshire, for whom it should be mandatory, but also those with a wider interest in tourism ... how it is embedded in broader issues of regional development, governance and planning"  
Professor C. Michael Hall,  
University of Canterbury, New Zealand

[CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE](#)

GREAT NORTHERN

Great Northern Books is offering STF members a £5 discount on their new book "Managing Regional Tourism, A Case Study of Yorkshire, England". Managing Regional Tourism is the only book available on this topic and will be an invaluable tool for those involved in the tourism industry as a whole and particularly those involved in the regional tourism sector. The book examines in depth the challenges and opportunities of managing regional tourism in advanced capitalist economies. Emphasis is given to the following areas of study:

- tourism marketing
- economic development
- sustainable tourism
- social and cultural heritage
- 'governance' how tourism is organised

To find out more, or to order a copy visit [www.gnbooks.co.uk/mrt](http://www.gnbooks.co.uk/mrt) and quote 'NewsDigest' to gain your £5 discount.

seek appropriate advice about immigration requirements prior to their trip.

Most UK visa applications for temporary workers (both paid and unpaid) come under Tier 5 of the UK Points Based System. There are several categories of temporary workers as below:

- Creative and sporting - for people coming from the UK to work or perform as sportspeople, entertainers or creative artists for up to 12 months.
- Charity worker - for people coming to the UK to do voluntary unpaid work for a charity.
- Government authorised exchange - for people coming to the UK through approved schemes that aim to share knowledge, experience and best practice.
- International agreement - for people coming to the UK under contract to provide a service that is covered under international law.

Generally individuals must be sponsored by an employer and fulfil certain requirements. In order for employers to sponsor an individual they must also have a Sponsorship Licence which allows them to bring migrants to the UK under Tier 5 Temporary Workers category. For more information: [www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk), definitive information about the immigration system, visitor categories outwith the Points Based System. [www.ukvisas.gov.uk](http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk) official UK Government website. [www.scotlandistheplace.com](http://www.scotlandistheplace.com) - lists information that individuals require to come to live, work or visit Scotland.

## Training Courses



Perth College  
Creating the University of the Highlands and Islands

Business  
Development  
Centre

### **BIIAB Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders - 1 day - £140**

This course is for anyone who wishes to work in a licensed premises or any venue or site where alcohol is sold, for drinking on or off the premises; in a position where they will authorise the sale of alcohol to the public. Dates (2009) 25 Aug, 22 Sept, 27 Oct, 24 Nov

For more information or to book your place on this programme contact: Business Development Centre, Perth College Tel: 01738 877333 Email: [info.bdc@perth.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:info.bdc@perth.uhi.ac.uk)



GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY

### **CPD opportunities available with new MSc International Tourism Enterprise at Glasgow Caledonian University**

The University has just launched a new suite of postgraduate courses designed to maximise opportunities and specialise in specific areas of enterprise, with awards in: Tourism, Hospitality, Heritage and Events. The course combines management development skills with an understanding of international contexts. Taught within the Caledonian Business School's Division of Cultural Business, it is the only MSc International Tourism Enterprise programme in Scotland. Offers flexible modes of study: individual modules can be taken; alternatively the course can be studied part-time over two years/full-time over one year. The teaching format combines lectures, seminars, and utilisation of a virtual learning environment. September start date. Further information is available at [www.caledonian.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/courses/x00003.html](http://www.caledonian.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/courses/x00003.html) For any queries, please contact: [msctourism@qcal.ac.uk](mailto:msctourism@qcal.ac.uk)