

## Scottish Tourism Forum Weekly News Digest



6 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

Please [click here](#) to view the Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee proceedings into the TFFC one year on.

STF met with Stuart McMillan MSP (SNP), member of the EET committee and on the Cross Party Group for Recreational Boating and Marine Tourism.

STF attended a meeting to discuss tourism investment banking. The meeting was attended by the Chairman of the Austrian bank along with representatives from RBS and Clydesdale.

Scottish Parliament are now in recess and will be returning on 30 August.

Iain Herbert quoted in Scotland on Sunday article [Click here](#)

### Scottish Tourism News

29 June 2009 - **Lady of the Lake to inspire new generation** - [The Herald](#)

29 June 2009 - **National Express's discussions with DfT on rail franchise hits buffers** - [Scotsman](#)

29 June 2009 - **Moffat & Williamson plans £3m revamp of coach fleet** - [Scotsman](#)

29 June 2009 - **Plugging in to green transport** - [Scottish Government](#)

29 June 2009 - **Moray tourism receive cash boost to implement vision** - [STV](#)

30 June 2009 - **Row over tourist information plan** - [BBC](#)

30 June 2009 - **Video: Trump's golf boss Sarah Malone**

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**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.

### Events

**16-19 July 2009  
The Open Championship  
Turnberry 2009**

The Open Championship returns to the Ailsa Course at Turnberry in July for the first time since 1994. The famous Ayrshire links will attract as many as 120,000 visitors to the 138th staging of the golf's oldest major.

**25 - 26 July 2009  
Cowalfest Summer Walks Weekend**  
A weekend of taster walks that will put you in the mood for Cowalfest's Walking and

keen to learn the game - [Evening Express](#)

30 June 2009 - **Bmi Regional improves Scottish links to Yorkshire** - [Travelmole](#)

1 July 2009 - **Scotland to host sailing regattas** - [BBC](#)

2 June 2009 - **There's saddlebags of cash available to regions who embrace cycling tourism** - [Southern Reporter](#)

2 July 2009 - **Scotland, along with the rest of the UK, is now moving to the treatment phase for dealing with pandemic flu** - [Scottish Government](#)

2 July 2009 - **Historic hotel unveils biomass heating plans** - [The Northern Times](#)

2 July 2009 - **Cruise passengers love Inverclyde visit** - [Greenock Telegraph](#)

3 July 2009 - **MacAskill hits out at whisky 'red herring' in price row** - [Scotsman](#)

3 July 2009 - **Wind and wave power could generate £70bn and 250,000 UK jobs** - [Scotsman](#)

5 July 2009 - **Hard to swallow: The 700 made redundant at the Johnnie Walker plant in Kilmarnock will be joined on the dole by tens of thousands more** - [Scotland on Sunday](#)

5 July 2009 - **Young Seafood Chef of the Year named** - [STF](#)

## UK Tourism News

29 June 2009 - **Regional hotels continuing to suffer in downturn** - [Travelmole](#)

29 June 2009 - **New Manchester routes for Easyjet** - [Travelmole](#)

30 June 2009 - **Bmi Regional improves Scottish links to Yorkshire** - [Travelmole](#)

1 July 2009 - **National Express loses rail route** - [BBC](#)

1 July 2009 - **Hoteliers must develop new pricing strategies** - [TravelDailyNews](#)

2 July 2009 - **UK swine flu numbers rise three-fold in past week** - [Scotsman](#)

2 July 2009 - **First in the queue to take over east coast main line** - [Scotsman](#)

3 July 2009 - **Tourism can save the UK economy** - [TravelDailyNews](#)

## International Tourism News

2 July 2009 - **New chairman for British Midland from Lufthansa** - [Travelmole](#)

## Training Courses

Arts Festival in October. Enjoy guided walks from Forestry Commission rangers, hill walks, and a magical walk through a glen. For further details on the walks visit [www.cowalfest.org](http://www.cowalfest.org)

**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)

**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.

**1 October 2009**

**STF AGM and Open Meeting Discovery Point, Dundee**

### **BIAB 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 any of these programmes contact: Business Development Centre, Perth College Tel: 01738 877333  
Email: [info.bdc@perth.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:info.bdc@perth.uhi.ac.uk)



### **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.

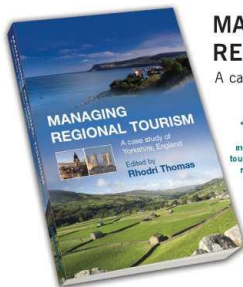
Offers flexible modes of study: individual modules can be taken; alternatively the course can be studied part-time over two years/full-time over one year.

The teaching format combines lectures, seminars, and utilisation of a virtual learning environment. September start date. Details can be found in the attached PDF, and 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@gcal.ac.uk](mailto:msctourism@gcal.ac.uk)

## **"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.

More information to follow

### **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)

### **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.

## **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.

### **Highland and Islands Food and Drink Awards 2009**

With just over two weeks remaining until the closing date for the prestigious Williamson Foodservice Highlands & Islands Food & Drink

Awards, businesses and individuals involved in the food and drink industry across the Highlands and Islands are

encouraged to act now to ensure their entries are submitted in time for the deadline of 20 July. The Awards, sponsored by Williamson Foodservice, organised by the Highlands & Islands Food & Drink Forum, and supported by Highlands and Islands Enterprise and Scotland Food & Drink, celebrate excellence and achievement in the food and drink industry in the Highlands and Islands. Eleven award categories recognise high standards and quality across the industry, and include the exciting new award for Young Ambassador of the Year, recognising the important role of our young people in the industry, both today and in the future. Other categories reward successful new products and businesses, innovation, promotion of healthy living, good environmental practice, commitment to local produce, and individual achievement.

Entries for the awards close on **20 July 2009**. For full details of how to enter visit [www.hifoodanddrinkawards.com](http://www.hifoodanddrinkawards.com). Winners of the awards will be announced at the Awards Dinner at the Drumossie Hotel, Inverness on 23 October 2009.

## Making the Most of STF - Set up a 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 [www.stforum.co.uk](http://www.stforum.co.uk) for full details of offers below:

**Members' Offer - The Townhouse Collection** 2 course dinner, bed and breakfast from £99. Tel 0131 274 7409 and quote STF99

**Members' Offer - Profile Plus** 10% discount on PR work. Tel Robyn Glynn-Percy on 0131 554 6111 or visit [www.profileplus.co](http://www.profileplus.co)

**Members' Offer - Enterprise-Rent-A-Car** Book car hire for your customer via a web link and earn commission. Full details on the STF web site.

**Members' Offer - Trees4Scotland** 10% off trees, enabling STF members to plant a tree for £9. Call 0131476 5929 and quote STF01.

**Members' Offer - Marcliffe Hotel** Stay at Marcliffe Hotel 3 nights B&B and dinner on one night and one golf round at Royal Aberdeen, Murcar and Cruden Bay £555 pp. Email [reservations@marcliffe.com](mailto:reservations@marcliffe.com) or

tel 01224 861 000

**Members' Offer - The Inn at Lathones**

Pay for dinner and breakfast and accommodation is free. Minimum stay two nights at weekends. Call 01334 840 494 or email [lathones@theinn.co.uk](mailto:lathones@theinn.co.uk)

**Members' Offer - Highland Cottage** £99 per person per night on DBB rate. Normally a restriction of 2 nights. Call 01688 302 030