

The newsletter for Quorum Business Park

Avenue

Spring 2014



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The newsletter for Quorum Business Park

Avenue

Spring 2014

Welcome to the Avenue Spring 2014 Edition

2014 has got off to a great start here at Quorum, with two new tenants moving in. NCFE and British Engines have settled in well and their new light bulb branded building has got everyone talking! The Quorum Bike Hub has proved massively successful and with access to brand new pool bikes, staff are learning it really is Better by Bike! Newcastle Falcons player, Alex Crockett launched our new outdoor gym equipment with a little help from our onsite Bootcamp instructor, Adam Hitchings. Things are heating up this summer with upcoming events such as the North East Food Fair, The Quorum Games and our Summer BBQ...



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BUSINESS PARK

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HUB
THE HEART OF THE PARK

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January Tenants

**BRITISH
ENGINES**



Q Card

Q Card holders watch out for our monthly emailer, Q Life - keeping you up to date with all the latest news, events and Q Card offers. Not a Q Card holder yet? Register at www.quorumbusinesspark.co.uk/qcard and start receiving some fantastic discounts at local outlets.

Q Life

Join the Quorum Community by signing up to Q Life and start receiving news, events and offer updates direct to your inbox. Sign up on the contacts page at www.quorumbusinesspark.co.uk/contact

A warm Quorum welcome to British Engines

British Engines employ over 1,250 people and have six engineering and manufacturing businesses, all located in the North East, selling technology leading products across the world. In December 2013 its central core services teams moved to Quorum, from St Peters, where it now employs around 50 staff. Staff based at Q6 are the company's core service team with finance, IT HR, marketing and BEL directors.

British Engines has its roots firmly set in the North East, with its founder setting up the company in 1922 in Newcastle, building on the region's rich engineering and local skills base.

British Engines Director Richard Dodd said: "In order to facilitate the overall growth of our business we have recently moved two of our group companies, CMP Products and Rotary Power, from their original site at St. Peters in Newcastle to new factories in Cramlington and South Shields. Coupled with the

move of our core central services teams to Quorum, this will allow for the further expansion of our BEL Valves operation at St Peters. A key reason for choosing the site at Quorum was down to its desirable location, as a hub almost central to the above named businesses.

"We have already forged a collaborative relationship with our new neighbour, NCFE, as not only do we share a North East heritage but we also share the same values and a commitment to creating

opportunities for training, qualifications, apprenticeships, and education within the region."

Development director Fergus Trim said "I am delighted that both British Engines and NCFE are enjoying their new home at Quorum and continue to grow and create new jobs. Both are great examples of the skills and engineering agenda which is so important to the growth of the North East economy."

NCFE move into Q6

January Tenants



Why the Lightbulb?

NCFE wanted an image that would give the building a distinctive, almost iconic identity. Creating an image that implied energy, light, inspiration, innovation and invention. NCFE wanted to represent both NCFE and their building neighbours, British Engines. The lightbulb fits the bill!

NCFE, a registered educational charity, decided to relocate to the park having recruited 34 new staff members and boosting its team by almost 30 percent to a total of 195.

Last year alone, over 600,000 learners from over 2,000 colleges, schools and training organisations chose NCFE as the Awarding Organisation to help them move their careers forward.

NCFE has bought building Q6 at Quorum, significantly investing in a substantial fit out across the four floors of the 50,361 sq Ft Building. The new facilities include a staff coffee shop and restaurant together with a suite of state of the art meeting rooms.

Fergus Trim, Development Director at Quorum is delighted to have NCFE

on board "NCFE's dynamic approach to business tallies very well with our 'better place to work' philosophy, in the short time they have been here, NCFE have really thrown themselves into life at Quorum.

Their positive energy and passion for both what they do and the wellbeing of their staff will prove to be a great asset to the park Coupled with the prestige of a Business like British Engines taking space on the first floor, we're very happy with our new addition and look forward to seeing it continue to thrive."

Monthly Bike Hub launched

February Sustainability

Quorum Business Park has partnered with Sustrans and bike shop M Steel Cycles to launch a pop up cycle hub encouraging staff to cycle to work.

The 'Better by Bike' programme offers information, guidance and incentives to employees looking to change their commute to work.

An impressive number of staff turned up to February's launch, and as the weather improves numbers are steadily climbing. Quorum Events and Sustainability Manager, Laura Barber said "we are thrilled with the interest we have received at the event. It's been great to see new faces that haven't used pool bikes before, finding out more about cycling to work for the first time."

Sustrans Workplace Officer, Laurence Bonner, who created the concept of the 'pop-up cycle hub' said "We are seeing a sharp increase in the number of people cycling to work- we're here enabling people to choose healthier, cleaner and cheaper journeys."

If you'd like to rent one of Quorum's pool bikes for one month, email hub@quorumbp.co.uk for more information.



Convergys 'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind' Event

April Tenants

As Convergys Strives toward Silver Status on the Health at Work Awards Scheme, they have launched a number of activities designed to promote wellbeing and health in the workplace.

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Nurses from the NHS were onsite to carry out blood pressure, cholesterol and BMI tests along with providing smoking and alcohol advice. Sustrans, Tyne & Wear and Northumberland Sport and The GYM also attended the event. Free fruit and water were provided for employees too as part of the event. Site Communications coordinator, Andrea Valentine said "We're really pleased with how well the event was received and feedback has been fantastic with lots of positive comments. As a result we will be holding another 'Healthy Body, Healthy Mind' event later in the year."

This event is just one of a number of events that have recently taken place in Convergys, with a host of Sports Relief fundraising, Easter Activities and a visit from the Major.



Sports Relief across Quorum

over £80,000 raised on the night

March Charity



This year's sport relief saw businesses across the park go the extra mile for a fantastic cause: with staff challenges, fundraising and world record attempts.

Q8 played host to a fun filled night as Tesco Bank and Tesco Underwriting were chosen as an official Sport Relief call centre. Approximately 200 staff, friends and family gave up their Friday night to take part in this national event. Dressed in their sports kit and taking over 3000 calls, the team managed to collect over £80,000 across the course of the evening. The energy on the night was high right through until midnight and in between all the fun and games even a Newcastle Falcon's rugby player managed to pop in to help keep spirits high.

Over in Q13, Dean Moon a member of the Convergys team completed an awe-inspiring challenge to climb

the same distance as the ascent to Kilimanjaro within the Convergys building. Dean said "The challenge took just under eight hours to complete. It was a total of 38,808 steps which equated to 308 laps up and down the stairs. There are six sets of steps to climb to reach the top floor" Starting at 9am, Dean took only one extended break and managed to complete his task by early evening. Dean said "I would like to thank all my colleagues who either joined me for a lap or gave me some encouragement when passing me on the stairs as it made the whole thing a bit easier to complete."

Elsewhere in Convergys, employee Jason Thompson attempted to break the World Record attempt for the largest number of Crème Eggs eaten in under a minute. Unfortunately Jason was thwarted by some tricky foil wrapping issues, but a great effort nonetheless.

St. Oswald's Easter egg collection thank you

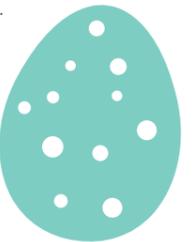
April Charity

A BIG thank you to everyone that donated Easter Eggs to a very worthwhile cause! Over 140 Eggs were donated from across the Business Park.

The response for Easter egg donation has been brilliant. For the two weeks leading up to Easter we asked for Easter egg donations to St. Oswald's Hospice, a very worthwhile cause that provides specialist hospice care for local adults, young people and children. It is a charity that values the life of each person and is committed to excellence in Specialist Palliative Care.

Wherever possible the eggs were donated directly to the children at the hospice, but in some instances the children at St Oswald's were not well enough to accept Chocolate, but in that case, the Easter eggs were donated to their siblings who will also be having a very tough time, so all in all a very worthwhile cause.

Amy Slater, Fundraiser Coordinator for St. Oswald's Hospice said "Our nurses have been delighted with the level of response across the park. We are looking forward to seeing a lot of happy faces this Easter."



Over 140 Easter Eggs Donated



March Events

Quorum Outdoor Fitness Station launched by Newcastle Falcon, Alex Crockett

Quorum has unveiled its impressive new outdoor fitness station, with the help of the Newcastle Falcons.

The six-piece fitness station, which is now open for the park's employees to use throughout the spring and summer months, has been designed to assist with toning work, cardio fitness, resistance training and cool downs. Newcastle Falcons' player Alex Crockett was on hand to officially launch the equipment with some help from NE Fit Bootcamp and Quorum's on-site trainer Adam Hitchings.

Former England Saxons and England Under-21s player Alex Crockett, said: "It was great to be invited along today, the gym equipment looks like it will be a big draw for people on the park, going by the number of them that came along today. I'm sure Quorum staff will be fighting fit before the summer is out!"

Quorum Business Park events and sustainability manager Laura Barber said: "The fitness station is a fantastic

addition to the park's leisure facilities, alongside the sports club pitches and exercise programmes run on-site, and we're delighted that a member of the Falcons team came along to support our fitness and wellbeing efforts - showing us how it's done best.

"Our resident bootcamp expert Adam was also on hand to demonstrate how the equipment can be used alone or in conjunction with other fitness activities, such as a perfect cool down activity for runners. The station's ease of access is a good incentive for staff on the park to introduce exercise into their daily routine."

The Launch took place alongside our Quorum Q Card Expo to celebrate the Q Card's 4th Birthday. Over 35 Q Card partners attended the event promoting their Q Card offers. Guests included Durham County Cricket Club, Apartment Group and Matfen Hall.

Interactive exhibits at the Event included a competition run by Jury's Inn to change a duvet in the quickest time to win a prize, Body Analyser sessions with Nuffield Health Gym and Benton Dog and Cat Shelter even brought along a Pets Corner which proved very popular with staff!



April Tenants



British Engines celebrates employee's achievements

British Engines annual award ceremony took place at the beginning of April, at St. James' Park, to celebrate, with twenty seven employees and their families, very different milestones in their respective careers.

The ceremony marked 18 employees 25th year with the company and was the inspiration for the 1980's theme carried throughout the ceremony; with music and news events from this time marking when these employees first joined British Engines.

Employees were thanked for the contribution they had made to the business and their commitment. Chairman, Alex Lamb, presented each of them with a gold watch.

At the other end of the scale; awards were presented to British Engines' apprentices who had excelled during the year proving they too were hard working and dedicated employees. Nine of our existing 66 apprentices received an award for their work in both the classroom and in their jobs within the businesses.

18 employees have been with us for 25 years

Kate Simpson, HR Director at British Engines, said: "This award ceremony is a fantastic mix of people; our 25 year service employees, many of whom can remember completing their apprenticeship, and our existing apprentices who are learning every day from experienced professionals like those being recognised in the room.

This year British Engines will recruit 22 apprentices, seven graduates and, due to its continuing growth, currently has vacancies for engineers and skilled workforce throughout the north east.

In 2014 we will recruit 22 apprentices...



What's On

June 2014 - August 2014

Find out what's on at Quorum Business Park. There is something for everyone...

Regulars



Food Nation Van
First Friday of every Month



Bike Hub
Second Wednesday of every Month

Exercise Classes

Zumba Classes
Tuesdays, 5.15pm - 6.15pm,
Q5 Building, Ground Floor (left entrance)



Pilates Classes
Monday and Wednesday
Lunchtimes, 12.00pm - 12.30pm,
Q5 Building, Ground Floor (left entrance)



Bootcamp
Daily Monday to Friday
5.15pm-6.00pm then 6.00pm -
7.00pm all in Q9 Building, Ground Floor



Netball Club
Takes place on Wednesday
evenings from 5.15pm - 6.00pm



Tennis League
League starts 8th July
and ends on 27th July



Month by Month



Bike Hub
11th June

Quorum Games
Starting 23rd June

World Cup Competition
13th June



Newcastle Triathlon
19th July

Quorum Games
Winners Presentation
10th July

Summer of Rugby Starts
21st July



Wildlife Day
14th August

Rounders Tournament and Picnic
21st August

Later this year...

- Health and Wellbeing Roadshow
- Go Smarter Week
- Movember

Quorum Activities Timetable



11th June

Bike Hub



Starting 23rd June

Quorum Games



10th July

Quorum Games
Winners Presentation



19th July

Newcastle Triathlon



14th August

Wildlife Day

For more info on any of the events at Quorum please contact the HUB on 0191 259 9874

Nesting Ducks at Quorum

Staff across the central building in the park near Q9 have started to notice ducks that have come to nest at Quorum. Events and Sustainability Assistant, Emma Neal said "It is important not to chase away a duck that has started nesting, since she must be allowed access to her nest. Please take care on the roads and crossings, and be mindful of impending chicks."



The great Duck hunt!

Tweet or Facebook us pics showing how far the ducks have travelled around the park!

Twitter: @QuorumBP

Facebook: /QuorumBusinessPark

North East Food Fair

May Events

A festival of locally produced food and drink with over 30 stalls offering a range of gifts and goodies including wines and liqueurs, fresh pastries, cheeses and chutneys, gourmet chocolate, world cuisine, chilli sauces and much much more.

This year sees old favourites return along with some fresh new faces. Look out for French Oven Bakery, New Zealand Pie Company, Zapatista Burrito bar, North Chocolate, JR Jams, Waffle Co, The Brownie Co, Fat Friars.. the list goes on!

Governor Casino will also be onsite with their pop up casino where you can win prizes and raise money for Cash for Kids in the process!

Stall holder from Tasty Thai Deli is one of our new exhibitors this year, she said "I'm really excited to be a part of Quorum Food Fair. I think it's brilliant that small local artisan get a chance to shine and showcase our products. The food scene in the North East has exploded and people are being more adventurous with foods." You'll be able to try Sal's famous Thai Pies in May!



Apprenticeship Clinic

March Business

As part of National Apprentice Week, Quorum hosted an apprentice clinic in conjunction with North Tyneside Council. The drop in sessions were designed to offer advice and first-hand experience to employees interested in hiring apprentices within their Business.

Representatives from the Job Centre, North Tyneside Council and young people in the middle of Apprentices were all on hand to answer any questions employers had. Our onsite raining provider, TDR were also present as Quorum representatives.

Craig Reid, employment officer at North Tyneside Council said "Quorum already have an excellent track record with hiring apprentices, as a great location that focuses on the development of young people, a lot of the companies here work great as 'best practice' examples, therefore it was a natural choice for one of our locations."

Insure the Box are the proud holders of the accolade of North Tyneside's Apprentice Employer of the Year 2013.

Find out more about National Apprentice week online: www.apprenticeships.org.uk