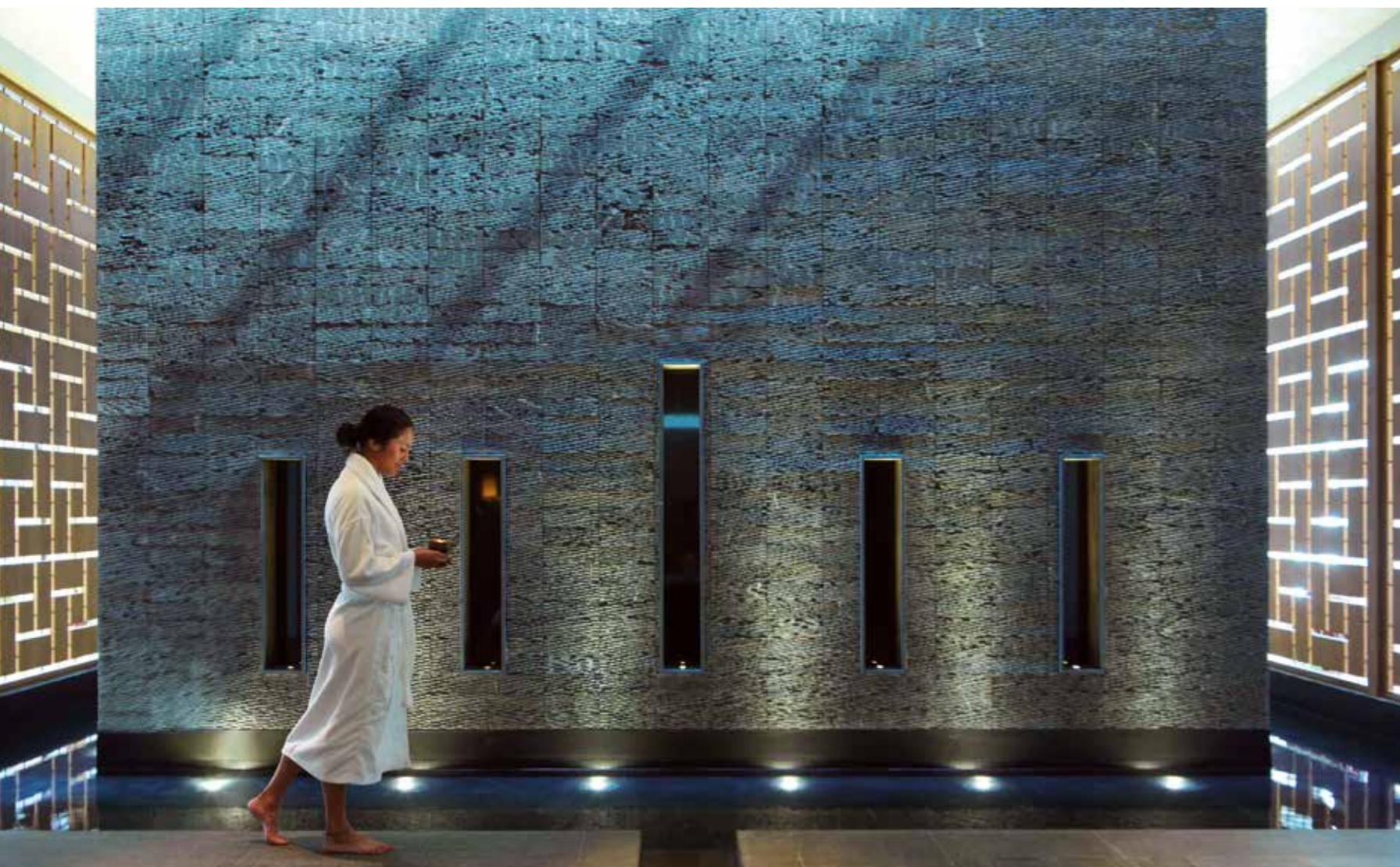


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WORLD OF WELLNESS

Finding balance at Oman's Anantara Al Jabal Al Akhdar

THE BEST OF BRITISH

Look inside London's luxurious Lanesborough Club & Spa

EXPERT GUIDE: NAILS

Invaluable spa mani-pedi advice and product innovations

SOUTH AFRICA SHINES

How European brands combine with locally inspired treatments

News

● DEVELOPMENTS ● APPOINTMENTS ● INVESTMENT ● DIARY DATES

EDITED BY SARAH TODD



Spa town's legacy 'recaptured' in new £9.5m development

Rudding Park Spa in Harrogate features a striking roof-top spa garden and will use natural spring waters from the hotel grounds

UK: A new £9.5m (€11.24m) spa has launched at the privately-owned luxury Rudding Park hotel in Harrogate, Yorkshire.

Intending to enhance the town's considerable spa heritage, the 4,180sqm Rudding Park Spa uses natural waters from the surrounding grounds and boasts a range of comprehensive facilities to 'enhance the wellness of mind, body and soul'.

Designed by architects Enjoy Design, the spa offers 11 treatment rooms; four distinct Mind, Visual, Audio and Sleep zones; a mani-pedi and makeup bar, and an indoor spring water swimming pool. Product partners include Elemental Herbology, Ila, Carita, Jessica and Mii. Jennifer Young will cater for those living with and beyond cancer, and the spa has joined forces with Harrogate's Sir Robert Ogden Macmillan Cancer Centre to help increase awareness of its offering.

Kitchen garden cuisine will be served at the Horto restaurant, with seasonally inspired dishes by chef Murray Wilson.

In addition, a rooftop spa and garden includes a hydrotherapy infinity pool, a panoramic sauna, experience showers, a garden sauna cabin and sun deck. Speaking about his vision for the rooftop spa garden design, leading horticulturalist Matthew Wilson said: "I've created a space that is very calming with its topiary beech domes and ornamental grasses, surrounded by beautiful woodland and trees. Guests love the landscape, engage with it and want to know more about it."

"Rudding Park Spa recaptures the town's spa



"Rudding Park Spa recaptures Harrogate's spa history and will take our guests to new heights of relaxation"

Matthew Mackaness, Spa director

history using natural waters from Rudding Park itself and features an awe-inspiring rooftop spa and garden to take our guests to new heights of relaxation," said spa director Matthew Mackaness.

The spa's interior fixtures and fittings were supplied by interior design company Horsley & Feather with heat and water experiences from Helo. Gharieni supplied the loungers and treatment beds within the spa while REM was chosen for its pedicure thrones.

"A destination spa has always been part of the vision for Rudding Park, as our philosophy is to continually invest in the business to ensure we offer guests the very highest quality," said owner Simon Mackaness, who acquired the property in 1972. "We are immensely proud of what the forward-thinking spa will bring to the hotel and our guests, as well as Harrogate and Yorkshire as leading UK tourism destinations."

www.ruddingpark.co.uk

Global Wellness Day 2017 prepares to bring ‘mindfulness and happiness’ to 100 countries



GLOBAL: The sixth annual Global Wellness Day (GWD) – aimed at ‘encouraging kindness, gratitude, mindfulness and happiness’ – is set to be celebrated on June 10 in more than 100 countries around the world.

Founder Belgin Aksoy Berkin (pictured right), supported by a network of more than 85 Global Wellness Day Ambassadors as well as three advisors and 21 key supporters, has organised complimentary wellness events in more than 4,000 locations for the 2017 event.

“We’re thrilled that Global Wellness Day is gathering such support worldwide,” said Aksoy



“Our ambassadors have done such an amazing job that this year we are able to expand our focus. We’re also seeing an emphasis on the happiness and health of children, which continues to give me hope for the future.”

Commenting on the role that spas can play in supporting the GWD agenda, she added: “Spas are perfect places for people to find inner peace and health. This accords magnificently with our aim to encourage people to start a healthy lifestyle.”

For details on how to take part in Global Wellness Day, email: info@globalwellnessday.org
www.globalwellnessday.org

News in brief

Mandarin Oriental joins Green Spa Network to boost sustainability

GLOBAL: Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group’s portfolio of 24 spas have partnered with the Green Spa Network, a non-profit association founded in 2002 that is dedicated to making spas more sustainably efficient.

As part of the new partnership, Mandarin Oriental will create a ‘Group Sustainability Assessment’ that will adapt the Green Spa Network’s Sustainability Assessment Tool for use in global, multi-property hotel brands.

www.mandarinoriental.com

www.greenspanetwork.org

Six Senses’ third European property to be built on the island of Ibiza

SPAIN: Six Senses has unveiled plans to open its first resort and spa in Ibiza. Located on the northern tip of the island in Cala Xarraca Bay, Six Senses Ibiza is set to comprise a resort, spa and residential community. The group’s third European property, it is scheduled to open in 2020 under a management agreement with Beach Box Ibiza S.L.

The comprehensive wellness offering will include a ‘spiritual learning centre’ with an innovative approach to optimising health which will include fitness, nutrition and mindfulness.

www.sixsenses.com

Preidlhof enhances luxury suites with hydro relaxation spaces

ITALY: The Preidlhof resort and spa in Naturns, South Tyrol, has reopened following the completion of a €6m (£5.07m) refurbishment and luxury upgrade programme. Each of the hotel’s 32 suites now also include Spa Loggia relaxation spaces, some of which also feature their own whirlpool and private sauna.

www.preidlhof.it

Anantara marks European brand debut in Portugal

PORTUGAL: The first European property of hospitality group Anantara Hotels, Resorts & Spas has opened in Portugal.

The Anantara Vilamoura Algarve Resort is located on the south coast of the country and was relaunched as an Anantara hotel and spa on April 1, having previously been operated as the Tivoli Victoria.

Featuring 280 guest bedrooms and suites, the property underwent an extensive refurbishment prior to the relaunch, incorporating the main lobby, the gym and the Anantara Spa.

The rebranded 600sqm Anantara Spa is managed by MSPA International and will use Elemis for all facial treatments. The menu also offers a selection of Anantara’s signature Ayurveda-based treatments alongside indigenous Mediterranean-inspired treatment journeys.

As well as seven treatment rooms including three double suites, facilities at the rooftop spa include an indoor vitality pool, experience showers and an outdoor relaxation deck.

www.anantara.com



Kempinski The Spa Riga set to open this year



LATVIA: A comprehensive new spa will debut in the latter part of 2017 as part of the Grand Hotel Kempinski Riga. Designed by architect Alex Kravetz Design under the direction of the Resense Spa SA design team, Kempinski The Spa Riga will be pre-opened and managed by Resense.

The 1,400sqm development will include six treatment rooms with beds supplied by Gharieni, as well as a relaxation beauty lounge with a nail bar. The heat experiences, provided by Latinwest, will feature a sauna and an aroma steam room as well as a rasul mud room that will use local Latvian muds renowned for their healing properties. A fitness area will be equipped by LifeFitness while there will also be a vitality pool surrounded by heated loungers.

"The opening of Kempinski The Spa Riga is one of our most exciting launches this year," said Resense global operations director Emma-Jane Darby. "It will be the first international, luxury spa in the city and will combine Latvian culture and the very European, seasonal philosophy of Kempinski The Spa."

www.kempinski.com

BC Softwear boosts its presence in France

FRANCE: Specialist textiles supplier BC Softwear has announced a number of new French partnerships.

Headquartered in the UK, BC Softwear established its French operation in 2014 and partnered with French agent Corinne Féjooz to increase its presence in the country.

Now well established in a strongly competitive market, BC Softwear France has more than 100 clients, forming recent new partnerships with spas and hotels including La Villa Florius, Corsica's Hôtel A.Piattatella, the Vichy Célestins Spa Hotel and Burgundy's Château de Cîteaux.

Barbara Cooke, MD (pictured) said: "The competition in France is strong and we've had to demonstrate that our products offer value, quality and longevity in a market that is used to French suppliers."

"Thanks to a huge commitment and continued efforts by Corinne, along with great sales and marketing support from the UK division, BC Softwear France is now firmly established and we've proven our right to a slice of this valuable market."

www.bcsoftwear.co.uk



'Suite spa concept' at Dorchester Collection's iconic Hotel Eden, Rome



Chiara Interesse

ITALY: Following an extensive restoration programme, Dorchester Collection's Hotel Eden in Rome has reopened with the addition of a new urban spa concept.

Updates to the iconic property, which comprises 98 guestrooms and suites, were intended to enhance the hotel's original design while 'preserving the much loved spirit of the property'.

Created by Patrick Jouin and Sanjit Manku of acclaimed interior practice Jouin Manku, the new spa has been designed as a 'spa suite concept'. Instead of communal areas, such as a sauna and swimming pool, each treatment suite features a changing room with a shower and bathroom, while one suite also has a steam room.

Reviving the property's original vaulted rooms, the spa's entrance provides a soft, light atmosphere while the three treatment suites offer warm interiors and soothing, dimmed lighting by Metis Lighting design, as well as custom lighting from Aristide Najean. Vaulted ceilings, honouring the typical Roman baths architecture, also play a key feature in the spa's design.

The new spa menu offers guests a fusion of signature treatments and wellness offerings by Sonya Dakar and organic beauty specialists Officina Profumo Farmaceutica di Santa Maria Novella. There is also a blow-dry bar and a mani-pedi suite where therapists will provide treatments using OPI products.

"Eden Spa's spa suite concept offers a tranquil oasis in the heart of Rome, for a luxurious and intimate wellbeing experience," said Eden Spa's supervisor, Chiara Interesse. "It is also the first Spa in Europe to feature the award-winning skincare brand Sonya Dakar." www.dorchestercollection.com

Biologique Recherche announces new partnership with Capri Palace

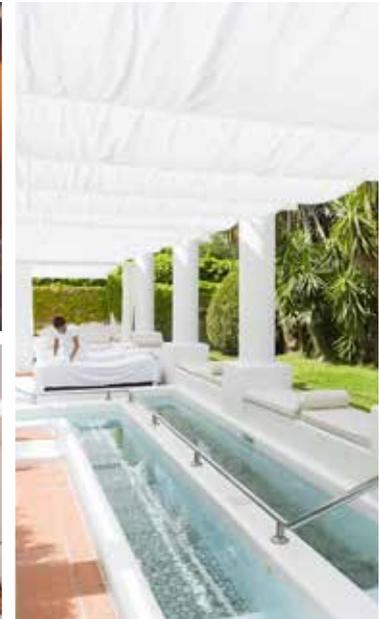
FRANCE/ITALY: Leading professional spa brand Biologique Recherche has launched at the Capri Beauty Farm within the Capri Palace Hotel & Spa in Anacapri, Italy.

Located 300m above sea level and offering stunning panoramic views, the Capri Beauty Farm was one of Europe's first medical spas and has an enduring reputation for combining highly efficacious treatments with holistic wellness.

Speaking about its decision to partner with Biologique Recherche, in-house medical director, Professor Francesco Canonaco said: "We are delighted with our new collaboration with Biologique Recherche, whose products, procedures and methods are recognised worldwide due to their outstanding effects. Their approach is consistent with the medical spirit of our Capri Beauty Farm and with the results we guarantee our patients."

Rupert Schmid, president of Biologique Recherche, added: "We're honoured that the Capri Palace Hotel has chosen us as the brand for its Beauty Farm. This partnership underlines the scientific rigour of our methodology and the medical content of our products, of which we are very proud."

www.capripalace.com | www.biologiquerecherche.com



Rolling out The Massage Company

UK: Membership-based business The Massage Company has announced that its first ever franchise agreement, involving a three-centre multi-site deal, has been awarded to husband and wife team Taran and Sophie Bassi.

"We set up The Massage Company to franchise across the UK," said co-founder and operations director Charlie Thompson (pictured above left with Taran Bassi). "To have built, opened our Camberley site, successfully traded and awarded our first multi-site franchise agreement within 12 months demonstrates the speed of roll-out that can be achieved when you bring something new to the market. Opening our first franchise will be a true test of our systems, processes and operating effectiveness."

A typical Massage Company site has a compact footprint of between 185sqm and 279sqm and is operated by up to 30 staff who are guided through a rigorous training programme.

"The business model is focused on ensuring its members receive a great massage at a competitive price at a time that is convenient to them, with centres opening from 9am to 9pm, seven days a week," confirmed Thompson.

www.massagemcompany.co.uk

Recruitment is priority issue for UKSA

UK: The UK Spa Association (UKSA) has emphasised that its core focus for 2017 remains recruitment and retention.

Speaking exclusively to *European Spa*, UKSA general manager Helena Field explained why staff recruitment was a key issue for the association. "We will have a strong focus on recruitment throughout 2017 as it remains the biggest challenge for our members in terms of their spa operations," she stated. "We'll also be continuing our research into other retention issues with our benchmarking programme, and will be looking at different initiatives to ensure our smaller salons and spa members receive the same level of support as larger operators."

The association currently has more than 400 members, and Field emphasised that great emphasis will also be placed on promoting National Spa Week, which will take place in spas and salons across the UK from October 30 to November 5.

www.spa-uk.org





Decléor opens Boutique Spa in London



Sarah Power

UK: Decléor has launched its first UK boutique and day spa in London's Westbourne Grove, which is described as providing an ideal setting for the brand to showcase its merchandising and provide a total brand immersion for new and existing customers.

The Decléor Boutique Spa includes three treatment rooms with beds supplied by Maletti and an express treatment area that offers the brand's new Face Shot menu of targeted treatments focused on specific facial areas.

There will also be a private express treatment

room, called The Recharging Hub, for the performance of 30-minute treatments for both men and women.

"As Decléor continues its acceleration, our first boutique and day spa is an exciting step in our story as a brand; enabling us to give consumers an immersive Decléor experience and road test innovative concepts," said Decléor's general manager, Sarah Power. "Our new treatment menu really sets us apart. From 15-minute Face Shots with facial massage tutorials, to our express and full treatments, we are providing consumers with professional expertise and unique experiences throughout their journey in the boutique."

www.decleor.co.uk

Appointments

SMT changes at Grand Resort Bad Ragaz



Patrick Vogler

Switzerland: CFO Patrick Vogler will assume operational management of Grand Resort Bad Ragaz at the end of June from Peter P. Tschirky. After more than ten years in the role, Tschirky said the change would consolidate the resort's position as a leader in medical health and wellbeing before its 150th anniversary in 2019.

www.resortragaz.ch

Ceri Silk joins Jumeirah Carlton Tower



Ceri Silk

UK: Ceri Silk has joined The Peak Health Club & Spa at Jumeirah Carlton Tower in London's Knightsbridge as its new spa manager. With more than 30 years' experience in the industry, Silk joins the team from Saks Hair & Beauty, where she was previously the beauty business development manager.

www.peakhealthclub.com

New spa director for Ramside Hall



Joanne Green

UK: Joanne Green has become spa director at Ramside Hall Hotel, Golf & Spa. She joins The Spa at Ramside from Aqua Sana at Center Parcs. "I'm really excited about working at Ramside," said Green. "I knew when I first visited the spa that it was something special and I'm looking forward to being part of its future growth."

www.ramsidespa.co.uk

The Natural Spa Factory extends its collaboration with Exclusive Hotels

UK: The Natural Spa Factory has deepened its relationship with Exclusive Hotels through its presence at The Spa at Pennyhill Park.

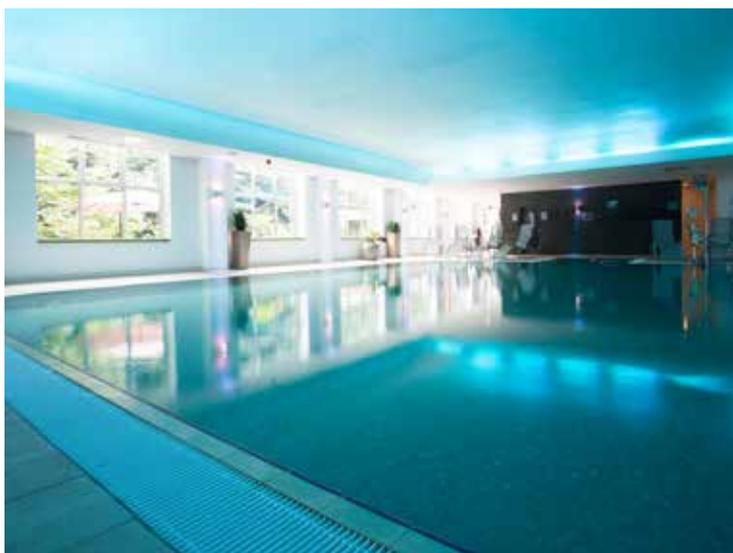
Building on a recent collaboration that involved the introduction of a curated collection of more than 30 products at Pennyhill Park, the natural skincare brand will now supply a tailored collection of 16 treatments including facials, massage, body therapies and spa days.

Darren Dixon, spa manager at Pennyhill Park, said the range had flourished within the spa. "We are delighted with our recent collaboration with Natural Spa Factory," he enthused. "The superiority of its products and their sleek packaging design is aligned with the luxury market. Extending the partnership to include our professional range means we can now incorporate this luxury into our treatments and spa days too."

Jeremy Smith, Natural Spa Factory's co-founder, added: "Working with Exclusive Hotels has been a pleasure from the outset. Darren and his team strive for excellence and the opportunity to influence this amazing facility was a role we relished."

www.naturalspafactorytrade.com
www.exclusive.co.uk/pennyhill-park





Titanic Spa revitalises its offer



Warrick Burton

UK: Yorkshire's Titanic Spa has revealed the results of a comprehensive £200,000 (€233,000) refurbishment programme in collaboration with designers Dawnvale.

The revamp was part of the destination spa's continual investment programme and follows the completion of a £250,000 upgrade of Titanic Spa's 34 apartments in conjunction with Emma Kay & Co.

Work to the spa interiors included the introduction of a real stone vinyl wall covering in the spa's bistro, carpet tiles that are intended to give the impression of 'the outdoors seeping inside', new bronzed, textured wall tiles and fabrics that change colour and shape as guests walk by. Further additions include a new mud chamber supplied by Dalesauna, complete with walk-in showers, and new contemporary seating and tables in reception.

"We pride ourselves on maintaining our reputation as an innovator within the industry and believe that design and materials have a huge part to play in the spa experience," said managing director Warrick Burton.

Further work in 2017 will include an upgrade of the relaxation lounge and popular 'bean bag pit' and the development of a high-end retail area in conjunction with the spa's product partner, Elemis. www.titanicspa.com



Inaugural SpaFest promises to be 'an incredible couple of days'



Amanda Barlow

UK: A new, wellness-focused event, set to debut from September 21-22 in Newquay, Cornwall, promises to be 'a meaningful gathering about wellness' for business owners, managers and directors in the spa and wellness industries.

Confirmed sponsors of SpaFest so far include Made for Life by Spiezia Organics, Voya and Elemental Herbology while *European Spa* will be the event's media partner.

Topics covered during the event will include how companies can blend wellness with commercial integrity and how businesses can ensure they truly make a difference.

All profits from the event will go to the Made for Life Foundation, which provides ongoing support for those going through cancer.

Event organiser Amanda Barlow said: "SpaFest's focus is to broaden the perception of the wellbeing industry as a global movement. It will enable delegates to take some time out, be inspired by new ideas and catch their breath in a relaxed, beautiful environment.

"It's a chance to truly connect with like-minded people; to be still, listen, learn and reflect. It's going to be an incredible couple of days."

To get involved or book tickets, visit: www.spafest.co.uk

Elemis collaborations further expand global spa portfolio

GLOBAL: Leading professional product house Elemis has boosted its global portfolio by securing 18 new premium spa locations.

Having entered 14 new countries in 2016 including Oman, Saudi Arabia, Poland and Denmark, Elemis is currently present in spa locations in a total of 85 countries worldwide.

In the UK, new locations include the Hale Country Club & Spa in Cheshire (pictured right) as well as Champneys new spa hotel at Eastwell Manor in Kent; Fowey Hall Spa in Cornwall; and 30 James Street, Morgan's Spa in Liverpool.

Further notable UK spas for Elemis include Aqua Sana at Center Parcs Sherwood Forest (see p74), ESYA Spa at Retallack Resort in Cornwall and the Kallima Club Spa at Hilton London, Syon Park.

Elsewhere, Elemis has joined the LivingWell Health Club at the Hilton Berlin and the Soma Spa at Domes of Elounda in Greece, as well as entering the newly redesigned spa within the Lanzerac Estate in South Africa's Stellenbosch region (see review on p82).

www.elemis.com



Global Wellness Summit announces keynotes



Global: Organisers of the Global Wellness Summit (GWS) have revealed details of three expert keynote speakers who have been booked to address this year's invitation-only event.

The trio of well-respected figures from the fields of neuroscience and beauty will deliver keynote sessions during the conference, which is set to take place at The Breakers, Palm Beach, Florida, US, from October 9-11.

Their contribution will focus on the new intersections between beauty, aesthetics, neuroscience and wellness and how these may impact on the beauty industry.

Cognitive neuroscientist Dr. Anjan Chatterjee will be joined by 'science of happiness' expert Nancy Etcoff, PhD and Dr Lisa Ishii, who has deep research interests in the topic of facial perception.

Susie Ellis, GWS chairman and CEO, said: "The scientific and neuro-scientific insights of these thought



Dr Anjan Chatterjee



Nancy Etcoff, PhD



Dr Lisa Ishii

leaders will help us forge new, disruptive connections between beauty and human wellness. It's certainly going to be an eye-opening content thread at the Summit." www.globalwellnesssummit.com

Diary dates

Forum HOTEL & Spa

June 1, 2017

The Four Seasons Georges V Hotel, Paris, France

The tenth edition of this celebrated meeting point for Europe's leading influencers in spa, hospitality and wellbeing. Featuring knowledge sharing sessions on the best present and future practices as well as the Black Diamond Award. www.forumhotspa.com

SPATEC Europe

June 14-17, 2017

The Ritz-Carlton, Abama, Tenerife, Spain

European buyers with global business interests, spa operators of leading hotel resort, destination, medical and day spas and an exclusive selection of suppliers participate in face-to-face meetings and international speaker sessions over two dedicated business days. www.spateceu.com

Spa Life International (Ireland)

June 19-20, 2017

The Osprey Hotel & Spa, Naas, Co. Kildare, Ireland

2017 sees the debut of Spa Life International in Ireland. Supported by Fáilte Ireland and Meet in Ireland, the successful event agenda will combine a conference and meetings forum with plenty of networking opportunities. www.spa-life.international/

Global Wellness Summit

October 9-11, 2017

The Breakers, Florida, US

The 11th event returns to the US to unite leaders, influencers and visionaries to positively impact and shape the future of the global wellness industry with an agenda that includes interactive sessions and panel-led discussions. www.globalwellnesssummit.com

ISPA Conference & Expo

October 16-18, 2017

Las Vegas, US

The International SPA Association hosts global industry professionals for its annual event comprising of keynote presentations for business strategy and industry development, networking events and an expo. www.attendispa.com

Spa Life Ireland secures two inspirational speakers

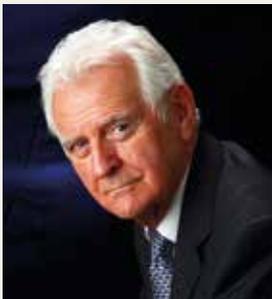
IRELAND: Further details have been revealed about the inaugural Spa Life International (Ireland) event, which will take place at the Osprey Hotel & Spa in Naas, Co. Kildare from June 19-20.

Supported by Fáilte Ireland and Meet in Ireland, Spa

Life Ireland is the second in a trilogy of Spa Life events taking place in 2017 and is being billed as the biggest event of its type to be hosted in Ireland.

Combining new product showcases with spa industry insights and extensive networking opportunities, the event's two keynote speakers will be 'The Tweeting Goddess', Samantha Kelly, who will discuss the power of making connections, and corporate coaching consultant Frank W. Dick, OBE, who will deliver an exclusive presentation on turning adversity into advantage.

"We aspire to keep each Spa Life event completely focused and relevant to each attendee and their vocation, skills and interests," promised Spa Life co-founder Andrew Hammond. "Industry leaders often remark to us that Spa Life events provide them with unrivalled access to decision-makers and the unique networking atmosphere results in great connections that lead to multiple, enduring benefits for their businesses." www.spa-life.international



Frank W. Dick



Samantha Kelly

Share your appointments, announcements, launches and diary dates with our News editor Sarah Todd. Call +44 (0) 115 950 4748 or email sarah.todd@spapublishing.com