

## Gambling Business Group add expert insight sessions to ICE land-based Hub

EXHIBITION

The **Gambling Business Group** has assembled some expert heft for its land-based Hub at ICE in February. The early list of experts available to talk through key issues with visitors has been unveiled this week. From age verification to licensing, compliance to technical standards, a wide range of operational bases will be covered during the first two days of ICE.

**C**ross-sector strategic body, The Gambling Business Group, has outlined a timetable programme of land-based gaming expert insights which will be delivered from the GBG Hub at February's edition of ICE - the world's largest business-to-business gambling show.

Taking place across the opening two days of ICE, the list of topics and experts confirmed to date includes sessions dedicated to Age Verification (Tony Allen: Age Check Certification Scheme), Compliance (Howard Gant: IHL Smart Hub), Data Protection (Richard Dutton: Elias Partnership), Licensing (David Lucas: Lucas Licensing), Responsible Gambling (Kirsty Caldwell: Betsmart Consulting), Security (Jim Leitch: Link Integrated) and Technical Standards (Rob Wheeler of RBW Systems: Gambling Business Group).

The Gambling Business Group Executive Team is working in partnership with the Institute of Licensing, the pro-



fessional body for licensing officers to develop a GBG tailored programme on Thursday 8 February, the last day of ICE.

Peter Hannibal, co-founder and Chief Executive of The Gambling Business Group, said: "The 2023 edition of the Hub was a tremendous success enjoyed by members and non-members alike. We want to build on that platform for ICE 2024 and have been consulting

with our members about enhancements and improvements to their ICE experience. The list of topics that we will be covering from the Hub at ICE is a product of those discussions. This is not a complete list and we envisage adding new sessions and experts as we get closer to the exhibition opening on 6 February making the GBG Hub at ICE an invaluable resource and meeting

place for land-based operators." All-comers are welcome to the GBG High Street Hub with visitors heading to ICE able to arrange a specific time/day to meet the experts by contacting the trade body or just drop by on the Tuesday 6 February or Wednesday 7 February to chat with them.

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### Newly completed entertainment centre at Newton Hall Caravan Park wins "fun and vibrant" plaudits

CARAVAN PARKS

**T**he new circus-themed bowling and gaming centre at Newton Hall Caravan Park has won high praise not least from local media the Blackpool Gazette which hailed the Walterz venue as "fun and vibrant."

Offering arcade games, AR darts, shuffleboard, air hockey and karaoke alongside the "VIP lanes," the site is the latest addition to the family-run holiday park, and open to non-residents for the first time.

"The venue is bursting with a fun and vibrant energy as soon as I walk in," reported Lucinda Herbert. "Walterz, on Staining Road, feels like a place for celebrations."

"The VIP bowling and plush karaoke booths would make for amazing workplace Christmas parties, or a great evening out with a few friends. There's loads to entertain adults, but it also feels like a teenager's paradise."

Singing out the "elevated casual decor, which puts a modern twist on classic circus themes," Herbert added "I love that this family-run holiday park has opened Walterz up for the local community to enjoy."



## Diana Garforth warns against the infringement of social media rights

IMAGE RIGHTS

**C**oncept Games Diana Garforth has signalled a warning to people to protect their image rights on social media postings - rights that platforms such as Meta (formerly Facebook) are so keen to take ownership of.

In a posting on 14 November, Garforth advised: "Don't forget tomorrow starts the new Facebook rule (aka... new name META) where they can use your photos. Don't

forget the deadline."

Part of a broader campaign to protect privacy, attention has been focused on the Meta rules which are widely considered not just breach of personal privacy, but also an attempt at grabbing rights for future commercial use.

Garforth wrote: "I do not give Facebook or any entities associated with Facebook permission to use my photos, information, mes-

sages or publications, past and future. With this statement, I advise Facebook that it is strictly forbidden to disclose, copy, distribute or take any other action against me based on this profile and/or its contents. The violation of privacy can be punished by law."

It was a notice that Garforth is keen to see others use - not necessarily as an attack on the social media platform - although many



believe it deserves far harsher treatment than it gets - but to protect individuals and small business from misuse of their photos and images.

She added: "All members must post a note like this. If people do not publish a statement at least once, it will be tacitly allowing the use of your photos, as well as the information contained in your profile and status updates."