

Catch Wins New NMNC Framework Listing

The long-awaited overhaul of the Crown Commercial Service's procurement framework for Non-Medical, Non-Clinical temporary staff has finally been announced. The new framework now includes managed services and neutral vendor options as the Government seeks to reduce overall NHS spending.

After the recent uproar surrounding the cost of locum doctors and nurses being procured off-framework, which led to the Minister branding all agencies as 'rip-off merchants', Catch 22 are proud to announce that we are awarded a place on the NMNC Framework once again. The competition for places to supply Ancillary Staff was fierce after the CCS revealed their intention to reduce

Crown Commercial Service Supplier

the number of agency awards from the hundreds to just 40. They eventually awarded to 44 suppliers, a mix of large high street names and smaller, more local agencies. We're delighted to reveal that Catch 22 now provides far better value than a number of more famous names, while still supplying quality and compliance with the demands of the NMNC Framework!

This area of NHS supply has been closely regulated since 2009 but the problem of overspending by

Trusts is exacerbated by their freedom to operate outside the various Frameworks that registered suppliers have to jump through hoops to qualify for. NHS staff salaries are governed by Agenda for Change pay agreements but Frameworks allow for temporary staff to be paid below the minimum AfC hourly rate—a far cry from the £3500 per shift paid for some locum doctors apparently.

The new Framework comes into force on July 1st and is valid for 2 years with an option to renew for a further 24 months. If you are looking to build a new supplier relationship for your Trust, look no further than Catch 22. We have 33 years experience of supplying the NHS with quality staff.

Facilities Show Return For Catch Team

It's been a few years since Catch 22 was involved at the FM industry's premier showcase, the Facilities Show but recent years have seen an upswing in interest from the larger TFM providers to be part of the experience and there

was an exciting buzz around Excel. In particular, there was a great vibe around the BIFM's Career Zone which provided information and networking opportunities for current FMs, those new to the business and those more experienced.

The intimate seminar area provided a great venue for a series of presentations around progressing one's career and subjects surrounding that progress. Catch 22's Don Searle got in on the act, addressing the subject of surviving the job hunt jungle with a mixed



audience of new and old FM practitioners. The show was expertly put together by UBM's Fergus Bird and Charles Oakley and featured sessions with Ranulph Fiennes, Karen Brady and Chris Hoy.





Calderdale Conquered!

Early May saw the start of the 10th Catch 22 Charity Challenge, a series that spans 18 years, hundreds of miles and thousands of feet of ascent and descent, all corners of the British Isles and all in aid of charity.

It is a series that, over the years, has raised over £300,000 for good causes and has given rise to great friendships and even romances. Children that were still in the ether in '97 are now walking with their parents and a whole new generation is enjoying the strength of camaraderie that this event engenders.

In 2015, we visited the county of Yorkshire for



the first time to take on the 50 miles of the Calderdale Way, with up to 40 people walking each of the 3 days.

From Ripponden to Hep-tonstall, then on to Brighthouse and finally back to Ripponden, the 3 days provided a variety of weather, some fabulous scenery and as usual some great socializing for

which we are grateful to Clive & Sue Siddall and Simon & Julie Aspinall. Their hospitality was a credit to 'God's Country'.

So what next? What will 2017 hold in store? Vince Parker, Catch 22's MD, told newsCatcher "We seem to be running out of challenges but I'm sure something just as tough will be waiting for us."



**"Sore feet
from walking,
sore sides
from laughing.
The Charity
Challenge has
it all."**

Nick Moore, New Manager

Congratulations to our new London Branch Manager, Nick Moore on his recent appointment.

Nick has been with Catch 22 for nearly 3 years and has proven himself to be a natural in the business of recruitment. He combines his workload with participation in a multitude of sports, principally basketball, golf and cricket.



Wales Revisited: 1999 and all that!

Our second challenge in 1999 was a visit to the Welsh 3000s—15 mountains all over 3000ft—to climb them over the week-end. With the benefit of a lot of hindsight, many Challengers feel that this was the toughest of all. It was certainly hard enough to inspire our late friend and colleague, Andy Perrott, to put pen to paper to describe his experience on the slopes.....

“One proposal of marriage, made on one summit and accepted on another; one (minor) hospital visit, numerous blisters, damaged knees, sunburn and exhaustion; these were some of the high, and low, lights of the Catch 22 assault on the Welsh 3000's over the Mayday bank Holiday weekend.

Some 40 people converged on Capel Curig on the Friday night. Staff, clients and friends of Catch 22 were all there, many of them veterans of the Three Peaks challenge two years previously. The aim, over the next three days was to complete the ascent of the 15 mountains in Wales over 3,000ft and by doing so raise large amounts of money for our three nominated charities; Scope (for people with cerebral palsy); Breast Cancer Campaign and The Lords Taverners.

After relaxing first evening renewing old friendships in the bar, it is fair to say that the first day was an eye-opener to most of the party. Quite simply it was much harder than anyone had expected, and certainly more of a challenge than the Three Peaks. Even those who had trained

quite seriously found the going tough. Things got so bad at one stage that Phil Harker was reduced to smoking only at the summits rather than during the climb, and Vince Parker began his one man mission to irrigate Snowdonia with sweat.

Seven mountains were climbed on this day. According to our guides each was smaller, easier, and closer than the last; we beg to differ. The terrain varied; lunar landscapes of rocky plateaus and steep slopes of loose scree followed reasonably gentle slopes of rough pasture. The worst was saved until last with the final descent an unremitting one and a half hour slog down the steepest and trickiest of paths.

The severity of this section led to our only major injury scare of the week, when Julie Fee's knee finally gave way and she fell cutting her head. Luckily the hospital pronounced the wound only minor, and she laughed at danger a second time that evening, surviving a kebab in Bethesda on the way back. Her transparently phony displays of misery at being ordered to miss the final two days were absolutely nauseating.

The difficulty of the day was probably best shown by the amazingly low levels of alcohol consumed during the evening and by the large number of hitherto unsuspected football fans who sloped off early with a pressing desire 'to watch Match of the Day in my room'.

A constant looming presence during the first day

was the bulk of Tryfan, not the highest peak of the week, but everyone's idea of what a real mountain should look like. It was this climb that was the main feature of the second day, the other being the strength of the sun. Having planned to avoid hypothermia the one thing no one had bargained on at the end of April was sunburn.

The whole party made it to the top of Tryfan but only Nick Lawler and Marcus Fidge, our mellow companion from Scope had the energy to take on the challenge of Adam and Eve; a jump between two rocks, close enough in theory but a long way apart when combined with a steep drop on either side.

On paper the third day was the easiest with only three mountains to complete. Unfortunately one of these was Crib Goch. Described blandly in the handbook as a strenuous grade one scramble, this to us relative, and in many cases absolute, novices was a genuinely frightening experience; several climbs up sheer open faces followed by a sliding crab scramble along nearly half a mile of narrow ridge with sheer drops on both sides.

Having now seen death at first hand Graham Jones took the opportunity to propose to Liz; the romance of his one kneed supplication was however slightly lessened by the fact that everyone else was on their knees by this stage as well. Liz agonised and deliberated before accepting an hour later at the top of Snowdon Their first vow was to honeymoon at sea

level, preferably in a bungalow.

There was a real sense of achievement at this stage only lessened by the fact that some of the party, really shouldn't have been walking at all. For them and others whose knees and feet were shot to pieces, the deceptively easy but seemingly endless descent from Snowdon was a particularly sadistic end to the journey; one that had begun three days, nearly 40 miles and some 50,000 feet of climb earlier, and which was finally completed by 32 of the party.

Particular thanks must go to the following; our guides, Pete Bournell, purveyor of footwear (sic) to the gentry; Ann and Nick Lawler, Clive Siddall. The fact that they will have to answer in due course to a higher authority for their appalling lies should not detract from our gratitude for their common sense and professionalism, even if we used other words at the time. Thanks also to Mark Taylor and the very pregnant Susan Siddall for looking after the driving and transport logistics.”



Andy Perrott, one of FM's originals and one of the very best. We miss you, mate.

Providing Quality People

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All Stars Take The Quiz Honours



The VP All Stars proved too hot to handle for all the opposition at the 16th annual C22 Charity Quiz Night this year.

Our thanks go to all the teams for their generosity in raising £4000 for The Lord's Taverners on the evening and to special guest Nicolas Parsons for his inimitable style and wit.

BIFM Finals 2015 Hanbury Manor

Once again Catch 22 will be organising the only national sporting event for the BIFM when the Golf Finals are held at Hanbury Manor in Ware on September 10th.

Teams from the BIFM Regions will meet to play for the title of Overall Champions. Sponsors are very welcome - please contact Vince or Don as soon as possible.

One London Number

We now have a single phone number for the London office. Please use **020 7220 8900** to contact our London office. Leeds numbers remain unchanged.

Keys to Door for Russell and Don!

The Oblix Restaurant at London's Shard played host to the celebrations marking 21 years service with Catch 22 for both Russell Matthews and Don Searle. Russell is the company's senior recruitment consultant and Don looks after the company's projects and contracts.

Directors Vince Parker and Simon Aspinall were on hand to pay tribute to the staying power and contribution of the two in an

industry not known for its loyalty Combined, this foursome has 103 years in the business!



C22 News Snippets

Good luck to Nick, Abbie and Scott who are all studying furiously for their Certificate in Recruitment Practice qualification. It's difficult to manage the pressure of a full working day and a distance learning commitment so we wish them well and will let you know how they get on in a future issue of C22's newsCatcher

Well done to our old friend John Barrott who played magnificent golf to qualify to represent the BIFM North Region at the BIFM National Finals at Hanbury Manor in September. This is the second year in succession that John has won a place at the Finals. Sadly to report, none of the other Catch 22 players managed to trouble the scorer this year!

And finally.....It seems that business confidence is finally returning to the economy! We've just had our busiest period for five years and the variety of requirements is wider than ever before. If you are looking for reliable, quality staff to help brighten up your office space or reconfigure the layout or you need to top up your support workforce, why not give us a call now?



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