



## **JUST ANOTHER JOB HUNTING MONDAY**

Looking for a new job? Chances are you'll be most motivated to start your search on a Monday morning. New research into job seekers' behaviour has revealed that the peak time for going online at work to check out job opportunities is on a Monday (64%) and most likely between the hours of 9am-11am (32%).

According to the study of 1,400 adults carried out by Gumtree.com, the UK's busiest site for jobs\*, 75% of people used the Internet at work to search for jobs. In fact, people are less likely to search for jobs online at home in the evening or the weekend than any other time.

Britons clock up, on average, a total of 36 million hours of work time on jobs and recruitment sites, with individuals admitting to spending over one and a half hours of their working day searching for new jobs online.

Sophy Silver of Gumtree.com says: "It's not surprising at all that people are choosing Monday morning as the time to search for jobs - it is a notoriously depressing time, the end of the weekend with the prospect of a whole week of work ahead of you! And it is also a motivating time to try something new - new week, new you.

"People want to use their evenings and weekends to relax and go out rather than worry about the pressures of work. It comes as no surprise to see the time we're most likely to consider the almost limitless career opportunities a click away online is when we're sat back at our desks."

The research also revealed that job seekers in the UK last year created a staggering 12.5 million phantom doctors appointments in order to attend interviews for a new job. 21% of the working population - equivalent to 5.9 million of the UK's workforce

have used the visit to their GP as an excuse to slip away – meaning the NHS would need another 1,488 full time GP's to cope with the phantom illness.

While a visit to the doctor's was the most popular excuse it was closely followed by some other equally impressive excuses:

- Ill at home and took the day off – 5,836,992 (20.2%)
- Pretending I had a work meeting – 2,427,264 (8.4%)
- Dentist appointment – 1,704,864 (5.9%)
- Domestic repairs/delivery – 1,358,112 (4.7%)
- Illness of family member – 866,880 (3%)

The research also reveals that 83% - equivalent to 21,672,000 working adults - have attended at least one job interview in the last year. On average UK job seekers attended 2.1 interviews over the course of a year.

As the UK's busiest recruitment site\* Gumtree.com receives 17,000 posts each month from employers looking for new employees in sectors ranging from accounting and finance jobs to teaching and nursing jobs.

With over 17,000 jobs posted on Gumtree there are many interesting jobs to be viewed and below are just a few examples of some of the wackier job adverts posted:

- Copywriter for a travel website to spend three months in Ibiza this summer
- Crew for a luxury yacht sailing round Northern Europe
- Hot air balloon ground crew to support team in Europe
- Chocolate fountain operators
- House sitters in the foothills of the Andes for six weeks
- Cook/Deckhand for tall ship sailing around the Scottish Highlands
- Roadie to drive South American band from London around South America for six months
- Horse and Carriage drivers on the island of Sark in the Channel Islands for the summer