

Spring 2023

taylor lewis *Magazine*

**Taylor Lewis
has strengthened
its presence in Wales**



**Affordable
Housing**

**News of several new
developments**

**More
investment in
our Retrofit
Team**

**Charity
Roundup**

Notes from the Managing Partner



In the past few months we have remained focused on our key values (Honesty, Trustworthiness, Quality, Expertise, Respect) to ensure that our clients are receiving the best possible service from Taylor Lewis. We have also been focused on investing in our employees and the infrastructure of Taylor Lewis to improve efficiency and create a positive work environment. In this issue of the magazine you will find an overview of the key highlights of our activities including our developing partnerships in South Wales, our investment in staff training and qualifications and evidence of the quality construction projects that we are delivering.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the staff at Taylor Lewis for their commitment and dedication to help Taylor Lewis achieve its goals and missions. I am extremely proud to lead such a talented and dedicated team. Your efforts make a difference and I am honoured to work alongside you all.

Robin Jackson
Managing Director



Taylor Lewis has strengthened its dedicated South Wales office with the acquisition of The Marks Davis Partnership and the appointment of Guy Marks as its new Regional Director. Guy will be operating out of our Newport office. Guy joined Taylor Lewis on a part time basis, as a surveying consultant in 2015 and was also leading Partner in the established South Wales based practice The Marks Davis Partnership, originally set up in 1978.

Following the sustained growth of Taylor Lewis and the success in securing opportunities along the M4, Taylor Lewis have positioned themselves with a strong pipeline of projects which will accommodate a dedicated regional team, headed up by Guy. Guy Marks, Regional Director said: *"I am delighted to be part of this important chapter for Taylor Lewis. By joining this fantastic team, we are demonstrating our commitment to our clients operating in the South Wales area and showing our dedication to create long-lasting relationships that will make a meaningful impact to the developments and communities in which we work. It's important that my client contacts know about these changes and are assured it's simply a change of name not a change of guard."*

Robin Jackson, Managing Director of Taylor Lewis added *"We are extremely excited to have Guy Marks driving forward our operations in South Wales. Guy has a wealth of experience in previously running his own business and will be integral to taking Taylor Lewis to the next step of our growth journey"*.

2, 3 and 4 bed homes with views of Cheddar Gorge, Somerset

We are delighted to be working with the Alliance Homes Group and Contractor Keepmoat as Clerk of Works bringing much-needed homes into the village of Cheddar. The transformation of the 5.8 acre site will be 100% affordable and made possible thanks to a grant from Homes England.

Stearth Farm will offer high-quality sustainable housing and the new community will feature a local play area, wildlife zone and public open space.



Handovers in the Devon sunshine

Six more completed handovers in the Cranbrook sunshine for the shared ownership development with our partners Aster Group and Taylor Wimpey.



Accelerating the delivery of modular homes in Dorset

The development of eight modular homes at Bull Bridge Mead in Halstock, Dorset. This is the fourth residential site we have acted as employers agent and offsite integrator for social housing provider Magna Housing.

The development comprises a mix of one, two and three-bedroom homes all with traditional slate pitched roofs. Two are clad with stone slips to be in keeping with the surrounding area. All properties are Part L compliant, fully electric and energy efficient with solar PV. Working with Rollalong and main Contractor Fisher & Dean Construction.



Pentire Green, Cornwall

More completed handovers on the shared ownership development on the outskirts of the highly sought-after village of Crantock. Working in partnership with Legacy Properties and Ocean Housing, this development enjoys an enviable location, within a stone's throw of popular Crantock beach, coastal walks and a number of amenities in the local village.





10 years of North Prospect Regeneration, Plymouth

During the last 10 years, North Prospect in Plymouth has undergone a huge regeneration as old, damp and poorly constructed houses have been demolished to make way for new, energy-efficient homes for the future. We are partnered with Plymouth Community Homes and Countryside Partnerships as Employers Agent on this development. Phases 1, 2, 3 and 5 of this work have now been completed, and Phase 4 is underway, with completion due by 2024



Final phase in Paignton, Devon

More completed handovers in the seaside town of Paignton on the final phase at this Aster Group development where we are acting as Employers Agent.



The Fallows, Devauden Monmouthshire

Acting as Employers Agent working in partnership with Monmouthshire Housing Association and Duncan Mitchell Developments completing affordable rent & sale homes at The Fallows in Devauden. All 9 homes were built with timber frame, solar panels & air source heat pumps.



New homes for St Cleer, Cornwall

Acting on behalf of our clients Coastline Housing and Contractor EBC partnerships to deliver 26 units including 4 flats all for Affordable Rent and Shared Ownership. The new timber frame scheme is built on the site of a former Poultry Farm, each plot at Well Lane enjoys allocated parking, and private gardens.



Affordable homes in Newport, Wales

We were delighted to be working in partnership with Pobl Group acting as Employers Agent on 17 affordable rent apartments in Newport. The site had been derelict for 30 years, now it has been transformed. A special mention about the stunning handcrafted timber sash windows which complement these beautiful homes.



60 seconds with... Dani Barr, Senior Surveyor

Where were you born?

Penzance, Cornwall and made the giant leap across the border to Plymouth when I was

18. Most of my family still live there so I try to visit as often as possible and enjoy heading back to a few of my favourite beaches in the summer.

Tell us about your career path.

I started off working as an administrator for a local developer when I was 16 and have worked in construction ever since. Most of my career has been spent working as a Quantity Surveyor for several Main Contractors helping to deliver both residential and commercial projects across Devon and Cornwall, until joining Taylor Lewis back in 2020.

Did you always want to work in construction?

My family has always had a connection with construction, and for a number of years I worked closely with my dad who worked as a Contracts Manager for the same company. It was something I was never going to avoid!

Why did you want to join Taylor Lewis?

I'd been involved in projects working with Taylor Lewis before joining the team, so it was a no brainer for me when I was fortunate enough to be offered a position. I felt it was a good fit given the positive values of the Company, which mirrored the way I try to approach things in my day-to-day life

What is your favourite building?

Not sure I could pick a favourite, but I always remember being impressed by the

gothic architecture of Barcelona Cathedral. The glorious weather and laid-back holiday vibes probably helped.

If you could choose one other profession, what would it be?

I'd loved to have become a professional golfer. I love the sport, but finding time was always hard when growing up. Travelling around the world spending time outdoors doing something you enjoy everyday would have been an alright lifestyle.

What are you passionate about?

I'm a big sports fan and played a lot of football, hockey and golf when I was growing up. I still enjoy watching, but now prefer to spend most of my free time with my family. We love going away on holiday or on short breaks, but after a busy week it's great to just take the little one to the park or go for a long walk on the beach.

What is your favourite theme park ride?

I'll go on most rides at a theme park, although I haven't been to one for a long time! Anything that doesn't spin around in circles too much like the waltzers is fine with me.

What would your entrance song be?

Again, not sure I could pick one, but I used to be the designated DJ on football away trips and 90's R&B would be my go-to playlist!



NHMF Conference

With fire safety high on the NHMF Conference agenda, our Head of Building Safety, Matt Steggles was delighted to be asked to speak at the January conference.

Matt Steggles alongside Mark Sayer from Abri shared Taylor Lewis best practices, and discussed our Teams delivery of award winning Passive Fire Measure Surveys to Housing Association clients across the South of England since 2018.



Building Professionalism

We are delighted to congratulate Marc Fox and Jake Lloyd on the tremendous achievements of passing their CIOB Chartership. This internationally recognised accreditation sets them apart as true professionals in the surveying field and we are incredibly proud that they are both part of our Taylor Lewis Team

Ant Bassett, Co-Owner of Taylor Lewis said

"We are delighted for Jake and Marc. Taylor Lewis recognises that to retain great colleagues we need to make sure they are valued and have the ability to grow their knowledge and experience within the industry"



Making Employees Mental Health a Priority

At Taylor Lewis we believe wellbeing and productivity fuel one another. We know teams that feel safe and connected work better together, and where within the working environment everyone can talk freely about mental health and seek support when they need it.

We are therefore delighted to share that Jules Phillips has passed his MHFA England Mental Health First Aider Course. Jules is the second employee of Taylor Lewis to complete this course, as a company we are making a lasting difference in our employees knowledge and confidence around mental health, learning a vital life tool that listening to understand, rather than listening to respond, really does make for healthier and more productive conversations.



More investment in our Retrofit Team

We are delighted to congratulate five of the TL Team who have passed their Retrofit exams over the past month.



Guy has passed his Level 4 Retrofit Assessor course, the role of a Retrofit Assessor is to survey properties and prepare a report in-line with a Retrofit Coordinator's requirements.

Shannon passed her Level 3 Award in Domestic Retrofit Advice, the course unravelled the complex process of retrofit enabling Shannon to talk to residents about achievable retrofit outcomes of their property, and Gina, Karen and H who have all passed their Level 2 UDR Assessment, providing a solid introduction to the installation of whole-house retrofit measures to domestic buildings.



Maximising potential

Our apprentice Ben has been part of the Taylor Lewis Team one day a week since the autumn and is studying a T Level in Planning Design and Surveying at Exeter College. We were delighted to support National Apprenticeship Week in February which aims to celebrate the positive impact they can have for the individual, for businesses and the wider community.



These courses run by The Retrofit Academy and NOCN Group has equipped our colleagues with the knowledge to provide best practice and advice of energy retrofit measures for our clients going forward.

Finalists at the Retrofit Academy Awards

We were thrilled to be finalists for two awards at The Retrofit Academy Awards 2023. Craig shortlisted for Retrofit Assessor of the Year and Taylor Lewis shortlisted as Best Retrofit Employer. These Awards recognised excellence at a crucially important time for our industry.

Craig Smith, was Highly Commended for Retrofit Assessor of the Year! A category testament to those golden individuals out in the field, doing the pioneering work today, for a carbon neutral tomorrow. Craig impressed the Judges with his clear process to engage with customers; considering their needs and comfortability, whilst also mentoring his colleagues and sharing his experience to provide better quality service!

Although we didn't win the company category we were delighted to be seen raising the bar with our dedicated team focused on the decarbonisation agenda and helping our clients understand costing issues around zero carbon through building up cost models for a variety of construction types and technological solutions.



TL Football League

We are a third of the way through the Taylor Lewis Football League season.

Nine companies from amongst the South West competing to take the prestigious top of the league title back to the office!

Gwella, Expedite, Classic Builders, Trowers and Hamlin, Morgan Sindall, SDS, Girling Jones and 4D Architects.



Charity roundup



2023 marks the second year that Jules and H were part of a volunteer team who covered Tiverton, Exeter, Sidmouth, Honiton, Exmouth, Ottery, and surrounding areas recycling unwanted Christmas trees for a donation to Hospiscare, to date this has raised an incredible £23k!

A great day spent raising money for a great charitable cause!

Special thanks to Thrifty Car Rental for the wheels.



New office location in Somerset

April marked another important chapter for Taylor Lewis, as we moved into our new office location in Weston-super-Mare. You will find our experienced multi-discipline team of construction consultants at The Hive at Beaufighter Road.



Employers Agent
Project Management
Chartered Quantity Surveyors
CDM/Principal Designer
Sustainability Advice
Building Surveyors
Passive Fire Inspectors
Land Assembly
Retrofit Assessors / Coordinators

Exeter Office
1c The Venture Centre
Yeoford Way Matford
Exeter, Devon EX2 8LB

Truro Office
Princess Chula House
City Road
Truro TR1 2JL

Newport Office
Merlin House
No.1 Langstone Business Park
Newport, Gwent NP18 2HJ

Plymouth Office
Falcon Business Centre
3 Eagle Road
Plymouth, Devon PL7 5JY

Weston-super-Mare Office
The Hive, 6 Beaufighter Road,
Weston-super-Mare,
BS24 8EE

Tel: 01392 825778

Tel: 01872 279589

Tel: 01633 415322

Tel: 07904 334130

Tel: 07527 207441

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