

Autumn/Winter 2023

# taylor lewis

## Magazine

**Taylor Lewis  
in top 150 of  
Consultants**

**Affordable  
Housing**

**News of new  
developments**

**It's a  
Knockout**

**Charity  
Roundup**





## Notes from the Managing Director



In the ever-evolving landscape of the UK construction industry, there are firms that stand out not just for their expertise but for their unwavering commitment to people and purpose. I believe that Taylor Lewis is a firm that seamlessly blends professional prowess with a dedication to social impact. At the heart of Taylor Lewis is a team that embodies diversity and inclusivity, from seasoned professionals to emerging talents. Taylor Lewis is built on the belief that a collaborative, diverse team brings a wealth of perspectives that enrich every project we are involved in.

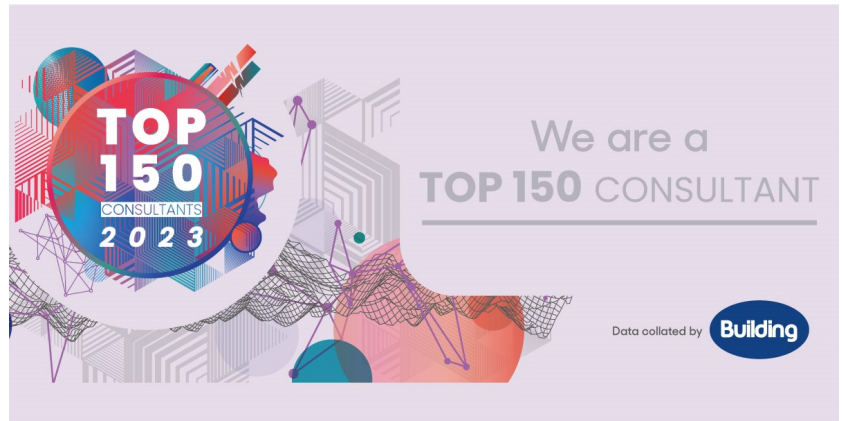
In terms of numbers, Taylor Lewis is now, 50 employees, 5 offices, 5 departments, 12 separate services across 5 sectors and 5 office dogs! To say I am proud of this team and what we continue to achieve is a massive understatement. Our growth plans are ambitious and our resolve to meet the needs of our clients is fierce! Well done team Taylor Lewis!

*Robin Jackson*  
Managing Director

## Low Carbon Homes in Nelson

Foundations have commenced for 5 bungalows on the former ambulance site in Nelson, Treharris. These homes will be constructed using Celtic Offsite Timber Frame. Celtic Offsite is a new social enterprise that manufactures low carbon homes and supports the local economy to thrive, from its factory premises in Caerphilly.

Working in partnership with United Welsh, Kingfisher Developments Wales Limited, Chamberlain Moss King and Lodestone.



**Taylor Lewis are delighted to learn that they have been listed in the Building Magazine's Top 150 Consultants list.**

2023 marks 31 years in business for Taylor Lewis having grown from a single office when it was founded in November 1992 in Exeter, to now 5 offices across the South West and Wales and employing 50 staff. A deeply experienced, independent multi-disciplinary construction consultancy, which has achieved a steady and sustainable growth over the last few years and places the culture and values of the company at the heart of this growth.

Robin Jackson, Managing Director and Co-owner of Taylor Lewis stated,

*"The success of the organisation is built on strong foundations and would not have been possible without the support of our clients and partners and the unfailing commitment of our team especially during the unexpected challenges of the last few years."*

## Jessop Park, Hartcliffe Bristol

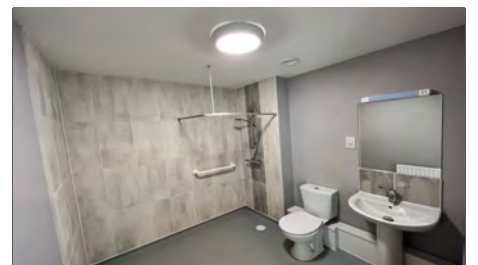
Final affordable plots at Jessop Park in Hartcliffe, Bristol were handed over in the autumn. Working with Livewest and Keepmoat to deliver

- 105 affordable homes
- 25 x shared ownership and 80 x social rented homes
- 3 blocks of flats making up 64 of the 105 homes
- 41 x 2, 3 & 4 bed houses



## Llanwern Village, Newport

Another good looking scheme in Llanwern Village, Newport working in partnership with Pobl Group and Redrow delivering 32 apartments and 3 houses to the affordable market.





## Latest development in Merthyr Tydfil

Working with Merthyr Tydfil Housing Association and P&P Builders on their latest housing development at Brynniau Road which will provide 31 affordable homes for the local area.



## Torbay handovers

More handovers of new homes built by Aster Group UK and Linden Homes to address the need in Torbay for affordable housing – two of these bungalows are wheelchair accessible, promoting excellent standards of liveability, accessibility and comfort producing adaptable and flexible homes to meet the long term needs of wheelchair users.



## North Prospect Development

The redevelopment of North Prospect has been underway for some time and during the last 10 years work on the scheme has helped transform an area of Plymouth. Phases 1, 2, 3 and 5 of this work have now been completed, and Phase 4 is underway, with completion due in 2024. Over the course of five phases, Plymouth Community Homes will have created 456 homes for affordable rent, 184 homes for shared ownership, and 450 homes for open market sale. The regeneration was deliberately planned to deliver a variety of house types, sizes and tenures in order to ensure a sustainably mixed neighbourhood for the future. Taylor Lewis is appointed for phases 2-5 and will assist Plymouth Community Homes to deliver the much needed regeneration of the area.



## Assessment and Coordination duties for our Retrofit Team



Our Retrofit Team are currently working on five large "Turnkey" projects for the Abri Housing Group, these have been funded by the Government as part of the Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund (SHDF) Wave 2.1. The projects started in April 2023 and will run until March 2025. Four of the Five projects are Retrofit Assessments in and around Somerset. With more projects planned in the South West and South East over the next few years the Taylor Lewis Retrofit Team are delighted to have been earmarked for more schemes where we will undertake the Retrofit Assessment and Coordination duties.



## Taw Wharf Development

Work is continuing on phase 4, The Longbridge Quarter of the Taw Wharf development in North Devon with Pearce Construction (Barnstaple) Limited.

Anchorwood Ltd was formed in June 2015 and is a commercial trading subsidiary company of North Devon Homes. It was created to ensure they could secure additional revenue within their group to invest in new affordable homes for local people.





## Maximising potential

Over the summer the #TLTeam have hosted multiple work experience and work placement students. It can help young people decide what type of career they would like to pursue and strengthen their applications for further study and work. We are always keen to nurture young talent and help inspire the next generation of construction professionals.



## Retrofit Training Centre for Exeter Construction College

Working in collaboration with Exeter College with the first of its kind, the Retrofit Training Academy; this purpose-built training facility will provide education for both apprentices and professionals alike. Built as an extension to Exeter College on Falcon Road the Training Academy ties together retrofit strategy principles with the ambitions of Exeter City Council, who have committed to making Exeter a Net Zero carbon city by 2030.



## South West Housing Conference

Matt Steggles, Head of Building Safety represented Taylor Lewis at the autumn Chartered Institute of Housing Bristol conference alongside Dr Hector Altamirano-Medina from the University College London who were discussing developing homes fit for the future.



Chartered  
Institute of  
Housing

## Taylor Lewis Football League

November saw us wrap up the Taylor Lewis Football League 2023, ending the season with an awards evening at Home Park. An excellent first season for our winners Services Design Solution (SDS) who were unbeaten in all their matches. A worthy mention to the mighty Classic Builders who were placed second overall.

Thanks to all our teams for a great first season. Expedite, Gwella Contracting Services Ltd, 4D Architects Studio, Airey & Coles Consulting Engineers, Morgan Sindall Construction, Trowers & Hamlin, Girling Jones Ltd.

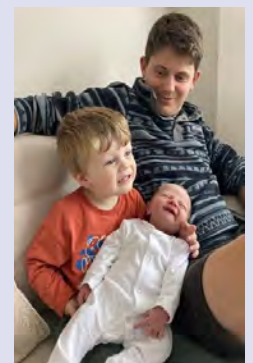


#backupthebanter

## Meet baby Jude

Tom and Megan have welcomed beautiful Jude Malcolm Spencer into the world.

Born in September weighing in at a healthy 8lb 14.5oz. Big brother Alfie has taken to him really well and the office are looking forward to Jude coming in for cuddles soon.





# taylor lewis building safety team



Taylor Lewis continue delivering their award winning Passive Fire Protection surveys to Housing Associations throughout the South of England. Our technical approach, seeking compliance with Approved Document B has led to effective relationships with all the major housing developers. Taylor Lewis offers a one stop service to our clients; liaising with tenants, arranging inspections, feeding back reports of our findings and managing remedial works. Our experienced inspectors carry out assessments in approximately an hour and liaise with tenants on the steps following the inspection. Our relationships with Developers assist in getting remedial works completed or we can provide solutions through our network of sub-contractors where the Developer is unable or unwilling to carry out the works.

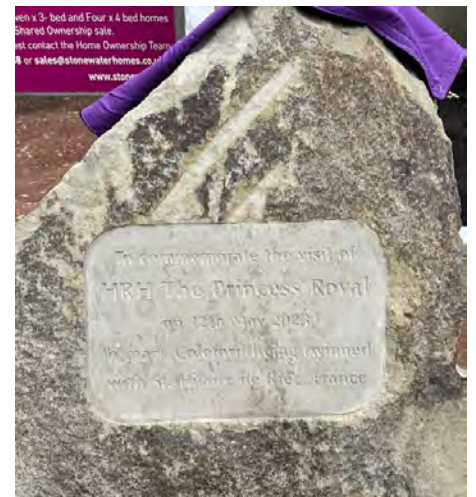


## Royal Visit in Coleford



We were delighted to be invited to the official visit from Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal and representatives from the Coleford Town Council, Saint Hilaire de Riez Council and Twinning Associations in the Forest of Dean last Friday. HRH The Princess Royal embarked on a special tour of the new housing estate at the newly named St Hilaire Avenue and Sion Place in Coleford, which was named in honour of the towns twinning with Saint Hilaire de Riez in France.

The naming of two streets celebrates the links between the two towns and the Princess Royal unveiled a stone commemorating the visit and the twinning. The 64 affordable rent and shared ownership development collaboration with Stonewater, The Stantonbury Building and Development Company and Mike Etheridge Construction Limited properties are all now occupied.





## 2ND ANNUAL IT'S A KNOCKOUT



At Taylor Lewis we've discovered that infusing the playful spirit of "It's a Knockout" with partners in the build environment, not only strengthens our connections but also injects a massive dose of fun into the work culture.

For the second year running at the beautiful Winslade Park, 36 teams took part tackling inflatable obstacle courses, dressing up in hilarious costumes, and participated in some fun, crazy challenges, all creating unforgettable memories and bonds that last beyond the workplace, and transforming a regular office day into an extraordinary colleague adventure!

The glorious September weather allowed for a memorable day for all who took part. Well done to all the teams from across the region who shared in the wacky, entertaining games and we look forward to doing it all again next year. Who says team building has to be dull and conventional?

Robin Jackson, Managing Director and Co-owner of Taylor Lewis stated,

*"For the second year running I am overwhelmed by the popularity of this event. It's fantastic to bring our industry partners together and this unique event creates an amazing culture of competition, friendship and collaboration. We will continue to make this an annual event and I'm already looking forward to next year. I would like to thank our sponsors W4G Fire & Security, Trowers & Hamblins LLP, Gwella Contracting Services and Devon Contractors for their support on the day and a special thanks to the TL team that made the day possible!"*





## Award roundup

### Bull Bridge Mead, Halstock – CESW MMC Winner

"The judges were extremely impressed by this winning exemplary scheme. The submission by two different clients, the project manager and supplier was, in itself, an example of collaboration and partnering. The team of stakeholders delivered a scheme that was affordable, flexible, sustainable and scalable.

Most importantly, this modern method of construction fitted the local traditional stone and brick vernacular. Occupiers provided further endorsement with quotes such as "(we were) impressed with the quality of finish", "(the) low running costs" and "(we) didn't even know it was modular".

The end result was a pilot scheme so successful that an order has recently been placed for the next 100 units, with a further 900 planned over the next 3 years. In their own words, their success was the result of Partnership, Partnership, Partnership".



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### Shortlisted for two awards at the Offsite Awards

Best use of Volumetric Technology at McCreery Road, Sherborne

Best Social Housing Project at Bull Bridge, Halstock



### Shortlisted for The Church Road Illogan development

With Coastline Housing, ebc Partnerships Limited, and APG Architecture in the 20th Michelmores Property Awards, which celebrate outstanding property and construction projects in Bristol, Devon, Somerset, Dorset and Cornwall.



### Shortlisted for an Inside Housing Development Award

Best Partnership (0 to 100 Homes) – McCreery Road



### Bristol CIH



Thank you to everyone who showed their support for Billy Chip at our famous Afterparty hosted after the first day of the Bristol CIH Conference. Thank you to our sponsors of

the incredible entertainment, Daikin UK and Classic Builders. We are delighted to say we raised £1000 for this fantastic charity. With these Billy Chips, those that are homeless can get a warm meal, find a safe place to sleep, or have access to hygiene essentials. Billy Chip is not just about the things it will provide, it's about the compassion and dignity it represents.

Making a positive change to homeless people's lives and bridging the gap between the homeless and the public to create a connection that makes a real difference.





## Building Professionalism



We are delighted to congratulate Rob Wakeham and Matt Walter on the tremendous achievement of passing their Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) chartership. This internationally recognised accreditation sets them apart as true professionals in the surveying field and the #TLTeam are incredibly proud of these accomplishments. Well done.



Congratulations to Troy Abraham and Dan Roberts on completing their Retrofit Assessment and Coordinators course, strengthening our expanding Retrofit Division. Troy's role as Retrofit Assessor is crucial in the building retrofitting process, and as Assessors they are responsible for identifying areas of improvement and recommending cost-effective solutions, playing a key role in the implementation of retrofit projects.

Congratulations to Kye Way on gaining Associate level of CABE (Chartered Association of Building Engineers). We're incredibly proud of his accomplishments and look forward to witnessing his continued success.



## New TL Team member



We are delighted to announce in the summer that we have strengthened our surveying team with the signing of our trainee Ben who has transferred from Exeter College to the #TLFamily on a permanent basis! Ben has been part of the Team since August 2022 and has now completed the second year of his T Level in Planning Design & Surveying course at Exeter College.



## New office in Somerset

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



## Super Charged Marketing



We are delighted for one of our own 'H' who has passed her Level 5 DMA (Data & Marketing Association) UK Digital Marketing Strategy Skills Bootcamp and gained the IDM Certificate in Digital Marketing

Strategy. Studying one day per week for 11 weeks, H has learnt new techniques in 17 different areas of digital marketing, including data analysis, Google Analytics, and leadership ending the course with a presentation and final exam to the Heads of Pets at Home!

## Charity news

The Brain Tumour Trust is where we have fielded most of our support in 2023, as members of staff have had close friends affected by this life changing and more often than not life threatening neurological disorder.



## The Big Sleep Out



On Monday 27th November three TL colleagues spent the night sleeping outdoors, experiencing a small fraction of the hardships faced by those who are homeless every day. H, Guy and Martin took part in the CEO Sleepout in Bristol raising vital funds for local homeless charity BillyChip. To date they have raised over £1500, backed by big hearted businesses who want to make a difference. Thank you so much for your support!

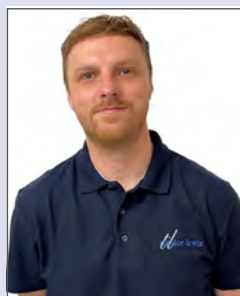
## New starters - Meet our latest additions to the #TLTeam



Molly Molony



Dan Roberts



Nick Baker



Claire Moore



Joanne Bouten



## 60 seconds with... Rob Wakeham



### Where were you born?

Penrice Hospital in St Austell. One of the few cottage Hospitals which remains open! And still has a maternity ward!

### Tell us about your career path.

I undertook a 4 Year Apprenticeship in Carpentry and Joinery when I left School. In tandem with this I undertook evening classes in additional subjects over 4 years; Surveying and Levelling, Engineering Maths, Materials Analysis, and Construction Principles. When my Apprenticeship was complete, I was moved into the joinery company drawing office, having demonstrated enthusiasm including the ability to fund my own development. This move was a precursor to me moving into Site Management, through Trainee, Site Manager, Senior SM, Project Manager, Contracts Manager. During my career I worked for Center Parcs for seven years in the role of Senior PM, this was a really interesting part of my journey, at this time I undertook crash training in Autocad and Project Programming. Further qualifications include several stand-alone Open University qualifications, NEBOSH, I am a Technical Member of IOSH and now MCIOB. Prior to joining Taylor Lewis I was a Senior Design Manager, having moved into design from Contracts Management. I have always had a very analytical approach, so design suited me.

### Did you always want to work in construction?

No, I was going to enter the Police but was put off when they showed me some videos of the stark reality of Police life after I passed the entry exams. It wasn't the glamorous role a naive 16 year old perceived and it was more my parents who encouraged me along this route, I don't think I was ever that keen really.

### Why did you want to join Taylor Lewis?

I had worked with Taylor Lewis in previous roles on and off over the years and saw the potential for a career shift away from the PLC world. The role brought all previous elements of my career together quite nicely. I had always respected Taylor Lewis and knew people from previous organisations who had made the leap and not regretted it.

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

Professional musician.

### What is your favourite building?

The Winter Palace in St Petersburg, not just for its architecture, it is steeped in history. I've always had a fascination with Russian/Soviet history!

### What are you passionate about?

After my family, music, listening to it and composing it.

### What is your favourite ride at a theme park?

I'm not really a theme park person, but if pushed for an answer, some form of water slide. You are talking to someone who went on a ride at Flambards (that's a small 'theme park' in Helston, aimed at children for those who don't know!) and felt unwell for the rest of the day! Give me a coast walk with a picnic any day!

### What would your entrance song be?

Jimi Hendrix- Purple Haze.



**Hospiscare**

Caring in the heart of Devon

## #DreamTeam raise vital funds for Hospiscare

July witnessed another hugely successful Marnie Burgoyne Hospiscare Golf Day at the Exeter Golf and Country Club alongside our committee members LCB Group, Raleigh Construction and Burgoyne Estate Agents.

To have raised £18,679.00 is a phenomenal achievement and the funds will make a real difference to local end-of-life care, helping to ensure our patients and their families feel the safe embrace of Hospiscare when they need us most. A fantastic day out for all the team at one of Devon's best loved courses, and the satisfaction that you are helping raise vital funds for your local hospice charity.



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**Retrofit Assessors / Coordinators**

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