

## ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY SOLUTIONS INSTALLED BY MORFITTS AT NEW MEDICAL CENTRE IN CONISBROUGH



LR Tony Horsman, Morfitts' Project Manager and Chris White, Morfitts' Project Engineer in the plant room at the new Stone Castle Centre, Conisbrough.

Morfitts has just completed the £800,000 contract for the design and installation of the mechanical and electrical services at Doncaster Primary Care Trust's new Stone Castle Centre, Conisbrough. The building, which became operational in August, has achieved an 'excellent' BREEAM rating due to the high level of sustainable solutions included in its design.

Delivered in a tight 20 week programme, Morfitts installed combined heat and power units in the Centre, which provides the base heating and electrical supply, a rain water harvesting system which reduces the mains cold water demand, and an intelligent lighting control system which helps minimise energy consumption.

In addition to the environmentally friendly features of the project, Morfitts also provided the building

services to the Centres' Minor Operations Facility. This included the installation of a dedicated ventilation system which incorporates an air handling unit complete with a thermal wheel, high specification filters and a pressure control regime that maintains clinical conditions within the operating area. The ceiling mounted operating light has a battery back up to guarantee illumination during procedures.

Main contractor on the project was Morgan Sindall, who has worked with Morfitts previously on many other projects. Doug Eastwood, Project Manager, Morgan Sindall, said: "We're delighted to have once again completed a project on time and in budget with Morfitts. Our combined knowledge and expertise along with our wealth of experience in the health sector ensures works are accomplished to the highest standard." ■



## NEW SOCIAL HOUSING PROJECTS IN THE SOUTH WEST

Shouksmiths South West Division has been selected by Carter Construction to install the plumbing, heating and sanitary ware on three affordable housing projects in Malvern, Gloucester and Bristol.

In Malvern Shouksmiths will also be installing Ecodan air source heat pumps, under floor heating and rainwater harvesting systems for flats and houses. In Gloucester the project includes solar panels. Both of these developments are scheduled to finish in October at a combined project value of £190,000.

The project in Bristol comprises two, three and four bed roomed houses. This project started in August and is due to be completed in March 2012, in a contract worth £102,000.

Keith Hopson, South West Division Director, said: "We are pleased to be working with Carter Construction's Partnership Housing division on these affordable housing projects, and are able to call upon our previous experience with renewable solutions for the projects in Malvern and Gloucester. Demand for this type of installation continues to rise and we are happy to advise our clients on which are the most effective solutions for their specific requirements." ■



# WELCOME

In welcoming you to the latest edition of Spectrum, can I pose a question to you – ‘How green are we really?’

In terms of dealing with the green issue in construction, we tend to talk about ‘sustainability’ which is an extremely broad term covering a multitude of themes. With regard to the domestic housing sector, the Government’s move towards ‘sustainable homes’ demands wholesale changes to construction, energy efficiency, waste, and the use of water in new homes. Changes that the Government introduced back in 2006 by way of revising Part L of the Building Regulations asked the industry to move across to a rating system of six stars, Code One to Six which eventually would get us to zero carbon homes by 2016.

The real question is will the industry and those that fund it support the technology and changes to construction that will be needed to deliver Code Six housing in a little over four years?

There is of course another question, what about the existing housing stock? For without doubt there is more scope for energy reduction by addressing this area of sustainability. It really does cost money to be ‘green’. ■

Regards  
*John Miller*

**John Miller**  
Managing Director

# DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS FROM THE SHEFFIELD OFFICE



One of the Frank Haslam Milan projects in Sheffield

Shouksmiths’ Sheffield Division is delighted to have secured projects with Kier Partnerships, Clayfield Construction and Frank Haslam Milan. The three projects, worth a combined total of £264,000, are part of Shouksmiths’ continued strategy to further expand its portfolio in social housing new build projects and develop partnerships with a range of established construction companies.

Working with Kier on the development of 35 dwellings in Bolsover for Bolsover District Council and Derwent Living, Shouksmiths is installing new plumbing, heating and rainwater systems. The project is due to be completed by the end of December.

In Barnsley, alongside Clayfield Construction, nine bungalows are being installed with plumbing and heating on behalf of Guinness Northern Counties. Shouksmiths’ work on this project started in July and is due for completion in October.

In October, the contract to install plumbing and heating for 24 apartments in Sheffield for the Sanctuary Group is due to commence. The project also involves fitting heat recovery ventilation and rainwater systems for the whole apartment block. Working with the main contractor Frank Haslam Milan, the project is expected to be completed March 2012.

Keith Bradley, Sheffield Division Director, said: “We believe we have a matched business ethic with these companies and also relish being part of local regeneration projects. Our culture of high quality coupled with best value, robust processes and ‘can do’ attitude, particularly honed in our Decent Homes projects, transfer over very easily and hopefully is a breath of fresh air to our new partners.” ■

# TERMIRIM SELECTS SHOUKSMITHS FOR LIVERPOOL CARE HOME PROJECT

Shouksmiths’ North West Division started work for Termrim Construction at the end of August on 33 extra care apartments in Liverpool for a national care home provider.

Shouksmiths’ work on the project comprises the installation of all the plumbing, heating and ventilation systems to each apartment and the sites’ communal areas including a catering kitchen, a laundry and lounge and dining facilities, in a contract worth £230,000.

Michael Draper, Shouksmiths’ North West Division Director commented: “We have worked on a number of care home projects in the past and are delighted to be working with Termrim Construction. The timescale for the project is demanding and we are working hard to develop a positive relationship with the site team to ensure we deliver a successful project to the client at the end of the year.”

Shouksmiths’ York Division will also be working with Termrim in the near future on new build social housing projects in Ilkley, in a contract worth £400, 000. ■

## REFURBISHMENT PROJECT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK



Shouksmiths' York Division has just completed a full refurbishment of the living quarters at two student accommodation blocks at the University of York, in contracts worth a combined total of £350,000. This work continues to build upon the long-lasting relationship Shouksmiths has with the University, where they have worked for over 40 years on a wide range of both teaching and accommodation facility contracts.

The recent projects have involved Shouksmiths working alongside main contractor Simpsons on 251 bedrooms in 25 residences in Halifax Court on the University's campus. This involved renovating the bedrooms and bathrooms, living areas and kitchens for the properties, plus installing shower pods.

A similar project was undertaken with another contractor on the accommodation at Derwent Block D. The previous steel pipes have been replaced with more efficient and sustainable copper piping and new shower pods have been installed throughout all floors. Both of these projects had to be delivered to a tight timescale with the impending arrival of new students at the University ready to start the autumn term.

Shouksmiths' York Division Manager, David Shouksmith (pictured above), commented: "This project has proven to be a challenging task to complete within the required timescale, but with our experience of meeting such demands the York team has delivered exactly what the client requested, on time and on budget." ■

## TRAINING UPDATE

### RIGHT NOW HOW IMPORTANT ARE SKILLS TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY?

UK Skills say 'skills shape our world'. Community and business in the UK thrive on skills, enterprise and inspiration. These components are essential in contributing to high levels of employment, productivity and sustainable economic growth. The question is, right now how important are skills to the construction industry?

To train people with the correct skills in all aspects of construction costs money, and currently Government thinking suggests that it is the industry itself that should primarily fund training. Right now, so much of the construction industry is struggling to hold the status quo and sadly the issue of skills and training is slipping down the agenda of many companies. This situation is understandable, but it will surely create significant problems in the future.

All is not lost. Many companies, including Shouksmiths, continue to train. We are soon to witness **WorldSkills London 2011**, which is to be held at the Excel Centre in London during the early part of October, when over 1,000 competitors from over 50 countries will be competing in 46 skill areas. Within the competition the construction industry is supported by the work undertaken primarily from two sector skills councils, CITB – Construction Skills representing what are traditionally regarded as the building trades, and SummitSkills representing building engineering services. This competition will see the cream of trainees in the construction industry quite rightly showing off their skills, the competitors will undoubtedly be at the forefront of our industry going forward.

We do however need to keep the conveyor belt of training leading to skills moving forward. ■



### MEET THE GUYS WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

**Harry Pashby,  
Plumber, Shouksmiths'  
York Division**

Harry began working for Shouksmiths as an apprentice in 2004, studying at York College on day release. He fully qualified as a trained plumber in 2007 and has rapidly worked his way up the ladder.

Harry now often has the responsibility of running a range of smaller projects for the company, working on a variety of developments including refurbishing and modernising social housing in Bridlington and Scarborough, and most recently working on the student accommodation refurbishment at the University of York.

Harry said: "Shouksmiths has given me a great opportunity to work in this industry, and encouraged me to develop and learn new skills. I thoroughly enjoy the different challenges I encounter every day, from working with the site team and our clients, to working out the best way to approach a specific part of each project in the most efficient and effective way possible. I have been on a number of training courses which have been of great value to doing the job effectively, including how to deal with asbestos."

Away from work, Harry's life revolves around his love of football and particularly Sunderland Football Club. When he's not watching the football he enjoys socialising with friends as much as his time permits. ■



# MORFITTS COMPLETES UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS ARCHIVE BUILDING PROJECT

L-R Morfitts' Team Paul Thompson, Electrical Project Engineer, Lee Kennedy, Mechanical Foreman, John Cundale, Project Engineer and Dominic Gallacher, Electrical Foreman outside the new Leeds University archive building.

Morfitts has just completed its work on the new archive building at the University of Leeds, in a design and build mechanical and electrical services contract valued at £550,000. The prestigious new building will be shared with Marks & Spencer, which was started in Leeds more than 125 years ago, and will permanently house both M&S' full Company Archive and future expansion space for collections from the University library.

John Cundale, Morfitts' Project Engineer said: "Morfitts and Miller Construction have worked closely together to deliver a successful project to the client in an extremely tight programme." The building is scheduled to open later this year. ■



Morfitts and Shouksmiths have just completed the £1 million 'complete package' project with Wates Construction for the design and installation of all the building services at Raithwaite Hall, the Skelwith Group's new 45 bedroom, five star hotel at Sandsend, near Whitby.

## CHARITY UPDATE

Since its launch in 2007, our 'Choose a Charity' scheme, where employees are invited to nominate a charity they would like the company to support continues to be a success. So far this year we have made contributions from our Charitable Trust Fund to Cancer Research UK, Martin House Hospice, Yorkshire Cancer Research, Wakefield Hospice, The Diabetes Trust, The Island Project at York and to a new Scout Troop in York.



Well done to Liam Gregory, Mark Popplewell, Mick Clegg and Mark Williams from Shouksmiths' North West Division who recently raised over £500 by completing a challenging bike ride from Manchester to Blackpool in aid of Christies' Cancer Charity. ■