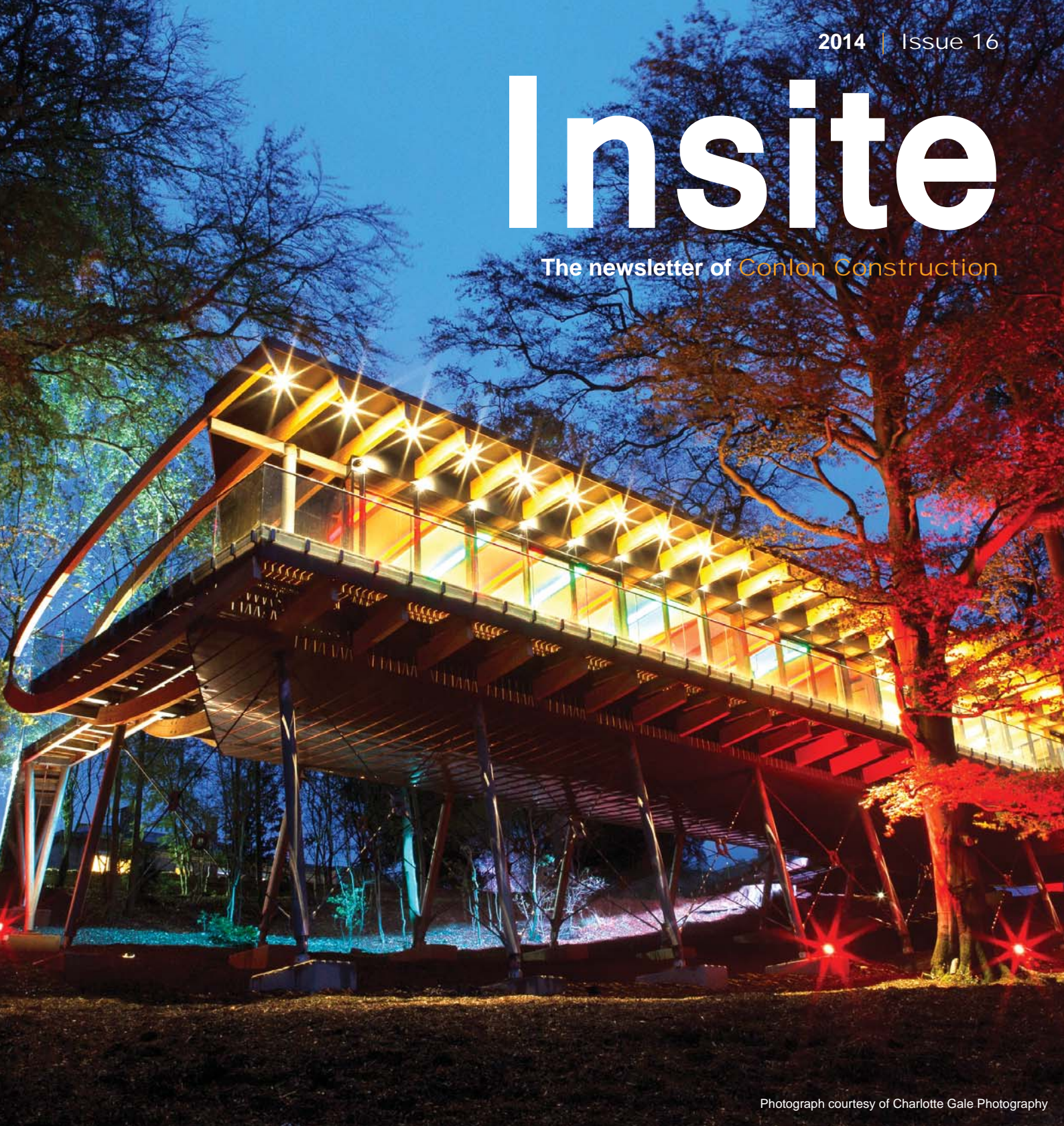


Insite

The newsletter of Conlon Construction



Photograph courtesy of Charlotte Gale Photography



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Project photographs by SevernsJones Photography

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Welcome

Chairman's Update by Michael Conlon

Welcome to the latest edition of Insite, the newsletter of Conlon Construction.

As you read on you will see that we have had another very exciting year, filled with celebrations, project completions, contract awards and community activities.

In another successful year, 2014 has witnessed some great achievements for us, including our appointment to two important procurement frameworks. We have worked with some new clients as well as continuing to provide excellent service in our long standing relationships.

We were delighted to find out in June that we had been re-appointed to the Lancashire County Council partnering framework and have already been awarded projects at Sir Tom Finney Community High School, Southlands High School in Chorley, additional work at County Hall and at Helmshore Mills Museum.

The other four-year framework to which we have been appointed is the Education Funding Agency Regional Framework for the North West Region. The Framework is to be used by the EFA, academies, local authorities, dioceses and educational establishments. We have no doubt that our great experience in the education sector combined with some fantastic testimonials from past clients helped secure our position on this framework.

The work involved in achieving appointment to frameworks is a mammoth task generally masterminded by Maureen Boland and her team. Completing the required documentation and attending interviews needs considerable input from numerous members of staff and our supply chain partners, for whose help we are very grateful.

The Yorkshire Division completed its first major project at Bowcliffe Hall for the Bayford Group, one stunning phase of which, 'The Wing', is featured on our front cover. New clients include the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service for whom we have undertaken three projects to date.

A major project for the Direct Division in 2014 was a £3m Jaguar/ Land Rover Dealership in Stafford for a new client, The Swansway Group.

Our project at Jubilee House in Lytham received a site visit in August from two of the founders of our company, Pat and Vincent Conlon. Both thoroughly enjoyed the visit, asking about some of our modern construction techniques and comparing them to the methods used 'in their day'.



L to R: Pat Conlon with daughter Maureen and Vincent Conlon with son Michael

We look forward to the 2015 year in the knowledge that we have already secured a number of projects as a result of these new Frameworks, contributing to the sustained growth of the business.

Of course none of these achievements would be possible without the contribution of our directors, staff, operatives, clients and suppliers to whom I extend our warmest thanks.

Putting the Customer First...

Ensuring that clients experience high levels of customer satisfaction in their dealings with Conlon is a key priority. Therefore we have decided not only to strengthen our Customer Care

team - led by Clare Singleton supported by Paul Sawyer and Alan Smith - but also to adopt a

new Customer Care Strategy on all projects. This new strategy provides the best customer experience ensuring needs and expectations are met whilst developing our customer relationships.

Further to our popular 'Customer Care' training delivered by "Laughology" at the Business Improvement Day, we arranged a follow-up workshop in June. We worked with Laughology's

unique and innovative system which will help us develop our new 'Customer Care

Strategy' for current and potential new Clients. The purpose of the day was to become more effective in our communications thereby improving the performance of our departments and the business as a whole.



Lytham Hall Park Primary
official opening with Lancashire County Council
dignitaries, Lancashire County Property Group,
School Governors and the Conlon team

New Operations Manager

In October Jim Wilcock joined the company as our new Operations Manager. Jim is a Civil Engineer by profession, very experienced within the industry and has some fresh ideas to help improve our management procedures. Within the first few weeks of his appointment, Jim spent time familiarising himself with the business and meeting staff, sub-contractors, and clients alike.

Jim is also currently working on a research paper for the CIOB when not hard at work! Jim will be a great asset to the company and we wish him well in his new role.

Contract Awards

Below is a selection of projects we are pleased to have been awarded during 2014

Artist's Impression of The Ashford Hospital



The Ashford Hospital, Kent

Work on this £12m state-of-the-art private hospital in Kent is now underway. The design and build partnership deal with Iconic Healthcare will provide five star private healthcare. The two-storey, 2,500m² intermediate care and support facility comprises 13 consulting rooms, 20 bedrooms, 5 operating theatres, MRI scanning, physiotherapy, pre-operation bays and recovery wards. The hospital will be equipped to provide the highest standard of service to patients from private health insurers.

Other Projects Include

Leyland Trucks Headquarters

A £5.8m project to create an additional third floor extension over the existing office block, along with internal refurbishment of the first and second floors.

Oaklands Hospital, Salford

A £2.2m new build operating theatre, ward extensions and extensive multi-phased refurbishment of the existing live hospital for Ramsay Healthcare UK.

Penistone Apartments, Yorkshire

A £1m project for Bellway Homes comprising the refurbishment of two former school buildings into 11 apartments on the site of a former Grammar School.

The Darwin Building, UCLan

This project involved alteration works to create two new laboratory facilities for Interdisciplinary Research.

Sandilands Primary School

A project for Manchester City Council involving the refurbishment of the building envelope and additional modular teaching accommodation.

Hunslet Carr Primary School

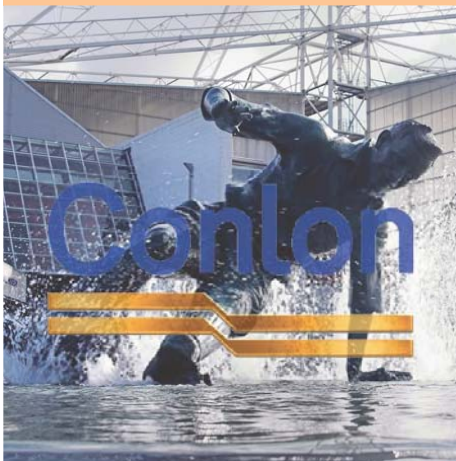
A fast track project during the summer break to construct a single storey extension providing extra classroom space for Leeds City Council.

St Andrew's CE Primary School

A single storey extension creating four additional classrooms and a link to the existing school.

Thames Primary Academy School

The extensive refurbishment of 10 classrooms, toilets and hall during the summer period.



Sir Tom Finney Community High School, Preston

We are delighted to have been awarded a £5.2m project to refurbish and extend the former Ashton Community Science College as a new campus for Sir Tom Finney Community High School in Preston.

We are carrying out a major overhaul of the existing school building along with a single-storey extension. Designed to accommodate 140 pupils with special educational needs (SEN), the school will include a new hydrotherapy pool and a sensory garden.



In March, we were awarded a £3m design and build project for a car showroom in Stafford for one of the UK's most successful car dealership companies, The Swansway Group.

The project involves construction of a 2,350m² two-storey Land Rover dealership. This comprises a showroom, repair and servicing workshop at ground level, first floor offices and back office facilities.

AVRO Heritage Museum

A new, £1.6m Heritage Museum at the former Manchester Woodford Aerodrome site is underway. Fully funded by BAE SYSTEMS, former owners of the site, the building will house AVRO Heritage Trust's extensive catalogue of aviation history documents and exhibits, including a renovated Vulcan Bomber.

Architect's Impression of The Avro Heritage Museum courtesy of Cassidy + Ashton



Completed Projects

Some of the major projects we have completed this year



The Drivers' Club during fit-out and upon completion

Bowcliffe Hall

We have recently completed the £6m project to redevelop the Grade II listed Bowcliffe Hall, Wetherby.

The multi-phased project included construction of the iconic Blackburn Wing. This striking, aeroplane-wing-shaped conference centre (depicted on our front cover) hosted its first event last month and has space for 140 guests.

Other works included fitting out The Drivers' Club within the 19th century Hall; converting a cricket pavilion and other redundant buildings into office space, together with a new restaurant.



Trinity C of E Primary School, Buckshaw Village

Trinity C of E Primary School, Buckshaw

Having constructed the original school in 2010, this year we returned to deliver a £2m extension.

The two-storey additions to the east and west elevations accommodate additional teaching facilities and expand the school from a one-form to a two-form entry primary school.

The extension was in keeping with the design, materials and construction of the existing school.



The painted site hoarding depicting 1953



The 'In-Zone' at Preston's College

Penwortham Priory Academy

In April we completed the £872k remodel and refurbishment of the humanities and languages block.

To coincide with the school's 60th anniversary, the site hoarding panels were individually painted to depict each year from 1953 to 2013. Allocated 1953, we commissioned a local artist to record major events of that year.

Preston's College

The In-Zone project at Preston's College made use of a previously open-air area to create a hub between three buildings.

The £1.55m project has created an enhanced student reception area whilst improving accessibility, connectivity and circulation around the campus.

New Schools for Nelson

This summer we completed two schools in Nelson. The new, £7m Whitefield Infant and Nursery School involved the deconstruction and reclamation of three rows of derelict terraced houses and the construction of a new 2,216m² school on a sloping site.

The St Paul's C of E Primary School involved the construction of a new £4.2m single-storey, 2,159m², part steel/part timber-framed, primary school.

Both schools have 14 classrooms with modern kitchen and dining facilities.



Larger than life 'book wall' forming the entrance to the library at Whitefield



Entrance to St Paul's C of E Primary School

Hawkshead Annex Runshaw College

A new £1.2m sports/classroom annex comprising a two-storey block matching the current Hawkshead Sports Hall design features, together with 8 new classrooms.

This project enabled the college to centralise the School of Sport from across various areas of the college.

External view of Sika's new building



Sika R&D Centre

In January we completed the £1.8m research and development laboratory for Sika, now owners of the Liquid Plastics site, in Preston.

The three-storey laboratory provides Sika with a purpose-built environment where liquid plastic products will be developed for manufacture and export worldwide.

The new building replaces a 100-year old, single-storey warehouse and was officially opened by the Duke of Kent in November 2014.



Altrincham Market

In July we completed the £572k refurbishment of Altrincham's historic market, for Trafford Council, procured via the North West Construction Hub. Work involved converting the Grade II listed 19th century Market House and adjoining Market Hall constructed in 1930, into a mixed use market, performance and function venue.

Heyhouses C of E Primary School

Appointed by Lancashire County Council and the Diocese of Blackburn, we were commissioned to provide a new £4.6m school, comprising 15 new classrooms, a main hall, kitchen, and external play areas.

On-site we also constructed a nursery school, replacing an old pre-fabricated building. This utilises environmentally-friendly photo-voltaic panels to provide sustainable power.

Conlon in the Community

Examples to show our commitment to the communities in which we work



L to R: Michael McLoughlin, James Dyer, Nigel Beeden, Alan Cragg, Simon Brown, Darren Lee, Shaun Smith, Richard Forshaw and Andy Makinson

'Way of the Roses' Cycle Challenge

In June a team of nine employees completed the 170-mile 'Way of the Roses' cycle ride, raising more than £5,300 for the Rosemere Cancer Foundation. This was in support of ex-Chairman, Theresa Noblett's nominated charity for her year as Lady Captain at Shaw Hill Golf Club, Chorley.

The charity raises funds to provide much-needed money for: cancer research; local patient welfare projects; additional local equipment; and training that cannot be provided by the NHS.

The 'Way of the Roses' is a challenging but spectacular coast-to-coast cycle route between Morecambe, in Lancashire, and Bridlington on the east coast of Yorkshire. The marathon cycle ride only took the team three days to complete despite needing numerous pit stops along the way!

Apprentice of the Year Award

Employed via Constructing the Future Lancashire, Daniel Atkinson worked on numerous Conlon sites as an Apprentice Joiner.

In May his hard work was rewarded when he won two awards at the Construction Development Alliance Awards. He took the overall Apprentice of the Year prize, as well as the Overcoming Adversity in Construction award.

Daniel was recruited by CtFL and also received support from Preston Vocational Centre. We wish Daniel every success in his future career.



Sponsorship

This year we have provided new football kits for teams at Charles Saer School, Fleetwood, Somerville Primary School, Wallasey and Belgrave Primary School, Chester.

We wish all teams the best for the 2014/15 season.



The Girls Y6 Football Team at Somerville Primary School

MEMORIAL CROSS AND GARDENS RENOVATION

A memorial cross and gardens in the grounds of County Hall were renovated by Conlon as part of the commemoration of the centenary of the First World War.

A formal re-dedication of the war memorial was carried out by the Vicar of Preston, Father Timothy Lipscomb.

He was joined by the Chairman of Lancashire County Council, Kevin Ellard, Council Leader, Jennifer Mein and the council's Champion for Armed Forces Veterans, Darren Clifford.

Councillor Ellard said, "Throughout 2014 we have been reflecting on the sacrifice made by men and women in Lancashire during World War One. We are really pleased that we've been able to improve the area around the war memorial, working with Conlon Construction to create an area to remember Lancastrians who served in the war".

Lancashire County Council Chairman Kevin Ellard



'Meet the Buyer' Events

As part of the company's sustainability targets, we aim, where possible, to employ local labour and companies on our sites. This year we have held seven 'Meet the Buyer' events; three in Greater Manchester, one in Cheshire, one in Yorkshire and two in London, held for the Ashford Hospital project in Kent.

We have met over 400 companies at these events, in order to strengthen our existing supply chain.



Pupils of Rothwell Primary School

Charlie Conlon Visits

Throughout the year, Director, Guy Parker and Customer Care Manager, Clare Singleton, assisted by Charlie Conlon, have attended several schools to educate children about the dangers of building sites.

To date, Charlie has visited over 8,200 children in 30 schools across the North.

Bright Sparks Electricity Days

This year, in conjunction with Cumbria and Greater Manchester STEM Centres and Electricity Northwest, we facilitated 'Bright Sparks' Electricity Workshops at three primary schools: Buckshaw Trinity, Weeton and Heyhouses.

Bright Sparks is a fun, one-day, hands-on workshop, aligned to the National Curriculum that aims to teach young people all about electricity. Pupils work in groups on practical electricity related tasks, raising awareness of engineering and science as a career choice.

We have had excellent feedback at each event from both pupils and staff alike.

Assisting Age Concern

As part of our on-going contribution to the community we approached a local Age Concern Dementia Centre whilst working on the new schools in Nelson.



In conjunction with Johnstone's Paint we engaged an interior designer to ensure that the proposed works complemented the existing furniture and fittings already in the centre. We redecorated the lounge, dining room, common areas and bathrooms out of hours to ensure that the centre remained open throughout.

Our final contribution was a 'Beans to Brew' coffee machine. This enabled the centre to create a coffee bar area for carers to relax, knowing their loved ones were safe nearby.



Tribute to the fallen of the First World War for Lytham in Bloom

Community Spirit at Jubilee House

Throughout the year we have held and been involved with various community based activities in conjunction with our client, Danbro at the £8.4m Jubilee House project in Lytham.

We have hosted regular coffee mornings for local residents and invited school children and college students along for conducted site tours.

In February, Chairman, Michael Conlon met with a group of local volunteers, the 'Friends of the Estuary', to discuss how we could assist them in maintaining the condition and appearance of the Ribble Estuary. In partnership with Danbro, we sponsored the 'Love our Estuary', 'Joint Litter Pick' and 'Lytham in Bloom' events.

Pictured to the left is the floral tribute to the fallen of the First World War, provided by Conlon and Danbro for 'Lytham in Bloom'.

Awards

We are pleased to have collected a number of industry awards again this year

Be Inspired Business Awards (BIBAs)

In September we were delighted to receive the 'Construction Business of the Year' award for 2014 at 'the BIBAs' held at the Blackpool Tower Ballroom. The awards, dubbed 'the one they all want to win', celebrates the achievements of businesses both big or small.



RoSPA In May we were once again, delighted to receive national recognition for our commitment to safe working environments, this time winning a gold accolade at the RoSPA Occupational Health & Safety Awards. Organised by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents the gold achievement award recognises impressive levels of health and safety performance and management.



L to R: Guy Parker and Kevin Raftery

Lancashire Business Awards

In November we were announced as winners of the 'Property Firm of the Year' award for 2014. We are delighted to have won this award two years in a row.

Lancaster District Design Awards

In September we were commended at the Lancaster Design Awards for our £1.9m project at Capernwray Hall. The awards celebrate good design in the built environment in the Lancaster District and were presented by Sir Christopher Frayling at the LICA Building of Lancaster University.

Local Authority Building Control (LABC)

The LABC 'Built In Quality Awards' celebrate construction and architectural excellence and reward good building practice. This year we were shortlisted in six categories for four of our projects.

Lytham Hall Park Primary, Capernwray Hall and Charles Saer Primary were all finalists in the 'Best Education Building' category. Sika Ltd and Capernwray Hall were finalists in the 'Best Commercial Building' category and Capernwray Hall also featured in the 'Best Public Service Building' category for which it received a Highly Commended certificate.



Considerate Constructors Scheme

For the fifth year running Conlon has been recognised at the National Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) Awards. This year we scooped two awards for St Philips CE Primary School (Gold) and Sika R&D Centre (Bronze).



L to R: James Dyer, Simon Brown, Kieran McLoughlin, Lynsey Scruton