

Insite

The newsletter of Conlon Construction

celebrating

60

years

Design • Construct • Develop

In this issue...

Contract Awards

Manchester Metropolitan University Grosvenor Building, Project Neptune, Zion Arts Centre, Firs Primary School, New Moston Primary School, Department for Work & Pensions Rapid Estate Expansion Programme (REEP), Manchester Christmas Markets and Department for Education Construction Framework.

| 3

Current Projects

Wilmslow High School, Blackpool Showtown Museum, Atrincham Grammar School for Girls, Blackpool Enterprise Zone and many more.

| 4

Completed Projects

SCT Climbing Centre, Stockport School, Mereside Respite Centre, Bridgewater Hall and many more.

| 5

Conlon in the Community

Our Social Responsibility and Charitable Activities.

| 6-7

Awards

Celebrating our Awards and other Achievements.

| 8



Summit Up Climbing Centre, Oldham



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.

Well I hadn't imagined in my last round up that one year on we would all still be affected by the Covid-19 virus. That however is still the case although hopefully there is light at the end of the tunnel.

In another challenging year our staff and our supply chain partners have worked closely to ensure the working environment has been kept as 'virus-safe' as possible. This has been at the forefront of our on-site planning to ensure the safety of those working for us and members of the public alongside whom we have been working. The diligence of our teams has kept the impact of the virus upon our operations at a low level for which the Board and I applaud them.

As ever I would like to take the opportunity to highlight some of the projects that have stood out during the last year. Our project at the Summit Up Climbing Centre in Oldham was unusual in providing Olympic standard climbing walls which will hopefully help Team GB win medals at future games. To watch the speed climbers race to the top of an 18m high climbing wall in a matter of a few seconds was amazing. Project Neptune in Fleetwood is another unusual challenge for us as part of the works has involved us repairing and upgrading the revetments of the Victorian era dock. In addition, we are constructing two large food processing plants across from the dock.

We have worked on numerous schools in recent years including Stockport School; Briercliffe Primary; New Moston Primary; Wilmslow High; and Altrincham Grammar

School for Girls, this year. These add to a long list of education projects over several decades. We were therefore delighted to be appointed to the DfE Construction Framework 2021 under which we have previously delivered 15 schools.

On the awards front it was nice to see two of our past projects being recognised in the annual Civic Trust Awards. Both are listed buildings but are very different indeed, Wythenshawe Hall being a timbered Tudor structure and Preston Bus Station being of 1960's 'Brutalist' concrete. Despite their differences both were projects that our teams enjoyed working on and we take pride in their recognition by the Civic Trust.

Finally, I need to recognise another milestone being reached in the history of the Company, that being our sixtieth anniversary. Yes it was in November 1961 that the five Conlon Brothers registered it as a limited company. Over the past six decades there have been many highlights and achievements. Many of these were recorded in the commemorative book we issued for our 50th anniversary and who knows, perhaps another couple of chapters need to be added to it.

A special event was held to celebrate the sixtieth and it was wonderful to see so many employees, clients, and members of our supply chain join us in our celebrations. In closing I would draw your attention to the sad loss of one of our founders, Malachy Conlon whose passing is noted below.



Sadly, Malachy Conlon, one of the five founding brothers of the company, passed away peacefully on 4th June this year, aged 84. Malachy served as the first Chairman of the company until his retirement in 1997 when he passed the baton to his niece, Theresa Noblett. He was the youngest of the five brothers and under Malachy's guidance, the company expanded from haulage and civil engineering in the 1960's to housing, general construction and property development. He was also instrumental in welcoming members of the extended Conlon family into the industry. He is survived by his wife, Mary, and three children; Moira, Sean - who works for the company - Mark, and his six grandchildren. Malachy will be remembered by many for his kindness, professionalism, integrity, wit and wisdom. RIP.



In June we thanked Clare Singleton for her 40 years of service at the company in various roles. Now acting as our Customer Care Manager, she is regularly referred to as 'Customer Clare'.

Well done and thank you from all of us.

Charity of the Year

Our chosen charity for 2020/21 was Lancashire Mind, which supports mental health awareness. The charity is dedicated to making a difference to the mental health of people living and working locally. This year, we have highlighted mental health awareness within the Construction Industry, especially during these particularly challenging times.



Our chosen charity for 2021/22 is Age Concern Lancashire, who provide dementia services and advice & guidance on 'ageing well and living well'. We have had a longstanding relationship with the charity and are looking forward to providing financial and resource support over the coming year.



Contract Awards

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



MMU Grosvenor Building, Manchester

Works to the Grade II listed building include; renovations to the external envelope, M&E replacement, internal redecoration, fire strategy remedial works and improvements to circulation areas. The building is occupied by the School of Art and is used for studio spaces for art, design and sculpture. It also houses the Holden Gallery which is used for art exhibitions and presentations.



Project Neptune, Fleetwood

The project consists of upgrading quayside revetments, replacing the current food processing units at the Port of Fleetwood with twelve, new, purpose-built units within two warehouses. The largest unit (Unit 1), will stand alone and Units 2-12 will form a back-to-back terrace with central access corridor between. The new units will initially be used for food processing, although they will be future-proofed for easy adaption, dependant on demand.



Christmas Markets, Manchester

For the 3rd time, we were appointed by Manchester City Council to carry out the 2021 set-up and decant.

The Manchester Christmas Markets are the largest in the UK with stalls erected in 16 locations across the city centre. The majority of the work takes place overnight to minimise disruption to the busy city centre zone.

Zion Arts Centre, Manchester

The works involve the renewal of all flat and pitched roof coverings and roof lights. We are also carrying out significant decarbonisation works, including the installation of photo-voltaics on the roof.



Firs Primary School, Sale

Works comprise of the design and construction of a new, 2-storey extension to the existing school providing 9 additional classrooms, a studio, group rooms and additional welfare facilities.

New Moston Primary School, Manchester

Works included the rewire of the existing electrical installations, replacement of the boiler and re-configuration of the school entrance area to provide greater security to staff, pupils and visitors. The project also focused on decarbonisation which Manchester City Council is currently putting at the top of their agenda.

DfE Construction Framework 2021

We are pleased to have recently been awarded a place on the DfE Construction Framework for the North West region.

This will give us the opportunity to bid for further education projects. We have previously delivered 15 schools, under a previous iteration of the framework, with a total value of £82m.



**Department
for Education**

Current Projects

Some of the major projects we are working on this year



Wilmslow High School, Cheshire

The plans for the school are to increase it from a 10FE to a 12FE facility. Works include the linking of the existing sports facilities, remodelling of the internal space to improve the current layout and a new extension to the entrance area to create an administrative block.



Blackpool Showtown Museum

The Showtown Museum is due to be based in the Sands Hotel venue and will be a 2,500m² fun and interactive museum showcasing Blackpool's heritage. The works will include the fit-out of the shell and core space within the existing building.



Skelmersdale Police Station

This project includes the full refurbishment of a five-storey 2,300m² building to provide a flexible working environment for building users. We are renewing M&E and data installations and re-cladding external facades. We are also carrying out the demolition and re-building of the annex facilities.



Blackpool Enterprise Zone Sports Pavilion

The project comprises the construction of a single-storey 675m² changing and spectator facility. The works also include the reconfiguration and extension of the existing car park, as well as alterations to the existing access road. The project is part of Blackpool's Enterprise Zone adjacent to the airport.



National Football Museum, Manchester

Works include internal refurbishment and the upgrade of M&E services including the removal and replacement of air handling units and other existing facilities.



Woodford Garden Village Primary School, Stockport

Construction of a new, 2,300m² 1FE D&B primary school for Stockport Council, on behalf of Redrow Homes. The design includes for a future 2FE extension.



Sir Tom Finney Community High School, Preston

We have recently commenced our third contract at the school to produce additional classrooms and accommodation for teachers and pupils.

Completed Projects

Some of the major projects we have completed in 2020



Summit Up Climbing Centre, Oldham

This project, funded by the Stoller Charitable Trust, consisted of the construction of a 1,800m², 2-storey climbing centre with three climbing walls, retail and café facilities. The centre was built to Olympic standards and the climbing walls are amongst the best in the country.



Stockport School

Works to the school included; the full strip and replacement of the existing roofs, upgrading of the whole electrical installation, extensive re-pointing and upgrading of internal decorations. All works were carried out within the live environment of a busy school.



Coopers@Ambleside Respite, Blackpool

The building comprises state-of-the-art assisted technologies to deliver step-down, respite and short-stay care to support those with learning or physical disabilities to retain their independence.



Bridgewater Hall, Manchester

The works on Bridgewater Hall included the removal and replacement of the existing chillers and heat-rejection units. The new chillers will significantly reduce running costs and minimise the Hall's carbon footprint.



Altrincham Grammar School for Girls

Works included the construction of a new sports hall, 4 classrooms and associated changing facilities. The works also consisted of the conversion of the existing first floor gymnasium and changing rooms to teaching spaces and staff facilities. The school remained open throughout the refurbishment works.

Briercliffe Primary School, Burnley

This project created additional classrooms, a studio hall and a new entrance to the Early Years Foundation Stage and MUGA pitch.



The Spires, Preston

Refurbishment of a 31-bedroom home to create 26 self-contained residential apartments, including a communal room, a kitchen and rooms for support.

Conlon in the Community

Extracts from our Social Value activity calendar are highlighted below



We have participated in various fundraising activities for our Charity of the Year, Lancashire Mind, during 2021:-



Way of the Roses

In June, a team of our staff took on the 'Way of the Roses' cycle ride to raise funds for Lancashire Mind. The seven riders set off on the 170-mile sponsored bike ride on 17th June, completing the challenge in just three days. Commercial Director, Darren Lee commented, "Reality kicked-in on the first day when climbing High Hill in Settle, which is tough enough for experienced cyclists!". The 'Conlon Peloton' of Darren, Andy, Simon, Frank, Ste, James, Chris and Paul rode 170 miles with 8,000ft of ascent, raising £6,000 for Lancashire Mind.



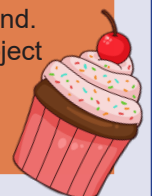
Health and Wellbeing Courses

We have sponsored Lancashire Mind to carry out Health and Wellbeing courses at Stockport School and Armfield Academy, Blackpool. The courses, of 10 weeks' duration, engaged with 15 students from each school. The aim, through discussions and interactive exercises, was to improve the health and wellbeing provision at each school.



Afternoon Tea at Project Neptune

In September, our Project Neptune site team organised Afternoon Tea for site staff and members of the Associated British Ports project team. Cakes were kindly provided (not baked!) by Sean Conlon. The team managed to raise £200 for Lancashire Mind. Well done Project Neptune!





Careers Talk at Stockport School

Neil Conlon visited Stockport School in June to give a talk to their assembly of 230 pupils about career opportunities in the Construction Industry.



Chance 2 Shine - Positive Steps

It was great to give Bradley a 6-week work experience placement on our Colton House project, Blackpool. This led to him gaining full-time employment with PJM Construction.



Sports Pavillion Turf Cutting

Our mascot, Charlie Conlon made a rare visit, following self-isolation for the last year to help Michael Conlon with the Turf Cutting Ceremony at our Blackpool EZ project.

Green Team Sensory Garden

We have worked closely with Blackpool Council's Green Team to provide a Sensory Garden at our Colton House project. Many thanks to Jem from R&D Caunce and Lee from LN Joinery for donating labour and materials for the project. The Sensory Garden has been a great success for all involved and demonstrates what teamwork can produce!



Appledore Nursery Tree Planting

In April, the site team at Summit Up Climbing Centre (Oldham) donated trees to the local nursery.



Food Bank Delivery

Site team, Paul and Jasmine arranged for food bank deliveries during lockdown to assist local residents. The food was kindly donated by everyone working on our Colton House site.



Watch Us Grow

The site team at Skelmersdale Police Station worked closely alongside Andrea Horrocks, raising £500 for Watch Us Grow, who provide ongoing support for the homeless.



Bird Box Donations

Site Manager, Dave Lyon worked with pupils from Briercliffe Primary School to install 4 new bird boxes at various locations around the school grounds. Bird boxes were made by Men in Sheds, part of our chosen charity, Age Concern Lancashire.



Pool Table for Preston Vocational Centre Students

We were fortunate to be able to relocate a pool table from our Maudland House project to Preston Vocational Centre for the students to use during their well-earned breaks.



Fundraising for Derian House

Site Manager, David Ragan and his family have raised £325 for Derian House Children's Hospice. David recently completed the London Marathon & Great North Run. His Wife and Children have also sold cakes. Great team effort!



Awards

We are pleased to have been successful in winning a number of awards again this year



Conlon 60th Celebrations

