



Melhuish & Saunders Ltd

Construction Christmas 2016 *focus*

Christmas 2016

FINDING THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE



A Message from the Directors

Welcome to the latest edition of Construction Focus; our bi-annual round up of all the latest news from Melhuish and Saunders Ltd. This year has seen us, once again, produce the highest turnover since I took over the firm in 1998, and 2017 looks promising to continue the trend. This is, in no small part, thanks to the dedication and professionalism of our team, and repeat business from a number of the clients we have had the privilege to work with over the years.

We have worked on some fantastic projects this year, with some particularly exciting ones planned for 2017, and hope you will enjoy reading about them. The Directors, Darryl Mitchard and myself, would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have made this year the success it is, from our skilled team to all the clients, subcontractors and suppliers we have worked with.

Darryl and I wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to the opportunities in store to work with you all again in 2017.

John Mitchard, Managing Director

Melhuish and Saunders: Best Building Contractor in Somerset!



MELHUIH and Saunders Ltd were proud to be named as the only construction firm to reach the finals of this year's Somerset Business Awards, as well as being named one of the top three companies

for its size in the county. Held on October 21st at the Wellsprings leisure centre in Taunton the Somerset Business Awards highlight the very best companies, from all sectors, in the area. It was therefore with great delight that the Melhuish and Saunders Ltd was one of the three finalists for the Business of the Year 26 to 50 Employees category.

It comes in a year where the firm won the Best Educational Building Award at the West of England LABC Awards, narrowly missing out on the national award at the LABC awards on November 28th, where it was one of the selected finalists from across the country, as well as being Highly Commended at the last ever Mendip LABC award in the Best Commercial Building, Best Partnership and Best Site Agent categories.



WIN BIG WITH A BEANIE

Tag your most imaginative pose with a mellies beanie using [#melliesbeanies](#) for your chance to win £200 to a charity of your choice and a hamper full of goodies for you.

Competition runs from December 1st until January 20th. Contact us to get your free beanie to take part or for further information visit www.melhuishandsaundersltd.com/melliesbeanies



A new hope for the industry as students learn about construction with Melhuish and Saunders



MELHUIH and Saunders Ltd teamed up with Constructing Excellence South West Somerset Club and Setsquare recruitment agency, which specialises in construction recruitment, to show the students of Somerset College of Arts and Technology (SCAT) what the

industry could offer them.

Team members, including Contracts Director Darryl Mitchard, Quantity Surveyor and SCAT alumni Jo Wells and Marketing Officer Daniel Gibson, attended the "Constructing Excellence – Meet the construction industry" afternoon at the Genesis Centre in Taunton on October 13th, along with representatives from all walks of life in the industry.

The afternoon provided an opportunity to discuss the opportunities available to young people if they opted for a career in construction. All three of our team were highly impressed with the calibre of the students they met, and their enthusiasm for the industry.

By providing first-hand accounts of the industry, along with specially designed apprenticeship kits, the team from Melhuish and Saunders were delighted to see that the future of the industry could be in very safe hands.

Following the success of this event we have started working alongside Train4All, from Somerton, to find work placements for students who are interested in finding out more about what construction may be able to offer them, while developing on the job skills. From our experiences of talking with the students, and coaching those on work placements, we are confident that the future for the industry is in safe hands.

For more information about the opportunities and events Constructing Excellence South West offer, along with how to join as regional or club member, visit: www.constructingexcellence.org.uk/



Keeping Construction open for business

2016 has been a year of uncertainty in the construction industry following the decision to leave the European Union on June 23rd. As the dust has settled though and we head into 2017 things are looking bright for the construction industry, particularly in Somerset.

For Melhuish and Saunders Ltd 2016 has very much been a year of opportunities. Despite the initial concerns that Brexit would lead to a decline in the industry we are seeing plenty of areas for business development. This year has seen us generate our largest turnover on record, with a project total for 2016 in excess of £11million. This has been achieved by seeing these opportunities and grasping them when they emerge.

For example, while not directly involved in the supply chain for Hinckley Point C, we can see the vast wealth of potential surrounding it. As more people come into the area to work there will be an increased need for housing. Already seen with current domestic developments in the region this will then translate to a need for increased school capacity, larger health centres, and general amenities, including entertainment, sport and cultural locations.

The effects of Brexit are not fully quantifiable yet, however, people still need homes and the entire infrastructure that goes with them. Melhuish and Saunders Ltd have the focus to see these opportunities and turn 2017 into yet another record breaking year.

BRIGHTEST BRAINS IN BUILDING



On Thursday November 30th a team of four intrepid souls, kitted

out with their trusty [#melliesbeanies](#) brain ovens, took on the most powerful (ish) minds of the South West Construction Industry at the Chartered Institute of Building Wessex Institute Quiz.

After a tense battle across six rounds the Melhuish and Saunders Ltd Quizzzy Rascal's, Darryl Mitchard, Jo Wells, Mike Garbutt and Dan Gibson, were declared the clear winners, by half a point.

[#melliesbeanies](#)

The year in *focus*



2016 has proven to be a busy year for us with some great projects being completed. From the multi-million pound works on new warehouse facilities in Wells and Avonmouth to school renovations and extensions for Bridgwater College and Somerset Bridge School, along with additional projects, including external works and new porches to the Tangiers Central offices in Taunton, we have been focused, as always, on the highest quality standards

Other fantastic projects which we are currently completing include:



Passivhaus social housing for Bristol City Council

These ongoing works, devised by Emmett Russel Architects, across three separate

sites will provide ecologically sound social housing for 20 families in Bristol. With work staggered to ensure that suppliers and subcontractors can be used across sites and thereby minimise both down time and wastage, maximising the environmental credentials of the construction.

As well as helping Bristol City Council meet its plans to supply affordable housing the finished buildings will be more cost effective for residents and provide higher air quality, through the circulation systems in place necessary to meet the Passivhaus standards.

With two sites now water-tight, and air testing commencing, works are set for completion in the Spring of 2017.



Adcroft Surgery, Trowbridge

Designed by GVA Billfinger, work on this stunning £2.8million

project, to construct a new two storey health centre, as well as modifications to the existing surgery, began in May.

Steel framework is already erected and the building is set to be watertight by January, with completion due in summer 2017.

Deans Lodge in Wells

Working on this stunning Grade 2* listed building is our real life Christmas story this year, we're planning on the film rights now. With completion due the middle of December we are ensuring that the Dean of Wells Cathedral is in situ in time for the festive season.

Carefully bringing this historic building back to its former grandeur, thanks to the work of architects DB & Paul Ltd, with sympathetic renovations has been a fantastic opportunity.



Wainwright Office Extension, Wainwrights Quarry

Having already worked on the award winning Somerset Earth and Science Centre at the quarry it was great to be back. This time we were contracted to create a stunning external façade and porch for the head office building, along with a free standing steel frame, which incorporated a high level patent glazed canopy, as designed by Mark Kingsley Architects,

Even with substantial additional external works being included in the project, we were able to ensure that works were completed in time for the quarry's 125th anniversary celebrations in August.



Hellos and Goodbyes

Since our last update in the summer we have been sorry to see two stalwart members of staff leave. Contracts Manager **Maurice Butcher** and Site Manager **Gavin Cleverley** have both moved onto new positions elsewhere and we wish them all the luck for the future.

Fortunately though we have been able to welcome two new members of staff to the team.



Peter Taylor joins us as a Contracts Manager and brings with him 34 years of experience in the industry, having started as a carpenters apprentice before moving into project management.



Gary Sherfield joins us as a semi skilled general operative having worked in the industry for more than a decade, and brings with him a wealth of experience.

Supporting the community

Melhuish and Saunders Ltd have maintained our proud tradition of supporting local groups this year, with a number of sponsorships for new and existing groups.

We have continued our long running sponsorship of the Somerset FA Junior and Senior Cups this year, as well as supporting Radstock Town Under 18's match on November 1st, among others.

This year we have also been delighted to supply the new team kit for Southmead Rugby Club, and look forward to attending the games.

We were also pleased to be able to continue our relationship with the West Mendip Pony Club.

Away from sports we have supported the Shepton Mallet Fireworks display for the third year running and thrown our support behind the Somerset Gazette Series "Next Generation Somerset" campaign which aims to promote opportunities for school leavers within the county.

Continuing our support for community events, at the end of April we were able to welcome in the summer by providing sponsorship for the Butleigh Beer Festival.

Pre-Christmas Drinks at the Canalside

MELHUIH and Saunders Ltd is proud to say that we have been working with Constructing Excellence South West, through our membership of the Somerset Club board, for nearly a year now.

During that time we have helped to organise events to help keep everyone involved in the industry, informed about the industry. The latest of these will be pre-Christmas drinks and buffet at the Canalside in Bridgwater on December 8th from 6pm to 8pm. Food and first drink sponsored by Melhuish and Saunders Ltd. For more information and how to book tickets visit: <http://www.melhuishandsaundersltd.com/news>



Current Vacancies

Melhuish and Saunders Ltd are always happy to hear from talented individuals looking to join our team.

Over the coming months we are looking to expand out Contracts Management, Site Management and General labourer/handyman positions

For more information on all available roles check out our website.

www.melhuishandsaundersltd.com/job-vacancies

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