

Summer 2015

Landmark sculpture given makeover

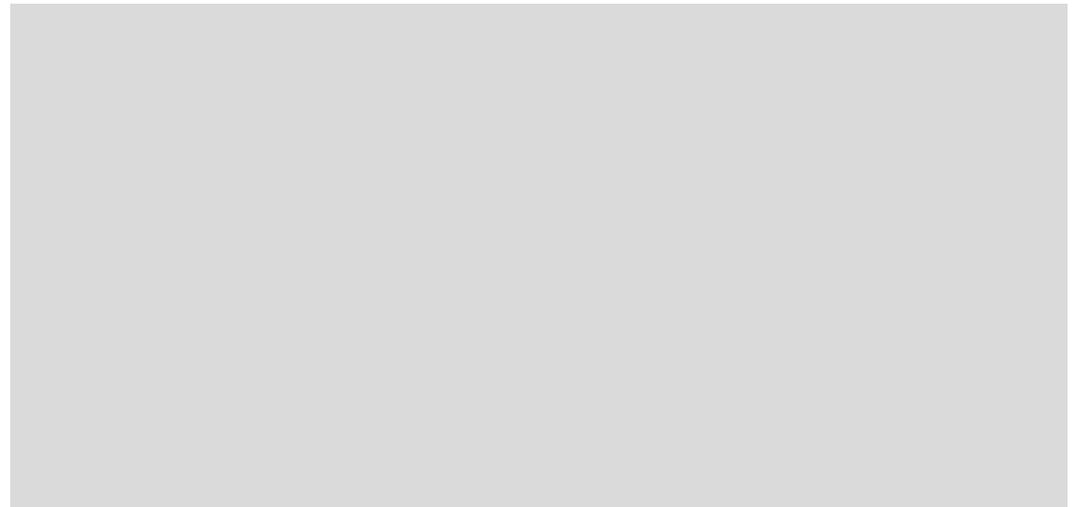
Awards shortlisting for Ian Williams

We are delighted to have been shortlisted as a finalist in the West of England Business of the Year Awards 2015.

We are up against five other entrants in the category for businesses with over £30 million turnover.

The awards' judges visited us recently, and we will find out if we have been successful at a black tie ceremony in Bristol on July 2.

Mike Turner, Ian Williams development director, said: "The West of England Business of the Year Awards is a prestigious accolade and we are delighted to be shortlisted for this award. The shortlisting strongly recognises the work of our employees and the successful contribution they make to our company and our clients."



Ian Williams apprentices repainted a well-known piece of West Midlands public artwork during National Apprenticeship Week.

Douglas Nelson and Luke Hodgkiss gave the Brierley Hill sculpture in Brierley Hill a fresh coat of paint to keep it looking its best. The sculpture has stood outside Brierley Civic Hall since

1999, serving as a gateway to the town.

For more on our activities during National Apprenticeship Week, turn to page five.

New office leads on Anchor contract



Ian Williams continues to grow as a business, with the addition of a 16th office across the country.

We have established a new office in Manchester

to support our work with housing provider Anchor.

We signed one of the biggest deals in the history of our company at the end of last year when we secured a 10-year contract with Anchor to deliver planned works, painting and responsive repairs.

Work has already begun in the North West, with our team from the Manchester office carrying out day-to-day responsive repairs and void refurbishment to a number of Anchor's 241 sheltered

housing schemes in the region.

Mike Turner, development director, said: "We hope our new office will boost the local Manchester economy and help us to win further business in the North West going forwards.

"To supplement our workforce we are recruiting an additional four operatives and a surveyor from the local area, and hope in subsequent months to be able to follow our company's ethos on the employment of apprentices with the addition of at least one local apprentice to the team."

Latest business news

Our team has been busy over the past few months, securing a range of new deals and contract extensions to help grow our business, and completing a number of exciting projects. Here are some of our latest achievements.

Supporting the emergency services



We are delighted to be supporting one of our country's vital emergency services by carrying out work to one of its premises.

In Bristol, we are spending four months renovating the old court house in Staple Hill, which is owned by Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

The stone building has not been open to the public since 2011, and was in need of a complete renovation to bring it back into use.

Our operatives are stripping out all of the internal installations and reconfiguring some of the walls and access ways. We will also be re-glazing and painting all of the metal windows, installing new showers, fitting new flooring, renewing the electrics and fitting a new heating system, as well as decorating throughout.

The finished building will be used as a local base for the force's neighbourhood teams, maintaining the site's historic link with law and order.



Further work secured in Stroud

Ian Williams was successful earlier this year in securing a year-long contract with Stroud District Council to repaint the interior and exterior of some of its 5,100 homes, carry out minor pre-paint repairs, and fit flooring in communal areas.

We have been working with the council for the past two years, re-painting public buildings owned by the authority, including the Museum in the Park in Stratford Park (*pictured*).

Getting ready for holidays with lodge works

Visitors to a holiday park near the New Forest will benefit from work being carried out by Ian Williams operatives.

We are currently redecorating the outside of eight holiday lodges at

Shorefield Country Park near Milford-on-Sea.

As only two lodges can be unoccupied at a time, operatives have to complete their works to a pair of properties within five working days, so that they can be returned to use by the weekend.



Supporting excellence in older people's housing

We were delighted to sponsor the erosh Innovation and Good Practice Awards for the second year in a row.

The awards, which recognise organisations that show creativity in providing quality housing and support to meet the needs of the ageing population, took place at Mercers' Hall in London in March

Our development director Mike Turner joined television

presenter and erosh patron Dame Esther Rantzen and Lord Richard Best to hand over a £1,000 cash prize to Rooftop Housing Group, which secured an award win for its activity club for disabled residents.

Mike Turner said: "It was great to be at the erosh Innovation and Good Practice Awards again this year. I'm always humbled by the great work that goes on around the country in the field of older people's

housing and support, and events such as these are an important way to recognise and celebrate that."

Meanwhile, Ian Williams operatives have refurbished a shower room free of charge for Riverside ECHG, 2014 winners at the awards.

Sheila Thomas, scheme manager at Royle Court, where the work took place, said: "It's so light and airy now. The residents all love it!"



RoSPA award number seven

We proved once again that Ian Williams is not only a good place to work but also a safe one, with the addition of our 7th consecutive RoSPA Gold Achievement Award earlier this year.

The accolade means we once again received the higher level Gold Medal Award in the prestigious annual scheme run by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

These awards recognise our consistent ability to meet the highest standards in health and safety, safety management, training and procedures.

Richard Parry, safety, health and environmental manager, said: "Our staff are dedicated to following correct procedures but, even so, ours can be a difficult sector in which to excel in the field of health and safety. We strive for continual improvement, so we are pleased to receive this further accolade."

The team will collect its award at a ceremony in London on June 16.

Cycle event raises charity cash

Five members of staff from Ian Williams took to the saddle in May to raise money for two worthwhile charities.

The group completed the 50-mile Cotswold Bike Ride on Sunday, May 17, raising £1,500 for the British Heart Foundation and Longfield (formerly Cotswold Care Hospice) - one of our chosen corporate charities.



New office opened in Hampshire

We are delighted to have further expanded our offering in the South East, with the opening of a new office near Winchester.



We signed a five-year lease on a ground floor office at 2 Wessex Way, Colden Common, in January.

Ten staff will work out of the 1,400 sq ft office, covering the Southampton area and delivering direct services to clients including Hampshire County Council, Southampton City Council and Winchester City Council.

Case studies

Partnership working delivers £10m improvements for council tenants

For the past two years, we've been working hard for our client Wiltshire Council, carrying out improvements to its homes.

People living in the council's homes have benefited from £10 million worth of planned maintenance, modernisation and renewals since we began working together in April 2013.

During that period, we've repainted the outside of 2,112 homes.

Facts and figures

- 542 kitchens
- 464 bathrooms
- 2,455 windows
- 818 external doors

A large number of people have benefited from roof upgrades and additional wall insulation, while 159 disabled residents have seen their homes adapted to better meet their needs.

As well as this, we've boosted the local economy in and around Wiltshire by creating jobs for local people.

Over the five-year contract we hope to employ between 40 and 60 local people on long-term contracts. We're currently looking for trainee surveyors and apprentice carpenters to work in our Salisbury office.

Rob Lomas, Ian Williams general manager, said: "We have enjoyed working with Wiltshire Council



over the past two years, and we're really pleased with the work that has been done to date. Thousands of people living in the area have benefited from some kind of modernisation or improvement to their home, and the feedback we've had has been very positive. We look forward to building on the excellent work already done in the years ahead, and to hopefully working with the council for many years to come."

Supporting community projects with bpha



replaced all of the carpets and laminate flooring.

bpha contributed £1,000 towards the work, and we funded the remainder of the £3,000 total cost ourselves.

We have worked for housing provider bpha for the past four years, and were pleased to recently support the organisation with two community projects.

In the first, our operatives refurbished a two-bedroom, semi-detached community house in Northamptonshire owned by the association and used as a community facility for meetings and events.

As well as redecorating the property throughout, we

Meanwhile, our staff also joined bpha staff in carrying out a community clear up in Bedford.

Tenants with bulky rubbish to dispose of were able to hand it over to the clean-up team, who safely disposed of eight tonnes of waste at the end of the day.

Our work for bpha includes: responsive maintenance, repairs and renovations to void properties, as well as planned upgrades like kitchen, bathroom, window and door replacements; external painting; and roofing works.

Funding fish and chips at Orbit



Residents at a Leamington Spa housing scheme celebrated the completion of renovation works with a fish and chip dinner.

We funded the farewell treat at Rene England House, which is owned and managed by Orbit Housing, to thank residents for their patience and kindness while we upgraded 26 wet rooms at the scheme.

We are currently 18 months into an eight-year contract with the Orbit Group to carry out planned maintenance on its homes.

Earlier this year we helped Orbit Heart of England staff collect food for Stratford Food Bank, and we plan to continue to support the organisation's community efforts in any way we can.

National Apprenticeship Week

Ian Williams marks National Apprenticeship Week by offering new opportunities for young people

Investing in apprenticeships is an important part of the Ian Williams ethos, so we were only too keen to get involved with National Apprenticeship Week this year.

We held a series of events across the country in conjunction with the Construction Industry Training Board aimed at getting young people interested in a career in the painting sector.

In Bristol, our apprentices helped students from Hanham Woods Academy School repaint their IT suite, and spoke to them about what it was like to work for the company.

Paul Laidler, assistant principal at the school, said: "The students had a brilliant day. They learned lots and worked really hard. They have a much better understanding of apprenticeships now."

Year 11 student Sam Delve, aged 16, said: "I really enjoyed painting the classroom and learned a lot. After today I'll definitely be looking into becoming a painter and decorator."

At Bridgend College, school students from the area took part in a painting competition, which was judged by Ian Williams apprentices past and present.

Meanwhile, first year students at Walsall College benefitted from



an employment skills workshop, where they learned about CV writing, interview techniques and what employers look for in prospective candidates.

At the same time, Ian Williams apprentices repainted the Brier Rose sculpture in Brierley Hill.

Douglas Nelson and Luke Hodgkiss repainted the metal sculpture, in the shape of a wild rose, free of charge for Dudley Council, with whom we have a partnership to paint and repair its buildings.

Commitment to apprenticeships

Five per cent of the Ian Williams workforce are currently apprentices, and we want to increase this to 10 per cent within the next three years.

In 2013, our commitment to apprenticeships was

recognised with a 'highly commended' award in the employer of the year category at the CITB's Managing Agency Apprenticeship Awards.

Harry Thompson, aged 19, is in the third year of a painting and decorating apprenticeship at our Bristol office. He said: "It's a really good opportunity to start a career at a young age. The people at Ian Williams are really helpful and give you the confidence to ask anything and try anything. I'd advise anyone interested in an apprenticeship to have confidence, apply and stick at it."

Sian Pearce, Ian Williams training and development manager, said: "We are committed to developing our workforce through apprenticeships and to offering young people opportunities within our sector, giving something

back into the communities in which we work.

"Investing in our country's youth allows us to train and mould our employees, spot potential and invest in that potential as early as possible so we develop and nurture a loyal, talented workforce."

The events in Bristol, Bridgend and Walsall were all supported by the CITB. Nathaniel Cooke, construction careers advisor, said: "Apprenticeships allow young people a pathway into a career that they have no experience in. They give young people real skills with a real employer and college training, all while earning a wage. For employers, they allow the business to grow and invest in new talent in a low risk way, supported by the CITB."

Skills showcase

Three projects shortlisted for national awards

We're delighted that the hard work we've undertaken across the country over the past year has been recognised with three nominations for the annual Painting and Decorating Premier Annual Trophy Competition 2015.

Here we take a look at our shortlisted projects to find out more about what makes them stand out.

The winners of the Painting and Decorating Premier Annual Trophy Competition 2015 will be announced at Plaisterers Hall in London on July 9.



The Master's Lodge, Marlborough College

Marlborough College was founded in 1843 to educate the sons of Church of England clergy. Today, the Grade II listed building is a highly-respected, co-educational independent boarding school catering for more than 870 pupils.

The exterior of the brick-built Master's Lodge required extensive repair work and full re-decoration to bring it back to its best.

Our work included renewing, repairing and replacing sash windows, bespoke hardwood sills, roof tiles, sections of lead gully, timber fascias and soffits, and moulding surrounding the main entrance doors. We also re-pointed areas of brickwork during a seven-week programme of work.

During the project, the building remained the main residence of the Master of Marlborough, so our challenge was to minimise noise and disruption in case of meetings or events, and to use mobile work platforms and towers instead of scaffolding wherever possible, to ensure signs of work could be removed if necessary.



Millennium Stadium, Cardiff

The fully-retractable roof of the iconic Millennium Stadium in Cardiff was one of the first of its kind when it was built in 1999, but was in need of re-painting ahead of the Rugby World Cup.

We spent several months working on the steel structures of the roof, as part of one of the most challenging jobs we have ever completed.

Operatives had to be attached to a rope harness throughout the works, as the roof had to remain open to the elements while vital pitch upgrades were carried out.

Each day the foreman and operatives would undertake a lengthy and physically demanding journey from the basement car park of the stadium to its roof via a service elevator, steps, service access ladders and finally a service walkway located at a daunting height just underneath the roof opening.

All equipment, from rollers, brushes and paint to ladders and towers, had to be transported to the roof using a hoist.

In addition, operatives had to take extreme care moving around the roof structure itself, as it was not a level surface.



Britannia Royal Navy College, Dartmouth

Situated high on a hill overlooking Dartmouth, Britannia Royal Naval College has been training Royal Naval officers on site since 1905. The college is the centre for the initial training and education of all officers of the Royal Navy, as well as many from overseas, and is the place where a young Prince Philip first met the Queen.

We were commissioned to re-decorate the exterior of the college, including carrying out significant timber repairs and window replacements, retaining as much original material as possible to satisfy English Heritage and listed building requirements.

As teaching continued at the college during much of the works, we had to be sympathetic around attention to upper floors where naval staff were billeted. We waited until college staff and students were on leave to redecorate the inside of the windows.

Because of the college's position on the coast, we were concerned that adverse weather might delay the programme, so we installed weather-proof sheeting on our scaffolding to ensure the works were completed as quickly as possible.

Supporting those in need



A hospice that supports people affected by life-limiting illnesses has benefitted from the hard work and dedication of Ian Williams staff.

Recently, Longfield (formerly Cotswold Care Hospice) in Minchinhampton asked us to help it carry out a re-brand of its shops across Gloucestershire, repainting their exteriors in new corporate colours.

We were only too happy to agree, having donated £1,000 to the charity earlier this year, and knowing the importance of its vital work in the area.

As a goodwill gesture, we carried out the work to the

flagship Tetbury store free of charge.

Mike Turner, development director, said: "It is hard for many of us to imagine the impact the distressing diagnosis of a life-limiting illness has on individuals and families, but what is clear to us is the fantastic work the hospice does in our community to support people in that situation."

Longfield offers free services to adults living with a life-limiting illness in Gloucestershire, 24 hours per day, seven days per week, 365 days per year. It relies on support from individuals and businesses for more than 80 per cent of its income.

New schools join Ian Williams client list

Our work in independent education continues, with the addition of two new schools to our upcoming summer programme of work.

Over the school holidays in July and August we will be working at King's School in Plymouth and Merchant Taylors' School in Northwood.

At King's School, our operatives will be repainting the main entrance stairwell of the historic building over two weeks in July.

At Merchant Taylors' School, we will be carrying out external decorations and roof works to the main building as soon as exams are over.

We completed our last programme of work at the school – decorating the outside of the music and art block - in May.

Meanwhile, we have also recently been working at Boundary Oak School in Fareham. Over the past few months we've replaced fire doors, carried out internal redecoration work and completed minor repairs.



Older residents benefit from decoration works

We have been pleased to receive great feedback from Milton Keynes Council about our work to refresh one of its older people's housing schemes.

We spent eight weeks redecorating all of the communal areas at

Kilkenny House, as part of a £15,000 project.

There were a lot of sensitivities surrounding the project, so we liaised with the scheme manager on a daily basis in order to ensure that all the residents and staff were satisfied with our work.

Business wins

Ian Williams has secured the following new business wins:

Ian Williams is continuing its work with **Babcock Marine** at HMNB Devonport. Operatives will soon begin £300,000 of work to replace external cladding to a dockside frigate complex.

We recently secured a four-year, £250,000-per-year contract with **Hampshire County Council** to provide decoration and minor repair work to its properties, including a number of schools.

A two-year, £4 million contract with the **Ministry of Justice** will see us refurbish prisons, courts, probationary services and support facilities across the South West of England, South Wales and the South of England. The work is worth £2m a year.

Ian Williams has secured a place on a national framework for social enterprise **Fusion 21**, to carry out decoration and associated repairs over a four-year period, as part of a deal worth in the region of £100,000 per year.

A month-long project at the **Copthorne Hotel** in Plymouth has seen us replace bathrooms in some of the hotel's 135 guest rooms.

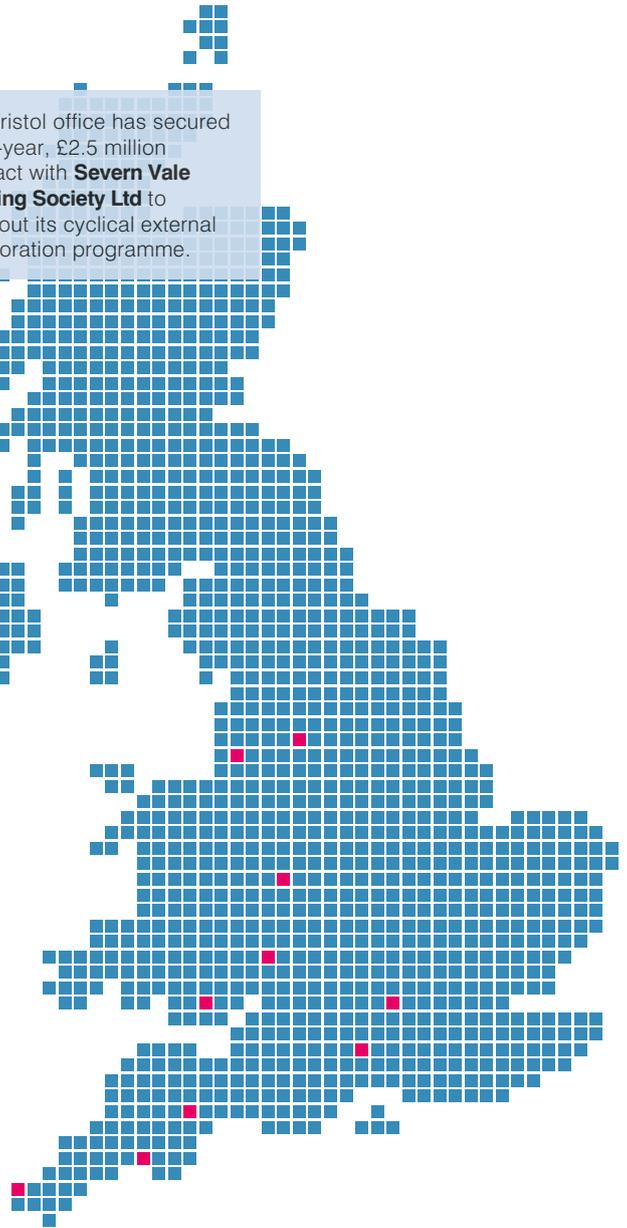
Our team will be carrying out external decorations to apartments and houses in Basingstoke as part of a one-year, £380,000 contract with **Sentinel Housing Association**.

We will be carrying out water ingress remedial works at properties owned by **Exeter City Council** as part of a six-month programme of works worth in the region of £1 million.

Ian Williams will soon be working for **Castle Vale Community Housing Association**, after being chosen as preferred bidder for a five-year, £220,000-per-year contract for cyclical decoration work.

Our operatives are repainting the outside of Pendeen Lighthouse near Penzance as part of a £50,000 job for owners **Trinity House**. The three-week project also entails painting the outside of related buildings and the inside of holiday cottages on site. We will be carrying out further works for Trinity House in Wales and Cornwall in August and September, and will bring you more information in the next Review magazine.

Our Bristol office has secured a five-year, £2.5 million contract with **Severn Vale Housing Society Ltd** to carry out its cyclical external redecoration programme.



If you have any comments, or would like further information on any of the articles in this issue of Review, please fill in the form below:

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