

Four New Associates

We're delighted to announce the appointment of four new Associates as we begin our 25th year of trading since our formation in 1987.



Stuart Franklin, Andrew Rutherford, Matthew Holmes, and Adam Vaughan, newly appointed Associates of Jane Darbyshire & David Kendall Ltd.

Architects, Stuart Franklin, a Newcastle University graduate, and Adam Vaughan, a Sheffield University graduate, who joined JDDK in 1999 and 2005 respectively, bring a wealth of design flair to their new roles whilst the promotion of technologists Andrew Rutherford and Matthew Holmes, who joined the practice in 2000 and 2004 respectively, reflects the practice's equal focus on design quality and practical delivery of projects embracing the latest digital technology.

JDDK Director, Nicky Watson, commented, "We're delighted to promote our four colleagues to Associate status in recognition of the major and increasing contribution they make to the practice."

"All four bring very different but complementary skills - Stuart and Adam have both built up very strong relationships with their own clients and it's entirely correct that these clients deal with senior staff. In addition to general architectural design work, Stuart has tended to specialise in education and health projects while Adam's specialisations have recently included sustainability, housing and work with historic buildings, for which he is RIBA accredited."

"Andy Rutherford has consistently produced superb work in the technical development of designs ever since he joined the practice and now also handles the management of our day-to-day IT systems. His fellow technologist, Matt Holmes, has an architectural background to his education and now specialises in Building Information Modelling (BIM), an expertise in this digital information processing that we believe is fundamental to the growth of our practice. Matt is still the only NE candidate who has achieved 100% in certification of use of this software."

"The appointments of the four new Associates to join Nicky Hodgson, our Senior Associate, is an important step for the practice which builds on our current strengths in design and delivery and will help to make us even more competitive and able to react to the challenges of client and industry requirements more efficiently in future."

Our Fab Four...



People's Passions A Perfect Balance

Nicky Hodgson's love of gymnastics goes back to the 1976 Montreal Olympics where Nadia Comaneci of Romania and Olga Korbut of Russia fought for the elusive gold medal in the world arena.

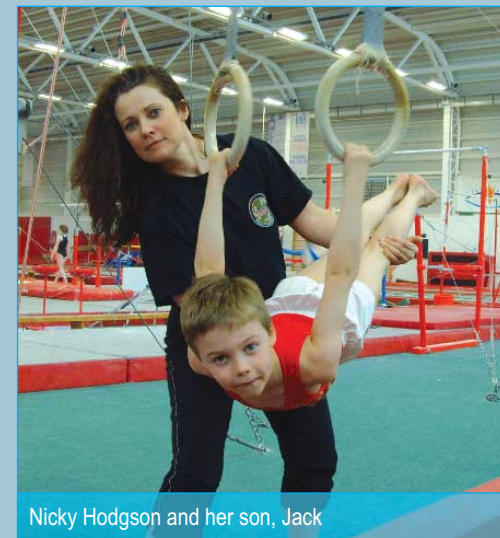
Whilst her own gymnastics career didn't quite progress to the dizzy heights of her heroines, she kept her hand in, and watched with pride as sons, James (13) and Jack (7), together with daughter, Anna (9), all showed an aptitude for the sport.

With James now competing at National level, training six times a week under the ex-Romanian National gymnastics coach and double Olympian, Adrian Sandu, and Jack also having been asked to join the gymnastic squad, Nicky decided last year to help out.

She explained, "Outside JDDK, I do spend a lot of time at the gym in any case, so it was the natural step to help with coaching the youngsters. I now have a little group of 5-8 year old boys whom I train once a week but am surrounded by boys and girls of ages all pursuing their dream of being the next Olympic champion, as I did when I was young."

"The gym is an incredibly inspiring place to be where I can indulge my passion for gymnastics and help the youngsters - the only downside of it all is for my husband Barry whose passion is football and who sadly doesn't have a look in with his boys when he wants to kick a ball round the field at the weekends. The gym wins every time!"

"Nobody knows this, and my kids will kill themselves laughing when they find out, but I can also be found practicing my handstands against the wall in my back garden - under the cover of darkness, when nobody's looking - just to keep my hand in! I'm amazed that I can still do them after all these years!"



Nicky Hodgson and her son, Jack

St Columba's Hospice, Edinburgh

Celebrating our architecture & people over the past 24 years

Jane Darbyshire and David Kendall Limited Chartered Architects & Landscape Architects
Millmount Ponteland Road Newcastle Upon Tyne NE5 3AL T: (0191) 286 0811 F: (0191) 286 3870 email: millmount@jddk.co.uk www.jddk.co.uk

Millmount News | Spring 2012



Progress at St Columba's Hospice



Ian Clarke, JDDK Director responsible for the project, commented:

“The sensitivities of the site, location and existing listed buildings, combined with the wonderful outlook over the sea and the practicalities of construction in this residential Conservation Area have made this a very challenging exciting project. Early feedback from the building users is extremely encouraging, particularly the way scheme has revealed its wonderful setting and provided a calm and conducive environment for learning.”

“It sets a foretaste of the design approach for the main part of the project, which we are greatly looking forward to seeing complete in 2014.”



The Manor House and the extension behind the new garden wall.

Spring 2012 has been an eventful period for the St Columba's Hospice project in Edinburgh. The Education Centre, the first phase of the project, has now been completed and brought into use, and construction work has just begun on the main part of the project, the comprehensive re-provision of the patient accommodation based around the listed Challenger Lodge.

Education is an integral part of the Hospice's role and the new facilities provide a radical improvement of the previous arrangements, which had served the hospice well but which had been overtaken by both time and service development. The new facilities incorporate the Manor House, an existing listed property adjacent to the hospice, which forms part of the fine row of mid nineteenth century Wardie Villas overlooking the Firth of Forth.

There has also been extensive design dialogue with Historic Scotland and the Conservation Officers of Edinburgh City Council which has helped to secure their support for this substantial project in the Trinity

Conservation Area. The Manor House and its grounds had been neglected for some years by its previous owners but still had fine period interior spaces which have now been sensitively restored and also incorporate the latest technology to suit their new educational use.

The space needed for larger lectures and functions has been provided in a new extension to the side, which takes the form of a low-profile modern pavilion set behind a new stone garden wall, reflecting the existing garden walls which join the villas along the row. This lecture and function space takes full advantage of the dramatic views over the sea to the north by a fully glazed north elevation, which overlooks the restored garden terrace. Utility functions such as plant rooms, toilets and catering space are concealed in a basement below, with a new glazed entrance formed at the junction of new and old structures.

Graham Construction Ltd are responsible for constructing both phases of the project.

Creating Mixed Communities at Shieldfield

On February 23rd, Leazes Homes' Napier Street development in Shieldfield was officially opened by Councillor Geoff O'Brien, the Lord Mayor of Newcastle. Constructed by Frank Haslam Milan (FHM), the £2.8m scheme has been designed to fit in with surrounding architecture and provide accommodation for vulnerable adults, the third such project we have recently worked on with FHM for Leazes Homes.

The scheme has been built on the site of a former respite and day care facility which was demolished in 2008 and the new development now provides 15 supported flats for people with learning disabilities and 10, three-bedroom family townhouses to provide affordable, quality, sustainable housing for families in the city. Five of these townhouses properties will be available for sale through the New Build HomeBuy shared ownership scheme.

The flats provide care and support services for people who have learning disabilities and low level support needs. This enables tenants to establish and maintain their maximum level of independence within the community, but with the backup of a 24 hour on



site concierge service. The scheme also provides communal spaces to encourage interaction between tenants, a concierge suite, a multi-function room, and office facilities and an interview room.

JDDK Project Architect, Adam Vaughan, commented, "The site is enclosed on all sides by residential properties surrounded by open space landscaped areas so that it was very important that the development fitted in with the existing townscape whilst also providing good high quality suitable accommodation for learning disabled people. For the new residents of the supported apartments it is vital to provide a safe and secure environment which will allow them to strike a balance between being too institutionalised and allowing a maximum level of independence within the community."

Each property is fully self-contained with its own kitchen, living room and bedrooms. In addition there are facilities on site that encourage interaction between tenants and also facilitate the delivery of flexible care and support services. In addition, there is a CCTV system covering internal and external security and a door entry system linked to individual apartments and the concierge desk. The development has achieved a BREEAM 'very good' rating for the apartments and with a Level 3 Code for Sustainable Homes rating for the houses.

Bill Midgley, Chair of Leazes Homes, commented:

“This is a unique development, supporting mixed communities and different stages of life. We have ensured that our more vulnerable tenants have 24 hour access to care and support, whilst also having a level of independence. The flats have been specifically designed to offer our tenants a safe and modern home which forms part of a bigger and diverse community.”

“Creating quality, affordable family homes is also high on the agenda for Leazes Homes. The townhouses have been developed to address the current demand and the shared ownership scheme further supports our aim to create sustainable communities in the region.”



Leazes Home's Napier Street development offers both this terraced family housing and apartments for adults with learning disabilities.

Designing for an Ageing Population

There are a few irrefutable statistics that you may wish to consider before you read this article as the 'demographic time-bomb', as it was originally known in the 1970's, will be affecting us all very shortly, if it hasn't already.

In 2009, The Office for National Statistics predicted that the number of over-60s would increase by 7 million over the next 25 years whilst it is also now recognised that half of all babies born in the UK today will live to become 100 years old. In 2008, the International Longevity Centre - UK, a leading think tank on longevity and demographic change, predicted that Dementia would increase 44% among the over-65s by 2025. Finally, CABE (the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment) in 2009 reported that "Much of our housing stock remains inaccessible for many disabled or older people."

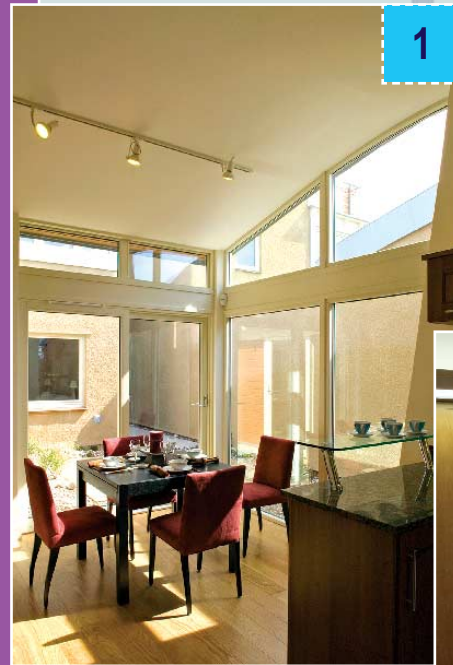
Put the four together and we have the 'perfect storm' scenario whereby we are facing a huge number of elderly people, many of whom will be needing ever increasing levels of care with a housing stock that is basically unsuited to their needs. Given that the fact that when we get older we spend up to 90% of our time within our homes, the quality of housing for our ageing population becomes a matter of extreme importance, to us all.

In 2009, The Housing and Communities Agency (HCA) commissioned HAPPI - the Housing our Ageing Population: Panel for Innovation - to look at what housing schemes were being developed for older people, both in the UK and on the mainland Europe, and why were they successful. The panel, chaired by Lord Richard Best OBE, reported in the same year after visiting 24 diverse schemes in six countries.

The HAPPI report covered the reasons why meeting older people's housing needs should be a national priority and examined what kind of housing would meet the needs of older people and how it could be delivered. Importantly, it also identified 10 key elements that should be considered in the design of such housing.

HAPPI's 10 Key Design Elements

The correlation between these very valid 10 key design elements and our own approach to design - not only in housing but also in health, education and public buildings - immediately becomes apparent as these photos of various projects aim to show.



1

The new retirement homes should have generous internal space standards, with potential for three habitable rooms and designed to accommodate flexible layouts.



2

Care is taken in the design of homes and shared spaces, with the placement, size and detail of windows and to ensure plenty of natural light and to allow daylight into circulation spaces.



3

Building layouts maximise natural light and ventilation by avoiding internal corridors and single-aspect flats and apartments have balconies, patios or terraces with enough space for tables and chairs as well as plants.

4

In the implementation of measures to ensure adaptability, homes are designed to be 'care ready' so that new and emerging technologies, such as telecare and community equipment, can be easily installed.

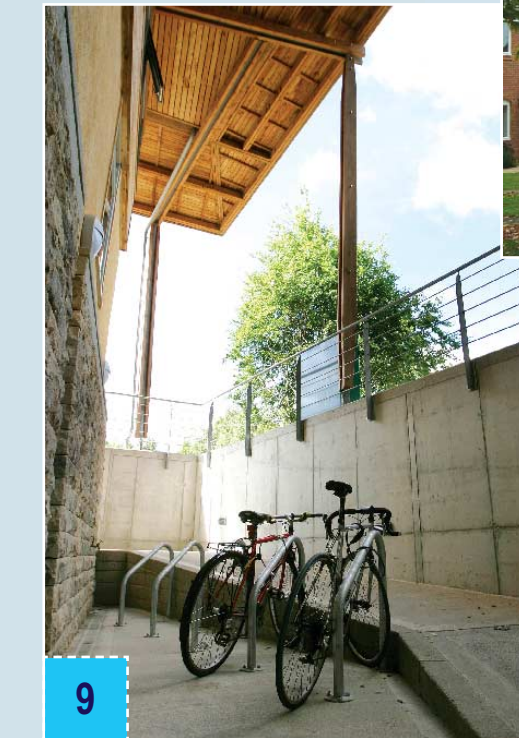


5

Building layouts promote circulation areas as shared spaces that offer connections to the wider context, encouraging interaction, supporting interdependence and avoiding an 'institutional feel', including the imaginative use of shared balcony access to front doors and thresholds, promoting natural surveillance and providing for 'defensible space'.



6



9

Adequate storage is available outside the home together with provision for cycles and mobility aids, and that storage inside the home meets the needs of the occupier.

10

Shared external surface, such 'home zones; that give priority to pedestrians rather than cars and which are proving successful in other countries, become more common, with due regard to the kinds of navigation difficulties that some visually impaired people may experience in such environments.

The report also features several exemplary housing schemes which illustrate these points and the role design has to play in influencing the quality of life. These include Solinsieme in St Gallen, Switzerland where a group of four motivated women in their 50's took control of their futures. Working closely with their architect, they redeveloped a former embroidery factory into 17 apartments. The priority here was location, within the centre of the town, with the vast space provided by an industrial space being able to be reconfigured into households which could merge for certain functions, yet also retain their separateness when necessary.

St Gallen in Switzerland is also home to the Flurgaten development - a care campus where residential, retail and healthcare functions are fully integrated in a prime location within the city.



7

In giving thought to the public realm, design measures ensure that homes engage positively with the street, and that the natural environment is nurtured through new trees and hedges and the preservation of mature planting, and provide wildlife habitats as well as colour, shade and shelter.



8

Homes are energy-efficient and well insulated but also well ventilated and able to avoid overheating by, for example, passive solar design, the use of native deciduous planting supplemented by external blinds or shutters, easily operated awnings over balconies, green roofs and cooling chimneys.

Malmö in Sweden is the location of the Neptuna building - 95 apartments for the over 55's in a bold new built block that occupies one of the city's prime positions on the harbour waterfront. With ground floor shops and cafes open to the public, the residents here are not just integrated into the larger community, but sit almost at its centre. The apartments enjoy external terraces and spacious balconies giving excellent visual connections to the external environment. With most residents actually over 75, the spa and gym are both heavily used, proof that the design is promoting longevity for its inhabitants.

The HAPPI visits have also shown that housing for older people could also be exemplar for mainstream housing design - the schemes feature common areas of concern for designers such as location, sustainability, future-proofing, accessibility etc. Most importantly, however, they also show how the inevitable effects of old age with reduced mobility etc can be catered for with careful design reducing their impact on lifestyle.



Planning Application for Calvert Trust



The proposed new visitor centre at Calvert Trust's Kielder facility.

Peter Cockerill, Calvert Trust Chief Executive, commented:

“ Calvert Trust Kielder provides people with disabilities the chance to realise their full potential and to break down the barriers that prevent this. We have been providing challenging outdoor activities for people of all abilities for more than 25 years and these exciting new plans will lay the foundations for growth over the next 25 years. The project will enable thousands more to benefit from our work and greatly enhance the quality of the unique service we offer. ”

In February, we submitted a planning application to Northumberland County Council on behalf of the Calvert Trust, a UK charity which encourages disabled people to enjoy outdoor adventures, for an ambitious redevelopment of its 40 acre woodland facility in the spectacular Kielder Water & Forest Park.

The £10m scheme is aimed at promoting inclusion between disabled and able bodied visitors to the site with remodelling of the existing activity centre to include a new visitor centre, with a state of the art climbing hall, caving system, bouldering wall, a café, offices, a games hall, a woodchip biomass district heating system and landscaping, outdoor activities, including a high ropes walk way and the necessary infrastructure works.

It also includes plans for fifteen new fully accessible self-catering cabins to add to the 10 cabins already available, additional car parking and extensive landscaping on the site which is close to Kielder Water, Northern Europe's largest man made lake.

The development will benefit people with a wide range and degree of disability and some of the facilities will be open to the general public. It will also attract families with a disabled parent or child along with their able bodied friends; charitable organisations working with people with disabilities; adults with care needs seeking a break alone; special needs schools and mainstream schools, many of whom have disabled pupils.

Working in close conjunction with the Kielder Water and Forest Park Development Trust, who see the facility as an important part of their 'Big Picture' vision to become a world class destination, the

scheme will also include landscaping by Glen Kemp and the involvement of artists Heather and Ivan Morison, who have been working with the design team from the inception of the project.

Alison Thornton-Sykes, Principal Designer at JDDK, commented, "It's a very exciting project in which the three disciplines of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Art will interact to produce a stunning environment for the Trust's guests and we see this, hopefully, as just the start of a long relationship which will fulfil the Trust's vision of creating a superb facility."

"Our ideas are exploring the connections between inside and outside with the building linking to a high level ropes course within the forest. The over sailing "leaf" roof forms are inspired by the natural setting and provide protected outdoor areas as well as a striking, iconic form. The topography within the site is very varied rising from the Craneclough Burn up to steep hills which gives us a varied and challenging environment to work within. Each of the new lodges will have their own unique landscaped setting and cater for a range of small groups whilst the visitor centre will incorporate facilities for both able bodied and disabled visitors."



The building has been inspired by its natural setting and the concept of the roof is of leaf forms which gently curve to suit the functions inside.

Holiday Homes at Beadnell



Full planning permission has been granted and detail designs are being progressed for a high quality holiday village within Beadnell on the Northumbria coast.

Beadnell is a "honey pot" tourist and second home destination which brings both benefits and disadvantages to the area. Particular problems are caused by traffic congestion and parking at peak times, access to the beach is limited and particular conflicts may arise between user groups, such as those who undertake a variety of watersports and more passive users. The proposals have been developed to provide for increased demand for high quality tourism facilities, to improve visitor attraction and choice, to effectively manage conflicting tourism interests and to enhance the local economy in a sustainable and sensitive way.

The holiday village will offer private holiday accommodation within a secure environment and contribute high quality housing and landscaping design to the fabric of the existing village. The proposals include a new public visitors centre, with cafe, meeting rooms, public toilets, changing facilities for the local water sports activities, as well as a significant public car park and bus drop-off point.

The 40 holiday dwellings on the site have been designed to have a contemporary English seaside touch. This style will create a character specific to the area whilst using the language of traditional seaside building vernacular. Sustainable building design maximising southerly aspects and incorporating latest techniques in energy efficiency and waste minimisation will prevail. All of the accommodation will be set within safe, quiet pedestrian zones interconnected by path and cycleways.

The proposed landscape aspires to reinstate the original landscape ecology and profile of this dramatic and protected coastline. The landscaping and sculpting will be designed to give a sense of identity to a predominately flat area, reflecting the sand dunes which form part of the natural landscape. Planting will include species suited to the coastal environment as well as offering seasonal interest, colour and texture to the site.

Overall the design is to give a cohesive structure and style to the site, which is distinctive and inspired by the coast using themes of waves and dunes to create an imaginative and attractive visitor experience.

A SELECTION OF OTHER RECENT OR CURRENT HOUSING SCHEMES

- Plawsworth Farm, Chester-Le-Street, Private Client**
4 new build, 1 barn conversion dwellings
- Backworth, North Tyneside, The Northumberland Estates, 3 new build dwellings**
- Outbuilding conversion to dwelling, Newcastle**
Private Client, Single dwelling
- Corbridge houses, Private Client**
Extensions/alteration to 3no. houses
- Ponteland riverside site, Private Landowner**
6 new build bespoke design housing scheme
- KITS modular housetypes, Fabrick**
prefabrication/modular house types
- Barn conversion, Netherwarden, Northumberland**
Private Client, Conversion to single dwelling
- Longridge, Marton, Middlesborough**
Gentoo Homes, 81 new build dwellings
- Holburn House, South Shields, ISOS**
Refurbishment of existing historic building to create supported housing for vulnerable adults £1.83million construction cost
- Woodland View, Beaumont Hill, Darlington**
Fabrick/Southdale Homes, 106 new build houses across 3 sites, including Code 5 houses
- Station Court, Fossway, Newcastle**
FHM/Your Homes Newcastle, 12 apartments and 5 bungalows, supported housing for adults with learning disabilities
- Jubilee Court, Newcastle**
FHM/Your Homes Newcastle, 15 apartments and 4 houses, supported housing for vulnerable young parents and their families
- Alnmouth Holiday Centre, The Northumberland Estates**
10 holiday apartments - new build
- The Gates, (former Discus bungalows sites) York, Fabrick/Southdale Homes, 155 new build dwellings over 3 sites**
- St Mary's Hospital Site, Stannington**
Bellway Homes/Rivergreen Developments 250 new dwellings (mixture of new build and conversions) plus Bistro, Offices and community facilities
- Hamsterley Hall, Durham County, Barratt Homes and Private Client, Housing development and refurbishment of Grade II* Listed building**

Humbles Wood on Site



On the site of former Prudhoe Hospital buildings, about a mile south of Prudhoe town centre, this high quality development of 60 family houses has now commenced construction on site for Gentoo Homes.

The proposals sets the houses within a lush landscape setting that sits comfortably within and makes the most of existing mature landscaping around the site to create a Northumberland Village feel, complete with a village green at its heart. The scheme is a relaxed low density development with bespoke elevational treatments that bring a contemporary response that reflect the history of the nearby Grade II Listed Prudhoe Hall.



Multi Level Design Receives Durham Planning Approval



This month sees construction work start on site for this private family house, in the heart of Durham City. Our clients, who had already lived in an adjacent house for some 15 years, loved the area but needed a bigger home for their young family and bought the existing bungalow on the site when it became vacant. The design for the replacement house needed to respond to both views from the site towards Durham Cathedral and views of the site from the World Heritage Site. Accordingly, living spaces have been provided on the first floor with fenestration that give distant views of the Cathedral, whilst the heights of this multi-levelled dwelling have been designed to retain the existing silhouette of the current developments on the hillside. The house and the garden have been set over several terraced levels, echoing the cascade of built form that is common in the City of Durham's hillsides.