

## Martin Walsh Architectural celebrates 40 years of excellence

Martin Walsh Architectural, a Dewsbury based business that originally started out in a back bedroom, is celebrating four decades of growth.



Originally launched in 1976 the family-run business, which spans two generations, and has been involved in over 6000 projects, has developed into one of the region's leading architectural firms, with an impressive portfolio of work.

Martin Walsh, Managing Director, commented: "When I started the business it was a one-man operation in my spare

bedroom. Now, 40 years later, we have 12 team members who are delivering great results within residential, commercial, industrial, leisure and education sectors.

"We've experienced growth despite the challenges that our industry has faced and have maintained our team during the recession, which is without doubt based on our strong reputation and commitment to quality. In recent years we have continued to quietly, yet confidently grow our business, extending our footprint into the north of England and also into diverse sectors."

Recognising the changes in the industry and the development of advanced technologies, the firm have committed to implementing Building Information Modelling (BIM) processes and standards within the practice and have

made significant investment in the technology and training over the last two years in order to maximise the potential.

"Adopting BIM provides our business with numerous benefits as it enables a more efficient production of information and a significantly enhanced collaboration with clients on their project.

Martin continues: "We are giving our clients the ability to interact with their buildings through high quality visualisations and interactive walkthroughs and this allows them to make more informed choices about their projects.

"To accommodate our team we've recently extended our offices by a third and are about to embark on an external façade overhaul to include new office entrance and signage to bring the look and feel in line with our new brand."

## Viamaster shows their support for Yorkshire Air Ambulance

One of the UK's leading logistics providers has launched a fundraising drive to support the life-saving work of Yorkshire Air Ambulance.



The rapid response emergency services iconic yellow helicopter will feature on the sides of the latest edition to Viamaster's urban vehicle fleet.

The branding - which includes an appeal to make a £3 text donation to the YAA - was unveiled at the Yorkshire Air Ambulance's Nostell Air Support Unit near Wakefield.

The new SDC Trailer will become a distinctive sight on Yorkshire's roads as it makes daily deliveries in cities and towns throughout the region. Andrew Warrington, Chairman of Viamaster, said: "We hope a lot of people will see the message and show their support for their local air ambulance service. We will also be taking the trailer to events throughout the year to help raise awareness and funds for the charity.

"We are a family business and wanted to show our support for the amazing work of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. It is a service that anyone at any time could need and, as part of the transport

industry, Viamaster recognises the vital service YAA provides, saving lives across Yorkshire."

Based at a state-of-the-art distribution, warehousing and training facility in Castleford, Viamaster has been in business for more than 40 years.

You can support the Viamaster fund raising drive by texting YAAV50 £3 to 70070 to make a £3 donation to the rapid response emergency service.

Yorkshire Air Ambulance serves 5million people across the four million acres of Britain's largest county and carries out over 1,250 missions every year. The charity needs to raise £12,000 every day and is currently replacing its two, ageing aircraft with brand new, state-of-the-art Airbus H145 helicopters.

Kerry Garner, YAA Regional Fundraising Manager, said: "We have been planning this campaign for some time now and it is amazing to finally see the finished design on the sides of the Viamaster vehicle.

"We knew it would look good, but until we saw it, we didn't realise just how much impact the advertising was going to have! We cannot thank Viamaster enough for this opportunity and are very much looking forward to continuing to work with the team. We're sure that our supporters will not miss the vehicle on the roads across Yorkshire!"

*Pictured: (L to R) Yorkshire Air Ambulance paramedic Pete Rhodes, Doctor Rob Anderson and paramedic Kit von Mickwitz by the YAA branded Viamaster vehicle.*

## International relations

Wakefield Council took part in an innovative programme in December, aimed at increasing networking and collaboration opportunities for Wakefield businesses, boosting exports and protecting and growing jobs.

The INTERREG Compete In programme, which took place at Unity Works, aims to build new relations and exchanges among key business development and support organisations from countries across the world.

These included: lead partner on the programme the Municipality of Reggio Emilia-Italy, with other partners, IVACE Valencia Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness Institute - Spain, Upper Silesian Agency for Entrepreneurship and Development - Poland, Wielkopolska Region with the seat of the Marshall Office of the Wielkopolska Region in Poznan Poland, Wakefield Metropolitan District Council - United Kingdom, Municipality of Gvle - Sweden, ERVET Economic Development Agency of Emilia Romagna Region Italy, TopicUK was also delighted to be there, along with other local businesses Our Agency and Carmel Harrison Public Relations.

The programme will build on Wakefield's international relations and alliances by strengthening and improving regional policies on internationalisation of global territories.

It will use a new approach to support small to medium sized enterprise and the regional engagement in international markets. It will engage with local stakeholder groups, with the long-term aim of developing new markets and increasing export activity through development of best practices guidelines.

## Award Success for Holroyd Miller

Holroyd Miller have won the most popular awards scheme in residential property, The Negotiator Awards, with a Silver Award for Website of the Year.

Hosted by the stand up comedian Ed Byrne, hundreds of property professionals took their seats in the hope of walking away with an award to recognise the good work they do.

In what must have been a hard category to judge, Holroyd Miller were yet again shining stars in this extremely competitive event.

They were commended for consulting with their customers to develop a customer focused website that provides easy access to information making the process of buying and selling a house simpler and easier. Simon Miller, partner says: "With more entrants than

ever, we are extremely proud and happy to be recognised with this award. We invested heavily in our digital communication this year. The site reflects our devotion to Wakefield and best practice in customer service and high street estate agency.

"We wanted our website to not only promote everything that is good about Wakefield, but promote everything that is good about meeting

customer expectations, namely providing and demonstrating our professionalism, expertise, and knowledge."

Voted Silver winner 2016 for Best Website, North East Estate Agency Silver winner 2015, and Estate Agent of the year 2013 the Holroyd Miller team is one of the most skilled, knowledgeable and dedicated integrated property specialists in the Wakefield area.