



John Rowan & Partners
Construction Consultants

11
Issue no.11 Spring 2010
jrp

In this issue



The Pledge



Planning for success



Innovation



Regeneration

Best in Class

John Rowan & Partners is celebrating receiving three great industry accolades.

JRP has been named by Building magazine as a Building Good Employer, achieved 30th place in the Sunday Times Best Small Companies to work for 2010 and achieved the Best Companies 3 star status – some significant achievements!



Good Employers...

This year Building has refined the selection criteria for its Good Employer Guide. Only an elite 50 companies were named as worthy of the title and it is our great honour to be able to announce that, yet again, we have been named as one of them.

Further more, JRP appeared in the top five, for six of the key areas. These included the top five consultants and medium sized firms as well as in categories such as, smarter working and leadership.



Sunday Times...

JRP is also very pleased to announce they feature in the prestigious Sunday Times 100 Best Small Companies to Work For 2010. This is the third time that JRP has appeared in the list.

The Times reported that JRP is a company that is good at Giving Something Back, with a top 20 score of 76% overall for questions in this area. JRP also rated very high in the Environment section with a score of 90% – the fourth highest result overall!



Best Companies 3 star...

JRP has achieved the fantastic accolade of achieving 3 star status (rated by Best Companies as extraordinary). The Best Companies 3 star accreditation system reflects how fulfilled, motivated and engaged a company's employees are and is based on eight key areas. These include leadership, my company, personal growth, my manager, my team, giving something back, fair deal and well being.



Tim Young, Chairman commented: "It's great to be able to say that with so many companies in our industry we have consistently been named as one of the best employers by Building Magazine, the Sunday Times and Best Companies. The industry is certainly suffering at the moment and we have always placed staff satisfaction and motivation at the top of our agenda. It's very rewarding to see this recognised by the industry and we will use the results gained from these surveys to help us continually improve and move our HR strategies forward."

The Pledge

The Pledge is an initiative that is committed to safeguarding the future talent and skills of the UK construction industry.

Did you know that because of the recession as many as 40,000 university leavers will fail to find a job within six months of graduating? For the construction sector, that's the equivalent of an entire generation of missed talent. But it doesn't have to be this way.

Research suggests that the provision of 6,000 internships in technical & professional roles per annum, would help to protect UK talent and break the skills shortage cycle.

Supported by Building magazine and spearheaded by John Rowan & Partners, The Pledge is an exciting new initiative that unites the UK construction industry in a common commitment to provide these internships. Together, we can make it happen.

Show your support and sign up to The Pledge at www.thepledge.org.uk

The construction sector must invest now to protect future talent says Stephen Gee, Managing Partner...

"Back in September last year I read a Building magazine article on unemployed graduates. Its headline 'We were promised jobs' stuck with me.

It was almost 30 years ago that I graduated and sought my first job in the construction sector. That was a time of growth and prosperity that preceded one of the worst economic downturns this country has ever faced. I was fortunate that I made it into employment and pursued a successful career despite the

economic climate. But the recession of the early 90s left a bitter taste in the mouth.

Back then, a lot of people jumped ship, opting for sectors that offered safer prospects. It was only four or five years later that we realised the true impact of this, as the skills shortage began to hit. Now, over a decade later, and with an additional recession all but under our belts, I'm keen that history does not repeat itself, however evidence suggests that this is the case.



Planning for success – JRP appoint Ian Blacker

In continuous advancement of their services and capabilities John Rowan & Partners has now launched a planning advisory team. JRP has confirmed the appointment of Ian Blacker, who was previously UK head of Planning & Sustainability at Cushman and Wakefield, to lead the team.

The creation of a planning team, which has been driven by a reaction to clients and market demands, is a natural progression for JRP. It will enable a continuation of service for clients, taking projects from inception all the way through to final delivery, as well as providing specialist planning input for clients on their property interests.

Stephen Gee, Managing Partner, commented on the new team: "As a company we have always looked to move forward with our service offering and capabilities. This continued approach to innovation led us to naturally take the decision to develop a

planning team, in order to give the company further diversity and breadth to our service provision.

The recruitment of Ian Blacker, an experienced planning advisor highly skilled in delivering complex schemes across the UK, provides our clients with immediate access to expertise in developing planning strategies through generating ideas and finding creative solutions. Ian's appointment will strengthen our management team and give the company enhanced knowledge and expertise in both the Central London property market and high profile development schemes." Stephen added.

Ian Blacker explained: "Getting the best planning advice is critical for investment decisions at every stage of the purchase, development, occupation, adaptation and disposal of land and buildings. The current market challenges to deliverability only serve to heighten that importance. Meeting those challenges through the planning system demands both strategic and scheme specific planning input, so including planning advice as part of our package of services will complement all aspects of our work."



Retrofitting – Brent Housing Partnership

John Rowan & Partners is currently working on a retrofitting project with Brent Housing Partnership which will set a benchmark for future schemes in the area.

The £3million project in Brent, West London is focusing on 114 properties facing the North Circular Road which will all be retrofitted to make them more energy efficient - but at a realistic cost to the ALMO. Ken Morgan, Head of the Public Sector Regeneration team explains what is being undertaken...

"Through the planning of the scheme we anticipate that it will reduce both the energy usage and carbon footprint

of these properties by a third. The project focuses on changes that have a shorter return on investment and therefore make the project more commercially viable.

New technologies will be used alongside existing ones, with roof tiles coated in titanium being used to soak up nitrogen oxide pollutants from the atmosphere. These will be ideal for reducing the environmental impact generated by the traffic along the congested North Circular



Road and are made from 50% recycled materials.

These will sit beside integrated solar PV roof tiles which will provide renewable energy. This system will generate over 1000 units (kWh) of electricity per year for each property. This will result in

up to 603kg CO₂ offset per year per household and an estimated saving of £270 each year on energy bills per household. Any surplus electrical generation will be sold back to the National Grid."



John Rowan & Partners has successfully achieved ISO14001 certification

JRP, which is already ISO9001 accredited, has been undertaking the consultation process for two years, so it has been

a great recognition of the company's green policies and their on going commitment to sustainable working practices.

Sports day

The sporting event of the year took place back in late summer at the Old Actonians sports ground with JRP's 2009 sports day.

People came from near and far to crowd into the arena to watch this exhilarating event. There were early concerns about crowd control as the number of spectators grew quickly to almost double figures!

Scenes reminiscent of the gladiatorial battles at the colosseum were seen as JRP's teams took their places in specialist games such as Welly Wanging and the well known game – 'Catch the small ball in the small net over a large amount of cold water'!

Du Bruyn Dodge Ones emerged victorious after a gruelling day of wits, stamina, brawn and might. In usual JRP style the day went hand in hand with good food and one or two drinks!



Real Work



Asmeera Kaylan
Trainee Quantity Surveyor

How did you get where you are today?

After completing an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering, I started at JRP as a non-cognate in September 2008. I am currently studying part time for an MSc in Quantity Surveying. I've been at JRP for just over a year now so this is just the beginning with a long road ahead.

What are your responsibilities?

At the moment I am learning as much as I can from the people around me. I have been involved with valuations and cost reporting, tender adjudication and auditing. I am however, still developing as a QS and hope to gain more responsibilities as I become more confident with the role and progress further within JRP.

Describe, briefly, your typical day

Every day is different. We typically discuss our various tasks as a team, so we are able to decide who will do what, and by when, but the tasks themselves are quite varied. I might be on site one day, carrying out surveys and in the office on the other, helping with a final account. Priorities for tasks will change throughout the

week depending on client requests, and resourcing of our team, these changes mean there is no such thing as a typical day!

What's the high point of the typical week?

A high point for me is submitting a university assignment. The assignments are lengthy and detailed and although I enjoy compiling them it's always good to submit it and see the back of it! Usually this means starting a new one but I enjoy the brief moment!

What about your job keeps you awake at night?

I usually don't worry about things and with the support of the team around me in JRP there are not many areas about my job that keep me awake at night. If something is on my mind it's usually juggling my job, my studying and trying to have a social life as well. It can be tough but I enjoy being busy and know it's worth it in the end.

How do you feel on a Sunday night?

I generally feel relaxed, looking forward to the week ahead. I tend to check my diary for the various meetings taking place during the coming week. I try to plan the time needed to prepare for

them, alongside the time I will need to finish various tasks at work, and also the time I will need to carry out various assignments (and of course this year, my dissertation) for university.

Who in your field do you most admire?

I can't really pin-point one person who I look up to, (everyone works hard at JRP so I admire them all). I would say I have admiration for anyone who has shown to be keen on their personal development, anyone who has progressed through their career, whilst contributing something positive to the company.

How do you stay motivated?

Emphasis on my personal development and the support I get from my colleagues means there is always something new to learn, this keeps me motivated. My potential career development and future possibilities at JRP also keep me motivated.

If you could change just one thing about your job, what would it be?

Nothing. So far Quantity Surveying has proved to be diverse and challenging for me, some of the things that attracted me to the role in the first place. I enjoy the mix between being in the office and being out on site.



Images courtesy of Conran & Partners

Movers & Shakers

PROMOTED



Adrian van Rooyen

Partner



Ed Wai

Partner



Trevor Greenlagh

Associate Partner



Hansie du Bruyn

Associate Partner



Gerard McGahon

Associate Partner



Carmen Erwee

Associate Partner



Khairuzzaman Ali

Associate Partner

NEW STARTERS

This quarter we welcome the following people to the JRP Team:

- Ben Travers
- Sarah Henderson
- James Hersey
- Charles Hughes
- Chris Turnham
- Matthew Stafford
- Floyd Wellington
- Femi Ogunwa

Regeneration

John Rowan & Partners has been appointed by the A2Dominion Group and the Joint Venture Company as Employers Agents, CDM Co-ordinators and Party Wall advisors on the new Green Man Lane development. Subject to planning the estate will be transformed into an attractive, safe and sustainable community where people choose to live.

The project will consist of the phased demolition of the existing 430 homes, making way for new properties for affordable rent, shared ownership and private sale. However, the regeneration programme does not just involve building new and replacement homes; there will also be new community buildings and facilities.

The A2Dominion Group, Rydon and Conran & Partners will form the main Partnership for the development, which will see 332 new properties built for affordable rent and 86 for shared ownership. A further 303 homes will be built for private sale, the redevelopment is aimed at linking the estate more effectively to West Ealing town centre, encouraging future investment and aiding the regeneration of the area as a whole.

jrp: Industry Sector Specialists

- Existing residential
- New build residential
- Hotel and leisure
- Retail
- Infrastructure and public services

We provide the following services within these sectors:

- Cost Management
- Project Management
- Building Surveying
- Health and Safety Advice
- Contract and Procurement Advice
- Planning Services
- Sustainability Services
- Information Systems

Contact details:
John Rowan & Partners LLP
CP House
97-107 Uxbridge Road
Ealing, London, W5 5TL

Tel: 020 8567 6995
Fax: 020 8566 1181
www.jrp.co.uk