

South West Branch Newsletter

December 2019 | Issue

Highlights of 2019 from the Chairman

We in the South West branch of Women in Property have yet again had a fantastic year with multiple sell out events. The 2019 committee has worked incredibly hard to put together a variety of industry-related events. I'd like to extend thanks to all of our committee, our sub-



committee teams and our satellite branches in Devon & Cornwall, Solent, Bath and Swindon & Wiltshire.

My mantra this year has been #MakeYourMark - focusing on giving our members the tools and support to step up and mark a mark on their piece of industry. What this means for you?...

Becoming a mentor to someone in the industry?

Saying yes to the panel debate?

Going for that promotion? Applying for a Board position?

Bringing about change within your organisation?

Talking at your local school?

Women in Property is here to support our members to achieve their goals and bring about positive change to

the industry. As we approach 2020, it's a time for New Year's Resolutions so I ask you to take a moment to think how will you #MakeYourMark?

Ros Trotman, Partner in Planning & Development, Thrings

Membership Benefits

Women in Property is one of the most active organisations in the region, with almost 300 members in the South West and running around 100 events a year. We are hosting a wide spectrum of events including CPD seminars and panel debates, networking lunches, joint events with other industry organisations, skills workshops and site visits – with reduced rates for members. But your membership is more than just events, so here is a reminder of the benefits of your Women in Property membership:

- Access to **special 'members only' events**. This includes the AGM, certain soft skills workshops and limited-place site visits. We are aware quite a number of our small-scale events sold out very quickly last year so for 2019 we are looking to make these events 'members only' so that our members benefit first and foremost.
- Opportunity to gain **valuable board experience** via joining your branch committee which also raises your and your employer's profile.
- Access to the highly-acclaimed Women in Property **mentoring** scheme, either as a mentee, mentor, or both. This will include a free training session (which must be completed before entry onto the scheme) and periodic reviews of your matches to ensure suitability.
- Ability to **promote your brand** or company through participation in, hosting of, or sponsorship of Women in Property events.
- Opportunity to take a seat at a Women in Property table at **partner events** where you would otherwise need to be a member in order to attend (including BPAA, FBE, RICS).
- Special **reduced-rate prices** for partner events (including CE).
- Access to the **online membership database**.

Events

- 14th January - Wellbeing in Design and Development Panel debate
- 23rd January – Networking Parents Lunch
- 11th February – WiP SW AGM at Harvey Nichols (members only)
- 4th March – Our City Wide International Women's Day – a joint event with other property and construction industry bodies - watch this space for more details

Got an Idea?

If you have an idea for an event you would like Women in Property to host, please contact us to make suggestions. If you are interested in getting involved in the committee or one of the sub-committees or satellites, then please email our chairman: rtrotman@thrings.com

In the Press



- Opportunity for **professional promotion** within the wider Women in Property network, including members being put forward as panelists for industry events, promotion as a speaker, and highlighting members achievements on the Women in Property blog, national newsletter or through Twitter.

Mentoring & Skills

70 members attended training sessions across 2018-19 in Bristol with Fiona Alfred OBE, Executive Director of Women in Property, and Sandi Rhys Jones OBE, in July 2019. We hope to run another training session next year so do look out for dates on the coming soon flyers. If you are interested in mentoring – being a mentee, mentor or both – please contact Fadiya Ahmed of Whitehead Chartered Surveyors: fadiya@whiteheadcharteredurveyors.co.uk.

We ran our second panel training session in October, training up a further 20 women as part of leadership and confidence sessions for members. There was also a fantastic *Women on Boards* training event in September for those considering Director roles and Board positions. Other skills workshops have included our sell-out soft skills series:

- Communicating with Confidence
- Introduction to Management
- Challenging Conversations in the Workplace

Watch this space for more skills workshops in the New Year.

Our Outreach Programme



Led by Laura Beddis of Galliford Try, our roadshow sub-committee have had a busy year. We have been involved in a wide variety of talks, presentations and careers event discussions with local schools and colleges. Highlights included attendance at Abbywood Mock interviews, Gordano school “Women’s Day”, Oasis Bridgestow Career Fair and Westfield primary school “Fantastic Futures”. All of these events have enabled the committee to engage with students in the region to raise the profile of different careers available in the built environment.

Member Successes



We are delighted that so many of our members have had an amazing 2019, with promotions, professional qualifications and awards. A few notable mentions go to: Rachel Bell of Stride Treglown and Rachael Sherratt of JLL who were selected as Trailblazers 2019 by Property Week. Well done to Ros Trotman of Things and Rachel Bell of Stride Treglown for making the top 50 of Insider magazines #PropertyPower50 and Rachael Sherratt named one to watch. Congratulations goes to member Eva Mills of Hydrock who won Best Woman Structural Engineer 2019 at the WICE Awards and to Sarah Maylor of Curo who was Highly Commended in the Women in Housing Awards! Well done to Natasha Cottell of ISG for being promoted to Senior Business Development Manager, Finola Ingham of Burston Cook who was promoted to Director and Rachel McHale for her promotion to Principal Consultant at SLR Consulting! Finally, well done to Sotira Georgiou of Ramboll for winning Highly Commended in the Inspire Me Award at the CN Talent Awards! Well done ladies and do remember if you have a success story, please do share it with us!

Satellite Branch News

Solent satellite branch, led by Emily Duncombe of Arup:



A sell out networking breakfast was held at The Ivy Winchester Brasserie in October.



A fully booked tour of PMC Construction’s East Street residential project took place in November; the second largest PRS scheme in Southampton.

Devon & Cornwall satellite led by Tanya Bruce of RGB Recruitment:



A highlight this year in D&C was the EcoSUP adventure around St Michaels Mount exploring the ecology in the waters around the bay, guided by a marine biologist. Other highlights have included site visits to Helston Community College and Plymouth Community Towers as well as Pebblebed wine tasting and tapas.

To join Women in Property, contact:

membership@womeninproperty.org.uk

www.womeninproperty.org.uk