



Yorkshire & North East Branch Newsletter

Autumn 2023

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Celebrating Success and Looking Forward: A Message from Helen Randerson, Chair



As I mark six months as Chair of this branch, I am really enjoying the journey we're on together.

The recent highlight has undoubtedly been the Student Awards (pictured). Congratulations to our regional winners, Martha Newall and Lucy Gregson, who have showcased exceptional talent and dedication - their achievements are a testament to the bright future that lies ahead for them, and for women in our industry.

Thank you to our Student Awards Sponsors – Bowman Riley and Kings Chambers, and to all involved in the organisation of this programme.

Year to date, our membership base has flourished, and our events continue to make waves. From our insightful CPD breakfast series, sell-out summer parties and an invigorating fitness class in the sun, each event has been a demonstration of our dynamic and engaged community. We have undertaken a record number of mentoring matches and are still looking for more mentors, so please reach out to express your interest!

Our Outreach Committee recently supported the WOW Barn build as part of Leeds 2023 and their outreach at school careers fairs, including most recently at Garforth Academy, make a real difference in our community. The next outreach event is our upcoming Smart Works Afternoon Tea – be sure to book before it sells out! Smart Works supports women in getting back into employment with coaching and interview outfits.

I am also delighted to welcome new committee members, Katie Paterson, Becky Ryan, Helen Auden, and Rachel Steel. Lastly, I am thrilled to announce April Marsden's appointment as Junior Vice Chair, demonstrating the succession planning that underpins our region.

Looking forward, there are many more exciting events on the horizon. Let's continue to forge connections, inspire one another, and break new ground in the property sector.

Events

- [Nutrient Neutrality – what you need to know now and next](#)
Leeds, 5 October, 8am
- [North East Networking lunch](#)
Newcastle, 5 October, 12pm
- [Wine tasting at The Decanter](#)
Leeds, 10 October, 5pm
- [Building Safety Act CPD](#)
Newcastle, 17 October, 11.45am
- [See all events](#)

Got an idea?

We're always keen to ensure you get maximum benefit from being a member of Women in Property.

If you've got an idea for an event or webinar, would like to sponsor an event – or simply have a great idea that you think will add value, then please get in touch with a member of the committee.

[Visit the branch page of the Women in Property website.](#)

National Student Awards 2023 Sponsored by:



Workplace Wellbeing



We hosted a Workplace Wellbeing outdoor training session with The Fitness Truck in July. The session started with a few hints and tips from personal trainer Pete (MD and founder of the Fitness Truck) to help us busy working women to try and stay active through the day. We were then put through our paces with a quite tough but fun circuit class with Pete on hand to help modify movements and provide support for those that were a little rusty or new to certain movements.

aad architects who are based at Park Hill sponsored the event and even treated everyone to cakes at South Street Kitchen afterwards. The weather was kind and stayed dry and everyone had a great time! Given the great feedback we've had regarding exercising as a group being a great way of networking and getting to know each other the committee is looking at organising other activity-based events in the future.

Member news

A huge 'Thank You' to **Hannah Richardson**, who is stepping down from the Women in Property Yorkshire & North East committee after almost 10 years. Hannah has been an invaluable asset to our committee, and to the wider organisation of Women in Property. Hannah's passion and dedication have been a driving force behind the success of our Women in Property National Student Awards programme in the region. Her ability to inspire and guide aspiring talent with energy and enthusiasm; Hannah has been an advocate, a mentor and a friend.



Laura Ruxton and **Julie Smyth** (pictured) have been promoted to Directors at Corstophine & Wright. Both based in Newcastle, Laura leads the healthcare team and Julie heads the Care and Senior Living sector. **Faye Durkin** from Greengage Environmental has contributed to the True North Report which discusses the challenges the region faces, the opportunities ahead and the role of business in driving progress for a brighter and greener future.

Send your member news to PR and Communications Coordinator Monica Green , Partners PR Ltd monica@partners-pr.co.uk

Member spotlight



**Rhiannon Baxendell BA(Hons)
MA AssociHBC
Heritage Consultant/Director
RB Heritage Ltd**

Rhiannon took the plunge to work full time on her own business in July this year. She is also an Associate member of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), accredited in conservation practice that evaluates change in the built and historic environment.

With a passion for all things heritage, she has worked with many institutions over the years, such as the Council for British Archaeology and Historic England.

She joined Women in Property to connect with like-minded women in similar industries and to grow a network of close friends. She said: "The heritage industry in particular can be quite isolating due to its specialist nature, therefore being a member of WIP provides a supportive environment where anyone is able to reach out to any member and be warmly received.

"Seeing the progression and achievements of other WIP members in similar industries really inspires me and gives me the confidence to grow my business."

RB Heritage specialises in writing heritage statements and heritage impact assessments for Listed Building Consent applications, desk-based assessments and undertaking archival research associated with the planning application process.

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