

Welcome to the CM Parker Browne Spring Newsletter

This edition covers the news that we are converting to a Limited Liability Partnership LLP as part of our next step in the growth of the firm and the services which we can offer.

It's also that time of year again when we head off to the various conferences in the world of education – for our work in the education sector is the largest part of our business now. We report on our recent support of the SHMIS Conference as we contemplate the AUDE Conference in April and the ISBA Conference in May!

In this edition we celebrate the opening of the new £15 million sports centre at Mile End, London and we applaud the opening of the Idea Store at Canary Wharf, London – both projects having successfully been project managed by us for our long standing client, The London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Happy Easter to all our clients and to those consultants with whom we work and Happy Reading!

HRH The Princess Royal opens Northampton Academy



HRH The Princess Royal opening Northampton Academy; seen here with Sir Ewan Harper, Chief Executive, United Church Schools Trust and United Learning Trust, Graham Harvey-Browne, Managing Partner CMPB and students from the Academy

CMPB Converts to Limited Liability Partnership

Managing Partner Graham Harvey-Browne writes:

"As part of the on-going development of the business, we have decided to incorporate the existing partnership of CM Parker Browne as an English Limited Liability Partnership (generally referred to as an LLP). This will take effect on 31st March 2006 and from that date the Practice will be known as CM Parker Browne LLP.

"Many professional services firms have already converted to LLP status, and many more, like us have been preparing to do so. It will not involve any changes in personnel or the manner in which our Services are provided.

"All existing Partners will become Members of the LLP and in addition, we are delighted to announce that Stan Inskip, who heads up our Liverpool office, is being promoted from Associate to the Partnership.



Stan Inskip

"The turnover of the business has increased by 50% over the last three years and the LLP status is an excellent platform for driving the business further forward."

Congratulations are also due to the following who have been promoted to Associates of the firm:

Sheldon Morris
(QS at Guildford)



Sheldon Morris

Ron Brooker
(QS at Guildford)



Ron Brooker

Graham Howell
(QS at Liverpool)



Graham Howell

and to
Oluchi Uduku
(Project Manager at London)



Oluchi Uduku

Marketing Our Educational Wares at SHMIS, AUDE and ISBA !

The spring is always a busy time for our marketing team as they prepare for attending the I.S.B.A. (Independent Schools' Bursars' Association) Annual Conference. This year it just got busier!

In March, we were pleased to attend the Annual Conference of The Society of Heads of Independent Schools (S.H.M.I.S) held in Torquay. It was good to be there to support our client Headmaster, David Chapman of The Hampshire Collegiate School who is this year's Chairman of S.H.M.I.S. We sponsored the Hampshire Collegiate School Choir and Instrumentalists who entertained all the delegates before the Annual Dinner – but our Project Manager Partner, Robert Ebdon didn't reckon on then being roped into a Heads' Choir by Nick Chisholm, Headmaster of The Yehudi Menuhin School, to sing Grace before dinner!

The S.H.M.I.S conference was a good opportunity to catch up with some of our clients including the Headmasters from Ashford School and The Licenced Victuallers School, Ascot. Our Head of Sports Surfaces Consultancy, John

Cadman – himself a former schoolmaster – enjoyed recounting his time as pupil and master at The Friends' School Saffron Waldon in Essex; he also was able to excite a number of heads about synthetic hockey pitches and multi-use games areas – of which we are specialists!

At the time of going to press, we are about to head off to Glasgow to attend the Annual Conference of A.U.D.E (Association of University Directors of Estates). Our work of more than 25 years standing at The University of Surrey and other appointments at Sussex and London Universities remains very important to us and so it is right that we support A.U.D.E.

CMPB works for more than 40 independent schools, some 70 schools in the maintained sector, and we are currently consultants for 12 Academy schools of The United Learning Trust. Most of the Partners at CMPB are school governors - which gives our education service real insight into what our Head, Bursar and Governor clients want and how to go about delivering that high service!

Sports Minister celebrates CMPB's success At Mile End

Our Project Managers were appointed by The London Borough of Tower Hamlets to manage the £15 million sports centre back in the Autumn of 2002. Phase One, completed in May 2005, comprises the provision of ten 5-a-side pitches. They are the home to the F.A.M.E (Football at Mile End) project - the borough's football development scheme managed by West Ham United Asians in Football Project. It gives young people and adults from all backgrounds the opportunity to learn and develop football skills.

This phase also saw new and refurbished changing facilities being provided for football and athletics whilst retaining the existing athletics spectator stand.

Phase Two, has provided a new indoor leisure centre with facilities which include an eight lane 25 metre competition pool and a 17 metre training pool with a moveable floor to facilitate usage by people with disabilities and younger swimmers. A four court sports hall, dance aerobics studio and main fitness suite have also been built.

Notoriously hard to deliver, CM Parker Browne successfully managed to bring in the project within previously agreed parameters. This was done by actively promoting clear communications between the client, design team and contractor by writing a project execution plan for the delivery of the project's aims which was fully embraced by the team.



Looking behind the facts and figures of the build, this was a very personal project from start to finish. Within just two months of our own appointment we brought the design team on board whilst adhering to EU procurement and tendering laws. This phenomenal timescale speeded ahead with the planning application being prepared and submitted within three months of the team coming together. In addition the practice executed a thorough Environmental Impact Assessment of the development within this time period.

"We went to great lengths in the selection of a main contractor and the result was that Jacksons were brought on board following a detailed OJEU procurement route with a two-stage tender process, nine months before work started on site", recalls Oluchi Uduku, the CMPB Project Manager.

Having the main players on the scheme from the very beginning promoted an unusually strong team spirit. Socialising both in and out of work hours and celebrating the project's successes undoubtedly meshed the team together and promoted humour and camaraderie within it.

Team spirit is often an under-rated ingredient in a successful project outcome but CM Parker Browne found that when it raised the bar to meet scheduled deadlines the project partners were more than happy to raise their game also.

The new facilities were opened by the Sports Minister, The Rt Hon. Richard Caborn, M.P. at a grand ceremony on 15th February, 2006. Sport England's Chairman, Lord Carter of Coles praised the success of the construction team for delivering a beacon of sporting facilities which Sport England would be showing off as an example of good practice.

Having completed in excess of £70 million worth of sports projects over the last five years, CM Parker Browne acts as consultant for numerous sports centres, swimming pools, sports halls, Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAS) and sports surfaces for local authorities, schools and private clubs. Current projects include managing the proposed multi-million sports centre for Tonbridge School and the management of sports facilities at White Hart Lane for the London Borough of Haringay.



The Mile End Park Sports Centre is declared open! Photo of (from left to right): David Anderson (Architect from Limbrick Ltd), Robert Ebdon (CMPB Partner), Ray Gerlach (LB Tower Hamlets Head of Leisure), The Rt Hon Richard Caborn M.P. (Minister for Sport) and Oluchi Uduku (CMPB Project Manager)



Idea Store opened by Local M.P.

A brand new Idea Store opened to the public on the 16th of March 2006 at Canary Wharf in London. It is the latest of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets unique library and learning centre brand and is located in the new mall at Churchill Place, next to Barclays Tower and close to Canary Wharf Tube and the Docklands Light Railway. CM Parker Browne were the Project Managers and Planning Supervisors appointed by Tower Hamlets to ensure the project's successful outcome.

The concept design is by David Adjaye, one of the leading architects of his generation in the UK. Idea Store Canary Wharf will offer a full range of library services, plus a variety of classes and activities for all ages and interests. The £1.2M project involved the fitting out of a large retail unit within a new shopping mall. The project commenced on the 26th September '05 and achieved Practical Completion on the 13th of February '06. Funders include The London Metropolitan University and London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Idea Store Canary Wharf will be the fourth Idea Store to be opened by Tower Hamlets Council. Recently lead councillor for culture at LBTH Cllr. Denise Jones went along to check on progress on site.

"I am really pleased to see the work on this new Idea Store is right on schedule for the launch next month," she said. "Located in a new mall at Canary Wharf, this is an exciting development in the Idea Store programme."

The Idea Store was opened to the public at a ceremony on 16th March, 2006 with the local M.P. Jim Fitzpatrick leading the celebrations.

We are delighted to have contributed to the development of another community facility for London Borough of Tower Hamlets.



Internal View of The Canary Wharf Idea Store.



Entrance Façade to the New Idea Store at Canary Wharf, London



CMPB Go to the top of the class at Bolton School

The Liverpool office of CM Parker Browne is celebrating the completion of having designed and built a software maintenance management system for a prestigious boarding school. This latest project sees CM Parker Browne building upon its extensive experience of delivering projects for the independent school sector. Working for Bolton School in Lancashire, the practice has undertaken a building consultant role on the implementation of a state-of-the-art computerised maintenance database for the School.

Introduced because Bolton School felt its current system for ordering the services of buildings maintenance inefficient and difficult to monitor, we were able to draw upon our specialist expertise of educational software systems for schools.

Having started work in June, CM Parker Browne carried out extensive consultation with key maintenance staff at Bolton School. Their results came up with the solution of a streamlined computerised system which would act as a foundation for the implementation of a planned maintenance system.

Drawing upon this information we disseminated the key systems the software should be based around and delivered a secure management tool which would undertake maintenance job tracking, logging of maintenance requests, automatic and random assessment of quality control. This would ultimately become the school's condition survey report which would be run on school computers using software no more complicated than a run of the mill web browser

Although it is envisaged that the end users of the software will be the foreman and caretaker of the School, the Practice has also included a system which would enable all those involved in school maintenance, such as painters and joiners to gain access to it.

Having been responsible for the development of a similar system for a £34 million PFI funded schools project in the north east, Stan Inskip, Partner in charge of CM Parker Browne's Liverpool office, said: "A number of the partners at CM Parker Browne are also school governors, therefore, we were able to offer a unique insight into how schools operate and how their buildings need to perform.

"The implementation of this software is the first of three phases which will make a real difference to the ongoing maintenance programme at Bolton School. A web enabled project, most users are familiar with the internet, and they tend to find the system intuitive with only basic training required.

"We are looking forward to rolling this system out to other schools during the coming year."

Simon Marsden, The Bursar / Business Manager of Bolton School, said: "CM Parker Browne took time to understand the needs of our school and we are already benefiting from its bespoke nature. It is easy to operate and it is already making a real difference to how smoothly maintenance tasks are carried out.

"I also think that because the benefits of the new processes were shown to stakeholders they bought in to the idea. There was very little resistance amongst users who could have felt excluded by a new system's development and introduction.

"The cost of £4,000 to implement the system is already offsetting the normal amount of expenditure we waste every year on maintenance procedures which can be duplicated or not assessed correctly."

Planning Application Made for Tonbridge School Centre

CMPB are Tonbridge School's Project Manager for their £9.7 million proposed new combined sports and media centre.

An exciting design for the new facilities has been created by the renowned sports architects, Limbrick Limited and a planning application was submitted to the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling in February, 2006. We are hopeful that planning consent might be granted to enable a start on site in the Autumn of 2006 with the new building being ready for use in January, 2008.



The Proposed New Combined Sports and Media Centre for Tonbridge School; image by kind permission of Limbrick Limited, Architects

Aldenham School Calls In Swimming Pool Experts

We are delighted to have been appointed in January as Project Manager for the delivery of a new swimming pool facility at Aldenham School in Hertfordshire.



Aldenham School, Hertfordshire

We are currently engaged in a Feasibility Study with the school working with our quantity surveyors and with Barnsley Hewitt & Mallinson (Architects) and NRM Bobrowski (Structural Engineers). We aim to submit a planning application in the summer of 2006 and it is then hoped detailed design can progress in the Autumn.

Green Light for New Sports Facility at Walthamstow Hall School

Planning Consent has been granted for a new Sports Building and modification and upgrading works to the Existing Assembly Hall at Walthamstow Hall School in Sevenoaks.

The Sports Building includes a new 6 lane swimming pool and sports hall, linked by a common central changing block. The Assembly Hall is to have a new foyer that can also be used as a gallery and display area while the auditorium will be renovated and improved with tiered seating and a control room and adjacent drama studios and storage for props and costumes.

In addition, there will be alterations to surrounding outdoor areas to improve the parking and reform tennis courts.

The first phase of the proposed works is due to start on site in August 2006. CMPB are acting QS and Planning Supervisor, with The Miller Bourne Partnership acting as Architect.

Impressions of the new sports facilities at Walthamstow Hall School by kind permission of The Miller Bourne Partnership, Architects.



CMPB Sponsor Liverpool Football Club!

Okay so it's not *the* Liverpool Football Club whom we are sponsoring! But we are nevertheless just as proud to be supporting the boys of St Lukes Sports football team in Liverpool by having sponsored their new strip which is in the style of Barcelona Football Club's.

The team is coached by Graham Howell, QS Associate at our Liverpool office and his son, Christopher, is the team captain – pictured below on the front row first left.



The team plays in the under 14 Anfield Junior Sunday League.

All matches are played in Stanley Park, Anfield, which is situated between the famous grounds of both Liverpool and Everton.

The St Luke's Sports Football Team proudly wearing the CMPB sponsored strip.

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