

# 2013/ ARCHIVED NEWS

GRADONARCHITECTURE



## JANUARY 2013

### ...40 in 40 is coming

Despite doomsday being predicted for 21 December 2012, we're still here and ready for 2013. A number of important dates in the international calendar for 2013 include The Oscars in February, The UEFA Champions League Final in May, The G8 Summit in June, The 65th birthday of the NHS and the expectancy of a Royal Baby in July, The Man Booker Prize in October and The Nobel Peace Prize in December. Along the way a number of GRADONARCHITECTURE and NE40 events are being planned watch this space and may 2013 prove to be a successful year!



## FEBRUARY 2013

### ...NEAS Phase 2 Completed

Following an 18 week construction period on a "live" site, Phase 2 of the Specialist Education facility for The North East Autism Society is completed. The project follows the success of an earlier phase completed in 2011 and realises the benefits of GRADONARCHITECTURE's future proofing of the design and our success of repeat client work.

The design and building of the centre posed a set of unique challenges which has proven to be successful and met the client brief enabling work to progress while keeping the whole facility operational to fulfil the student's special and varied needs bringing value. The project has been entered into The Constructing Excellence Awards Value category for 2013.



## MARCH 2013

### ...Brunswick Church Completed

Work is completed on GRADONARCHITECTURE's sensitive redesign and conversion of the foyer of the listed Brunswick Methodist Church in Newcastle. The new contemporary open plan area provides a flexible meeting and café space for its congregation and the general public. A glazed screen opens the internal space up to the public providing a strong visual and physical link with its services. The use of bright contemporary colours appeal to younger church members providing a dynamic to the church's plans for growth.



## MARCH 2013

### ...Shortlisted in CENE 2013 Awards

GRADONARCHITECTURE are shortlisted in two categories for The Constructing Excellence North East 2013 Awards. Categories include "Value", for their design and implementation of the Phase 2 extension to the North East Autism Society's The New Warlands Farm School and also overall "Consultancy Practice of the Year".



APRIL 2013

**...Tyneside Badminton Centre Steel Frame Erected**

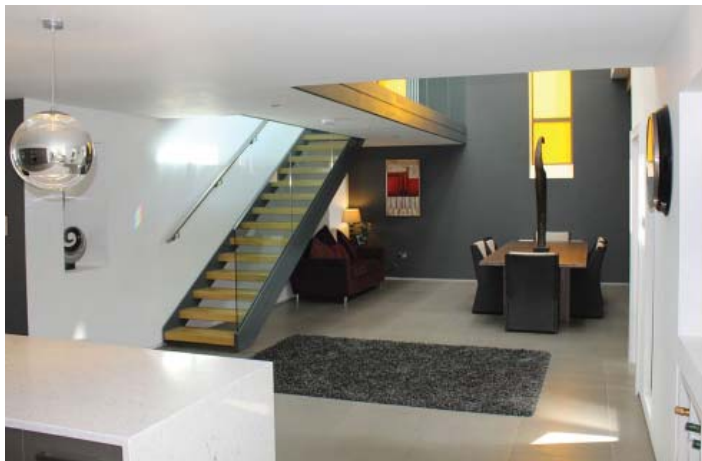
Work commences on site with a new facility for The Tyneside Badminton Centre comprising six new courts and expansion capacity for a further two courts. Designed in accordance with Sport and Badminton England, the completed centre will provide cutting edge facilities for Badminton in the whole of the North of England. Working with an existing operational facility, GRADONARCHITECTURE have designed the new scheme so it is future proofed for further planned and phased expansion.



APRIL 2013

**...Leica Microsystems ready for Genetix**

Work is completed on GRADONARCHITECTURE's fit out of Phase 3 to Leica Microsystems in Newcastle, providing bespoke laboratory and office facilities for Genetix. The new internal space also sees a reconfiguration of circulation space, additional external carparking and landscaping and a new "Town Hall" meeting area. The scheme follows the successful completion of the original building and subsequent phases to date by members of our team and allows for yet further development in the form of a future Phase 4 extension which will provide an additional 25,000sqft of distribution space.



APRIL 2012

**...The New Old Hall**

Following ten months on site GRADON ARCHITECTURE complete the sensitive conversion of the former, locally listed church hall into a contemporary family home providing over 4,500sqft of internal floor space. Retaining the shell and structure of the original building, a new steel frame has been inserted within the internal void to provide living accommodation over three floors which embraces the volume and integrity of the former hall. The central "Miesian" steel and glass stairway provides a focal point to the project which takes you on a journey of discovery and reveals the scale and retained features of the 140 year old structure as you move within the volume.



MAY 2013

**...Running for Diabetes UK**

GRADONARCHITECTURE Design Director, Graham McDarby will be participating in The Edinburgh Marathon on Sunday 26 May 2013 in aid of Diabetes UK. For more information look at [www.diabetes.org.uk](http://www.diabetes.org.uk)

You can support Diabetes UK by visiting Graham on just giving at [www.justgiving.com/Graham-McDarby](http://www.justgiving.com/Graham-McDarby)

All donations are welcome.

This will be the first of a number of charity challenges Graham will be undertaking this year which include The Blaydon Race, The Great North Run, The Kielder Marathon and The Buccleuch Challenge.



MAY 2013

### ...Concept Proposals for Astana 2017 Expo

GRADONARCHITECTURE submit initial proposals for their Astana 2017 Expo Renewable Energy Tower.

The E-COBRA is an organic form which grows from the landscape of the Expo2017 and reaches to the skies. It is a fusion of technologies which are generated from sustainable principles comprising of a renewable ground source heat pump, a vertical axis wind turbine and a wave form skin of photovoltaic panels which revolve around the shaft. Together the physical forms provide shelter and recreational restaurant and viewing platforms to the Expo 2017 beyond.



MAY 2013

### ...Concepts presented to Mongolian Partners

In the lead up to World Environmental Day 2013 which will be hosted by Mongolia, GRADONARCHITECTURE present their latest proposals for a green sustainable community to clients in Ulaanbaatar Mongolia. The development comprises of a mix of accommodation styles and sizes together with social and community activities which include a swimming pool, sports centre and social hub which all respond to the site's scenic setting, orientation and topography. Proposals follow recognised UK BREEAM and Code for Sustainable Standards and will form exemplars in the region. The project is planned to start on site in Summer 2013.



MAY 2013

### ...GRADONARCHITECTURE win CENE Award

GRADONARCHITECTURE's design of a School for The North East Autism Society at New Warlands Farm wins the Value category in The 2013 Constructing Excellence North East awards. The building design responds to the needs of autistic people and offers a unique opportunity for adults aged 19 and over with autism to gain practical work experience. The innovative use of the centre and its integration of the wider farmland offers the chance to work on craft activities, horticulture, basic land management, poultry, conservation and animal care.



JUNE 2013

### ...GRADONARCHITECTURE Love Architecture

As part of the 2013 RIBA Love Architecture Festival, GRADONARCHITECTURE will be opening its doors at [www.ne40studios.com](http://www.ne40studios.com) on Friday 21 June 2:00-5:00pm for those who want to pop in for a chat and see what we do.

We may be able to help you!... "no project is too small for big ideas"

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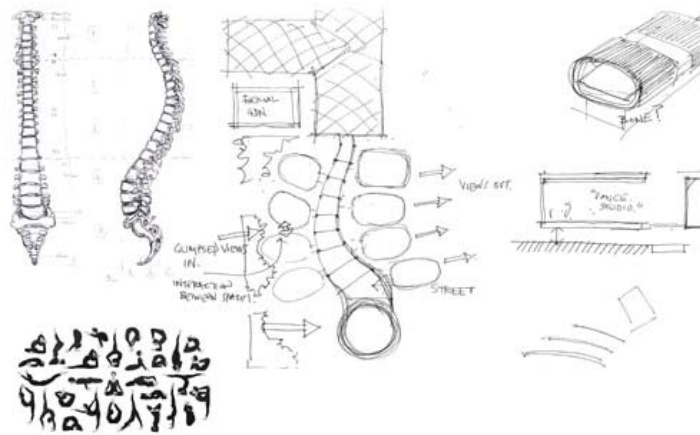
GRADONARCHITECTURE



JUNE 2013

### ...Team Strengthening

Paul Skepper joins GRADONARCHITECTURE. Having graduated from Huddersfield School of Architecture in 2011, Paul went on to practice with RG&P Architects in Leicester gaining experience in the residential sector. Having a passion for post World War 2 architecture, Paul brings his knowledge of the architectural pioneers to the team as well as an experience of technical design and job running. Paul joins our Sedgefield Masterplanning team as well as leading the technical design of a 22 unit social housing project in Middlesbrough and the concept design of an integrated health facility within a sensory garden setting.



JULY 2013

### ...Early Concepts on Integrated Health

GRADONARCHITECTURE develop initial concepts for a new integrated health centre in sensory garden at a leading Northumberland Visitor attraction. Using the existing garden setting as the unique feature, the design emerges from an existing pavilion building as a spine like form, from which a series of lumbar rooms or activity zones are assembled to house a range of uses including therapy treatments, health clinic and preventative health and wellbeing educational classes. The new facility will provide all year round sensory experiences and engagement with the garden setting.



JULY 2013

### ...Put on your Boots in Krakow

Committed to the belief that we deliver our architecture through our own life experiences, the team enjoy a much needed and rewarded CPD trip to Krakow in Poland. A great chance to see fantastic architecture, experience a different culture, relax and take stock of our achievements to date and our continued be... plan.



JULY 2013

### ...More Team Strengthening

Adam Dalby, Michael Chapman and Connor Newton join our team. Adam joins us as an Architectural Graduate following his Part 2 Distinction from Northumbria University. Michael joins us for an Internship from Newcastle University and committed to investment in youth, Connor joins us as an Apprentice from St Thomas More RC School. Adam immediately gets to grips with current projects in Mongolia while Michael and Connor assist with UK projects on site.



## AUGUST 2013

### ...E-Cobra Shortlisted

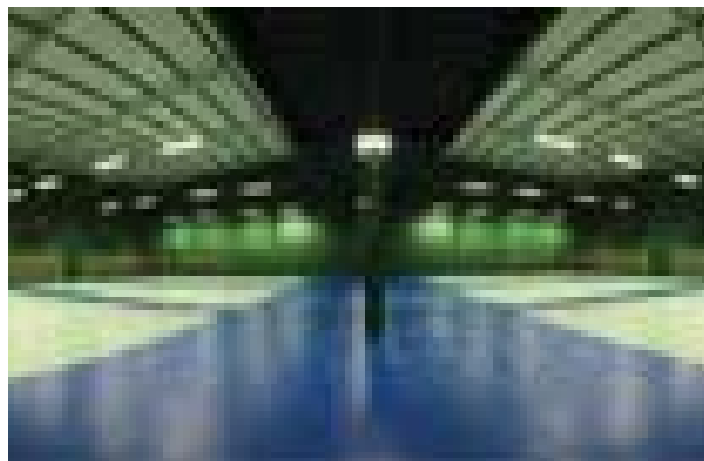
We are delighted to be shortlisted in an international competition for our design of The E Cobra for The Astana Expo 2017. Design Director Graham McDarby said, "As a renewable energy tower of the future, it has an imaginative quality that is reflected in the way it looks and how it is innovatively engineered, built using sustainable resources and A rated green materials...this is a fantastic achievement for the team"



## AUGUST 2013

### ...Tracerco Steel on site

GRADONARCHITECTURE's design of a £7.5M new corporate headquarters for Tracerco commences on site in Billingham with Clugston. Designed as a collection of three separate buildings housing varying uses of research laboratories, offices and factory testing areas they are hinged together by a central atrium and circulation area. Work is due for completion in May 2014.



## AUGUST 2013

### ...Badminton Centre Completed

GRADONARCHITECTURE's design of a bespoke centre is completed on time and on budget. With fond memories of last year's Olympics, Associate Architectural Technologist Tanja Smith who overseen the project on site says, "The new centre has been designed to meet Badminton England Premier standards and provides the northeast with a dedicated venue for the sport which has been lacking in the region...we are delighted to be part of this legacy."



## SEPTEMBER 2013

### ...Andrew Woods joins the Team

We are delighted to welcome Andrew Woods into our team based at Ne40 Studios. Andrew joins us as an Architectural Technologist and brings with him a vast amount of technical knowledge in Health and Extra Care, Sustainable Residential and Commercial sectors. Andrew will initially be assisting with the technical design of the new £7.5M Tracerco corporate headquarters in Billingham which is currently on site.



### SEPTEMBER 2013

#### ...Trench dug at the Hall

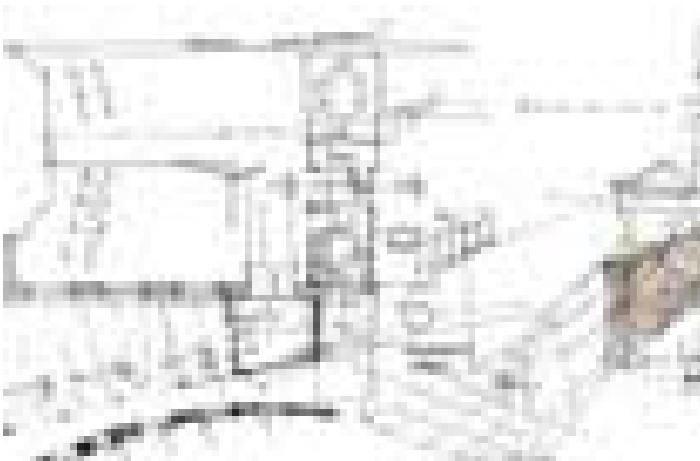
Work commences on site at Trench Hall, a private residential development located within the Ravensworth Conservation area. Enabling works comprise of a vast "trench" and extensive concrete retaining structures which artificially sink the three storey development into the ground in response to its sensitive location. Work is due for completion in Spring 2014.



### OCTOBER 2013

#### ...First dip into Pacific

Early concepts are evolving for the Pacific Building in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The new development will comprise a 5 storey building providing a mix of retail, commercial and restaurant spaces. The design is exploring the idea of an extruded angled box which will cantilever over the footpath and address the footfall from the main Sukhbaatar Square.



### NOVEMBER 2013

#### ...More than a place for prayer

Following the successful delivery of our refurbishment of the Grade 2 listed Brunswick Methodist Church, we are delighted with subsequent referrals which has seen us secure new projects at Seaham Methodist Church and Crawcrook Centenary Church. Both schemes, currently at concept stage, will see contemporary interventions and refurbishments to the existing churches to provide new and exciting flexible spaces for the community and youth groups. Paul Skepper, Project Leader for both schemes said, "GRADONARCHITECTURE are delighted to be involved in these local projects. These buildings and our own NE40 Studios, itself a former church were built as hearts to the communities and it is essential they are retained and evolve with new generations."



### NOVEMBER 2013

#### ...Nukht Community Building Scheme Design

A community building comprising of a shopping mall, business hub, bowling alley, gymnasium, swimming pool and sports and leisure club have been completed for Nukht Valley in Ulaanbaatar Mongolia. The development will support an increasingly popular suburban area of Ulaanbaatar. The scheme will now be submitted as part of a larger integrated residential proposal to The Government Department of Construction and Planning and approvals are anticipated in early 2014. Works are set to commence on site in Spring 2014.



**NOVEMBER 2013**

**...Nukht Valley Scheme Design completed**

Proposals for an exclusive development of 50 family homes have been completed for Nukht Valley in Ulaanbaatar Mongolia. The scheme will now be submitted to The Government Department of Construction and Planning and approvals are anticipated in early 2014. Works are set to commence on site in Spring 2014. The scheme incorporates a number of UK green sustainable initiatives which are set to make this an exemplar project from which future developments can draw from and start and have an impact in reducing carbon emissions in the currently heavily polluted city centre.



**NOVEMBER 2013**

**...Alnwick Community Fire and Rescue facility**

GRADONARCHITECTURE complete preliminary scheme designs for the Northumberland County Council Alnwick Lionheart depot rationalisation proposals.

A new Fire and Rescue Station is to be integrated with Local Services departments: Highways, Waste and Neighbourhood Service of Northumberland County Council, together with Community functions, providing a fully shared facility.

The project consolidates existing facilities into one fully encompassing depot, which rationalises the user's needs and promotes efficient working.

A full Planning Application is anticipated in early 2014



**DECEMBER 2013**

**...Do you want to join us?**

Due to an increasing workload of national and international projects, we are looking to recruit up to three architects with one or two years work experience post Part Two. This is an exciting opportunity for enthusiastic team players with excellent design skills. Candidates should be energetic and have the ability to use their own initiative within a busy, open studio environment. Other essential skills needed, include: AutoCAD, Sketchup, Photoshop and Microsoft Office. Revit a 'nice to have', but not compulsory.

Please email your CV and details of your portfolio in PDF format (no larger than 5MB) to design director, Graham McDarby [gmdarby@gradonarchitecture.com](mailto:gmdarby@gradonarchitecture.com)