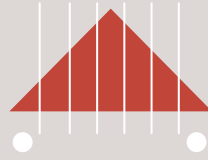


Milton Studio News

Issue 24

Summer 2014



Editor's Comment

Welcome to our 24th issue of the James F Stephen Architects' newsletter. We hope you will enjoy reading about the variety of interesting projects currently underway at various stages. This is a very healthy optimistic sign for the future.

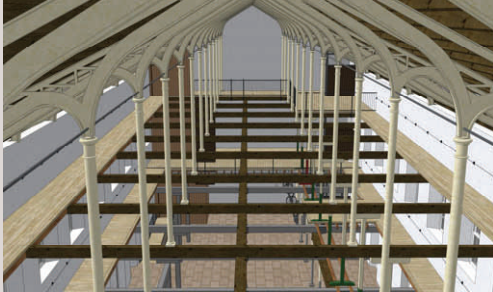
In our newsletters we try to illustrate projects at all stages of our involvement. The key aspect of our work that is fundamental to all projects is the design input—the flair, talent and innovation that comes from experience, training and an in-built sense of scale and proportion. From the initial client brief and after a visit to the site for the project the creative ideas start to flow.

The process involves much measuring and sketching whether this is on computer or using ream upon ream of a roll of paper until an idea materialises that offers the best solution. Of course hand in hand with this brainstorming process is the knowledge of survey techniques, construction, planning law, building regulations, material properties, existing building precedents, etc.

It is this early element that is difficult to show in the newsletter, that is all the "doodles" that precede the computer models shown here. It is from this inception stage that all else follows. As Chartered Architects we work with and guide clients through the minefield of the necessary processes to assist them achieve their desired outcome.

We are encouraged that the flow of enquiries to our business is growing and together with the signs of recovery we reported in our Winter newsletter both are an indication that we can agree with the media and government reports that the UK economy has finally turned the corner to our benefit and that of clients and fellow consultants.

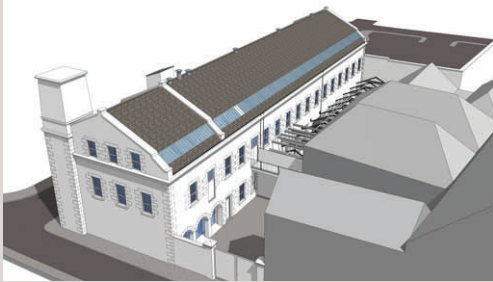
Verdant Works - Saving Dundee's Heritage



It was announced in March that the Category 'A' Listed **£2.9 million** restoration project for the **High Mill, Verdant Works, Dundee** has the go ahead.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has approved Dundee Heritage Trust's Second Round grant application towards the High Mill Open Gallery Project at Scotland's Jute Museum. The funding will allow the Trust to finally embark on this exciting £2.9 million project to complete the restoration of the remaining derelict buildings on the Verdant Works site and almost double the size of the museum.

Gill Poulter, Heritage Director for Dundee Heritage Trust said "We're delighted that the Heritage Lottery Fund has given us this significant level of support which is fantastic news for the Trust. The project gives us the opportunity to create something new and different that will have a dynamic future of its own but which is complementary to the existing jute museum, helping to protect and enhance it. We are incredibly grateful to the Heritage Lottery Fund for supporting this project from its very beginnings, seeing its transformative potential and being as excited as ourselves about all the opportunities it presents."



On Site Activity

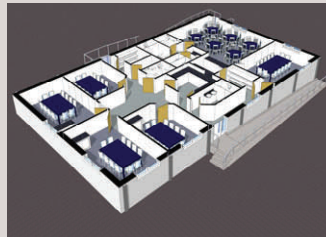
The alterations to an existing farmhouse on **Cambo Estate, Kingsbarns** is illustrated below covered in scaffolding. The residential development at **Station Road, Kingsbarns** is also nearing completion. Projects on site include alterations to form a school 'Social Area' and replacement classrooms also Planning, Listed Building Consent and Building Warrant approval for the installation of an automatic fire suppression system for **St Leonards School, St Andrews**. The main contractor has been appointed for the remedial works at **St Joseph's RC Church, Aberdeen**. A new build Hospitality Suite for **Forfar Athletic Football Club** is currently underway with the facility being fully operational in time for the first home match of the new season.



- Cambo Farmhouse -



- Station Road, Kingsbarns -



- Forfar Athletic Hospitality Suite -

At Design Stage

Interesting projects at initial design proposal stage include: alterations to two cottages at **Simpri Farm, Meigle**; extension to a **Private Nursery** near **Aberdeen**; alterations and extension to the **Central Scotland Islamic Centre** in **Stirling**; a further extension to our previously completed new-build Church at **St George's and St Peter's in Glasgow** as a result of the churches amalgamation. Illustrated below are design proposals for **Letham Church** which it is hoped will progress through the next stages in the later part of the year.



- Simprim Farm Cottages -

Planning News

Projects currently awaiting planning permission include Phase 2 of a residential development of 21 houses at **Station Road, Kingsbarns** for Ogilvie Homes and a proposed new private dwelling house at **The Old Smiddy, Glamis**. Projects which have received planning permission include **Braemar Highland Games Centre**; the phased residential development at **Sunnyside, Kirriemuir**; and the development of 49 private houses for sale at **Kirkton of Fetteresso, Stonehaven** for G S Brown Construction Ltd.



- Central Scotland Islamic Centre -

Building Warrant & Tender

Project submissions for which we await approval include **1-7 Roods, Kirriemuir** which is part of the Kirriemuir Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme. This project already has Planning Approval and Listed Building Consent.

Planning Permission, Listed Building Consent and Building Warrant all approved for the conversion of former storage to a garden flat in Stirling. Building Warrant approval has been granted to the Category 'A' Listed **High Mill, Verdant Works, Dundee**.

The proposal drawings for the conservation works at **Gilfillan Church in Dundee** is now out to tender.



- 1-7 Roods, Kirriemuir -



- Letham Church -

Completed Projects

The **Isle of May Visitor Centre, Firth of Forth**, for Scottish Natural Heritage was completed in April 2014. This national nature reserve facility offers people the chance to monitor wildlife within a structure which has been designed to sympathetically blend into its surrounding environment. Two refurbishment projects for the Diocese of Aberdeen have been completed - alterations at **Elphinstone House, Catholic Chaplaincy** and **Margaret House, Aberdeen**. The office fit-out for Keep Scotland Beautiful charity and Stirling Council at **Glendevon House, Stirling** is complete. The £1.8 million residential project at **Lundin Links** is nearing completion with handover scheduled for August. The development consists of four cottages and a 'drop in' centre built for Homelands Trust and offers specialist accommodation for multiple sclerosis sufferers and their families. Conservation work continues at **Kinloch Castle, Isle of Rum** with Phase 3 works being completed in March 2014.



- New Cottages for Homelands Trust at Lundin Links -



- Isle of May Visitor Centre -



- Entrance to the new Paxton Centre at Lundin Links -



- Paxton Centre, Lundin Links viewed from the South -

Miscellaneous Snippets

All at JFS Architects are delighted that we have been approached by **GlaxoSmithKline** to masterplan a new gateway and corporate identity for their **Montrose** operation. We look forward to facilitating another bluechip client. Following our successful involvement in the office fit-out project at **Glendevon House**, for **Stirling Council**, JFS have recently been appointed again by Stirling Council to provide a full Architectural service from the preparation of Building Warrant information through to Completion for a development of 12 new-build dwellings in **Plean**. We are delighted to hear that our Client's "Stage 1" application for HLF funding for alterations at **Inchture Parish Church** has been successful in the full amount sought. We look forward to this project progressing over the next few months.



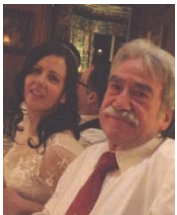
- Inchture Parish Church proposal -

Staff Matters

Congratulations to Stirling based Architectural Technician **Lauren Ainscough** on her engagement in February to Kevin Morrison.



Also pictured below is proud father of the bride, our Senior Technician, **Mario Vettrano** whose daughter said of his speech, "That was nice Dad!"



A warm welcome to our new Admin Assistant **Jessica Peers** who joined us in April and is settling in well.



We congratulate Architect Partner **David Stephen** and Architectural Technicians **Steven Balfour** and **Iona Ferguson** who have all been at JFS for 10 years since 2004. David rejoined us in March 2004 and has been responsible for many excellent projects, including the Homelands Trust project at Lundin Links featured above.



Best Wishes to Architectural Technician **Iona Ferguson** as she goes off on maternity leave.



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Consultant:
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Interior Design

We have been appointed by the University of Dundee to carry out a series of phased internal alterations within the Category 'B' Listed **Scrymgeour Building**. Phases 1 & 2 of a project at **Coldside Parish Church, Dundee** have been completed, works included external fabric repairs and extensive internal refurbishment all finalised for a dedication service which took place on 29 June. As you can see quite a transformation!



- before -



Client Comments

Tony Thornthwaite, the Minister at **Coldside Parish Church**, made comment about the recently refurbished church, "visitors and the congregation have been blown away by their first impressions".

Another client for whom we completed a house extension wrote "Our sincere thanks for all your advice, support and good humour throughout the project. Many, many thanks for everything"

ICT Update

Broadband services in the Glamis and Stirling offices have been upgraded to the fastest speeds available with Stirling now being on superfast fibreoptic broadband. A new server has been installed for our telephone system upgrading all three offices to the latest version of the VOIP software.

Quality Office Space for Lease

The refurbished Stirling office upper floor now has a new tenant - Mike Walker Therapies. The basement store at Stirling has received Building Warrant approval for further improvements which will offer an attractive secure separate workspace with access to a landscaped garden when complete. The Glamis office continues to offer some high quality open plan space on the upper floor pictured in our Winter newsletter. Enquiries for leasing any of these areas, either in whole or in part, are welcome.

Social Networking

Follow events at JFS on:
Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn

