



Above, Block 'A' at Victoria Dock which is now a completed shell, soon to be fitted out with a new doctors surgery on the first floor and a Brewers Fayre public house on part of the ground floor. Fit outs in blocks 'B' and 'C' commence in October and include a hotel and leisure complex. The final phase of the 'Portal Hotel Golf and Country Club' was handed over on time in September and included 8 spa and treatment rooms, gymnasium and a 20 metre swimming pool.



Left, The Menai Centre Congratulations to Nick Bumby, Ron Mayo and the team in handing over 60,000 sq ft of Debenhams retail space to the fit out contractor. The next critical date will be the practical completion on 18th February 2008.



Left, Brighton - A new £14m Student Accommodation project opposite Sussex University campus and adjacent to Falmer railway station and bus stop for 'car free students'. The development comprises 463 en-suite bedrooms in clusters of 4 to 6. In addition there are 4 disabled studio bedrooms, complete with their own kitchen and a further 7 studio bedrooms with their own kitchen. The structure has been built in 3 separate 'X' shaped blocks with 2 enclosed courtyards. The building is finished in red brick, white render and silver metal cladding with a 'green roof'.



Above, Salford comprises 541 en-suite study bedrooms, distributed across 97 flat clusters. The development consists of 14 blocks, each block including 4 floors and a lift. In addition there are 7 disabled use bedrooms distributed throughout the development. Located centrally within the site there is the 'Pavilion' building housing the management office and reception as well as a student common room and launderette.

Following a traditional ground-breaking ceremony, Watkin Jones Homes' eagerly anticipated Gorse Stacks development, in Chester is on the way. Gorse Stacks, a public/private sector partnership between Watkin Jones Homes, Chester City Council and Rufus Estates, is an important and impressive development, providing a mix of 1 and 2 bedroom luxury apartments, affordable housing, retail and commercial units. Positioned just a short walk from the new Northgate project, Gorse Stacks also features a large underground public car park - maintaining the visual appeal of this key area with clever use of space. Executive member for development, Councillor Mike Jones said, "I am delighted to see this scheme move forward. It's a fantastic project and also provides additional car parking which will be welcomed by all."



Left to right

Glyn Watkin Jones, Chairman of the Watkin Jones Group, Councillor Richard Short, Councillor Stephen Mosley Deputy Leader Chester City Council, Councillor Mike Jones and Mark Watkin Jones Managing Director of the Watkin Jones Group.

Watkin Jones & Son Ltd opened its new office in Preston Brook, Runcorn on the 18th June 2007. The office will facilitate the expansion of apartment and town house developments under the Homes Division. Watkin Jones & Son Ltd wish to welcome to the group those staff based at Preston Brook.

STAFF TRAINING

This year saw the introduction of the "WJ Away Days". This gave a rare opportunity for, primarily office based staff, to visit 2 of our larger developments. The aims of the "Away Days" was to promote team building but most importantly to highlight to staff how their roles are imperative to ensure the work carried out on site is completed, as well as to build on the team ethos of the Group. Many thanks to those involved, especially site staff, whose hard work ensured the smooth running of the training days.



Left, Staff who attended the final 'Away Day' standing on the roof of Block C at Victoria Dock. Taken on the 25th May 2007. **Below right,** Staff admiring the progress at the Menai Centre. Taken on the 25th May 2007.



Above left, WJS staff enjoying a power point presentation at Victoria Dock, delivered by Gwyn Pritchard on the 4th May 2007. Managers, Senior Managers, Directors and Board Directors also received specific management training and executive coaching to assist in their desire to improve their management behaviour and performance, emphasising the commitment from above to revolutionise the environment in which we work.

Total spend on Training for 2007 - £1,317,043.01

HEALTHY WORKPLACE AWARD

We spend a lot of our time at work and this means that the workplace can have a significant impact on our health and well being.

In recognition of the improvements Watkin Jones & Son Ltd have made, the Company received the **Healthy Work Place Award 2007.**



LEADERSHIP & PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT AWARD 2007



Watkin Jones & Son Ltd were awarded a prize at the Constructing Excellence in Wales Awards, sponsored by, amongst others, the Welsh Assembly Government. The Company picked up the **'Leadership and People Development**

Award 2007', having created a dynamic and successful programme of 'people development' for their staff. Mark Watkin Jones, Group Managing Director said "Our commitment to helping people develop their careers, and indeed the whole of their lives, comes right from the top and influences everyone in the company. The management team are constantly looking for ways to improve all aspects of working life".

WATKIN JONES GOES GLOBAL



On the 12th July 2007, Watkin Jones & Son received an email via the Company website from a gentleman in Houston Texas whose name is Watkin Jones. Joanne Gilpin (PA to Mark Watkin Jones) kindly arranged for a package of merchandise to be sent.

The picture right show Watkin Jones sporting the Company's high visibility vest.

WJ SPONSOR MUSIC EVENT

NOSWEITHAUMEDINIGHTS
CERDDORIAETH BYW//LIVE MUSIC
MEDI Café Bar
Stryd y Plas//Palace Street, Caernarfon
Ticedi//Tickets: 01286 674383

Watkin Jones & Son have sponsored a series of musical events at Medi café-bar in Caernarfon, for a listing of all the events during September/October/November 2007 please contact Medi Café Bar or look out for their promotional flyers.

STAFF PROMOTIONS

During the last twelve months a number of staff have been recognised for their achievements and have been promoted. There are, unfortunately too many to list here. Their success demonstrates the Company's commitment to staff progression.

DAILY POST AWARD

Dear All,

I am delighted to confirm that we have been short listed for the Daily Post Business of the Year Award with the winner being announced on 30th November 2007.

This is a true testament to all the hard work undertaken by each and every one of you and it is much appreciated.

Lets keep our fingers crossed for the 30th. Thanks once again and keep it up.

Mark

B

G
A
C

I

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE



Pupils and teachers from Ysgol Hiracl, Bangor, visited the Menai Centre development in Bangor, early July, to bury time capsules that they had spent the previous term preparing. Watkin Jones made a donation of £250 to the school to fund benches for the play area at the school.