

Building Matters

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Happy 50th Birthday Jeakins Weir

Firm marks half a century of construction excellence with fresh new look
Jeakins Weir celebrated its 50th birthday on February 12th, 2023.

50 years is a long time in the construction industry, and the company's ongoing success is testament to its continued focus on service excellence, value for money and high-quality craftsmanship.

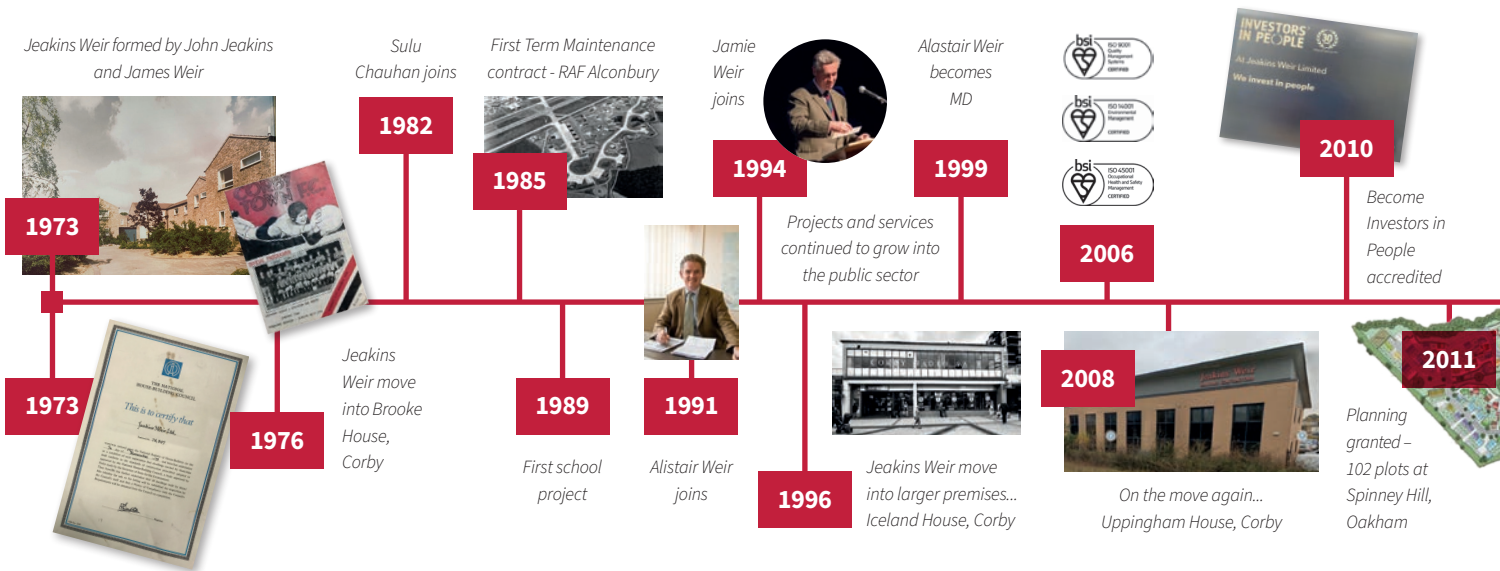
Jeakins Weir Ltd was founded by James Weir and John Jeakins in 1973, initially to deliver housing projects for Corby Development Corporation. The company went on to build around 1,000 houses in the town.

When Corby became an Enterprise Area in 1980, Jeakins Weir diversified and began to build industrial units for The Commission for New Towns.

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Built on strong four



Jeakins Weir Ltd was founded by James Weir and John Jeakins in 1973, initially to deliver housing projects for Corby Development Corporation.

Much of this then became the Earlstrees Industrial Estate which still occupies many local companies today.

Growing into new areas
Keen to proactively move the business into new areas, the company successfully applied for term contracts with the Government Property Services Agency. This saw Jeakins Weir working on new-build and refurbishment projects on military bases and airfields throughout the Midlands and

East of England. It precipitated a huge uplift in the company's workload.

Speculative developments
Anticipating future demand for more housing in the 1990's, Jeakins Weir invested in purchasing land in Rutland, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This opened the door to developing speculative housing projects in these areas.
The company further diversified into school building projects and other public-

sector construction and refurbishment works. At the start of the new millennium, the company began to win more contracts through local government procurement frameworks. These framework contracts remain an important source of work for the business.

Dedicated people
Today, the company is led by James Weir's sons, Alistair and Jamie. They have been with the company since the 1990's and, in the early 2000's, Alistair



Brand new look

Refreshed brand identity positions firm for the future.

To mark its 50th anniversary, Jeakins Weir has unveiled a refreshed brand identity. This is only the second major change to the company's logo in its 50-year history. The 50th birthday brand refresh - with a new logo and associated design elements - helps the company to move with the times and present a bold, confident look for the future.



"The way we look as a business is incredibly important. The reputation of the firm is our capital, represented in the brand. We need to manage the brand carefully so that our business continues to grow, so that we remain relevant to our customers, and so we continue to win in a competitive market. We're really pleased with the modern new look of our brand. We hope you like it too." Alistair Weir

datations



became Managing Director and Jamie became Director of Responsive Repairs. They work alongside long-serving Company Secretary, Sulu Chauhan, who joined in 1982.

Many other dedicated employees have given many years of service to the business. These include Site Managers John McHarg and Ian Morgan, who joined the company in 1973 and devoted their entire working lives to Jeakins Weir. They both retired in 2021 after 47 years of service.

Driven by timeless values

Alistair Weir said: "I'm proud to report that as we mark our 50th anniversary, the business is going from strength to strength. We are extremely fortunate to have so many talented, dedicated and loyal

"I'm proud to report that as we mark our 50th anniversary, the business is going from strength to strength."

people within our business. As my late father noted when reflecting on the company's 45th anniversary: 'Competition is strong, but a company that provides a trouble-free service and value for money to its clients should always be in demand, and although there are plenty of challenges, a well-run company will succeed.' Those sentiments hold true today. And if we continue to focus on those core values, there's no reason why Jeakins Weir cannot thrive for another 50 years and beyond."

More dedicated people...

James Banaszak • Contracts Manager	22 years
Tom Coady • Site Manager	22 years
Richard Bolton • Site Manager	24 years
Leigh Mitchell • Site Manager	26 years
Ian Davis • Senior Buyer	35 years

(50% of staff have worked for Jeakins Weir for over 10 years)

Triple framework success

Jeakins Weir wins place on three major public-sector frameworks.

JEAKINS WEIR has extended its service delivery options throughout the region by securing places on three public-sector construction frameworks – SCAPE and Pagabo. The company was appointed as a delivery partner on the frameworks following extremely rigorous tender processes.

Alistair Weir said: "Our success in being appointed to both frameworks is testament to the expertise of our brilliant team of framework and procurement managers, and our impressive track record in delivering public-sector works that add real social, economic and environmental value."

SCAPE Regional Construction framework

SCAPE is the UK's leading public sector procurement authority. Its latest four-year Regional Construction Framework will deliver up to £750m of new investment in the public sector across the Midlands and East of England. Jeakins Weir is one of eight contractors appointed to help local authorities and public sector organisations deliver ambitious, community-focused construction projects.

Jeakins Weir has been successful in all four iterations of the SCAPE regional framework to date. The company has been appointed to Lots 1 and 2, which cover projects in Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire and Warwickshire.

John Simons, Group Procurement Director at SCAPE, said: "The next four years represent a pivotal time for public sector construction across the Midlands and East of England to deliver infrastructure that empowers local communities and generates regional economic growth... we've enhanced the framework to provide our public sector colleagues with the tools to not only deliver value-driven infrastructure in their areas but support their journey toward a net zero built environment."

Pagabo National Framework for Medium Works and Refit and Refurbishment

Jeakins Weir has been announced as a successful partner for Pagabo's National Framework for Medium Works and The Refit and Refurbishment Framework. Running until January 2027, the next-generation frameworks are one of Pagabo's most popular and active construction procurement routes for public-sector clients. As part of the partnership, Jeakins Weir will deliver new-build works and refurbishments worth up to £1m throughout the East and West Midlands and East Anglia. This is the first time Jeakins Weir has been appointed to these frameworks, presenting an exciting opportunity to extend its delivery of public-sector building projects across a wider area, with new clients.



Triple success in housing

Work has begun on three new affordable housing schemes in the recent weeks, after Jeakins Weir was selected via open tender for projects in Nuneaton and Northampton.

TWO of the schemes are being delivered for Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council – a brand new client for Jeakins Weir. The company will be providing a complete design-and-build service for the schemes, which have a combined value of almost £5m. They include 12 new houses at Byford Court and 14 new houses at Vale View, both in Nuneaton.

The sites are within a mile of each other, and both contracts will run concurrently. There is high demand for social housing in this area, and these new properties will provide vital homes for local people.

The third housing scheme was won with Northamptonshire Partnership Homes, a long-standing client of Jeakins Weir. Since 2018, the firm has built more than 100 homes for the organisation, which manages housing services for West Northamptonshire Council. The new contract was won via open tender, and involves constructing a 24-home development in the centre of Northampton town.

The site is in a busy residential district, close to a shopping area and dual carriageway. Jeakins Weir will apply its expertise to manage all construction sensitively on this restricted site, ensuring works are carried out with minimal disruption to local people and businesses.



Affordable homes built by local

SMEs and trainees play vital role in Hunsbury Meadows development

LOCAL SME supply chain partners played a significant role in completing a major new development of affordable homes for Futures Housing Group. The design-and-build project saw Jeakins Weir source two thirds of the total sub-contractor order value from within 10 miles of the site at Hunsbury Meadows in Northampton. That injected more than £2m into the immediate local economy, with 97 per cent of the project works being delivered by SMEs.

The Hunsbury Meadows development provides 34 much-needed affordable

homes in an area of high demand. The site comprises nine shared-ownership homes, 15 rent-to-buy homes and 10 affordable rent properties. The £5m contract was awarded to Jeakins Weir by Futures Housing Group, a not-for-profit organisation providing affordable homes across the East Midlands. The planning agreement included a requirement that the project incorporated a construction training programme. Jeakins Weir appointed Trainee Site Manager, Regan Aylesbury, who is studying Construction Management at Bedford College. Regan gained valuable skills and real-time



mes teams

experience working on this busy construction site.

James Banaszak, Contracts Manager said: "This project was a shining example of local collaboration and partnership working, as well as providing an opportunity to train the construction professionals of the future. Talented tradespeople from our local SME community played a vital role in creating these affordable homes in an area where they are greatly needed.

Vital defence developments



Long-term partnership sees permanent base established at RAF Croughton.

JEAKINS WEIR is celebrating its fourth consecutive year of delivering vital defence improvement projects at the American Air Base, RAF Croughton, near Brackley in Northamptonshire. During this time the company has developed close working relationships with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) and the United States Air Force Visiting Forces, with the help of framework partner, SCAPE.

All projects at RAF Croughton have been procured through the SCAPE Regional Construction Framework. This route to construction has been vital for the DIO, saving essential time and costs, and allowing Jeakins Weir to have a permanent base on site to

administer and manage the contract independently.

Since completing its first scheme at RAF Croughton in 2019, Jeakins Weir has delivered a total of 19 projects, with a further nine at pre-construction stage, and many more in the early stages of development.

Mark Robinson, Group Chief Executive at SCAPE, said: "We are pleased to have supported our partner Jeakins Weir through the delivery of this important defence improvement scheme. In addition to accelerating the projects forward, the Regional Construction Framework has enabled significant cost and time savings for the client over a number of years."

Delicate operations

Repairs set to restore structural health at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital.



NORTH West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust has appointed Jeakins Weir to carry out essential structural repairs and roof replacement works at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital in Huntingdon. Built in 1984, Hinchingsbrooke Hospital is one of four hospitals in the East of England experiencing structural issues relating to the concrete panels used in some of its walls and roof. Site-wide surveys carried out by structural engineers first identified issues with these panels, known as Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC). The Trust took immediate remedial action and identified all faults to ensure buildings were safe.

Now, Jeakins Weir is on site carrying out remedial works and repairs to RAAC panels in wards, corridors and offices throughout the hospital.

"Our ongoing works will ensure any structural issues are addressed promptly. We are maintaining the highest safety standards while working in this live hospital environment, ensuring we take all preventative measures to safeguard patients, visitors and staff at all times." Jeremy Biggs • Site Manager

Construction with a conscience

Support for sustainable construction and building stronger communities

JEAKINS WEIR is working alongside SCAPE to further improve the environmental performance of construction projects and add social value to the communities where it works.

Driving down waste

The company has subscribed to the Construction Waste Portal, which is now owned and run by SCAPE. The portal uses real-time, crowd-sourced data to help construction companies predict, manage, reduce and prevent construction waste. The portal makes it quick and easy to estimate and track waste management on site, helping the entire industry to reduce its carbon footprint and become more sustainable.

John Logan, Operations Director at SCAPE for Construction Waste Portal, said: "As a valued framework partner with strong sustainability credentials at the heart of their business, I am delighted that the team at Jeakins Weir have joined the drive for improved resource efficiency in the construction industry."

Leaving a positive legacy

SCAPE has established a Regional Construction Framework Community Legacy Programme, which Jeakins Weir is proud to be a board member. Framework partners on the programme are committed to promoting environmental sustainability on all framework projects, and

building social value by providing education, employment and training opportunities to local people.

The Community Legacy Programme will ensure SCAPE framework partners create and deliver positive outcomes for the communities where they work, helping to make them stronger and more sustainable by using local labour and suppliers.

Matt Bust, Performance and Sustainability Coordinator at SCAPE, said: "At SCAPE, we believe that every project should leave a strong, sustainable legacy within the community. The Community Legacy Programme supported by Jeakins Weir, will be vital to help us achieve just that."

Back to school in Cambridgeshire

Jeakins Weir renews council partnership with two more school project wins

TWO new school extension and refurbishment contracts are the latest awarded to Jeakins Weir in its long-standing relationship with Cambridgeshire County Council. Following the renewal of its Design-and-Build Framework with the council last year, Jeakins Weir won both contracts in a two-stage tender process.

The first is a comprehensive programme of works at Littleport Community Primary School, in Littleport near Ely. The contract, worth approximately £3.5m, will include the construction of a new seven-class extension, with cloakrooms and toilets for each classroom. The school kitchen, staff facilities and changing rooms will be refurbished and a studio space will be created using a folding wall system. The car park will also be extended to provide additional parking spaces. The whole

programme is scheduled for completion by March 2024. The second contract is with Townley Primary School in the small village of Christchurch. The close-knit school has just 86 pupils on roll, with additional younger children attending its pre-school. The building project will see Jeakins Weir constructing an extension to the main school building to create a new classroom, while repurposing an existing classroom to create a new reception and pre-school with toilet facilities and a kitchen. Outdoors, resurfacing work will take place to increase the hard play areas around the school. The new facilities will be ready for the start of the school year in September 2024.

Previously, Jeakins Weir has completed building and refurbishment works for Cambridgeshire County Council at Bellbird Primary School in Sawston, Bassingbourn Community Primary School in Royston, and Spring Common Academy in Huntingdon.



Better kitchens and bathrooms

Two-year project improves essential facilities for Kettering and Corby tenants

OVER the past two years, Jeakins Weir has worked alongside North Northamptonshire Council to complete £1m-worth of much-needed repairs and refurbishments to kitchens, bathrooms and void properties in its social housing. The company refurbished 70 kitchens, including 28 requiring structural alterations, 57 bathrooms and four void properties, as well as completing many

other small works around the Kettering and Corby boroughs.

The essential works were carried out in occupied properties, which required excellent communication between site teams, tenants, the council and the tenant liaison officer to ensure successful completion. This was made easier by Jeakins Weir having a central site office close to the properties, housing both its administrative and construction teams.

On this project, Jeakins Weir employed a full-time trainee quantity surveyor, Viraj Bipin, who was studying Quantity Surveying and Commercial Management at Oxford Brookes University. He gained essential experience in measurement, costing, contract practice, material ordering, site logistics and the M3 NHF schedule of rates.

Jeakins Weir was appointed to these works through the EEM Ltd Property Improvement Works Framework.

Council Customer Centre opens for business

Complex refurbishment and fit-out transforms two former retail units

NORTH West Leicestershire District Council's (NWLDC) new Customer Centre opened its doors on schedule after Jeakins Weir completed the refurbishment and fit-out of two former retail units. Located in the Belvoir Centre, Coalville, the modern and welcoming new 'one-stop-shop' is a place where the public can make face-to-face enquiries and use self-serve bays to access their online accounts. The new facility also houses the council's call centre and a police enquiry desk.

Jeakins Weir was awarded the £700k contract through the Scape Regional Construction framework. Following changes in staff working practices and increased hybrid working, the Council had reassessed its building needs and decided to convert two commercial shop units into a new Customer Centre. The works involved significant structural alterations to reconfigure the floor plan and create the bright, accessible public space the council wanted.

The new centre was fully fitted out with meeting rooms, a reception and waiting area, toilet facilities, staff room, a police unit and group spaces. Jeakins Weir engaged local finishing trades to transform the space into the new Customer Centre. More than two thirds of sub-contractor orders were placed within ten miles of the site. This included a local specialist to manufacture and install a curved glazed screen for the new reception desk and fit bespoke partition glazing in the public area. The technically challenging project was completed on time and on budget, ready for the council's open day.

Councillor Robert Ashman, Deputy Leader of NWLDC, said: "It's great to see our new Customer Centre open and welcoming people for face-to-face enquiries and meetings. It's a bright and modern space in the centre of town, and we hope our customers will feel the difference in comparison with our old customer service centre."



Building local networks

Meet the buyer and careers events strengthen community connections

JEAKINS WEIR has been out and about recently, building its supply chain networks and strengthening connections with the local community.

Networking in Nottingham

To launch its latest framework, SCAPE joined forces with supply chain management platform, Local Supply Chain (LSC), to organise a 'Meet the Buyer' networking event. It was an opportunity for all contractors on the SCAPE Regional Construction Framework to connect with local sub-contractors and supply chain partners keen to work on upcoming projects in the Midlands. Held at Nottingham Forest Football Ground, the event was a huge success, with more than 1,000 delegates attending. Jeakins Weir was represented by Quantity Surveyor, Scott Hammond and Marketing & Bid Manager, Sophie Lindsay.

Sophie said: "The event was really worthwhile, enabling us to meet sub-contractors and local businesses who could support our construction projects. It was a valuable opportunity to make lots of new contacts, and to catch up with some of our regular supply chain partners."

Promoting construction careers

Jeakins Weir was busy inspiring the next generation of construction professionals at the Wellingborough School Careers Convention. Having recently completed an extension to the school's Sixth Form facilities, Jeakins Weir was delighted to return to help students learn about career opportunities in the construction industry.

The event was aimed at students in years 10 to 13 from Wellingborough School, as well as Wrenn Academy, Wollaston School, Sharnbrook Academy and Weavers Academy. Framework Manager, Ben Williams, represented Jeakins Weir on the day, and was blown away by the enthusiasm and excitement shown by the students.

Alexandra Arber, Head of Careers at Wellingborough School, said: "We have never seen the Dining Hall and our new Sixth Form Centre quite like it and the buzz and enthusiasm was infectious! Your support made all of the difference and we are extremely grateful for the time and enthusiasm you offered to our school community."



More about Jeakins Weir

Jeakins Weir is a family owned and run construction company, based in Corby and operating throughout the Midlands.

Its operations cover three main areas: main contracting, responsive repairs and maintenance (for council-owned properties and housing associations) and property development. The business was formed in 1973, and since then Jeakins Weir has built, renovated and extended many hundreds of housing schemes, schools, hospitals, leisure facilities, offices and other public buildings and spaces in the region.

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