



Editor's Note

Hello.

And Happy New Year to you all!

This issue of discover is packed with all the very latest project updates and news from the past 3 months at Doig+Smith.

Highlights in this time include the successful delivery of our first major rail project and the grand opening of the Innovation School at Kelvinside Academy in Glasgow's West End.

We've also been celebrating our double award accreditation from Investors in People.

I hope you will enjoy reading this issue as much as I enjoyed putting it together.

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Discover is published by Doig+Smith for employees of the company and colleagues throughout the industry.

If you have any questions or queries please feel free to contact Michelle Deatcher on the email above.

Front page image: Kelvinside Academy, NuVu School of Innovation

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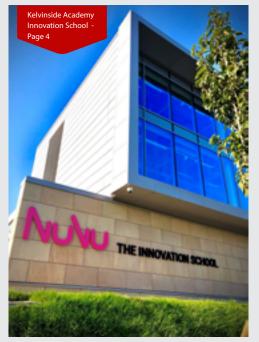
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Reflecting on 2019 with pride and looking forward to

an exciting year ahead...

With the chaotic upheaval of Brexit politics, 2019 was a year characterised by uncertainty in business. Yet in spite of this challenging climate, we are proud to have weathered the storm and thankfully last year was a very good one for Doig+Smith.

We remained strong in a number of sectors including education, commercial, aviation and industrial, and having been appointed to work on several noteworthy projects in the final quarter of 2019, we now enter this new year with a healthy catalogue of new work.

These projects include distilleries, leisure facilities, primary schools, early years centres and secondary schools. We continue to thrive in the aviation world and are particularly excited to have been appointed to work on the multi-billion pound Heathrow West project, with more details to come on that in our next issue.



Director

At Doig+Smith we look forward to the year ahead and feel optimistic that we can continue our success in a post-Brexit era.



Here's to a New Year.

To the new projects we'll work on, the new contacts we'll make and the new industries we strive to break.

And while we celebrate the dawn of a new decade - and exciting things ahead, there's something important that must be said:

THANK YOU.

To our loyal clients and partners, to our followers, colleagues and friends.

It is upon you; the strength and success of our business depends.

So here's to all of you, and to all we will share in 2020.

SHAKING UP THE TRADITIONAL APPROACH TO EDUCATION

As the UK's first full-time Innovation School opens its doors, we chat to the director David Miller.

How did the idea for the School of Innovation first arise and can you tell us about the journey to get it to where it is today?

The project to build the Kelvinside Academy Innovation School started in 2017 when we had just wrapped up our first Summer School, in partnership with an innovation school based in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Throughout the summer, the children had been involved in challenging projects involving bio-fashion and swarm robotics, areas of learning a world away from what they were accustomed to. The rector of the school at the time, Ian Munro, was so blown away by what had been achieved during the Summer School, that he suggested building our own Innovation School using the same model as the partner school in Boston, but adapting it to suit the context of the Scottish Education system.

Fortunately, plans were already in place to build an extension, and it was decided this would be the perfect purpose for the new space. From Summer 2017, a small team pushed the idea forward to fruition till Summer 2019 when, thanks to Balfour Beatty, Doig+Smith and a variety of partners, the School was completed. We officially opened our doors to students in August 2019, just one year after breaking ground on the site at Kirklee.





What is your favourite part of the Innovation School?

I love seeing children learn in a way that is near impossible in a traditional classroom. The model that we operate here is based on an architectural design studio.

The children are given a loosely-framed challenge at the start of a two-week sprint, and throughout the following two weeks, they will sketch, prototype, and iterate, making design decisions and leveraging a whole range of technical, design and meta-skills until they reach their final finessed prototype. The passion is in the process, not the final product. This is so different from conventional learning, where all weight is placed on the final result, rather than how the child got there - which is in fact the interesting part!

Another fascinating aspect about the Innovation School is a moral and ethical dimension to each challenge. Children work on problems and challenges that have a real-world impact. When learning has a real purpose, and children are given permission, the freedom, to create, amazing things happen!

So often within our education framework, children are only embraced for being creative at primary school level, and when they hit secondary school, suddenly everything is about assessment, testing and achieving results. In our Innovation School model, they are allowed to fail and in a sense that's the whole point. In failing, kids actually see the process of learning. It's lovely to see children who academically might be less strong, find themselves in an environment where failure is a positive, where embracing failure and uncertainty is what drives them forward.

Let's talk about the Design and Key Features of the Innovation School...

The building itself, we wanted it to be very outward facing, to be a beacon for Scotland, and for other local schools because we strongly feel that this model is something that education, more widely, is crying out for. In a sense, the metaphor of the glass and its outward looking aspect of the building perfectly captures its purpose.

First off, we've got a workshop downstairs, and even the workshop offers a bit of a 'wow factor' for the children and parents because in there we've got band saws, laser cutters, state of the art printers. Every type of equipment! Sanders, drills - and so for a school that's never had a Technical Department, in a sense that's been an amazing thing.



On the top floor we've got a lighter fabrication workshop complete with glue guns, cardboard and all sorts of things that kids need to prototype and accomplish their design work.

Overall the Innovation School feels more like a start-up environment, with lots of co-working spaces, and is far removed from the conventional learning environment.





In what ways did Doig+Smith add value to the School of Innovation project?

The speed of completion on this project was remarkable, and Doig+Smith were instrumental in achieving the quick turnaround.

The Doig+Smith team took the decision to have a twostage process to procurement, and so there were only two work packages in place when the building actually started, and then with the team, all the work packages were worked on, as the building was being built. This made for an incredibly nimble approach to procurement and was very powerful in creating a strong bond of the team because everyone felt that they were working together on something that was a live situation.

The Communication between Doig+Smith, ourselves and the contractor Balfour Beatty, was excellent. We had regular meetings every two weeks, and this for me was very enlightening coming from a non-construction background.



Would you work with Doig+Smith again in the future?

Absolutely! The whole quality of the relationship and the communication has been outstanding, from the very first moments of talking about the building, to incorporating circularity, and for the kids who were involved in the shadow construction team and the shadow design team.

The fact that Doig+Smith were willing to embrace that, and work with them, meant that these kids got a hugely rich experience.

You can take a look inside the NuVu Innovation School, and see more of our interview with David, on the Doig+Smith YouTube Channel.

ALL ABOARD

AS WE CELEBRATE THE SUCCESSFUL DELIVERY OF OUR FIRST MAJOR RAIL PROJECT

December 16th 2019 saw the official opening of the brand new Robroyston Train Station - a momentous occasion for Scotland and for Doig+Smith.



MSP Michael Matheson cuts the ribbon at the official opening ceremony.

Construction works at the new railway station included:

- Installation of two 150m GRP platforms
- Access-for-all pedestrian overbridge with stairs & lifts
- 263 Park and Ride spaces (including 12 electric vehicle charging bays)
- 20 accessible parking bays
- Secure storage for 32 cycles.

Vehicles and pedestrians have access from both the north and south sides of the station, while the new road network provides direct access from the nearby M80.



From contract award through to completion, Doig+Smith provided Quantity Surveying and Employer's Agent services on behalf of Abellio ScotRail.

This all-encompassing role required the construction consultants to administer the construction contract, together with management of costs and risks, delivering the project to Abellio ScotRail's critical timescales.



William Bowie, Director at Doig+Smith and Employer's Agent on the Robroyston Station project commented:

"This has been an exciting project from beginning to end. As the first new railway station to be constructed under a new model for project delivery, it has been a learning experience for everyone involved. By working together with colleagues in Network Rail, Transport Scotland, Glasgow City Council, SPT and Abellio ScotRail, we have managed to deliver this new station and open it to the public on time and within budget."



ScotRail praised the work of William and Doig+Smith with Project Manager, Sarah Piscitelli stating >>>>>>

We are proud to have played our part in improving sustainable and accessible public transport for Scotland.

Delivering this project on time, within budget and to the exact specifications of ScotRail means that the Robroyston community and its surrounding areas will benefit from improved transport links between Glasgow and Edinburgh for the foreseeable future, and just in time for the 2019 festive period.



William Bowie has been an absolute asset to the Robroyston team. He immersed himself fully on the project, going above and beyond what is expected of him. He has an excellent understanding of all aspects of the project scope, budget, programme, resource etc. I would recommend William other projects and on would certainly recommend Doig+Smith to others because of his exceptional service.

Sarah Piscitelli, ScotRail



House of Dun Historical Park

At the tail end of 2019, the National Trust for Scotland announced its plans to re-purpose the House of Dun, an A-listed building first constructed in the 1700's.

With an investment of over £700,000, the site is set to become a historical park for the people of Angus.

The stables and courtyard area will be redeveloped to accommodate multi-sensory interpretation and costumed story-telling, while the building itself will house the Angus Folk Museum's collection of historical objects.

We are delighted to be involved in this historic project, having been appointed to work as Cost Consultants.



Planning Submitted for Bangholm Sports Centre



Plans were recently submitted for a brand-new sports centre to be built in Bangholm, Edinburgh.

The sports centre is set to include a four-court sports hall, gym hall, dance studio, fitness suite, changing rooms, learning spaces and a community café. By day, the proposed site will be home to Trinity Academy's PE Department and after school Edinburgh Leisure will manage it, with the wider community able to take full advantage of all facilities.

Doig+Smith is delighted to have been appointed to provide its services in Quantity Surveying, Project Management and Principal Designer on this City of Edinburgh Council project.

Conflict Avoidance Pledge Signed

We are proud to be one of the first construction consultancies in the UK to have signed the Conflict Avoidance Pledge.

Backed by Professional Bodies across the industry - including RICS - this new pledge is driving behavioural changes in the land, property and construction sectors, by encouraging all organisations to evaluate their work procedures, and the way disputes are dealt with.

Doig+Smith promotes an open and collaborative approach across all areas of our service delivery and in the drafting of construction contracts.

We look forward to sharing our knowledge with industry partners in order to promote and utilise conflict avoidance measures for the benefit of all.



DOUBLE CELEBRATION AS WE RECEIVE GOLD & PLATINUM AWARDS





We are delighted to announce that Doig+Smith has once again been recognised by Investors in People at the highest possible accreditation levels!

This double achievement is fantastic news for the business, and endorses our commitment to leading, managing, supporting and developing our most important asset - our people.

Having the Investors in People accreditations truly is a prestigious accolade and offers a number of benefits to our employees and to the company:

Helps us to recruit and retain staff

Enhances our Community Benefits offering in bid submissions

Motivates us to continuously improve as an organisation Benchmarks D+S against competitors and those within the construction industry

Our Investors in Young People Gold accreditation highlights Doig+Smith as an 'employer of choice', with pathways and practices in place that ensure positive outcomes for young people. Thank you to all staff who participated in the Investors in People interviews – and for your excellent feedback!

Without your positivity, it would not have been possible to earn this award. The Assessor made particular mention of what a great team spirit there was and how delightful everyone was.



Report Highlights:

90% of Staff think that Doig+Smith is a great place to work

93% TRUST the leaders of the organisation

UK wide, we are placed in the TOP 10 within our Business Sector

95% Agree 'I am able to develop the skills I need to progress.'

Our young people feel they have a voice within our organisation and are encouraged to offer their opinion.

93% Agree 'My manager motivates me to achieve my best.'

Career development is supported, and young people understand the opportunities available to them.

94% Agree 'I am encouraged to improve the way I do things'

Doig+Smith are in the top 25% of all UK organisations accredited to IIP in the 50-250 employee range

Success at the RICS Grand Final Awards

The RICS Grand Final Awards 2019 took place in London on October 4th, and Doig+Smith was there to support two of its nominated projects!

Regarded as the premier property and construction awards in the UK, this annual event celebrates the most innovative projects up and down the country, with winners of the regional awards competing against each other to be crowned 'Best in the UK'.

The West Dunbartonshire Council Office was nominated in the regeneration category, and we are delighted to say that it WON!



Once a symbol of doom and decline, the fire-ravaged Academy building has been completely transformed into a landmark that locals can enjoy, and be proud of.

The £14.5m government-funded project not only restored the Grade A listed façade at 16 Church Street, Dumbarton, it also built open-plan offices and community facilities directly behind it. Today the site is home to over 500 council staff, who enjoy working in a more efficient, collaborative and inspiring environment. Having relocated from the outskirts, the workforce brought with them spending power that is already benefiting retailers in the local town centre.





RICS judges also commended the project team for restoring life to the work of Scottish Architect William Leiper. The West Dunbartonshire Council office is truly a skilled example of how to merge the old with the new, whilst ensuring functionality and purpose.



Our other nominated project, Mackintosh at the Willow, narrowly missed out on the top prize for building conservation, but can still be proud of its 'highly commended' status in this highly competitive category.

This project involved the careful execution and detailed restoration of the original Willow Tea Rooms building to Charles Rennie Mackintosh's 1903 design. A Visitor Centre was also created in the adjacent tenement building at 215 Sauchiehall Street, containing exhibition, education, conference, and office facilities.

We are very proud to have been involved in both of these fantastic projects, and the formal recognition is the icing on the cake!

British Aviation Group Dinner

We attended the British Aviation Group annual dinner on 26th September celebrating the UK's high standing across the world for aviation. We particularly enjoyed the speech given by Etihad CEO Tony Douglas, and were encouraged by his predictions that this sector will continue to boom in the coming years.









British Council for Offices (BCO) Awards Dinner

We had a brilliant time at the British Council for Offices (BCO) Awards Dinner, which took place in London on October 1st.

The annual event is considered to be one of the most prestigious in the corporate real estate calendar, attracting over 1200 key players in the office industry sector to attend each year.

At Doig+Smith, we count ourselves as one of those key players, and we were delighted to host a table at the event, with guests attending from Holmes Miller, Hines, Woodswift Project Services, Energylab Consulting and Patron Capital.

Not only was it great to celebrate truly impressive office design across the UK, we enjoyed catching up with clients and partners alike – and we must say that Huw Edwards made a terrific host!



Health & Social Care Facilities Conference 2019

William Bowie and Stephen Pope represented Doig+Smith at this annual event, where they enjoyed learning about the new changes and innovation within NHS Scotland.

The closing speech delivered by motivational speaker John Loughton was a particular highlight.

The conference also proved to be a great opportunity for our team to meet with new and existing colleagues.



Education Buildings Scotland Conference

The Education Buildings Scotland Conference 2019 proved to be an excellent experience for all inolved. Some highlights from the Conference included discussions on Passivhaus, digital learning and community. It was also interesting to engage with a number of school pupils with ideas for building projects for their own schools (which were awesome, but they hadn't costed them!) The Awards Dinner on Wednesday evening was very enjoyable too, and as the official Wine Sponsor for the event, we even managed a guest appearance on every table!











Architect's Journal (AJ) Awards

London's Shepherd Bush played host to the 2019 Architect's Journal Awards this year, an occasion for celebrating excellence in architecture across the UK.

Two projects we've worked on were nominated for awards:

Edinburgh Printmakers: Cultural Project

Mackintosh at the Willow: Heritage Project.

Although neither project was crowned the winner in its category, it is a massive honour just to have these projects recognised by the Architect's Journal and with such tough competition, the nomination alone is significant.



Ronald McDonald Ladies Lunch

We were delighted to support the Ronald McDonald House Glasgow Ladies Lunch on October 6th where our director Gill Kirkness hosted a table. As you can see, we had a fabulous time and most importantly raised over £18,000 for this worthy cause.







Spifox Christmas Lunch

We had a fantastic time at the annual Spifox Christmas Lunch in Edinburgh, which raised over £250,000 for various children's charities across Scotland.

With this incredible amount generated at the event, the foundation reached a significant milestone in its history, having raised a grand total of £5M since its inception back in 1983!

Huge congratulations to Spifox on achieving this fundraising milestone and for organising another day to remember!









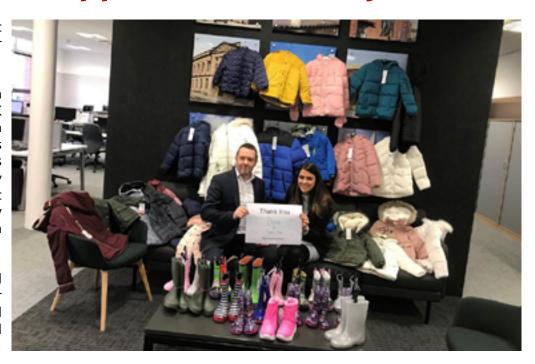


Winter Warmer Appeal for PEEK Project

We were proud to support hub West Scotland's Winter Warmer Appeal.

Organised in partnership with the Scottish Charity PEEK Project (Possibilities for Each and Every Child), the aim of this initiative is to help Glasgow's impoverished children stay warm and cosy throughout the harsh Scottish winter, by providing them with warm jackets and wellies.

Our big-hearted staff donated winter jackets and boots for children from ages 2 to 16, and as a company we matched all donations made.



Question of Sport Dinner for Children's Aid

Team Doig+Smith had a cracking time at the Question of Sport Dinner for the charity Children's Aid, hosted on November 21st in the Doubletree Hilton, Glasgow Central. A fantastic £100,000 was raised on the night for the charity!













Christmas Jumper Day 2019



On Friday 13th December our Edinburgh and Glasgow offices looked out their finest festive attire to take part in Christmas Jumper Day 2019. We must say that Dean and Jamie in our Edinburgh office looked particularly dashing in their christmas outfits!

Our Edinburgh Office (top) raised £130 for Cash for Kids/Mission Christmas Charity, while our Glasgow Office raised £150 for Save the Children.

Thank you to all staff who participated and made donations to these worthy charities.



Mobile Phones for Ronald McDonald House

Our company mobile phones were recently upgraded and to ensure our old handsets were put to gooduse, a number were donated to the fundraising and administration teams at Ronald McDonald House.

Doig+Smith's relationship with Ronald McDonald House Glasgow began in 2010 when we worked closely with the charity through the design and construction stages of its two-storey new build accommodation which opened five years ago.

Our Director Gill (pictured) was then invited to become a board member and trustee of the charity in 2015, and as a company, Doig+Smith has supported them ever since.



Jordan hosts London RICS Matrics Dinner

Well done to Jordan Smith who hosted the hugely successful London RICS Matrics Masquerade Ball on 31st October.

Doig+Smith Associate, Jordan is the chairman of RICS Matrics London this year and has already been involved in the organisation of various charity and social events, with even more planned for 2020.

This particular event was attended by over 220 people and raised £1470 for the RICS Nominated Charity Plastic Oceans UK.





Lesley-Jean Shaw Retires

The final working week of 2019 saw the retirement of our long-standing Business Manager, Lesley-jean Shaw.

With 10 years service to Doig+Smith, Lesley-jean has had a major impact on our business, and has been responsible for some very important projects including the co-ordination of several office relocations, to the Career Ready mentorship programme to name just a few.

One such project worthy of special mention, is our Investors in People accreditation. Not only did Lesley-jean champion our initial involvement in the project back in 2016, she was instrumental in coordinating the corresponding tasks including staff surveys, staff interviews, creation of an employee forum and the introduction of flexible working hours and holidays.

One of the last things accomplished before her retirement, was our reaccreditation of our two investors in people awards:

Investors in People Platinum Investors in Young People Gold

Lesley-jean also assumed responsibility for co-ordinating issues relating to HR and IT, along with a host of other tasks required to ensure the smooth-running of the business and offices in general.



It's fair to say that everyone at Doig+Smith will really miss Lesley-jean, on both a professional and personal level. As well as playing a vital role in the organisation, she has been a cheerful and bubbly presence around our Glasgow office and we're sad to see her go. Cheers to you Lesley-jean, may you enjoy every minute of your retirement - you've certainly earned it!

Taking over from Lesley-jean as Business Manager is David Jackson, who brings with him over 20 years' experience in similar roles within the construction sector. Having joined us back in October, we have done all we can to ensure a smooth transition.

Trainee QS Nour Joins the Young Women Lead Committee 2019 / 2020

One of our trainee quantity surveyors, Nour Rifai has been selected to be part of the Young Women Lead Committee 2019/2020.

This leadership programme is for young women aged between 16-30 living in Scotland and is only open to women from minority ethnic communities.

The project aims to help young women develop their leadership skills, and to create a peer network of diverse young women who share the same passion for gender equality and leading change.

Nour fought off tough competition from other applicants to earn her spot on the committee and she looks forward to the journey ahead.



What motivated you to apply to this programme?

I've always been interested in activism, but with university I haven't had much of an opportunity to get as involved as I would like. The Young Women Lead programme gives me the opportunity to work on a study that will help parliament make real change, whilst also giving me skills that will benefit me as a trainee at Doig+Smith.

What do you hope to get out of it?

I hope to develop my leadership skills, make a difference and be able to give some insight on being a BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) woman in construction. I didn't know anything about Quantity Surveying as a career until Doig+Smith came to my Statistics lecture – I hope that I'll be able to demonstrate that it's a good role (especially at D+S), well suited for students of any ethnicity, gender, or minorities.

How do you think the programme will benefit you in your current role?

I think the leadership skills gained will impact my current role. I will be graduating in 2020, so having the experience of working, presenting and debating in parliament with MSP's can only be a positive, and will surely benefit me as I look to build my career at Doig+Smith.







What have you already learned?

So far we have been focusing on training (digital and online activism, conflict resolution and an introduction to local government, research training and introduction to third sector engagement), and deciding on what our research topic is going to be. Research will begin at the start of 2020 and our report for the Scottish Government will then be published in June on the www2.gov.scot website.

What are you most looking forward to?

I'm looking forward to working with politicians who are interested in the topics the YWL programme researches, working with my team members on our chosen topic, and seeing our final published report.

For more on the Young Women Lead Programme visit: www.ywcascotland.org/programmes/young-women-lead/

Director Tom Allan to retire following 45 years' service



Following a 45 year tenure at Doig+Smith, Tom Allan will retire on February 28th.

Tom joined Doig+Smith back in 1974, and is the last remaining link to our company's namesake, having worked with David Doig himself!

As you can imagine, with over four decades under his belt, he has accomplished a lot in his time here.

Tom's project highlights include:

BAA Framework for Cost Consultancy
Glasgow Airport Major Development
Royal Bank of Scotland HQ, Gogarburn
1 West Regent Street, Glasgow

ASDA Project Management (Nationwide)

Furthermore, Tom was responsible for the project management service within Doig+Smith, a division he led from 1993 to 2015.

He also played an important part in setting up our London Office and has worked hard to develop our client base south of the border.

We wish Tom all the very best in his retirement and he will certainly be missed.

Should you wish to celebrate with Tom, please join us on February 27th from 5pm in All Bar One, Glasgow for farewell drinks.



That was the year that...

The coal miners strike began

The first McDonalds restaurant opened in the UK

The first female president was elected: Isabel Peron of Argentina

Stephen King published his debut novel

Scotland were undefeated in the group stages of the world cup (but STILL didn't progress!)

The UK government imposed a 3 day working week to conserve electricity BUT that ended just before...

TOM ALLAN JOINED DOIG+SMITH!



Unfortunately we couldn't get our hands on a picture of Tom dating back to 1974, but we did find this one from the D+S Christmas Party 1988!

On the Website

New Mailing List Sign Up Form

The Resources section of our website now contains a link where visitors can sign up to receive email updates from us.





New Videos

We recently joined the You Tube Community and look forward to sharing our video content with you. Look out for the You Tube Icons on our website!

New Testimonials

The Resources section of our website is home to a host of client testimonials sharing their positive experience of working with Doig+Smith.





Diary of a Trainee QS Blog

Our junior members of staff talk candidly about life as a trainee QS, sharing the important lessons they've learned, and offering advice to anyone considering this career.

Have a story to be featured or a question about something you've read?

Get in touch with: mdeatcher@doigandsmith.co.uk

Welcome to Doig+Smith



David joins Doig+Smith with over 20 years experience of working in the construction sector.

He has an MBA and is currently studying towards the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants professional qualification.



Diane brings with her a wealth of experience in Project Management, having previously worked for Hub West Scotland, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and Currie & Brown.

She is a member of the Association of Project Management. (MAPM)

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