

Welcome to the Acorn/Sacyr UK's new Velindre Cancer Centre (nVCC) project news update. Every quarter, we will tell you about project progress, what is going on within the community around the build, as well as initiatives that are taking place around the local communities connected with the project.

Culture

Acorn and Sacyr UK has launched a new online community platform to provide a wealth of resources, collaboration, and opportunities.

The platform, which is accessible to all and offers services to anyone who is aged 14 and over, was officially launched by Julie Morgan MS, the Senedd member for Cardiff North – where the new Velindre Cancer Centre is being built – at an event in the Pierhead Building, Cardiff Bay.



Sacyr UK, the contractor building the nVCC, wanted to create a platform which made social value and working with the south Wales community more collaborative. It also wanted to easily help connect businesses with volunteer opportunities.

The platform has since mushroomed into a space where people can build a CV and access job boards. It offers online science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) tutorials for secondary school age children, allows local people to get access to a Tool Library and video lessons on how to use the tools they borrow, as well as connecting philanthropic businesses with charities who are in need.

Charity associates, local councillors, voluntary organisations, and supply chain partners gathered at the launch for a demonstration of the platform from its developers, Prospect Digital.

To access the Acorn community platform, visit: <https://acorn-sacyr.dreams-lms.org/rcd/login.php>

Nurture

One of the crane lift supervisors working on the new Velindre Cancer Centre project is 73-year-old Barry Fabian.

Barry works for sub-contractor MPS Crane Operators and turned 73 in January, but still loves coming to work each day on site and helping to build this state-of-the-art health facility.

We caught up with Barry and asked him what keeps him working in all weathers on a building site, when most people his age are long retired.

"I just enjoy working. Of course, the money comes in handy too and one of my daughters is heading to Melbourne to live next year and so I'm saving up to give her a good start over there, but also, I enjoy it.

"I'm not much of a drinker, but I do go out for the company here and there, but not in pubs as such, so it's great to come to work and get to spend the days with and chat with a good bunch of people."



Barry has been working on building sites up and down the country for around 55 years and says he loves the job:

"It keeps me fit and healthy, but obviously sometimes it's not as good when you have to get up in the morning in the really cold weather or pouring rain, but all in all I enjoy it."

Apprenticeship vacancy

Sacyr UK, the contractor building the new Velindre Cancer Centre is on the lookout for an apprentice to join its Community Benefits team. The successful candidate will be a

self-starter, with either a business administration or communications background to join them in spearheading local initiatives, news updates, and community schemes around the project.

As part of the role, they will get the opportunity to liaise with stakeholders, partners, and those working on the build. They will form part of the team that will liaise with the community and create legacy projects that will serve the local communities for generations to come. If you are interested in hearing more about the community benefits apprenticeship job, please email Katie Hathaway at khathaway@sacyr.com.

Future

The past ten months have been busy and fruitful ones for the nVCC project team. Here are a few stats about what Acorn, the consortium behind the new Velindre Cancer Centre, has achieved in that time:

- Donated 200 accumulative hours working with schools or pupils from around south Wales
- Engaged and worked with 3520 pupils with education around Construction
- Employed fifty-one people on the project who are from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Made lots of plans to help and work with more community groups, charities and local organisations in 2025.

The next resident drop-in is scheduled for Wednesday 26th March, between 6 and 7pm at the Noddfa building at 19 Park Road by the Velindre Cancer Centre rear car park, where members of the Acorn, Sacyr, and Velindre team will be on hand to discuss progress on our works and answer any questions.

These will take place every last Wednesday of the month for the duration of the construction programme. For more information about the project, visit the website at: newvelindre.info