

Welcome to the latest Acorn/Sacyr UK 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 community connected with the project.

Culture

Eighteen-year-old Megan Morgan is possibly one of the youngest female crane slingers and crane operation apprentices in the UK. She's helping to build the new Velindre Cancer Centre, while also pushing gender boundaries in the construction industry.



As a slinger, she safely attaches loads to cranes and directs lifting operations using hand or radio signals. Whilst the nVCC project currently boasts one of the highest female ratios in UK construction, still being a minority on site hasn't fazed her.

As part of its commitment to community engagement, Sacyr UK hosted the Cardiff Bay Rotary to the new Velindre Cancer Centre (nVCC) project site recently.

The visit brought together members of Sacyr UK's Design, Health and Safety, Construction, and Community Benefits teams, along with its Project Director and Construction Director. Together, they presented the latest developments and innovation taking place on site.

President of Cardiff Bay Rotary Angela Gorman shared her appreciation:

"This was a truly inspiring visit. It was great to see the progress being made with the construction of this fantastic new facility."



Nurture

Sacyr UK has welcomed four new apprentices to its back-office team. Sam Rees has joined as a community benefits apprentice, while Faith Evans has joined as a finance apprentice. Oliver Jenkins (mechanical & electrical apprentice) and Lucy Calafato (technical support apprentice) have also recently joined the team. They will all play an integral part in the project, attending Cardiff and Vale College while also working on site.

Sacyr UK's technical assistant Chantelle Lennard joined Joanne O'Keefe, Community Benefits Co-ordinator at Bridgend College STEAM Academy to host an inspiring Women in Construction event. Organised by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), the event welcomed 65 Year 9 female students, aged 14 to 15 from four local schools.



The aim of the event was to inspire the next generation of women in construction with the range of careers available within the industry. The students took part in a series of interactive, STEAM-based activities designed to build confidence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. Activities included building foam brick towers, assembling giant tetrahedrons with rods and elastic bands, and tackling the marshmallow tower challenge. Each activity mirrored real-world construction and engineering scenarios.

The virtual reality headset activity also allowed students to virtually step onto construction sites giving them a realistic and immersive perspective of the daily operations, sparking curiosity and excitement.

Future

The summer months have been a busy time for the project, in that time Acorn, the consortium behind the new Velindre Cancer Centre, has:

- Hosted a visit from Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Care Jeremy Miles. The Cabinet Secretary met with leaders from Velindre University NHS Trust, NHS staff, and partners from the Acorn Consortium and Sacyr UK, who are building the nVCC. He toured the site to look at how the project is progressing.

- Sacyr UK team members worked with eight local schools and colleges to tell over 756 pupils and 11 young people (NEET status) about the career opportunities within the construction industry and the progress on the nVCC project.

- Launched a suicide awareness campaign with the Construction Industry Training Board. The campaign aims to highlight and tackle the concerning suicide statistics in the construction industry. Cardiff North MS Julie Morgan also attended the launch and praised the initiative.



The next resident drop-in is scheduled for Wednesday 29th October, at the Noddfa building at 19 Park Road by the Velindre Cancer Centre rear car park, from 6pm to 7pm where members of the Acorn, Sacyr and Velindre team will be on hand to discuss progress on our works and answer any questions. These take place on the last Wednesday of the month for the duration of the construction.

For more information about the project, visit the website at: **newvelindre.info**