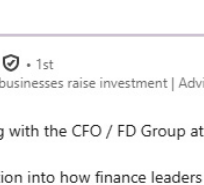


Life @ UNW

April - August



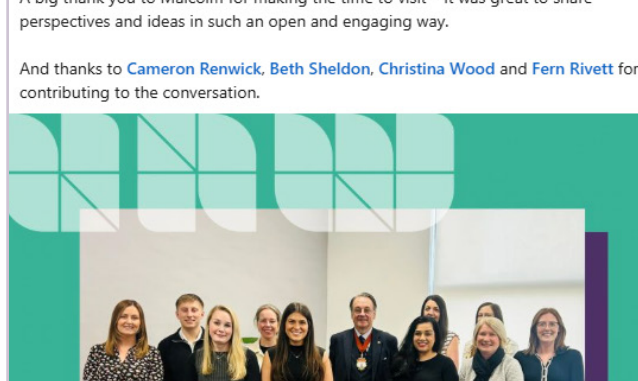
Lara Marshall · 1st
Senior Project Manager at UNW
3mo · Edited · 0

I was lucky to be so many attending our Subsidies & Eardwells event earlier today, with lots of familiar faces as well as some new to our services too.

Thank you to all who attended. It was excellent to catch up and hear some interesting conversations on how the subsidies landscape is evolving, and how this will impact the grant funding available in the region.

If you are interested in attending our next event, reach out to let me know.

Danny Malone · **Neville Bearpark** · **Michael McCulloch**



1 comment · 2 reposts

Nicola Coleman · 1st
Senior Project Manager at UNW
3mo · Edited · 0

It was a pleasure to host ICAEW President **Malcolm Bachus** here at UNW today.

Malcolm was in the region to meet with local firms and newly qualified members, and we were pleased to host a roundtable on his behalf.

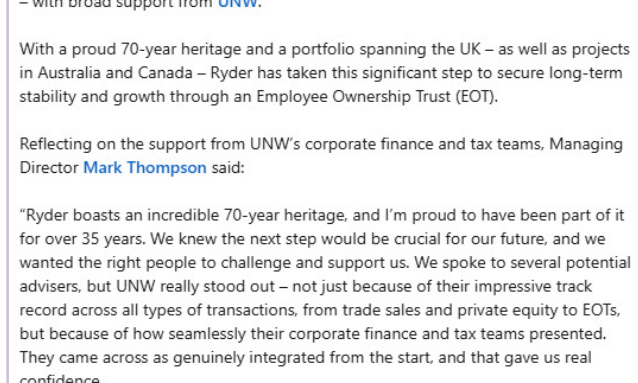
We had a wide-ranging discussion covering the North East economy, the impact of AI on the profession, the evolving role of accountants, audit reform, sustainability, and how ICAEW can best support its members.

It was also great to welcome **Kim Johnson** PhD, ICAEW's new Regional Director for the North East & Yorkshire, and to catch up with **Joanne Lusk**.

A big thank you to Malcolm for making the time to visit - it was great to share perspectives and ideas in such an open and engaging way.

And thanks to **Cameron Rennie**, **Beth Sheldon**, **Christina Wood** and **Fern Rivett** for contributing to the conversation.

UNW welcomes ICAEW President Malcolm Bachus



4 comments · 4 reposts

UNW · 2,388 followers
3mo · Edited · 0

Huge congratulations to everyone at **Ryder Architecture** on today's announcement that the Newcastle-headquartered practice has transitioned to employee ownership - with broad support from UNW.

With a proud 70-year heritage and a portfolio spanning the UK - as well as projects in Australia and Canada - Ryder has taken this significant step to secure long-term stability and growth through an Employee Ownership Trust (EOT).

Reflecting on the support from UNW's corporate finance and tax teams, Managing Director **Mark Thompson** said:

"Ryder boasts an incredible 70-year heritage, and I'm proud to have been part of it for over 35 years. We knew the next step would be crucial for our future, and we wanted the right people to challenge and support us. We spoke to several potential advisers, but UNW really stood out - not just because of their impressive track record across all types of transactions, from trade sales and private equity to EOTs, but because of how seamlessly their corporate finance and tax teams presented. They came across as genuinely integrated from the start, and that gave us real confidence.

Over several months, we worked closely with them to shape the shareholder strategy and explore the succession options in depth. Their advice was honest, insightful, and always focused on what was best for the business, our people, and the longer-term goals of the shareholders. They were incredibly hands-on - guiding us through the process, solving challenges as they came up, and supporting us every step of the way.

The team also went above and beyond to help us communicate the thinking behind each option, including presenting to different groups across the business. That really helped bring everyone on board. In the end, choosing an EOT felt like the perfect way to protect what we've built and create opportunities for the people who've helped build it. UNW played a huge part in making that happen."

Congratulations to all involved in the deal, including **Naomi Townsend**, **Jonathan Partridge**, **Stephen Lant**, **Chris Wilson**, and **Paul Mankin**.

Read the full story in the comments below.

UNW · 2,388 followers
3mo · Edited · 0

It was an absolute pleasure to attend the **Insider Media North East Property Awards 2025** alongside our client, **Evans Property Group**, last Thursday.

The night was made even better by the fact that we got to celebrate with them as **Dakota Newcastle** was crowned **Property Deal of the Year**.

Dakota Newcastle - a 118-room boutique hotel located at St Anne's Wharf on the Quayside - is the sixth in the **Dakota Hotels** UK portfolio and a landmark deal that has not only transformed a key site in Newcastle but also delivered significant economic and employment benefits to the area.

We're proud to have been able to call **Evans Property Group** a UNW audit client since 2020. With decades of experience under their belt, this privately owned, Leeds-based firm has been making its mark on the property sector since 1950 - building a strong track record in multi-sector projects and joint ventures.

Congratulations to everyone from **Evans**, including **Rob Marshall**, **Mark Banks**, and **Scott Gallagher**, **Ming, CA**, as well as **Andrew Overstone** and **Mark Spanton** from **Dakota Hotels**, and **Paul Whitaker** from **G&M Construction Group PLC**.

Dave Broadhead, **Martin Cross**, **Brittney Marshall**, **Fern Rivett**, **Andrew Wilson**, **Adam Asstair** **ACA**

INNER



1 comment · 1 report

Meghan Phillips · 1st
Corporate Finance Manager at UNW
3mo · Edited · 0

Last weekend marked the second official outing of our (already legendary) **UNW** **Big Club** - and while the sun decided to sit this one out again, the team spirit definitely did not.

Big thank you to the brilliant bunch of colleagues who came along and braved the rain!

Until next time - may the clouds part and the snacks stay dry! ☁️☀️

#UNW #TeamHike #ColleaguesGoals #HikingClub #WorkplaceWellbeing

UNW · 2,388 followers
3mo · Edited · 0

Nothing like a few competitive activities to complete our **UNW Away Day** yesterday!

Yesterday's away day was possibly our best one yet - full of energy, laughter, and plenty of friendly competition!

Throughout the day we focused on growth mindset, collaboration, coaching and team building, all key ingredients for the way we're striving to work together.

A huge thank you to the **Newcastle Rugby Foundation** for putting on such a fantastic day of activities and helping bring our teams even closer together.

And of course... extra points if you can guess who's wearing the mascot helmet! 🐼

Swipe through for some of the action shots!

#Teamwork #GrowthMindset #CoachingCulture #FirmAwayDay #Collaboration #TeamBuilding #AcasFoundation

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Robert Cooper · 1st
Senior Project Manager at UNW
3mo · Edited · 0

Great catch up this morning with the CFO / FD Group at UNW.

Some fascinating conversation into how finance leaders deal with the rolling wave that is AI.

The conversation could quite easily have gone on for longer with some really insightful, practical learnings coming out of the session. Hopefully all of great use to the attendees.

I'm genuinely really proud of the community that has started to develop here - for me, relationships come first and the business / finance related stuff flows as a natural consequence.

Thanks also **Secret CFO** - some of your insight and commentary from Ltd was very useful and was banded about during the discussion. Funny how these things start on a social platform (from wherever you are based) and end up being mentioned by CFO's in the North East of England.

Thanks all and to next time! 🙌

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Last summer, around the same time as our own office revamp (<https://lnkd.in/g/2d3p8g>), UNW client **SPACE Architects** (part of **Space Group**) transformed their North East headquarters. Spaceworks, into a dynamic and flexible workspace designed to inspire collaboration and innovation.

Recently, members of our Audit Team were onsite for the first time since the upgrade and had the chance to look around the offices on Benton Park Road. Safe to say, it made quite the impression.

The remodeled layout features everything from standing desks and meeting pods to informal seating areas. There's even a presentation area that doubles as a "dancefloor" for social events!

Congrats on the fantastic new space. **SPACE Architects**!

Read more about the transformation here: <https://lnkd.in/g/zvZvDM4>

John Dowdell | **Lisa Parnley** | **Louise Stobart-Smith** | **Neil McGlew** | **Joel Clifford** | **Lucy Booth** | **Anna Gillespie** | **Bethany Lightfoot** | **Christina Wood**

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