

A foreword from Peter Smyth, Managing Director

On behalf of all of our Directors I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your hard work, support and interest in Bakers of Danbury and its sister companies Collins and Curtis Masonry and Pickford Builders during 2018. We have had another very busy and exciting year across all of our companies.

Our projects have won a number of prestigious awards again this year, including the following:

- **Civic Trust 2018 AABC Conservation Award** (restoration of a redundant church Quay Place, Ipswich)
- **Civic Trust 2018 Commendation** (conservation and alteration works to the Charterhouse, London)
- **National Churches Trust - The King of Prussia Gold Medal 2018** Highly Commended (major restoration project to St Peter and St Paul, Upper Stoke in Kent)

We have recently completed a new build consisting of four apartments on Mill Lane opposite Maldon Promenade, Maldon, Essex (see photo below). The apartments are on the market now.

We were pleased to have been awarded extra masonry conservation works at the College of Arms in London. The College of Arms is a royal corporation acting on behalf of the Crown in all matters of heraldry, the granting of new coats of arms, genealogical and heraldic research, recording of pedigrees and matters relating to the flying of flags on land.

We have also been awarded additional conservation works at Coalhouse Fort, Tilbury, Essex. Coalhouse Fort was built between 1861 and 1874 to protect England from invasion by the French and used again during WW1 and WW2.

We look forward to starting a number of new projects in the New Year including an extensive refurbishment of a fire damaged barn in Essex, the rebuild of St John's Abbey precinct wall in Colchester, stone repairs to Rivenhall Place, re-roofing and masonry repairs to St John the Evangelist Church in Bury St Edmunds, an installation of a new kitchen, w/c and mains services to St Catherine's Church in Littlington and timber repairs to a both a house in Layer Marney and a barn in Blackmore. If you would like to keep up-to-date with Bakers' latest projects, you can do so by visiting bakersofdanbury.co.uk

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.



The King of Prussia Gold Medal 2018 - Highly Commended awarded for the major restoration project to St Peter & St Paul, Upper Stoke



Recently completed newbuild apartments (two 1 bedroom and two 2 bedroom) in Maldon, Essex



Above left: Civic Trust 2018 Commendation (The Charterhouse, London)

Above right: Civic Trust 2018 AABC Conservation Award (Quay Place, Ipswich)



Grade II Listed Water Mill and House

Layham Mill House in Suffolk is part of a Grade II Listed Water Mill dating back to 1905. The Mill was being used until around ten years ago. The new owners plan to repair the mill back to working order in the near future, so the wheel will turn again. Bakers of Danbury recently completed refurbishment works to Layham Mill House, as well as some repairs to the Water Mill itself.

External works to Layham Mill House included the removal of existing render and lathing, the upgrading of insulation, application of Savolit board and Thermolime render, chimney and roof repairs. The box sash windows were removed and repaired onsite. Bakers carried out timber repairs, installed new sash ropes and pulleys and also replaced some glazing.

Structural repairs were made to the timber frame using green oak. Internally the sloping and uneven floors were levelled using timber firrings. Three bathrooms were completely refurbished including new sanitaryware, ceramic tiling and full redecoration.

The owners of Layham Mill House have instructed Bakers of Danbury to carry out further works - the conversion of an outbuilding on the Layham Mill site, to provide a self-contained guest suite.

Bottom left and right: Layham Water Mill and House



Essex Youth Build Site Visit

Essex Youth Build visited All Saints Church in Terling in the Summer to learn about the conservation works underway.

The small group of 16-19 year olds who are currently studying a City & Guilds course with Essex Youth Build attended All Saints Church for a site tour and Q&A whilst Bakers of Danbury were carrying out conservation and restoration works to the church.

Conservation and Restoration works to All Saints Church include the following:

- Stripping cedar shingles for full height of spire
- Carrying out timber repairs as found and putting back new oak shakes
- Remove weathervane, repair, decorate and re-guild
- Repair stone clock and sundial and prepare redecorate and guild as existing
- Stone replacement to quoins
- Replace existing lightning conductor tape with new.

Heather Cutler who is part of the All Saints' Terling Spire Project Team said

"Thank you for your time and terrific input to making yesterday's visit, to the work currently being undertaken at All Saints' Terling, both interesting and safe. I do hope the lads got some ideas for future careers in heritage construction and I wish them well for their futures."



Above: All Saints Church
Below: Essex Youth Build



If you would like to arrange for a small group of students to visit a working site to learn more about conservation and building works please do not hesitate to contact Kate Gunner by emailing kate.gunner@bakersofdanbury.co.uk

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Westminster School Extension

At present Bakers are currently building a £2.2 million extension to Westminster School in London, which is within the grounds of Westminster Abbey. The extension includes meeting and teaching space as well as offices for school staff. Bakers have completed phases one and two which involved the demolition of the existing building and an archaeological dig.

Phase one involved the careful demolition of the concrete music centre in Little Dean's Yard. The demolition was carried out very carefully to protect the Grade I Listed buildings surrounding the site.

Careful demolition and breaking out was also carried out on the reinforced concrete foundation to the music center to protect the archaeology below ground.

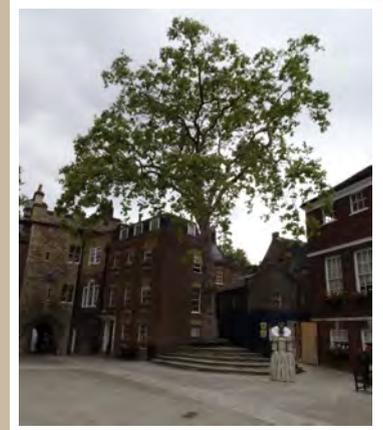
During phase two Bakers oversaw archaeological excavations, which were carried out in conjunction with Pre-Construct Archaeology.

The archaeological excavations uncovered part of the original kitchen to the Monks Abbey dating back to the 11th century.

A section of the new build floor will be cantilevered glass, creating a platform from which to view the archaeology below ground level, which was exposed during the archaeological excavations.

Working under the instruction of Ptolemy Dean Architects Ltd, Bakers of Danbury are currently working on phase three of the project.

During the third phase Bakers will be using traditional building techniques and materials to create a new build extension.



Above: Little Dean's Yard, Westminster School, London.

Below left: Archaeological excavations uncovered 11th c. Monks Abbey.

Below right: Careful demolition of the Music Centre in Little Dean's Yard.



Bakers' Specialist Joinery Division



Bakers of Danbury's Specialist Joinery Workshop recently completed a hand crafted bespoke solid oak screen for Lambeth Palace - the official London residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury in England. The solid oak screen is free standing on stone bases. Particular attention was paid to ensure all elements were covered - from floor levels, to the angle the screen had to be positioned. We are currently also working on a number of repairs to oak doors for Lambeth Palace.

We are currently handcrafting a number of hardwood windows and doors for the new build extensions Bakers are currently building for Winsley's Charity Almshouses in Colchester. We created design drawings of the windows and doors for approval by the architect.



Bakers recently handcrafted seven display units for Colefax & Fowler's new Interior Design Shop which is located in Chelsea Harbour, London. The display units were constructed from 30mm MDF with a lino top covering and an oak edging applied to the unit tops. The units were finished in a factory spray with a stained oak edging. Colefax & Fowler later placed an order for another display unit to the same spec as the previous seven units, which we are currently working on.

We have recently refurbished, repaired and decorated a National Beacon for the village of Purfleet. The beacon itself was refurbished and it's post repaired. We carried out a full decoration of the sign and installed a new concrete base. This was a test for Darren's (our lorry driver) HIAB skills, as the post was set 2m into the ground.

Photos Above: Lambeth Palace and Purfleet national beacon and village sign.

We would like to welcome George Cox who is a 2nd year apprentice and Tom Gannicott - Porter who is a recently qualified joiner. Paul Revill our Joinery Shop Manager would like to thank all of the joiners in the workshop for their hard work, and he looks forward to 2019.

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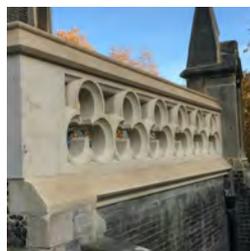
Collins and Curtis Masonry are currently busy working on a number of projects across the region including the supply of masonry for a number of small to large projects.

Approximately 130 Portland Stone indents have been cut and worked for St Mary's Church, Wanstead and in excess of 300 Douling Stone details including tracery and arches for the historic Athlone House in Hampstead.

We have recently completed the Stoke Ground Basebed supply for new wings currently under construction at Bartlow Park in Cambridgeshire and will start the manufacture of the new porticos in the New Year.

We have been busy with refurbishment projects on-site, including renovations to the coats of arms on the Chapel and Lodge to Seckford Hall, Woodbridge and the repair to the ancient steps in Lewis Gardens, Colchester using Caen Stone.

We have also recently completed the ornate balustrade in Hartham Park Bath stone for St James' Church, Sussex Gardens in London.



Photos above: Bespoke handcarved stone fireplace

Photos to left: Ornate tracery balustrade at St James' Church, Sussex Gardens in London

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It's been a very busy second half of the year for Pickford Builder's. The insurance work is in abundance with plenty of claims keeping Pickford's new Insurance co-ordinator Tracie Rimmer on her toes.

On the contracting side, works have also been busy with some interesting contracts undertaken. Dean Harvey is currently working on a project for a client that we have worked for previously in Hatfield Broad oak. This project is a barn conversion to a 2 bedroom guest annex. As always with conversions there have been a fair share of headaches uncovered, with the timber studs and wall plates having to be replaced due to rot.



Above and left: Barn Conversion in Hatfield Broad Oak, Essex

Two photos far left: Building project to a Listed building in Wicken Bonhunt, Essex

Paul Rodwell is nearing completion of a kitchen extension with bedroom above as well as a garden room extension on an historic cottage for a private client in Ugley Green.

Andy Nunn is currently on a listed building project in Wicken Bonhunt, constructing a new roof to the kitchen and garden room extension with oak king post trusses, exposed oak rafters and a re-configuration of the kitchen and utility room.

Bakers of Danbury joinery shop supplied a substantial traditional solid oak garden room frame and three new windows.

To find out more about our recent projects visit www.pickfordbuilders.co.uk

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