



This year's Hawkins Hatton 'Sing for your Supper' became a pre-Christmas event

Good food, good wine and good company at HH event

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

'Twas the night before Christmas'

In fact, it was a whole month before Christmas, and some, when Hawkins Hatton Corporate Lawyers decided to hold their 'Sing for your Supper' dinner. This event was never normally held in November, in fact, it was always held in early spring.

Given the intervention of the pandemic, this dinner was not able to be held in the spring of 2020 or 2021. Instead, HH thought rather than waiting for spring 2022, they would hold a pre-Christmas event to try and share some of the magic of Christmas with their clients and professional contacts.

The event at Weston Park has been held there for over 10 years by HH, and has become one of the iconic events which people put in their business calendars.

HH corporate partner Colin Rodrigues said: "Our event is simple – it is good food, good wine and good company with friends, so what is there not to like? Given how difficult the pandemic has been for a lot of people, HH thought by sharing some Christmas joy early, it would be the perfect way to mark the countdown to the start of the festive season.

Litigation partner Harminder Sandhu added: "HH has been built on strong values of client service which means a lot to Colin and I, and when we see our clients and professional contacts in one room, we know we are amongst friends."

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MSC UK moves to take 49pc stake in Next Gen Makers

The move will help to tackle the engineering skills shortage

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Industrial supply business MSC UK has acquired a stake in Next Gen Makers, a move which it believes will help address the engineering skills shortage.

MSC UK, based in Wednesbury, has a 49 per cent share in the organisation, which helps engineering and manufacturing businesses attract and retain skilled apprentices.

Next Gen Makers partners with engineering firms, helping them identify their skills gaps in an ever changing market. Its Best Practice Programme equips manufacturers with the tools they need to better plan for, attract and retain apprentices.

Through the programme, Next Gen Makers provides a host of best practice resources and peer-to-peer discussion forums. This enables manufacturing firms of all sizes to adopt new practises that have been proven in other successful apprenticeship schemes.

Next Gen Makers has recently partnered with Make UK to develop an engineering apprenticeship employer kitemark.

MSC and Next Gen Makers have partnered for two years to explore and understand the true challenges of the manufacturing sector and identifying specific skills shortages.

MSC believes that the acquisition will be an additional way to reinforce its commitment to make UK manufacturing the best it can be by helping businesses attract the talent required to realise

Flagship estate is becoming greener

London and Cambridge Properties is making changes to its flagship Pensnett Estate to help improve the local environment.

A new footpath has been created by LCP House, which will include 240 newly planted trees and a timber-stepped path through to a large wild flower meadow at the top of the bank that will be a rich source for attracting insects and other wildlife.

As well as environmental improvements, LCP has also replaced and extended the CCTV system on the estate.



Next Gen Makers MD Adam Tipper, left, and Dave Darby of MSC UK

greater efficiencies and innovation.

Dave Darby, managing director for MSC UK, said: "Having partnered with Next Gen Makers for several years, we are now extremely excited to take the relationship to the next level by acquiring a significant stake in their business. A large part of MSC's customer base is made up of manufacturing companies and, consequently, we have developed a deep understanding of the challenges that they face, including the growing engineering skills

shortage. We see our role as more than just a high-service-level distributor of industrial consumables — we are also committed to doing everything we can to support the growth of British manufacturing."

Adam Tipper, Managing Director of Next Gen Makers, said: "MSC's commitment to helping make all of its stakeholders better, whether improving the efficiency of its customers' operations or helping to fill the skills gap, is in perfect synergy with Next Gen Makers."

Packaging company completes re-brand

UK-based global packaging company Tri-Wall has completed its acquisition and re-branding of the Rosewood Group.

It aims to dramatically increase its share of the worldwide packaging market.

Tri-Wall acquired a 51 per cent stake in Rosewood in 2018, gaining 100 per cent of the group in October last year.

Its headquarters is in Monmouth where they have 115 employees, with one of its six sites in Wolverhampton. In addition, the company has a global base.

New partnership for My Clothing

RS Components and Wolverhampton-based My Clothing have announced a strategic partnership which introduces a new personalised workwear solution.

The rs.myclothing.com website is a one-stop shop for workwear.

RS senior marketing manager Mark James said: "We are very excited to launch our new personalised workwear service with My Clothing."

"As businesses recover from the pandemic we are seeing high demand for personalised workwear."