

OUR STORY



— CONTENTS —

4 | **JOHN WHITTAKER** Foreword

8

**HOPE POLLARD
BEN GREENAWAY**
Wirral Waters

14

GRAEME BRIDGE
Bridgewater Canal

18

**JOE ROBERTS
JERRY LYNCH
LEE CUNNINGHAM
MEGAN PICKERING**
Peel Ports

26

TAMMY SILCOCK
EventCity

30

IAN PATRICK
Land

36

PAUL MADDISON
Doncaster Sheffield Airport

40

THE CUMMINS'
Homes

44

**CHRIS FARMAKIS
STEPHEN FARMAKIS**
Liverpool John
Lennon Airport

50

**MIKE FLANNERY
AVRIL YAQV**
intu Trafford Centre

58

**ARCHIE GRAHAM OBE
BOB JAMES**
Glasgow Harbour

64

**SAMANTHA HAWKINS
BRENDA DEANE**
MediaCityUK

70

**PROFESSOR
ALAN REED**
Chatham Waters

76

STEVE JONES
Falmouth Port

80

JOHN MAHER
Liverpool Waters

84

DARREN LUSTED
Gloucester Quays

88

SOPHIE MAHON
Communities

JOHN WHITTAKER
Chairman and Founder of The Peel Group

“

Every morning, as a boy growing up in my home, 'Tor Hey' in Greenmount, Lancashire, I would gaze out of my bedroom window and look up at the tower on Holcombe Hill.

It's more than just a tower to me; it's a tower of strength, which, throughout rain, hail and storms, remains resilient, immovable and resolute.

”



"...PEEL DOES NOT JUST TRANSFORM LANDSCAPES, IT CHANGES LIVES TOO..."

I went to boarding school at the age of seven, and in the early days, apart from my family, it was the tower I missed and longed to see. In my first letter home, I wrote: "Dear Mum and Dad, as I look out of the window, the sun is shining, but not for me and I can't see the tower on the hill."



PEEL
TOWER
-
Holcombe
Hill

It was my strength and security – whatever the problem, it was always there. Little did I know that, 22 years later, I would acquire Peel Mills Ltd, the successor to Sir Robert Peel's family business before he went into politics, and I would convert that childhood emotion and sentiment into developing The Peel Group of today.

I've always felt strongly about the notion of destiny in life. It's an inner spirit that drives me to achieve, and

it was these early, formative years, that defined me. A combination of my mother's loving devotion and inspirational character, along with the influence of my father and boarding school's intense discipline inspired me to prove something, to achieve, regardless of the obstacles that would inevitably head my way.

Above all, I had confidence and believed in myself. I wasn't afraid of taking risks, of which there have been many and we are not without them today.

After leaving boarding school at the age of 17, I was articled to a firm of auctioneers and valuers in Bolton. It was here that I learnt the value of artefacts, land and property, as well as the need for deals and negotiation, which set me on a path.

Certain events and crossroads happen in life, one of which took me from estate agency to quarrying – still in Peel's portfolio today – followed by waste disposal.

A significant turning point came while I was considering how to burn and dispose of waste, which led me to acquire the redundant Square Works

Mill in Ramsbottom – just for its chimney. It was a fortuitous moment. I quickly learnt that if you sold the scrap from the mill you could make more than the amount you paid for the building and still have it left to develop.

Acquiring redundant cotton mills soon became very competitive, which is when I began to look at acquiring operating mills, and Peel Mills in Bury was the first acquisition. It was losing money, so to overcome this, it meant acquiring more operating textile mills and rationalising and combining the businesses. At the same time, we redeveloped the empty premises and the land they stood on, thus ensuring a profitable business and the creation of new jobs.

It was from one of these mills that the next phase in Peel's evolution emerged, when the first retail shed was built on Bobby Hall's factory on Angouleme Way, Bury. That led to Peel becoming the largest retail park developer in the country.

It is a simple model that we went on to replicate across all elements of our businesses – whether it be textiles, land and property, ports, airports, retail, energy, or media – all

have one central theme; it's about extracting value from God's given assets of land, air and water.

Of course, this needs foresight, a vision and willingness to take risks, but to make this vision a reality you have to create a loyal and enthusiastic team and take those people on a journey with you. During my rugby days, I learnt that a team's camaraderie, spirit and passion are what helps it to succeed. The same applies to business – a good team will beat a line-up of prima donnas.

Our company motto – determination, perseverance and patience with a dose of humility – evolved from this attitude and it's a mantra that I continue to instil in my family and the Peel team today.

As we look at what Peel has created and achieved, I am immensely proud of the workforce that has made it happen over the past 55 years, and

the multitude of opportunities we have delivered, creating economic activity, thousands of jobs and a better standard of living. This has been achieved by recycling and reinvesting our profits back into our businesses and that principle still applies today.

We are here to write the next chapters of the books that the great entrepreneurs of the Industrial Revolution gave us, whether it's through the landholdings along the Duke of Bridgewater's canal system, Daniel Adamson's Manchester Ship Canal or Jesse Hartley, engineer of the Port of Liverpool and Dock Estate.

We will take the legacy of what they built and use it to link the illustrious cities of Liverpool and Manchester through our pioneering Ocean Gateway investment programme – which is only part of our significant proposals and contribution to the Northern Powerhouse.

The Peel story will never end. We still have a lot to achieve and our legacy will remain for the benefit of generations to come.

There are so many wonderful stories that it's not possible to capture them all but I hope you will agree with me that the small selection of individual reflections in this book demonstrate the impact our businesses have had on people's daily lives across the UK – their hopes, their dreams, their ambitions and their aspirations.

What they show is that Peel does not just transform landscapes, it changes lives too, and for that, we should all feel a great sense of achievement and pride.

Please enjoy.

John Whittaker



Wirral Waters

Wirral Waters is the largest regeneration project in the UK and also seeks to become the most sustainable. It is anticipated that over 20,000 permanent new jobs will be created during the lifetime of the scheme, along with stunning waterfront living and landscaped open spaces for its community to enjoy. The 500-acre former Birkenhead dockland is undergoing a renaissance on an unprecedented scale.

wirralwaters.co.uk

WIRRAL MET COLLEGE

HOPE POLLARD

ELECTRICAL
INSTALLATION
APPRENTICE



Hope Pollard from Tranmere is employed by North West Construction and is studying an electrical installation apprenticeship at Wirral Metropolitan College.





"I really want to become an accomplished electrician..."



" IT'S ENABLED ME TO DO MORE WITH MY LIFE "

Hope is one of 13,500 students at Wirral Metropolitan College, a new multi-million pound campus dedicated to training in construction and the built environment, and the first of many building projects to be completed at Wirral Waters.

"Being on this course has benefited me in many ways. It has given me full-time employment and enabled me to do more with my life. I really want to become an accomplished electrician and I hope to continue my education to HNC level at university."



BEN GREENAWAY

GREEN STREET CO-ORDINATOR

“Planting a tree is a demonstration of faith in the future as well as a gift to those who follow us.”

Ben Greenaway is the co-ordinator for the Green Street project, responsible for creating attractive boulevards and spaces in and around Peel's regeneration project on the Wirral.

“The 1,000 trees planted by The Mersey Forest in Birkenhead since 2012 make a bold statement about hopes for the future of the town – a town on the cusp of change.

“As well as making a more pleasant business environment, we are confident that our tree planting programme will contribute to increased investment in the area and ultimately more jobs. As the physical landscape improves, people will be encouraged to walk and cycle more. Indeed, our work in residential areas linking Birkenhead Park, Ilchester Park

and Bidston Moss to the docklands development area has already brought communities together to enjoy and celebrate their improved surroundings. People respond well to trees and it gives me great pride to see this project quite literally come alive.”

Bridgewater Canal

Constructed over 250 years ago by the 3rd Duke of Bridgewater, the 39-mile Bridgewater Canal connects Runcorn, Manchester and Leigh and is considered to be England's first true canal.

Originally created to transport the Duke of Bridgewater's coal from his Worsley mines to the rapidly expanding industrial towns and cities in the north-west, today it is a leisure waterway popular with cruising boaters.

The canal is also a strategic link between the north and south canal network and features one of the Seven Wonders of the Waterways, the well-known 'Barton Swing Aqueduct' which carries the Bridgewater Canal over the Manchester Ship Canal.

bridgewatercanal.co.uk



GRAEME BRIDGE

BRIDGEWATER MOTOR BOAT CLUB

Graeme Bridge has been the Chairman of the oldest cruising club on the canal – The Bridgewater Motor Boat Club – for almost 25 years and is passionate about the canal and the pleasure it brings to boating enthusiasts. It has around 100 members and is going as strong today as when it was formed in 1951. Graeme and his wife Sue also have a narrowboat moored in Walton, Cheshire.



“

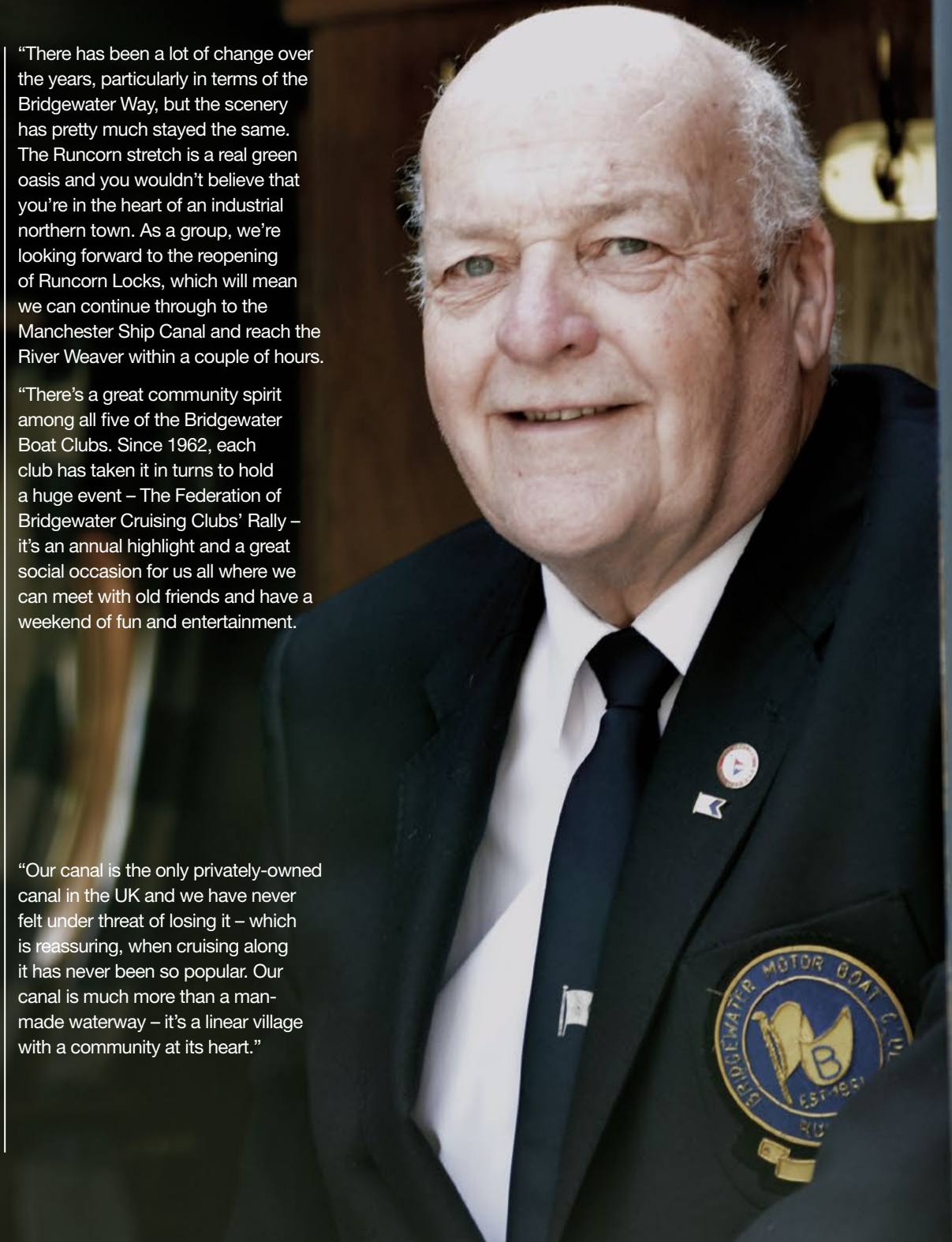
OUR CANAL IS MUCH MORE THAN A MAN-MADE WATERWAY

”

“There has been a lot of change over the years, particularly in terms of the Bridgewater Way, but the scenery has pretty much stayed the same. The Runcorn stretch is a real green oasis and you wouldn't believe that you're in the heart of an industrial northern town. As a group, we're looking forward to the reopening of Runcorn Locks, which will mean we can continue through to the Manchester Ship Canal and reach the River Weaver within a couple of hours.

“There's a great community spirit among all five of the Bridgewater Boat Clubs. Since 1962, each club has taken it in turns to hold a huge event – The Federation of Bridgewater Cruising Clubs' Rally – it's an annual highlight and a great social occasion for us all where we can meet with old friends and have a weekend of fun and entertainment.

“Our canal is the only privately-owned canal in the UK and we have never felt under threat of losing it – which is reassuring, when cruising along it has never been so popular. Our canal is much more than a man-made waterway – it's a linear village with a community at its heart.”



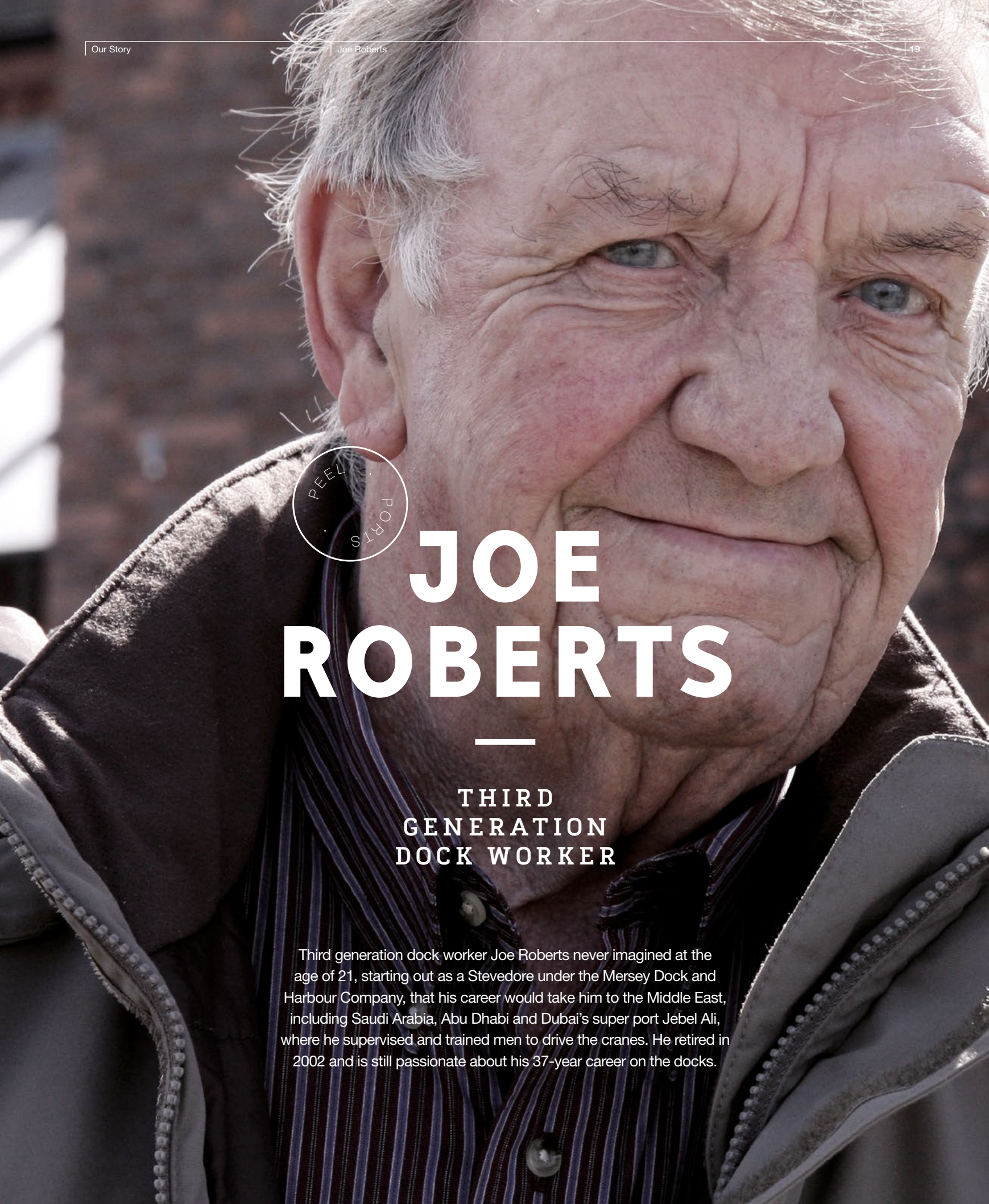
Peel Ports

In 2015, Peel Ports celebrated the 300th anniversary of the world's first enclosed commercial wet dock in Liverpool, helping the city to become one of the most significant ports in the international shipping community.

The anniversary came at a critical time in the resurgence of the Port of Liverpool with the construction of the new deep-water container terminal Liverpool2, connecting the UK and the international business community.

Peel Ports also has interests in Glasgow, Manchester, Heysham, Dublin, Medway, Falmouth and Great Yarmouth.

peelports.com



PEEL PORTS

JOE ROBERTS

—

THIRD GENERATION DOCK WORKER

Third generation dock worker Joe Roberts never imagined at the age of 21, starting out as a Stevedore under the Mersey Dock and Harbour Company, that his career would take him to the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi and Dubai's super port Jebel Ali, where he supervised and trained men to drive the cranes. He retired in 2002 and is still passionate about his 37-year career on the docks.

“
**WORKING ON
 THE DOCKS
 WASN'T A JOB
 – IT WAS A
 WAY OF LIFE**
 ”

“...human
 spirit is
 strong here...”

“When I first worked on the docks in the early 60s, there were about 14,000 people that worked here. It was post-war and Bootle just down the road had been one of the most bombed places in the country, but the human spirit is strong here and there were amazing characters and great banter among us all. That generation was extra special.

“Working on the docks wasn't a job – it was a way of life. It was the greatest job in the world. No two days were the same. I could tell you so many stories.

If I was starting out in my career again I'd love to be back on the docks in Liverpool, or maybe in Dubai, for the weather, of course. I've had my time now but I'm still trying to persuade my grandson to get a career with Peel Ports. I keep watching what's going on at Liverpool2 and I'd love to be part of what's happening down there. I can't help it. It's in my blood.”



JERRY LYNCH

DOCK WORKER
SINCE THE
AGE OF 20

“At one time, these docks would have just been flattened.”

Jerry Lynch, who lived off Scotland Road in Liverpool, was 20 years old when he first started to work for Cunard as a dock worker – driving the forklift trucks and cranes. It was a family affair for Jerry as his brother also worked on the docks as a Tug Master Driver.

“The job was much harder and far more technical than people would give it credit for. Today’s modern equipment makes the job so much easier. One moment that always sticks in my mind was when I was driving a straddle carrier and I didn’t see a

lump of steel on the ground in front of me. It was the base of a lamp-post that had been knocked down. As I hit it, the straddle carrier tipped and I hung on for dear life. I lived to tell the tale but it was a scary moment.

“It’s fantastic what’s been done here – at one time, these docks would have just been flattened. I came back here for an anniversary meal with my wife and I looked over at the big wheel and couldn’t believe my eyes. It was like a dream – this was actually Albert Dock.”



LEE CUNNINGHAM

CORPORAL
TURNED DUTY
MANAGER



As a former Corporal in the King’s Own Royal Border Regiment who had served tours in Belize, Canada, Kenya and Northern Ireland, it was always going to be a challenge for Lee Cunningham to find a career post-army which would be as fulfilling. Since leaving school in the early 1990s, it had been his vocation and the only professional life he knew.

“After the army, it was important for me to find a proper career which would give me long-term prospects and security. It was 1998 and I spotted an opportunity to join Heysham Port

as a Terminal Operative driving the HGVs onto the roll-on roll-off ships. It was something totally different, but very soon into the job I knew that I’d be happy there. After an initially slow start in my new-found career, I took on the extra responsibility of Health and Safety Representative. This turned out to be a great move as it eventually led me to being promoted to Team Leader.

“Today, I’m a Duty Manager which is a role I love. I’m managing all the staff and visitors at the port as well as taking responsibility for giving clearance to the inbound and outbound vessels.

No two days are the same and I get a real sense of satisfaction from providing a good service. I’m passionate about health and safety and the importance of safeguarding our staff and visitors and I really see my role growing further in this area.

“A lot of the staff at Heysham have been here for many years and there’s a great camaraderie and team spirit among us all. We look out for each other, not too dissimilar to how it was in the army. It was definitely the right path for me to take.”



“My
parents
are really
proud of
what I
do – and
I am too.”

MEGAN PICKERING

FIRST FEMALE
APPRENTICE



As the first and currently only female apprentice at Peel Ports, Megan Pickering from Runcorn, Cheshire, is an inspiring role model for young women who have aspirations to forge a career in engineering. She is training to be a Mechanical Technician and one day dreams to achieve a degree in her vocation and become a fully qualified Mechanical Engineer.

“My training takes me to various ports and to the Manchester Ship Canal where I can work on maintaining many different types of ship-to-shore cranes, mobile cranes, pumps, engines, swing bridges and locks. It’s the variety of the job that I love and it’s a great feeling when I come up with a solution to a problem and it works.”

“My colleagues see me as a valued member of the team. This is more than just a job. It’s given me some great opportunities; like when I was part of the Peel Ports crew, sailing the tall ship ‘The Pelican of London’ to Belfast and Glasgow. It’s been great for my confidence and my parents are really proud of what I do – and I am too. My grandfather used to work on the Manchester Ship Canal throughout the 1950s and 60s and I think he’d be fascinated to see what I do now.”

MORE
THAN
JUST
A JOB

EventCity

Launched in 2010, EventCity, situated in the unrivalled retail and leisure destination of TraffordCity in Manchester, is the second largest exhibition space outside London.

Its giant, flexible space hosts a plethora of prestigious consumer and trade shows as well as high profile entertainment events which attract over 500,000 local, national and international visitors each year. It has established itself as the leading leisure venue in the north of England and is a major contributor to the local economy.

eventcity.co.uk

EventCity
MANCHESTER

EVENTS
EXHIBITIONS
CONCERTS

TAMMY SILCOCK

—
WINTER WONDERLAND
CREATOR

Tammy Silcock is the co-founder of King Pin Events Ltd which brings the successful Winter Wonderland attraction to EventCity each year in the run up to Christmas. Tammy lives in Warrington, Cheshire with her husband, Billy and children, Claudia and William.

“

IT'S BEEN REWARDING TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

”

“My family have been a great support and inspiration to me. They've been with me every step of the way.”

“I'd just turned 40 years old and wanted a challenge. I was walking over the link bridge to Barton Square at intu Trafford Centre and noticed, unbelievably, for the first time, EventCity.

“It suddenly hit me that it would make a great venue for an indoor theme park. That was in March 2013 but it was a thought that I couldn't shift from my head. The more I pondered it, the more I knew that if done properly, it was a concept that could work. Most

theme parks are open-air which isn't always practical with the changeable British weather and are expensive. I wanted to give families a fun-filled experience at a reasonable price. The Winter Wonderland concept was beginning to take shape in my head but I needed to make it a reality.

“After some encouragement from my husband, Billy, we made contact with the team at EventCity and presented our idea to the Managing Director, Andy Orr. By September 2013 he

gave us the green light to go ahead with Winter Wonderland. We had just 10 weeks to make it happen!

“We called on all our contacts within the amusement industry and put a media and marketing plan in place. As well as the rides, we secured CITV's Sooty Show to appear, and a full size circus. All the time we had tremendous support from Andy and his team – it was incredible. The first year we attracted 33,000 visitors in 23

days, the following year 47,600 and last year over 67,000.

“Winter Wonderland takes all year to plan but it's also unlocked other opportunities for us which have started to bring in income throughout the year, such as our pop-up prosecco and Pimm's bars – which are growing in popularity.

“It's been particularly rewarding to give back to the community. Each year we give £40,000 of free tickets to north-west charities and schools

in deprived areas of Salford, so that the children can come and have a brilliant time just before Christmas.

“All this would never have happened if it wasn't for Andy's foresight and the faith that he put in us to make it happen. We have built a great, honest and open working relationship with the EventCity team and we couldn't have done it without them.

“Equally, my family have been a great support and inspiration to me. They've been with me every step of the way.”

Land

Peel owns and manages a vast portfolio of strategic land, including farms and agricultural estates used for grazing, equestrian and amenity purposes, as well as woodland, orchards and allotments.

With over 30,000 acres of land across the UK, there are a wealth of opportunities in sectors such as residential, industrial, retail and leisure, as well as the regeneration of brownfield sites.

peel.co.uk/land

IAN PATRICK

THIRD GENERATION
DAIRY FARMER

Ian and Janet Patrick's farming enterprise has gone from strength to strength since Peel relocated their award-winning dairy farm and pedigree Ayrshire herd to a new dairy facility on 110 acres of land at Whitegate Farm, Over Hulton, Bolton.



“
**FARMING
IS IN
OUR
BLOOD**
”

“...it's amazing that our future has been secured and that our special Ayrshire breed is continuing to thrive.”

The Ayrshire cows were first brought from Scotland to Lancashire by Ian's grandparents in 1926 when they settled at their original farm in Garrett Hall, Tyldesley. Today, the third generation of Patrick farmers are delighted with their new unit that has secured their legacy for son Alex, who is now embarking on his farming career.



"We were

involved nearly all the way with the design and planning of the new set-up."



SECURED THEIR LEGACY

The Patrick family's farming roots can be traced back to the 1500s.

"As farming tenants, we have known as far back as 1970 that there was a possibility that Garrett Hall would be developed. Planning proposals came and went until an application at the end of 2012 was approved in 2013. We have always had a good relationship with Peel and were on a 1948 three-generation tenancy, so we were delighted to be given the

chance of a new opportunity. We were involved nearly all the way with the design and planning of the new set-up. Farming is in our blood and it's amazing that our future has been secured and that our special Ayrshire breed is continuing to thrive."

Doncaster Sheffield Airport

Doncaster Sheffield Airport is the UK's first new commercial airport to be built in 35 years.

Becoming fully operational in April 2005 on the site of the former RAF Finningley air base, Doncaster Sheffield Airport has one of the UK's longest runways and the capacity to handle all types of international aviation including charter, scheduled, long-haul, freight, general and business aviation.

It is part of Peel Airports, which encompasses Durham Tees Valley and Liverpool John Lennon Airport.

flydsa.co.uk



PAUL MADDISON

VICE CHAIRMAN OF FRIENDS OF DONCASTER SHEFFIELD AIRPORT

As Doncaster's RAF Finningley approached its closure date in 1996, retired ambulance Operations Manager Paul Maddison, from Arksey near Doncaster, was inspired to campaign for a much-needed commercial airport to be developed on the former military site.



“

IT'S ALL ABOUT DONCASTER

”

Paul joined a small group of like-minded locals (with the late Ken Clark at the helm) who had set up a group called 'FLY' – Finningley Locals Say Yes – and campaigned tirelessly, even taking their cause to 10 Downing Street, to help make Doncaster Airport a reality.

When the airport opened in 2005 the group became Friends of Doncaster Sheffield Airport (FODSA), and today the 100-strong team of volunteers dedicate their spare time to promoting and supporting the airport at each and every opportunity.

“Every day we have a team of ambassadors at the airport who meet and greet people as they arrive. The very young and older travellers can often feel apprehensive when they arrive at the airport, so it's nice for them to be met by a friendly face who can point them in the right direction.

“One of the highlights of the year is when we meet and greet members of the Sheffield Hallam Diocese as they set off on their pilgrimage to Lourdes. We never have a shortage of volunteers who arrive at the airport for 5.30am to help the elderly, infirm and wheelchair-bound.

“As well as playing an ambassador role, our volunteers host tours of the airport, get involved with disaster planning exercises, sit on airport steering committees and attend events in the area to promote our great airport.

“We started out as airport enthusiasts but now it's all about Doncaster. What the airport has done for this town has been remarkable. After the demise of the steel industry and the closure of many of its mines, the town was on its knees. The airport

has attracted investment and with that has brought more jobs, more housing, new business parks, a new road and even the iPort. It's now back on its feet and it's been great to play a small part in its success and make new friends along the way.”

**VOLUNTEERS
DEDICATE
THEIR SPARE
TIME**

Homes

In the past 40 years, Peel has secured planning consent for thousands of new family homes across the UK in areas such as Ellesmere Port, Doncaster and Gloucester. Once planning has been secured, the schemes, which vary from significantly-sized residential enclaves to single plots, are mainly sold to housebuilding partners who bring them to fruition.

More recently, a number of these residential schemes have been delivered in-house or through joint ventures.

peel.co.uk/residential



THE CUMMINS'

LIFE-LONG RESIDENTS
OF ELLESMERE PORT

Tania and Chris Cummins and their son Thomas have lived in Ellesmere Port all their lives – but it wasn't until 2012, when they moved into their three-bedroomed detached home in Rossfield Park, that they found a place they wanted to call home.



“ LIFE HAS IMPROVED FOR US IN SO MANY WAYS ”

“Since the age of 18, I’d always lived in council rented properties and as a family we eventually lived in a two-up, two-down house in Bishop’s Garden, Grange Farm. For a growing family and two dogs we were always tight for space, but when we agreed to look after my younger teenage brother there was no choice – we had to get an affordable place with more space.

“After trawling the internet, we eventually found the Rossfield Park development, which had a mix of properties available to buy or rent. We were actually going to see another

property when we spotted the one we live in now. We immediately fell in love with it and couldn’t believe it was available and within our budget.

“We’ve put our heart and soul into this house and every day we feel grateful for the space it has given us. Things other people might take for granted mean a lot to us. We love the fact that the dogs can roam in and out of the house into a spacious garden. Thomas has a bedroom big enough to fit a desk so he can concentrate on his school work and we have a dining room where we can enjoy family meals.

“Life has improved for us in so many ways since we moved here. The fact that the house is close to Thomas’ school and our work means we’re not wasting time on lengthy commutes, we’re close to our family and since we’ve lived here my brother has turned his life around. He completed a college course and is now in work and living with his girlfriend. We

also credit living here with how well Thomas is doing at school. He’s a star student and is focused on going to university and becoming a Solicitor. We’re really proud of him.

“This is definitely where we want to stay and our dream is to own the house one day.”

Liverpool John Lennon Airport

Liverpool John Lennon Airport (LJLA) currently handles over 4.5 million passengers per year with flights to over 60 destinations in the UK and across Europe with many onward worldwide connections.

During the past 18 months, flights have been secured from six new airlines, bringing over 90 additional flights per week.

Passenger numbers have grown almost 10-fold since Peel acquired the business in the mid-1990s, firmly establishing the airport not only as a gateway for Merseyside but for the north-west and north Wales as a whole.

LJLA is also one of the area's major employers, attracting inward investment and bringing significant tourism benefits, helping to boost the region's economy.

liverpoolairport.com

CHRIS FARMAKIS

AIRPORT FIREMAN



"I joined Liverpool John Lennon Airport as a Baggage Handler in 2001. I was at university, studying business administration at the time, and it was the perfect job to fit around my studies. I was eventually promoted to Supervisor but then an opportunity came up in the fire service based at the airport. Even though it wasn't connected with my studies I liked the thought of it, applied and got the job."



"

**I LOVE MY
JOB AND
EVERY DAY IS
DIFFERENT**

"

"I have done all my training at the airport and am now also an advanced medical technician. I've learnt many life skills and gone down a route that I never would have imagined. I love my job and every day is different. Even when we're not officially on duty, we're still ambassadors for the airport and we're always willing to help out passengers and our colleagues."



“There have been many highlights in my career – one when I was baggage handling in 2005 and saw thousands coming into the airport after Liverpool had won the Champions League Final in Istanbul. The atmosphere was amazing. The other is being part of the resuscitation team and being there to prolong a person’s life until help arrives.”



“I’ve gone down a route that I never would have imagined.”



STEPHEN FARMAKIS

IT SPECIALIST

As an IT postgraduate, Stephen Farmakis set his sights on pursuing a career in his chosen subject, but while looking for the right opportunity, his brother, Chris, suggested he applied for a baggage handling job at Liverpool John Lennon Airport. It was a canny move for Stephen as, after six months in baggage handling, an opportunity arose in IT where he has progressed his career for 10 years.

“I’m not alone in saying this, but to work for a family-run business such as Peel is very rewarding – it’s a good place to come to work with a nice atmosphere. It’s more than just a business – it has a community feel to it and we all love that.”

“A highlight of my career was being involved in the redevelopment and extension of the new central search area. It was a massive project and very complex from an IT perspective. What made it so rewarding was to work with the Peel construction guys and to be able to give input and ideas.”

“It’s been exciting to see how the airport has grown. There’s always something new whether it’s more flights, operators or seeing passenger numbers continuing to grow. It’s been incredible to watch and I love being part of it.”



intu Trafford Centre

intu Trafford Centre – the UK's most successful retail and leisure destination with over 30 million visitors annually – was conceived and built by The Peel Group, opening in 1998.

It has been part of the intu stable since 2011, when Peel became the biggest single shareholder in the group. intu is the leading owner and manager of prime regional shopping centres in the UK.

intu.co.uk/traffordcentre



MIKE FLANNERY

PROGRESSED A CAREER AT INTU TRAFFORD CENTRE

Mike Flannery knew that becoming Manager of one of the UK's most successful WHSmith stores would be a challenge, but didn't foresee how he would end up rubbing shoulders with his sporting idols and how, ultimately, it would springboard his career in a new direction.

"

**WE WERE
CONSISTENTLY
THE TOP
PERFORMING
STORE IN THE
COUNTRY**

"

"After working for quite a number of years in WHSmith stores across the country, I was pleased to be offered the job of managing the intu Trafford Centre branch, as with it came the kudos of overseeing a flagship store."

"In July 2003, the store was one of four top performing stores across the country and we were always vying for the top spot.

"Since intu Trafford Centre was such a high profile location we started to attract the A-list book signings. A real highlight for me was when David Beckham came into the store on two occasions as well as Pelé on another. It was an exciting time and we were soon, consistently, the top performing store in the country. I used to get a real buzz knowing how much money we were taking – we were flying."



“By 2007 I was ready for a new challenge and the role of Retail Liaison Manager for intu Trafford Centre came up. I already knew the Centre Director, Gordon McKinnon from the retail forums I attended. I approached him, asked about the role, applied and got the job. I was delighted.

“It was a real shock at first, as it was a very different experience to managing a team of 200 and taking sole responsibility for running a very busy store, as I was now really working on my own. However, I gradually built a rapport and relationship with the retailers – which I found incredibly rewarding as it’s not an easy thing to do. I also applied my management

skills and knowledge built up through 30 years of experience at WHSmith, and I haven’t looked back. Last year, I was promoted to Guest Services Manager and am now responsible for managing and overseeing the new Retail Liaison Manager, environmental services, security and customer service. My new role with intu is constantly evolving and it’s a really exciting time professionally for me.”



“...I haven’t looked back.”



AVRIL YAQUV

FORTUNE TELLER

It was a chance conversation with a friend that inspired Avril to approach the Peel property team at The Trafford Centre shortly after its opening in 1998, with the idea of opening a kiosk from where she could pursue her talent for fortune telling.

“

MIGHTY OAKS FROM ACORNS GROW

”

Today, Avril has built an international reputation for her art, attracting customers from across the world.

“If it wasn’t for the creation of the centre, I wouldn’t be where I am today. I was just starting out on this path and I was so grateful the property team put their faith in me and gave me the opportunity to launch my business here. I’m just one of many

small independent operators that wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for Peel. Mighty oaks from acorns grow and Peel gives everyday people like me the chance to make it happen.”



Avril has built an international reputation.

Glasgow Harbour

Glasgow Harbour is a new district with a mix of commercial, residential, leisure and public space. As part of the regeneration of its 53 hectares, more than 1,100 apartments have already been built as well as accommodation for 1,200 students with more planned. This waterfront location attracts more than a million visitors a year and is home to Scotland's new Riverside Museum of Transport and Travel as well as the Tall Ships attraction – the Glenlee.

glasgowharbour.com

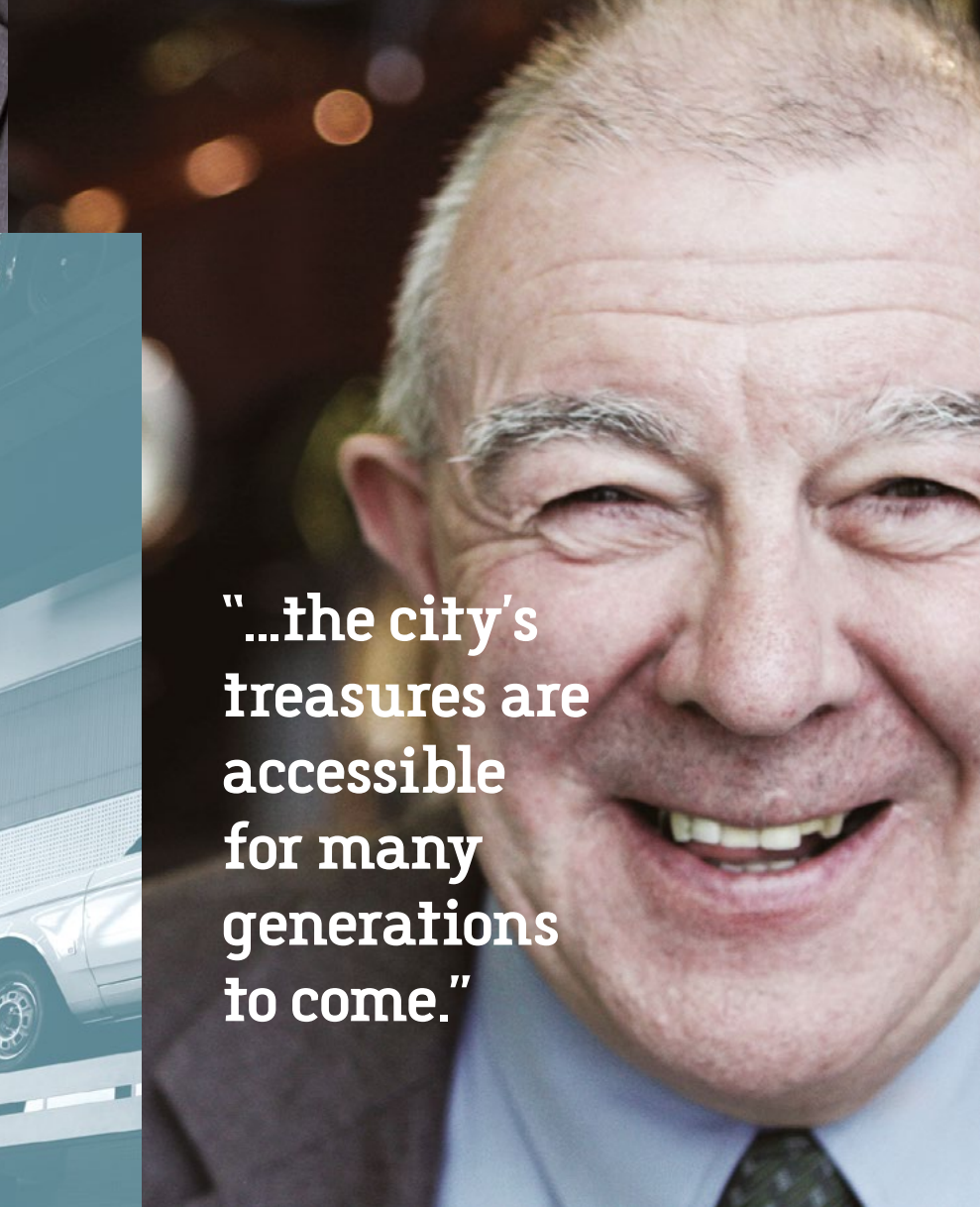


ARCHIE GRAHAM OBE



DEPUTY LEADER OF GLASGOW
CITY COUNCIL, AND CHAIR
OF GLASGOW LIFE

“Located on the banks of the River Clyde, the world-class Riverside Museum is a marvel of design and engineering. Inside the award-winning museum, visitors can explore stunning displays packed with fascinating exhibits, hands-on interactives and inspiring stories, which show off the breadth of Glasgow’s world-class transport and travel collection beautifully.”



"...the city's treasures are accessible for many generations to come."



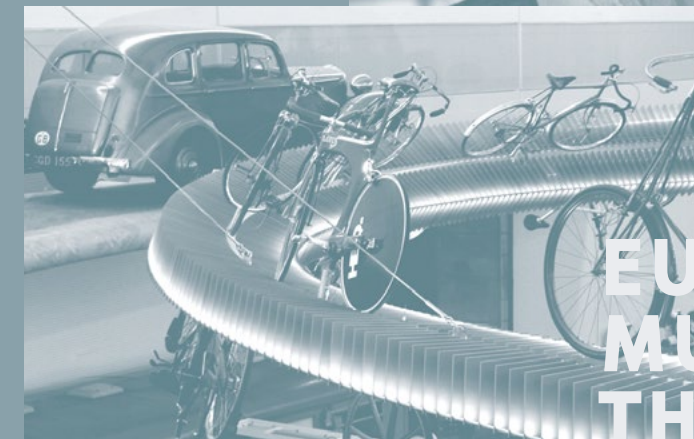
"Riverside has been an incredible addition to Glasgow, welcoming more than five million visitors in five years and claiming the esteemed title of European Museum of the Year 2013, to name but one award. Importantly, Glasgow's newest museum ensures the city's treasures are accessible for many generations to come.

"Peel's incredibly generous act of gifting the land to the city was instrumental in enabling the entire project to come to fruition and that is something the people of Glasgow and beyond will always be thankful for."

“

A MARVEL OF DESIGN AND ENGINEERING

”



EUROPEAN MUSEUM OF THE YEAR



BOB JAMES

VOLUNTEER AT THE RIVERSIDE MUSEUM

Retired fireman and vintage vehicle enthusiast Bob James, started out as a volunteer at the former transport museum and has been a full-time volunteer at the new Riverside Museum since day one.

"Glasgow people are museum goers. From the late 1800s there have been museums in the city, and visiting them was a big part of our childhood. Today, there's a sense of nostalgia when you visit here, evoking memories of days long gone."

"The Clyde is synonymous with ship building and in its heyday the shipyards here would finish an ocean-bound ship every other day. Most shipyards produced ship models and we have a wonderful collection of model ships including the Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth 2, from matchbox size to over four metres long. If we didn't have this wonderful facility then a piece of our heritage could have been lost forever."

"I might not get paid for it, but I always say I have the best job in the world."

"...I always say I have the best job in the world."

MediaCityUK

Widely acknowledged as the most significant digital and creative hub in the country, MediaCityUK is a joint venture between Peel and Legal & General Capital.

Anchored by the BBC, ITV, dock10 studios and the University of Salford – and home to over 250 small to medium sized businesses – 7,500 people now live, work and study in this vibrant destination on Manchester's waterfront.

By 2026, there are ambitious plans for MediaCityUK to double in size with 1,800 more apartments, state-of-the-art office and studio space, restaurants, bars and an attractive open-air market.

mediacityuk.co.uk



SAMANTHA HAWKINS

TV, RADIO AND
FILM STUDENT

Samantha Hawkins is a Year 10 TV, Radio and Film student at The University Technical College, MediaCityUK and was in the school's first year intake in 2015.



“...I’m now feeling really positive about my future.”

“The year I was born my dad started work in the Anchorage Building overlooking Anchorage Basin, where he literally watched MediaCityUK grow. Whenever I walked past I would have a nose at it being built and always felt it was a school that I’d like to go to one day. Today, I’m a student at UTC and my parents are so happy that I’ve found a school I love and that I can channel my studies towards the area that I eventually want to work in.

“It’s not just about media-related subjects – I also study four sciences, including three in computer science. We also get to do watersports in the Quays – an activity I wouldn’t normally get the opportunity to do. Every day I feel excited about coming to school and I’m now feeling really positive about my future.”

“
**EVERY DAY I
 FEEL EXCITED
 ABOUT COMING
 TO SCHOOL**
 ”



BRENDA DEANE

MEDIACITYUK RESIDENT

Brenda Deane took a leap of faith, when at the age of 79, she turned her back on her lifelong London home and relocated to a two-bedroomed apartment, in the heart of MediaCityUK.

Apart from a brief period in the late 1950s when she lived in Canada, Brenda, who was born in Maida Vale in 1931, had always lived in London until a spontaneous visit to Manchester led her to fall in love with MediaCityUK and make it her new home.

"When I told friends I was making the move from London to Manchester they thought I was crazy – but as I haven't any living family, I thought,

why not? The day I saw these amazing apartments for sale at MediaCityUK, I had this overwhelming feeling that it was where I wanted to be.

"When I think back to what I had in London there's no comparison. Here, I have a beautifully designed flat, double the size of what I had in the Capital and the most fantastic views that take in the Peak District, Cheshire Plains, Pennines and Winter Hill. It's utterly beautiful and the sunrises and sunsets are amazing.

"It's an exciting place to live. I love the fact that I can be watching BBC Breakfast and look down at the piazza and see it being filmed live. I'm totally

converted to shopping in Booths and my favourite places are On The 7th and Pret A Manger but there's always something new to explore.

"There is a warm and friendly atmosphere and people look out for you here, which I feel is a quality some Londoners have lost. I've made many friends of all ages both within MediaCityUK and elsewhere, as I go to Manchester Cathedral every Sunday. This is important to me as for 40 years I was a member of the congregation at St Paul's Cathedral.

"My life has changed so much and I have absolutely no regrets. I couldn't be happier."

"I had this overwhelming feeling that it was where I wanted to be..."



Chatham Waters

Chatham's historic naval roots will firmly anchor this dockyard as a major regeneration project which will breathe life back into its maritime soul.

New waterfront living, as well as an attractive retail and leisure offering will take advantage of the stunning views across the Medway Estuary. Commercial buildings will sit alongside a parkland boulevard while a civic square will include space for exhibitions and events.

Education is a recurring theme in Peel's Strategic Waters sites and Chatham is no exception. The state-of-the-art Medway University Technical College has welcomed its first Year 10 students who will study traditional GCSEs and A-levels alongside the technical specialisms of engineering, construction and design – ensuring future local skills for the delivery of the scheme.

chathamwaters.co.uk



PROFESSOR ALAN REED

— VISIONARY PROFESSOR

Professor Alan Reed, Director of Regional Development at the University of Greenwich, in common with leaders from Medway Council, had a vision to bring a very different type of school to Medway. It would give young people a combination of academic and technical skills to provide a route to future employment in engineering, construction and design in the region and beyond.

The result has been the creation of Medway University Technical College (UTC), one of 40 such colleges across the country. The UTC works in partnership with leading employers, colleges and universities such as the University of Greenwich, to give students the technical knowledge and skills that are vital to kick-starting their future careers. It opened its doors to the first 190 students in September 2015.

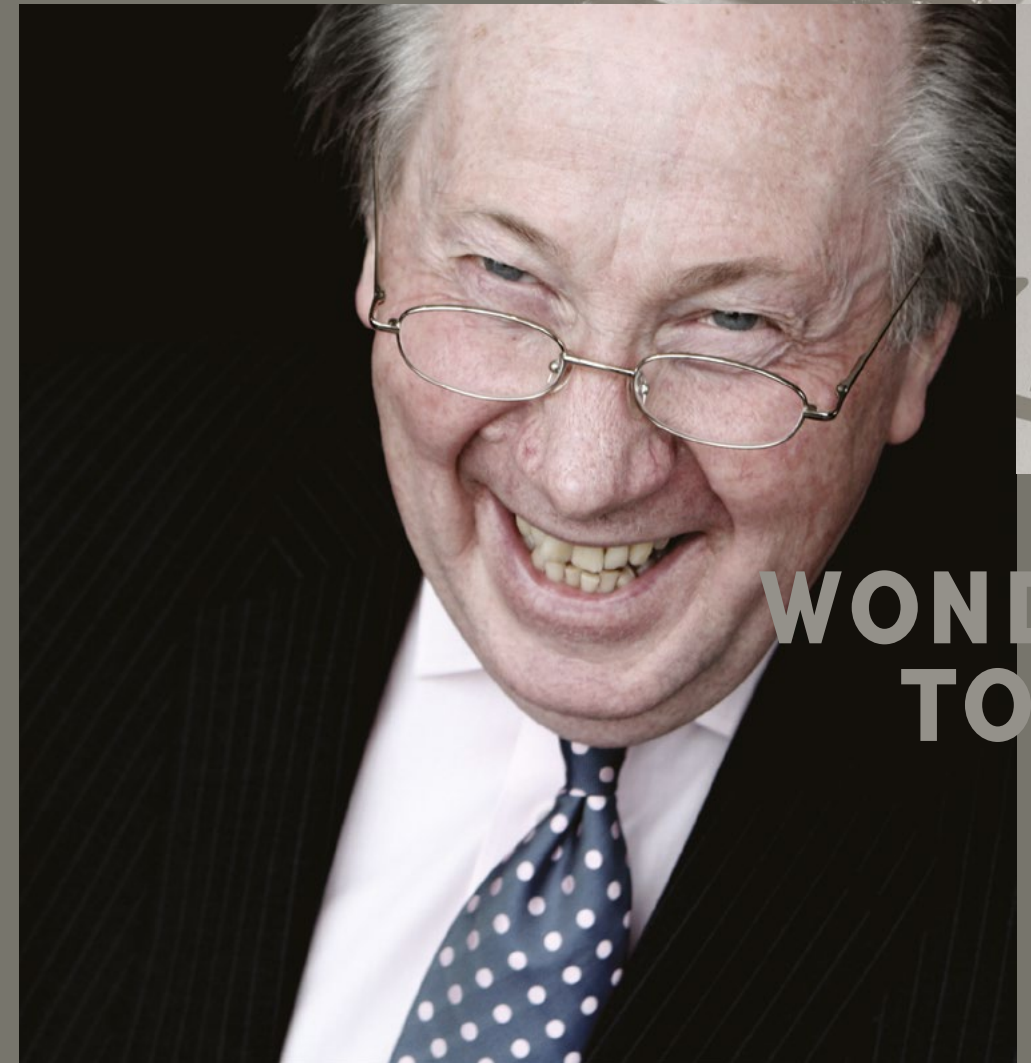
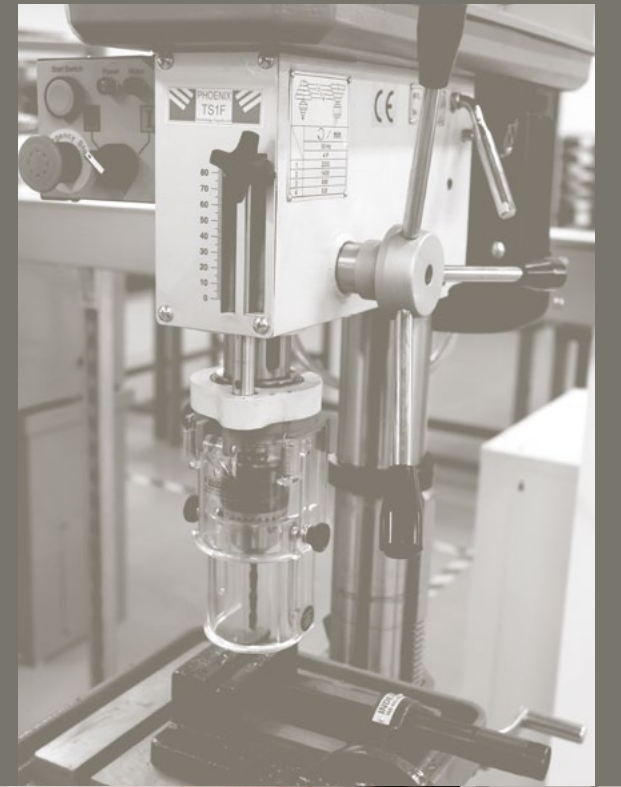
“
**NEW LIFE IS
BEING BREATHED
BACK INTO THIS
ONCE DESOLATE
DOCKLAND**
”



“It’s given it the energy and air of positivity that enthusiastic students and their education bring.”



“The positioning of the University Technical College in the heart of this important regeneration project is much more than symbolic in that it will feed this burgeoning area with the technical skills and creative talent to make Medway flourish in the long term. It’s wonderful to see new life being breathed back into this once desolate dockland and now we have an amazing 21st century school at its heart – it’s given it the energy and air of positivity that enthusiastic students and their education bring.”



WONDERFUL TO SEE

Falmouth Port

A&P Marine Services, which is owned by Peel Ports, is situated in the world's third largest natural deep water harbour.

Making the most of its natural resources and convenient location close to the shipping lanes of Northern Europe, Falmouth's three graving docks provide extensive dry dock capacity. The total wharfage, with craneage and all other technical services extends to 2.5km. Significantly, Falmouth is a comprehensive ship repair facility and is part of the A&P Group.

A&P has a proud history of quality-driven engineering excellence, spanning six decades from three strategic locations in the UK.

ap-group.co.uk



STEVE JONES

OVER 20 YEARS
IN SHIPPING

Originally from Liverpool, Steve Jones' career started with one of the most famous names in British industry – Cammell Laird – and now works as Operations Director for world renowned ship repair and conversion company A&P Falmouth, located within the Port of Falmouth, Cornwall.

“
**THIS
INDUSTRY
HAS GIVEN ME
AN AMAZING
CAREER**
”

Since the early 90s, Steve has witnessed many ownership changes within the industry.

“Both Cammell Laird and A&P are incredibly successful today due to the hard work of both management and workforce alike. But, without the financial support of Peel, they would be very different companies.”

“This industry has given me an amazing career, which started in my home city of Liverpool where I began my career with a four-year apprenticeship with Cammell Laird. My job has taken me overseas, to countries such as Holland, France and Australia, where I gained experience working in other shipyards as well as sampling the culture. Prior to joining A&P, I worked as a Production Manager with Grand Bahamas Shipyard where many of the world's top cruise ships dock for repairs. Now I'm based in Falmouth which is a beautiful place but I still need to get my Liverpool 'fix' every few months to see friends and family.”



Liverpool Waters

A key element of Peel's Ocean Gateway strategy, Liverpool Waters is one of the largest single-ownership port-city development schemes in Europe.

The regeneration and transformation of 150 acres of the city's historic northern dockland to create a world-class, high quality, mixed-use waterfront quarter in central Liverpool will see it rival Hamburg, Boston, Toronto and Barcelona in terms of the scale and diversity of its waterfront offer.

liverpoolwaters.co.uk



JOHN MAHER

CONCIERGE
FOR TWO DECADES



As one of the first employees at Princes Dock, John Maher has seen Liverpool Waters evolve from an uninspiring wasteland into a beacon of enterprise for Liverpool.

“
**I LOVE THE
 FACT THAT I’VE
 WATCHED IT
 BECOME WHAT
 IT IS TODAY**
 ”

John has been a concierge at Number 8 Princes Dock for 20 years and has witnessed first-hand the rebirth of the dock and its glorious transformation.

“As one of the first office buildings to be developed, there was literally a dirt track to reach the building. For years the HMS Eaglets were based at the top of the road and would parade past us at Number 8. It was a wonderful sight. Over the years it’s been amazing to watch the creation of the Crowne Plaza and Malmaison hotels, Number

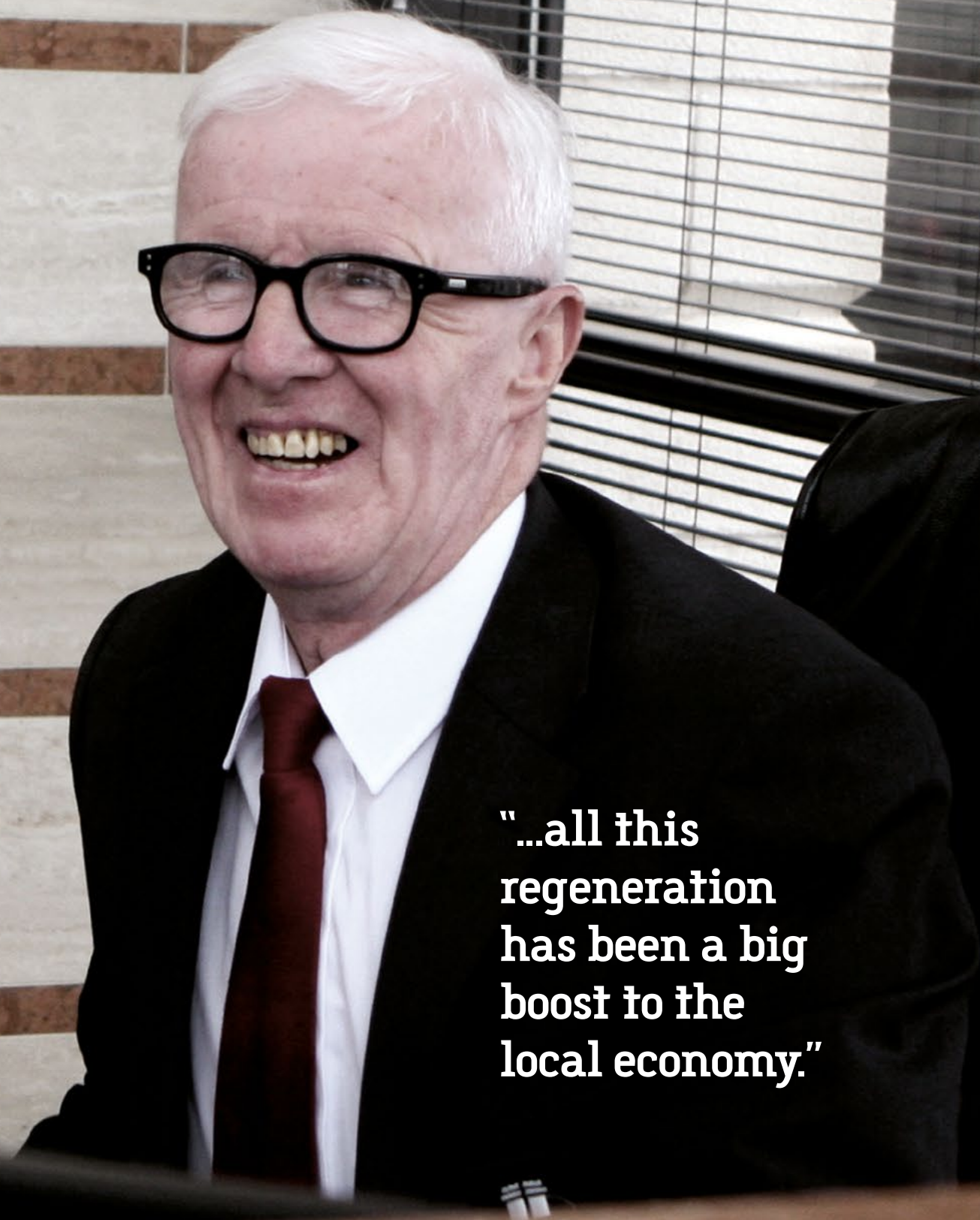
10 Princes Dock and the new landing stage at the Cruise Terminal.

“You can see how all this regeneration has been a big boost to the local economy. There are lots of tourists these days from places like America and Germany – you only have to see the amount of shopping bags they carry to know they are spending money in the city.

“Visitors to our office are from all over the world and over the years I’ve got

to know some of them really well. The reaction is always the same – they always say what an amazing place Liverpool Waters is. I’m a lucky man to work here and I love the fact that I’ve watched it become what it is today.”

**“...all this
 regeneration
 has been a big
 boost to the
 local economy.”**



Gloucester Quays

Gloucester Quays is a thriving mixed-use development. It has delivered 3,000 jobs and is next to tourist attractions of national and international importance including the Cotswolds, Gloucester Cathedral and museums.

As the flagship of Peel's Lifestyle Outlets, it brings a new generation of discount shopping, leisure and entertainment to a unique waterfront setting. Its winning formula is set to be replicated across other Peel Outlets sites around the UK – Manchester and Glasgow.

gloucesterquays.co.uk



**DARREN
LUSTED**

—
STREET FOOD
ENTREPRENEUR

A butcher by trade, Darren Lusted from Worcester was inspired to launch street food concept, Roly Poly Ltd in 2011.



“I spotted an opportunity and it spurred me on...”

“I’d had some event catering experience at a few shows and weddings but when Great Taste approached me about doing their events at Gloucester Quays, I spotted an opportunity and it spurred me on to leave my job and set up my street food venture, Roly Poly Ltd.
 “My relationship with Great Taste went from strength to strength and I was soon catering at all the major events at Gloucester Quays such as the Enchanted Festival, Spring Festival and the Victorian Market.

I’ve built up a loyal customer base, which is still growing today. I now also attend major regional events all over the UK.
 “Business has grown well and I have had to invest heavily to keep up with ever changing trends. I will always be grateful to Great Taste and the Gloucester Quays team for the start they gave me and very much hope to work alongside them for many years to come.”

**BUILT UP
 A LOYAL
 CUSTOMER
 BASE**



Communities

An integral part of Peel's planning strategy is listening to the needs of stakeholders and the community, and wherever possible contributing to any local cultural, recreational and ecological needs they may have.

Partington Village, in Greater Manchester, is one example of where Peel's holistic vision for the area will ultimately bring new homes, a regenerated town centre and improved recreational opportunities for its residents to enjoy.

Peel has donated funds to Broadoak High School – which contributed to its success in achieving academy status – regularly supports Partington in Bloom and has helped create a green gym in partnership with intu Trafford Centre.

More recently Peel has redeveloped Partington's shopping centre.

peel.co.uk/responsibility

SOPHIE MAHON

—
VISUAL ARTIST

Artist Sophie Mahon was born in Partington, Greater Manchester and spent her formative years there. After studying at Nottingham Trent University, she has returned to make a permanent mark on her home town.



“

IT SOLIDIFIES A MOMENT IN TIME

”

Since graduating, Sophie has carved her niche in community arts projects. She took on her most ambitious project to date when Peel commissioned her to create a 40ft bronze sculpture to adorn Partington's new shopping centre, as part of its regeneration commitment to the area.



“Growing up in Partington, the town centre went from a thriving, independent market place to boarded-up shops with just a single cash machine, which would regularly break. For a town of over 8,000 people it was pretty shocking. There was very little provision for the community and it had a huge impact on the area.”



ABOVE AND BEYOND



“
**IT'S BEEN
INCREDIBLY
EXCITING
FOR ME**
”



“The recent regeneration has significantly improved the area and restored some pride back into the town. Though Partington still gets a lot of flack, which I find unfair. The area has its problems, like many others, but the strength and closeness of the community really is something special. I think the investment that has been put into the town has made a massive difference to how people view the area and I look forward to seeing this develop.

“It’s been incredibly exciting for me to create such a landmark piece of art in my home town. Since the sense of community is so strong here, it was important to get as many locals as possible involved in the project. I’ve taken casts of over 600 hands – from a nine-month-old baby, to Dolly, who at 101 is the oldest person in the town.

I’ve visited support groups, nurseries, toddler groups, schools and care homes to engage the community and have particularly enjoyed working with people who might not normally get involved with projects like this.

“For me, the project has gone above and beyond creating a piece of art. It solidifies a moment in time, allowing the people of this town to quite literally make their mark.

“It’s great that Peel has supported the arts in this way and it has inspired me to run more projects like this in the town where young and old can create and engage in art. The Arts Council has recognised Partington as a ‘cold spot’ for the arts and I plan to help change that.”



JOHN WHITTAKER

– THE PEEL GROUP – TRANSFORMING LANDSCAPES, CHANGING LIVES



HOPE POLLARD



BEN GREENAWAY



GRAEME BRIDGE



JOE ROBERTS



JERRY LYNCH



LEE CUNNINGHAM



MEGAN PICKERING



TAMMY SILCOCK



IAN PATRICK



PAUL MADDISON



TANIA CUMMINS



CHRIS FARMAKIS



STEPHEN FARMAKIS



MIKE FLANNERY



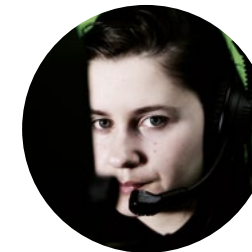
AVRIL YAQUV



ARCHIE GRAHAM OBE



BOB JAMES



SAMANTHA HAWKINS



BRENDA DEANE



PROFESSOR ALAN REED



STEVE JONES



JOHN MAHER



DARREN LUSTED



SOPHIE MAHON



Peel Dome
intu Trafford Centre
TRAFFORDCITY
Manchester M17 8PL

+44 (0)161 629 8200
information@peel.co.uk
[peelgroup.global](https://www.peelgroup.global)

Words: Jo Whittaker
Photography: Sarah Jane King
Design: Drumbeat

