

BAART HARRIES NEWALL
CHARTERED ARCHITECTS



**COMMUNITY
PRACTICE PROFILE**

*Architecture and Planning
Interior Design
Conservation
CDM Principal Designer*

BHN
architects

Professional Services
Architecture and Planning
Interior Design
Conservation
CDM Principal Designer

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BAART HARRIES NEWALL



Wilderhope House designed by Samuel Pountney Smith in 1860.

BAART HARRIES NEWALL

The collaborative relationship we form with our clients is central to the way we work. We seek to establish a clear understanding of the ambitions and objectives of our clients and translate them into high quality, sustainable architectural solutions.

Over the years we have created a diverse body of work in both the public and commercial sector, the quality of which has been recognized by repeat client commissions and many architectural awards.

We offer a design excellence, a solid base of technical expertise and experience developed through our work with a wide range of clients.

We know from our years of experience that finding the right solutions through Architecture relies on asking the right questions. Dialogue is at the heart of what we do.



BAART HARRIES NEWALL practice profile

Community and Arts

We have designed a number of community and arts related projects. The development of such designs involves establishing a strong dialogue with the client in order to find design solutions that not only combine complex interrelated functions, but also express the ethos of the client body.

Many of our community projects have been concerned with transforming existing buildings to accommodate new uses, such as the remodelling of Walsall Library & Museum to provide a new entrance atrium with full disabled access to all floors, and an open learning centre. Other remodelling schemes include the United Reformed Church in Rhos on Sea, transforming an existing church into a building to meet the needs of the local community as well as contemporary worship.

We have undertaken several new build projects, often with complex multi-faceted requirements, such as the new library and business centre in Cleobury Mortimer, combining public services to provide a new branch library, internet café, conference, training and office suites for starter businesses. Community projects can have several clients, for example the new Centre in Pelsall, Walsall that combines a new public library, children's centre, a health clinic and pharmacy.

The practice has worked on the design of several Surestart buildings and numerous children's centres combining nursery provision with other community needs

We are used to working with diverse client groups and use a number of workshop based participatory design processes to elucidate a clear understanding of the various user requirements and how they interact.

With our background in educational and civic work, we are particularly interested in how schools and other bodies are re-defining themselves to provide cultural and community resources alongside public services. We perceive these developments as pivotal in a general cultural process which breaks down traditional demarcations arts, education, community functions in a context occupied by both professionals and non-professionals.



BAART HARRIES NEWALL sustainability

Building Design and Environmental Sustainability

Environmental sustainability, energy efficiency and building durability are at the forefront of current design considerations. The provision and use of buildings has a huge impact on the environment. Energy used during building construction, for heating, cooling and lighting buildings, and the chemicals present in materials used in building services and components, all directly affect occupants and the wider environment.

Many of our projects are assessed by the British Research Establishment's Environmental Assessment Method. This Assessment method seeks to minimise the adverse effects of new buildings on the environment at global and local levels, whilst promoting healthy indoor conditions for the occupants. The assessment considers a wide range of internal and external environmental issues including energy and water use, renewable resources, sustainability, transport, comfort of occupants and ecology. We have attained BRE AAM Excellent rating on three projects to date.

We received the RICS Sustainability Award for the 'Harris Centre' – a new teaching facility at Walford College, Shropshire. This building incorporates a biomass boiler, with energy supplemented from a ground source heat pump, a wind turbine and photovoltaic panels. While this particular building has a range of renewables we believe in a clear commonsense approach to sustainable buildings: they should be carefully orientated, well insulated, well sealed and well built to provide buildings that will last. They should also be delightful places to occupy – to ensure longevity!

In terms of a wider perspective on sustainability we believe the re-use of existing buildings is a matter of urgent concern. We believe the transformation of the existing building stock will prove to be one of the greatest challenges. We have undertaken a number of exciting projects working with existing buildings, re-inventing them, enhancing their energy performance and extending their life span. Examples of such projects include the conversion of a warehouse into a learning centre for Shrewsbury Sixth Form College and the conversion of an existing Church and an existing Civic Hall into apartments.



DESIGN AWARDS

Civic Trust Regional Award 2016
Pelsall Village Centre, Walsall

**Shropshire Building Excellence Awards
Overall Winner 2013**
Shrewsbury Sixth Form College
(Earth Science Building)

**Shropshire Building Excellence Awards
Best Educational Project Winner 2013**
Shrewsbury Sixth Form College
(Earth Science Building)

Civic Trust Regional Award 2013
Gwernevy House, Crew Green, Powys

**West Midlands Built in Quality Awards
Community Winner 2013**
Pelsall Village Centre, Walsall

Civic Trust Award 2012 (Community)
Wem Town Hall, Shropshire

Civic Trust Award 2011 (Community)
Cleobury Country Centre, Shropshire

Civic Trust Award 2009 (Mention)
Darlaston Sure Start, Walsall

Civic Trust Award 2009 (Commendation)
St Judes' Primary School
Wolverhampton

RIBA Award 2008
St Judes' Primary School
Wolverhampton

**SCALA Award –
Civic Building of the Year 2007**
St Judes' Primary School
Wolverhampton

**RICS Awards 2007
Winner in the Category of Sustainability**
The Harris Centre
Walford College, Shropshire

Civic Trust Award 2007 (Commendation)
Flounders Folly, Craven Arms, Shropshire

**Shrewsbury Civic Society
Award of Merit 2006**
Shrewsbury School Boarding House

Civic Trust Award 2005
Manser Antiques New Showroom, Shrewsbury

Civic Trust Award 2004 (Mention)
Walsall Library, West Midlands

**Shrewsbury Civic Society -
Award of Merit 2004**
Shrewsbury Sixth Form College

The 2003 Brick Awards
Best Commercial Building – winner 2003
Manser Antiques New Showroom, Shrewsbury

Civic Trust Award 2003 (Commendation)
Concord College Students Canteen, Shropshire

**Shrewsbury and Atcham
Borough Council Design and
Heritage Award 2003**
Manser Antiques New Showroom, Shrewsbury

**Architects Journal/Robin Ellis Small
Projects Award 2002 (3rd Prize)**
Concord College Students Canteen, Shropshire

**Shrewsbury and Atcham
Borough Council Design and
Heritage Award 2001 (New Build)**
Concord College Music School, Shropshire

**Shrewsbury and Atcham
Borough Council Design and
Heritage Award 2001 (Environmental
Improvement)**
Millenium Lychgate, Church Preen,
West Midlands

Civic Trust Award 2001 (Commendation)
Millennium Lychgate, Church Preen,
West Midlands

RIBA Regional Award 2001
Concord College students' canteen

**Shrewsbury and Atcham
Borough Council Design and
Heritage Award 1999**
Learning and Information Centre
Shrewsbury Sixth Form College

Civic Trust Award 1998
Heavers Farm Primary School
(Paul Harries)

RIBA Regional Award 1991
Concord College Swimming Pool, Shropshire

CLIENTS

Government Organisations & Agencies

Environment Agency
NHS (National Health Service)
North Shropshire District Council
Oswestry Borough Council
Royal Air Force
Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council
Shropshire County Council
Shropshire Fire & Rescue HQ
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
South Shropshire District Council
Southwark Borough Council
Stoke-on-Trent City Council
Telford & Wrekin Council
Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council
Wolverhampton City Council
Worcestershire County Council

Education

Concord College
Girls' Day School Trust
Grenville College
Kingsland Grange Preparatory School
Moreton Hall School
Prestfelde Preparatory School
School of Arts & Design, UWIC, Cardiff
Shrewsbury School
Shrewsbury Sixth Form College
St Michael's College
Telford College of Arts & Technology
Walford & North Shropshire College
Wrekin College

Community

Cannon Hall Park, Barnsley
Dawley Baptist Church, Telford
English Bridge Workshop, Shrewsbury
Hanley Park, Stoke-on-Trent
Mary Stevens Park, Stourbridge
Surestart Children Centres
Shenley Christian Fellowship
Rugeley Youth Centre

Housing Associations

Beth Johnson Housing Association
Bromford Housing Group
Focus Housing Association
Meres and Mosses Housing Association
Mid Wales Housing Association
North Cheshire Housing Association
Sevenside Housing Association
Shropshire Rural Housing Association
South Shropshire Housing Association
Stonham Housing Association

Commercial & Retail

Bear and Billet Hotel, Chester
Burnt Tree Group
Galliers Homes
Kingsland Estates UK
Manser Antiques
Mytton and Mermaid Hotel Atcham
Polymer Laboratories
Rapra Technology Ltd
Tanners Wine Merchants Ltd
Ternhill Hall Hotel, Ternhill

Ecclesiastical

Diocese of Chester
Diocese of Hereford
Diocese of Lichfield
Diocese of Llandaff
Diocese of St Asaph

Trusts

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
The Field Studies Council of the UK
The National Trust
The Youth Hostel Association

DARLASTON SURE START

A new Sure Start Children's Centre for Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council.

Baart Harries Newall were appointed as architects in Spring 2004 to carry out a feasibility study, and later to design a project to convert and extend Ilmington House, an existing Edwardian villa, to provide a new children's centre.

The new building forms an L shaped footprint with the existing house, enclosing a secure play area to the south, with canopied French windows opening out from the crèche spaces and café.

The site sits upon the former Bull Piece colliery, and is traversed by numerous mining roadways at a depth of 17m. The project included extensive ground remediation, and grout filling of the mining galleries. Two shafts were also filled and capped.

The project includes 36 child-care spaces, a community cafe, and a wide range of family and parent facilities such as health rooms, meeting and training rooms.

The project sits within a conservation area, and the design philosophy has been to faithfully restore the highly decorated Edwardian villa, and to contrast this with a modern extension, clad in timber and glass.



PELSALL VILLAGE CENTRE

This project brings together a number of complimentary community resources under one roof: combining a Health Centre and Pharmacy, with a new Library and Children's Centre.

A visit to the doctor's could be combined with a visit to the library. A parent taking a one child to the crèche may need to take another to the baby clinic. After a visit to the doctor there will be a pharmacy on the doorstep for prescriptions. The idea is to offer an integrated approach to people's needs – a building that truly serves the diverse, but interrelated needs of the local community.

Set in the heart of Pelsall alongside the Common this new building will offer a bright and welcoming entrance space. People will arrive at the centre of the building, in the new library. Adjacent to the library they will find the children's centre and primary care clinical facilities. On the first floor there are further clinical facilities and four GP Surgeries, arranged around a waiting room - a high, top lit space with views out towards the common.

The building received a Civic Trust Regional Award in 2016 and the West Midlands Built in Quality Awards Community Winner in 2013.



MARY STEVENS PARK, STOURBRIDGE

In 1929 Ernest Stevens, the manufacturer of 'Judge Ware' kitchen equipment, purchased Studley Court Estate. He transformed it into 'Mary Stevens Park', named after his late wife, and presented it to Stourbridge Borough as a public park and recreation ground.

By the start of the 21st Century the park was in need of restoration. In 2013 Dudley Council was awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund Parks for People programme. BHN and Plinke Landscapes Ltd were appointed to restore the park.

The project comprised the repair and restoration of Grade II listed gates and bandstand along with the conversion of a redundant park office building into a new café. These were designed by BHN with Landscaping by Plincke Landscapes and lake restoration by Hafren Water.

Materials and contractors were all sourced locally, to maximise the retention and development of local craft skills, including hand forged wrought iron work, Portland stone masonry, fine lime putty pointing, zinc roofing, cast iron repair and gilding.



WEM TOWN HALL, SHROPSHIRE

Wem Town Hall was redeveloped as a lottery funded community arts venue in 1990 following a disastrous fire. The Victorian front façade was retained, but most of the remainder of the building was replaced.

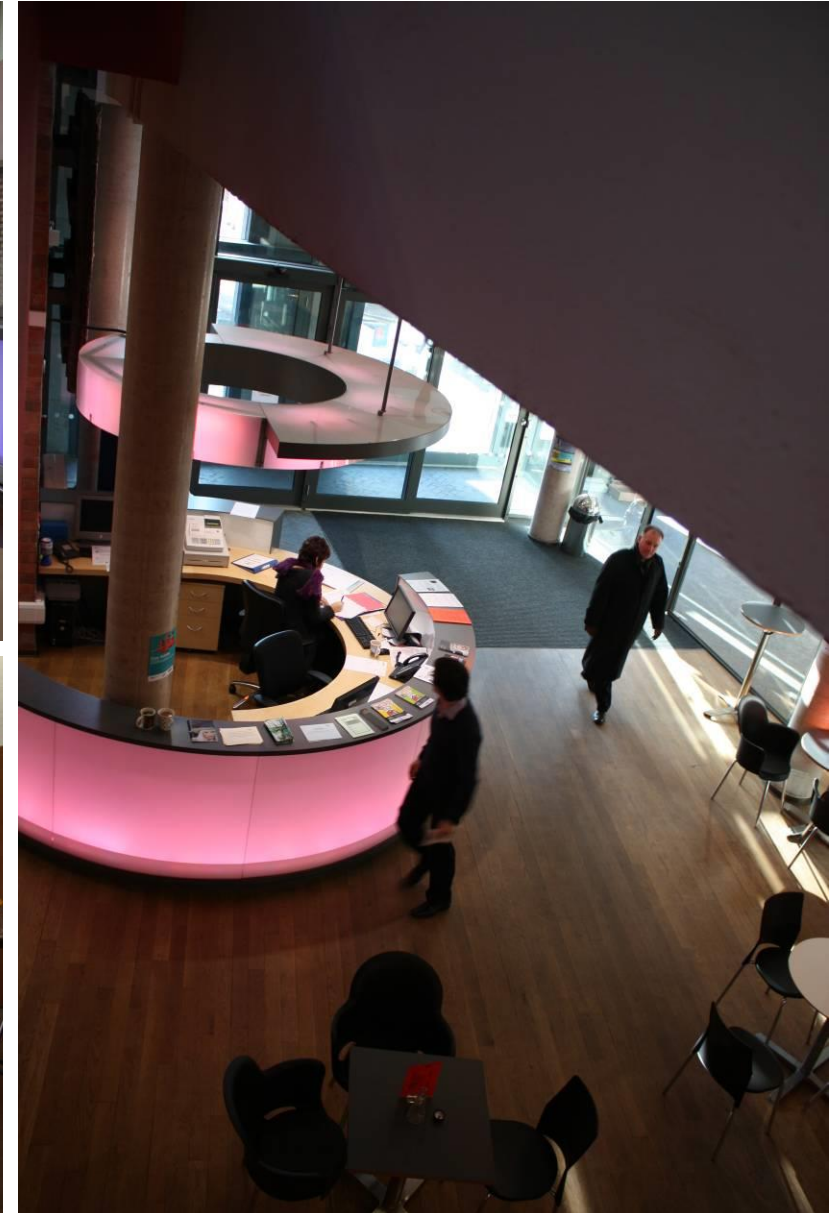
In practice the centre had struggled to justify its revenue costs, and the performance space had proved unpopular in terms of ambience, acoustics and functionality.

Wem Town Hall Trust have now taken over the running of the building, and the media faculty of the local high school have occupied the upper floor.

A new reception area and bar have been installed, to improve the attractiveness of the building from the street. A new draft lobby, and lowered fabric ceilings improve the comfort of this area. The café area is now a busy public space during the day and evening.

A new secure gallery and admin offices have been provided off the reception hall.

The performance area has enhanced acoustic linings to the ceiling, and a new enclosed cinema projection/sound control booth.



CAFE, CONCORD COLLEGE

The new pavilion café at Concord College is set in an eighteenth century walled garden. The height of the pavilion is kept low to allow the building to sit comfortably into its historic context.

The building is constructed with a steel frame with glazed and masonry walls. The roof extends past the enclosed café and the steel support structure. A continuous band of glazing between the masonry walls and the underside of the roof increases the illusion of a floating roof.

The cafe is equipped with stainless steel fitted kitchen units. Residential students can prepare their own food within the fully equipped kitchen area.

The building is on a raised concrete plinth forming a terrace for dining out in the summer. Two large sections of the glazed wall can be opened up during the summer to allow easy access between the inside and the outside, transforming the building into a roof with columns.



CLUN FIRE STATION

Baart Harries Newall were appointed by Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, to produce a feasibility study to identify options for the development of a new Fire Station in Clun.

The fire service have ambitions to provide a modern and contemporary fire station with community facilities.

The proposal draws upon the vocabulary of the local rural designs. The materials pallet is stone and black profiled aluminium cladding, which echo the stone and black stained timber cladding traditional found in Clun.



FORDBRIDGE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

A new 2.5 form entry primary school, with nursery and community provision, commissioned by Solihull MBC.

The school is situated in Chelmsley Wood and forms part of a regeneration programme for North Solihull.

The new school brings together primary teaching facilities, a private nursery and community facilities. The teaching accommodation is arranged into three distinct teaching phases.

Adjacent to the school site is a large Primary Care facility, there are also some shops nearby. It is the Local Authorities ambition to make this area into a 'village centre'. The approach to the school reflects this ambition, with a large public courtyard space, enclosed on three sides, to the front of the school.

Beyond the public courtyard is a private teaching courtyard. The teaching provision is set around this space.

Phase 3 is set on the first floor, and opens out onto a teaching terrace.

The building has low pitched roofs with overhanging eaves to provide shade to the extensively glazed classrooms. Constructed in masonry, the building has high thermal mass to regulate internal temperatures, there is natural ventilation throughout.



CLEOBURY COUNTRY CENTRE

Cleobury Country Centre is a community based project to provide a centre of training and excellence for the local small business community, conference and teaching spaces for the school's A level Business Studies course, business starter offices, and a public library.

The project was initiated by a working group of local businesses, in partnership with Lacon Childe School – where the centre is located.

The project showcases sustainable technology, and is heated by a ground source heat pump. Electricity is generated by a photovoltaic array on the roof, and the wall and roof construction is of super-insulated timber frame.

External walls are clad with untreated native larch boarding, and the roof covering is an extensive sedum roof, with a mix of native plant species.

The branch library was a late addition to the project partnership, arising from public consultation. The benefits of a shared reception facility were clear, as Cleobury Country as a self funding, non-profit organisation.

The project was funded by Advantage West Midlands.



BROADWAY CHILDREN'S CENTRE

A new Children's Centre in the Cotswold village of Broadway. Located on the site of Broadway First School. The scheme comprises a Multi-use Space, a Consulting Room, Offices and a large pre-school Childrens Room.

The children's room is a generous space with high ceilings, high level windows to bring in natural light and doors opening out onto a dedicated outdoor play space.



OAKENGATES TENNIS CENTRE

A four court LTA standard indoor tennis centre in Telford, with external courts and car parking.

The £2.2m centre was delivered via a Design Build project, by Baart Harries Newall with contractors Paveaways, and has several notable sustainability features.

The hall is heated by underfloor heating, fired by wood pellet boilers.

The hall is naturally lit by rooflights (between courts) and by a glazed end wall – though this needs to be supplemented by artificial lighting to meet LTA regulations.

The hall is also naturally ventilated with heat recovery via “wind catchers” arrayed along the roof.

Original concept design was by Telford & Wrekin Council Architects Department.



CORVEDALE COMMUNITY CENTRE

A proposed Community Centre in Diddlebury, Shropshire.

Providing a wide range of community facilities, the proposal draws upon the vocabulary of local rural buildings.

Clad in untreated cedar with raised seam aluminium Roof, the building is designed to sit comfortably in the local rural context.



WALSALL LIBRARY & MUSEUM

The main entrance atrium is easily identifiable within the street, and provides full access via a new lift and stairs to all five floor levels.

Identification of each of the building uses, children's library, lending library, reference library, museum and art gallery is by colour enabling users to be easily directed to the floor they require.

The entrance wall of each of the five floors is painted in a colour that represents the service provided on that floor, and this colour is repeated in the "corporate livery" of each service area within. As well as being directly visible from the entrance, the colour coding is repeated on signage throughout the building.

Tactile and audible identification supplement colour signage, for the visually impaired.

The use of internal glass balconies preserve the sense of light and space, and assist orientation by providing views of the entrance and in each direction along the street.



SMART COMPLEX SHREWSBURY

The Smart Complex is a design for the re-development of Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery, with a new tourist information centre and town centre public conveniences. Prepared for Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council.

Baart Harries Newall won the commission via a process of competitive interview.

The project involved incorporating, and transforming, existing museum facilities, housed in a seventeenth century warehouse and mansion. These facilities were to be extended by developing the adjacent site currently occupied by a car park.

The proposed scheme would create a new town square, part framed by the existing historic buildings, part by new, contemporary architecture.

The accommodation would include permanent and temporary exhibition spaces, a Category A exhibition space, a lecture theatre, a restaurant and a sculpture garden on the roof of the proposed extension.



BARNABAS CHURCH SHREWSBURY

Baart Harries Newall were invited to design an extension and remodelling of the existing Barnabas Church in Shrewsbury.

The main meeting hall is in a former Edwardian drill hall, beside the River Severn in Coleham. The hall had been subdivided, and a single storey extension to the front provided some admin and social spaces.

The church wished to retain the hall, but open it up to seat a congregation of around 800 people. This in turn needs to be supported by expanded youth and social provision to provide the additional fellowship and support services that are intrinsic to the church.

The church also carried out an extensive outreach programme, with food bank, pregnancy advice, financial advice etc., and expanded offices were required for these functions.

In the final event, the church purchased a neighbouring office building to locate many of the charitable and admin functions, and BHN have been engaged to design a more modest range of alterations to the existing church.



ST FAITH'S YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE, DULWICH

This Grade II listed Arts and Crafts hall was built as the Church of St Faith, early in the C20th. A new church was later built alongside, and the original building became the church hall. By the 1980's the hall had become rather shabby, and was a greatly underused resource.

The building was converted to accommodate a wide variety of functions that benefit both the church and the local community.

A mezzanine floor and gallery were inserted into the main hall, with removable acoustic partitions that allowed the space to accommodate a function room, gallery, creche and youth club. A floor was also inserted into the former sanctuary, creating a bar above, and a stage below.

The linking block between the hall and the church was altered to form a meeting room and choir vestry above, with priest's vestry, parish office, and a daycare centre for the elderly below.

Elegant insertions were designed to counterpoint the robust interior, and materials were limited to wood, glass and brick to create a warm, friendly interior.



DAWLEY BAPTIST CHURCH

A New Baptist Church with community facilities in Telford.

The scheme creates a prominent building, with a strong architectural form in a fragmented urban context.

The circular sanctuary at the front of the site is intersected with four tower forms. A pyramid roof 'floats' above a glazed clerestory. The sanctuary accommodates 120 people with overflow into the adjacent foyer area.

Social facilities are contained within a second built form surmounted by a pyramid roof. A variety of flexible meeting and activity spaces are to be provided, along with toilets, changing facilities and a kitchen.

