

Classified

Don't forget: you can
see jobs online at
thisisslough.com
thisiswindsor.com

10 pages of job
opportunities

Find your new love
People 2 People on page 44

Building a career in construction

THE construction industry is lobbying to get more high calibre career orientated recruits.

Last month John Gains, President of the Construction Confederation, attacked the current education system for failing to promote construction as a worthwhile and fulfilling career and for not providing enough people with the relevant qualifications.

"Construction offers enormous opportunities to young people," he said. "We estimate that over the next five years this industry needs to recruit and train 370,000 new people. This provides opportunities at all levels. We need our universities to produce more civil engineers but we also see major opportunities for skilled plasterers, plumbers, carpenters and joiners and bricklayers. And, there is a growing need for support staff too – for example, lawyers and IT consultants. We need to work with the education sector to see that these opportunities are fully reached."

The construction industry isn't just about buildings. It's about roads, bridges, tunnels and railways as well as houses,

With so much building and construction work going on in and around our area, Richard Hill finds out that there's more to a career in construction.

offices, supermarkets and leisure centres. The current construction projects in and around our area demand a wide range of skills and expertise.

And the construction industry isn't just for men. Nowadays there are more and more young women who have discovered that it's a great place to work. There are jobs which are right for anyone with the ability to learn with their head as well as their hands.

These people have a wide range of ambitions and abilities. Some are aiming for a high-level management job or an intellectual challenge while others are looking for work that's more technical than academic. Some are after a job with training in a skilled craft, which will enable them to use their hands to build things. Last year three out of the top 10

vocational qualifications issued were for construction – carpentry and joinery, bricklaying, painting and decorating.

Right now there are jobs and training opportunities in the construction industry at all entry levels, from school-leaver to graduate. Examples of craft apprenticeships in engineering construction include carpentry and joinery, bricklaying, painting and decorating. Engineering construction is also a big part of the industry, offering apprenticeships in areas such as steel erecting, pipe fitting, plating, non-destructive testing and welding.

At the technician level, there is computer-aided design, procurement and engineering design. Graduate engineers can choose from extras such as project management and information technology.

Careers in Construction
www.careersinconstruction.com
Construction Industry Training Board (CITB)
www.citb.co.uk 01732 467300
Engineering Construction Industry Training Board (ECITB)
www.ecitb.org.uk 01923 260000



■ THE JUBILEE RIVER: The Maidenhead & Windsor Flood Alleviation Scheme, the area's biggest construction project in recent years.