

9 Million Windows Fitted A Year – Here's To Our Amazing Trades

'Celebrating a Year of Our Tradesmen' is an infographic showcasing monumental achievements that include maintaining 346,455km of water pipes, equivalent to the distance from the Earth to the Moon – and the installation of 9 million windows.

3B Training created the graphic to recognise both men and women who keep this country moving forward. Figures underscore the huge impact tradespeople have on UK society each year, including:

- The 346,455km of water pipe maintenance.
- 1.7million gas boilers installed – equivalent to the population of Leeds.
- Maintenance of 90,000 pylons in the UK holding over 4,300miles of high voltage cables – that's the distance from London to Florida.
- 275,000km of gas mains looked after across the UK – that's enough to stretch 7 times around the equator.
- 30,816km of road works carried out – that's 1.4 million potholes.
- Over 3.6 billion bricks laid – if stacked one on top of each other they would reach further than the sun.

- 204,530 new builds completed – akin to all the homes in Manchester.
- 76,560 apprentices trained by UK tradesmen across construction, planning, mining, utilities and engineering.
- Over 9 million windows fitted – that's 370 times as many as the Burj Khalifa.

However, while tradespeople accomplish incredible feats each year, a shadow looms over the industry. Mental health concerns within the trades sector are more prevalent than ever. An alarming 84% of UK tradespeople report experiencing mental health issues stemming from their profession. These range from stress and anxiety to depression, with:

- Over 68% facing work-related stress monthly.
- Gen Z workers being most vulnerable, with 24% taking time off due to stress.
- Self-employed tradespeople are feeling the pressure more, with 10% experiencing symptoms daily.

To tackle the crisis, 3B Training offers mental health first aid courses, providing delegates with the skills and knowledge to support someone struggling with their mental health. [f](#)



Development In Darlington

Planning permission has been granted for 144 new homes on a site located near to the A66 in Darlington, just five minutes' drive from the town centre.

Brought forward by north of England housebuilder, Homes by Esh, the Hurworth Meadows

development will include a collection of two, three and four-bedroom homes. Each home will be greener and more economical than an older property and will benefit from energy efficient features, including solar photovoltaic panels to generate electricity, an electric car charging



point and smart heating controls. The show homes, will be available for viewings from early 2024. [f](#)

Free Glass Recycling Scheme Heads North

Following the launch of its pilot glass recycling scheme, the GGF and FENSA have extended the programme to the north of England and the Midlands.

"As with all of our recycling schemes, we spend a lot of time making sure they work as they should and that we have the capacity to deliver, before rolling them out nationally," says the GGF's Chris Beedel. "We can enter the next phase of expanding the glass recycling scheme now because our partner CNC Recycling is adding an operational hub in the North-West. This will mean availability down to Stoke, across to Halifax/Brighouse,

North Wales, Cheshire and areas of Cumbria.

"Glass will need to be separated from frames as the frames are transported differently. There is a minimum collection criterion of 20 frames/IGUs but collection will continue to be free of charge if this is met."

Beedel adds: "Both installers and homeowners want the peace of mind that they can recycle old products responsibly, yet it's not always easy to find a trusted partner. We're pleased to be able to offer a reliable solution to this increasingly prevalent issue, to even more installers and look forward to extending the scheme further again in the future." [i](#)



Modus Gets Into Operation

Modus by Listers has been specified on an 87-plot new-build development in Essex, thanks to its low U-values and slim sightlines.

Approximately 700 Modus windows, in a mixture of white and coloured foils, will be manufactured by Listers and installed by Allglass (Anglia) for a local housebuilder over a 14-month period beginning in December

2023. Listers' Gallery 44 composite doors in a variety of colours will also be installed.

Modus was originally chosen because the local planning department stipulated that they had to achieve 0.8W/m²K U-values, which is a Passive House level of performance.

"We keep a close eye on developments and we are already talking to our suppliers

so that we can install windows into newbuild properties with U-values of 0.8W/m²K, when the Future Homes Standard comes into force," says Allglass' contracts manager Ben Friend.

"After the products were specified, the planning department relaxed its requirements and the windows only had to meet a 1.1W/m²K U-value.

"With Modus we could achieve this with double-glazed units," while other products would have struggled to go below 1.2W/m²K without triple glazing."

Modus by Listers is made using profile from Eurocell. It will accommodate a triple glazed sealed unit. It has six equal thermal chambers. It contains between 36% and 72% of recycled materials. [i](#)