

**RUSSWOOD**

selected sustainable timber  
FLOORING • CLADDING • DECKING

Issue 17

# Profile

## SPORTING CHALLENGE

*Sports centre rears up from the foot of the Pentland Hills like a fresh challenge for outdoor enthusiasts*

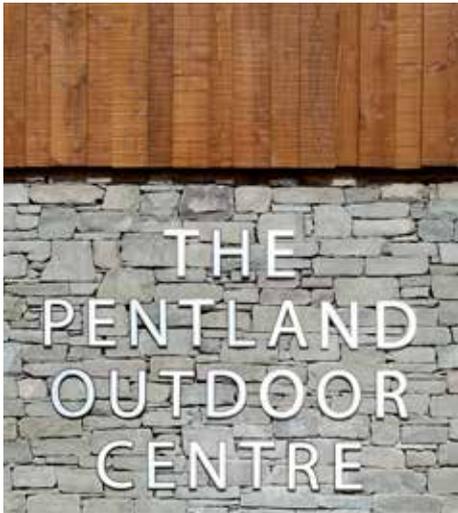
### A CLASS ACT

*Set in landscaped grounds, a useful hub for the local Gaelic community.*

### A HIGHLAND IDYLL

*Scotland's answer to Route 66*

# SPORTING CHALLENGE



**ARCHITECT:** OBERLANDERS ARCHITECTS

**PRODUCT:** SCOTLARCH® VACUUM COATED IN TEKNOS FI-032

**PROFILE:** BOARD ON BOARD

*Few buildings so aptly reflect their context as Craighon Mountain Sports centre, which rears up from the foot of the Pentland Hills like a fresh challenge for outdoor enthusiasts.*

The unique 'drum' design of the Pentland Outdoor Centre is enhanced by vertical Russwood Scotlarch® cladding and stacked window panes, creating a striking addition to the landscape.

The brief for architects Andrew Wilmot and Dario Alonzi of Oberlanders was an exciting one: to design a building with sound eco credentials married to a strong sense of place. The stone wall base course adds thermal mass to the building, while the use of solar panels on the sloped roof offers a sustainable solution to energy generation and consumption.

With its knotty appearance and subtle colour variation, Scotlarch® contributed to the building's distinctive aesthetic whilst offering

the durability to withstand the wet Scottish climate.

Occupying a prime position opposite Hillend, this contemporary retail complex acts as a 'gateway to Edinburgh' and the design makes the most of the site's strong visual connection to the Pentland Hills, exposing stunning panoramic views from all three floors. Comprising retail sales, 'front of house' facilities for Pentland Rangers, staff residences, ski rental/repairs and café areas, the building confidently establishes itself as an ecological hub for exploring the great outdoors.

The building won the praise of the community for its 'exciting and innovative design', and Oberlanders Architects were equally impressed,

stating: "Russwood offered expert advice on an array of design issues... the help and support we received was first class."

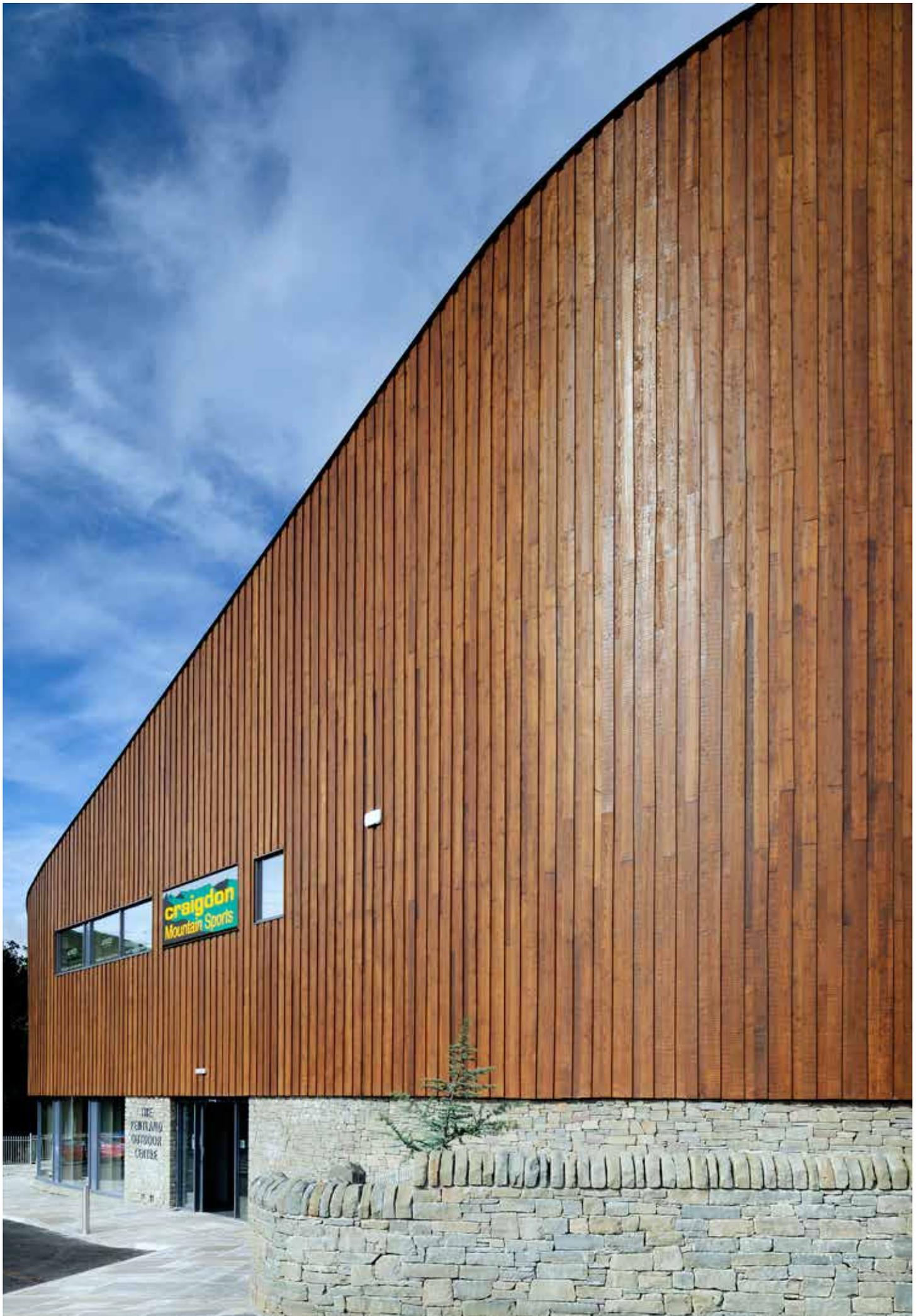
**WITH ITS KNOTTY APPEARANCE AND SUBTLE COLOUR VARIATION, SCOTLARCH® CONTRIBUTED TO THE BUILDING'S DISTINCTIVE AESTHETIC**

**MAIN CONTRACTOR:**  
Bancon Construction

**ABOVE:** THE DRUM DESIGN OF THE BUILDING IS ENHANCED BY THE SUBTLE COLOUR VARIATION OF SCOTLARCH®

**OPPOSITE:** ENVELOPING AND SOARING SKYWARD, THE CLADDING EXEMPLIFIES THIS ECO HUB ENHANCING THE GATEWAY TO EDINBURGH

PHOTOGRAPHY: NIGEL RIGDEN



craigdon  
Mountain Sports

THE  
KENTLAND  
OUTDOOR  
CENTRE



# A CLASS ACT

**ARCHITECT:** NORR CONSULTANTS LIMITED  
**PRODUCTS:** SILA A/B® (FIRE TREATED)  
**PROFILE:** 4 ROUNDED ARRIS

Surrounded by mountains in picturesque Fort William is Scotland's second purpose-built Gaelic school in the Highlands. Set in landscaped grounds, the complex provides a useful hub for the local Gaelic community, and has been designed with plenty of room for expansion as the school roll rises.

The school has four classrooms, nursery facilities, a community room, art and music room, multi-use hall and offices, arranged around two central courtyards providing further teaching and resource areas.

**“OUR EXPERIENCE OF WORKING WITH RUSSWOOD IS LONG-STANDING AND ALWAYS POSITIVE.”**

In a nod towards the scree of Ben Nevis and the surrounding hills, the design features an oversized roof clad in sheet metal, while Russwood's Siberian larch, with a rounded arris profile and fire retardant treatment, provide a warm and welcoming natural contrast.



The project was co-ordinated on behalf of contractor Robertson Construction Northern by NORR Consultants. Director Greg Duncan said of Russwood: “Our experience of working with Russwood is long-standing and always positive. Their technical knowledge and understanding of what we are trying to achieve with our projects is outstanding, complemented by their range and quality of products.”

**MAIN CONTRACTOR:**  
Robertson Construction



**TOP:** THE WARMTH OF THE TIMBER CLADDING WRAPS AROUND THE BUILDING  
**RIGHT:** ROUNDED ARRIS PROFILE AND NEAT FIXING DETAIL

PHOTOGRAPHY: EWEN WEATHERSPOON

# A PIECE OF HISTORY BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE



**ARCHITECT:** LORN MACNEAL ARCHITECTS  
**PRODUCT:** 17TH CENTURY, SINGLE SMOKED FLOORING

When a client of Lorn Macneal Architects began searching for a historic property to renovate, the firm knew exactly where to turn: a B-listed 17th century mansion house in the Lothians.

Sadly, years of neglect had taken its toll on the once majestic property, leaving it ravaged by dry rot and decay, and so began a rewarding renovation to transform the house into a warm and intimate family home.

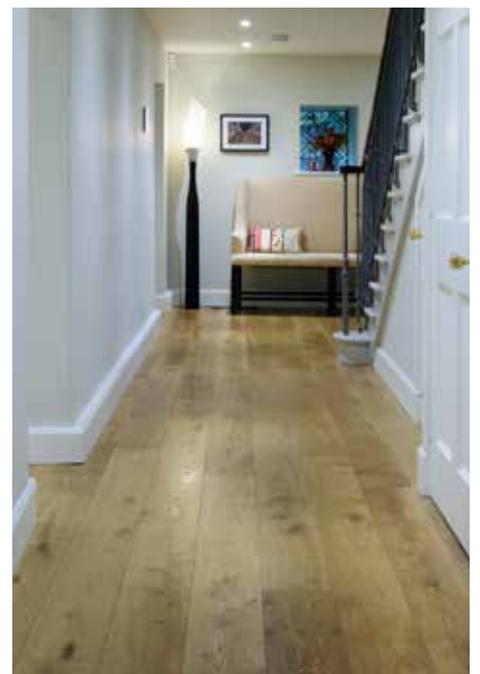
Externally, to the rear of the house, a modern two-storey extension houses an elevated garden room overlooking the newly-landscaped grounds, and the stonework, chimneys and roof have undergone extensive repairs. Inside, a dedicated team of craftsmen reinstated the original staircase, matched cornicing profiles and restored period details.

On the ground floor, the kitchen was transformed into the heart of the home, with bespoke cabinetry by Michael Hart complemented by a warm traditional

wooden floor running through to the basement. Russwood's engineered boards were selected for their stability, and 17th century single smoked finish was sympathetic to the character of this newly rejuvenated home.

Michael Fredlander of Lorn Macneal Architects said: "We have a long working association with Russwood – the first time we specified Russwood flooring was in 2001 – and as well as offering a wide range of high quality products we have always found them to be very knowledgeable and helpful."

**RUSSWOOD'S ENGINEERED BOARDS WERE SELECTED FOR THEIR STABILITY, AND 17TH CENTURY SINGLE SMOKED FINISH WAS SYMPATHETIC TO THE CHARACTER OF THIS NEWLY REJUVENATED HOME.**



TOP: SINGLE SMOKED FLOORING ADDS WARMTH TO THE KITCHEN IN KEEPING WITH THE CHARACTER OF THIS RENOVATED PROPERTY  
ABOVE: ENGINEERED BOARDS PROVIDE STABILITY IN THE HEART OF THE HOME

PHOTOGRAPHY: NIGEL RIGDEN

# CONNECTING OLD AND NEW ON WAPPING WHARF

**ARCHITECT:** ALEC FRENCH ARCHITECTS

**PRODUCT:** GARAPA DECKING, SIBERIAN LARCH & WESTERN RED CEDAR CLADDING

**PROFILE:** RW006



Today a thriving modern city, Bristol was once an industrial heartland with a busy trading port. This heritage was a source of inspiration for Alec French Architects, who were tasked with creating a mixed-use residential scheme on Wapping Wharf.

The development includes residential and retail units, flanking a new street named Gaol Ferry Steps. The architect created a gritty dockside character by combining materials such as original cobbles and Cor-ten steel cladding, which oxidises to a rusty red reminiscent of historic dockside materials.

The selection of Russwood's Garapa Decking, Siberian Larch and Western Red Cedar Cladding provided a palette

of robust, rugged materials that enhanced the design aesthetic. Siberian larch provided vertical cladding to timber panels while the cedar marked out key architectural shapes and added a warm and rich shot of colour. Finally, the consistent and knot-free Garapa offered longevity. The fact that all the timber was FSC certified also proved important in delivering the project's environmental credentials.

**THE FACT THAT ALL THE TIMBER WAS FSC CERTIFIED ALSO PROVED IMPORTANT IN DELIVERING THE PROJECT'S ENVIRONMENTAL CREDENTIALS.**



Nick Vaughan said: "Russwood quickly provided good sized samples that we could present to the client, and were then able to offer advice on various profiles which would meet our budget without detracting from the overall appearance. Furthermore, their technical advice allowed us to test some of TRADA's principals embedded in the external cladding guidance which was invaluable."

**MAIN CONTRACTOR:**

John Sisk & Son Ltd

TOP: RHYTHMIC REPETITION OF TIMBER PANELS

ABOVE: KNOT FREE GARAPA DECKING OFFERS DURABILITY AND LONGEVITY

LEFT: BRIDGING THE GAP, THE WARM RICH TIMBER CLADDING EXTENDS UPWARDS

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALASTAIR HOWIE

# A HIGHLAND IDYLL



**ARCHITECT:** HELEN LUCAS ARCHITECTS

**PRODUCTS:** CHATEAU SMOKED WASHY GREY CHARACTER GRADE

Scotland's answer to Route 66, The North Coast 500 is a 500-mile stretch of glorious coastal terrain. Kylesku Hotel enjoys a particularly enviable location overlooking the rugged landscape of Sutherland, in the far north west of the country.

Once a rabbit warren of poorly connected buildings, Helen Lucas Architects was tasked with improving the quality of the guest spaces, creating direct routes for staff and guests and maximising views from the bar and restaurant.

The resulting design combines a practical layout with generous glazing and a muted colour palette, giving full prominence to the ever-changing colours of the Highland landscape. Russwood's smoked washy grey flooring was selected for its strength of grain and subtle tone, while the character grade adds knotty appearance befitting the rugged location.

The filled knots and smooth surface of the wood also make it a practical choice for a restaurant environment that's swept and mopped daily. The finished product lends an understated beauty to the space.

Says Claire Metivier of Helen Lucas Architects: "Our firm has a long history with Russwood. The service before and

**THE FILLED KNOTS AND SMOOTH SURFACE OF THE WOOD ALSO MAKE IT A PRACTICAL CHOICE FOR A RESTAURANT ENVIRONMENT THAT'S SWEEPED AND MOPPED DAILY.**

after installation is excellent and the staff have specialist knowledge of how their products perform in a Scottish environment over a long period of time."

**MAIN CONTRACTOR:**

O'Brien Construction Ltd

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**

Gordon Eadie Consulting

Structural Engineer

**QUANTITY SURVEYOR:**

David Adamson & Partners

**MAIN:** VIEWS OVER LOCH GLENDHU

**RIGHT:** SMOKY GREY HUES COMPLIMENT THE EVER CHANGING COLOURS OF THE SUTHERLAND LANDSCAPE

PHOTOGRAPHER: ANGUS BREMNER



# PRACTICE WHAT YOU PREACH



**DESIGNER:** HRI ARCHITECTS

**PRODUCTS:** THERMALLY MODIFIED HARDWOOD LOUVRES / CLADDING, VERTICAL GRAIN WESTERN RED CEDAR, ACCOYA®, SIBERIAN LARCH, SCOTLARCH®, VARIOUS OAK FLOORING, GARAPA DECKING

**PROFILE:** VARIOUS INCLUDING RW014, RW134 AND RW136

As Scotland's pre-eminent supplier of cladding and flooring, Russwood has more than two decades' experience in helping clients to realise their creative vision. This made the construction of Russwood's new offices a particularly exciting challenge – and an opportunity to showcase Russwood timber at its very best.

Russwood commissioned HRI Architects and CR Construction to create a purpose-built, modern office suite on the south end of its sawmill complex beside Newtonmore train station. HRI Architects responded with a linear design to complement the rail track, and a layered, stratified shape that echoes the Glen Feshie hills and Cairngorms beyond.

The new, open plan office provides a real-life case study of the many ways in which timber can enhance a building. The James Jones glulam frame with insulated JJI - Joists is carefully detailed to demonstrate various cladding materials and installation techniques. Timbers were carefully selected and positioned to maximise their durability and appearance, with Scottish and Siberian larch, Thermally Modified Hardwood and Vertical Grain Western Red Cedar combined in a variety of finishes, creating a modern but warm aesthetic. Russwood also took the opportunity to demonstrate its new range of Austrian timber fixings.

The end result is the perfect showcase of both the practicality and the beauty of timber as a truly sustainable building material.

**THE NEW, OPEN PLAN OFFICE PROVIDES A REAL-LIFE CASE STUDY OF THE MANY WAYS IN WHICH TIMBER CAN ENHANCE A BUILDING.**

**MAIN CONTRACTOR:**

CR CONSTRUCTION

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:**

DAVID NARRO

**LEFT:** STRONG DYNAMIC LINES AND FORM REFERENCE THE ADJACENT RAILWAY AND LANDSCAPE

**RIGHT:** THE NEW OFFICE ALSO SERVES AS A FLOORING SHOWROOM WITH A VARIETY OF BOARDS AND COLOURS ON DISPLAY

PHOTOGRAPHY: EWEN WEATHERSPOON & MARK WILLIAMS

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