

INSIGHT INTO THE NORTH EAST RECRUITMENT MARKETPLACE

imagine

Welcome

Welcome to the thirteenth edition of Imagine. Nigel Wright's annual in-house magazine for the North East market.

It's been a typically turbulent but ultimately positive 2015 for the UK economy. Business growth has remained constant throughout the year and factors such as low mortgage rates and rising salaries have certainly had an impact on consumer confidence, which has reached above average levels. This, I'm glad to report, has all helped set the scene for what will likely be a strong beginning to 2016. However, a recent slowdown in the services sector, relatively weak manufacturing performance and an imminent EU referendum could stifle progress and businesses must therefore remain vigilant as we enter the New Year.

Similarly in the North East, the opening of the Hitachi train plant at Newton Aycliffe along with the region's booming automotive industry, have led to thousands of jobs being created, while the Rugby World Cup gave a significant boost to the local economy and helped promote the area, in all its glory, to the nation and the rest of the world. Nevertheless, unstable global markets, the declining price of oil and, undoubtedly, the closing of SSI has certainly dampened the fairly upbeat mood. Gaining greater autonomy and much needed investment from the Northern Powerhouse programme would help alleviate any lingering concerns, while confirming the region's key role in the UK's future.

As we go to print the recruitment industry is still showing strength with the number of vacancies across the UK currently 10% higher than this time last year, in line with rising employment. And with

hiring intentions remaining on the agenda for firms over the next few months, Nigel Wright is currently expanding its teams in the North East to accommodate growing demand. While the buoyant economic environment has certainly led to an increase in the number of clients approaching Nigel Wright, the reshaping of our regional business over the last 12 months has also had an impact and we are confident that the market continues to value our specialist industry and discipline expertise as well as our unique approach.

In this issue you can read about many of the significant issues affecting the North East and developments that have taken place in the region over the last 12 months, including our special feature on the future of Teesside; in-depth analyses of some of the North East's most important sectors and interviews with a number of influential local business leaders such as Mayborn Group CEO Steve Parkin, veteran engineering entrepreneur Dr. Tony Trapp and Digital Leaders Chair Steve Blanks.

Thank you for your continued support and as ever, we welcome any feedback on any of the content.

MARK SIMPSON
GROUP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



CONTACT US

Nigel Wright Recruitment
Lloyds Court
78 Grey Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 6AF
United Kingdom
t: 0191 222 0770
f: 0191 222 1786
info@nigelwright.com
www.nigelwright.com

FEEDBACK

We would be delighted to hear your comments on this edition of **Imagine**.

Alternatively if you would like to contribute to the next edition, please contact us on 0191 222 0770.

BEHIND EVERY WINNER STANDS THE PERSON WHO HIRED THEM

www.nigelwright.com

NIGEL WRIGHT
GROUP