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1923

the year Cavanna Homes was founded in Torquay

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BUSINESS

New MD for Torbay family housebuilder

CAVANNA Homes has announced the appointment of Paul Moran as its new group managing director.

Mr Moran joins the Torquay-headquartered family firm with more than 30 years’ experience in the housebuilding industry, most recently as regional managing director of Vistry Homes in the South West. He has also served as MD for Barratt David Wilson (Exeter), Bovis Homes (South East) and Bett Homes in Scotland.

Mr Moran, 56, will lead the 101-year-old family firm in its second century of trading, supported by group finance director Scott Murray and guided by a board of non-executive directors, chaired by former Cavanna MD Keith Miller, who represent the interests of the Cavanna family share-



» Paul Moran

holders. Mr Moran’s appointment follows the departure of former MD Grayham Tucker this summer.

Mr Moran said: “I’m proud to be joining Cavanna Homes and I very much look forward to building on the foundations of its success which were established back in 1923 in Torquay.

“However, there are significant challenges to overcome,” he said. “Even with the new Government’s pledge to deliver many hundreds of thousands of new homes over the next five years, we still face complex hurdles especially in the South West, ever-more stringent environmental and safety regulations and an under-resourced planning system, to name but a few.”

Outdoor goods shop opens at retail park

» GO Outdoors has just opened a new branch at Riviera Way retail park in Torquay.

The shop opened yesterday ahead of a grand opening on Saturday.

The 20,000 square foot store has created 18 jobs.

Lee Bagnall, CEO of Go Outdoors, said: “We are extremely proud to open the new GO Outdoors store in Torquay.

“From beaches to parks, Torquay has a range of beautiful places to enjoy the outdoors, making it the perfect place for a new store.”

New digital magazine aims to inspire and empower women entrepreneurs

by STAFF REPORTER

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THE founder of The Tribe co-working space for women entrepreneurs, Stacey Sheppard, has launched an online publication designed specifically to support and empower women business owners across the region.

When Ms Sheppard opened The Tribe in Totnes in January 2020, she wanted to create a safe space for women in business to find a community in which to connect and collaborate. It is one of 24 co-working spaces within the Devon Work Hubs network, all of which are independently run and designed to offer flexible workspace.

Ms Sheppard’s mission has been to help women overcome the main barriers they face in starting and expanding businesses.

Ms Sheppard said: “Our beautiful, converted barn in Berry Pomeroy has proven to be a huge hit with local women and has led to us having to expand within just two months of re-opening. As of October, we will also occupy a second space in the building which will be used for workshops, networking events, women’s circles, yoga and hopefully many more holistic activities, as well as co-working.”

She says: “Ever since establishing The Tribe, I’ve been asked by women around Devon to open more work hubs in other areas. While this is on the cards, it is still a while off.

“In the meantime, I’ve been running pop-up co-working sessions at work hubs in Devon libraries. However, I still want to reach more women to provide them with this support.”

This is where Athena Magazine comes in and the digital publication, which is free to read, is the brainchild



Becky Craven

» Fran Minifie and Stacey Sheppard have launched Athena Magazine at The Tribe co-working space, targeted at women entrepreneurs

of Ms Sheppard and fellow entrepreneur Fran Minifie, a local photographer and marketing consultant.

The project came about in March after Ms Sheppard shared an Instagram story featuring images of paper samples and a comment that one day she would launch her own publication.

Ms Minifie added: “I too had noticed that women have specific barriers and challenges in business, so when I saw Stacey mention a magazine it was obvious to me what the topic would be, and I knew that I had a lot of knowledge and skills that I could bring to the publication.”

The aim is for the digital magazine to be a resource for women entrepreneurs in Devon, providing them with the tools, inspiration and community they need to thrive while helping to raise awareness of all the free and funded business support that is on offer locally in Devon.

“There is so much support available,” says Ms Sheppard. “But what I find is that most women aren’t aware of it and struggle on alone.”

It will also showcase what local women in business are achieving, inspiring not only current business owners but also the next generation of female leaders.

“Women need relatable role models and how much more relatable can you get than a woman just like you, who lives where you live, doing what you want to do,” says Fran. “I try to share my knowledge and experience whenever possible because I know how hard it can be to start and grow a business.

“I know that Athena magazine is going to be such a great resource for local women who are on that journey.”

The magazine will be available online for free. Plans for future print editions are in the works, with a goal to make the magazine accessible in libraries, schools, and other community spaces across Devon.