

# The Queen Opens New Library Built by Tolent



Her Majesty the Queen is shown around the new state-of-the-art facilities at Newcastle City Library.

## **Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip visited Tyneside to officially open Newcastle City Library, developed as part of a £25m project by Tolent Construction.**

Comprising 8,500 square metres and spanning seven floors, the new state-of-the-art facility is now one of the country's biggest public libraries. Constructed under a PFI Design & Build Contract for Newcastle City Council, it boasts a 185 seat performance space, displays of local heritage treasures, a creche, café, internet access and meeting rooms for community groups. The building

also houses historic North East treasures including artist Thomas Bewick's work table, tools and blocks which will be held in a special climate-controlled viewing room.

The development features several innovative techniques including the installation of a unitised glazing system to the main external elevation, which also incorporates a large public artwork within the glass, an automatic book sorting system, the use of solar water heating, wastewater recycling, areas maintained under special climatic conditions and a sophisticated building management system. A full fit-out of the library and substantial external works improvements were also carried out as part of the agreed contract works.

