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Chris Yarrow specialises in tax advice for SME's at Whiting & Partners

As an accountant, many thoughts spring to mind on the subject of tax, however, for most business men, reducing this cost along with meeting the compliance obligations are the most important aspects of it. Ideas and allowances worth claiming, relevant to you, could be as follows:

Architectural design firm marks 40 years

JORDAN DAY

A FAMILY-run architectural design company is celebrating its 40th year in business.

Ely Design Group, which is based in Stretham, was set up in 1974 by John Norman on the kitchen table at his home in Wicken, from where he then graduated into a purpose-built study in the loft.

Since then, the business has grown and grown, and four decades later it is still going strong.

As well as designing houses, bungalows and extensions in the Ely and Cambridge area, John took on larger, more prestigious projects too.

Local well-known buildings include The Brook in Brook Street, Soham, the modernisation and refurbishment of the Soham Pavillion and what was then the Cromwell Restaurant in Forehill,



ANNIVERSARY: Allen Norman, Mary Watkins, Ruth Norman and John Norman

Ely (Now the former Jar Jars nightclub).

In 1997, John moved the business to the Old Post Office in

Wicken, and his son, Allen, a fully-qualified building surveyor, joined him in 1999.

In 2002, Allen's sister, Mary,

joined them as an administrator.

The business moved to its present location in Short Road, Stretham in 2007.

Allen took over the reins in April 2011, when John took semi-retirement, and soon afterwards, Allen formed Ely Design Group Limited of which he is the managing director.

John does still however play a very active role in the design side of the firm.

Their work is still very much in the Ely area but a large proportion of their projects are now based in or near Cambridge.

Ely Design Group now focuses on the design of new residential properties and extensions, loft conversions and alterations to a wide range of properties.

For more information about the business, visit www.elydesigngroup.co.uk or call (01353) 649 649.