

EMPLOYEE CORNER



It seems only a few weeks ago that I heard somebody say "its cold", that person certainly wasnt Dave 'Coco' Robinson. Dave grew up in Radleth, near Plealey, when heating meant using a diesel generator for a few hours at night and 'rained off' was a term only used at Wimbledon.

Whilst growing up as the youngest in a house of 5, Dave's Father, a Home Guard during the War, provided for the family by Mining. When it came to the annual holiday, they were fortunate enough to have relatives in Southport.

At fifteen, Dave obtained gardening work at a Longden Manor House in Plealey before turning his hand to Farming at a local mixed farm in Pontesford. His daily duties involved driving Fordson Supermajors and the new Nuffield 1060(?)

Leaving Agriculture in the '60's, he has spent the last forty years in the Construction industry, the majority of which has been at Greyhound.

Dave can remember operating an early JCB 3 without a swivel seat, when standing up to operate levers for the backhoe was the order of the day. He also used an International BTD6 Drott and JCB 6D with an air breaker when altering the course of the river at Welshpool with Christiani Nielsen as MC.

Reading this you may think Dave might be reaching the age when he's slowing down - absolutely no chance! Although grass track Banger Racing is no longer on the social agenda, he has been busy at his son's home, fully renovating and adding an extension.

Keep a look-out for Dave, you cant miss him - he's always found with the Crusher.

news - contracts - news - contracts - news - contracts - news - contracts - news

Contracts Update:

Nar Ouse Regeneration Scheme: The contract is now underway, with the first phase of dig and dump. The Contracts staff have engaged Shanks Contaminated Land to support the off-site disposal of up to 100,000 tonnes of special waste with up to 110 lorry movements per day. This, with the new crusher dispatched on 17th April, is making for busy times on site. Following the above, the second phase of Works will be to construct 5km of new road in embankment, with the third phase yet to be confirmed.

Highmoor Landfill - Rochdale: This is Contracts first project for Onyx for many years and involves the construction of a Landfill Cell, including all drainage works. This project is headed by Hywel Lloyd, supported by Simon Powell and is set to be completed in 12 weeks.

news - plant hire - news - plant hire



Greyhound have recently become involved in a regeneration works at a former M.O.D. site in Shrewsbury. The mixed development site comprises refurbishment for business use as well as an element of new housing.



March and April have seen the delivery of several items of new plant ready for the peak season.

In addition to new Komatsu PC450LC/PW130s, the latest arrival is BL Pegson's single toggle PremierTrak. Purchased specifically for its recycling capabilities, the PremierTrak has a heavy duty fabricated chassis and crushes at a rate of up to 250 metric tonnes per hour.

Paul Mack, Service Engineer from BL Pegson, is seen testing the machine after having carried out the final commissioning checks. The Crusher already has a full programme of work that will take in the Kings Lynn, Derby and Matlock sites.

Sidegate Compost Facility: This is a similar project to the project undertaken for SITA (Packington) in 2003, however this has a 'Design and Build' aspect and is a first for Greyhound Contracts. We are currently finalising the design detail and approval to start on-site.

Imminent New Works for Contracts:

1. Cawdor Quarry - Matlock: With the Road project delayed due to land-take issues, we are currently in negotiations regarding a start date and further development works on this site.

2. Broughton Moor - Cumbria: A large-scale regeneration scheme at a value of £2m, set to comence in September 2004.

New trainee operators get a taste of things to come...



Main Photograph L-R Jim, Mark, Tim & Dave (driving PC130)

Mark Smith guides trainee plant operators through their 360 course, all three trainees have varied backgrounds.

Bicester based Tim is leaving the army in May, where he has served an assault pioneer.

19 year old Dave from County Durham has recently completed dump truck training and has two other members of his family (Bernard & Paul) working as plant operators at Greyhound.

Experienced ground-worker Jim lives in Chester and is looking at expanding his capabilities. Both Jim and Tim are also looking at taking roller and rear tipper training.

Length of Service.

The months of March and April 2004 saw the anniversaries of the following employees start dates with Greyhound:

1 years service: Phil Richards, Kevin Shorey, Dale Wilkinson.

2 years service: Nick Dexter, Roy Sampson, Bob Goodfellow, John Kerry

4 years service: Rob Nancini, Jim Edwards.

6 years service: Paul Thomas, Charlie Griffiths

7 years service: Graham Davies, Malcolm Garrett, Jack Powell, Albert Leightwood.

8 years service: Jon Griffiths.

13 years service: Wilf Shingler

Congratulations and a very big thank you to the above for all their sterling efforts over the years.

Plant Operator - NVQs

In order to comply with the new licencing regulations, all holders of current red CPCS Trained Operator cards must complete 300 hours of machine time and obtain an NVQ Level 2 (Specialised Plant and Machinery Operations). In a series of articles the Training Division will advise what NVQ units are required for the various categories of Plant and the evidence that is needed to support your NVQ assessment.

The first two units are compulsory and apply for all NVQs regardless of the type of Plant. These are "Contribute to an Efficient and Effective Work Environment" (PR01) and "Contribute to Health and Safety in the Workplace" (PR02). We will start by looking at the first unit - PR01:

Unit PR01 - Contribute to an Efficient and Effective Work Environment

You will need to obtain various pieces of evidence to support your performance and knowledge as follows:

Performance Evidence: Candidates will be assessed in recognised workplace environments (on-site) and will demonstrate the operational skills required for their particular occupation. This will include all procedures and practices associated with the job such as ensuring an orderly working environment, maintaining equipment and tools ready for use as well as suitably store tools, equipment and materials safely.

Knowledge Evidence: Again the assessments will be carried out on-site and will comprise candidates providing evidence to support their knowledge on the following: the characteristics of work materials, types of tools and equipment being utilised, existing arrangements, designated places and procedures for storing tools and equipment, methods of storage of work materials, relevant communication methods, existing procedures for reporting problems and responsibilities under health and safety regulations.

There are various types of evidence that you can use to confirm your competence including observation of work activities by the assessor (including witness testimonies), documentary evidence such as your CPCS logbook and question and answer sessions with the assessor.

Your evidence will be assessed in a range of ways; through oral questioning by the examiner, through simulations of work activities and through Work Based Evidence (WBE). Work based evidence forms an integral part of the assessment process.

Next issue: Unit PR02 - Contribute to Health and Safety in the Workplace.

Quarterly Bonus Draw!

The first draw for the quarterly bonus for fully and accurately completed timesheets was recently held. The lucky winner, who will receive a £50.00 Bonus is...

Mr Paul Baxter!

Congratulations to Mr Baxter and a big 'thank you' to all those who have taken the effort to submit their timesheets accurately. Keep them coming - NEXT DRAW JUNE 2004!