



Blackburns In-Site

July 2006

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Introduction

THIS ISSUE:

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Welcome to the first edition of Blackburns In-Site. It is our intention to issue this newsletter four times per year and to use the publication as an opportunity to update you on the progress of our business and keep you abreast of any changes.

2006 to date has been extremely exciting and busy! We have so far managed to improve on our forecast turnover although as we write this editorial we require 1 or 2 medium sized contracts to see us successfully into the Autumn. Roger Lacey is working even harder than usual to secure us more work!

We have invested heavily in our Station Road premises, constructing a large Portakabin building extension on concrete pad / column foundations to provide increased office space and a more conducive working environment. This will enable our business to grow on a solid resource.

Many people will have noticed the improved facilities in our yard/stores area. With the large old 'station' shed being completely re-roofed and the former lean-to store being refurbished to provide Craig Saunders, our yard foreman, with a new office. Our former stores area has been converted to archive storage to enable the old shipping containers, previously between the joinery shop and the office building, to be removed and the space returned to car parking.

The plant workshop has been extended to provide a larger work/storage area and the open storage area between the new archive and joinery shop has been infilled to provide a larger and more secure area for timber and sheet material storage.

We hope that you can all see the benefits of this investment by our Board of Directors which should enable our business to grow on solid foundations in a professional manner and environment.

With the ongoing support from our Clients, Office and Site Staff, Professional Advisors and our Supply Chain we look forward to the continuing development of our Harleston business in a measured and structured way.

Our aim is to develop our business and in doing so hope to achieve our aspiration to become 'the building contractor of choice' in South Norfolk and Suffolk. I would like to thank you all for your continued support during these exciting and upbeat times.



Tim Leggett
General Manager

"I would like to thank you all for your continued support during these exciting and upbeat times"



Recently completed projects include

Orford-ly nice offices ...

In November 2005 worked started on an ambitious project to convert a number of existing farm buildings at Richmond Farm, Gedgrave into ten business units. These were designed to vary in area offering facilities for different sized businesses, but all offering stunning views across the Orford countryside. Each unit is fully equipped with telephone and data connections and includes ensuite kitchen and toilet facilities.

Site Manager: Paul Warman
 Contracts Manager: Paul Booker
 Quantity Surveyor: Melvyn Canham
 Architects: Hollins PQS: Hyams



The courtyard area at Richmond Farm, Gedgrave

The Gables, Aldeburgh ...

Also in November 2005 we were due to commence work at The Gables, Aldeburgh, a large and rambling house owned as a 'weekend retreat' by our Client. Unfortunately our start date was delayed until after Christmas which meant that during the worst of the winter weather with no heating and little natural light, we had to begin the refurbishment of this beautiful building. Exceptional efforts were made by all concerned and the contract was completed within the planned 20 weeks.

Works included remodelling the ground floor to provide a large kitchen with breakfast room and separate utility room and shower area. Re-roofing, upgrading insulation, additional luxury bathroom and shower room, all complimented by the new contemporary kitchen.



Site Manager: Simon Elliott
 Contracts Manager: Paul Booker
 Quantity Surveyor: Daniel Remblance
 Architect: Hugh Pilkington

Suffolk County Council Measured Term Contract

Andy Smith manages one of the busiest teams in the Blackburns office is that which is responsible for the Suffolk County Council Measured Term Contract. Now in its 4th year, the team handles approximately 25 calls a day ranging from the fitting of handrails in private homes to repairs following vandalism at any one of the Councils public buildings in the Northern area, which we currently cover. Andy is assisted by Roger Sheldrake, Lisa Hamling and Sarah Abney. During the school summer holidays in 2006, which lasts around 6 weeks, Andy's team will turnover approximately £1,000,000 of programmed works including toilet refurbishments, DDA works, small extensions and refurbishment works.



Current Contracts include

Kirkley Children's Centre, Lowestoft

The new Children's Centre at Kirkley in Lowestoft marks a significant step in the regeneration programme for the area and will provide Children & Family Services, Waveney PCT Health Services and space for Fen Park Primary Nursery and Foundation. This also shows the continued successful relationship between Blackburns (Harleston) and Suffolk County Council.

Value: £2,000,000 Site Manager: Steve Baker
 Contracts Manager: Paul Booker Quantity Surveyor: Adrian Warne
 Architect: Suffolk County Council PQS: Gill Associates
 Structural Engineer: MLM



Time Capsule Burying at Kirkley by local schoolchildren on 18th July 2006

Esplanade Works, Gt. Yarmouth

Whilst there is no-one currently on site at Gt. Yarmouth the works are in the 'hold' stage over summer, to allow for the busy tourist season in the seaside resort. Having to lay pavements in patterned sections over an entire 1km long site has proved quite a challenge for Site Manager Kevin Church and his team. In fact, the physical size of the site meant that Kevin had to cycle between groups of workers to keep an eye on progress, this in addition to coping with extreme weather conditions, both hot and cold, has kept the Blackburns team on their toes.

Value: £962,612 over 2 phases Site Manager: Kevin Church
 Contracts Manager: Peter Waldron Quantity Surveyor: Adrian Warne
 Architect: Landscape Partnership PQS: Davis, Langdon & Everest



Kevin Church on site in Gt. Yarmouth

Weston Hall, Nr. Beccles

Works started in May on the alterations and repairs to Weston Hall, nr. Beccles. This will include combination of two rooms on the 2nd floor to provide a large bedroom and conversion of a corridor to a large ensuite shower room including reinstatement of an existing window. Conversion of a 4m² void space above the kitchen to provide a further bathroom, remodelling of the south gable, conversion of existing utility room to scullery and the creation of a wet room. All works throughout will be carried out by traditional methods only and without the use of cement. All internal and external joinery will be via our own joinery workshop at Harleston.



Site Manager: Kevin Church
 Contracts Manager: Peter Waldron
 Quantity Surveyor: Daniel Remblance
 Architect: Nicholas Jacob Architects

Personnel

Retirements:

Winston Foulger retired 'officially' after many years of service to the Group as a Scaffolder. Unfortunately Winston had not worked since 1996 due to respiratory problems. His retirement was marked by a reception at The Apollo Club in Harleston, where more than 100 of his colleagues and friends from the Carter Group joined him in his celebrations. Our thanks and best wishes go to Winston and all his family, we wish them all the best for the future.



New Additions:

Darren Johnson joined Blackburns as a Quantity Surveyor on 9th January 2006, and has taken the lead surveying role on our Suffolk County Council Measured Term contract.



Matthew Hammond has recently joined us as a Construction Technician within the Contracts team.



Laura Duckett joined the office staff as Office Junior in June 2006 following completion of her exams.



A very warm welcome to all three new recruits !



We appear to have a baby boom at Blackburns!

Carl Cudden (Plant Fitter) & Tabitha Gibson welcomed their daughter Zoe on September 8th 2005

Adrian Warne (Quantity Surveyor) & Tracy McGhee welcomed their son Daniel on September 10th 2005

Chris Thurston (General Operative) & Cara Bell welcomed their daughter Carrie in October 2005

Craig (Yard Foreman) & Becky Saunders welcomed their son Kieron on February 24th 2006

Darren Johnson (Quantity Surveyor) & Karina Fish welcomed their daughter Libby on April 2nd 2006

Kelvyn (Site Manager) & Hayley Adcock welcomed their son Connor on May 29th 2006

Nicola Claxton (Group Surveying Director) who has been assisting our team is soon to go on maternity leave. We wish her and Dean luck and thank her for her contribution.

Watch this space !!

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