



Winter 2013

Happy New Year.

We are a little late getting our winter newsletter out, (although as I write it is snowing heavily so it feels like we are in the depths of winter!). This is purely down to workload, which is great, we are busy and I love it when we are!

Congratulations to Mike Johnson (see opposite) what a year 2012 proved to be for Mike. Our Training Academy is a revelation and just keeps going from strength to strength – my only hope is that Mike does not get a CBE before me!

Best wishes to the team at our new Emergency Heating Company (see below). This is quite an innovative idea and one that is bringing new opportunities our way thick and fast.

We are now only four months away from completing 25 years in business. There is a good feeling around the group. We are positive, innovative and performing well in a very tough economic environment, we have some great teams.

I hope 2013 has got off to a positive start for you and I hope you enjoy this newsletter.

Best regards,



Mike Johnson our Group Training Manager Awarded and MBE in the New Year Honours List 2013

Gelder Group's Mike Johnson has been awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Year Honours List for services to Training and Skills. Mike has been with the Gelder Group for nearly five years as Group Training Manager. During which time the Gelder Group have received many training accolades. These include the National Training Award 2012 and Mike personally winning the Linda Ammon Award 2012. Each year, this is presented to an inspirational individual who has made a huge impact within their organisation through training. In addition to his work at the Gelder Group Mike sits on many committees and boards including The Lincolnshire and Rutland Skills Board, he is Chairman of Construction Skills East and West Midlands Skills for Growth forum and is an Apprenticeship Ambassador for the National Apprenticeship Service.

Steve Gelder commented "What wonderful recognition, I'm absolutely made up for Mike and proud that Gelder Group have created the environment for Mike to flourish and excel in something that he clearly excels in, it's just a brilliant story".

Mike commented "When I got the news I was speechless, I never in my wildest dreams expected this to happen to me, I am absolutely blown away. To be recognised at this level for doing the job I love, it is the best accolade I could get".

Mike Johnson pictured at the National Training Awards 2012 with his wife Jill and Dragon's Den Investor Theo Paphitis.



Group Launch New Company

On the 31st January 2013 a new Gelder Group Company was launched with the name of the 'Emergency Heating Company'. This company has developed a unique valve (patent pending number 1202951.8) that will guarantee that a building will not be without heating for long periods. This is of huge benefit to commercial operations such as offices, nursing homes and also public buildings such as schools, hospitals and hospices where the valve ensures that a failed heating system will be back up and running within minutes of an engineer arriving on site.

The valve works by connecting to the flow and return of any water based heating system including oil, gas, electric, biomass or even coal. In the event of a heating failure a trailer mounted boiler is dispatched and this runs the heating system while either boiler repairs are carried out or parts sourced.

The launch was attended by dozens of customers, representatives from care home associations, schools and hospices etc and guests were treated to a live demonstration of the system in action. On the launch Steve Gelder comments "Like all good ideas, it's very simple as long as you have access to powerful mobile heating boilers. Thankfully the Emergency Heating Company have exclusive access to the UK's largest fleets of these machines and as such I am very excited by this new venture".



River Island Coming Soon...

Work is well underway on a challenging Lincoln High Street Project to construct a one million pound retail unit for clothing store River Island. Works commenced last September to carefully demolish the former Next store. Extensive archaeological works are currently underway. It is anticipated that the new 1180m² store will be open in October. Given its location on the pedestrianised part of Lincoln's High Street, a high level of coordination with Designers, Existing Retailers, Local Authority and our Subcontractors and Suppliers is essential.

On the project Kevin Manterfield – Gelder Group's Major Contracts Director comments "It's a fantastic project and one that has its own unique challenges. We have a great team assigned to the project and together with a number of other high profile contracts, this has given us a great start to 2013".



Artists impression of how the River Island building will look.

Announcements



Noel Pepper became a father for the second time on 22 November 2012 to a beautiful baby girl.

Lucy Ruth Pepper 7lb 12oz is settling in well at home. Congratulations to Noel and his family.

Appointments



Rebecca Gillatt has started as the Group's Apprentice Gardener. Her main role is to concentrate on the flowers and vegetables within the Head Office's environmental parkland and at other sites. She previously studied A Levels in History and Media at Retford Sixth Form College. Gardening was something that Rebecca was always interested in and wanted a change from being

in a classroom all day, so this was her way out. It has motivated Rebecca to pass her driving test and become a lot happier.



Mandy Green joined Gelder Group in December 2012 as Group Sales Co-ordinator working alongside Zoe Summerfield. She previously worked in HR and Recruitment at Simons Group Ltd. Mandy is loving her new role, co-ordinating sales events, press releases and getting to know all the Group customers. She is also a mum to four boys who keep her busy.



Michelle Richardson joins the Kettering team as an Insurance Claims Manager. Michelle has previous experience in the building industry from her previous role at Kier. Michelle is enjoying being part of the new team at Kettering and is looking forward to a bright and successful 2013.



Callum Scott has joined the Gelder Group to complete his Plumbing Apprenticeship at Level 3. Callum has completed his Level 2 with another company but required more complex work to enable him to complete the higher Level 3. He is looking forward to the new challenges and already feels part of the Company.

Football Back On!!

Extreme weather conditions and high volumes of rainfall during December caused staff at Lincoln City Football Club to arrive at work to find their Co-operative Stand under water.

The incident happened just a few days before Christmas with an expected 6,000 fans due for the Boxing Day game against Grimsby Town.

A quick thinking Crawford Loss Adjuster called in Gelder Group and the stand was stripped and disinfected within 48 hours. Gelder Group company Xeric were then deployed and the stand was completely dried out ready for the game to proceed.

Xeric operates the largest fleet of high energy drying equipment within the UK. Its systems dry out properties in a fraction of the time of traditional drying methods and on this occasion saved the day for Lincoln City Football Club and its insurers by limiting consequential losses should the game have been called off or catering facilities been unavailable.



Pictured: Peter Swain, John Rowley and Danielle Skayman with Lincoln City players in front of the affected stand.

Diary Dates

- 11th - 15th March - National Apprenticeship Week
- 5th May - Charity Bike Ride from Barlborough to Lincoln
- 30th May - Major Contracts' Golf Day
- 14th - 16th June - Gelder Camp

A Note from the Editor...

The National Apprenticeship week schedule looks amazing! The Training Academy are facilitating free courses all week including 'Have a go at Brickwork' and 'Preparation for Work Readiness' - for a full schedule and to sign up for any of the courses please contact:

Hayley Moss on 01427 788837 or email hayley.moss@gelder.co.uk.