



## Spring 2013

Hello and welcome,

This will be our last newsletter before we celebrate our 25 years in business. In June 1988 Dave Gladwin (now Construction Director) and I took a week off work to refurbish a garage, lay a stone patio and build a garden wall for Mr & Mrs Thomas and Harriet Thistlewaite. The following week a very successful businessman, Tony Morris, then Thomas's boss, rang me and suggested I set up my own company, gave me some invaluable advice on how to go about it and two weeks later SP Gelder Builders, now the Gelder Group, was formed.

It's been quite an adventure since then with over £250 million of contracts completed, 250 apprentices trained, numerous awards with many tears of joy and sadness in equal measure along the way. I'm very much looking forward to seeing many customers, suppliers and friends at our 4th July celebrations, hopefully Thomas, Harriet and Tony will be there to join us, they remain friends, as so many of our customers have done throughout the years.

The Gelder Group now consists of many separate divisions and companies, all of which will be showcased at our 4th July celebrations but maybe the most important event of the day will be our annual apprentice awards as it's these

guys that will ultimately provide us with the drive and energy to see us through the next 25 years.

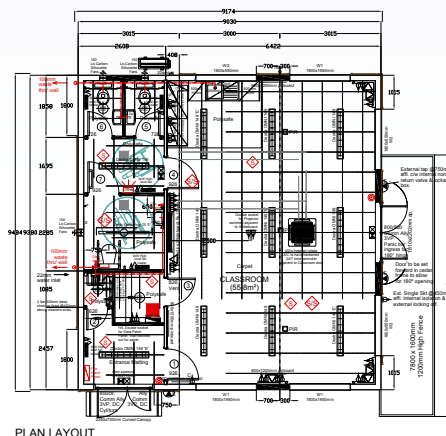
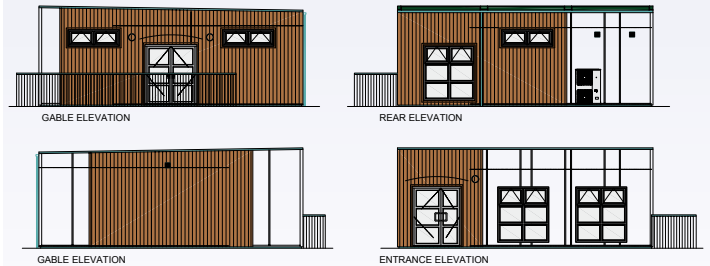
I hope you enjoy this newsletter.

Best regards,



## Modular Building Division Secure £1.8m Framework

Following the success of the Group's four year demountable building framework with Lincoln County Council, the division has beaten off stiff competition to secure a further two year framework with Derby County Council. The contract is for the delivery of modular classrooms to Derbyshire schools until 2015 with the first £140k order for commencement on 3rd June already being received. On the success Pat Richmond, Demountable Building Division Manager, comments "the technical knowledge we have built up in the area of this business since securing our first framework with Lincolnshire Council in 2010 has enabled us to put together a similarly successful bid" adding "I am delighted for the whole bid team and I am really looking forward to working closely with our new Derbyshire County Council client".



*Pictured: Plan drawings for the first Demountable building for the new Derbyshire Framework*

## Group Again Receives the RoSPA Gold for its Health & Safety Systems

Gelder Group have again received the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents Gold award for its "excellent level of health & Safety Management". RoSPA Gold is one of the highest awards for Health & Safety there is and it is the 2nd year running that Gelder Group have achieved this rating. On the award, Construction Director, Dave Gladwin adds "Our teams work incredibly hard to ensure that the Gelder Group remains both an enjoyable and a safe place to work so accolades such as this mean a lot to us, to achieve Gold two years running sends out a powerful message".



## Work Completed on a New Visitor Centre for Bransby Home of Rest for Horses

Gelder Group have completed a £1.5 million project for Bransby Home for Rest Horses including extensive alterations and refurbishment to the existing building to create a new Visitor Centre, offices, meeting rooms, café and kitchen area. Alterations and refurbishment of the existing farmhouse and the construction of a new Animal Reception Centre with treatment rooms and stables. The contract commenced in October 2012 with the Visitor Centre having to be completed for an Easter opening which was achieved despite terrible winter weather which caused many setbacks. Contracts Manager Matt Hodgkins commented "Bransby Home for Rest Horses is situated just one mile from the Groups' Lincoln Head Office. The charity was started in 1968 and they now cater for around 360 neglected horses, ponies, donkeys and mules and we've thoroughly enjoyed working with their whole team who have been terrific".



*Pictured:  
The New Visitors' Centre*

## Apprentice Plasterer Wins in Skill Builds Regional Heat

Gelder Group Apprentice Plasterer Stephen Farrington who works out of our Kettering office has won the regional heat of CITB Skill Build meaning that he will now compete in the national finals at the Birmingham NEC in November. A victory there would mean that he will get to compete in the WorldSkills competition in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil—we wish him luck.



*Pictured: Stephen Farrington with his winning piece of work.*

## Steve Gelder Announced as 2013 City & Guilds Prince Philip Medal Winner

Group Managing Director Steve Gelder has agreed to become a City & Guilds Apprentice Ambassador after receiving this years Prince Philip Medal from the Princess Royal at Buckingham Palace.

City & Guilds CEO Chris Jones described Steve and the Gelder group as being "an inspiration to employers" for having trained over 250 apprentices, doubling in size during a severe recession and for its contribution to the whole of the East Midlands economy and local community in which the Gelder Group is deeply embedded.

On the role Steve comments "I now intend to use my profile to encourage other employers to think long term, to invest in apprentices and provide young energetic people with the opportunity to develop and progress in the work place". The Prince Philip Medal is a personal gift from Prince Philip. Only one is awarded annually to individuals who have displayed outstanding individual achievement in the areas of science, technology and industrial development or have demonstrated proficiency in workplace Skills.



*Pictured: HRH The Princess Royal Presenting Steve Gelder with the Prince Philip Medal*

## Appointments



**Gemma Doel** has taken up the role of Hospitality Apprentice with our Training Academy team. Gemma previously worked at the Bentley hotel in Lincoln as a receptionist and is relishing the challenges of her new role.



**George Bunch** has recently joined the QS team within the Major Contracts Department. George has over 10 years experience and a degree in Quantity Surveying. He has worked on multi-million pound schemes at Daventry Hospital and Morrisons Supermarkets in Stratford and Mansfield.



**Joanna Flanagan** joined Gelder Group in March as an Apprentice Administrator and is working towards an NVQ Level 3 in Business Administration. Joanna is enjoying working along side our Maintenance Team and learning from her mentor Lisa Robinson.

## Diary Dates

14th—16th June—Gelder Camp  
4th July—25 Years in Business Celebrations

## Gelder Group Investors in People Gold Status

The Gelder Group have become one of a very small group of UK companies to retain their Investors in People Gold and Champion status first received in 2010. During the assessment the IIP assessor David Melton spent six days at the group, interviewing 85 employees from all different areas of the company and comments "I'm delighted that this great organisation has retained the Gold Standard and continues to be an Investors In People Champion".

