



Winter 2007/08

WELCOME

Hello and a Happy New Year to all our readers, employees, customers and suppliers.

I am writing this article on Sunday 20th January, one day before what the press have branded the most depressing day of the year. It is raining and both the televised news and Sunday papers are filled with doom and gloom; basically not the most inspiring day for jotting down a couple of paragraphs for our winter newsletter!

It is certainly a different business landscape than we have seen for a few years. I am however very confident in the Gelder Group's ability to cope with a slowdown, indeed I believe it will create many opportunities for us.

2007 was a fantastic year for the Group, year on year sales were up by over 40% to £25 Million and employee numbers increased by over 60 to 265. 2008 has got off to a superb start with over £4 Million of new orders already secured and six new employees already appointed.

Thank you to everyone involved in our adventure, I write this in the hope that Monday 21st January does not prove to be too bad an experience for you.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and have a successful 2008




Steve Gelder MBE
Managing Director



Repairs at Whitwell Hall



The Gelder Group have been awarded the first phase of works on Zurich Insurance's largest ever domestic insurance claim. The works to the fire damaged Whitwell Hall (Pictured), a 400 year old Grade A Listed Elizabethan building, will take around two years to complete and will initially involve stabilisation and scaffolding prior to further detailed assessments being made. Out turn costs for the project are expected to be in excess of £2.5 Million.

Major Contracts Division Great Start to the New Year

The Gelder Group's Major Contracts Division has had a terrific start to 2008. The Division has been awarded a £3.1 Million, 52 week contract by Bassetlaw Hospital in Worksop. This project will involve the construction of a kitchen and dining room extension.

Subject to the availability of steel the project will commence in March and will be managed by Senior Site Manager Alan Smith.

The close of 2007 was also good for the division with LACE Housing awarding the Group a £1.6 Million, contract for the construction of 21 two bedroom flats together with communal facilities and external works at Bunkers Hill, Lincoln.



Pictured, piling works in progress at Bunkers Hill, Lincoln

Major Contracts Director,

Kevin Manterfield commented "Our Division's forward order book currently stands at £12.4 Million with a further £4.8 Million of tenders currently under consideration. I am absolutely delighted with the way 2008 has started for us"

Design & Build Division

The Gelder Group's Design & Build Division completed in excess of £4 Million of contracts during 2007 and are enjoying a great start to 2008 with an order book already at £1.45 Million.

The Division is currently working on a new accommodation block, classroom and workshop for the Kisimul School at their Acacia Hall Site (pictured). Kisimul School offers full time residential education and leisure programmes for up to 50 weeks of the year for pupils between the ages of 10 and 19. Design work is being undertaken by Technical Manager Matthew Carter and Assistant Architectural Technologist, Pete Benson.



Acacia Hall site, which will be extensively re-designed

Congratulations to...



Congratulations to Contracts Manager Gavin Parker and partner Catherine who celebrated the birth of their second child George Thomas Parker, who was born on 30th October at Lincoln County Hospital. Everyone at the group wishes them all the best.

Apprentices win at Lincoln College Award Ceremony

Gelder Group Apprentices Scott Gregory and Bodie Jefferson took home awards at Lincoln College's Annual Awards Ceremony, at the Lawn in Lincoln.



Bodie Jefferson

Plumbing Apprentice, Scott (19) received the HCG Heating Construction Award for Progress & Commitment to Plumbing Studies, along with £50 worth of vouchers. Scott commented 'I feel privileged to have won this award and I look forward to qualifying and continuing my career at the Gelder Group'

Recently qualified joiner Bodie Jefferson was awarded the Richard Quincy Memorial Award for Achievement in Joinery NVQ Level 3 along with £30 worth of WH Smith vouchers. Bodie commented "I feel honoured in receiving this award. I would like to thank the Gelder Group and in particular my manager Tony Clifton for his support throughout my apprenticeship."



Scott Gregory

Recycling continues...

A £10,000 investment in the Gelder Group's waste management arm, Greentech, is enabling the company to recycle all waste polythene and cardboard from across the Group.

The polythene and cardboard are sorted from skips and then fed into a new Mardon bailing machine which compresses it into 1/2 tonne bails which can then be sold on.

Appointments



Pat Richmond, 40, joins the Gelder Group's Insurance Repair & Renovation Division as Contracts Manager. Pat previously worked as a Commercial Manager at Kingfisher Commercial. He has over 25 years experience in the construction industry.

Keith South, 50, joins the Gelder Group's Buying department as Group Buyer. Keith previously worked as an Area Sales Manager at Wolf Heating, manufactures of renewable energy products. He has over 18 years experience in construction related sales.



Ian Crowe, 31, joins the Gelder Group's Major Contracts Division as Quantity Surveyor. Ian previously worked as a Q.S. for Mouchel Business Services and has over 12 years experience in surveying. Ian holds a Degree in Quantity Surveying from Nottingham Trent University.

Diary Dates

Caravanning Weekend 25th to 27th April 08

Lincoln City v Wycombe Wanderers, sponsored by Gelder Group 1st March 08

Camping Weekend

Friday 13th to Sunday 15th June 08

Contact us...

If you would like to receive further information about the Gelder Group and the services we provide please mail info@gelder.co.uk or telephone 01427 788837 to request an information pack.

Bonfire Celebrations 07

Back by Popular Demand

2006's bonfire celebrations proved to be so popular, it was only natural we would hold the event again in 2007.

The bonfire and fireworks display was attended by over 350 employees, partners, guests and children. The event was accompanied by hot food which included hot dogs, burgers (including specialty pork and apple burgers), soup, and the infamous mushy peas and mint sauce. A bar serving wine, beer, soft drinks, tea and coffee also proved popular!



The girls take five from the evenings activities

Group Purchases River Cottage

On the 1st November 2007 the Gelder Group completed the purchase of River Cottage (pictured), a five bedroom farmhouse, out buildings, six acres of land and fishing rights to the adjacent River Till.

The property adjoins the Groups Head Office complex and plans for this site include a Training Academy, additional land to extend the company's environmental project and additional offices.



Following in the footsteps of the more renowned 'River Cottage' made famous by Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall the Group has purchased three female pigs. The new arrivals, which are yet to be named, will enjoy a care-free life roaming around the farm before being turned into "Home Grown" sausages ready for events such as the camping weekend and bonfire night. Please send your name suggestions to: chrissy@gelder.co.uk



Senior Contracts Manager Chris Kent & Marketing Assistant Chrissy Law with two of the piglets

Chrissy Law is the Editor of this Newsletter which is published quarterly. If you have a story you wish to be considered for the next publication or should you wish to be added to our mailing list for future publications please email chrissy@gelder.co.uk or alternatively you can download our newsletter via our website.

