News from the Managing Director

The early part of the year has been challenging from a procurement of works perspective and thereafter obtaining approval from clients to commence.

Four potential new contracts worth circa £4m are presently delayed due to financial constraints on our clients’ capital expenditure, the combination of a recessionary economy at large, public bank holidays and a royal wedding stifled the impetus within the sector at large and the pace of incoming enquiries for a period of three weeks was virtually dormant; however, to some degree the worm has turned these past few weeks, clearly the forthcoming holiday period and shutdowns has brought a welcome short term boost in workload, we are now committed to a busy summer.

Our attention now turns to procuring works for the latter part of the year and beyond, let’s hope the recent limited upturn continues.
Contracts Manager’s Comments - Wil Jones

Q. What was the most challenging part of the job?
A. Definitely the groundworks. Despite the fact that it was only late summer the weather and ground conditions were awful. It probably took the best part of a month to concrete the foundations for what was essentially only a 10m x 10m square building!

Q. What was the most rewarding part of the job?
A. Finishing the project. It was completed on time and to a high standard. The reward for all our efforts was Phase 2 which started on site in early June.

Q. What made you laugh?
A. Trying to convince Eilian that the contract period was a week shorter than it actually was to make sure we finished on time!

Q. What made you cry?
A. Nothing!
Delivering a world class exhibit within the confines of an exceptionally busy world class visitor centre is no insignificant achievement. With delivery exceeding our Client’s expectations, the exhibit totally blends with the natural landscape and structures within the Zoo, however in common with many exhibits the attention to detail within the off show areas is considerable in providing the best possible facilities for both the animals and keepers. Opened on time for the busy Easter period, this exhibit proves to be a major new attraction for visitors.

Contracts Manager’s Comments - Huw Price

Q. What was the most challenging part of the job?
A. Working within the constraints of the Zoo meant that everything was challenging. Every element of the project was extraordinary, which made it tricky to bring everything together.

Q. What was the most rewarding part of the job?
A. Completion! We successfully delivered a world class exhibit to house an endangered species.

Q. What made you laugh?
A. Nothing!

Q. What made you cry?
A. The amount of variations that occurred throughout the scheme.
HR Topics

**Annual Review**

Unfortunately, due to a few changes the annual review forms have been delayed but they will be issued within the next few weeks for you to complete prior to your review meeting. Don’t forget to send back and have yourself entered into the free prize draw which takes place annually.

**Next Of Kin**

Please ensure you complete a new form if there are any changes to your circumstances which impact on the next of kin information you have submitted to me. If you require a new form please contact myself or Michael.

**Newsletter—Personal Profile/News**

I am always looking for volunteers to feature in our Newsletter so if you are interested then please let me know.

Also, if you have any news you would like to share forward all information to me or give me a call.

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**Vehicle & Insurance Information**

Please make sure you send in your new details whenever you renew either your MOT or insurance for the vehicle you drive to work.

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**Health & Safety**

We’ve had a few glimpses of good summer weather in the previous few months, and in the hope that we’ll be seeing plenty more, please remember that if you’re working outside it’s important to protect yourself from the sun. Burning isn’t the only danger working in the sun, hot working conditions can lead to dehydration, so make sure that you look for shade and drink plenty of water.

I would like to thank you all again in this newsletter for all the safe work you’ve been doing. Very few incidents have been recorded, and the company is constantly scoring excellent marks with the Building Safety Group.
Personal Profile

Richard Smart

1) What job do you do?
A Anything! Contracts Manager, Site Manager, etc.

2) Are you Married/Single/Partner?
A Yes - Married.

3) Do you have any children?
A Yes - two daughters.

4) What is your leisure pastime/weekend activity
A Presently finishing my new house.

5) What is your favourite food?
A Steak and chips.

6) What type of music do you like?
A Most music - U2 in particular.

7) What is your favourite film of all time?
A Liverpool’s 5 Champions’ League Finals ... that’s 5!

8) What is your most memorable achievement?
A Raising two daughters.

9) Do you have a personal ambition?
A Completing my new house!

10) How would you sum yourself up?
A Hard working and light hearted!
New Projects
As mentioned at the beginning of the Newsletter, the first half of the year has been challenging in procuring new work however, we’re delighted to have been awarded the following work since the Easter period:

- Flintshire County Council MTC (£1.8M over 18 months)
- Countess of Chester Hospital ward transfers (£530k)
- University bar & lounge area refurbishment, Bangor (£400k)
- Chester Zoo exhibition re-development (£163k)
- College vocational course facility refurbishment, Wrexham (£150k)
- Primary School roof replacements works, Upton (£125k)
- Primary School reception extension, Frodsham (£105k)
- Office refurbishment for a design & engineering firm, Wrexham (£20k)

Social Events
On Friday, 3rd June, a generous party gathered at the Wynnstay Arms, Llangollen, to join John Evans in his retirement celebrations.

The group of around 25, which included two other Read Construction retirees in Graham Read and Dave Meyers, all attended to heartily mark the end of a long and successful career with the company with a couple of drinks and a cake! Read Construction would like to wish John all the very best during his retirement, along with a great “thank you” for his work over the years.

On Friday, 8th July, a crew of office members and site managers planned to try their luck at the Chester Races, however potentially wet weather persuaded them that a meal and a few drinks would be a better idea!

Leaver’s Message from John Evans
I’ve really enjoyed working for Read over the last 16/17 years; it’s been a pleasure and I’ve enjoyed the variation of work over that period of time. It’s also been a great pleasure to have worked with a great bunch of lads and I will miss the camaraderie. I now hope to be spending more time in Spain with my son, daughter in law and grandchildren. I wish the lads and Read Construction all the best for the future.

Many Thanks to you all John (JB).

Quiz Time
Answer the following question and you could win a £25 voucher for a store of your choice (cash option not available). Send in your answer via post, attached to your timesheet or by e-mail to accounts@readconstruction.co.uk no later than Friday 2nd September 2011.

Question: Where is the 2011 Rugby world cup being held?
Website Success!

Read are immediately reaping the rewards of the recent website developments which have taken place!

Since its launch 5 months ago, the Read website has grown into a valuable business asset, not only in terms of marketing, but in terms of having a central hub of information for its business activities, including achievements for the business and its people, project profiles with stories from team members and clients, and enhanced client communications and interactions, including a recently added live streaming webcam for its £6.4M new school building in Connah’s Quay for the pupils to view progress and witness milestone events, live.

Thanks to the hard work of Damien Heaton, IT and Business Systems Support and the efforts of all who gathered the news, information, testimonials and photographs to develop the website. We’ve seen 150,000 hits on the website. These hits, and the increased publicity are already turning into business opportunities with a number of new contracts being awarded.

News and Awards

"An Audience with..."

June 28, 2017 - Read Construction were delighted to receive an invitation to a Confidential Workshop at the Coopersurf Financial Centre, organised by Babcoke Walker International. For more — [Read More]... Read’s new website hits 150,000 viewed pages

June 21, 2017 - Since its launch 5 months ago, the Read website has grown into a valuable business asset, not only in terms of marketing, but in terms — [Read More]... Newsguard - Rhy!

April 19, 2017 - Following on from our recent VISITORS AWARD in 2016, the 2017 Awards have just announced Read as the best project category. 60 West. — [Read More]... Supporting the Countess of Chester Hospital and Communities

April 14, 2017 - The Chester Cubs are performing in variety fund for the Countess of Chester Hospital. More Info. — [Read More]...