

**FT / PHOTOBOOTH**

Take a look at the best photographs captured by you

**FT / NEWS**

Keep up-to-date with the latest news and updates on projects, fleet and machinery and employees

**FT / STEQ**

Recognising Safety, Training, Environment and Quality across the business

**AARSLEFF**

Aarsleff

ISSUE NO.9

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018
STAFF NEWSLETTER

WELCOME

Welcome to Aarsleff Ground Engineering's newsletter.

Precast Piling, Arco Hull

I hope you're enjoying the nice weather - photographs from your sites have never looked better! We are rolling out our new Vision statement in the next coming months: 'Our vision is to bring confidence to those constructing the landscape of tomorrow'. From the technical estimators and designers working closely with our clients to develop specialist geotechnical solutions, to our teams on the ground installing, driving, drilling and delivering our products and services, the Aarsleff team's work ethic is second to none.

Supporting the aim of our new vision statement, we not long after received a testimonial from client Willmott Dixon applauding our multidisciplinary work at Rochdale Riverside and we were recently announced as one of the UK's Top 20 Geotechnical Contractors in the Ground Engineering Magazine's August/September 2018 report.

We had more good news as two of our colleagues became finalists in the Construction News 'Investing in Talent' Awards. Our Business and HR Manager Heather Jones is in the running to be 'HR Star of the Year'. For over 20 years, Heather has provided the company with seamless support services, all while showing great strength and resilience in times of hardship. Heather invested time in mentoring Parth Patel as a Graduate, who has also picked up a nomination for 'Graduate of the Year'. Parth has since become an exceptional contracts engineer, most recently managing a 15-week project in Eastwood, overseeing the installation of over 100,000+ metres of Precast and Steel Tubular Piles. Please join me in congratulating Heather and Parth on their achievements.

Although we have experienced a significant increase in our activity through the summer months, resulting in record turnover, we have noticed a shortage in secured pipeline work for the coming months, especially in Piling. Please remember that work winning and pipeline management is everyone's responsibility. Naturally, we must respond as a team to the market in the short term and accept that we will not be trading at the levels we have seen in recent months. We are all responsible for our actions over this period to make smart decisions and save on unnecessary spend. It is a simple concept, but spending less means we earn more. Please ensure all effort is made to minimise waste, and our job start ups must be swift to maximise efficiency on site. Lets put ourselves in maximum position to return our margins.

Finally, let's focus on building simplicity into everything we do - from strategy and design to project management and delivery. As Steve Jobs once said "Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication". When Jobs returned to Apple in 1997 after being fired 12 years earlier, his first initiative was to slash the number of product offerings by 70 percent. He wanted Apple's engineers to focus on the 30 percent that was left, or what Jobs called "the gems."

At Aarsleff, our 'gems' refer to our people, our equipment, our products and most importantly our skills. Lets keep it simple and focus on that which makes us money. We develop solutions that are simple because as human beings, we understand clarity. Let's look after our gems, go the extra mile and ensure we are future fit as we enter the Autumn/Winter period.



...Kevin Hague,
Managing Director



Photobooth

Every issue we ask you to send in your Aarsleff pictures on-site or at home and the best of these are then published in here. If you'd like to be featured, grab your camera and get snapping!

Send your best photos to:
jessicabanham@arsleff.co.uk



SFA Piling, Dagfa House - V Point



Precast Piling - Stuart Hancock



Multi-discipline Project, Rochdale Riverside - Steve Gilbank



Sheet Piling, Hertsmonceux - Joseph Mills



Precast Piling, Hatfield - Simon Cottington



King Post Wall, Alton Cars, Mansfield - John Storry

FLEET UPDATE

At the time of reading we will have taken delivery of our new Klemm 909, expanding our current fleet and providing a wider capability for geotechnical projects. We have started the programme of upgrading the camera safety systems on our older rigs to improve the quality and reliability, along with adding new instrumentation and laser technology on our piling rigs to provide better accuracy and better recording of pile driving data.

We would like to welcome two new fitter apprentices to the plant team, Will Campion and Darren Gray. Their joining will expand the plant team to 8 members, with 1 store man, 5 fitters and 2 apprentices.



CHARITY CORNER



Our selected charity for July, August and September is the Children's Bereavement Centre. By dressing down on the last Friday of the month, staff are helping to support children who are going through the grieving process of death or terminal illness of someone close to them. They provide support for children aged 3 to 18, along with support to the parent/carer of the child referred to help them and ensure the whole family are able to deal with the loss of a close one.



SAFETY. TRAINING ENVIRONMENT QUALITY



... Robert Speakman,
STEQ Manager

July and August (to date) has seen mixed performance in terms of Health and Safety Accidents, Incidents and Near Misses. On the UP - Centrum has seen a 25% improvement in their Lost Time Accident frequency rate dropping from 6.3 to 4.8 per 100,000hrs worked. If they can maintain this for the remaining 9 working days of August then this will fall again to 2.4, the lowest it has been for a number of years.

WELL DONE! AND KEEP IT UP!

Aarsleff, however have suffered a RIDDOR reportable 'Dangerous Occurrence' in Geo, where a small mini piling rig overturned and also a RIDDOR reportable 'Specified Injury', where an operative suffered three fractured ribs when he fell off the tracks of a Banut piling rig. Along with these, a serious near miss occurred when the hammer rope on a precast piling rig broke in service. The hammer dropped 3m to the ground, luckily no one was in the vicinity. The top man did report his next task was to replace the under-packs in the drive head. The consequences here do not bear thinking about. (Safety Alerts have been issued 071, 72 & 73 – as below).

Another lost time accident on precast – while swinging a 14lb hammer to drive home a pile joint pin the hammer slipped and struck the operative on his foot – X-Ray revealed, luckily that it was not broken. We are trialling 7lb hammers as well as ensuring only decent joint pins are sent out to site. If you receive heavily rusted pins – REPORT IT. Do Not Use Them.

New system for Safety Communications - it has been agreed with Senior Management that Safety Alerts will now be circulated via email and then cascaded down through line management for delivery to everyone on site, with briefing registers returned as normal to the office. Returns on these thus far have been poor, hopefully this is just the revised system bedding in and returns will increase.

The following safety alerts have been issued under the new

system – If you have not received these then please speak to your Line Manager.

069 – Piling rig crush injury – an external report of a very serious accident suffered on a LD rotary bored project.

070 – HSE 2017 Fatal Injury statistics

071 – In service rope failure

072 – Fall From Height

It has been identified that the standard of our site paperwork is somewhat questionable and, in some cases, non-existent – yet we also have people on site who continue to work regardless of this. Two projects have been stopped this week until risk assessment and SSOW deficiencies were corrected and persons re-briefed on site. Documented SSOW and risk assessments are a legal minimum on all our sites – these reflect good health and safety management and control of operations. If we don't have this in place to an acceptable standard, then by default we cannot demonstrate we are in control. We would therefore be liable to all manner of legal implications at a Management and Site Supervisory level. NO PAPERWORK = NO WORK. It is as simple as that.

The PPE stores has now moved under the Plant Depts control. Any requests for PPE should be made to Adam Whitworth in the Plant stores. (A PPE Request form is being developed for ease of ordering and tracking of garments / items issue).

Finally, the next round of thorough examinations is soon to get underway with the colour changing to ORANGE for the next period OCT – MAR.

RESPONSIBILITY – TRUST – LIFE & HEALTH – let's put this into practice.

If in doubt stop work and seek advice!

AarSTAR of the month



The 'Star of the Month' feature is to celebrate members of our company who have gone above and beyond expectations and deserve to be recognised and thanked for their achievements. They may have shown great leadership skills for example, or simply worked hard to achieve exceptional results. This month we would like to congratulate...



Alexandra Tinker

“

I would like to nominate Alex Tinker for recognition as Aarstar. She is ambitious in her role and constantly looks ahead to see how she can expand and add value to the business. Her help in business development, follow ups and project research for the department has been excellent. She also offers great support to the estimating teams across the business, as well as takes anything thrown at her in her stride.

”

...Matthew Rastall, Group Estimator Manager

If you would like to commend a member of staff for our next newsletter please send through your nomination and the reasons why to jessicabanham@aarsleff.co.uk



Centred around Centrum

In this month's newsletter we would like to congratulate Ben Bridges, Process Engineer, for achieving a first in his degree. Ben officially joined Centrum in July 2018 after completing his University placement Year in Industry with us in 2016/2017.

"I would like to thank the teams for their effort and commitment shown during this period.

I would also like to ask them for their continued effort and commitment going forward but also ask for their support in driving down process related costs and to come forward with any ideas that they may have to do so and improve our efficiency."



**...Paul Pendleton,
Centrum Pile General Manager**

What more can I do...?

...to make a difference to the Company?

We face challenging market conditions over the forthcoming months, so my message this month is for us all as valued employees of the Company to change our focus.

Maybe instead of us all asking "What does and will the company do for us?", we should look at our core value of RESPONSIBILITY and ask ourselves "What can I do for the Company"? How, can I improve what I do to contribute to the stability of our Company, reduce costs, become more efficient in what I do, be more productive whilst I am at work?

The answer will be different for each of us as we accomplish different roles within the business, but the Company is/has communicated to you its challenges and you can respond by thinking about what you do, by being more flexible in your delivery of your role, working with each other to reduce waste, care for the equipment you use, trim costs and go that 'extra mile'. We surely all want to work for a high quality profit making company – we can all contribute to this daily and I would urge you to do this now – we are each responsible for our own actions, if you see something that can be improved, fixed, done better – take responsibility for that and work with your teams to deliver/communicate that improvement.

I am confident that each and every one of us will find something extra we can contribute toward building on our 'One Company' culture – our togetherness.

Finally – a sincere thank you from me to my team members Simon Pick and Zoe Botterill for the professional delivery of SharePoint Project Management system. The development of the system following consultation with colleagues across departments and excellent training resulted in the in the project being delivered by the due 'Go Live' date – well done and to the surrounding teams who assisted towards successful delivery.



**...Heather Jones,
Business and HR Manager**

IT & Network

We have now been live with the Sharepoint based, "Projects" document storage system for about a month. In this time I'm pleased to say, that we have had very few reports of problems. I would also like to reiterate, any problems you have accessing or using the Sharepoint, please report to IT as soon as possible. It may well be there is a solution or alternative available immediately, as there are so many ways to work with the system. Also if you have any Ideas to improve the system please let us know, we are already working on a few suggestions.

We can also provide any refresher training you may feel you require. So if you have any usability questions, please let us know and we will arrange for some individual training to help you get the best out of the system.

...Simon Pick, IT & Network Supervisor

Launch of AarLife

We are excited to announce the launch of – AarLife!

'AarLife' will give you a glimpse into the lives of those who live and breathe Aarsleff Ground Engineering. If you haven't already, check out our launch video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTKVUtKGkTU>





Spotlight on Graduate Sam

I joined Aarsleff on the 11th June, 1 week after finishing my final exam at Nottingham Trent University. After 4 years of the university lifestyle, I'm still getting used to being up and at work for 8am! I am undertaking the Aarsleff Graduate programme, and I am currently 2 months into the 18-month scheme. The graduate programme will see me working in different departments around Aarsleff although I initially began and am still working within the contracts team based in Newark. I have had the opportunity to travel around to see how the operations team run their jobs. One of the main reasons I chose the Aarsleff graduate programme was the ability to trial and work in different parts of the company and get a feel for the different business streams.

Under the mentorship of the operations team I have been assigned my own projects to run, some being more successful than others! There is a lot more that goes into running a piling operation than I initially thought and making sure that everything logistically is in place before the projects starts is a big responsibility and crucial to the smooth operation of the works. This includes everything from arranging the transport of the piling rigs to the site to ensuring that the correct piles turn up when needed and that testing has been organised.

Apart from all the site operations I have been involved in the other side of the projects, ensuring that the projects are making money and calculating their profitability in order to report back to the wider team at the weekly piling meetings and monthly piling reviews.

Recently as we're experiencing a bit of a quiet patch I have been assisting the estimating team. This has been a good opportunity to learn all about all the work that goes into the jobs before the operations team even learn of them, as well as furthering my understanding of the engineering behind our solutions. It has enabled me to see the full journey from a business enquiry to finishing the piling works on site.

There has been plenty to learn since joining Aarsleff, having been relatively new to the world of piling, as our degree doesn't cover much of these types of foundations. Besides this the rest of the team has been very helpful, and I thank them for never seeming to get bored of answering my endless questions!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first few months at Aarsleff and look forward to seeing where the graduate programme takes me next. Thank you to everyone for being so welcoming!



...Sam Riley,
Graduate Civil Engineer

“ One of the main reasons I chose the Aarsleff graduate programme was the ability to trial & work in different parts of the company and get a feel for the different business streams. ”

Investing in Talent awards

We are delighted to announce that our Business & HR Manager, Heather Jones, and Contracts Manager, Parth Patel, have both been shortlisted for awards in the Construction News Talent Awards 2018.



Technology Matrix

In Group, our Marketing Manager Jessica Banham and a small project team comprising members from Denmark, Germany, Sweden and Poland have been working together to develop an interactive web platform specifically for the benefit of our Group's Ground Engineering segment.

The platform, known as the 'Aarsleff Technology Matrix' has been designed to act as a virtual showcase, providing users with an impressive technical portfolio of the GE segment's capabilities and experience, comprising photographs, videos and project case studies. The techniques range from different pile types and retaining structures to geotechnical investigations and groundwater lowering systems.

The platform is easy and straightforward to use, and can be seen highlighted on our company website's homepage. Take a look! <https://www.aarsleff-technology.com/>

Aarsleff

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018
STAFF NEWSLETTER

HAVE YOUR SAY!

We want to hear from you with stories, pictures, fundraising efforts and anything of note which we can include to make this newsletter more beneficial and interesting to you.

Drop Jessica Banham an email with your suggestions to jessicabanham@arsleff.co.uk

WWW.AARSLEFF.CO.UK
CONNECT WITH US!



Soil Nailing, Haddricks Mill