

The Dig Issue

Spring 2016

Business Update

The blue chip housebuilders we are working for seem to go from strength to strength and this continues to support the growth we have experienced in the past 6 months. We will grow by nearly £40 million this year to a turnover in excess of £170 million. We are investing tens of millions of pounds into the plant set up in order to fulfil the order book we have secured with some great clients.

Sites we have won in the period (£100 million here since the last newsletter – 5 months ago) include Balsall Common, Didcot, Warwick, Rugby, Northampton, Silverstone; Biggleswade, Cheswick Green, Stratford Upon Avon, Gloucester, Sutton Coldfield, Leicester. Tingewick, Cannock, Kempsey, Nantwich, Ryall and Lincoln. On top of all these we have; after around a year of work secured a vast scheme again in Aylesbury which will continue to provide work for the company for many years to come.

The business order book is approximately 20 months ahead of what we are currently operating so the security of work in all regions we operate would be unrivalled. There is an abundance of work and we continue to attempt to win the right sites with the best clients and the sites listed above fall into that category.

The build pressure on sites due to the strong economy requires the production team to be fully aware of clients build programme and be flexible to meet the massive expectations put on them by our rightly expectant production teams. This can be tough but all companies are in the same situation but we feel as though we are better placed than much of our competition to cope with this demand.

It's a similar message each time but we are only as good as our last job and we need to keep improving in all aspects of the company. We are looking forward to an incredibly strong Spring and Summer.

Paul Whelan
Managing Director

Matt Regan

We are proud to announce that Matt Regan has been appointed Regional Estimating Director.

This follows many years of excellent work within the company. Well done Matt.

Health & Safety Poster Competition

We are pleased to announce that the poster competition was a great success with some brilliant entries. It was extremely tough to judge the entries but George, Julie and Liam decided that the worthy winner was Sophie Bowen who received £100 in Toys R Us vouchers. Her poster has been circulated around our sites for all to see. 2nd place went to Jack Cosby-Cox who received a £50 Toys R Us voucher and in joint 3rd place, each received £25 Toys R Us vouchers was Frankie Welch and Libby Monaghan. Every other entry was sent an Xmas selection box as we believe that they warranted a reward due to the time and effort put into the competition.

Hopefully more entries for the next competition and well done to Sophie! (Winners can be seen on page three)



Vacancies

We are constantly on the look out for high quality, hardworking and ambitious staff both on-site and in our offices. Please let any interested friends/ family know that up to date vacancies and information can be found on our website: www.mvkelly.co.uk Alternatively call 0121 708 5000 for details on how to apply.

The Dig Issue

Sad Passing

It is with deepest regret and sadness we announce the bereavement of Nigel Potter (Keith Longhurst's gang). Nigel was a first class site man. He displayed tremendous courage and strength to the end during his battle with cancer. He always remained positive about his situation and never allowed it to affect his attitude or personality. Our thoughts and sympathies are with his family, work colleagues and friends at this time.

Material Call Off Notification

Please be aware that most suppliers are once more advising about extended lead times on concrete product such as block and trench orders including large pipework. As most of our blue chip clients are tied in to group deals it is important we are looking at these early to avoid delay and calling the Buying Department with at least 2 weeks notification to ensure we are in the best position to accommodate the build programme.

Poor quality 6F2 recycled material

Never accept poor quality or poorly graded 6F2 material. Due to a shortage of demolition work yielding quality 6F2 crushed concrete many of our regular suppliers have been bulking up loads with much lesser material and sending out to site from processing yards. If a 6F2 has not got a minimum of 60% concrete (not brick/tarmac/dust etc) we should never accept it. It is far better to buy a quarried product at that point (6F5 or similar) that will hold up and run much further into the ground and ultimately yield a much stronger and better quality job. Any issues or queries with this material should be directed to Dave Robotom in our Buying Department.

Hired In Plant

We have seen an increase recently in old / poor quality hired plant being delivered to sites. All hired plant should be within 3 years of age and of appearance and quality akin to our own fleet. Our suppliers have been written to and reminded of this. Please be vigilant on deliveries to site and refuse any plant that does not fit this remit.

Site theft

This is an unfortunate continuous issue and a reminder for all especially new site staff on the general parameters of site security:

- Steel containers must be locked using Defiance padlocks during the day and at the end of the shift. Problem sites should have filled concrete rings or similar fronting the doors at the end of the shift.
- Containers and tanks to be placed in the most conspicuous / visible place possible.
- Excavators / dumpers etc should NOT be placed against container doors (often thieves will cause vast amounts of damage in an attempt to move them)
- All small plant (saws / wackers etc) must never be left unattended for any reason during the day.

Small Plant - Weekly Checks

It has become apparent from recent site checks and on receipt from site swaps that some of the mini digger and dumper fleet are not being maintained with respective oil and grease levels. It is essential these are kept on top of weekly, to include all document checks within the cabs and site folders. If you receive poorly maintained plant on your site or with defects not recorded (not limited to small plant), please be sure to contact the Plant Department.

Excavator Buckets

Please ensure that all excavators have (and keep) the correct suite of buckets with them. All the MVK buckets are manufactured by Geith (including now the new range of mini diggers) and cost a lot of money due to their superior quality. They are all plated MVK and bear the Plant Number of the relevant excavator with which they must stay. Please advise the plant department if you have any shortfall or issues.

Brian Kelly
Operations Director

New Arrival

Yet another set of congratulations are in order! This time for James & Jen Coyle on the birth of their daughter Georgia. Georgia weighed in at 5lb 10oz.

Liam Nugent

Whilst we are sorry to see Steve Sargent move on to other things we are delighted that Liam Nugent has taken on the role of Group Safety Manager. Liam has been with us for several years now has produced exceptional work throughout this time.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Jamie Langthorne and his wife Laura on the birth of a baby boy on Tuesday 8th March. They have decided on the name Lewis. Great news!

The Dig Issue

H S & E

Hoodies

During the cold weather period, you will obviously be doing everything you can to keep warm and protect yourself on site. Please be aware though that hoodies must not be up and your hard hat placed over it. This restricts your view as well as hearing when working on site and this can potentially put yourself or others at risk. Some of our clients have already banned operatives wearing hoodies from their sites and non-conformances have been issued to individuals that were caught. We will be adopting this procedure also with immediate effect. In light of this, there is a solution which is industry recognised and will conform to client requirements. A universal thermal helmet liner can be purchased from Amazon or likewise for a reasonable price. M V Kelly are also providing this product to all our sub-contractor employees for around £6. If you contact Hannah in the buying department on 0121 708 5018, she will arrange the payment and delivery process for the thermal liners.

Mobile Phones

As a reminder, mobile phones are only to be used by site supervisors during working hours. We have recently witnessed isolated instances where ground workers have used their personal mobile phones during working hours in unsafe areas. Mobile phones are not to be used at any point on site during working hours unless the individual stops work, obtains authorisation from the supervisor and takes the call in the safe zone of the compound. Failure to follow the site rules will lead to disciplinary action.

Bucket Changing Areas

During recent safety inspections and reviews, there has been a significant increase in buckets being left out of changing areas as well as poor erection/implementation of these areas. The bucket changing areas should be set up to ensure that an individual can't physically access or walk into them. Machine operators should be carrying out all the necessary hitch checks inside this changing area **only** and ensure that the bucket is coupled correctly prior to slewing away from the changing area. Our SHE advisors will be monitoring this with a close eye on their rounds, if you need any guidance on this please always ask/ call the safety team.

Seat Belt Safety

Last year, on a construction site in the UK, a dumper operator suffered life-changing injuries [loss of both legs] when the dumper he was operating overturned, trapping his legs under the roll-over bar (ROPS). The dumper was travelling on an area where soil was being tipped when one of the dumper wheels sunk into soft ground, causing the dumper to roll forward and overturn. The operator was flung from the dumper and unfortunately his legs were trapped under the roll-over bar of the overturned tipper. Following this, the investigation had concluded that the root cause of this incident was down to the individual not wearing the seat belt. When operating mobile plant, you are trained to make sure that you look after your own safety and the safety of others **always**. You must wear a seat belt at all times when operating mobile plant and as previously mentioned, the consequences of not doing this could be life changing. As a company, we at M V Kelly believe that our health and safety standards are above and beyond the industry norm and are proactively in the process of fitting a new retractable seat belt system with a be-spoke warning light on our dumpers. This light flashes once the seat belt has been clicked in, thus giving a clear indication from distance that the operator is wearing their seat belt. Remember, the seat belt is there for a reason, do not neglect this crucial safeguard!



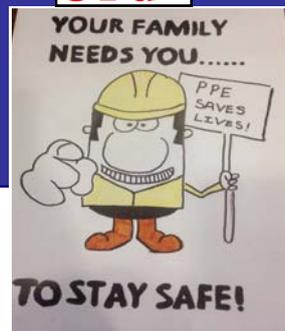
1st

Liam Nugent
SHE Manager

2nd

3rd

3rd



The Millau Viaduct

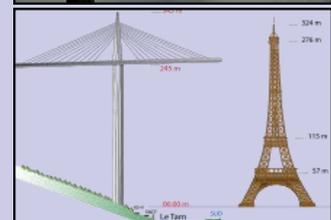
Designed by the French structural engineer Michel Virlogeux and British architect Norman Foster, it is considered one of the modern wonders of the world, one of the most ambitious engineering projects ever completed.

It is a cable-stayed bridge that spans the valley of the River Tarn near Millau in southern France which links Paris to Béziers and Montpellier

The highest mast summit is 343m above the base with the road deck 270m over ground level.

The project required about 127,000 cubic metres of concrete, 19,000 tonnes of steel for the reinforced concrete and 5,000 tonnes of pre-stressed steel for the cables and shrouds. The builder claims that the lifetime of the bridge will be at least 120 years.

The project eventually cost €400 million and included sub contractors from countries including Spain and Poland.



The Dig Issue



Rogue's Place

Thanks to a raffle and dress down day in February we have managed to raise over £200 for this worthy animal rescue charity. For more information on how you can help please visit : <http://roguesplace.org.uk/>

Great work by everyone in our Swan Valley, Northampton offices. They have managed to raise over £500 for charity during 'Movember'. Individual pictures can be seen below.

Motoring News

Complaints

We are experiencing an increase in the number of complaints from members of the public with regards to bad / inappropriate driving. Please be reminded that our vehicles are often the first impression that the public will have of our Company, and we must present ourselves in an exemplary fashion at all times.

Driver Records

We are updating all of our driver records on an ongoing basis. Please could you contact Louise Burgess on 0121 708 5002 with the names of all drivers of the van allocated to you. If any of your drivers are under 25, they will require a Young Drivers Assessment which will be arranged if there is not one already in place for that driver.

Weekend Use

Please be reminded that ALL weekend use of company vans MUST be authorised by your Contracts Manager. This also applies to evenings.

Accident Reporting

Further to a recent claims review on our fleet insurance policy, we were advised that the biggest contributing claim type on our insurance history was where our own drivers have hit a Third Party in the rear. There is still an ongoing spate of "Cash for Crash" scams ongoing (where the third party deliberately try to cause drivers to go into the back of them).

Always be vigilant, and in the unfortunate event of an incident please ensure you record the following information:

- 3rd Party details (address, vehicle reg and type, insurance details and number of passengers.
- Pictures of both vehicles AND the surroundings / road – the more the better.
- Date and time of day, also the prevailing weather
- Number of passengers in BOTH vehicles (very important if results in Personal Injury claim)
- If the circumstances are suspicious in any way, or you feel threatened or vulnerable – CALL THE POLICE.

Once you have all the necessary information, report to the Plant Team (or Doug Curran / Darren Mockble if out of hours)

**Plant Manager
Doug Curran**

Congratulations

Congratulations to Subcontract Accounts Manager Chelsea on the birth of a beautiful girl, Aoife-Belle Elsie Graham, born 7:49 on 11th Feb. Weight 8lbs 12.

Social Media

Since our last issue we have rolled out our new improved website. Please take a look at: www.mvkelly.co.uk/

Also we continue to post company updates on Facebook & Twitter. We currently have 950 'likes' on Facebook. That is good but it is not a round number. 1,000 is a round number. Please pass the news on to family and friends and get them to 'like' us!

**Next Issue Summer
2016.
For the latest news see**

