

October 2018

Gregory Distribution . North Park . North Tawton . Devon EX20 2EB

Hayton Coulthard
Delivering winners



Gregory
Delivering winners



EXPANSION FOR GREGORY

**AFTER ACQUISITION OF LEADING
SCOTTISH TRANSPORT BUSINESS**



Gregory Distribution (Holdings) Ltd has acquired ARR Craib Transport Ltd, whose headquarters are in Aberdeen, with additional operations in Cumbernauld, Stockton and Great Yarmouth.

Like Gregory's, Craib's is a private family company with an exceptional reputation gained over nearly 50 years of trading. Initially the business was linked to the paper industry and thereafter developed as a major supplier to the oil and gas industries. Subsequently the business expanded to include running the Scottish hub for Palletline as well as being the largest pallet network operator in Scotland. Many of Scotland's most famous brands, such as Baxters, Walkers and Brew Dog, are transported by Craib's.

With £50+m of turnover, 275+ vehicles and 400+ staff Craib's is a very significant addition to Gregory Distribution and its Scottish J.V., Hayton Coulthard Ltd. The Gregory group have numerous operations throughout the UK. This acquisition will add significantly to its Scottish operations giving the group a strong market presence in both Scotland and South West England.

John Gregory said: "We are very pleased that Eddie Anderson will be staying on as Chief Executive of Craib's which will remain as an independent company. Our companies are culturally aligned and share the same principles. This coupled with Eddie's relationship with



his customers, his vast knowledge and experience and his enthusiasm for our industry make this a perfect addition to our ever developing group."

Eddie Anderson said: "As two private, like minded, companies operating in similar sectors it seemed an excellent opportunity for Craib's to become part of a larger organisation. We feel very

comfortable with the arrangement and look forward to Craib's prospering beside Gregory's."

Following the acquisition of Craib's, the group will now operate from 36 sites from Scotland to West Cornwall with over 1000 trucks, 2400+ employees and an annual group turnover of in excess of £230 million.

SIX QUALIFY TO DELIVER WINNERS FOR GREGORY

Congratulations to the June 2017 cohort of apprentice drivers who have now completed their Supply Chain Specialist LGV Driver Apprenticeship Standard Level 2 qualification.



Pictured from the left: Stuart Govier, Rikki Millet (who left before the EPA), Stephen Marsden, Luke McDonald, Ben Ryan and Adrian House.

Ben Ryan (North Tawton Milk), Stuart Govier (North Tawton Milk), Luke McDonald (Cullompton Milk), Adrian House (Shepton Mallet) and Stephen Marsden (Plymouth) all started on 26th June 2017, which was our first Apprentice Driver cohort in the Apprentice Levy era. They all received a 'Pass' mark for the course after taking the End Point Assessment (EPA) with the Road Haulage Association and are now enjoying life on the road for Gregory.

A new group of apprentice drivers are starting every quarter, so if you know someone who would be interested in joining the programme and delivering winners, please email recruitment@gdl.uk.com

Long Service Awards

5 YEARS

Name	Position	Business area
Mary Skinner	Transport Administrator	North Tawton Transport Admin
Desmond Dawe	LGV Driver	North Tawton Milk
Teian Evans	LGV Driver	Wales Transport
Liam Hodges	Warehouse Forklift Assistant	Shepton Mallet
Martyn Damsell	Transport Administrator	CDS Mitcheldean
David Gardiner	CDS	CDS Doncaster
Steven Chave	LGV Driver	Yeo Valley
Richard Moore	LGV Driver	Spar
Jane Murray	Administrator	Twynholm Transport
Roger Bennett	LGV Driver	Cornwall Transport
Andrew Barker	LGV Driver	CDS Transport
Barry Watson	LGV Driver	Barber Milk
Stuart Wishart	LGV Driver	Ecclefechan Transport
Robert Millington	LGV Driver	Minworth Transport
Matthew Read	LGV Driver	South Molton Transport
Alexander Cherry	LGV Driver	Shepton Mallet
Stephen Jackson	LGV Driver	Plymouth Transport
Kim McLachlan	Customer Services Manager	Twynholm

25 YEARS

Guy Maddocks	South West Water Contracts Operation Manager	SWW – Cullompton
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RECOGNITION FOR GDL'S SUPPORT OF THE ARMED FORCES

We are pleased to announce that as a result of the Tri-Service Regional Employer Engagement Board meeting, the company is to receive the Silver Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Award. This has been awarded in recognition of our continued support to members of the Armed Forces community.

GDL is one of only 15 organisations in the South West region to have been selected for the award this year. The award ceremony takes place on 4th October 2018.

On behalf of the company, John Gregory signed the Armed Forces Covenant in October last year and since then our support for the Armed Forces has gone from strength to strength.

Distribution business unit director Darren Beaven has developed a partnership with Co 6 Rifles in Exeter and was invited with a small team to experience an Army led leadership event.

Darren said: "This was an excellent event and it was a great opportunity for us to see the high quality training that members of the Armed Forces receive. I hope we will welcome more service leavers into our business in the future."

HR have been working closely with the Career Transition Partnership to ensure the company and our employment opportunities are clearly signposted to those leaving the Army.

Recruitment manager Liz McCreadie, added: "Later this year we hope to hold our first 'insight event' which will give service leavers an opportunity to meet us and choose us as their next employer."



HEALTH + SAFETY MATTERS

LISTENING TO OUR EMPLOYEES

Results from a recent cross-industry survey have shown that just 25% of organisations actively consider the views and feedback from all employees.

We have always promoted the involvement of all employees to develop and maintain a safe and healthy working environment and we encourage feedback from everyone through our H&S committees and ICI cards.

For instance, following safety observation reports from the Driver Training department that some drivers were not wearing gloves when working with curtains or strapping loads, it was identified that there were shortfalls in the type of gloves provided.

An investigation found the issued gloves were too bulky for many drivers and a range of smaller gloves are now available through the company's uniform catalogue.

Another recent suggestion was to place a health and safety message on mirrors in company rest rooms, which has been rolled out across all sites.

Safety First
Delivering winners

YOU ARE NOW LOOKING AT THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR HEALTH & SAFETY



We will continue to develop the health and safety systems and provisions at Gregory and you all play a significant role in this. If you have an idea that can help you, your colleagues and the company, please speak up! And should you have an idea that you believe will have a positive impact on your work environment and activities, please complete and submit an ICI card.



GDL SHEPTON MALLET RESCUES CHARITY DRIVING CHALLENGE

Giving something back to the communities where we live and work is important to everyone at GDL so it was good to hear how well received a Gregory team from Shepton Mallet were for their participation in the Henstridge Airfield Driving Challenge in late June.



The crowd-pleasing Scania used on the day



The GDL team at the Driving Challenge

The event is an experience day in aid of the mental health charity Mind and offered members of the public the opportunity to drive a wide variety of vehicles, including road-sweepers, tractors, buses and of course a Gregory lorry.

The team comprised Niall Carroll, Becky Hissey and Tony Walsh who all kindly volunteered to represent GDL and they attended the challenge with a next generation Scania (kindly provided by the Bristol depot) and a trailer to support the event.

On their arrival, another sponsor had failed to turn up meaning the event was a vehicle down. The GDL team acted swiftly, arranging for Ian Pople to drive a rigid down to take its place and the response from the organisers was very rewarding indeed.

They contacted GDL, saying: "It went very well and in large part due to your fantastic team who were a real credit to Gregory's with their helpful can-do attitude and flexibility, especially in our hour of need when we were let down at the last minute. Please can you pass on our heartfelt thanks to all of them and especially the driver who was brought in at very short notice to help us out. All of the team were very patient and fantastic with the competitors and we had lots of positive feedback about them all."

We probably all know someone who has suffered with mental health issues so this is a cause that GDL is delighted to support. We couldn't have asked for better ambassadors for the company, so thank you all so much for giving up your time and representing GDL and the Shepton Mallet depot so professionally.

GLAD TO BE OF SERVICE



Stranded motorist Clare Humphrey was very grateful to one GDL driver who came to her rescue. She wrote in recently, saying:

"I would be grateful if you could pass on a massive thank you to one of your drivers please.

"I was stuck at the fuel station on the top of Haldon Hill near Exeter this morning with a flat tyre on my van. Another guy had stopped to kindly help me, but we were in desperate need of a spanner to release the spare tyre. I asked one of your drivers there who was in one of your massive artic lorries if he had any tools. He didn't have any, but then he gave me his own personal spanner so we could complete the job.

"It was so very kind of him, and much appreciated. I don't know the registration of the lorry, it was white rather than brown, but if you know who he is can you please say thank you to him. It's people like him that make a massive difference in life."

Margaret Swingler from Hayle was delighted to have found 'a gem' in a Gregory uniform. She said:

"I would like to compliment you on your outstanding service. I had a huge bag of chippings delivered up a narrow lane recently. The young lady driver was so very helpful and with the help of my grandsons managed to get the pallet to my property instead of leaving it on the road. What a gem and so very pleasant.

"More people like this would make the world a better place."

GOLFING VICTORY FOR GDL DAVIDSTOW

The 15th Dairy Crest annual golf day took place on Thursday 5th July at Bowood golf club, Lanteglos near Camelford in Cornwall and it turned out to be a great success for the Gregory team.

The event has raised over a £100,000 for various charities since it started – this year's recipient being the Children's Hospice South West.

Gregory sponsored one of the holes and the GDL Davidstow team playing on the day comprised Francis Doney, Steve Porter, Nigel Hughes and Jon Hawkey. Together they amassed a total of 174 points, enough to win the competition by 20 points!

Pictured from left to right: Francis Doney, Steve Porter and Jon Hawkey.

Inset: Nigel Hughes (Nigel was taking the photo)



SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

Chulmleigh Old Fair

GDL was delighted to support the Chulmleigh Old Fair by providing a trailer to use as a stage at this amazing six day event, which this year took place between 29th July and 2nd August.

A fair has taken place in Chulmleigh every year since King Henry III's approval in 1253 and is traditionally opened by the raising of a white glove symbolising the King's Gauntlet. Chulmleigh Town Hall window displays the glove for the duration of the Fair and its removal marks the end of the festivities.

Today it is a vibrant and exciting festival featuring music, dancing, children's entertainment, fancy dress, clay pigeon shooting, a road race, flower festival, craft market, more food than you can eat, lots of competitions and the unmissable Medieval Mayhem.

The highlight for many is the return each year of local boy and popular singer, Jason Toft (pictured below) who entertains the crowds with his piano and mini disco.



Well done Joe

Congratulations to Spar driver Joe Waldron and his family for raising approximately £2,500 for the SCARD charity (Support and Care After Road Death and Injury). Joe, whose brother-in-law was in a fatal car accident earlier this year, expressed his thanks for donations from Gregory Distribution.

Beer & Bacon

A GDL trailer was once again the main stage at the Topsham Beer & Bacon Festival 2018 which took over the town on the weekend of 7th September. The annual event showcases local breweries, champions local food and raises money for Hospiscare.



DAVID WINS BEST IN SHOW

However, not at an agricultural show, but at Devon Air Ambulance's annual Motorcycle Rideout which took place in July.

David Beakhouse, a GDL ex-farm milk collection driver based at North Tawton, spent a year restoring a 40 year-old Honda CB550K Four which he bought as a non-running wreck with many parts missing and other parts seized up.

His dedicated work paid off as the bike sailed through its MOT just five days before the big charity ride out in which he competed over a 90-mile course from Bideford to Teignmouth with his partner Mary who rode pillion.

Little did he know that the best was yet to come. After several inspections by event sponsors Bridge Motorcycles of Exeter, David's Honda was declared Best Bike in Show 2018 and he has a trophy to prove it.

This was no mean feat as over 1,300 bikes rode out that hot summer's day in support of the charity that bikers so revere, respect and rely on.



Photo: David is pictured receiving his trophy from Lee Anthony of the event sponsors Bridge Motorcycles

SAMANTHA'S PRIDE

The first of a batch of 22 new Volvo FH12 Globetrotter tractor units entering the HCT fleet carries the name of Samantha, daughter of director Malcolm Wilde.



Malcolm wrote to Newsbrief saying that the naming caused a bit of friction in the Wilde household with four girls at home. He explained: "There is already a Pride of Emily and a Pride of Olivia on the HCT fleet and one of the later vehicles in this batch will be Pride of Rebecca."

Disaster averted!



Gregory People

Congratulations to ...

... to James and Roxy Ware (Cullompton warehouse operative) on the birth of their second child, Ellie Olivia, who arrived on Friday 17th August weighing in at a healthy 7lbs 12ozs.

... to Cullompton warehouse operative Luke Wrightson and his wife Natasha on the birth of their baby girl, Emily Joy, on Sunday 26th August.

... to Craig Blinman (warehouse manager, Shepton Mallet) and his new wife Jodie. They were married on Saturday 23rd June and we all join in wishing them a long and happy future together.



Gregory Distribution would love to keep you updated with the latest news about our services and employees. However, if you would prefer not to hear from us you can stop receiving Newsbrief at any time by contacting us in any of the following ways, and please make sure to state your name:

@ enquiries@gdl.uk.com

01837 883307

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