

April 2019

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

Gregory
Delivering winners



ARRGRAIB

Hayton Coulthard
Delivering winners



NEW MILK COLLECTION CONTRACT IN WEST WALES



GDL has won a contract with First Milk in Haverfordwest, West Wales.

The contract with First Milk, under the leadership of Nigel Williams, is worth over £4 million and went live at the beginning of March, with staff transferring from Bibby to GDL to operate the ex farm milk collection service across West Wales. The operation covers a team of 40+ staff running a fleet of over 11 vehicles, collecting milk for the factory in Haverfordwest that produces in excess of 33,500 tonnes of cheese a year.

The project team at GDL tasked with delivering this had been brought together from across the business including HR, milk operations, finance, fleet, compliance, facilities, IT and programme delivery. Thanks

to Steve Rowley, Lizzie Todd, Kevin Walters, and Dan Saunders in particular for their time spent with the teams in Haverfordwest and Cross Hands to facilitate the smooth start-up of the operation.

Over the next few months new, larger vehicles will be introduced to improve efficiency and to support planned growth as the factory invests to increase capacity and the milk field is expanded, adding new farms.

We would like to welcome all the transferring staff to the Gregory Group. We value their experience and knowledge which has been crucial in establishing the foundation of this exciting new venture.



Gareth Evans (left) and Jeremy Brock (right). Both transport supervisors transferred from Bibby to GDL



From left to right: Robin Shipton First Milk distribution manager, Simon Cross depot manager GDL (ex Bibby), Jeremy Brock transport supervisor GDL (ex Bibby), Paul Rowe First Milk Haverfordwest site director, Darren Beaven BU director GDL, John Harrison group facilities manager GDL, Stephanie Wilton IT support technician GDL, Steve Rowley regional operations manager GDL, Kit Reynolds project manager GDL, Nigel Williams general manager GDL, Gareth Evans transport supervisor GDL (ex Bibby)

NEW CONTRACT FOR HAYTON COULTHARD



Metsä

Hayton Coulthard Transport (HCT) has secured a new contract with Metsa Wood at Grangemouth (formerly Finnforest) to deliver first fit joinery packs to Taylor Wimpey developments around Scotland and timber packs to merchants as far north as Orkney and the Shetland islands.

HCT operate two dedicated 26 tonne rigid vehicles on the contract supplemented by artics from the shared user fleet to cover bulky orders and assist during peak demand.

Metsa Wood UK operate from sites in Boston, Widnes and Grangemouth supplying timber products to house builders and merchants throughout the UK.

HCT director, Malcolm Wilde commented: "Winning this contract was a real team effort. I would like to extend my thanks to Nigel Bradbury for the initial introduction, Stuart Shaw and Barry Farrelly from the Business Development team for pulling together a very professional customer proposal and Chris Ganner, Drew Reid and Tobie Bailey for getting the complex pricing structures set up in Manpack at very short notice."



HCT driver Robert Cameron with the inaugural rigid load for Metsa Wood Grangemouth

APPRENTICESHIP SUCCESS AT SHEPTON MALLET

The Apprentice Driver Programme has been very successful across GDL and we bring you an update from Shepton Mallet where 11 apprentices have gained their Cat C licences since June 2017.

Ten apprentices remain in the operation, with four having passed the Apprentice Programme and the remaining six close to completion. The strength of the programme is shown in the fact that past and present apprentice drivers make up a large proportion of the driver population in Shepton Mallet. The apprentices include:

- **Adrian House**, June '17 cohort and previously a warehouse employee at MDC – Passed
- **Andrew Habgood**, Sept '17 cohort and previously worked as a security guard for around 20 years – Passed
- **James Williams**, Sept '17 cohort, James's dad Vince also drives at Shepton – Passed
- **Liam Smith**, Jan '18 cohort, Liam has quietly been very efficient during the programme – Passed
- **Alex Keen**, April '18 cohort, Alex spends most of his time now working on the Garador contract in Yeovil – End Point Assessment (EPA) in May
- **Erik Price**, April '18 cohort, Erik has worked at Shepton for a number of years and was the van driver before starting the apprenticeship – EPA in May
- **Peter Golding**, April '18 cohort, Pete previously worked in an abattoir – EPA in May
- **Gary Talbot**, July '18 cohort, Gary was mentored early on by a former apprentice, Adrian House – EPA in August
- **Ned Bourton**, July '18 cohort, Ned had many years of multi dropping in vans before starting the apprenticeship – EPA in August
- **Peter Finn**, July '18 cohort, Peter spent many years in the Army before becoming a BT engineer – EPA in August

A new cohort of four apprentice drivers started at Shepton Mallet at the beginning of April as the site continues to grow and the Apprentice Programme goes from strength to strength.

#deliveringwinners

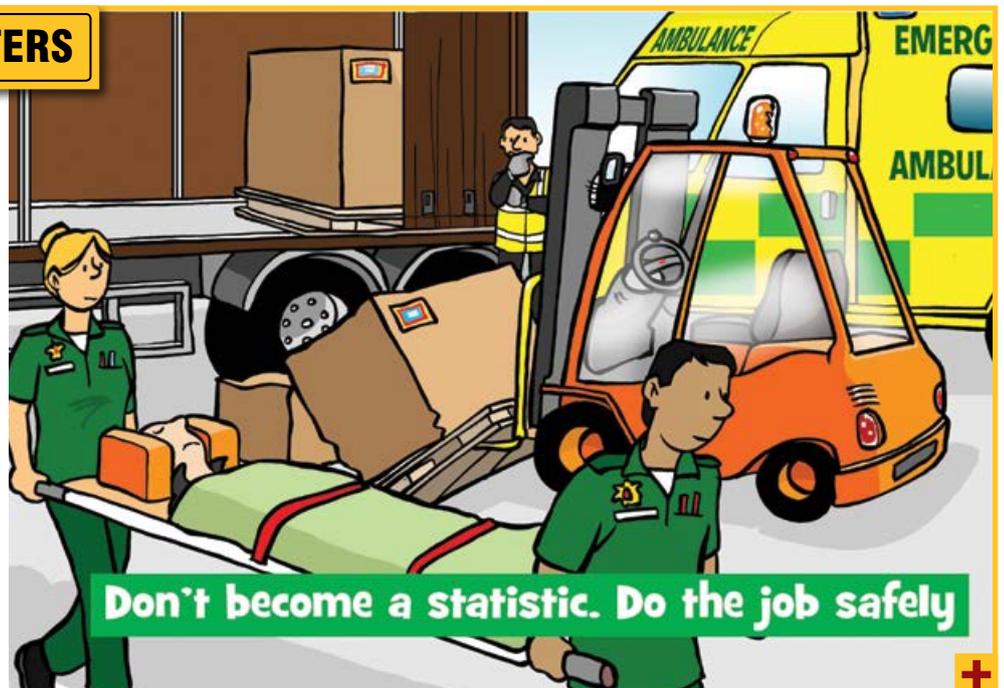
HEALTH+SAFETY MATTERS

MAKING H&S STAND OUT

From January this year we have started sharing a monthly 'tool box talk' throughout the business to raise awareness and understanding of key health and safety issues. These are informal training discussions and only take around 10 minutes, but deliver information and guidance to help everyone work safely.

Each tool box talk will be accompanied by a poster to display throughout depots such as the **Work Safely** cartoon on the right. We've designed them to stand out as much as possible, so keep an eye on your depot notice boards and please participate in the tool box talks as and when they are held.

We do all this for your safety and wellbeing and rely on your support and co-operation!



SUPPORTING SCHOOLS IN SCOTLAND

ARR Craib (ARRC) is supporting students at a local Aberdeen secondary school, Northfield Academy through a Flagship Partnership. This partnership was formalised by the Department of Young Workers in 2017 to help build meaningful partnerships between employers and education to benefit young people. ARRC supports the school with events and projects including company visits, delivering employability skills and mentoring.

In addition to this, ARRC is also supporting a student through the Career Ready Programme, a two year initiative which prepares young people for work by giving them the necessary skills, confidence and opportunities to enjoy a rewarding future. It includes a four week paid internship during the summer.

The business has also recently been supporting one of Northfield Academy's feeder schools, Quarryhill Primary. ARRC first visited the school during the RHA's Love the Lorry Week (which all the students really did love) and have since gone on to help with their community garden project. Later, Ally Tough, ARRC's driver safety coach and HR director, Andrea Buchan, went along to speak with three of the primary classes about transport in Scotland.

The partnership with Quarryhill is to be formalised in April and ARRC will be the first employer to have a Flagship Partnership with a primary school.



Andrea Buchan said: "We are very excited about this! Working with the two schools is great fun and extremely rewarding. The ARRC team are always willing to help with any school related events we organise – we get as much out of the relationships as the students and teachers."



Good driving rewarded at Davidstow

The latest winners of the annual Davidstow Driver of the Year awards have been announced, with commemorative shields going to day driver Mark Baker and night driver Sam Old.

The criteria for winning is based on attendance, accident record, performance and overall contribution to the depot.

Well done Mark and Sam!

LAUNCHING THE GDL 'BEST SUGGESTION'

Great ideas can bring great improvements, and we need your support to help us to continually improve.

In future editions of Newsbrief, we will share with you the best suggestions we have received, starting with that from Mark Bradshaw. Mark is a warehouse supervisor at our Heywood depot and suggested a health and safety improvement whereby personnel would be protected from cuts and scratches by wearing gloves when handling 'large format' products they deliver. This is now being trialled at Heywood and will soon be rolled out to our other depots which work with these products.

Please use your depot suggestion (ICI) boxes to submit any ideas you have that you feel will bring a benefit.



WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT US

We are only as good as our people on the front line so it's great when customers and the general public take the time to write in to praise GDL people for their efforts

Michael Salisbury, a head teacher at a Dorset Primary School wrote to us, saying:

We had a wonderful experience of your fabulous customer service yesterday when Adrian delivered a very large and heavy boat to our school. He was incredibly helpful with getting the boat on to the school site. Please pass on our heartfelt thanks to him for his kindness.

Charlotte McKeown was impressed with her Palletways delivery and the Shepton Mallet based driver, Paul Frapple.

Just received a delivery from your company and wanted to say what a lovely chap and how helpful your driver was in what was a terrible bit of weather to contend with and a gravel driveway! Will recommend you to others who need things shifting.

Neil Upington contacted us to say:

We had a delivery today by one of your drivers to Breakaway Effects in Rackenford.

We weren't expecting the delivery and no-one was at the workshop when your driver turned up.

We would like to thank him for unloading the consignment on his own and leaving it so we were able to put it away easily when we got back. Sorry, we don't have the driver's name but please pass on our thanks to him.

Horse rider Mandi O'Reilly thanks GDL drivers for their patience:

I would like you to pass on my thanks to all your drivers that use the A373, particularly through the village of Dulford. I ride a young horse along that road and your drivers are polite, courteous and patient, they always slow down to a crawl and some even stop and let me pass when the horse looks nervous. It is a long and difficult process teaching a young horse to be calm and confident in traffic and your drivers have helped enormously in this task. I recognise that they are at work and probably under time pressure but still they crawl past my horse. Please, please pass on these thanks as I really appreciate their understanding and patience.

Ruth Maksymiw reveals a good deed:

I was in a panic this morning as my dog was unwell and had to be treated at the emergency vets in Bodmin. En route home I realised I did not have my purse with me and recalled putting it on the roof of my car while I loaded my dog into the boot. I did not expect to see it again so cancelled my cards. Imagine my joy when the police contacted me to say it was handed in with all contents intact. I have just been to collect it and they advised me the person worked for Gregory (Plymouth is the nearest depot) and he is called Jim Bell. I have left an answerphone message, but thought you would also like to know that one of your staff has gone above and beyond the call of duty.

Football crazy Bob goes Dutch

In 1981 Aston Villa won the English Football league to the delight of life long fan, Bob Moore. In the same year AZ Alkmaar won the Eredivisie, the Dutch equivalent to the English League Division One and Bob started to take an interest in the fortunes of the North Holland side.

Bob, a Palletline operator at GDL Shepton Mallet, got the bug and a few years ago started flying over most weekends to watch AZ play at the 17,000 capacity AFAS stadium.

On one such flight he took a photo of the stadium from the air, posted it on social media and thought nothing of it until he was contacted by the Dutch club who just loved his story. They invited him to the players' box, showed him into the tunnel and gave him lots of goodies and mementos.

Brummie Bob even had a story about him in the local paper with the headline '*Het bijzondere*

verhaal van Bob Moore: De Engelsman die om de week het vliegtuig pakt om zijn AZ te supporten' or to you and me '*The special story of Bob Moore: The Englishman who picks up the plane every other week to support his AZ*'.

He told the club's fan page: "Travelling to Alkmaar started about three years ago. However, I have followed the club since 1981 when AZ became champions in the Netherlands. In the same year, Aston Villa, my club in England, also won the title. From that moment on I followed the club from a distance. Three years ago I went to a competition and



immediately fell in love with the club, the people and the city. It is a city where I actually have no roots, but I still feel that I belong there."

Bob is now a season ticket holder at AZ and will miss only three home games this season. His ambition is to attend all 17 home matches in a season, and hopefully, the Dutch cup final as well. Go for it Bob!

Long Service Awards

5 YEARS

Name	Position	Business area
Robert Bristoe	Warehouse Operative	Spar Cullompton
Timothy Phelps	LGV Driver	South Molton
Beljeet Ladher	Radial Driver	Southampton AB
Joshua Mantle	Despatch Operative	Southampton AB
Daniel Covel	LGV Driver	CDS
Tomasz Smigocki	Warehouse Operative	Spar Cullompton
Julian Ashton	LGV Driver	HCT
Dennis Winter	LGV Driver	Thame
Christopher Davies	LGV Driver	West Wales
Raymond Barker	LGV Driver	SWW Cullompton
Ian Gill	LGV Driver	Smurfit Kappa
Richard Tebbutt	Transport Manager	AB Southampton
Adam Ezell	LGV Driver	South Molton
Robin Cloy	LGV Driver	HCT
Keith Samuel	LGV Driver	HCT
Dominic Morgan	Warehouse Assistant	Shepton Mallet
Ian Bannister	Field Operations Supervisor	SWW Cullompton
Roberto Mastracci	Despatch Operative	AB Launceston
Robert Wilson	LGV Driver	Waste HCT

25 YEARS

Stephen Dannreuther	LGV Driver	Shepton Mallet
Anthony Cude	Operations Supervisor	Spar Cullompton
David Reed	Transport Supervisor	Shepton Mallet

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:

- Email: enquiries@gdl.uk.com
- Telephone: 01837 883307
- Post: Carol Hancock, Gregory Distribution Ltd, North Park, North Tawton EX20 2EB

We will then remove your personal data from our database. Please note we will not use your details for anything other than sending you newsletters.

Well done Tony

Newton Abbot night chargehand Tony Dowden is celebrating 40 years' service this year, having transferred to GDL from Antalis which he joined in 1978. Contract manager Craig Jamieson described Tony as: "Key to the night team due to his experience, his product and customer knowledge and his flexibility in staying later if the trunk is late."



Long-serving Lindsey

Long-serving Cullompton secretary Lindsey Hall is pictured with BU director Darren Beaven receiving her 25 year service award.



Gregory People

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HAPPY COUPLES

Billy Graham, Hayton Coulthard's depot manager at Ecclefechan, married his new wife Jill on January 19th 2019.



Thorne Depot night driver on the Range contract, Darren Spooner, married his partner Marie on September 15th 2018 at Doncaster Registry Office and then enjoyed the rest of their wedding day at the local racecourse on the day of the celebrated St Leger race. Darren and Marie are pictured on their honeymoon in Jamaica.



WELCOME TO OUR WORLD

Congratulations to another Thorne Depot night driver on the Range contract, David Cooper and his partner Catherine Harper, on the birth of their baby boy Frederick William John (Freddy) on August 14th 2018 at Scunthorpe Hospital. Freddy, pictured here with his dad, weighed in at 7lbs 13 ozs.

