

CONNECT!

News and views from GBH Utilities Limited

Issue One 2013

“Word of Mouth” generating increased GIRS work for GBH!

Since opening a second office at Broughton Business Park in stunning countryside surroundings near Skipton (also home to the famous “Dalesman” magazine) primarily to handle GIRS-related projects for GBH clients, John Sykes and his colleague Shaun Hulse have never been busier.

Says John:- “GBH’s reputation is growing as the GIRS services we provide for clients is becoming more well-known for removing the ‘hassle’ out of arranging and undertaking turnkey packages for gas mains connections - including liaison with any third parties involved in the projects, or any necessary licensing agreements.”

Established clients

Accredited by GasSafe, GIRS, CHAS and OAMI (Ofgen Approved Meter Installer) GBH works with established clients including Kier,

St Leger Homes, Derbyshire County Council, Menwith Hill, Leeds Bradford Airport and many more...

Shaun emphasises that increased demand for the company’s GIRS-related work is also now coming from schools and commercial property sources:-

“We receive many ‘happy client’ comments and recommendations because we understand the business and, with our long experience as the first South Yorkshire company to achieve full accreditation for GIRS, on behalf of our clients we simply remove the frustration, delays and issues that might arise.”

Trouble-free

As GBH Managing Director Trevor Davies recently pointed out, all GIRS work is undertaken by our trained specialists and never sub-contracted. GIRS accreditation allows us to work directly on the networks without waiting for network engineers to complete their part.

The result, says Trevor, is a trouble-free turnkey package for our clients!



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Shaun Hulse (left) and John Sykes

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GBH win high degree of client satisfaction at Oxford University!

In common with GBH Utilities, M&E Services Provider LX Engineering of Sheffield take justifiable pride both in the quality of their work and the volume of repeat business generated.

A good example is Castle Mill in central west Oxford - a graduate housing scheme for students and couples/families with the first phase completed in 2004 and eight new blocks scheduled for completion in September 2013.

The scheme will incorporate 312 post-graduate units built around a central

courtyard, and GBH were engaged by LX Engineering to supply and lay approx 1200 metres of Rehau Rauthermex Uno pre-insulated heating pipework...

Close teamwork

LX Project Manager Nathan Briddock says:-
"The work was to commence at the new development's energy centre and terminate in the eight student accommodation blocks. The works were programmed to be completed by GBH in two phases to facilitate the main site construction operations."

Productive outcome

GBH worked closely across each phase with the client and the site ground-workers to ensure the pipe routes were precisely

excavated - key, says GBH Managing Director Trevor Davies, to accommodate the pre-cut pipe coil lengths and eliminate costly additional pipe requirements: *"This close working relationship was productive in simplifying the building entry positions within the service risers..."*

The project value was around £90,000 and was completed in line with the client's programme."

In summary, Nathan Briddock concluded:-
"This project was one of the first times we had commissioned GBH and, on the basis of their work at Castle Mill and a thorough understanding of both the project requirements and client needs, we would definitely want to work with them again..."



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Nathan Briddock, LX Engineering



“When money’s not for burning, call in GBH...” says Jonathan

GBH recently completed a £30,000 project to supply and install approximately 700 metres of mains cold water, firemain, process rainwater and rainwater recovery pipework for the new EFW (Energy From Waste) plant at Four Ashes, Stafford...



The Incinerator has a 300,000 tonnes per year capacity - generating enough power from waste for some 32,000 homes and helping Staffordshire County Council provide sustainable waste management to 2020 and beyond, to adopt a “zero waste to landfill” philosophy and to utilise waste as a resource wherever possible.

Flexibility is key

GBH Managing Director Trevor Davies comments that the Energy from Waste plant was constructed on a contaminated site which called for flexibility on GBH’s part:-

“Firstly, the project required the installation of barrier pipe to prevent contamination of the water supplies,” he said.



“As a result of the constraints on site and to accommodate the lengthy pipework installation period, plus the difficulties of restricted site logistics, flexibility was key and something we take in our stride at GBH!”

Job well done

LX Engineering of Sheffield, an M&E Services provider across a diverse range of market sectors, commissioned GBH for the project and Jonathan Lazenby - a Project Manager with LX - said Four Ashes was a very competitive tender to win:- *“Essentially it came down to price and GBH were very helpful in this respect; as to the project itself GBH delivered a quality installation, good service and a job well done...”*

“On the back of this success - our first EFW plant - we are looking forward to two more similar projects currently at development stage.”



GBH delivered a quality installation, good service and a job well done despite challenging site constraints

Jonathan Lazenby, LX Engineering.

“Making life taste better” for Derbyshire Police



By any measure Derbyshire Constabulary is a hugely successful police force - achieving a ninth consecutive year of crime reduction during 2011/12 and with more than 41,000 fewer victims of crime than in the period 2002/3.

The force takes justifiable pride in the fact that Derbyshire is not only the safest county in the East Midlands but also one of the safest in the country.

At the centre of this activity stands Derbyshire Police Headquarters at Butterley Hall in Ripley - so when the collapse of a Foul Pumping Main threatened disruption recently, out went the emergency call to GBH Utilities...

Additional pipework

GBH Managing Director Trevor Davies says the work required was to supply and lay 400 metres of 125mm PE16 Bar Pumping Main from the existing Pump Chamber to a point on site before connecting back onto the existing main. *“Due to further problems we discovered, we were instructed to lay additional pipe all the way to the outfall manhole - giving us a total distance of some 650 metres...”*



Minimal disruption

To paraphrase one of shopping giant Sainsbury’s past taglines, “Making life taste better” wasn’t exactly what GBH had in mind when finding that the outfall manhole was situated in a busy road adjacent to an equally busy Sainsbury’s supermarket:- *“In our line of work we have learned to expect the unexpected,”* says Trevor, *“so it wasn’t a big issue -*

we factored in several night shifts to work around Sainsbury’s operations and keep disruption both to them and their customers to an absolute minimum.”

And the result?

“The job was completed on time, on budget and to everyone’s satisfaction - and with no remedial problems” Trevor reports.

Top marks for GBH at Doncaster's Libraries, Schools, Care Homes and Council properties



Darren Saunders, Mechanical & Contracts Supervisor for Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council, has responsibility - with his team - for ensuring that all public buildings used by the Borough's 300,000+ population are maintained to the highest standards:- And, says Darren, *"That's a big responsibility..."*

"With over 120 schools and all other public buildings - Libraries, Care Homes, Council properties etc., we have to be able to react quickly and effectively if a problem occurs, especially in the colder months..."

Trusted ally

Typically, these issues may include underground pipe failures, heating and water-related disruptions - but with his almost thirty years' experience in the job, Darren can always call on a trusted ally if needed - GBH Utilities...

"GBH have been contractors to DMBC for a number of years now and we trust them implicitly"

"Clearly, you can't have public buildings and schools without heating or water for more than a few hours and that's where GBH get top marks. Their response time and quality of work are excellent. GBH understand my needs and the importance of getting things done and back on track quickly. We've had some very challenging moments over the years, but with GBH on board I always know I have the back-up of a very experienced team!"

Professional relationship

As we go to press Darren and his team are busy with solid fuel to gas conversions in all the schools across the District.

Most, says Darren, don't have gas supplies so GBH are busy updating the systems - with plenty more to convert in 2013.



"We've built a lot of confidence in GBH over the years and, as I've said before, they understand the issues we have, not what they have - and the response is pretty much instant when it has to be."

"It's a good, professional relationship and to be honest we do regard GBH as trusted support to our own workforce."



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Darren Saunders, Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

RECENT PROJECTS INCLUDE

- ++ Willmott Dixon/Rotherham Metropolitan District Council - Grange Estate District Heating +++
- ++ Sayes/Leeds City Council - Mount Pleasant Gardens District Heating ++
- ++++ Sheffield Teaching Hospitals - Gas supplies to Laundry and Sorby Wing ++++
- ++++ Tyco Fire/Moortown Construction - Aldi Distribution Centre New Hydrant, MCW, Gas ++



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