

THIS ISSUE - silver award for unusual space, staff make wishes come true, credit crunch doesn't stop new home sales, who has become a poet?, investing in management trainees, working in the country, a proud new father and find out when the Christmas holidays begin.

link

October 08 issue 14

the monthly Higgins Group news update

Silver award for Higgins Homes



The Roof Terrace

The Roof Terrace, Higgins Homes' boutique development in Woodford Green, Essex, has been awarded a silver medal by the prestigious Daily Express New Homes Garden Awards.

Jeremy Marcus, Sales and Marketing Director, Higgins Homes, comments: "The Daily Express award is a fantastic reward for the hard work that went into the design and execution of this unusual space. It is becoming increasingly difficult to purchase outside space with centrally located apartments, but residents at The Roof Terrace can enjoy all of the benefits of a large garden, without the responsibilities that go with it. The terrace itself has been beautifully landscaped and the

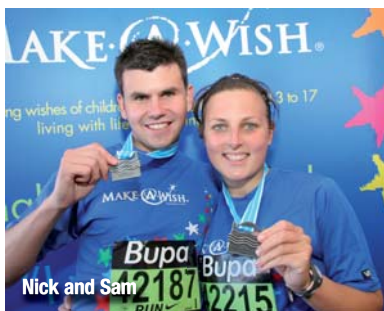
entire building has really taken shape over the recent weeks, so it is fantastic to receive such high praise."

The judges of these highly acclaimed awards, commented that it was: **"Good to see roof gardens for the ordinary man... we loved the concept of the micro-allotments."**

**NEW HOMES
GARDEN
AWARDS
2008
Silver Award**

Making Wishes come true!

On a sunny Sunday morning **Sam James** and **Nick Walton** completed The Great North Run. After a gruelling 13.1 mile run Nick crossed the finish line in 1hr 55mins with Sam completing in 2hr 25mins. They would both like to thank everyone who sponsored and supported them to raise money for 'Make a Wish' and are delighted that they raised £900 for this extremely worthwhile charity.



Higgins

Higgins Homes

'City boy' buys first property

Despite the credit crunch and gloomy property stories, some first time buyers are still buying and the City is still making money. James Gordon, a broker at Lloyds, has recently bought his first property at Higgins Homes' chic and stylish Whitechapel development, Vogue1.

Buyers like James are not as common as they used to be, but their presence is a sign that all is not lost for the property and financial markets in London.

James, 28, comments:

"I was renting in Shoreditch for a number of years and although I had often considered buying, the inflating prices and the tough sellers market really put me off. Now the market has completely changed, prices have dropped and it is a buyers market. I decided to look at Whitechapel because it is still very edgy and it reminded me of how Shoreditch was before it became ultra expensive. Whitechapel is still being regenerated and there is also the Olympics to take into account.



James Gordon



Vogue1, London, E1

Prices start at **£294,950** for one bed and **£375,000** for two beds

For information call **020 7377 7511**

Higgins Construction Project Completion

Following the successful completion of the £110 Million regeneration of the Silwood Estate Vic Ranger, Senior Project Co-ordinator Pre Construction was so impressed with the impact and high standard of the changes that he put 'pen to paper'...



Silwood Estate

Regeneration

The planning decisions made upon high
That everyone thinks are just pie in the sky
All the dreams and the schemes and plans that are made
Before the first labourer lifts up his spade

A flat with a balcony, a house with a garden
With choices like that surely no heart could harden
But seeing folks leaving with a tear in the eye
causes even those with stout hearts to sigh

Then its time to return in anticipation
Tinged just a tad with slight trepidation
But all the frustration and all of the gloom
vanish when a child first sees their new room

The dust is settling and calmness descends
The subbies are leaving as building work ends
What will be left as the tradesmen depart?
...An estate that has finally got back its heart!



Silwood Estate

Trainees on the Quadrant



The Quadrant

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is an essential part of our business activity and we are investing considerable resources into the community in Lambeth, South London, where we are developing The Quadrant.

Part of this commitment has included creating five management trainee positions for local people from disadvantaged backgrounds to work on the building site.

Both Higgins Construction, Presentation Housing and the new recruits, many of whom have been trying for a long time to break into the job market, are experiencing first hand the benefits of this kind of corporate-community partnership.

We have already recruited three trainees to date, Jonathan Gordon-Irving as a trainee Site Engineer, Hoeda Al-ZoeHairi as a Preconstruction Management Trainee and Ala Galgal as a Trainee Site Agent and will be looking to recruit a Trainee RLO and a Trainee Planner in the future.

Higgins' management team are delighted to be involved in this CSR partnership and make a real difference for people who are interested in the construction industry – an industry that's so often overlooked..

WELCOMES

Higgins Construction would like to welcome **Keith Walton** who recently transferred from Higgins Homes to take up the position as Site Agent on Broadfield Site and **Debra Green** who is now working full time for Higgins Construction. Welcome to the team and we wish you both every success.

LONG SERVICE

Congratulations to **Bob Jackson**, Higgins Construction, on completing 10 years service. This is Bob's second visit to Higgins the first being a 5 year service from 1989 – 1993 when many projects were won with him as Estimator. Many thanks for your continued commitment Bob.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **John Ellice** on becoming a proud dad. Master Ellice was born on Friday 26 September weighing in at 9½lbs. We send our best wishes to the proud parents and hope they don't have too many sleepless nights!



SEE YOU ON SITE

Braintree Phase 1, Essex

Client: Greenfields Community Housing

Value: £12million

We are refurbishing the Greenfields CH stock which is spread over 9 square miles of rural countryside. During the project Resident Liaison Officers work closely with the residents to ensure they are informed and happy with works that are being carried out.



Eddie De-Ritter, Project Manager said: **“this is a very rewarding project seeing the positive effect we have on residents, many of them elderly. Some of the challenges are that the properties are very ‘pepper-potted’ but we have an extremely good and open relationship with our partners which ensures the smooth running of this project”**

FESTIVE HOLIDAYS

Not many Shopping days left to Christmas!!

Please make a note of the dates for Christmas holiday as below:

Head office and site monthly paid employees will commence the festive season break from lunch time on Wednesday 24th December 2008 and return to work on Monday 5th January 2009.

As per the weekly rule agreement, hourly/weekly paid employees will commence their festive break on Friday 19th December 2008 and return to work on Monday 5th January 2009.

DID YOU KNOW?

That nobody has any stories to tell this month!

This is a section that receives lots of positive feedback so make sure if you, or someone you work with, has a hobby or skill you share it with us.

MAKE SURE WE KNOW YOUR CORRECT DETAILS

New forms for notifying a Change of Address &/or Change of Bank Details have been uploaded to the Intranet.

The 2 forms can be found by clicking on:-

Higgins Construction (or Homes or Group Services) and then Company Level Docs.

We hope the information provided in this newsletter is clear and easily understandable, but should you require any further clarification, please contact: **020 8502 8398**

If you would like a copy of Link in large print, Braille, on CD or in your language, please contact Sam James, sam.james@higginsconstruction.co.uk