

THIS ISSUE - a positive approach benefits stakeholders, two years on and still going strong, what has been short listed for quality?, new partnerships on site, Code 3 development completed, signs are good in the investor market, a network supporting you, new starters, long services, charity support and a wedding!

link

September 09 issue 25

the monthly Higgins Group news update

The new CSR team



Paul Cooke



Jeff Joseph



Carole Pridmore



The success of our business is dependent on many different aspects and we appreciate that Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) plays an important role.

As a business we have made a positive change in the establishment of a new team that will be responsible for developing, maintaining and embracing the key principles of CSR. The team members are Paul Cooke, Jeff Joseph and Carole Pridmore.

With their immense variety of skills, knowledge and experience they will

work together to ensure that our clients, employees and the communities that we work in benefit from projects we undertake.

Team responsibilities;

- Environment
- Health and Safety
- People Development and Training
- Community Involvement
- Customers and Supply Chain
- Social Responsibility

Sinclair House - a 'quality' project

We are delighted that The Institute of Clerks of Works and Construction Inspectorate has short-listed 'Sinclair House' for this year's Building on

Quality Awards. Well done to everyone involved in this project and good luck for the judge's site visit at the end of the month!

Happy 2nd Birthday

It has now been two years since we introduced 'link' as our main internal communication tool. This has been an extremely eventful year and we have seen many changes. From feedback received we believe that 'link' has now become a useful way of updating staff on achievements, future developments, how the company is progressing and also providing a 'link' between staff on site and those based in offices. More staff are offering stories and articles to be included, which is great as the aim is to have two way communications for everyone working at Higgins.

On the back page is a form that you can complete to let us know your

thoughts on 'link', what you would like to see included, or any changes that you think may improve it. All feedback is extremely welcome... good or bad!



Higgins

Higgins Construction We care...

Project: Benwell Court, Sunbury on Thames, Surrey **Client:** Notting Hill Housing **Architects:** PRP **Value:** £5.5m

Demonstrating our commitment to our new agenda of developing communities in care homes we started work on this 32 unit home, which also includes a day centre, in May 2009 and completion is due August 2010.

Our relationships with two new subcontractors on this site are going well. We are using Abbey Pynford for the foundations and Fusion LGSF (light gage steel frame) for the structure.

We would like to say well done so far to everyone working on the project, on site and in the office. Keep up the good work.



Charter House Completion

Project: Charter House **Client:** Moat **Architect:** Baily Garner **Value:** £2.1m

Following a 56-week programme we are delighted with the completion of Charter House. This 2 block development, providing 12 rented apartments and 10 apartments for shared ownership, has been built to Code 3 using photo voltaic to provide the electricity and the timber frame was from a sustainable source. This project also involved the local community throughout and has established a positive reputation for the development.

Higgins Homes Confidence builds as Buy-to-let investors return



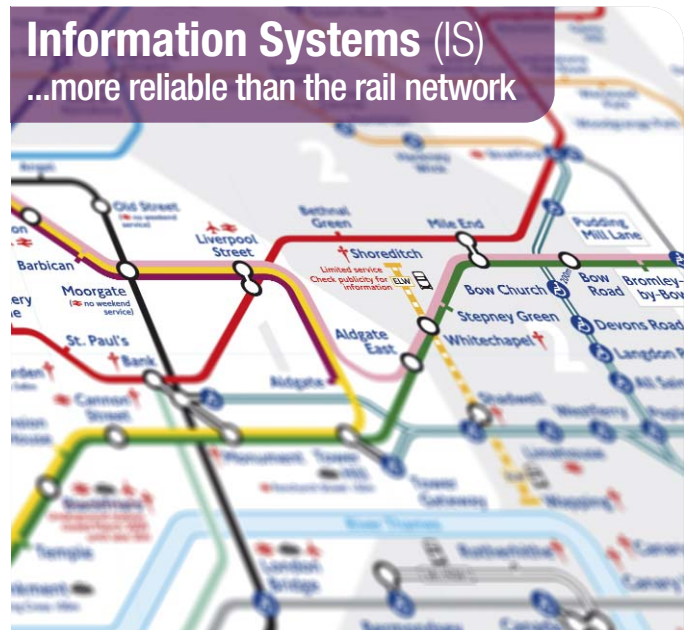
The property market is showing signs of recovering as new developments are seeing the return of buy-to-let investors. Developments such as Higgins Homes' The Old Hospital in Maidstone, are attracting investors and restoring confidence back in bricks and mortar.

Fergus, a lawyer who works in London recently saw the purchase of his new home as a secure long term investment. **"Having lived in or around Maidstone for 20 years I know the local property market very well, so when I heard about The Old Hospital I knew it would be an ideal investment opportunity.**

Higgins Homes has an excellent reputation and the flat I have purchased is bespoke and finished to a very high standard. Everything is top quality, both inside and out. It possesses all of the high-tec gadgets one could need and also has great environmental credentials, such as a heat recovery unit. I would only buy something where I would happily live myself."

Prices at this unique development start at £129,500 for a one bedroom apartment and £169,500 for a two bedroom apartment. To view the brand new show apartment or for further information telephone: 01438 746 930

Information Systems (IS) ...more reliable than the rail network



The Higgins Computer Network operates in a similar manner to the London underground. For example when you send an email it leaves your mailbox and either travels along cables, wireless or broadband connections (the train tracks) and carries the email (the train) to its destination, the e-mail arrives in the recipient's inbox.

We have over 30 servers centralised at Langston Road that hold your data, for example ECM, CyberQube, Email, Coins and management of the Cisco telephone system.

Without the computer network you would not be able access the centralised servers, share information and collaborate with ECM, Email, Internet and Telephone.

As with the underground network it needs routine maintenance to provide

you with the best possible service. The IS team constantly monitors the network and servers to prevent any major failures leading to loss of productivity.

Facts...

- Network/Server availability was 99% over the past year.
- There are over 400 devices connected to the network, PCs, Printers, Blue Box, etc.
- We look after around 50 broadband lines for Construction and Homes sites.
- As a Company we send and receive 15,000 external emails every week.
- Internally we send and receive 2,500 emails per day.
- Our main switchboard answers up to 200 calls per hour.

To contact us call: from site: 020 8498 6500 (Langston Road: Extension number 6500) or e-mail: IShelpdesk

WELCOMES

Higgins Construction would like to welcome **Sam Rice** who has joined as a temporary Site Administrator at Braintree, **Amy Scott** who will be working for Keith Briggs as a Secretary in Pre-Construction, **Lorraine Casey** a Senior Bid Manager, **Alan Green** is a Reinforced Concrete Coordinator and **Paul Gulliver** who is a Pre Construction Submissions Manager.

We would also like to welcome back to Higgins Homes **Peter Ward** who will be returning as a Senior Site Manager on 1st October 2009.

LONG SERVICE

Both **Richard Kent** and **Kenneth McPherson** celebrate 10 years working at Higgins. We would like to pass on our thanks and best wishes for your hard work and commitment to the business over the past decade.

WEDDING BELLS WERE RINGING...

...for **Steve Leakey** at his recent wedding to Anita Scannell - may you both have many years of 'wedded bliss'.

CONGRATULATIONS

We are delighted to announce that **Glen Roberts** is now a Director of Construction. Many congratulations.



Glen Roberts



Samantha James



Charles Green

Samantha James

undertook the gruelling Great North Run and completed this in 2hrs 25mins. Sam was running in aid of Help the Hospices charity and thanks everyone for their support to this

worthwhile cause.

Well done to **Charles Green** on completing the 300 mile London to Paris Cycle Ride and raising £3,500 for the Royal British Legion.

A MINUTE WITH... RUSSELL GROVES SITE MANAGER, THE QUADRANT

Career highlight?

Completing my BSc. (Hons) Degree in Construction Management

Professional inspiration?

My Parents

Development/project you would have liked to have been involved with (not just Higgins)?

Emirates Stadium

Best advice? 'A decision is better than no decision at all'

Favourite film? The Godfather

Favourite book?

Mr. Wright: The Explosive Autobiography of Ian Wright

Favourite Building?

Petronas Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur

Favourite Song/Album?

Robbie Williams, Swing When You're Winning

Favourite Restaurant?

The Carnegie Deli, New York

One luxury you will keep despite the credit crunch? Sky HD

UPDATE ON THE GOSSIPING LEAGUE

If you wish to email your future tender gossips please send to the following email address tendergossip@higginsconstruction.co.uk

Department	Target	Tot	Department	Target	Tot
Pre Con Cost Mgmt	30	29	Surveying	40	15
Pre-Con Design Mgmt	74	31	Procurement	16	21
CSR	8	0	Site Mgmt	36	0
Contracts Mgmt	32	8	Support	4	2
			Total	240	106

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK...

Feedback form

Name:..... Tel:.....

Comment on 'link'

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Please return to Sam James or email sam.james@higginsconstruction.co.uk

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