

THIS ISSUE - still delivering award winning projects, getting ready for a new focus, website gets a re-vamp, a major development comes to an end, new lifestyles for downsizers, who has recently got married? and who are celebrating special birthdays?

link

November 09 Issue 27

the monthly Higgins Group news update

What House? Awards... What an achievement!



The What House? awards celebrate the best of the British housebuilding industry and we are delighted that Vale Street, Lambeth has been named the winner of 'Best Sustainable Development'.

We are especially proud of this achievement, given the extremely challenging year we are facing. This award shows our sustained quality of delivery and commitment to our client, London and Quadrant Housing Group. Congratulations are sent to everyone involved in this 'award winning' project.

"A clearly thought-out and integrated sustainability strategy, which goes further than the Code for Sustainable Homes, has won One Vale Street, London, the 2009 Gold Award for the Best Sustainable Development. Any developer that is working to these standards is ready to meet the sustainability challenges that the next few years will bring"

Judges report What House? 2009



What does the future hold?

...no one can answer that question as we are experiencing one of the most difficult periods on record for the housing sector.

However, we can look at how we can adapt, be focused, be dynamic and come out of this period as a successful constructor and housebuilder ready to take on fresh challenges with vigor. That is exactly the strategy that the Higgins Group has adopted. We cannot predict the future, but we can make

sure we have the relevant knowledge and skills and have carried out the groundwork that will place us firmly ahead of our competitors - ready to take full advantage of the benefits that will come to fruition as the market changes.

Higgins

Higgins Construction Butchers Road

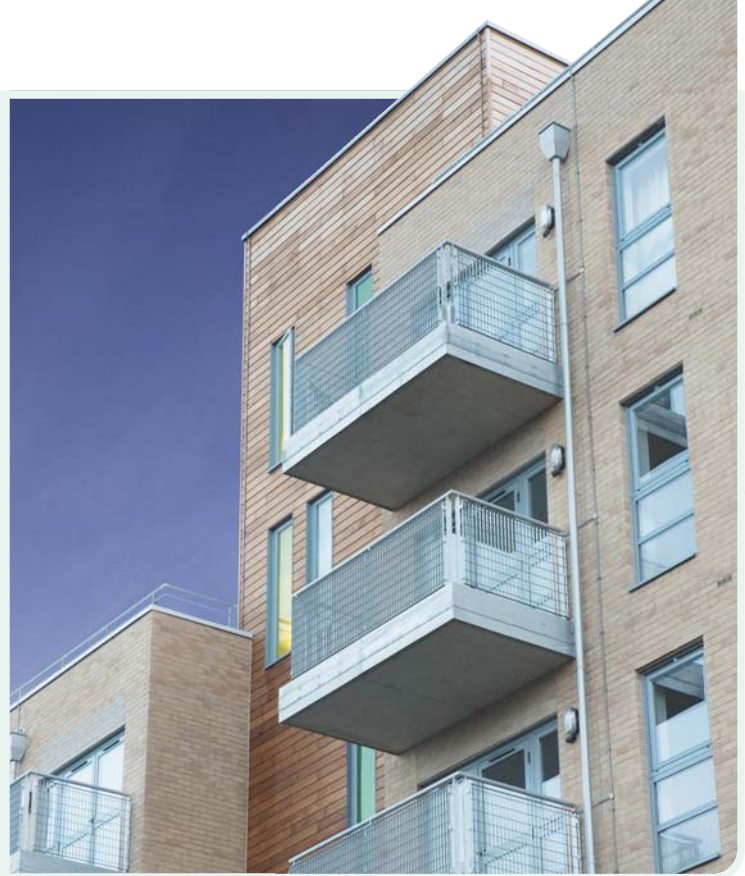
This month saw the completion of Butchers Road in Canning Town, bringing to an end this large scale Canning Town and Custom House regeneration project, that Higgins Construction has worked with L&Q to deliver.

This major development saw a total of 217 apartments and 39 houses built, spread across seven separate sites around the Canning Town and Custom House area. Homes have been built for rent, shared ownership, intermediate rent, rent to purchase and outright sale, including family homes and properties adapted for occupation

by wheelchair users – giving many opportunities to local residents.

Canning Town and Custom House is firmly on the road to regeneration and renewal. This mixed communities initiative, offering a range of good quality, affordable housing is a sign of the great benefits of the area for families now and for generations to come.

Said Newham Mayor Sir Robin Wales



Rothmans Avenue, Chelmsford completes

Client: Affinity Sutton **Value:** £0.6 million **Architect:** Calfordseadon

We have now completed the design and construction of 4 new family homes in Chelmsford. Two of these properties have been built for shared ownership which will offer opportunities for local people to get their first step on the property ladder.

Higgins Homes Downsizing to the city



cities. Lady Gillian and her husband, traded their beautiful country house for a modern apartment in Higgins Homes' Ice development in Stevenage, and now couldn't be happier with their new lives!

"I loved my old house, and I was very nervous about selling it and losing the space. When we saw Higgins Homes' development I was immediately so impressed, it is like a lovely hotel! We are right in the centre of everything, so we go out a lot more than we used to and have so much fun! We are thrilled with our new apartment and busier lives, I feel like I'm permanently on holiday!"

Said Gillian

When the time comes to downsize our homes we naturally think of life slowing down and taking on a gentler pace - not any more!

Life expectancy is hitting record highs and the new generation of retirees are not just living longer, they are also more active. As a consequence Higgins Homes is taking advantage of the new popular trend to downsize to towns and

Prices at ICE start from £169,950 for a two bedroom apartment with balcony and underground parking space. The sales and marketing suite and two show apartments are open daily between 10am and 5pm.

For further information please contact the marketing suite on telephone: 01438 362 712

Information Systems (IS) Test your knowledge...



...and win an ipod shuffle for Christmas

Have you been reading the IS articles in the previous versions of link? Answer the questions right and you could win an Apple ipod Shuffle!

E-mail your answers to: quiz@higgins-group.co.uk

Or post back to Langston Road for the attention of Martyn Waller.

The winner will be drawn from a hat by Paul Lewellen and there will only be one winner.

The ipod Shuffle has been donated by Transputec our equipment supplier.

The closing date is the 17th December so you will receive your prize before Christmas.

IS Departments are unable to participate in this quiz.

1. After a major disaster what percentage of business fails within 13 months
2. How many calls does the switchboard at Langston Road answer per hour
3. What was the network/server availability over the past year expressed as a percentage
4. Name One key IS Project mentioned in link
5. On average how many helpdesk calls are received every month
6. How many devices are connected to the Higgins network
7. What percentage of businesses have a Business Continuity Plan
8. How many external e-mails do we as a company receive and send every week.
9. What is the system called that the IS helpdesk use to record and track every support call logged
10. How many centralised servers do we have at Langston Road
11. How many miles is Langston Road from the DR site
12. Name the staff who man the IS helpdesk

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

LONG SERVICE

We are delighted to send our best wishes and congratulations to **Joan Marable** who celebrates 10 years dedicated service for Higgins Group and **Matt Hilson** who has been a committed member of Higgins Construction for 10 years.



Many thanks and congratulations are sent to you both.

WEDDING BELLS HAVE BEEN RINGING

We would like to send our best wishes for many years of married bliss to **Claire Smith** who married **John Gierlowski** on the 23rd October.



We hope that you both had a fantastic day with many wonderful memories.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

Two very special birthday milestones are celebrated this month; **Ryan Manning**, gets the 'key to the door' as he turns 21 but we are sure that



Anita Curtis will be partying just as strong as she turns 40 years young. **Happy Birthday - wishing you both great days.**

HISS - 'A BOWLING GOOD TIME'

Well done to '**Nutley Crew**' (site team) who were the winners of this month's bowling night out with a score of 774. Congratulations are also sent to **Alex Miller** (Pre-Con) who had the overall individual highest score of the evening. It was a great night of fun, laughter and competitiveness!!



Make a note in your diary to come and join us at the next HISS event which is a quiz night on the 15th December at Old Loughtonians Hocking Club. Get your department involved and join in the team spirit!!!

A MINUTE WITH... MARK FREEMAN INFRASTRUCTURE TEAM LEADER INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEPARTMENT

Career Highlight: Designing and implementing the Higgins Computer Network Infrastructure with my team.

Professional Inspiration: My Granddad, Government Cipher Expert, during World War II.

Best Advice: Try and Try again.

Favourite Film: Jaws, We gonna need a bigger boat...Classic.

Favourite Book: Never read a book, wait for the film to be made.

Favourite Building: Natural History Museum.

Favourite Song/Album: Finally, Kings of Tomorrow.

Favourite Restaurant: Street Stalls, Thailand.

One Luxury you will keep despite the credit crunch: Internet, lost without it.



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	12	Surveying	40	4
Pre-Con Design Mgmt	74	102	Procurement	16	8
CSR	8	14	Site Mgmt	36	17
Contracts Mgmt	32	13	Support	4	0
			Total	240	170

CHRISTMAS BREAK

Head office employees will start the festive season break from lunchtime (1pm) on Thursday 24th Dec 2009, returning to work on Monday 4th Jan 2010. All site employees will start their festive break at close of business on Friday 18th Dec 2009 and return to work on Monday 4th Jan 2010.

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