

THIS ISSUE - celebrating together, recognised for giving opportunities, a number 3 certificate to go with our number 1, what do we have in common with a reality drama? who is now a qualified assessor? a new arrival and an adrenalin journey for some brave people!

# link

Sept 2011 issue 49

the monthly Higgins Group news update

## Families celebrate success of Higgins



It was great to see so many families join in the Fun Day to celebrate Higgins Group 50th Anniversary. Over the years the company has never lost sight of its original values and continues to be committed to the excellent staff that deliver our exceptional homes and services.

With over 350 adults and 150 children enjoying the activities that were available, including laser clay shooting, archery, dodgems, climbing

wall acroflight and much more, we can truly say that our half a century achievement was celebrated in style!

Thank you to everyone who came along and got into the party atmosphere to make this a remarkable event.

# Higgins

## Higgins Construction Employer of the year



Jay Bridgen,  
apprentice at  
Craylands, Basildon

Higgins Construction PLC has won the award for 'Employer of the Year'. This fantastic accolade was awarded by Prospects College at a recent award ceremony in recognition of the work that we do in giving training and job opportunities for apprentices.

**"No other contractor has shown the commitment Higgins demonstrated in both the recruitment and support of trainees and apprentices"**

Anne Matt, Training Manager Prospects College



**"This award is presented due to the outstanding achievements of Higgins Construction who have appointed 9 apprentices over an 18 month spell on the Craylands redevelopment and 2 trainees to Southchurch Road, Southend".**

Neil Bates, Chief Executive Prospects College

## Higgins' Victorian house now BREEAM certified



Higgins Construction PLC has successfully retrofitted a Victorian House in East London. The Victorian House has been eco-refurbished to reduce carbon emissions by 80%. The project has now received the 3rd Certificate from the BRE Trust confirming the eco-refurbishment as a success.



## Meeting the needs of a 21st Century curriculum

Higgins Construction PLC, have signed a contract to build a new £18m school, St Johns in Epping. In return Higgins will receive the land from the existing school building. Higgins Construction PLC have been working together with Essex County Council and Brentwood Diocese to organise this land swap opportunity.

This construction project will provide an established school with; a new

building built to achieve a 'BREEAM Very Good' rating including cycle ways, footpaths, brise soleil, green roofs, solar heating and low carbon technology.

Upon completion of the new building in September 2013 the pupils will move across from the old building. The 1960's building will then be demolished and that area of the site will be transformed into a residential development, consisting of 149 family homes for mixed tenure.



## Higgins Homes The only way is Chigwell

Higgins Homes is all set to unveil stylish new apartments at its latest development, Fabrica, Chigwell Row. Located in the area dubbed the 'Essex Golden Triangle,' the launch of off-plan sales at the trendy development is set to coincide with the airing of season three of the popular Essex reality drama, The Only Way Is Essex.

**"The area around Chigwell has gained prominence in recent years, with TV programmes like The Only Way Is Essex putting this leafy town on the map. Like all Higgins Homes' properties, the apartments and the four bedroom house at Fabrica will be designed and finished to the highest specifications, reflecting our desire to offer sophisticated living at an affordable price."**

Jeremy Marcus, Sales and Marketing Director, Higgins Homes



Fabrica will offer nine contemporary one and two bedroom apartments, two duplex apartments and one four-bedroom, three-storey house. The development will also feature on site parking and garages and leafy communal gardens.

One Bedroom **from £189,500**, Two Bedrooms **from £245,000**  
Two Bedroom Duplex **from £267,500** and Four Bedroom House  
**at £475,000. For details call 020 8501 4345**

## WELCOME

This month we would like to welcome **Gaynor Manning** who takes up the role of Procurement Secretary and **Benjamin Green** a new Site Management Trainee. We wish you both every success in your new jobs.

## CONGRATULATIONS

**Paul Garner** has successfully been awarded the BRE accredited Code for Sustainable Homes Assessor. This means that Paul is now qualified to rate and certify the environmental performance of new homes. Well done Paul, and we are sure that your new qualification will be very much in demand!

Our congratulations are also sent to **Joanna** and **Matt Hilson** on the safe



arrival of their gorgeous baby daughter, Hannah Rebecca Marion, born on 19.08.11 at 6.45am at a very healthy 8lb 5oz. May she bring you lots of wonderful memories.

## LONG SERVICE

Celebrating 15 years dedicated service this month are **David Buckle**, Team Leader Surveyor and **David Rayner**, Technical Manager along with **Keith Walton**, Senior Site Manager, reaching his decade



milestone. Many thanks for your hard work over the years.

## WHITE WATER RAFTING

36 HISS members took the opportunity to ride the rapids before the world's best athletes and enjoyed an unforgettable adrenalin pumping day White Water Rafting at the Olympic course in Lea Valley. After being kitted out with a wetsuit, buoyancy aid, helmet and boots and having a safety briefing they took on the challenge of the course and worked together to



navigate the fast pace descent – well done to HISS for organising such a great event.

## A MINUTE WITH... PAUL MERRIFIELD, PRINT ROOM SUPERVISOR

**Career highlight?** A Job offer to relocate to Océ Venlo (Holland) as a technical trainer.

**Worst moment of career?** Being made redundant after 27 years at the age of 50+.

**Development/project you would have liked to have been involved with?**

Raising of the Titanic.

**Best advice?** Don't try to please everybody all of the time.

**Favourite film?** Taken.

**Favourite book?** Flowers in the Attic.

**Favourite building?** Statue of Liberty

**Favourite song/album?** Leona Lewis, Labyrinth Tour.

**First song/album ever bought?** Small Faces, Itchycoo Park.

**Favourite restaurant?** Rain Forest Café in Disney's Animal Kingdom.

**One luxury you will keep despite the credit crunch?** My Jaguar.



## 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](mailto:tendergossip@higginsconstruction.co.uk)

| Department          | Target | Tot | Department  | Target     | Tot        |
|---------------------|--------|-----|-------------|------------|------------|
| Pre Con Cost Mgmt   | 30     | 6   | Surveying   | 40         | 34         |
| Pre Con Design Mgmt | 64     | 94  | Procurement | 16         | 8          |
| CSR                 | 12     | 40  | Site Mgmt   | 36         | 0          |
| Contracts Mgmt      | 32     | 34  | Support     | 4          | 0          |
|                     |        |     | Total       | <b>234</b> | <b>216</b> |

If you would like a copy of 'link' in large print, Braille, on CD or in your language, please contact Laura Williams, [laura.williams@higginsconstruction.co.uk](mailto:laura.williams@higginsconstruction.co.uk)