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Moving Mountains

Issue 9



Hargreaves

News from the Hargreaves Group

AJS and Maxibrite deals confirmed

Since we published the Spring edition of Moving Mountains, the company has completed two acquisitions designed to further enhance our business.

At the beginning of April, we announced that we had acquired AJS Contracts Ltd, a specialist engineering maintenance business based in Cresswell, near Chesterfield in Derbyshire.

AJS carries out fabrication and engineering repair work at a number of power stations, and has been bought specifically to complement the services offered by our wholly-owned subsidiary company Norec.

We asked Greg Kelley, Managing Director of Hargreaves' Industrial Services Division, to tell us why AJS was such an attractive target. He said: "Before acquiring AJS, we had to sub-contract a lot of repair and maintenance work to outside companies. AJS was already a trusted supplier, so we knew all about the quality of their work.

"It so happened that the owner of the company wanted to sell. We conducted our usual thorough 'due diligence' enquiries and satisfied ourselves that the business met our requirements.

"Now that AJS is part of our Industrial Services Division, we are able to further improve both the range and quality of our services to our power station customers."

Regular readers will know that two years ago Hargreaves Services joined UK Coal in forming a joint-venture operation, Coal4Energy. The joint venture has been a real success story, and Coal4Energy is now Britain's leading supplier of coal to industrial users and to consumers via domestic coal merchants.

In May Coal4Energy took a majority stake in independent solid fuel manufacturer Maxibrite, the South Wales-based company



Keeping the home fires burning at Maxibrite (l-r) Chris Thomas, Steve Woods, Liz Jones, Bob Evans.

that produces smokeless fuel briquettes for the domestic markets in the UK, Eire and France.

Speaking after the deal was completed, Hargreaves Chief Executive Officer Gordon Banham told Moving Mountains: "Maxibrite is a great acquisition for Coal4Energy; it will strengthen our market position and will help build on the outstanding progress made since the joint venture came into being.

"Maxibrite adds new customers and new products to Coal4Energy's portfolio. At the same time, Coal4Energy will extend Maxibrite's customer base and geographic reach."

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A taste of life at the coal-face for Jamie

Maltby colliery had a visit recently from celebrity chef Jamie Oliver, who was on site with a crew to do some filming for his new Channel 4 TV series – due to be screened in the Autumn – called 'Jamie's Ministry of Food'.

In the series, Jamie sets out to wage war on the ready meal/takeaway culture and encourage people to grow and cook simple nutritious foods. The programme takes as its inspiration the Ministry of Food, set up by the Government during World War 2, which urged people to 'dig for victory'.

The series begins in Rotherham, where Jamie met with resistance during his famous school dinners campaign. He recently staged a roadshow in the town, where he met pit deputy Mick Trueman, who invited him to come to Maltby.

On his visit to the colliery he met miners in the canteen and then, suitably equipped, was taken underground by Mick, Andy Cadman, and Nick Harris.



(L-R): Andy Cadman (NACODS Secretary), Mick Trueman (Deputy), Jamie Oliver, Nick Harris (NUM Secretary).

Security high on the agenda

The growth of the Hargreaves group over the last four years has seen us add significant numbers of new colleagues to our workforce. We have established new operating sites and taken over existing ones; we have assimilated a huge amount of new assets – plant, equipment and property.

As a large employer we have a responsibility to protect our people, our sites, and our assets – and we now have a team of experts charged with doing just that.

The team is led by Nick Vikentiou. Recently, we caught up with Nick and asked him to tell us more about what he and his team are doing.

“About twelve months ago our board of directors asked me to take up a new role, as Director of Group Security.

“My first task was to look closely at what security arrangements we already had in place. What I found was a bit of a ‘mixed bag’. On some sites, we had our own security staff; at others we employed outside firms. At some sites our security was very good; at others we were having problems.

“My view was that we needed to find methods of working, systems and

equipment that would improve and enhance security to a higher standard in every part of the company”.

We asked Nick to give us examples of some of the problems he encountered. He told us: “We found that some of our physically larger sites in particular had been targeted by undesirables – sometimes on a disturbingly regular basis.

“For example, at Monckton there were instances where vehicles were coming on site in the middle of the night and stealing sometimes quite large quantities of product to be sold on illicitly.

“On some sites, there were spates of thefts from vehicles – and not just wagons. Vans and cars belonging to our employees all seemed to be ‘fair game’ for some of these criminals.

“Maltby colliery was, at one time, plagued by thieves stealing cables and other items – and in one extreme case, one of our employees was actually threatened with a gun when he disturbed a group of criminals ‘in the act’.

So, what improvements has Nick introduced?

“We now have a team of security experts who have a roving commission. We visit

sites unannounced at any time of the day or night. Security patrols are in place at all of our sites, too.

“We are also making increasing use of CCTV. At present the system is monitored remotely at a control centre by an outside company, but looking to the future we plan to introduce our own monitoring control room

“We’re making real progress. For example, not so long ago there were incidents almost weekly at Maltby; now it’s more like one a month. We’ve just completed a successful prosecution, too, so the message is certainly getting across that we mean business.

“The more we can do to protect our colleagues, our equipment and our assets, the better it is for everyone in the Hargreaves group.”

(If you have any information on security issues, you can call Nick Vikentiou on 07811 333870 at any time, night or day. Alternatively, call the Esh Winning switchboard on 0191 373 4485. Discretion is guaranteed).

Emergency recovery exercise a success

Imperial Tankers, which became part of the Hargreaves group in September 2007, specialises in moving bulk chemicals, petroleum products, pressurised gases and edible oils all over the UK.

Probably the most hazardous product handled by Imperial is anhydrous ammonia, which is used as a refrigerant in industrial processes such as food processing and bulk ice-making. The product requires the use of dedicated specialised tanker vessels; Imperial maintains a fleet of 17, each of which is subjected to a strict inspection and maintenance regime.

Because the vessels are designed to maintain their integrity and prevent loss of product in an accident, they have a range of safety features that makes the actual process of inspection very challenging. Access through the small hatch at the rear is difficult, and once an inspector is inside, a series of baffles have to be removed before the far (front) end of the vessel can be reached.

Imperial's maintenance team receive specialist training from approved trainers so they can perform this work safely, and there is an emergency recovery plan in place should anyone ever fall ill or become injured while working inside the vessels.

Recently, the Imperial team at Billingham conducted a full-scale emergency exercise in conjunction with SembCorp, the company that supplies essential utilities to companies throughout Teesside. SembCorp maintains the UK's largest privately owned industrial fire-fighting and chemical spill protection team, and they are all fully qualified ambulance technicians.

The emergency scenario – known only to a small number of key personnel on both sides – was that there was a 'man down',

unresponsive and possibly injured inside a tanker while inspecting it.

The alarm was raised and a SembCorp crew attended the Imperial site in real time under full 'blue light' conditions.

On arrival, they were briefed by Imperial personnel, and the SembCorp Crew Commander Malcolm Stephenson detailed two of his site protection officers to effect a rescue. They entered the vessel in full breathing kit, with an immobilisation stretcher and oxygen for the 'victim' – in this case a dummy rather than an operator.

Within minutes, the rescue was successfully completed, with the victim assessed on a waiting ambulance.

Shortly after the exercise was completed we spoke with Imperial Tanker's fleet engineer Chris Smith. We asked him what lessons had been learned and he told us: "This was the first time we had staged a full-blown emergency exercise in partnership with SembCorp, and it proved to be a valuable experience for everyone involved.

"After the exercise was complete we held detailed de-briefing sessions. Our safety team were able to identify ways in which we can further improve our own safety procedures. The SembCorp crew had an opportunity to practice their significant skills within a new and unfamiliar environment – and the dummy made a full recovery."



The team prepare to go in.



Victim recovered.



Job done – the team stand down.

Hargreaves and Norec safety teams at Safety Expo 2008

In May, members of the Hargreaves and Norec safety teams attended Europe's leading safety event, Safety & Health Expo at Birmingham's NEC.

Led by Hargreaves' Group Health & Safety Manager, Asgeir Nilsen, the visit enabled the team to learn about new ideas and concepts in the profession with a view to helping improve safety at every site within the Group.

Asgeir told Moving Mountains: "Our visit to Safety Expo was valuable. We attended a number of informative seminars on health & safety best practice, and we were

able to bring some of our major customers to the exhibition which gave us some valuable networking opportunities.

On a lighter note – and just to prove that 'safety bods' are not unwilling to take a challenge – Asgeir and Norec's Simon Farrar tackled a climbing wall supplied by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).

Our two intrepid heroes raced up the wall twice; Simon won the first heat and Asgeir the second, so honour was satisfied all round!



Neck and neck – Asgeir Nilsen (in white) and Simon Farrar scale the heights at Safety & Health Expo 2008.

Hargreaves Services plc – Our new corporate structure

We have seen significant growth in the Hargreaves Group in the last few years – a process that has accelerated since the company was floated on the London Stock Exchange.

We have grown organically, and we have made a number of strategic acquisitions, all designed to strengthen our position

in the marketplace and further improve the services we offer to our customers.

We are conscious that such rapid developments can create a degree of confusion, so it has been decided that, effective from June 1st 2008, the Hargreaves Group will present itself to the outside world as five defined operating divisions.

To give you a clearer picture of how each part of the Group 'fits' into the overall scheme of things we have created a simple diagram that shows our new company structure. This re-alignment should accommodate foreseeable future growth, and will be supported by a further strengthening of our Head Office functions.

(This topic will be covered in the next edition of Moving Mountains).

PRODUCTION DIVISION

Maltby

Monckton

MRT (Monckton Rubber Technologies)



Hargreaves

TRANSPORT DIVISION

**Bulk Minerals
(Hargreaves Transport)**

**Bulk Liquids
(Imperial Tankers)**

**Waste Transport
(Hargreaves Waste Services)**

**Water Transport
(Hargreaves Canal Division)**

ENERGY & COMMODITIES DIVISION

Coal and Mineral Trading

**Newport/Immingham
(Imported Carbon Products)**

Waste Brokerage

**ROC Fuels
(Renewable Biofuels)**

**Coal4Energy
(Joint Venture with UK Coal including
Maxibrite)**

**Hargreaves Coal Combustion Products
(Ash Management)**

INDUSTRIAL SERVICES DIVISION

Norec

Simon Bulk Warehousing

AJS Contracts Ltd

HARGREAVES EUROPE

**Hargreaves Raw Material
Services GmbH**

Maltby marks

May 31st in Maltby. The sun shone and the crowds flocked to the Maltby Miners' Welfare Fields in the town to celebrate 100 years of coal mining.

In this special feature we are pleased to bring you a selection of photographs from the celebrations, which stretched over the entire weekend – and with them some comments from people involved in the event.

The focus on the Saturday was the Family Fun Day.

The proceedings were opened by Rother Valley MP and former colliery electrician Kevin Barron, and following a speech by Hargreaves Chief Executive Gordon Banham, the Earl of Scarborough

presented local schoolchildren with prizes for their winning designs in the Hargreaves 2009 calendar competition.

Commemorative miners lamps were given to Maltby's oldest current employee, Jack Douce, who works in the control room, and to 92 years old Bob Heath, the oldest living Maltby miner.

On Saturday evening, attention switched to the Miners' Welfare Club, where a packed audience was entertained by actor Dean Andrews – star of BBC hit shows *Life on Mars* and *Ashes to Ashes*. Raffles and an

auction raised more than £700, with the proceeds being distributed to local schools.

On the Sunday, the commemorations took on a more serious note, with a poignant service at St Bartholomew's Church in honour of all those miners who lost their lives at the pit over the last 100 years.

After the service, a procession led by the Maltby Miners' Welfare Band made its way to Grange Lane cemetery where wreaths were laid at the grave of the unknown miner.



"We wanted to mark the pit's centenary in a way that would involve everyone, young and old, in the whole area. I think we succeeded!"
Darren Richardson



Carol Barron

We are sad to report the passing of Carol Barron, wife of Rother Valley MP Kevin Barron.

Carol, who attended the Maltby Colliery centenary celebrations with her husband, was taken ill at the event and later died in hospital.

Kevin maintains a keen and close interest in the pit and our colleagues who work there, and we know that both he and Carol had been looking forward to the centenary event.

On behalf of everybody at Hargreaves we extend our sincere condolences to Kevin and to his family.



"Events like this really bring the community together. I am proud to be here today."
Viscount Richard Lumley, Earl of Scarborough



100 years



"It was exceptional, something I will remember for a very long time. Everyone was so kind and affectionate. I was given a miners lamp with my old miner's number stamped on it. It's something I will cherish when I look back on the day"
 Bob Heath, Maltby's oldest living miner who worked at Maltby for 50 years

"It was an absolutely tremendous day and a privilege to be involved. It was one of the best Maltby events ever. It was brilliantly organised – and blessed with sunshine."
 Alice Rodgers, Chairman Maltby Local History Society



"His two great-grandchildren, Morgan and Emily, were over the moon. It was like they had won the lottery. It was a very good day and we were all really proud of him."
 Hayley Blunt, Bob Heath's granddaughter-in-law.



"Apart from 9 years in the Army, I've worked down the pit since I was 15, and I've always enjoyed the jobs I have had. There's great camaraderie among miners. It's very close-knit."
 Jack Douce, Maltby's oldest current miner

"We've had great feedback from the lads at the pit and everyone generally. Some even said they would like it to happen every year, like the old miner's galas."
 Darren Richardson



"Ron Buck from the NUM spoke movingly about the old days and Ian Lavery did a recollection piece."
 Rev Peter Turnbull, St Bartholomew's Church

"It was very interesting and at times very moving. The band played while the youngsters put 27 roses on the altar in memory of the men who lost their lives in the 1923 disaster"
 Councillor Keith Stringer, Maltby Town Council



*Pictures courtesy of:
 the Maltby News
 and Wilf Claydon.*

Imperial's Ray Davies proclaimed 'UK Driver of the Year'

For the past five years Daimler Chrysler FleetBoard has run a Driver of the Year competition open to all of their fleets throughout Europe.

The results are determined by the FleetBoard driver grading system which rewards drivers for their economic, anticipatory and safe driving styles.

Last year for the first time, UK drivers competed in a UK league, as well as the full International league, and FleetBoard UK awarded a trophy for the UK Driver of the Year 2007.

We are pleased to tell you that the winner of the UK title was Imperial Tanker's Ray Davies, who is based at the company's Billingham depot.

Ray received a special trophy on the FleetBoard section of the Mercedes-Benz stand on the opening day of this year's Commercial Vehicle Show, which was held in April at the NEC in Birmingham.

The citation that Ray received along with his trophy praised him 'for achieving consistently high driver grades despite operating over difficult routes'. Ray took his title victory with a driving style grading of 9.13 (out of 10) and a degree of difficulty of 4.27 (out of 5).

Ray Davies wasn't the only Imperial driver to star in the Fleetboard competition. We have learned that no fewer than 17 of the UK's top 20 ranked drivers are amongst the Imperial team. Well done to each and every one of you!



UK Driver of the Year 2007 Ray Davies (left) receiving his trophy from Mr Jens Zeller, Daimler Fleetboard GmbH.

Competition Time

Win a trip for 4 people to any Odeon/UCI cinema of your choice!

L F R R Z C D M Z D J D C Q D J L E X Y
 Z V D E S Q H T X C X Z F M L J E T H P
 U G M P U A L K U C C H Z E O I K I C Y
 J X L P D J I L D K R X W Z G Y C S Q G
 I L M O X Z E Y Y Z U U T U B H I E X W
 N D Y C C A V K O D G P D I I V N N Z G
 I Q M J D K O R E G L X A E P B B G Z M
 N L Q M A T Q A D R C U L D W M T A F T
 N Q W K E C K B U V S P Q P D X H M F T
 L A O C U X B L L B K I B V F D V Y X L
 M U N E D B Y L O M W Z L P C W I N N G
 L S R P H Y O H T E H X O V X Z K V G Q
 T G W A O B K K B L T G I L E K L O Q P
 X H I C N W D T A P R K V I L R M N L N
 Y H B C H I F N H F G N K W M F F Z U S
 S S K V W B U B X X N F C P U O W Z W W
 O E L W O O M M O H D X W R G X F B J B
 O X H Z V E O G G R Z H F V T W G N G P
 J M V V K P B O Y R Y B J H X B X D D Z
 I L L S T Q U B B A U X I T E M H V K J

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Contact tel no: _____

Words to find:

- BAUXITE
- COAL
- COPPER
- GOLD
- LEAD
- MAGNESITE
- MOLYBDENUM
- NICKEL
- SILVER
- URANIUM

Our wordsearch competition in the April issue of Moving Mountains attracted a lot of entries yet again – and the lucky winner was 9 years old Natalie Boyle from County Durham – congratulations, Natalie!

This time around, we have another set of gift vouchers to give away. The first correct entry out of the hat will receive vouchers for 4 people to take in a favourite big screen blockbuster at an Odeon/UCI cinema of your choice.

Our theme for this competition is materials that are extracted by mining.

This is what you do: Simply find the 10 materials hidden in the grid, add your name and address and send to: The Editor, Moving Mountains, Hargreaves, Esh Winning Industrial Estate Durham DH7 9PT.

(We'll accept originals or photocopies – just in case you don't want to cut up your magazine – but **ONLY ONE ENTRY PER PERSON PLEASE!**) Entries must be received by Friday August 15th 2008 – and the Editor's decision will be final!

We will contact the lucky winner directly – and the result will be published in the next issue of Moving Mountains. Good luck!