

AT THE SHARP END



Tim's Blog

This month we have excused Mr Brett from contributing to his blog as it is a rather busy time for him. We do feel however we shouldn't let this moment pass without a few words of congratulations. We are extremely happy to announce that Tim and his wife have added a third little Brett to their collection. Jo gave birth to a beautiful baby boy named Ronnie on Wednesday 16th. Luckily he has all his mother's charms and good looks!

New kid on the block

Dave Kirby

We have been on the lookout for a new sales manager to join our team, and where better to look than the 'City of Steel' itself - Sheffield!



It's always difficult to find good people and that's why we're absolutely thrilled to have found our man.

Meet Dave. Dave joined Surrey Steels earlier this month and it's great to have this northern lad on board. Dave has made an immediate impact since joining us, and with broad experience in the business he has become an important part of the team, not to mention being Surrey Steels number one in the ping pong rankings, an impressive feat.

Favourite film: Top Gun **Favourite Food:** Chips and gravy (what else)!

STAR LETTER

Good afternoon all.

I would like to pass on my sincere gratitude to all concerned in relation to the weekend of 28/29th April 2012. If it were not for the professionalism and positive attitude shown by Surrey Steels on 28th April, our company would have been exposed to an extremely expensive and damaging cancellation of a chiller installation.

We had arranged for the de-commissioning of existing and re-installation of a new roof mounted chiller over said weekend. At around 6.30am Saturday 28th April, our staff arrived comprising 4 mechanical and 2 electrical engineers along with 2 supervisors. In addition, we had 6 crane operatives including 3 banksmen and 3 drivers for crane and support vehicles. We had certification in place to close Regent Street W1 between the hours of 7am - 4pm. With road closure in place work commenced at around 7.30am. At around 9am the police arrived to inform us that a mass cycle protest was about to start and traffic would be at a standstill until around 3pm.

We had already pre-fabricated most of the pipework on the roof and Saturday was to be a straightforward day removing and refitting the new chiller on new 4.8 metre x 200mm RSJ's. At around 9am, the old plant had been removed and we were awaiting delivery of our RSJ's. The steel had been ordered some 4 weeks prior to the required delivery date, and one of our directors witnessed the loading of the steels the evening before. By 10am we still had no steels and were calling our supplier non-stop. At around 12pm it was agreed that time was no longer on our side and the new chiller would need to be positioned temporarily on makeshift supports.

At this time, my director had contacted another of our engineers based in Stevenage Herts, asking that he phone around to see availability of steels to suit. I was also up to my neck in Google searches for steel suppliers. After countless calls I was ready to give up, when I received a call from my engineer in Stevenage saying 'Surrey Steels can get the steels to you in an hour or two.' To be honest, I thought, given the traffic chaos there is no chance, but I had no other options available. My director managed to get hold of the drivers mobile number via Surrey Steels office so we had a point of contact.

The driver from Surrey Steels arrived within 1hr with two steels cut to length. I could not believe how good this company were. We didn't even have an account with Surrey Steels and they happily supplied on good faith alone (A rare quality these days). Needless to say, the invoice was paid by return.

To conclude; from start to finish, our dealings with Surrey Steels was a pleasure. Bear in mind, this was a Saturday lunchtime with Regent Street closed, and with a cycle protest taking place, and we were supplied with around 3/4 of a tonne of steel at the drop of a hat.

Please pass on my sincere gratitude to all concerned.

Kind Regards

Mark Cracknell

Westminster Maintenance Ltd



When life was simpler ...

Jubilee mania is days away now and we're getting pretty darned excited about the celebrations – any excuse to party!

We have taken a nostalgic look back to 1952 – a time before the days of pizza and lager, when the US steel strike was threatening world economy and Muffin the Mule changed puppets forever ...

A time when there was only one TV channel, a time before any notion of dishwashers, tumble dryers, plastic, frozen foods, Xerox, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams, ball-point pens, contact lenses and the computer, let alone the internet ... In 1952 the hydrogen bomb was detonated for the first time, the pill was introduced, the Polio vaccine was developed and Mr Potato Head made his debut. Singin' in the Rain was a hit movie, a chip went with cod, hardware meant nuts and bolts and software wasn't a word. A Big Mac was an oversized raincoat, a gay person was the life and soul of the party, a joint was the piece of meat you ate on a Sunday, and skunk was a friend of Bambis.

No wonder we are so confused at times!



Wishing you all an enjoyable jubilee weekend ... whatever you're doing, keep it simple and relax.

Next issue: Olympic Winners