

Site**line**

Summer 2012



This issue

Page

- 02 Education focus
- 03 Hull on the world stage and Quay Primary School
- 04 Projects round-up
- 05 Yorbuild update
- 06 Delivering exceptional projects
- 07 Supporting Hull's pupils and winning awards
- 08 Family matters

Feature Story

Houlton reaches new heights

Houlton is flying high after our company flag was proudly held aloft in the shadow of Everest no less!

Houlton, as main sponsor donated £500 to a charity expedition to the Himalayas. David Watt (56) of The Goodwin Development Trust and Maria Watt (28) of Foston on the Wolds near Driffield, who completed the 15 day trek, were so grateful for the donation towards their party's fundraising target of £150,000 for Action Medical Research, that they carried the flag 130 miles in a 7kg rucksack and managed to fly it at a whopping 18,000 feet above sea level! For those interested, David is seeking colleagues to join him on the 2013 Everest-Challenge!

Asset maintenance programme, City of York Council

The Building & Maintenance team has been extremely busy following a successful tender with the YORbuild scheme.

Houlton is delighted to have been selected as City of York Council's (CYC) Asset Maintenance Programme (AMP) contractor. This is a two-year contract with the option of extending for a further year. The value of the contract is estimated at £4m over the first two years.

Since starting in June of last year, we have completed four separate projects and commenced a further four in primary and secondary schools across the York area with works including re-roofing, window improvements, thermal efficiency improvements, new insulation, new ceilings, electrical works, façade improvements and boiler upgrades. The education sector has become a real area of specialism for Houlton as we continue to deliver new and innovative projects.

Cottingham High School

Houlton successfully won a £452,000 tender under the YORbuild framework to remove 600 metres of defective overhanging concrete canopy roof slabs at Cottingham High School. The contract became urgent when a single 150kg slab made the headlines after it fell from a 3 storey building, thankfully when the school was closed.

This unique project required the use of 28 separate contract crane lifts ranging from 25t to 100t cranes and the actual removal of the slabs was assisted by specially designed and manufactured lifting frames fixed to the crane sling.

Despite this, we were able to ensure that disruption to school lessons was minimised through weekly coordination meetings with the school's Site Manager and the works were completed ahead of target in 16 weeks.



Canon Lee School York

Houlton helps local schools dig deep for future success

Houlton has given support to Chiltern, Neasden and Thoresby primary schools as they plant the seeds that will see them become flagships for a national initiative putting gardening at the heart of education.

Of the £500 donation to the Open Schools Programme, Richard Houlton, Chairman of Houlton, said: "We are delighted to offer this support to engage young people, especially those hit hardest by increasingly difficult economic circumstances."

Richard Houlton with Heads and pupils of Chiltern, Neasden and Thoresby primary schools



Hull on the World Stage

Houlton's successful relationship with the University of Hull continues with the construction of the new £4.1m Allam Building. The external envelope is well advanced with finishing trades progressing internally and the demanding programme has been maintained.

The new building is being made possible through a £1.5m donation from leading Hull businessman Dr Assem Allam and will house two research centres, one focusing on cardiovascular and metabolic research and the other on cancer.

Once completed, the Allam Building will bring academics from the Chemistry and Biology departments together with colleagues from the Postgraduate Medical Institute and the Hull York Medical School, significantly strengthening the University's Interdisciplinary Clinical Biosciences Institute.



Hull University Allam Building

University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Calie Pistorius, said:

"This is a very exciting development as health-related research is such an important area for the University. This building, and the associated developments both on campus and at the local hospitals, will create a unique research infrastructure, strengthening Hull's position as a world-leading institution in biomedical research."

Paul Dickerson, Managing Director, said:

"Houlton has worked with the University for many years and we are delighted to be in a position to contribute to its continued development as a well-respected, world class educational institution."

Quay Primary School, Bridlington

The YORbuild Lot 1 project was to provide an "inside out classroom" at Quay Primary School in Bridlington. The work was carried out during the 2011 summer break and involved the provision of an all-weather outside classroom which was achieved by installing three bespoke tent-roofed "Cube Pods" on the school playground.



The aluminium pod structures have a suspended timber floor surrounded by polycarbonate and timber clad walls with direct access from one of the adjacent classrooms. Areas of non-slip timber decking were installed and other external works included the replacement of the existing soft play surface, new circular log fencing, gates, a raised planting area around the existing oak tree and a large sand pit area.

Projects Round-Up



Mayor of Beverley, Councillor Peter Astell cuts the ribbon at the opening of Steamer Trading with Andy Kingston, Houlton Building & Maintenance Director and Ben Phillips and his team from Steamer Trading.

Houlton completed extensive refurbishment works on behalf of prestigious kitchen specialist, Steamer Trading, who recently opened its first northern store in Toll Gavel Beverley.

Houlton completed all renovation and building works on the 60 sq m retail floor area in just five months.

The store was officially opened by the Mayor of Beverley, Councillor Peter Astell and Managing Director of Steamer Trading, Ben Phillips who said: "We are excited to open our 26th store in Beverley in what is our 26th year of trading! Moving into the North was the next step for the business and we are delighted with the results delivered by Houlton."

All change at Edward Heneage, Grimsby

Construction has reached a conclusion on the brand new £4.2million Edward Heneage School building and staff and pupils have now transferred completely in to the new school facilities. The old school building is being demolished in the next phase creating space for a new playground area.



On time on budget at Doncaster schools

There were smiles and delight all round for young learners at two Doncaster schools as they moved into their sparkling new facilities, both of which having been extended and modernised.

The £2.8m project at Carcroft Primary School involved doubling the size of the administration hall within an existing closed courtyard and major refurbishment work.

Nick Webster-Henwood, Project Manager for the £1.9m Owston Park Primary School scheme, said: "Houlton delivered the project to a high standard within an extremely tight timescale which is all the more credible as the works were undertaken within the challenging constraints of a live school environment."

Even the children were impressed as Vicky Stinson, Head Teacher explains: "I have to admit we were waiting with trepidation because, as shoddy as it was, we all loved our old building but to quote one of the children: 'It's buzzing innit miss!'"



The sun is shining on the East Riding!

There were smiles and delight all round for Wentworth Drive Goole, the location for the construction of 38 affordable homes incorporating photovoltaic roof tiles, rainwater harvesting and high levels of insulation as part of a £4.5million development on behalf of East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

The construction was undertaken in a surrounding residential area with a school and elderly persons home nearby meaning minimum disturbance was an essential element as our team observed the status as a Considerate Constructor site.

Blast resistant building successfully completed

In February 2012 we completed and handed over the new £809,000 blast resistant building that will become the UK headquarters for Nippon Gohsei, an international Japanese-owned chemical company manufacturing Soarnoi; a food packaging material for preserving flavour and freshness.

"The Nippon Gohsei UK team are extremely pleased with their quality new office facility"

Peter Des Forges, NGUK Financial Director.

YORbuild continues to breed success

SCEP meeting at Houlton offices. April 2012.



As leading players on the YORbuild Framework we are now involved in two major areas of development that align with the regeneration impact that YORbuild seeks to deliver.

YORscep, the supply chain engagement programme seeks to identify potential YORbuild suppliers and subcontractors who can share in the following benefits of framework working;

- Notification of new projects
- Exclusive Members Only project briefings
- Details of tendering main contractors and buyers
- Detailed breakdown of biddable works packages
- Advice on how to add value to main contractors
- Raise your profile as a SCEP Member

- Events, industry news and access to training
- Members Only opportunities to meet clients, contractors and end users
- NEC contract training

In March 2012, Houlton took part in a Supplier Event at Sewerby Hall Bridlington where key personnel from the company met with companies wanting to become part of this initiative.

For further details go to www.yorscep.com

Houlton is a founder contractor member of the YORbuild 4 Good Fund, a ground breaking initiative that delivers benefit to community good causes. Contribution of cash or time resources accrue to the fund from every YORbuild project, to be spent or utilised in the local economy. This commitment to YORbuild clients ensures that their choice of YORbuild as the project procurement vehicle yields a much greater influence and return.

Helping businesses and communities in these ways is very much part of the company's ethos so it is not surprising to have recognition from the YORbuild Management Team as a key player within YORbuild delivery.

Chris Padden (Houlton) with Teentech participants



Teen Tech

YORbuild isn't purely about physical projects however, as demonstrated when the Framework Management Team members, including Houlton, worked closely together to develop an innovative challenge to inspire young people about future career opportunities.

The TeenTech event perfectly demonstrated how YORbuild is about more than just physical projects. This innovative challenge was designed by the Framework Contractor, including Houlton, to inspire young people in Years 8 and 9 about careers in science, technology, engineering and maths.

Led by broadcaster Maggie Philbin, the event took place at the KC Stadium, Hull and comprised teams of 10 young people taking on challenges on the themes of maths, science, engineering, technology and construction. Foxhills Technology College walked away with prizes including a cut glass trophy, tickets to Diggerland and goody bags.

Mark Scott the Employment and Skills Coordinator for the YORbuild Framework commented: "This kind of activity relates very closely to the strong commitment that YORbuild has to employment and skills and presents a great opportunity to promote careers in construction."

Houlton secures facilities management contract

It's now official - Houlton offers Facilities Management! Following an involved YORbuild tender process, Houlton was awarded the Humberside Police Authority Maintenance Works contract. This prestigious project commenced in December 2011 and involves numerous Service Packs ranging from lift maintenance, water hygiene, grounds maintenance, snow clearance to window cleaning. Also included is a Reactive Maintenance responsibility producing more than 50 orders a week of varying priority and other small building projects. The three year contract (extendable to five years) is currently valued at £1m per year.

Houlton goes west to build £3 million youth project centre

Houlton has reason to celebrate after securing the contract to build the new £3million Orangebox youth facility in Halifax, in the face of strong regional competition.

The construction team commenced works on the landmark site with the demolition of the perimeter wall and excavation of the former car park next to the 18th century Grade 1 listed Piece Hall.

Main construction is now underway and once completed in autumn 2012 the centre will comprise a performance and visual arts



David McQuillan from Square Chapel Centre for the Arts along with Steve Sutcliffe, Site Manager of Houlton lead partners on the project.

space, a studio for drama and dance, music rehearsal rooms, IT suite and roof garden with a vegetable growing area and rooftop skate park.

Dave Padden Construction Director, said: "Houlton is delighted to have secured the contract on this landmark site which has received significant government funding as part of a national programme."

David McQuillan from Square Chapel Centre for the Arts, lead partners on the project, said: "I am absolutely thrilled that, after three years of hard work, the Orangebox is now starting on site. Houlton offered a really extensive programme of young people's engagement ranging from workshops in schools and work experience to apprenticeships and progression into employment."



New shop is the fruit of local labour

Alan Johnson MP was guest of honour at the grand opening of a long-awaited new arrival to the retail offer on Hull's Thornton Estate. The MP for Hull West and Hessle helped officially open the new fruit and veg shop on the Thornton Parade after Houlton carried out a full refurbishment of a previously unoccupied shop unit.

This new shop is operated by local volunteers who came together to form the Thornton Fresh Food Co-operative in a bid to supply their community with quality, fresh, healthy produce.

Project gets Royal seal of approval



A visit by HRH the Duke of Gloucester officially marked the successful completion of the reinstatement of the roof of the Grade II listed Pickering Railway Station after an absence of nearly sixty years.

The Duke arrived on the footplate of the GWR 7800 Foxcote Manor steam train into Pickering Station before touring the newly built Reussner Learning Centre and the recently completed and now award-winning visitor centre, before unveiling a ceremonial plaque to commemorate the completion of the station's renovations.



HRH the Duke of Gloucester.

Houlton's support ensures Hull pupils enjoy a good day to learn

As work progresses on the Goodwin Community College project, the Houlton team engaged with local students, Construction Skills College and The Goodwin Trust to arrange A Good Day to Learn.

Rob Alexander, Assistant Head of Department at Winifred Holtby, said: "This event fits perfectly with our on-going drive to seek out the best possible future career paths for our pupils. The kids were really excited about the day and couldn't wait to show the city what they have to offer in terms of commitment and enthusiasm."

Young people from Winifred Holtby School were offered an opportunity with the help of Hull College and Houlton apprentices to learn brickwork and joinery from the experts as part of Houlton's continuing CSR and its support to YORbuild.



Awards show that Houlton joiners are on the right track

In addition to Royal approval, two of the joiners who worked on the project received a prestigious award at a ceremony honouring skilled craftsmen in the region.

Steve Bielby, Honorary Clerk of the York Guild of Building, said: "Once a year awards are presented for outstanding craftsmanship on construction projects in and around the Greater York area. This year's team award for Craftsmanship went to Houlton for its work in creating a new over-all roof for NYMR at Pickering Station."



Chris Clark and David Mears, both from Hull, were recognised at The York Guild of Building Craftsmanship Awards for their outstanding ability demonstrated throughout the project.

From left to right: Chris Clark, Dave Wilson, David Mears.

Houlton family matters



Richard Houlton with Les Akam



Suzanne Haynes Long Service Watch

Chairman Richard Houlton personally congratulated four members of the Houlton staff as they reached retirement after over 100 years accumulated valued service with the company.

Les Akam retired as a Labourer/Painter with Building & Maintenance after nearly 10 years.

Trevor Townend retired as an Estimator for Construction after 41 years' service.

Roy Fenton retired as a Joiner after completing over 40 years service both for the Construction and Building & Maintenance divisions.

Nick Fryer retired as a Construction Site Manager after finishing the Hedon Inmans School project and completing 11 years service.

Meanwhile Suzanne Haynes in Accounts completed 25 years' continual service with the company and in recognition, she was presented with a watch in December.

New starters

Welcome to David Lambie who started with us in November as the Site Manager working on our United Biscuit contract in Glasgow.

Ashley Banks also joined us in November as an Assistant Site Manager from Selby based initially on our Wentworth Drive Goole housing project.



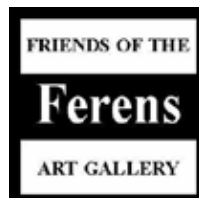
David Lambie



Ashley Banks

We're proud to be Friends of the Ferens

As well as being a close family, we're also proud of the close friends we have made over the years. One such relationship is with the prestigious Ferens Art Gallery in Hull and we are delighted to be the sponsors of the regular Friends of the Ferens newsletter.



Houlton supports the 'Night Challenge'

As part of our commitment to the YORbuild Humberside Police Maintenance Contract, we supported the annual Police 'Night Challenge' by providing temporary toilets and lighting facilities.

A total of 150 youngsters, aged between 13 and 17 from across the Humberside Police area took part in the overnight 13 mile hike challenge in total darkness! The aim is to offer adventure away from illegal pursuits young people can be influenced by.



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