

October 2017

Gregory Distribution . North Park . North Tawton . Devon EX20 2EB

Hayton Coulthard
Delivering winners



Gregory
Delivering winners



NEW CONTRACT WITH **ANTALIS**

On 15th August Antalis, a major European and UK distributor of packaging, paper and visual communication products, announced to its staff at their Newton Abbot warehouse that all distribution activities would transfer to Gregory Distribution from 25th September.

This new business is the result of many months of work by GDL's Business Development team led by Gavin Haines, and is part of the Antalis 2020 Vision programme to address the challenges they face in providing their customers with a more flexible logistics solution.

Gregory and Antalis are in the final stages of agreeing a contract. Craig Jamieson will be the contract manager responsible for the day to

day operations of the business, reporting directly to Gavin Haines who has overall responsibility for the relationship with Antalis.

We are pleased to welcome the Antalis staff as part of this exciting opportunity and to supporting them in the future.

Commenting on the change Nick Thompson, Antalis logistics director said: "We are confident that the

selection of Gregory Distribution for this important development in our 2020 Vision programme will enable us to continue to provide a first class service to our customers."

Andy Walker, GDL's managing director told Newsbrief: "This announcement is a significant first step to providing Antalis with a comprehensive solution which can be expanded in other areas of the UK as may be required."



RHA National Lorry Week 2017

The Road Haulage Association's third annual National Lorry Week was held on 11–16th September 2017 giving everyone in the UK the chance to #LoveTheLorry.

The haulage industry is the life-blood of the country and the RHA want to make sure the rest of the country knows it too. Each year they call on their members to help promote the haulage industry to schools, communities and colleges so that the industry can attract the next generation of workers.

Gregory supported Love the Lorry week by putting on an event in Princesshay, Exeter on Saturday 16th September. It is the third year running that GDL has displayed vehicles and interacted with the public at this popular event.

This year we displayed our first heritage vehicle to be restored - a 1919 Ford Model T Ton truck, which was the original Gregory vehicle. Also on display was a Next Generation Scania and our 6 Sense training vehicle.

Members of the operational training team and current apprentice drivers attended, talking to the public about the heritage of GDL and the upcoming Apprentice Driver Programme opportunities.



Pictured from left: Stuart Govier, Emily Wadman, Tracey Bennett, Tim Bennett, Steve Rose and Paul Willis



The Model T Ford is parked by the Next Generation Scania tractor unit – the most advanced in the GDL fleet



Long Service Awards

5 YEARS		
Name	Position	Business area
Jake Haygarth	Warehouse Supervisor	Mendip Distribution Centre
Adrian Witcombe	Forklift Supervisor	Shepton Warehouse
Jack Cooney	First Year Technician	Cullompton Workshop
Mark Rea	Forklift Supervisor	Shepton Warehouse
Edward Learmonth	LGV Driver	Twynholm Transport
Brian Dowkes	LGV Driver	CDS Transport
Elizabeth Todd	HR Manager	HR and Payroll
Joe Dowden	Forklift Assistant	Crown Warehouse
Duncan Boase	Support Co-ordinator	Plymouth Transport
Michael Pyro	Maintenance	North Tawton Warehouse
Darren Jago	LGV Driver	South Molton Transport
Jonathan Baraniecki	Warehouse Assistant	Mendip Distribution Centre
Christopher Benney	Forklift Supervisor	Mendip Avenue
Kayleigh Edwards	Customer Service Administrator	Plymouth Transport
Mason Minto	Transport Manager	CDS Transport
Mark Rowe	Warehouse Forklift Assistant	Mendip Distribution Centre
Robert Young	LGV Driver	Spar Transport
Alan Learmonth	LGV Driver	Twynholm Transport
Tomasz Hamera	Warehouse Operative	Cullompton Warehouse
Dean Manley	LGV Driver	Plymouth Transport
Erin McArthurw	Transport Administrator	Willand Transport
Archibald Learmonth	LGV Driver	Twynholm Transport
Dennis Barnard	LGV Driver	South Molton Transport
Connor Ponsford	Warehouse Operative	Plymouth Warehouse
Lucy Heales	Senior Transport Administrator	Bristol Transport
Robin Ward	Operator	CDS Transport
Michael Connor	Warehouse Supervisor	Mendip Distribution Centre
Clive Halliwell	Forklift Supervisor	Crown Warehouse
25 YEARS		
James Bartle	LGV Driver	North Tawton Exfarm Milk Transport
Stephen Lillington	LGV Driver	Evercreech Milk Transport
Glynn Hewison	LGV Driver	South West Water

CHAMPION DRIVER 2017

The initial qualifying period has now finished and the finalists are named below. It has been a tough competition again this year, with the majority of finalists achieving EEDI (Energy Efficient Driving Index) scores of 100!



Because the competition has been so close we have had to filter the scores to achieve the final ranking which is based on a breakdown of the EEDI score, accident record and infringement record.

The quality of the competition was very good, with 282 drivers achieving an EEDI score of 95 or more out of a total 1,682 drivers.

A great effort was made by all drivers and the finalists are listed below by category:

CATEGORY	DRIVER	LOCATION
SWW / Milk Artic Driver	Justin Malkin	SWW Tanks
SWW / Milk Rigid Driver	Jason Osborne	SWW Biosolids
Transport Artic Driver	Darren Clifford	South Molton
Transport Rigid Driver	David Wheller	AB Willand
Temp. Controlled Driver 1	Derek Bishop	Minworth
Temp. Controlled Driver 2	Oscar Aceitero Sac	Minworth
Distribution Artic Driver	Brendan Bader	Cullompton
Distribution Rigid Driver	Henrique Navarro-Correia	Willand Radial
HCT Driver 1	Brian Mitchell	Lesmahagow
HCT Driver 2	Gareth Cook	HCT General

The final will be judged on CMS, RTAs and driving fines from 18th September to 1st October, after which the top rigid and artic drivers will be identified.

The top driver from the rigid and artic categories who achieves the best score during this period will become the overall winner and 'Champion Driver 2017'.

All 10 finalists will receive the Scania goodie bag worth £300 and the Champion Rigid and Artic drivers will win a track day donated by Scania.



SCANIA

DRIVER ALAN IS REWARDED WITH BATEA 2

Having covertly driven the prototype of Scania's Generation 2 tractor unit, codenamed BATEA, for 300,000 kilometres over 27 months to provide a full evaluation of the new vehicle, South Molton driver Alan Smith got to return it to Sweden in August.

Confidentiality was a prerequisite for this operation which included the tractor unit being disguised as a Generation 1 Scania and which saw performance and operating data transmitted directly from the cab via satellite back to Sweden. Scania even equipped Alan with a cover to hide the vehicle in case of a breakdown.

At the end of the evaluation period Alan was required to return the vehicle to Scania in Sweden and make a personal report on its performance.

Sailing from Immingham docks in Lincolnshire, Alan boarded a DFDS freighter bound for Gothenburg (Sweden) stopping at Brevik (Norway) on a 50 hour voyage. On arrival in the morning at Gothenburg, he had to negotiate the rush hour traffic and traffic signs in Swedish, but eventually made it to the motorway for the drive to the Scania factory at Sodertalje near Stockholm, a trip of around 483 kilometres.

The following day was taken up with interviews with various field test engineers about everything from the cab interior to the working of the brakes.

Alan said: "I was lucky then to be given a factory tour, involving the production line of the new generation Scania trucks and buses. Following this, my final drive of BATEA was undertaken on the Scania test track."

Sad as he was to leave BATEA in Sweden to be decommissioned and stripped out, Alan has been rewarded by picking up the very first Generation 2 Scania in GDL for general fleet long distance work.

South Molton contracts manager Bob Lovelace said: "This is a remarkable story which has seen Alan Smith at the front and centre. It was a tripartite arrangement with Scania Sweden, who chose Scania GB (who chose Scania Avonmouth), who chose Gregory. GDL chose South Molton and I selected Alan who is a first class driver. More importantly, I knew we could rely on him to keep the operation totally confidential.

"It has been a rewarding collaboration and an enjoyable experience for everyone involved."



Top left: The original BATEA bound for Sweden

Top right: Alan's Scania contacts during the evaluation trials – Örjan Söderberg, Karin Hindvall, Fredrick Bjork

Bottom: BATEA 2 – the new generation Scania



Claire gets on the road

Within a month of joining GDL as business unit support manager, Claire Ebdy took a whirlwind familiarisation tour which saw her visit North Tawton, Willand, Shepton Mallet and Thame as well as taking a warehouse tour and learning all about how the BCT, Spar and Palletway operations are run.

She also got out on the road with GDL's Biosolids team where she was driven by Neil Blake and Terry Higgins. She said: "I experienced a new type of 'cake' making at the Tiverton treatment works. I had no idea that cake is treated sludge that has undergone a treatment process to create fertilisers and soil conditioners. We collected the cake and transported it to a local farmer. Later we visited the treatment works.

"I was also treated to a day out in one of our milk tankers. Driver Alan Maynard took me to various farms in Devon and Somerset where he educated me in the collection and sampling process. I was really impressed with the GPS system and the automation of the sample collection. The drivers have each route programed into their GPS which is then automatically printed on their documentation.



As with biosolids collection, I was surprised at the tracks that the drivers have to battle with to ensure the milk is collected on time.

"My first month at Gregory Distribution was very enjoyable and rewarding. I am very proud to have joined such a trusted and valued business where I have been made to feel very welcome across each site and business unit that I have visited, and I'm grateful to all my colleagues who spent time with me to explain their job."

ALL HANDS TO THE PUMP – When the call came, they responded!

After long-standing GDL client Medina Dairy at Wickham in Hampshire took on new contracts with Sainsbury and Lidl, our workload increased exponentially and very quickly and for a time we were under resourced to operate efficiently.

So the call was put out for help and the response was overwhelming as drivers, traffic operators, administrative staff and sub-contractors from

around the Group all pitched in and helped avoid what could have been a very difficult situation.

Business unit director Tim Prout said: "We are very grateful for the extra help that was given by so many people to help us fulfil our obligations. It is very encouraging to see such a 'can do' attitude and a commitment to overcome obstacles and get the job done. Thank you to everyone involved."



NEW SOUTH WEST WATER CONTRACT

GDL has secured an additional contract with South West Water (SWW) that will see the GDL team take on extra work within the clean water sludge side of the SWW business.

This additional work will be added to the Biosolids operation under the leadership of operations manager Guy Maddocks.

GDL will also provide a new service with technical support and soil testing, to ensure all legal and compliance parameters are met in line with regulatory requirements for SWW. This will enable us to give SWW the complete service.

Contracts manager Jamie Walker said: "This is great news and testament to the continued hard work and service provided to South West Water by the team in Cullompton."

HEALTH + SAFETY MATTERS

Near Miss Reporting

The new Near Miss Report is helping to develop a pro-active health and safety culture and reduce accident and incident rates throughout the Gregory operations – and it's working.

There has been a massive improvement in the number of near misses reported and we are now approaching 200 reported near misses.

Without near miss reports, potentially dangerous incidents, including failures to follow correct and established procedures, could go unnoticed for a long time.

Thank you all for your continued efforts reporting all near misses you witness and remember that your intervention by completing these could ultimately prevent an accident or even save a life.

10 DECADES OF GREGORY

The Early Years 1919–1930

Pre-1919 Archibald John Gregory worked on a farm near North Tawton before acquiring a horse and cart to haul coal from the station to the local wool factory and wool back to the station. He manged one ton per load making six runs each day and soon needed to hire help to increase his capacity.

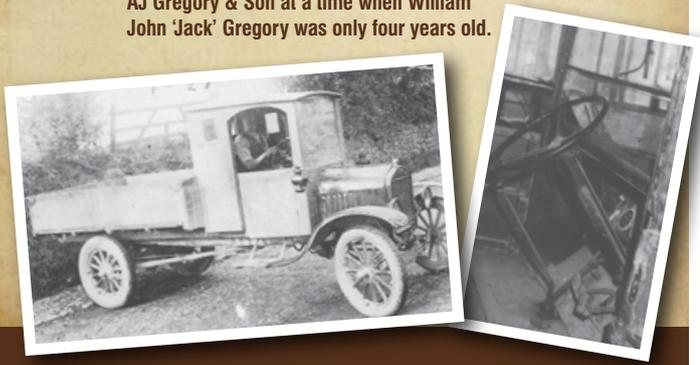
1919 'Archie' buys a WW1 surplus Model T Ford, the first motorised vehicle in the near 100 years of the family business. It had a 2.9 litre, 4 cylinder engine with a two speed gearbox and was capable of 40mph – but not uphill! The business operated from a small garage in Barton Street, North Tawton.

The 'tin lizzie' was also used to carry agricultural goods and grain and on special occasions was the mode of transport for the town's rugby team and the local band.

1925 Archie acquires a second vehicle – a two ton Garner which was used to expand the business into carrying livestock to markets locally and as far afield as Exeter and Newton Abbot.

1928 Archie has two men working for him and he acquires a Chevrolet truck to further increase the livestock trade.

Archie plans for the future and renames the business AJ Gregory & Son at a time when William John 'Jack' Gregory was only four years old.



BRAVING THE SHAVE!

Andy Dayman of Cullompton Milk heard that a work colleague's wife had been diagnosed with cancer so he decided to do 'Brave the Shave' and have his head completely shaved to raise funds for charity.

His brave gesture elicited a great response from fellow work colleagues and raised a whopping £810 pounds for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Two other 'Brave Shavers' were Shepton Mallet drivers Lee Flower with the glasses on and Scott Hepburn, who raised around £700 for Macmillan.



Gregory People

Welcome to ...

... Congratulations to April Littlejohns (Cullompton transport operator) and Tim Woolacott (Cullompton driver) on the birth of their daughter Arya Ruby on Sunday 6th August. The little girl weighed in at 7lbs 8ozs.

A THANK YOU GOES A LONG WAY

It's not too often that customers go out of their way to thank the efficiency and courtesy of our staff, but when they do, it's worth knowing about.

Dennis Ray LaBorde, director of Face2Face Clinic Ltd was very grateful for the help of GDL driver Tony Walsh from Shepton Mallet depot who delivered a very large desk and helped him get it up and down several flights of stairs. He contacted GDL saying:

"I write to commend the excellent, courteous and wonderful service of one of your employees. I can't thank Tony Walsh enough – and, of course, your company, for the EXCELLENT service which he performed without any complaint - a fantastic service."

A Facebook message from Mel Downie of Plymouth said: "Just wanted to say how awesome your delivery driver was today! He made a delivery of our patio slates in the PL3 area of Plymouth and was a total legend, putting the delivery exactly where we needed it with a lovely cheerful manner.

"👍 #thumbsuptoyoudeliveryman, didn't get his name but hope it can be fed back that he was fab!"

HAYTON COULTHARD SUPPORTS THE GUID NYCHBURRIS PARADE

The annual Dumfries Guid Nychburris Parade in June was supported by Hayton Coulthard Transport (HCT) who supplied some trucks for the event's 'Big Parade'.

A Scania driven by HCT's Clifford Cain was used as the mobile stage for locally based African drumming band Zanzibeatz, while Fraser Henderson driving a Volvo hosted the 8th Dumfriesshire Cub Scouts who created a camp site on his trailer.

The Dumfries celebration has numerous events and ceremonies to mark the town becoming a Royal Burgh in 1186 and on Guid Nychburris Day thousands turn up to see the crowning of the Queen of the South, the reading of the Royal Charter, the Riding of the Marches (a boundary marking custom on horseback), Beating the Retreat and the Big Parade.

The unusual name is said to date from a time when criminals would be instructed to be a 'Guid Nychburr' (good neighbour) or face dire consequences.



Congratulations to Paul

Paul Freer, business unit administration manager at GDL's Plymouth operation, has successfully passed his Level 5, NVQ diploma in Management & Leadership awarded by the Chartered Management Institute.



This diploma is for practising middle managers with responsibility for substantial programmes and resources. It develops skills in strategic planning and change and business process design alongside core leadership and management abilities.

Business unit director Tim Prout said: "This is no mean feat. It has taken Paul two years of really hard work, much of it in his own time, so please join me in congratulating him. Paul has shown commitment and application as well as the ability to tackle this demanding qualification and his new found skills will greatly benefit our team and the GDL business as a whole."