

October 2019

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

**Gregory**  
Delivering winners



**ARRGRAIB**

**Hayton Coulthard**  
Delivering winners



## FURTHER EXPANSION OF ANTALIS CONTRACT

The relationship between Gregory and our valued customer Antalis grew stronger this summer when their Basingstoke site became the second of its depots to go live with the Manhattan Scale warehouse management system.

Antalis is Europe's leading distributor of paper, packaging solutions and visual communication products and Gregory is already responsible for the running of the warehouse and customer delivery activities from its sites at Newton Abbot, Bristol, Basingstoke, Manchester, Winsford and Watford. In addition, last July saw Gregory taking over the operation of the Antalis site in Newcastle, taking the number of Antalis sites we operate up to seven.

Manhattan Scale allows Gregory to operate Antalis sites in an efficient and standardised manner and further implementations are planned within other Antalis sites already operated

by Gregory including Winsford in September and Manchester in October.

The go-live process went very smoothly and the operational team were able to use the system without help within the first couple of weeks.

The success of the project was due to the combined efforts of the project team members within IT, Programme Delivery and the operation. Particular credit is due to Michelle Flitcroft, Sarah Cowan, Adrian Horsley, Ed Tommans-Porter and Ben Carroll from IT and operations manager Peter Bignell, who ensured that his team were fully prepared for the transition. The project was managed by Andy Luckhurst.



The enthusiastic team during go-live of the new system at Basingstoke.

Clockwise from front left: Chucka Uju, Colin Grant, Peter Bignell and Sarah Cowan



Some of the Newcastle staff who transferred to Gregory on 29th July

Left to right: Garry Watson (driver), Richard Jennings (warehouse admin manager), Andy Wetherell (chargehand driver), Gary Dryden (driver), Steve Robson (driver), John Penman (driver), Jeffrey Harris (driver/warehouseman), Jim Hughes (night warehouse operative) and David Campbell (driver)

Also transferring to Gregory but not pictured are Jamie Krohn (warehouse foreman days), John Barton (warehouse foreman nights), Brian Watson (night warehouse operative), Arthur Lodge (driver) and Paul Quick (driver)

## CELEBRATING YOUR SUCCESS

### DRIVER TRAINERS

Drivers from across our business are being trained to carry out driver assessments on new starters. We really appreciate the enthusiasm and effort these drivers are putting in to make this new initiative successful. Operational training manager, Steve Rose said: "This initiative will streamline the recruitment process, improve the candidate experience and it gives our drivers valuable new skills."

Congratulations to Julian Mather and Michael Stevens from Magor and Rebecca Hissey from Shepton Mallet who were among the first to successfully pass the training.

### APPRENTICESHIP SUCCESS FOR KIRSTIE



Congratulations go to HR advisor Kirstie Difford on the completion of the Level 3 HR Apprenticeship. Kirstie is now an Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development (CIPD).

### 50 YEARS OF COMMITMENT

In 1969, man landed on the moon, Bob Dylan headlined at the Isle of Wight Festival, Concorde had its first test flight and Ray Hunt, team leader at Southampton depot, started work with Smith & Vospers (part of the Rank Hovis McDougall Group) in Portsmouth on August 18th as an apprentice vehicle technician. In the early 1980s Smith & Vospers closed and Ray, now a fully qualified vehicle technician, transferred within the group to Hovis (formally British Bakeries) and in October 2018, Ray TUPE transferred to Gregory Distribution.

Thank you Ray for all your hard work and dedication.



# ARR CRAIB RENEWS LONGSTANDING CONTRACT



**ARR Craib and recycling and decommissioning specialist John Lawrie Group have extended their 19-year partnership with a deal worth £2.25 million a year.**

ARR Craib will continue to provide all of the UK transportation and logistics requirements for John Lawrie Group and its two divisions, John Lawrie Metals and John Lawrie Tubulars. Both firms are based in Aberdeen.

John Lawrie Group said it requires a logistics partner that can accommodate the diverse range of cargo it transports to and from its four existing Scottish sites and across the UK. ARR Craib said it can meet these requirements as it operates the largest general haulage fleet in Scotland.

Dave Weston, John Lawrie Metals managing director, said: "As we continue to grow across

the UK and continue to undertake decommissioning projects outside Scotland, we need a transport partner that has the experience, capacity and network to deliver, and know ARR Craib and its team will always go the extra mile to do that."

Mike Simpson, ARR Craib chief operating officer, said: "This year, we have been able to deliver a significant reduction in bulk transport costs for John Lawrie Group, which was achieved as a result of understanding each other's operations, understanding the different challenges we face and a determination to work together to address those."

## HEALTH+SAFETY MATTERS

### YOU SAID, WE DID

**With the new 'You Said, We Did' boards distributed to depots it is now even easier to receive feedback from suggestion cards submitted through our depot suggestion boxes.**

The Business Support board at Cullompton (pictured) quickly filled up and we have received some great suggestions from around the business. Recent highlights include an environmental improvement suggestion from a director to replace water-coolers with mains-plumbed coolers, together with the removal of single use plastic cups (glasses are available in the depot canteens), and a security related suggestion from an Aberdeen based driver. He suggested releasing a directory of Gregory locations throughout the UK where vehicles can park securely overnight.

Keep up the good work submitting suggestions. Remember, if you visit a customer delivery/ collection site and see a safety practice you think works well, you can submit it on a suggestion card and help our continual improvement of health and safety throughout the business!





## MODEL T WINS BEST IN SHOW!

Gregory's founding father Archie would have been so proud that the replica of his iconic Model T Ford won the Best in Show title at the Historic Vehicle Gathering which took place at Powderham Castle near Exeter in July.

The annual event is organised by the Crash Box and Classic Car Club to celebrate historical vehicles of all types, so having 100 years of company and lorry history on display was a show stopper.

Paul Willis, head of Operational Compliance & Property, said: "We had an amazing weekend at Powderham with all five vehicles on show. The amount of interest they created was phenomenal and out of the few thousand vehicles displayed our Model T won best in show overall. A fantastic result in our Centenary year."



One great surprise was a visit from Jane Bolt whose father Alfie drove the Gregory liveried Rowe Hillmaster in the 1950s and took a picture of his young daughter beside the vehicle in 1959. 50 years later, Jane was reunited with the very same truck on display at Powderham Castle and Paul Willis didn't miss the opportunity of replicating the pose.

## FOLLOWING IN DAD'S TYRE TRACKS

Hayton Coulthard managing director Duncan Coulthard told Newsbrief of his nephew Dayton's desire to follow in his dad's footsteps. That's quite an ambition when you are only 10 and your father is Formula 1 racing legend, David Coulthard.

Dayton, who lives in Monaco, is driving karts just like his dad did when he was a similar age. David wanted Dayton to kick off his racing career and have his first race in Scotland at the Larkhall circuit near Glasgow on Sunday 16th June, where David had his first race when he was 11 back in 1983. Dayton has to do five UK races as a novice before he gets his full licence to compete.

Photo: Dayton in kart practice in the south of France with dad David kneeling over him and Dave Boyce his mechanic, who mentored David when he was in karts, looking on.



## WHAT THEY ARE SAYING ABOUT US

We are only as good as our people on the front line so it's great when customers and the general public take the time to write in to praise Gregory people for their efforts.

Alyson Johnson from Truscott in Cornwall tells how a Gregory driver helped unload a difficult pallet of wood pellets:

*"I would just like to thank your driver who delivered our wood pellets today. Due to the poor packing and substandard pallet, unloading was very difficult, bags were broken (not his fault) and getting the pallet off the lorry was an arduous and time consuming task. Your driver (Sebastian Laposky) was very helpful and manually moved the bags with us, making the task easier. Please pass on our heartfelt thanks to him."*

Richard Dowland from Toll Lowarn near Truro also has praise for Sebastian:

*"A very helpful, friendly, and professional driver. The access to our property is not easy, and it was fair to say he went the extra mile to get the delivery onto our property, and all with a smile. I would really appreciate it if you could pass on our thanks for a great job done, and I wanted to let you know how well he represented you... He very much deserves a big pat on the back."*

Roger Croxson, Chair of the Butcher Park Allotment Association in Tavistock was impressed with the delivery service provided by a frequently used temporary driver, Ricky Rose:

*"His (Ricky's) service was excellent, patient and helpful. As a group of ageing allotment holders with a drop off point on a street corner, I wouldn't have been surprised at a certain amount of scepticism. Instead, we were treated politely and with good humour, with help and advice, and time. So, our thanks to this driver and for the service we received."*

Ms. Allsop telephoned contract manager Dominic Carswell to praise the action of Gregory driver Peter Manley. She had broken down on the A30 in Cornwall and Pete pulled over to check they were ok and gave them water prior to the vehicle getting recovered. A thoughtful and highly commendable act.

Jane from the Bee Equipment Company in Hayle in Cornwall contacted us to say:

*"I am emailing on behalf of Bee Equipment Ltd to say a huge thank you for the excellent service provided by your driver. He was extremely helpful and is a real credit to your company. We felt we should make you aware of this, and would like to pass our thanks on once again to both your driver and your company for the excellent service provided."*

# BANGER RALLY RAISES FUNDS FOR KIDNEY RESEARCH

During August health & safety manager David Hay and his wife Laura took part in a charity banger rally, driving in fancy dress through nine countries in four days.

David explained: "The rally is called the 'Two Ball Rally; Original Route'. To take part you have a budget of just under £600 to buy the car you use, so we went and found ourselves a 29 year old Mazda MX-5 which came with her name of Harriett from the previous owner.

"We're using the rally as a platform to raise money for Kidney Research UK. I donated a kidney to my father-in-law in 2012 and without this he would not have survived as he was almost permanently on dialysis at the time of the operation, whilst I have returned to full health. Prior to the operation my kidney function was 90% and it returned to around 75% – 80% now with my remaining kidney having adapted to a solitary life.

"Laura and I have set up a Just Giving page and would welcome any donation you can make, but otherwise please take a couple of minutes to pay some thought to organ donation and talk about what your future



The rally finished in the sea so that's where Laura and David ended their fancy dress adventure.

wishes may be with your family – you would want someone to help you if you were in need, so why not be the one who helps?"

David and Laura have doubled their fund-raising target of £500 having received over £1,200 at the time of writing, so well done to them. If you would like to donate just visit the link below.

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/theadventuresofharriettthechariot](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/theadventuresofharriettthechariot)

## Gregory People

### CONGRATULATIONS

... to IT senior system analyst, Drew Reid (top left), who married his wife Jade on June 15th at Dartington Hall near Totnes.

... to contracts manager Dominic Carswell (top right) on his marriage to Alex on May 11th at Rockbears Manor near Exeter.

... to fleet administrator Marcus Jonker (right) who married his wife Laura on May 25th at Paschoe House in Bow near Crediton. They are pictured with their son Eduardo.

### WELCOME TO OUR WORLD

Maria Clark (Cullompton admin) and John Harrison (group facilities manager) welcomed their baby boy Charlie Derek who weighed 4lb 3oz. Charlie (far right) arrived unexpectedly nine weeks early on May 31st.

Jade Holman (Cullompton admin) and her husband Tom on the arrival of their baby girl Bonnie-Rae (right) on July 6th weighing 6lb 7oz, a baby sister for Harrison and Quinn.

Shaun Vickery (Cullompton driver) and his partner Gemma on the birth of their son Freddie.



Gregory Distribution would love to keep you updated with the latest news about our services and employees. However, if you would prefer not to hear from us, you can stop receiving Newsbrief at any time by contacting us in any of the following ways, and please make sure to state your name:

- Email: [enquiries@gdl.uk.com](mailto:enquiries@gdl.uk.com)
- Telephone: 01837 883307
- Post: Carol Hancock, Gregory Distribution Ltd, North Park, North Tawton EX20 2EB

We will then remove your personal data from our database. Please note we will not use your details for anything other than sending you newsletters.

## HELPING IN THE COMMUNITY

### Rocking on the Green

At the invitation of customer Western Power Distribution, Gregory sponsored the fabulous 'Rock on The Green' festival on St Andrew's Green in Taunton by providing a trailer to act as a stage. The mini rock festival has been going since 1990 and has raised well over £100,000 for local good causes and charity projects.



### 20 years of the Nello

Once again Gregory supported Force Cancer Charity by providing a water bowser to refresh and refuel the 1,500 cyclists who participated in the famous Nello bike ride – a hundred mile pedal from Topsham over the roof of Exmoor and back. The target this year was to raise over £100,000 which would take the total raised over the last 20 years to over £1 million.



### Brave Dean saves lives through quick thinking

Gregory driver Dean Royall showed remarkable presence of mind and bravery when he helped prevent a serious accident from becoming much worse.



Dean witnessed a road traffic accident on the M4 Severn crossing and his quick thinking and excellent driving prevented serious injury or worse to the person involved and to other road users.

The incident was captured on dash cam and was quite spectacular. A speeding drunk driver lost control of his vehicle and ploughed into the barriers, propelling the engine from his car into the opposite carriageway.

Dean positioned his truck and trailer across the remaining 'live' lanes to prevent following traffic from driving into the wreckage and causing further accident or injury. He then took the uninjured but shaken (and drunk) driver into his cab for safety and called the emergency services.

As a small gesture of recognition and thanks for a truly selfless act, Dean received one of Gregory's prized model trucks.