

WEDGEWORLD

www.wedge-galv.co.uk • Issue 29 • July 2012

PILLAR WEDGE FAVOURITES FOR FAMILY FIRM



Pillar Wedge is celebrating after being the partner of choice for one of Lancashire's most long-standing companies for over two decades.

The plant has been galvanizing steelwork used on dozens of prestigious projects for Kirkham-based J Wareing & Son Ltd, a designer and manufacturer of steel-framed buildings, including a number of agricultural initiatives such as sheep holding units, grain stores, and silage buildings

"Having our steelwork galvanized by the team at Pillar Wedge is vital, especially with agricultural structures such as livestock buildings," Sally Wareing, of J Wareing & Son Ltd, revealed. "Not only do farm buildings have to stand up to the natural elements such as rain and snow, but also animal waste, urine and slurry, which are all highly corrosive. Galvanizing the metal frame ensures it is protected long-term against rusting, and guarantees our clients a sturdy, resolute structure."

Mark Waters, Commercial Manager of Pillar Wedge, said: "It's rare in this day and age for firms to work together for more than two decades, but there are a lot of similarities in how the two companies go about their business. Like J Wareing & Son Ltd, there's a strong family ethos behind the ongoing success of Wedge Group Galvanizing, and we both have members of staff who have been working with the company for decades.

"We are extremely proud to have worked alongside J Wareing & Son Ltd on such a diverse range of projects over the past 20 years."



WARRING WARRIOR FOR HUMBER

Hull-based Humber Galvanizing helped bring one community back to its historical roots by galvanizing an imposing steel Viking figurine as part of a key environmental project.

The sculpture was fabricated by Whitby-based James Godbold Blacksmiths and took four weeks to produce, following submission of a design by local schoolchildren and project workers.

Commissioned by Groundwork North East as part of a landscaping initiative run by the Ormesby Beck Friendship Group, the figure affectionately named 'Orme the Viking,' stands at over three metres high and is located at Ormesby Beck in Middlesbrough.

Tony Linsley, Commercial Manager at Humber Galvanizing, said: "This was a fantastic project to be involved in and we were delighted to be asked by James Godbold Blacksmiths to undertake the galvanizing work. We've worked with the firm on numerous occasions over the years and this latest project is yet another huge success!"

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GALVACOAT® UPDATE

Following a number of exciting projects that have seen us supply our special galvanizing paint, Galvacoat, we're delighted to announce that we've seen a demand for the product from clients nationwide.

As well as completion of the Tesco forecourt gantry project on behalf of signage manufacturer ASG, which saw Galvacoat® used across all of the

supermarket giant's UK stores, we've also supplied the product to Shropshire-based Jen Construction for use on the Wandsworth Recycling Centre.

Chris Woolridge, Head of Business Development for the Wedge Group, said: "The unique properties of Galvacoat® mean that it completely adheres to steel that has been galvanized, and it will retain its original colour for a long period of time,

eliminating the need for reapplication or maintenance.

"As exclusive UK distributors of Galvacoat®, it's fantastic news that we're experiencing such demand for the product, and we're thrilled to be helping our customers to bring a bit of colour to their galvanized projects in a highly efficient and cost-effective way."



WORKSOP KEEPS RAILWAY PROJECT ON TRACK

Worksop Galvanizing galvanized almost 100 tonnes of steel used to manufacture a number of buffer stops that have been installed at various points across London's rail network.

Chesterfield fabrication firm Direct Engineering turned the steelwork into 19 buffer stops, each weighing 4.9 tonnes, for London Underground Limited, the organisation that maintains the capital's train network on behalf of statutory body Transport for London.

Ray Woolley, of family-run Direct Engineering, explained: "This project involved particularly tight lead times, and thanks to the efforts of the team at Worksop Galvanizing, and the quality of the galvanizing work, the buffers were manufactured and despatched to our Customer's requirements."



MERSEYSIDE PLAYS IT COOL WITH ICE CREAM PROJECT

Liverpool-based Merseyside Galvanizing was called upon to galvanize 250 tonnes of structural steelwork used as part of a major extension to a production facility for ice cream manufacturer, Fredericks Dairies.

The steel has been used by fabrication firm Structural Manufacturing Services as part of the construction of a new 4,600m2

cold-storage warehouse that will be used to store the ice cream makers' products, which include Cadbury Flake, Wispa, and Dairy Milk, and its Del Monte range of fruit ice lollies.

"Due to the length of some of the pieces of steel involved, we called upon the services of our sister plant, Worksop Galvanizing in Nottinghamshire, which

has a larger galvanizing bath," Richard Smetham, Commercial Manager of Merseyside Galvanizing, commented. "Due to the hard work of the teams at both sites, we were able to ensure the steelwork was completed on time, enabling Structural Manufacturing Services to carry out the structural work as planned."

ACROW GETS FIRED UP

Saffron-Walden based Acrow Galvanizing provided its galvanizing service to a project that saw the manufacture of a number of ducting air sampling units at the Isle of Grain power station in Kent, one of the largest combined heat and power stations in the world.

The plant worked in partnership with Hertfordshire-based metal fabrication company Hadham Engineering on the project, the first of its kind for both firms.

John Nicholson, Commercial Manager at Acrow Galvanizing, said: "This was a fantastic project to be involved in and one which certainly had its challenges, but ones which we embraced fully to achieve a hugely successful outcome.

"One of the key challenges was the need to manufacture the individual steel panels as large as possible to reduce the number of joints. The unit was required to retain 2 bar of air pressure and with every joint providing a possibility of air leakage, this had to be kept to an absolute minimum.

Whilst having to produce sheets of steel as large as possible, we also needed to ensure that the sections could be accommodated within our galvanizing facilities, and we worked closely with the Hadham Engineering team throughout every single stage of production, from initial design to final installation.

"We are delighted with the end result and we very much look forward to working with Hadham Engineering on future projects."



BALCONY PROJECT BOOST FOR SOUTH EAST

Witham-based South East Galvanizers provided its galvanizing service to 25 tonnes of decorative steelwork installed at 'The Drapery', a major property development in the London borough of Islington that has seen the former site of the North London Drapery Store converted into 111 residential flats.

Local architectural metalwork company Metalcraft Tottenham Ltd used the steel

to fabricate and fit woven wire balconies in the complex's internal courtyard, along with 400 metres of matching balustrades around the building's roof.

"The project at The Drapery really has managed to combine the style of its original art deco design with a very contemporary feel," David Sugarman, of Metalcraft Tottenham Ltd, said. "One of the most interesting aspects of the project is that the garden in the courtyard

where we have installed the balconies has actually been constructed on the flat roof of the original store."

Neil Pearson, Commercial Manager of South East Galvanizers, commented: "We've worked with Metalcraft Tottenham on a range of prestigious projects over a number of years now, and were delighted to have involved with the fantastic series of balconies they created for The Drapery."



SCOTLAND IS TOP OF THE CLASS

Scottish Galvanizers gave a group of students from the Belmont Academy in Ayrshire a practical insight into galvanizing as part of a special tour.

The Glasgow-based plant opened its doors to 39 chemistry students who were chosen to take part in the visit as a reward for being the best Standard Grade Chemistry performers amongst the school's more than 1,300 pupils, as well as four of their teachers.

"We were delighted to invite the chemistry students to tour our facility, this being the third year now where we've had the pleasure of hosting our visitors from Belmont Academy," said Paul Tait, Commercial Manager of Scottish Galvanizers. "It's a real hands-on way for the youngsters to learn a little bit more about the galvanizing process and what we do, and they took a real interest in our operations, and had lots of excellent questions."

ROYAL APPOINTMENT FOR EAST ANGLIA

Sawtry-based East Anglian Galvanizing was called upon to galvanize steel supplied by show and event specialists, LH Woodhouse, for a project that saw the construction of 90 new stables and stalls for Her Majesty The Queen's horses.

The project involved the design and installation of stables at Wellington Barracks in central London, for use by The King's Troop to house approximately 90 of its horses when making ceremonial appearances at nearby venues including Hyde Park and Buckingham Palace.

Peter Cook, General Manager at LH Woodhouse, said: "This was a fantastic project to be involved in, and one which

required a great deal of knowledge and technical expertise due to the limited space available in the barracks. We worked closely with personnel from The King's Troop and the team at East Anglian Galvanizing to ensure that the project was completed on time and to the exact specification, and we're delighted with the result."



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B E WEDGE MAKES WAVES IN BOATING SECTOR

Despite its landlocked location, Willenhall-based B.E. Wedge has seen a dramatic increase in the number of independent yachtsman and sailors calling upon its services over the past few months, due to its status as one of the few companies in the country that has the capability to galvanize continuous lengths of anchor chain.

Requests have come from all across the UK, from Hampshire on the south coast all the way up to Scotland, with one client even requiring a galvanized anchor chain to be supplied for a vessel en route to Norway which had docked in Plymouth.

"The sea is a particularly corrosive and acidic environment, which throws up a serious challenge to a small boat's anchor chain," Lee Dickens, Commercial

Manager of B.E.Wedge, explained. "It can suffer from a rapid loss of section through rusting and abrasion as the chain of the anchored yacht moves across the sea bed when she swings around. In fact it only needs approximately a 10% loss in thickness to compromise the anchor chain's strength. Protecting the steel against the elements is therefore absolutely vital."

One experienced sailor who has employed the services of B.E.Wedge several times is Gavin McLaren from Falmouth, Cornwall. He said: "I would not hesitate to recommend B.E.Wedge to any yachtsman who needs chain galvanising. A friendly, efficient and reasonably priced company who take the yachtsman's small order as seriously as they take a much bigger one."

PILLAR PROVES HIT WITH FARMERS

Pillar Wedge is proving its worth with farmers across the UK, as it celebrates a long term working relationship with Northumberland-based Logic Manufacturing.

The two firms have been working in partnership for the past 17 years, a period which has seen the manufacture and galvanizing of a range of steel animal feeders and trailers sold to customers across the UK and further afield. One of Logic Manufacturing's most long-standing and popular products is a testament to the ongoing protection that galvanizing provides. Stefan Gemski, Marketing and Communications Manager of Logic Manufacturing, commented: "Our LMF Multi-Feeder was originally designed almost 17 years ago, around the same time we started working with Pillar Wedge. I recently visited a farmer in North Yorkshire who bought one of the very first LMF Multi-Feeders we produced, and it is still going strong today. As the farmer described it himself, 'trusty-not rusty!'"



SHIP LIFT PROJECT PLAIN SAILING FOR WESSEX

Wessex Galvanizers galvanized approximately 50 tonnes of steel used to create a new ship lift jetty at Buckler's Hard, an 18th century shipbuilding village located at the heart of New Forest National Park.

Dorset-based civil engineering and marine operations specialist Quest Underwater Services Ltd transformed the structural steel into a 40 metre long jetty extending into the river, which is used for pedestrian access and to enable the local boatyard to operate a 35 tonne marine travel hoist from.

"The Maritime Museum at Buckler's Hard gives local residents, not to mention thousands of tourists each year, a real insight into the village's naval heritage," Richard Whiddett, Commercial Manager of Wessex Galvanizers, commented. "Indeed, three of the boats built at Buckler's Hard featured prominently in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 – HMS Euryalus, HMS Swiftsure, and HMS Agamemnon, which is said to have been Admiral Nelson's favourite ship!"

'ZINC SAVES KIDS' UPDATE

The American College of Nutrition has presented its annual Humanitarian Award to the "Zinc Saves Kids" initiative.

Launched in 2010 by the International Zinc Association (IZA), in support of UNICEF's micronutrient program, it provides zinc supplements to children in developing countries. Zinc is an essential micronutrient and it is vital for the functioning of the immune system and critical for growth and brain development.

Wedge Group Galvanizing staff have raised thousands of pounds for the initiative over the last 2 years and are pleased to see the initiative honoured in this way.

PARK PROJECT FOR SOUTH-EAST

Witham-based South East Galvanizers provided its services to 27 tonnes of steel used to create a new boardwalk that will form the centrepiece of the £6 million transformation of Burgess Park in Southwark, South London.

The steel was used by lake and reservoir engineering specialists Miles Waterscapes to construct a 74 metre long, 2.5 metre wide pedestrian pathway that will run over a realigned lake at the park when the overhaul is completed later this summer.

"Galvanizing the steelwork we used to build the boardwalk will ensure the structure is protected against rusting and corrosion caused by both the natural elements and general wear and tear," Bryan Rainbow, of Bury St Edmunds-based Miles Waterscapes, explained. "Thanks to the swift turnaround from the team at South East Galvanizers, we were able to carry out our part of the project to meet extremely tight deadlines."

"This has been a great project for us to be involved with," Neil Pearson, Commercial Manager of South East Galvanizers, commented. "Looking at the plans for the revamped Burgess Park, it's clear that the local community will soon have a modern facility to be proud of, and we hope the open spaces, sports and recreation facilities, and beautiful landscapes are enjoyed by generations to come."



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