



Charged with a mission



Keeping kids safe
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Barhale has a new Mission Statement – the first time it has made a change since the original was introduced.

The revised statement brings Barhale's mission into line with recent developments in the company. Following a major review of the company's activities it was decided to introduce and focus on a new Three Pillars philosophy – profit, safety and the environment.

Reflecting this, the Mission Statement has been amended to read:

Our Mission is to deliver best in class performance against our Three Pillar objectives for profit, safety and environment. To achieve this we:

■ understand and deliver our customers' needs

■ continuously seek ways to improve

■ believe that each of us can make a difference

We share our success with our customers, our people and our environment.

Barhale Chairman Dennis Curran said: "The new Mission Statement represents the work of many People within Barhale, both in terms of developing the new Statement and in providing feedback. It incorporates our new Three Pillar objectives into the Mission that the company has had for many years and, as such, gives us a clear pointer for moving forward effectively.

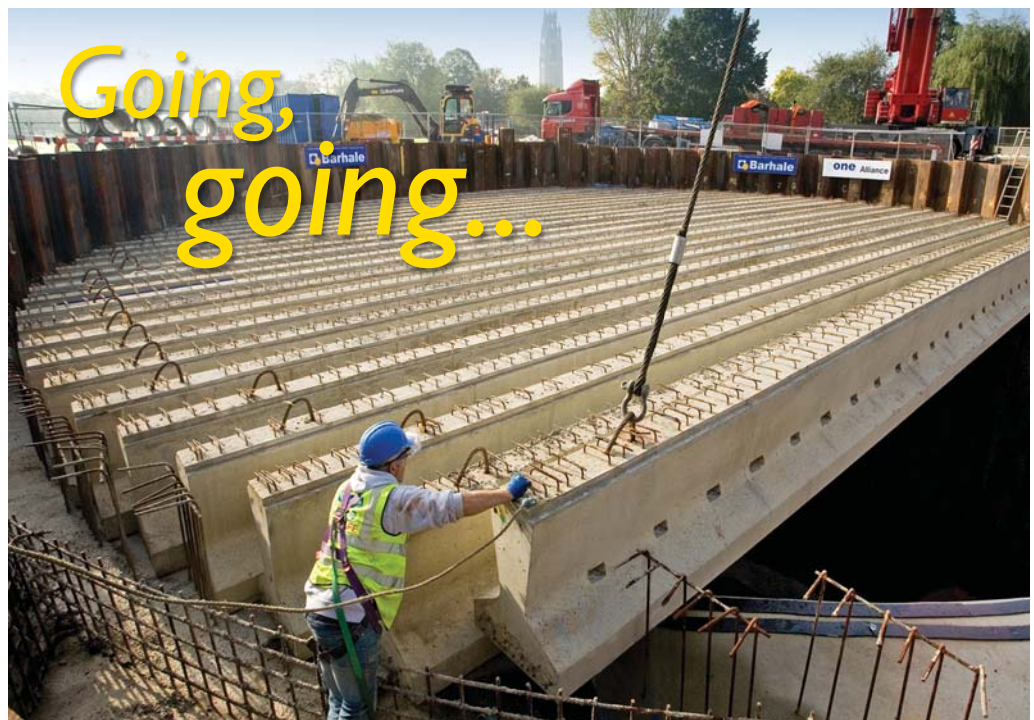
"If we can create adequate profit we can stay in business and thrive as a company, delivering great work for our

customers and rewarding our people accordingly. And if we can do that safely and with minimum impact upon the environment then we are behaving as a responsible company – and that's how we want to be.

"So the Three Pillars are a key part of the way we work now so they have been incorporated into our Mission Statement. I know that many companies have a mission statement nowadays and that for some of those it's just some words on a piece of paper.

"But at Barhale we have always tried to live up to our Mission Statement as a guide to the way we go to work. That is what this new Statement should be for us all."

Barhale's Vision and Values remain the same.



The concrete cover slab goes on to a 3000m³ storm water storage tank created for the Anglian Water @One Alliance by Barhale in Central Park, Boston. Within a few weeks the massive tank will be completely invisible, buried beneath landscaping and paving to enable the site to become an attractive feature entrance to the park.

The £3.34m project included the 22m diameter

12m deep tank, which was created using Secant piling. Storm water flows into the tank, via a new 80m long sewer constructed using one of Barhale's 600mm diameter TBMs – and is pumped back into the network at a controlled rate once the storm has eased

The storage solution will solve a flooding problem in the area that goes back more than 20 years.



The announcement of our new Mission Statement on the front page of this edition highlights just how fundamentally important the new focus on the Three Pillars of profit, safety and the environment is to our company.

It is the first time we have changed Barhale's Mission and now everything we do is measured on the triple assessment – will it enable us to maintain our profitability and stability, is it safe, and will it protect the environment?

In terms of profit we have set ourselves the challenge to generate 60 per cent of our company turnover from non-water framework activity by 2010. One of the most

remarkable projects in Barhale's history – the gas pipeline contract in South Wales – falls into that category and every single person involved can be very proud of their contribution to a difficult project that boosted our credentials in new market areas, and enhanced our reputation for delivering the goods, regardless of how tough the going gets.

It is encouraging too to see the progress being made with non-water contracts won in the Eastern and Northern Regions over recent months.

Meanwhile there is a lot going on in the environment arena and, while it is still early days, it is pleasing to see real progress being made in hitting clear targets for environmental performance.

Barhale News is just one of

the means we use to talk to Barhale People – but we listen too, and the feedback forums with site and office-based staff which have been going on are vital tools in understanding everyone's feelings about their role in the organisation, and how we can work to make things better.

We will continue listening and continue talking so that we all have a better and clearer knowledge of the path ahead.

Dennis Walker

news

Contract successes

The drive to branch out into new areas of non-water industry framework contracts – such as airports, rail and new housing and commercial development – has brought results in recent months with successes in Process, Eastern and Northern regions.

Barhale Process has been awarded a process scheme, Deephams IPR (Indirect Potable Re-use), which is Thames Water's R&D Department's pilot plant to trial the reuse of final effluent from a sewage treatment works and turn this back into drinking water. The project will be commissioned in May 2008 and is worth £1.5m.

In Northern region Barhale has completed a contract to upgrade the public realm around Adelphi Street in the centre of

Preston for Lancashire County Council.

The contract involved various works to improve the drainage and paving as well as installing traffic calming measures, new road signs, traffic signals and street lighting.

Meanwhile, site development projects are becoming an active sector for Eastern, which has won a £260,000 contract to install 1.6km of leachate rising main at the Eye landfill site Peterborough, and a further similar contract in Abingdon for Biffa Waste Services.

Barhale also won contracts to provide water infrastructure on a new housing development site for Larkfield Homes off High St, Eye in Cambridgeshire, and for Connect Utilities on a new housing development site in Corby, Northamptonshire.

Units move to Bushey

The Utilities Business Unit has moved from its former base at Ponders End to Bushey and to a new yard at Picketts Lock.

Utilities was faced with a doubling of rent and rates to renew its lease at Ponders End and so made the decision to relocate. "Our management and administrative team have moved into spare space at Bushey, while the gangs are working from a new yard at Picketts Lock – just five minutes from the old Ponders End site," said Operations Director Bob Chambers. "It's a major cost saving for Utilities and for Barhale."

BCS activities formerly at Ponders End have also relocated to Bushey.

"The new yard at Picketts Lock is nice and clean with hardstanding and space for our temporary offices," said Bob.

● Because Utilities has moved out of Ponders End there is now no space available for the large 'muck bays' in which its arisings from trench work were stored to be converted into Trenchmod environmentally-friendly backfill material. Instead, the Trenchmod company has set up new tips in South East London for Barhale's Utilities Division to deposit its excavated material and 'swap' it for Trenchmod.

Pupils at Caston Primary School wear their Barhale jackets to and from school.



High visibility

Children at the primary school in Caston in Norfolk can be seen more clearly – thanks to a gift of fluorescent PPE jackets for each child from Barhale.

Barhale has been working in the 100-house village providing a first-time sewage scheme and stepped in to help the children. Agent Jerry Parker said: "With narrow roads through the village and the dark mornings coming in we thought the children might welcome a gift of high-visibility jackets."

Jerry and technical author Karl Simpkins visited the school to hand out the jackets to the children. Each one bears the Barhale logo and Be Safe message on the front, and the school's own name and logo on the back.

Head teacher Leonie Smith said: "It was a nice gesture and the jackets are already a familiar sight around the village."

A programme to ask Barhale People for their opinions about the company is highlighting the need to communicate with everyone more effectively about the changes taking place.

Almost 50 members of staff were asked for their feedback in a series of Focus Groups. The questions related to Barhale's Three Pillars, the 'Get Work, Do Work, Get Paid' approach, and People, Plant and Materials.

The responses were collated and analysed by Nick Webb of Opsis, the management development consultancy, and the Board identified key points for action.

Meanwhile, similar questions were put to site-based personnel by Operations Managers and HR Advisor Surjit Kumari. Surjit

visited sites across the country and asked over 80 operatives and others for their opinions.

Many of the concerns and ideas raised were mirrored in both areas and feedback. They included the need for training and professional development and concerns about the skills shortage in construction, where Barhale is responding by recruiting young engineers during their year out of college to gain experience, and also by expanding its apprenticeship scheme for the future.

The importance of career progression was also brought up and here Barhale is introducing operative appraisal alongside the current staff appraisal programme, as well as giving employees the opportunity to

discuss with their manager about how they would like to see their career developing.

In response to feedback about the need to ensure that praise and recognition are given the company has launched a number of Awards initiatives, including the revamped Values in Action and Considerate Constructor Light.

The Three Pillars were generally understood by all and recognised as a good way of benchmarking in the business.

HR Manager Stephanie Johnson said: "There are a series of improvements planned for 2008 including the development of a company Communications Plan and this will be delivered to all Barhale People across the company from January onwards."

Spam gets the boot

The switch by the IT Department to the market-leading hosted anti-SPAM service should kick unwanted emails into touch for Barhale users.

The previous third party software was proving difficult to manage, took up to two days per week of IT staff time and caused problems by blocking genuine mail that should have been let through — know in IT jargon as 'false positives'.

"The new Message Labs anti-SPAM service guarantees just one 'false positive' in every 300,000 emails," said Senior IT Engineer Mark Shaw. "The new system will also block 99 per cent of all SPAM received."

According to Mark, Barhale receives up to 2000 SPAM email messages every day — more than half of all messages sent to the company.

Pride at receiving excellence award

Barhale's contribution to the @One Alliance partnership was acknowledged and rewarded at Anglian Water's annual Business Excellence Awards, which celebrate the best of Anglian Water by identifying the individuals, teams and suppliers who have contributed to its success over the past year.

Barhale won a coveted 'Contribution to Service Excellence' award — a category open to all Anglian's suppliers and not simply those involved in the @One Alliance programme.



Pictured receiving their award from TV political journalist John Sergeant (left) and Chris Newsome, Anglian Water Director of Asset Management (right) are Andy Flowerday, Simon Buxton, Terry Warrie, Chris Bone and Barry Baird Jnr.

Streets of London paved with gold

The Utilities Division struck gold in London recently when it was presented with a Gold Award in the 20th anniversary of the annual City of London Considerate Contractor Scheme.

Operations Director Bob Chambers, together with gangers Charlie Brogan and Neil Todd and agent Martin Bridge, received the award from the Mayor of the City of London at a prestigious presentation ceremony.

The City of London's scheme was established

in 1987 and became the model upon which the national Considerate Constructors scheme is based. It aims to encourage building and civil engineering contractors working in the City to carry out their operations in a safe and considerate manner, with due regard for passing pedestrians and motorists.

It comprises a code of good practice, regular inspections by City of London officers, annual judging and a telephone hotline enabling the public to comment.

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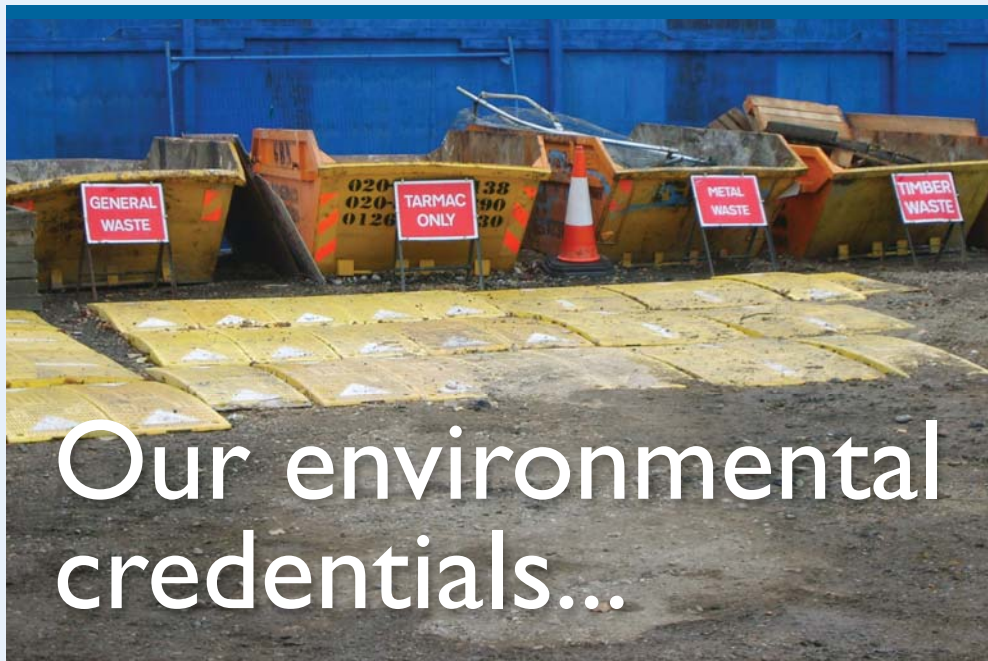
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pillarwatch: environment

Welcome to **Pillarwatch** – a regular feature looking at developments in one of Barhale's **Three Pillars** – profit, safety and the environment. In this edition **the environment** comes under the spotlight.



Our environmental credentials...

Waste segregation at Byron Avenue helps recycle waste, reduces the amount of waste going for disposal to landfill and keeps down disposal costs.

Barhale has committed to best-in-class levels of performance in the Environmental arena as a key part of its Three Pillars approach to sustainability. So what can we do? Crucial to us as a business, is that we do improve. Therefore firstly we took the decision to measure ourselves, both in terms of Barhale in its entirety and against each business unit. This has been done by setting targets for each of the environmental measures outlined below, then score how well we are doing against each of them to form an overall score – our simplified environmental Pillar. The Pillar diagram for 2007 demonstrates that improvement is being made.

Some of our key objectives include:

- **Minimising pollution incidents** – we are meeting our target of zero significant incidents this year. This is particularly encouraging as over 500 environmental near misses have been reported in 2007, the reporting of which is way ahead of our target of 350 reports. We take this to mean that more of our employees are aware of the risks of environmental damage and are reporting their concerns.

- **Reducing our impact on climate change** i.e. minimising air pollution – particularly emissions of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide – our Carbon Footprint so far this year includes 3,000kg of carbon dioxide emitted from the fuel used in our vehicles per £100,000 turnover. Our target is 5,000kg so we have made significant improvements based on last year's performance.

However, we have recognised that our Carbon Footprint measurement is not complete so next year we are including the measurement of emissions from all site plant and generators.

- **Reducing waste to final disposal** – according to our financial reporting system, so far in 2007 approximately 2.2 per cent of our turnover is spent on waste disposal costs. Encouragingly we are ahead of our 2.5 per cent target.

- **Increased use of recycled or sustainable materials** –

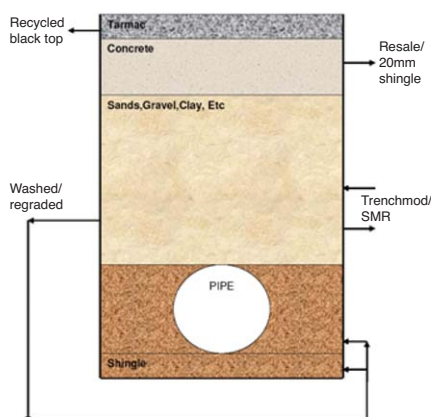
averaged across all of our business units, 20 per cent of the aggregates we buy are recycled. Although this is below our target of 30 per cent, key business units such as Midlands, Southern and Utilities are all exceeding their targets.

- **Working responsibly within the local community** – we want to use the Considerate Constructor Scheme as an indicator of our progress and so far 26 projects have used the scheme to demonstrate we are a responsible contractor. With more sites registering weekly, this is already significantly more than the 15 sites we targeted.

- **Increasing environmental awareness throughout the company** – we have placed a lot of emphasis on environmental training of staff with a target of 150 employees attending either 1 day courses or half day site-based courses. At going to press we had delivered training to over 230 this year (over 400 employees have been trained since 2005). Our focus has always been on site staff, however in 2008 we want to shift our focus to include more office-based staff.

- **Reduced carbon dioxide emissions** – to help reduce carbon dioxide emissions from our company cars we have been working with our lease company to identify the most efficient vehicles available – for example, the VW Polo Blue Motion is the first of these. We are planning

One of the main principles being adopted by Barhale to minimise waste and deliver sustainable pipeline construction is that of the sustainable trench (diagram courtesy of Alan Young, Thames Water).



Refurbs kee

Barhale has successfully completed the £290,000 refurbishment of six Armco culverts for Calder Metropolitan Borough Council, on sites north of M62 between Rochdale and Halifax.

Prior to the 10-week works starting Environment Agency and English Nature approvals were obtained at each site. The works varied at each location and included the installation of temporary scaffolding and working platforms, culvert cleaning by jetting and gritblasting, application of paint protection, installation of new GRP linings, grouting, new culvert inverts and the construction of a gabion outfall.

The main issues to be addressed included diverting and maintaining the variable water flows, temporary works within water flows to allow

Barhale's **Three Pillars** philosophy is all about creating a sustainable business – sustainable by being strong and prosperous, by ensuring the safety of those in and around it, and by making a positive contribution to the environment and managing any potential detrimental impact of its operations. Here, Group Environmental Manager **Iain Casson** looks at how Barhale is performing in terms of its commitments to the Environment.



to extend this strategy to our commercial vehicle fleet from next year.

■ **Pollution prevention initiatives** – as has been reported in previous editions of Barhale News, teams from Tunnelling and BCS have been working with Manvers Engineering to develop pollution prevention equipment such as the Plant Nappy, Tangential Flow Separator and Pumpsafe.

With all of these issues to consider, we have already gone a long way to understanding how sustainable we are.

So, how well are we doing compared with others? This is far from easy to ascertain, particularly because as an industry we have a habit of measuring apples and pears. For example, at Barhale we measure the percentage of waste disposal costs against our overall turnover, whereas others measure the number of skip loads leaving site or the percentage of waste diverted from landfills into reuse or recycling.

Consequently we are not good at comparing like for like environmental performance, with the exception of the number of times companies are prosecuted or cautioned for environmental offences...and unfortunately we have not fared well in the recent past in comparison to others following the silt pollution incidents in

Welwyn Garden City in 2003 and Wretton in 2005.

In order to understand where we sit in the construction industry, and particularly in civil engineering, we have been working with the Construction Confederation, Civil Engineering Contractors Association and competitors to try and get some like-for-like measures.

We are looking at emulating, if



not exceeding, some good practice already identified in the industry. For example, in line with Government estimates, 58 per cent of the waste generated by Thames Water's framework contractors in the first three quarters of 2007 was recycled. We have not measured this so far but have examples where we know very high recycling rates have occurred. For example at Robin Hood Airport, almost all of the waste generated on site was recycled. We are therefore going to have to change our performance measures to fall in

line with the majority.

Finally, we should consider some of the good work that is being done around Barhale to improve our environmental performance. Did you know that:

■ The Southern, Eastern and Utilities Business Units recycle trench excavation arisings by having them treated and used as backfill. WRAP, the Government's agency promoting waste minimisation, considers this good practice

■ In the Eastern region, all contracts managers, site agents, engineers and foremen have attended the company's environmental awareness course

■ In the Midlands over 50 per cent of the aggregates purchased are from a recycled source

■ The reporting of near misses has generated over 500 submissions, an excellent indicator that environmental awareness is being raised on our sites

■ The Company's average score on the Considerate Constructor Scheme is 34, compared to the national average of 30.

Barhale has much to do to become a sustainable business. Nevertheless we can all contribute by building on the good work that is going on all of the time.

* If you want to get involved, contact Iain Casson on 07717 780119.

The Plant Nappy is helping to prevent pollution.

Utilities prove no barrier to recycling

More than 70 per cent of the signs and barriers used by the Utilities business unit are recycled at the end of their working life.

With 60 gangs working on the roads of London and the surrounding areas, the unit has up to 3,000 plastic safety barriers in use at any one time. Chris Jarvis of Utilities said: "The barriers, which are embossed with the Barhale logo, lead a fairly tough life and some are hit by passing cars or generally get knocked about. When they need replacing the old barriers go back to the manufacturer, who is able to recycle them into new barriers.

"Similarly, the temporary road signs we use, warning 'Men at Work' or 'Road Narrows' and so on, are recycled when they can no longer be used."

Water flowing

scaffold access, overpumping and contamination prevention measures.

The project was completed with no Environmental incidents and as a result Barhale has already been approached to tender for future work with Calderdale Borough Council.

At the culvert refurbishment at Booths Dean Culvert, Ripponden, pictured, the existing water flow had to be maintained and could not be pumped over the top of the culvert. The entrance to the 4.2m dia culvert required works including gritblast and repaint of the rusted Armco Structure and the construction of a new concrete invert using boat shutters shored off the roof of the Culvert with two 6inch pump hoses carrying the water flow through the culvert.



on
site

Challenging project a success



H₂O for O₂ area

Barhale is working with Thames Water to bring water to the fast-growing Greenwich Peninsula.

Major redevelopment construction around the O₂ building – formerly known as the Millennium Dome – has led to a project to get new water supplies to the area by 2011. Barhale's Southern Division recently completed Phase One of the work, involving laying 1.7km of 1m diameter ductile iron main from Deptford Pumping Station to Greenwich Park.

The work was mostly open cut but did involve 200m of 1.2m pipejack tunnel to get the main under part of the A2 Blackheath Road, the Ravensbourne River and the Docklands Light Railway.

The ductile iron pipe was manufactured in France and India. "The going was quite difficult," said Contract Manager Paul White, "as we encountered up to 1.5m thick concrete road construction in places.

"We worked extremely closely with Greenwich Council and the Highways Authority and they were very pleased with the way the work went. Similarly, Thames Water was pleased with the outcome."

Shane Gorman was Site Agent on the project.

Client praise for team

Midlands business unit has completed its first ever clean water main – the Overseal to Burton large diameter main, for the South Staffordshire Water Company.

The 6km 450mm diameter main was constructed using mostly open-cut techniques, but with two stretches of no-dig incorporated.

According to Contracts Manager Ahmed Mubarak the four-month project went extremely well. "The client was very happy and sent us a message thanking us for our work and stating how much they valued the contribution of our team," he said.

One of Barhale's largest-ever contracts has been successfully completed in Wales.

Midlands business unit, working with the close support of Tunnelling colleagues, have completed a £20m project as part of the construction for National Grid Transco of a 200 mile LNG (liquefied natural gas) pipeline from Milford Haven Docks in West Wales to Gloucester.

Barhale worked for NACAP/Land and Marine JV, who were charged with delivery of two out of the three sections of the pipeline from Milford Haven to Brecon. Its work involved the tunnelling for and construction of 11 concrete sleeves under physical obstructions in the path of the 1200mm diameter welded steel pipeline.

These included major rivers, motorways, roads and railways – and one of the tunnels had to go under a combination of road, river and railway.

Barhale worked to an extremely tight schedule and operated around the clock, seven days per week to get the 18-month project completed in time. At the height of the work 150 Barhale people were employed on the project.

Concrete system debut

Barhale has used an innovative pressure-pumped concrete system for the first time to reline a major tunnel for Thames Water.

The 2.7km long 100" diameter raw water transfer tunnel at Wryasbury Reservoir to the west of the M25 near Heathrow has been relined on schedule and to budget using the new technique – the first time that Barhale has used the Tunneline lining system on a Thames Water Contract.



The £6.5 million pound contract utilised segmental reinforced steel lining shutters. Concrete is pumped at pressure behind the shutters into the annular gap between the shutter and the primary lining, pre-stressing

the shutter to keep it in the correct position.

"Because the concrete is self-compacting and sets very quickly you can make very good progress with this technique," said Peter Marchant, Contracts Manager based at Datchet. "It was possible to pour concrete on one day, move the shuttering at night and pour the next section on the following day. We were achieving 40m per shift on parts of this project."

The relining work was part of a planned maintenance programme for Thames Water, which will extend the life of the Wryasbury Tunnel well into the next century.

Flood works are singled out

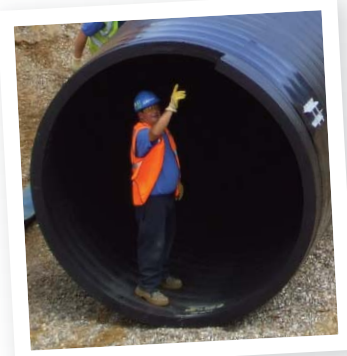
Barhale's involvement in works to alleviate storm water flooding to eight properties in the Barclay Close area of Cromer won the Anglian Water @One Alliance's 'Project of the Month' award for September.

The project team devised a solution providing 500m³ of floodwater storage by installing 140m of 2100mm diameter high-

density structured polyethylene Wheelite pipe, in a staggered configuration within a steep embankment adjacent to the main road.

Barhale's Graham Rose, who works as Implementation Manager within the Alliance, said: "The decision to use Wheelite, which was introduced to the Alliance by Barhale, provided a number of benefits. The pipe system was factory fabricated - reducing onsite duration from 18 weeks to just seven weeks – and the lightweight nature of the pipes reduced the number of truck movements from 50 had we used concrete products to just eight."

The innovative way of working reduced project costs by one third – saving over £190,000.



No slip-ups

Barhale Rail has completed work on a difficult embankment slip project for Network Rail at Copy Pit near Burnley in Lancashire.

Safety considerations were paramount in working on an unstable existing slip on a hillside with tension cracks, areas of loose scree hidden by a thin layer of topsoil, an existing retaining structure that was known to be moving and with a constantly leaking pipe from a remote spring lubricating the slip.

Barhale Rail Contracts Manager Doug Linsell said: "The old failing king post and sleeper retaining wall dates back some 40 or more years. The contracted works included installing a new 34m bored pile retaining wall behind the existing failed wall, slope drainage and a cut off drain all of which required plant and operatives to work on the slope."

A revised design had to be agreed to enable Barhale personnel and plant to cope with working on the extremely difficult slope conditions.

Children in Need supported

Staff and operatives from a large number of Barhale Eastern sites and offices contributed towards a massive £1,000 donation towards BBC's annual Children in Need Appeal on 16 November.

Anita Darani, who donned a very impressive Pudsey Bear costume and Mandy Briggs-Temple as liveried chauffeur visited sites throughout Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

"The generosity and spirit of the guys on site was wonderful," said Mandy.

Topped-up with donations collected at Anglian Water's Thorpe Wood House and at Barhale's regional office in Peterborough, a truly magnificent £1,000 was raised for children's charities.

BBC East broadcast live from the famous Tattersalls Bloodstock



Auctioneers in Newmarket on Friday 16 November. An initial cheque for £800 was handed over on-air to presenter Stewart White by Anita's two sons, proudly wearing their hard hats and

special child-sized high-viz vests produced for them by BCS.

Anita added: "Mandy and I are both very grateful for the support of all our colleagues in Eastern Region."

barhale people

Teams do battle

A total of 13 teams took part in the first national Barhale 5-a-side soccer tournament, which was staged on the rooftop pitch at the Goals Soccer Centre, Star City in Birmingham.

As well as at least one team from each of the Barhale Regions, plus Utilities and head office, Thames Water fielded a side and suppliers Q Plant, A Plant and SpeedyHire entered teams in the 15 minutes per match tournament.

According to Kieran Rodgers, QS in the Midlands Region and organiser of the event, a good time was had by all. "It was getting quite tense by the semi-finals but it was all played in the best possible spirit," he said.

The 'Southern A' team beat BCS in the final to win the trophy, presented to them by Barhale Chairman Dennis Curran at the after-tournament buffet and drinks.



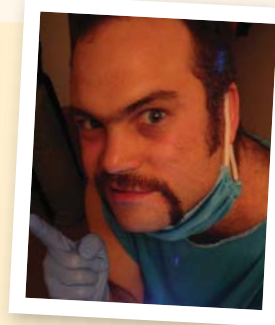
Record breakers

Barhale again took part in this year's Little Britain Challenge Cup – the annual sailing competition at Cowes in the Isle of Wight organised by and for the construction industry.

The company had one of the record-breaking 250 boats at the three-day event, and helped to raise money for sailing charities enabling disadvantaged or disabled people to experience the world of sailing.

Because the first race on the Friday was becalmed, the Barhale crew of the day retreated for lunch to the historic village of Bucklers Hard on the Beaulieu River, renowned for naval shipbuilding excellence, to gather inspiration and consider tactics for the afternoon race.

Operations Director Andy Flowerday was one of the crew that day. He said: "Having gathered tremendous inspiration from the lunchtime team talk, we were all up for winning. However, in our haste to get across the start line first, we managed to cut a bit of a corner and get ourselves disqualified, only finding out several minutes after reveling in our position close to the head of the fleet challenging for the lead!"



Join the fight...

During MOvember – the month formerly known as November – Barhale Process Project Engineer André Brümmner grew a MO (a Moustache) to raise funds and awareness of Prostate Cancer.

His campaign was titled 'Fight the Finger' as a measure to encourage people to support the cause. He said: "In the Process office a ther-MO-meter counted all donations raised. I succeeded in passing my fund-raising target of £300."

André's moustache and 'Fight the finger' campaign raised £320 for prostate cancer awareness.

Stardom beckons

Peterborough cost clerk Anita Darani could be rubbing shoulders with the rich and famous soon after her stepson Ryan achieved success in a worldwide music competition.

Ryan – also known as D-Mindz – has made a global splash in the business after he finished fourth in the hip hop section of the John Lennon Songwriting Competition. The competition attracts more than 20,000 entrants from across the world every year, and is judged by some of the most famous names in music.

Five say farewell

The move from Ponders End Yard to premises at Picketts Lock coincided with five long servers taking retirement. Between them, the 'Ponders End Five' boasted 110 years of service and experience!

Yardman Sean Carey joined Barhale in 1992. He joined originally in Civils and moved across to Telecoms some years later.

Agent Con Bowe worked initially as a lorry driver for T Murphy, and in 1971 joined McNicholas, where he was site

supervisor, and became agent with Barhale.

Carpenter Eddie Doherty joined Barhale from Sirti where he was initially a ganger before becoming a wood machinist.

Carpenter Nick Dooley also joined Barhale from Sirti where he was a timberman, originally joining in 1996.

Foreman Jack Nugent joined Barhale from Mc Nicholas where he joined as a ganger in 1972.



The Ponders End retirees at the retirement presentation from Chairman Dennis Curran (right). Nick Dooley was unable to attend on the day.



... Sean Jenkins M & E Proposals Engineer, Barhale Process at Walsall

How long have you been doing your job?

I joined Barhale as an M&E Proposals Engineer in October 2005. I have had various roles within this type of industry since early 1989.

What do you do?

At Barhale Process we look after the specialist mechanical and electrical requirements of a project, either for another Barhale business unit or increasingly as a service direct to external clients.

As a proposals engineer I get the specification and drawings from the client and I price our bid. I pull all of the M&E requirements together, select the kit and get it priced.

There are two stages to what I do: there is the basic

engineering carried out at tender stage to enable the bid to be put together (is what the client asking for feasible, will it work). Then once the scheme goes ahead I have to re check the specification, as it nearly always changes, then carry out some re-engineering to ensure that the scheme we build meets the client's requirements, to ensure a timely hand-over and a satisfied client.

Is your job demanding? Do you enjoy it?

It is very demanding at present because we have recently had a number of new projects which require a rapid response come together with some previously-tendered schemes that require the re-engineering before passing them to the project

team. There is a big responsibility in getting our bid right but I am part of a very supportive team and can call on the expertise of others to support my own experience, which is mostly in the electrical and mechanical requirements of pumping.

I do enjoy the role, I take great satisfaction from producing a scheme that works.

What do you like to do away from work?

I like to spend my weekends unwinding and relaxing with my wife and three children. We all enjoy travelling, my wife and I love visiting London, my wife for the shopping, me for the history and sights. We recently had a tour of the Houses of Parliament – we were impressed.



... Kelly Perry Administrator in Rail Division at Walsall

How long have you been with Barhale?

I joined the company in February 2005, initially on an agency basis in the Rail division. Then I worked for a short time as a receptionist before moving back into Rail and since May 2005 have been permanently employed with Barhale Rail.

What do you do in your job?

I provide administrative support to Emma Head, the Safety and Assurance Manager in Rail.

That includes providing information for tender and pre-qualification documents, taking care of document control for all letters that come in and go out, and collecting information relating to audits and inspections on-site.

I also deal with the day-to-day requirements of training for all rail staff, including their medical and DNA records, so that they can receive their PTS (personal track safety) card to enable them to work railside.

As well as that I set up meetings and answer the phone.

Is it demanding?

I enjoy it very much because it is varied. Something different is happening every day and new things pop up all the time.

How do you relax?

I recently had a baby so I have very little time to relax! My little girl Amy is nine months old and when I'm not working I am taking care of her.



... Paddy Crosby Plant Fitter for BCS at Bushey

When did you join Barhale?

I joined as a plant fitter seven years ago.

What does a plant fitter do?

I repair any of the equipment that comes back into Bushey. That can range from an electric drill to a 3 tonne digger. I do most of the electrical faults and all the power tools that come back off hire. They need to be checked and PAT tested before going back to site.

We have a routine maintenance programme, but we also need to do repairs along the way as well. Some of the equipment gets a real hammering and keeping it all going is a never-ending job. There is always plenty of paperwork as well.

I try very hard to keep all the equipment in working order but occasionally we do have to write-off an item.

Is the job demanding?

It is certainly fairly busy. We moved recently from Ponders End to Bushey and a backlog built up while we were sorting out the new premises but we are getting on top of it again now.

The days seem to go by very quickly here at Bushey.

So how do you relax?

I find that there is always plenty of DIY to do at home.