

GROUND

News and updates from Van Elle | December 2024 | comms@van-elle.co.uk | 01773 580 580



Welcoming Galiford Try to VE Headquarters for World Quality Week

We hosted a successful World Quality Week event, attended by members of Galliford Try's Infrastructure team. The focus of the event was to discuss the importance of quality in construction and explore our approach to maintaining the highest standards.

During the day, participants heard from various Van Elle team members who shared insights into our capabilities. This included precast pile and beam manufacturing, modular construction techniques, and rig technology.

The sessions provided valuable insights into our commitment to quality, with updates on digitalisation, data reporting, and continuous process improvements.

Attendees were given a tour of our facilities, including the precast production factory, where innovative QR code traceability demonstrates our commitment to transparency and quality assurance.



Ground Investigation at NEM3 ARG2, Glasgow

Our Strata team completed ground investigation works at the NEM3 ARG2 project in Glasgow for AmcoGiffen.

The scope included concrete coring with rotary core follow, installation of monitoring equipment (vibrating wire piezometers and baro-divers), and in-situ testing of poured concrete and concrete sleepers across seven positions.

The work was carried out efficiently within a rail tunnel over three shifts during two weekend blockades. We're pleased to have received positive feedback from Network Rail for our performance.



Our Biggest Christmas Appeal Yet

A big thank you to Amanda Vickrage for organising our fourth Christmas Present Drive for the Salvation Army's Christmas Present Appeal.

This year, Van Elle employees generously donated over 120 gifts, which were delivered to the local branch in Ripley.

The charity was overwhelmed by the donations and extended their heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed.



ScrewFast Completes Restricted Access at Oriel College

Our ScrewFast team provided a tailored foundation solution at Oriel College for Beard Construction, designing, procuring, fabricating, delivering, and installing 97No. helical piles and top hats.

To overcome site restrictions, we lifted an 8-ton tracked excavator over the building wall and reassembled it in the courtyard.

Despite limited space and proximity to nearby structures, our team ensured precise installation, demonstrating our expertise in challenging environments.



Acquisition of Albion Drilling Group

In October, we announced the acquisition of Albion Drilling Holdings Limited, a leading piling and drilling business based in Stirling.

Founded in 1986, Albion specialises in geotechnical engineering, including drilling, blasting, and rock anchoring, with a strong track record in infrastructure projects across Scotland.

This acquisition strengthens our presence in Scotland, enhances our technical capabilities, and supports our energy sector strategy.

We are pleased to welcome Albion's 31 employees, led by Managing Director Jim King, who will continue to operate under the Albion brand.



Housing Team's Progress at Dane Park

Our housing team has been busy at Dane Park, Hull, for Caddick Construction Limited.

We installed 563No. precast concrete piles in September and are now progressing with 2,725 linear metres of Smartfoot beams.

Our comprehensive groundworks package includes post-piling excavation, beam installation, and backfilling, ensuring each plot is construction-ready.

This foundation work will support a new housing development with 20 one-bedroom, 49 two-bedroom, 20 three-bedroom, and 10 four-bedroom homes.



General Piling Complete Work at Brooks Yard for TRU

At Brooks Yard, Dewsbury, we completed a 47.7m sheet pile retaining wall as part of the Transpennine Route Upgrade (TRU). This critical work will allow the existing road to be diverted to facilitate the extension of the existing railway bridge.

In a constrained site with live highways and essential infrastructure, we used advanced methods to minimise disruption.

Pre-augering with a VESPA mast on a Colmar T10,000 excavator loosened the fill, allowing for precise placement of 7m sheet piles with a Giken F301 silent piler. This vibration-free technique ensured safety and minimal impact on nearby structures and residents.



Celebrating National Lorry Week 2024

To celebrate National Lorry Week 2024, we selected four members of Van Elle who wouldn't typically work with our transport team to join one of our drivers for a day out in the lorry.

The trips provided a behind-the-scenes look into the vital role that our lorry drivers play in keeping Van Elle operations running smoothly, while also offering a glimpse into the daily challenges.

Thanks to Amber North, Nathaniel Nibblet, Paris Gascoigne and Hope Canning for partaking in the campaign.



Cohort Two of Leadership Programme Begins

Following cohort one's success, cohort two of our Leadership Programme is now underway.

Developed by Optima Training, this 18-month programme focuses on strategic leadership, innovation, and collaboration, preparing the next generation of leaders with core leadership skills and broader competencies like communication, problem-solving, and decision-making.

This initiative reflects our commitment to developing a diverse leadership pipeline and supporting the personal and professional growth of our team.



Wear it Pink Day: Supporting Breast Cancer Awareness

Van Elle colleagues participated in the 'Wear it Pink Day' event in support of Breast Cancer Now, the largest breast cancer charity in the UK.

Colleagues wore pink attire, took part in a bake-off challenge and indulged in an array of pink-themed treats including cupcakes, cookies, and other tasty treats.

Thanks to the efforts of everyone involved, a total of £137 was raised for the charity.

