# CENTURA GROUP

#### Issue 19 December 2021

Samuel onsulting Structural Engineers

Lifespan Structures Ltd















Robins Wharf on the Thames

We are approaching the end of 2021 and of course looking forward to a Christmas break with friends and family.

The past few months have seen a changing marketplace as we move on with our management of the Covid pandemic and continue to understand the effects of Brexit.

2021 started with another lockdown as the cases of Covid once again began to increase. Thankfully that period also marked the start of the UKs' vaccination program, which of course has continued throughout the year. By now most of you will have been vaccinated at least once and some of us have now received booster jabs. Whilst daily infection rates continue at high levels, it appears that public immunity because of the vaccination program is improving. We have fewer serious cases and importantly our hospitals are not overwhelmed. Very recently we have learned of a new variation of the virus. I am sure that we will not be rid of Covid for some time but as a country and in business we must aim to get back to work and achieve some normality.

The Centura year, which ended in June, showed a strong performance. Overall sales are certainly getting back to normal and our cash position continued to improve. Our subsidiary companies now contribute over 10%

of sales annually which is especially pleasing.

The big news came in late summer. The future strategy of CRL's biggest client, National Highways, is to develop a national framework for highway maintenance. Up until now procurement has been in regional areas. This new opportunity covers all English Highway routes. The CRL Highways team led by Dave Burgess spent many months putting together our bid for the Scheme Delivery Framework (SDF). I am very pleased to confirm that we had a "Clean Sweep" securing future work opportunities literally from Lands End to the Scottish Border. This success will provide a huge benefit to CRL for many years to come.

Such an achievement is a wonderful example of how well we work together as a team. We are seeing other opportunities for repeat work and renewed frameworks across all Centura businesses. There continues to be synergies amongst our companies leading to opportunities for all.

To be successful on these major frameworks is no longer just a review of our pricing structure. Indeed the submitted price is often not the most crucial factor. The performance of a business is now more usually judged on its environmental

performance, its safety record, its impact on local communities and its social awareness. Centura group continues to demonstrate how well it understands the importance of these measures and how well it motivates and encourages its employees.

These new contracts will mean more people will join our teams. There will be career opportunities for all. We will invest in training and development for everyone. Our regional teams will continue to grow with recruitment at every level. These opportunities demonstrate the respect that the marketplace has for Centura Group companies. The development of our employees demonstrates the respect that the Group has for all of you.

Our future prospects are exciting. We have work secured across all regions for several years to come. There will be a lot of hard work to manage these projects which will be challenging. There will also be job satisfaction and the opportunity to innovate.

The past 2 years have been unprecedented to say the least. We have adapted to the Brexit changes, especially with cost increases and resource availability. We have learned to understand Covid 19 and especially how to protect ourselves and those around us. But above all we have all pulled together as the best team in the business.

I wish to thank you all for your loyalty through these past months. The results of that loyalty are there for everyone to see.

I would like to wish you all the very best for the Festive Season and that you take the time to relax with family, friends and loved ones.

We have exciting times ahead.



Tony Rimoldi Chief Executive

## the numbers

A regular feature in this newsletter is to publish a scorecard showing how the group is preforming. The following tables has gathered together all the latest information from the current financial year.



Otr 1 Jul - Dec 2021

#### **Customers & Markets**

722 No. of tenders submitted

£59.7m Value of tenders submitted

313 No. of new contracts awarded

£12.5m Value of contracts awarded

**(1)** 

100

Operational

% of performance questionnaires showing client satisfaction

155

No. of contracts in progress

110

No. of contracts ahead of target

#### Training, Quality & H&S

246,750 RIDDOR free man hours

96% CSCS carded site workforce

98% Employees H&S Training Compliant

40% H&S Inspections Key Performance Indicator



#### Financial & Stakeholders

Turnover year to Dec

Profit year to Dec

Overhead costs year to Dec

Cash Flow





#### Group Business Plan Sales for Year to June 2022

	Target	Total
Concrete Repairs Ltd	•	
Bristol	£7.3m	
Chesterfield	£7.0m	
Chesterfield Highways	£5.5m	
Falkirk	£7.25m	
Mitcham	£7.4m	
Australia	£3.3m	£37.75m
CRL Surveys Ltd	£1.5m	£1.5m
Standmark Ltd	£0.21m	£0.21m
FJ Samuely Ltd	£0.4m	£0.4m
Equilux Ltd	£1.5m	£1.5m
TL Fire Ltd	£0.2m	£0.2m
LifeSpan Ltd	£0.4m	£0.4m
Total Sales		£41.96m

# group gossip

## The Group would like to welcome...

Abigail Tomelty, CRL MIT Adam Anderson, CRL FAL Adis Tusku, CRL FAL Adrian Browne, CRL AUS Alejandro Salazar-Restrepo, CRL BRI Alicia Tomkins, CEN Amy Toop, CRL SUR Anthony Davies, CRL BRI Brad Davies, CRL BRI Brendan Molin, CRL AUS Callum Nason, CRL SUR Calum Campbell, CRL FAL Charlie Nadin, CRL CHE Colin Hayes, CRL CHE Craig Robert Millar, CRL FAL Damien Fleming, CRL FAL Damien Nicola, CRL Daniel Dyshniku, CRL MIT Daniel Molin, CRL AUS Eric Lange, CEN CEN Eric Lee, CRL CHE Fidel Matondo, EQU Gareth Matthews, CRL CHE lan Moogan, CRL CHE James Bower, CRL CHE

James McGovern, CRL FAL James Munn, CRL FAL Jason Graf, CRL AUS Jonah McMurray, CRL AUS Jonathan Ravenscroft, EQU Kieran Miller, CRL FAL Koffi Agbomso, EQU Kris Taylor, CRL AUS Lance Bayley, CRL AUS Lewis Peter Booth, CRL CHE Luke Lord, CRL AUS Manjula Perera, CEN Michael Chamberlain, CRL BRI Michael Crerand, CRL FAL Michael Kieran, CRL CHE Miri Hoxha, CRL MIT Neville Thomas, CRL BRI Nicholas Purser, CRL AUS Owen Cherrie, CRL Reece Cloete, CRL CHE FAL Robbie Mullen, CRL Robert Piciocco, CRL AUS Ryan Chesney , CRL SUR Ryan Galvin, CRL SUR Ryan Hendrie, CRL FAL

Ryan Picker, CRL SUR
Ryan Stedman-Hoyte, CEN
Scott Anderson, CRL FAL
Sean Richey, CRL AUS
Sengrong Park, EQU
Silviu-Mihai Mihalache, CRL
BRI
Simeon Pickles, CRL SUR
Stephen Jackson, CRL CHE
Suzanne Morgan, CEN
Tristan Pease, CRL SUR
Waldemar Niedzielski, CRL CHE
William (Bill) Hicks, CRL MIT
William Smith, CRL BRI

### Say goodbye to...

Alexander Lawrence, CRL FAL
Alexandru Nichita, CRL MIT
Artur Sikora, CRL BRI
Arun Bagshaw, CRL BRI
Bartek Wisniewski, CRL MIT
Brad Davies, CRL BRI
Bradley Linnen, CRL MIT
Callum Nason, CRL SUR
Damian Zaluska, CRL MIT
Daniel Dyshniku, CRL MIT

Daniel Wooderson, EQU
Dariel Fernandez Garcia, EQU
David Parusico, CRL AUS
Dhrew Parmar, CEN
Dylan Bain, CRL MIT
Elizabeth Tyler, CRL CHE
Elliot Etherington, CRL CHE
James Bower, CRL CHE
Jason Brown, CRL BRI
Joss Davies, CRL BRI
Lee Pearson, CRL CHE

# group gossip

## Say goodbye to... (continued)

Lewis Beddis, CRL BRI
Mergim Shehu, CRL MIT
Michael Jones, CRL FAL
Mohammad Al Hujaj, CRL SUR
Namo Rashid, CRL BRI
Owen Cherrie, CRL FAL
Parweza Trotman, CRL CHE
Petre Andreescu, CRL MIT

Roger Batterham, CRL CHE
Ryan Stedman-Hoyte, CEN
Ryan Walker, CRL CHE
Sengrong Park, EQU
Stephen Jackson, CRL CHE
Thomas Purchase, CRL BRI
William (Bill) Hicks, CRL MIT

## Congratulations on promotions to...

James Noonan, CRL AUS Cory Mason, CRL BRI Lance Painter, CRL BRI Gary Groenewald, CRL BRI Gavin Atkins, CRL CHE Nigel Jeffery, CRL CHE Mark Cloete, CRL CHE Gavin Lyons, CRL SUR Lukasz Chudy, CRL SUR Simon Bladon, CRL SUR Danny Sykes, CRL SUR Sean O'Connor, CRL SUR Simeon Pickles, CRL SUR Michal Wrzosek, CRL SUR Georgijus Asanovas, CRL SUR Andrew Campbell, CRL FAL Kierran Gardner, CRL FAL Calum Campbell, CRL FAL Fabian Prochnicki, CRL FAL Brian Shearer, CRL FAL Stewart MacLennan, CRL FAL James McGovern, CRL FAL Karen Cummins, CEN Adam Kasperczyk, CRL MIT Alin-Catalin Gocea, CRL MIT Iulian Manuel Patru, CRL MIT Miri Hoxha, CRL MIT

Tradesperson Tradesperson Senior Tradesperson Tradesperson Site Manager Supervisor Trainee Manager Trainee Manager Director Survey Technician L3 Regional Manager Survey Technician L1 Regional Manager Survey Technician L2 Site Engineer Tradesperson Tradesperson Supervisor Supervisor Contracts Engineer Senior Tradesperson Group Training Manager Senior Tradesperson Senior Tradesperson Senior Tradesperson Senior Tradesperson

## Awards

### **CRA Concrete Society Award**

**CRL** was recently awarded a 'Highly Recommended' for their work on the Durdham Water Tower in Bristol at the Concrete Society Awards Dinner. The Awards which celebrates excellence in the use of concrete attracts over 400 of the industry's professionals and is the longest running awards in the UK Construction Industry.

The refurbishment of the Durdam Water Tower was a complex project made all the more difficult by the confined space roof access into the tanks some 20m above the ground, the Covid restrictions that came into force during the contract and the strict deadline to return the asset into service.



### CRA Project of the Year Award



... and again **CRL** received a 'Highly Recommended' award at the recent CRA dinner held at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Bloomsbury, London.

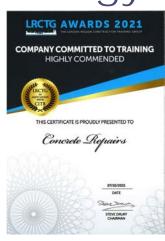
The award was a joint submission with Fosroc for the works carried out on the Milford Towers project in London. The project, valued at £1.6 million and carried out for Lewisham Homes, was made particularly difficult by the fact that the estate was fully occupied during the course of the works necessitating daily liaison with all the tenants.

### Industry Peers Recognise CRL's Learning & Development Strategy

CITB, the training body, has nationwide training groups and we are a member of a number of these. The groups keep the Training Department updated on scheme changes, provide networking opportunities and and often offers access to subsidised courses.

The London training group (LRCTG) has approximately 50 member companies. We were proposed for the category of 'Company Committed to Training'. No surprise that this was the category with the most nominations.

One winner was stipulated per category and this time we were pipped at the post. But the panel made a point to recognise our efforts and Karen Cummins & Sarah Richardson were pleased to accept the Highly Commended award at the presentation in central London. We're going for gold next year!



## snippets

## CRL open new office in Middlesbrough



**CRL** are pleased to announce the opening of our new office in the North East. With an increasing client base in the region following the successful completion of some exciting projects, it is the perfect time to open our Middlesbrough office. The office/region will be run by our Northern Regional Manager, Matt Robinson, supported by his highly skilled team.

### Site Observation App

The CRL site observation App is now available. Please follow the details on the attached poster that explain how to access the App, how to complete and submit observations relating to Safety, Environment or Quality as well as innovations.

The poster can be downloaded <u>here</u>

The dashboard can be accessed here

The form can be accessed here

The SHEQ group will review the observations on a monthly basis to identify any trends and key learning points.



Any high risk items will be distributed immediately to Directors and RMs to ensure they are actioned.

## hr & training

### Westfield Job Fair

In October some of our team attended the Westfield Job Fair. During the 2 days we had a lot of interest via people visiting the stand. Not just by individuals looking for a job however, but also by charities that help to get people back to work who have either been made redundant or gone through a challenging time in their life and some who suffer with mental illness. Meetings have been arranged with 'Shaw Trust' (a Government Backed Charity who help people to get back into work) and also 'Reed In Recruitment' which is an organisation similar to the 'Shaw Trust'.





### Performance & Development Reviews

We have been focussing on ensuring all employees have a structured Performance & Development Review.

If you have yet to receive yours, you can expect to do so soon.

All comments are read carefully. Notable trends are discussed at senior management level. Individuals remain anonymous.

Training requests are logged and forwarded to your Regional/Department manager.

Examples of courses booked as a result of P&D review discussions include First Aid, Telehandler, Contractual Awareness and Cathodic Protection.

IT training is always popular – we are looking at the most effective way to deliver this.

Training needs to benefit both the employee & company and be cost effective. It isn't possible, regrettably, to agree to every request.

Please speak to your manager to discuss a date for your outstanding review.

For questions on the P&D process, contact Karen Cummins, Training Manager – <a href="mailto:kcummins@centuragroup.co.uk">kcummins@centuragroup.co.uk</a>

Tel: 0208 288 4828

ployee Name:	Reg	ion:		
Title:	Rev	iewer:		
view Date:	:			
SPECIALIST SKILLS	Is the operative deemed competent?	Experience in this skill (Month/Years)	Used this skill within previous 2 years? (Y/N)	Indicate which TWO deemed as core skills
Visual Survey & Marking Up				
Concrete Repair Preparation				
Concrete Repair Finishing				
Poured Concrete Repair				
Concrete Coatings Application & Finish				
Rendering Fairing Coats & Plaster				
Resin Injection				
Grouting				
Waterproofing				
Car Park Deck Coatings				
Cathodic Protection Systems				
Carbon Fibre Plate Installation				
Carbon Fibre Wrap Installation				
External Wall Insulation: Preparation & Boarding				
External Wall Insulation: Render Finishes				
Other:				
nere any particular skills he/she would like to devel	op further in, over	the next 12 month	ıs?	

## Equilux

## Royal Mail Group

#### **Northolt Delivery Office**

RMG Northolt DO is to be mothballed and relocated to a new site. The existing POL (Branch Office, Post Office Ltd) is to remain and the associated shared services shall remain live to ensure services to the occupying tenant remain live when the rest of the building is isolated and mothballed.

Equilux's team are deconstructing and decommissioning the delivery office's heating system, hot and cold water, ventilation and gas services.

We are currently installing a new distribution board, new fire alarm panel, new electric heating within the Post Office premise to allow full independent heating service within the tenant retail area. All works are being done out of hours around the Post Office operational hours.

This was a 4 wk programme, and will be handed over to the client on the 17th December.





#### **Brighton Mail Centre**

Equilux was appointed by Vinci Construction to conduct the essential mechanical and electrical maintenance works to Brighton Delivery Office. Our works consist of inspection, testing and remedial works for the transformer, the main LV switchboard, the passenger goods lift, the stand alone heating system, electrical services remediation (based on the 2020 year electrical testing and inspection certificate), the lighting protection system and all the associated building works.

We will also be restoring ventilation and heating service across various areas, installing additional wall/window/ducted reversible ventilation fans and heating service via the refurbished air handling plant.

The works will commence in the first week of the new year.





## CRL Australia

### Snapshot... What's happening in Australia

#### **West Gate Bridge**

**CRL** Australia are pleased to announce we have been awarded West Gate Bridge waterproof membrane replacement works for the third successive year. CRL secured the contract to complete 2800m² of captive shotblasting, the application of three-coat Matacryl WSM Waterproofing System and third-party testing.

Work will commence on the 26th of December in lane 4W with the existing road surface and membrane being removed before we commence blasting on the 27th of December. Well done to the team for their hard work on the bridge so far and securing the contract for a third year running!



#### **New Colleague Welcome**



We are pleased to welcome Robert Piciocco, the newest member of CRL's everexpanding Australian team. Robert is a Site Manager with over 20 years' experience in civil, commercial and industrial construction. He also has experience in concrete and steel structures, concrete remediation, carbon fibre strengthening and industrial coatings.

Having worked with Robert before, we know he will be a fantastic addition to our team to help with the continued growth and success of the business and will be essential to help plan future strategies. We are delighted to have Robert onboard and are excited to start working with him!

#### **New Toys**

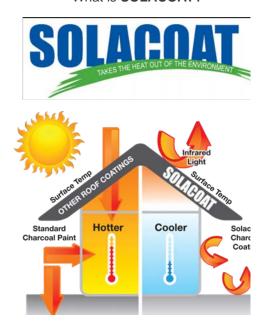
**CRL** has just received two Ford Ranger Wildtraks for Queensland Site Manager Sean Johnson and Melbourne Site Manager Kris Taylor.

We're sure they will enjoy using them!



**CRL** are proud to announce that we are now national applicators to selected markets for SOLACOAT – the Worlds Best Heat Reflective Coating.

What is **SOLACOAT?** 



SOLACOT is an Australian designed and manufactured water-based acrylic heat reflective coating system that reflects the solar rays away from substrates, reducing internal temperatures and electricity cooling costs. Once applied, SOLACOAT provides a protective cover that shields roofs and walls from thermal shock, stress and degradation, increasing the asset lifespan. It also allows for the use of darker colours while still limiting heat absorption. We are pleased that by using SOLACOAT we will improve asset quality and resilience, while reducing costs, maintenance needs and environmental impact.

## CRLSurveys

### A Year in CRL Surveys ...

Another year bites the dust. It's been another busy one, with some changes in personnel, but overall a successful one, and surprisingly it's generally been fun!

As a business, according to my generally poor database searches, we have so far responded to 576 Tenders, with a total value of £5.74m, which have generated 158 contracts, with a total value of £1.26m. A success rate of around 22% (by value) or 27% (by number), so let's go by number). We are continuing up to the wire, receiving orders almost daily, with some of my team working during the Christmas Shutdown. Unlike previous New Years we have some large projects stacked up and waiting for us when we get back after Christmas. When I started this wee job, planning required looking days ahead, now we are looking months ahead, like the grownups in CRL.

#### A few highlights:

In **Scotland and now the North of England**, Sean O'Connor has had some impressive projects, including dams for SSE, power stations, effluent treatment plants and

bridges. Sean always seems to get the most picturesque of sites, often in the back of beyond, but with the other side of the sword he has the weather... horizontal rain, sleet, and snow in winter, vertical in summer.

Further South, in **England**, Nigel Pierce and Michal Wrzosek were also awarded some pretty decent contracts, including car parks, historic buildings, commercial buildings, more bridges and sewage treatment works (living the dream!).

North Wales has traditionally not been a big market for us. However, over the last 12 months we have become familiar (for me reacquainted) with the A55 Coast Road and (on a motorcycle) the sublime A5 through Snowdonia. Projects have included some foundation bases to transmitter masts, bridges and some new build structures at Bodnant Gardens.

So far so good with targets for the FYE, with the workload on the books inspiring confidence that 2022 should be another busy one.

























## CRL Scotland

## CRL Scotland win refurbishment of Iconic Netherdale Stand

CRL Scotland has been awarded a contract from Scottish Borders Council for the refurbishment of the iconic Netherdale Stand in Galashiels. The initial contract award is for just over £1m with a further £300 - £400k expected once the CP system and the floodlighting have been developed and instructed.

This amazing concrete structure, designed by Peter Wormesley, was constructed in 1964 but has been out of use since 2018 due to structural safety concerns.

Early on in this project's journey from concept to contract, CRL Surveys crawled all over the stand and produced a comprehensive report on the condition of the structure. This report has been used extensively to produce the contract documents for the project and to quantify the repairs to the structure. This should prove beneficial for the project overall as there should be few surprises as works proceed.



CRL have been commissioned to refurbish this category A listed structure using strict conservation principals to return the stand to as close to its original condition as possible.

Once the repairs are complete and the structural integrity of the stand is returned, this will allow it to once again hold its full compliment of 500 Gala Fairydean Rovers supporters giving them a great view of the games from this magnificent stand.

This project will be managed by **CRL** contracts manager Adam Dubiel and for this project we have imported some southern restoration expertise in Tony Parsons from the Mitcham office. Tony has been involved in the project from the start and will lead our site-based team for the works.



We hope to get started on the project early next year with expected completion in the autumn.

This will be a challenging project involving multiple stakeholders including the club users who will still have the use of the facilities during the refurbishment works. This will involve some careful daily management and planning to ensure the works can progress whilst maintaining safe unhindered access to the club.

The site team will produce regular updates on the progress of this exciting project via our intranet homepage with the first one planned for when the impressive scaffold structure, providing access to the underside of the cantilever roof, is completed.

## CRL Bristol

## A38 Almondsbury Deck Refurbishment

CRL Bristol have recently commenced work as Principal Contractor on what is expected to be our last major project under the Highways England CWF framework in the southwest. CRL Bristol will continue working in the southwest with Highways England (now National Highways) under the new SDF framework.

The site is on a critical commuter and local traffic route into Bristol, passing over the M4 and close to the M5 Junction 16 and the Almondsbury interchange. Due to this it has taken almost two years of Early Contractor Involvement to develop the design and phasing of the work and resolve all logistical issues by working with our client and other CWF framework suppliers.









The project involves hydro-demolition to large area of the deck and construction of new over slabs to complete similar works previously completed 20 years ago. Further works also involve concrete repairs, parapet repairs, waterproofing, movement joints, new kerb drains and complete resurfacing

One major issue has been completing works less than a metre from the adjacent live traffic. This required a full temporary works design to construct suitable containment for the hydro-demolition operations. The scaffold itself also had to be built during full night time closures of the A38 to ensure the safety of the scaffold team.

Our site team led by Neville Thomas have had to operate at all hours to establish the site and get these works underway to achieve a tight program, we wish them every success in bringing this challenging project to a safe completion.

# CRLMitcham

### M25 Survey Works

The Mitcham office (in conjunction with CRL surveys) was recently awarded a contract to survey 12 Bridges in 4 weeks all around M25. The aim of the survey was to establish if there was any damage to the structures which would require repairs in the near future.

All works were required to be carried out at night once the traffic flow had reduced to an acceptable flow (not easy to achieve on the M25). Meticulous planning was required because of the live traffic situation with Osborne supplying the traffic maintenance. This necessitated careful collaboration between our 2 companies to complete the works in the short programme.

In order to assist us with identifying the structures and the defects, Osborne provided us with previous surveys so we had a head start and knew roughly where some of the repairs was located. However, we were still required to survey all the exposed concrete areas again.

All the works were carried out from MEWP's with our brief being to hammer test the structures, compile detailed drawings indicating our findings, as well as quantify the size and number of defects.

In addition all the defects had to be photographed as evidence of the repairs and damage we found on each of the structures. Any areas where concrete had started to spall was 'made safe' and the exposed reinforcement was painted with a zinc rich primer to protect it until proper repairs can be carried out.

At the end of the project all findings were compiled into a detailed report, with recommendations, so the client, M25 ConnectPlus, can move ahead and implement a planned programme of works to carry out the repairs necessary.

It was comforting to find that the majority of the bridges only had a few defects from impact damages due to vehicles hitting the top soffit or beams of the bridges, However, it was noted that some of the structures were suffering badly from rebar corrosion and had extensive spalling taking place over numerous areas.











# Charity Events

### Christmas Jumper Day



#### 'Save the Children's - Christmas Jumper Day'

On Friday 10 December, the Centura Group took part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. People were asked to donate monies to support children in the UK and around the world. By taking part we hope we will be doing our part to help kids who don't have the basics they need to survive – like food, school, or medicine – as well as helping them to start seeing the magic in the world again ...

Thank you to all who took part (by wearing a Christmas jumper!) and to those of you who donated to this worthy cause! The total raised stands at £143.00 (but we are still awaiting confirmation of the total donated by text!)



### MacMillan Coffee Morning

CRL's Mitcham office recently hosted their 'MacMillan Coffee Morning'. The event was well supported with more than sufficient cakes being donated on the day. It is believed that everyone in the office was eating cake for the rest of the week!

It was also well attended with all the staff taking the opportunity to come out of their offices and chat and catch up over a cup of tea / coffee and a nice slice of cake.

More importantly, people were very generous with their donations and in total, we raised £225 for a very worthwhile cause.

Thank you to everyone who took part ...







MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

£ 225.00

RAISED FOR MCM2020114090

## Community Engagement

## Access to Swim Programme - Dunes Leisure Centre, Southport

In October, CRL launched the Access to Swim Programme at the Dunes Leisure Centre, Southport which was developed with our client, Sefton Council as part of our work on Dunes Splash World.

The programme provides a free 10-week course of swimming lessons along with swimwear, goggles and towels to disadvantaged children and children in care who may otherwise lack to the opportunity to learn to swim or access a swimming pool.

CRL, alongside our suppliers - Mapei, AMB Technical Ltd, VI Distribution, Industrial Coating Services, QED Scaffolding and Prema Energy Ltd - were able to fund the programme. Around 30 children are participating in the programme currently, with the view to launch it again in the new year and give even more children the opportunity to learn to swim.

The programme has gone down well with Sefton Council: "The opportunity to provide these lessons for disadvantaged children in care who have not had the opportunity to attend anything like this before is invaluable and I would like to say a massive thank you to CRL and their suppliers for their philanthropy."

Sefton Council have reported that the programme is running smoothly and has been well received by the children. We look forward to hearing more feedback when to first batch of lessons come to an end.





### CRL vs Fortem charity football match







Back in September, CRL Chesterfield took on Fortem Solutions Limited in an 11-a-side charity football match and were narrowly beaten in a 16-goal thriller! The game was in aid of CRASH – who help other homeless charities and hospices with vital construction projects – and Mind – the mental health charity.

CRL players, colleagues, family and friends raised an amazing £870 from sponsorships and donations. CRL matched this making the total amount raised £1740!! Fortem did their own fund raising efforts so the overall money reaching our charities will be even higher!

A huge thank you must go to all the players who travelled from across the region to represent CRL and generously made donations and collected sponsorships. Without them, we would not have been able to raise so much money for our charities and have a great afternoon in the process.

We are already looking forward to the rematch next year!

## Community Engagement

### Chandag Infants School - 'Small World' Project

In August, CRL Bristol completed a three-day repair and restoration to the "Small World" play area at Chandag Infants School.

'Small World' play areas are very valuable in providing early years children with a sensory, tactile and imaginative play experience which provides an opportunity to explore new materials, build language, practice social skills and gain an understanding of the world by child-led and self-directed play.

The school requested a natural landscape to feature areas of sand, embedded and loose stones, sparkly stones, fossil and fern imprints, feature roads and a couple of pipe tunnels, all with a neutral colour scheme.

This was a great project as almost all Bristol staff spent at least one day helping out and most importantly, the school were delighted with the finished result. "It looks fantastic and the staff are really pleased with the area."

We were invited to attend a special assembly to reveal the repaired play area to the children and we presented them with toy cars and diggers. We hope the children enjoy their new 'Small World' play area.









### Heeley People's Park

CRL Chesterfield recently made repairs and re-bedded loose copings on two stone walls at Heeley People's Park in Sheffield, securing the walls and making them safer for park users. As some of our colleagues live nearby, they were particularly keen to support their local park.

Heeley People's Park is the largest community run park in the country, with six different sites and a wide range of spaces, activities, plants, and wildlife. We are proud to support the park which is an important amenity for the surrounding community.

Frank Forman, of the Heeley Trust (the charity which looks after the park) said: "Firstly I wanted to say a huge thank you (CRL) and your team on behalf of Heeley Trust and Heeley People's Park. The work that has been completed is of the highest calibre and has made such a difference to the landscape."

The park has plans to improve and grow and CRL are pleased to be able to play a small role in this process. We look forward to seeing the Heeley People's Park add to what is already a fantastic space!





# general chatter

Following a Survey sent to all our employees and your feedback, we have:

- Increased our Maternity pay from the first 3 days full pay to the first 3 months full pay.
- Increased our Paternity pay from the first 3 days full pay up to 2 weeks full pay.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Georgijus Asanovas, Survey Technician, for achieving his HNC in Mechanical Engineering ...

What a great achievement!

## Community Projects Scheme

Again, for those of you who are not aware, or don't take advantage of it, Centura has a Community employees to actively serve the local communities in which they work and live.

To this end, up to 3 days paid absence per year will be granted to enable you to participate in an approved local community project. Schemes will typically involve care of the aged and infirm; community centres and other community initiatives. However, this scheme does not extend to fund anything to do with your own family or friends help

Anyone wishing to be involved must complete a Community Projects form; this can be obtained Department.

Any contributions are gratefully received - please contact mballetta@crl.uk.com