

snibor

the building specialists

# Newsletter

October 2008

## **The Boss's thoughts.....**

Unless you are lucky enough to have spent the last 12 months in some far off land you will be aware that the economy in the UK has lurched from boom towards bust. The next 12 months is not going to be easy for any of us either as individuals or as a company. There will undoubtedly be a lot of tough decisions to be made at all levels and it is important that none of us shy away from these. Everyone must take responsibility for their own actions and roles in order for us to survive not just when we get something right but also when mistakes occur. It is always the case that, the quicker mistakes are identified the quicker they are corrected and costs minimised. **Easy versus Effort;** life is always more rewarding when effort is needed rather than opting for the easy route. It is always disappointing when you witness the result of someone taking the easy option, it takes effort to achieve great results, and unlike the easy option a great result never catches up with you!

**Andy**

## **New Faces**

Jordan Collins joined the company in August as a labourer and has been working along side Nick Cox and his team in Dorchester; he is a second generation employee for Snibor from Marnhull.

## **Old Faces**

We would like to say a fond farewell to Luke Biddiscombe who finished work on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October; he is leaving sunny blighty to move to New Zealand with his family on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. We thank him for all his hard work and effort since he has been with us, he will be missed by all his colleagues and we wish him all the best for the future.

## **Night Fishing**

**Mike Rose and Whisky the dog took some of the lads beach fishing on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Oct down to West Bexington, those partaking were Chris Warr, Steve Ashfield, Nick Cox, Jordan Collins, Rob Dawe and Jason Prichard, fishing commenced at 6pm and finished at 1am. Rob Dawe took his cooker and the sausages and bacon! Jordan caught the largest fish and Steve caught the most fish during the evening.**

## **News**

Mike Rose was waved down in his van on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October by Mike Burt who was being pushed through Dorchester in a wheelchair by a nurse; he wanted to pass on all his best wishes to everyone at Snibor. Mike R commented on how well Mike B looked; he is currently still in Dorchester hospital but is hoping to come home in the very near future.

## **Techie Corner:**

**Thermal Bridging:** Thermal bridging occurs in an otherwise insulated structure where insulation has been missed out. Sometimes this occurs for technical reasons when refurbishing old buildings, as it can be impossible to 'break' the path from inside to outside where the structure is solid and there is no room to add insulation. Moist air will tend to condensate on the coldest spots, so condensation or mould growth may form on internal walls for no apparent reason. In addition to ensuring that thermal bridges are avoided, good ventilation will help to prevent condensation from forming.

It is recommended that internal insulation should be returned at window and door reveals (*i.e.* fitted around the corner up to the frame) to avoid the risk of thermal bridging, where practicable. Where an internal partition wall interrupts an external wall, the insulation cannot be continuous unless the internal wall is partially rebuilt. The current prescription is to return the insulation 300mm long along the wall to reduce the risk of condensation at that point.

**Project update in the next issue**

**Windows and Doors**

Windows are weak elements when it comes to keeping heat in a building. Glass is a highly conductive material. The thermal performance of the windows can be improved by:

- increasing the number of layers of glazing
- increasing the size of cavity between the sheets of glass
- replacing the air in the cavity with argon or krypton gas
- changing the spacer bars
- applying a low emissivity layer to one or more panes of glass

The other element in the window system is the frame. The performance of the frame can be improved by;

- choosing better, lower thermal conductivity frame materials
- creating thermal breaks in the frame

**Health and Safety Legislation**

As the HSE are short of inspectors, it is now asking building control to report breaches of health and safety legislation.

The HSE has employed the services of local authority building control officers. They ensure that any building work being undertaken meets the standards of the **Building Regulations** and your approved plans. At the moment, this is a trial being run from HSE's Luton office; however, if the plan is deemed a success, it will be rolled-out nationwide.

The intention is that as building control officers will be out and about anyway, whilst there they can check on health and safety standards too. Building control officers will not be granted the powers of an HSE inspector. Their role is just to take notes, photographs etc. of anything that they feel isn't safe, then send the details to the HSE to be followed up.

**A Big Thank you**

Tracey Howell and Richard Golay wanted to say a very big thank you to everyone who sponsored them for the abseiling event at Hardys monument; they raised a total of £750.00 for the Anthony Nolan bone marrow trust.

**NACC - Red Hot Day 2008**

Snibor is supporting the above day on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November for the national association for colitis and Crohn's disease (NACC), the charity provides support and advice to patients who suffer from these illnesses and also helps to fund vital research into treatments and possible cures.

To raise funds they have a 'red hot day' where people wear something red and also raise money for the charity, the office staff are supporting this and if the guys on site could do the same (if this is okay with the foremen) then that would be great, any pictures that are taken can be added into the next newsletter.

**Staff Suggestion Slip**

Please add your name and suggestion, detach the slip and either post it in or drop it in the suggestion box on your next visit. Remember, each suggestion used earns you £25! (See Staff Handbook)

✂.....

Name:

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My suggestion is:

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