

MAY 2022

The Micron



The staff newsletter of AJ Engineering and NEWCo



Richard and Steven on site at Glenmorangie

SPECIALIST TRAINING TO SECURE NEW WORKS

Two mechanical workers at AJE have carried out extra training in order to fulfil a job for a whisky client.

Richard Jones and Steven Macrae undertook specialist training with breathing apparatus to complete works at Glenmorangie Distillery, the work on site along with other work we have done for them in recent months was managed by Stuart Munro Project Engineer.

The project involved works at the distillery's anaerobic digestion (AD) plant in an Ex rated zone as project manager Wilson Burnett explained: "Richard and Steven are specifically employed for their mechanical skills and they have under taken a lot of work on our ESD sites and for other Mechanical works clients.

"The work at Glenmorangie was to service the safety valves on top of the bio storage tank. They both had already done confined space training but this extension to the training, which was a two-day course in Aberdeen, involved wearing breathing

apparatus while carrying out the work because the area they were to be working in could contain hazardous gasses."

He added: "The training covers the men for three years and as the safety valves need checking every six months there is the potential for us to get repeat business from Glenmorangie. It also means that we may get work from other companies who require this type of expertise"

In January, Glenmorangie announced that Alpheus Environmental will implement a biogas cleaning system at the distillery.

The new biological cleaning system will substantially reduce the use of chemicals to clean biogas, a by-product of the distillation which mainly consists of CO₂ and methane. Compared to the existing cleaning system, this will result in the continued reduction of CO₂ emissions and drive down operational costs for the distillery.

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HUNTLY WATER WORKS NEAR COMPLETION

Work is nearing completion at a Water Treatment Works near Huntly.

Last August, AJE announced it had secured three contracts with ESD for its Craighead site which involved the fabrication and installation of 10 Treatment Process Tanks, the installation of building steel and cladding to house the new Water Treatment Works and the associated mechanical works for that building.

Wilson Burnett who is leading on the project explained: "This project is nearing completion and it has been great to

work on. The 10 Treatment Process Tanks were completed and installed last Aug and we are delighted that we have now been able to sign off the building too. The only works left, are the internal mechanical works for the building and we hope that this will be complete by the end of May at the latest.

"The project has used every single skillset that AJE offers and were also able to harness new skills for the building. On three elevations, the building is clad in larch. This was a requirement placed upon the client by the planning

department. It's not a service that we usually offer, however we rose to the challenge and it now means that we are able to do this for other clients should this be needed."

In 2014, it was recommended that the previous water treatment works were not of an acceptable standard and as there was not sufficient space to expand at the existing WTW, a decision was taken to build this new plant in an £16 million investment by Sottish Water.

The images show the different aspects of the building on the Craighead site



Steel nerves for election bid

Steel erector Paul Briggs is standing as an independent councillor for Elgin City South at the local elections on Thursday, May 5.

Paul made the decision to stand when he was working for AJE in Antarctica earlier this year.

Paul said he was inspired to get involved in local politics as he is passionate about his community: "I really enjoy embracing local community projects and value the people in our community. When covid and lockdown happened I was furloughed and decided to help people who needed support, such as getting prescriptions, shopping etc. Some people asked if I had ever considered standing for council, and it was when I was in Antarctica that I really thought about it."



Only 11 of the 26 sitting councillors for Moray are standing again.

Moray will also have an uncontested ward for the first time since 2003 after only three candidates put their names in the hat for the three seats at Buckie.

Residents of ward 3 (Buckie) will therefore not be asked to vote on May 5 or receive postal ballots.

The results for all the other wards will be declared on May 6.

Paul who is standing for election in Elgin

Subsea works matter for CNC

The Subsea sector is big business for AJ Engineering's CNC shop with 75 per cent of orders coming from within that industry.

The CNC shop, headed by Willie Mackintosh has just secured a new contract with Sulmara who provide survey and positioning services covering all phases of construction and installation across the offshore energy sector.

The CNC shop secured the contract with Sulmara in early April as Willie explained: "We are making some components for Sulmara and it's good work and they have asked for good quantities. It's a straightforward project where they require us to do nine assemblies which will be assembled from five different parts. It's great to have a new subsea customer as much of the CNC work is in that field. There is never a week that goes by where we aren't doing something for the subsea sector.

"However, we do get other works too and these jobs can be a little different. For example, we are often asked to make new parts for a piece of machinery or a component. In these cases, we are not working off plans or drawings, but instead have to reverse engineer. It's a different skillset and just shows that within CNC there is a wealth of knowledge and skill to be found."



Willie Mackintosh heads up the CNC shop