

The Micron



The staff newsletter of AJ Engineering and NEWCo

EARLY DELIVERY FOR WHISKY JOB

The company’s links with whisky producer Diageo is continuing, this time for the Lagavulin Distillery, Islay.

The latest works have included replacing damaged guttering, roof vents and flashings as well as removing the distillery roof so that the all-important copper stills could be removed and replaced.

Project engineer Gary Moyes explained: “We have been working with Diageo now at a number of its sites, the latest one being for its Lagavulin Distillery. Lagavulin produces a huge amount of whisky every year and these shutdowns are crucial to the ongoing success of the site.

“Over a four-week period there were a number of high priority activities and

equipment renewals taking place and our team was right at the centre of the most important part – the copper stills removal and replacement.

“The timing of these works is crucial as clearly if there is no roof the distillery can’t operate. After the initial shutdown where the roof was removed, we had around two weeks to draw, fabricate and deliver all materials to site ready for reinstatement phase. All went well, with materials ready and delivered ahead of schedule.

“Our site team, led by Aidy Eastham, were able to return to Islay earlier than initially scheduled and beat the target by four days. This allowed the site to start producing earlier than planned. Happy faces all round.”



1980'S DRAWINGS USED FOR NEW PROJECT

All of the expertise at AJE was used to fabricate a leveller muff which is used in the steel smelting process.

The Leveller Muff was designed in 1982 and the AJE team worked from the original drawings to fabricate, machine and build the frame. The project which used fabrication, CNC machining and mechanical assembly to complete is built up with over 60 different components including bearings, springs, high tolerance machined items and various fabricated items.

Lee Binks who was co-ordinating the project said: “We are very happy with the outcome and look forward to supporting the client, who is based in Wales, on some more machining and fabrication projects.”



NEWCO PITCHES IN TO HELP FOOTBALL CLUB

NEWCo was delighted to 'pitch' in and lend support to Fort William FC after they put out an appeal on social media.

The NEWCo team designed, fabricated and installed a fixed roof between two existing containers and a pair of full height gates so the club can securely site their tractor and mower. All material and labour was happily donated by NEWCo!



NEWCo manager Neil Worsdall at the new store at Fort William Football Club

NEW YEAR, NEW ARRIVAL

Fabricator/welder Martin Daun and his partner Chloe welcomed their baby girl on Hogmanay. Lily Rose Daun, arrived at 18:44 on December 31 weighing 8lb 13oz. Congratulations from all at AJE and NEWCo.



ANTARCTICA IN PICTURES

A team from AJE are currently working on the remote island of Rothera in Antarctica. The team are carrying out various tasks including erecting steel and installing the cladding on the new 'Discovery Building' which will replace the current science and operations building.

Paul Briggs and Ross Jack are keeping us to date with their adventure with a series of pictures and you can also read Paul's blog in the news section of the AJE website.



A fuel drop to Rothera

NEW EMPLOYEE FOR NEWCO

NEWCo welcomed a new project support assistant just before the turn of the year.

Hannah MacIntyre will be responsible for processing purchase orders and other general admin, recording of materials for traceability as per our Quality Management Systems and to standard ISO 9001:2015, making deliveries when required and the company stock control.



Ross makes a new friend!



Paul takes some time out to enjoy the snow

