



Chris and his wife Sylvia



Chris during the days of Faballoy Ltd

Welcome

to the Planet Platforms' newsletter

There's no denying that 2008 has been a tough year with the credit crunch and banking crisis. Things have also been especially sad for us at Planet because we lost Chris Armitage in June this year. Chris, who had been with us since 1979 was a wonderful person to know and a great ambassador for the company. He will always be remembered.

Whilst 2008 has been a difficult year in many ways, it has encouraged us to think and work even more innovatively and efficiently. And we strongly believe that having a positive attitude and confidence will help us come out of this stronger and more focused.

Looking ahead to 2009, Planet has many diverse and exciting opportunities coming up. We would also like to thank everyone for all their hard work and loyalty and wish you all the best for the next 12 months ahead. Let us work together to make 2009 a great year for all of us.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Pete

NEW FACES

A very warm welcome to Charlotte, Bev, Lee and Stuart who have joined our team.

Lee and Stuart will be working in the workshop. Charlotte will be working as sales support, marketing and reception, and Bev will be looking after the reception from January when Clare leaves to start her Master's degree.

We wish you all the very best Clare!



Charlotte Campbell

ANOTHER TRICKY ACCESS CHALLENGE SOLVED

When we were asked to provide an access solution for William Anelay Limited, little did we know that it would be something so unusual. William Anelay, the UK's specialist in the conservation and restoration of fine and historic buildings, was working on restoring the Navigation Warehouse in Wakefield, West Yorkshire. However, straightforward access to the exterior of the building was impossible because it is adjacent to the river Calder.

And because at Planet we like to take on a challenge and find a solution for it, we loaded a 17-meter boom onto a barge, which was then floated across the river and moored next to the building, which is being restored. Anchor plates welded to the floor of the barge secured the hired boom in place enabling it to work safely and entirely uninhibited in its working envelope.

William Anelay was founded over two hundred and sixty years ago and is amongst the UK's leading and longest-established specialist in the conservation and restoration of fine and historic buildings throughout the UK, Ireland and overseas as far as Japan.



PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES

Vehicle access and safety has always been high up in our list of solutions amongst other industries such as aerospace and rail. However, in 2008 we took things further by making sure work at height tasks are dealt with safely in the refuse, and bus and coach industries.



We designed, built and installed custom refuse vehicle access systems for Great Yarmouth and Middlesbrough Councils. The installation of these systems was part of the councils' initiatives to promote 'better practice', and make it easier and safer for staff accessing and working on the refuse collection trucks.

Planet Platforms also supplied an access system to First Bus that is being used for the painting, maintenance and general upkeep of their buses. We built the solution from the Alutec range, installing a steel-based solution for First Bus. The work at height system, installed at the First Bus' Leeds depot enables multi-level access to workers working on single and double decker buses. The lower level of the access system can also be folded down to enable the bus to manoeuvre into the precise fit of the surrounding scaffolding.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Mr and Mrs Hawkshaw (Mel and Simon) after their big day in Mauritius.

Anthony and Lisa who had baby Madison in April this year.

Carl and Lisa who had baby Alisha, also in April this year.

EVENTS COMING UP - CV SHOW 09

We will be exhibiting at the Commercial Vehicle Show 2009 at the NEC in Birmingham on the 28th-30th of April. See Planet at stand number 550, hall 4, NEC.

This comes after the successful show we had at Euro Bus Expo 2008 and our latest drive to promote access and safety within the vehicles arena.



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