

## Dealing with COVID-19

Our number one priority is to look after the safety and wellbeing of our employees and their families. I want to extend my gratitude to everyone who continues to support the business. We are working on a plan to ensure we protect staff while minimising the impact on the business. To summarise we have:

- Utilised the Government's Job Retention Scheme to protect over 200 jobs
- Raised funds of £6.7million through a share issue to provide balance sheet headroom
- Put in place a robust business continuity plan; including flexible

home-working solutions to minimise transmission of the virus

- Invested in equipment, processes, and assistance to ensure we can work effectively under government and industry guidelines.
- Provided staff support and wellbeing resources through our employee assistance programmes and informational signposting

These are unprecedented times and I very much appreciate the way in which we have responded as a business. Thank you.

**Mark Cutler, Chief Executive**



## Award Nominations

Congratulations to the teams who have been shortlisted for several categories at this years Ground Engineering Awards and Construction News Awards.

### Ground Engineering Awards

- Don Viaduct (Rail)
- Basement secant wall at Amberwood House in London (Piling)
- STRATA App for the A428

### Construction News Awards

- The training centre

## Board Changes



Graeme Campbell,  
Group CFO

director both joined the Van Elle Holdings plc board in February.

Adrian Barden, Chairman, and Robin Williams, senior independent non-executive director, will be stepping down later this year. Adrian and Robin have guided and assisted the business very well through the period since IPO and we extend our thanks to them both. A new chair will be announced by August.

Graeme Campbell, our new Chief Financial Officer and Charles St John, non-executive

## Executive Team Changes

Mick Mason, Tony Pontiero and Matt Love will all be leaving the business to pursue new opportunities, Ken White completes his interim FD assignment and we welcome Helen Prendergast as our new Head of Financial Reporting.

Welcome also to Hayley Smith as Head of HR .



Hayley Smith, Head of HR

## National Apprenticeship Week

To celebrate this years' National Apprenticeship Week we hosted a session where our apprentices shared their experiences at Van Elle .

We invest heavily in nurturing future talent across the business through vocational training such as apprenticeships and are very proud of the current group. We are committed to continuing to develop the talent pipeline.



Our 2019 apprentices



## Van Elle Joins 5% Club

We are proud to employ 28 ambitious trainees, including 1 sponsored learner, 8 graduates and 19 apprentices— demonstrating our commitment to providing earn and learn positions and making up 5% of our total employees in those categories.

## Embracing new ways of working



Ellie with her rainbow of  
hope in the Kirkby office

Working in such challenging times, we have embraced a new way of working to comply with government guidelines. Colleagues from across the business have pulled together, people working flexibly and more remotely. Dogs and kids joining in on conference calls have been welcome distractions.

The business is looking forward to returning to normal, but in the meantime would like to thank those trying their best to keep the business operating effectively and efficiently during difficult and uncharted times.



In support of NHS, carers and key workers we would like your children to create a Rainbow Poster (like the one Ellie has done for us already), which

will be proudly displayed at our Kirkby office.

Please send entries to Rainbow Competition, Summit Close, Kirkby in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 8GJ by 31st May. Please ensure the poster has your child's name, age and parents name - the most creative poster will win £25 gift voucher.

## Housing scheme in East London



Picture courtesy of Countryside Homes

Architect impression of new Beam Park site

Working with Countryside Homes, our Piling division have successfully installed 1800 No. Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) bored piles and 700 No. Precast Concrete (PCC) driven piles on the site of a derelict former factory in the London Boroughs of Barking, Dagenham and Havering, contributing to the creation of new homes in east London.



Junttan PM20 installing pre-cast driven piles

## SMARTFOOT® innovation for ILKE pioneering modular homes

As part of a pioneering scheme in Bolton, our Housing division installed 124 No. piles and 728m of modified SMARTFOOT® ground beams manufactured in-house at Kirkby.

The development comprised 22 No. new modular-built homes manufactured by ILKE homes in sections offsite, which are then shipped to site and assembled.

To support the new modular process, our engineers have modified our SMARTFOOT® beams to support the point-loaded frame from the houses. This is being cast in our factory to superior tolerances ensuring both speed and quality on site.



SMARTFOOT® Install for modular homes



Sunnyside Farm (Owl Homes) Vibro Stone Columns

## 5th Vibro rig commissioned

Van Elle continues to invest in vibro-stone column solutions with a fifth vibro rig in our fleet. Recently working on a housing development in Walsall for Owl Homes, where the team installed top-feed vibro stone columns to improve the ground ready for construction to start.



A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Project

## GI completed on the A428

STRATA battled poor weather and deteriorating ground conditions to continue its ground investigation programme on the high profile A428 project.

Following ideal conditions at the start of the project, STRATA engineered specially designed skis to manoeuvre the Dando cable percussion drill rigs across ploughed and boggy farmers fields due to recent storms.

## Rail Ground Investigation in Paris

Working closely with STRATA Geotechnics, the Rail division worked on a GI project for the development of a new rail maintenance and testing building for French railways owner SNCF.

Working in challenging conditions the works consisted of a full utilities sweep, trial holing, sampling and unexploded ordnance probing due to an abundance of potential unexploded WWII bombs on site.

The VE-MOG drilled boreholes through limestone and chalk beds with the vehicle working from the rails to undertake the work. In addition window samples were taken in off-track mode, providing the samples and standard penetration tests (SPTs), working alongside the Dando

Terrier window sampling rig. The team managed to finish ahead of schedule despite working alongside day-to-day depot operations.



VE-MOG undertaking GI work in Paris depot

## Delivery of CFA piles from Colmar RRV's at Lye

Engineers from both the Specialist Piling and Rail teams developed a piling attachment solution for Murphy at Lye Cutting for much needed slope retention works.

Due to running sands and saturated ground conditions the only option was to inject concrete from the base of the 6m pile using conventional Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) techniques.

The team engineered unique hybrid attachments to be put on the Colmar road rail vehicles, allowing king posts to be

installed with CFA and then driven with the MOVAX SG vibratory hammer.



Continuous Flight Auger (CFA) on track solutions