

NOVEMBER 2011



Will Nixon

## Welcome...

I am pleased to announce this month that PM Training is expanding its services in Stafford and Leek.

Indigo Training, which was acquired by the Aspire Group in April, will be rebranded from January as PM Training.

It is not just a rebrand. More job opportunities will be offered to young people in Stafford borough and in the Staffordshire Moorlands through PM Training.

It's no coincidence that we have also had our most successful year ever for who work with us. While 2011 was good, 2012 promises to be even better..

With best wishes

**Will Nixon** - Chief Executive

## Newcastle Training Centre Opens...

PM Training's new £500,000 centre at Brick Kiln Lane, Chesterton, has opened its doors to new learners.

The centre will offer foundation learning to 16-18 year olds, similar to its base in Shelton, in three areas of construction:

- ▶▶ bricklaying
- ▶▶ carpentry and joinery
- ▶▶ painting and decorating.

Around 150 more young people will train every year, around 100 of whom are expected to take up apprenticeships.

The contract for the conversion work was delivered by local contractor Carson Powell, while the painting and decorating work was done by PM Training.

Following the clearance of the existing mezzanine floor and offices, a team from PM painted the internal steel work,



a sub-contractor installed the new mezzanine floor and the new kitchen and canteen area were then completed.

New gates have been manufactured by PM Training's Artworks service for the new main entrance.

## Overview

▶▶ **Businesses show support for the Aspire Group**

▶▶ **Apprentices recognised as STARS!**

▶▶ **Services Grow**

▶▶ **Spotlight on...**

GB Office Group

Wallace Contracts Ltd

Ford Mainwaring

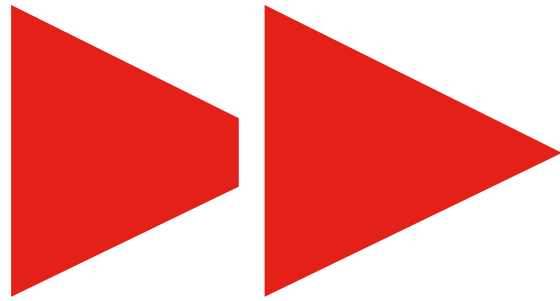
▶▶ **Blooming marvellous...**

▶▶ **Painting & Decorating Course**

▶▶ **PM has joined Facebook**



# Businesses show support for the Aspire Group



## The Aspire Group held its successful second key supplier event and its first apprentice awards at the Britannia Stadium on 19 August.

Around 150 companies were represented, four of whom signed up to be new platinum partners for the Realise Foundation.

We called on suppliers to share our main aims of encouraging

neighbourhood regeneration and raising skills by recruiting apprentices from PM Training and Indigo Training.

Every year Aspire spends £20 million with suppliers of goods and services. The company takes into account suppliers' support for training and community regeneration when evaluating tenders.

Aspire Group chief executive Sinéad Butters said: "I'm delighted with the growing support from local businesses who want to share our vision, values

and commitment. By working together in this way we can have a greater impact on North Staffordshire."

Will Nixon, chief executive of Enterprising Futures, said: "Our partnerships have helped give young people a chance in life. We created 166 training and employment opportunities in the last year.

We are extremely proud of the work that has been achieved in local communities and we welcome businesses to get on board."

## Apprentices recognised as STARS!

At the recent Aspire Group supplier event, the first Apprenticeship Appreciation Ceremony was held, sponsored by five companies - BGC, Welsh Engineering, Motiva, Jones and Shuffs and Stable Developments - each giving out awards.

**Congratulations go to the following winners - each one well deserved!**

### **BGC Star Award**

Dean Davies  
Oliver Cartlidge  
Daniel McGing  
Archie Galbraith

### **Welsh Engineering Star Award**

Gareth Hulme  
Nick Findlay  
Tejay Thomas  
Danny Simpson

### **Motiva Star Award**

Tom Fox  
Jasmine Scotchford  
Daniel James Cassidy  
Ryan Johnson

### **Jones & Shuffs Star Award**

Alice Reynolds  
Adam Wootten  
Jack Bailie

### **Stable Developments Star Award**

Kieron McLaron  
Matt Wood  
Stephen Ellis



**Congratulations also go to Jasmine Scotchford (pictured right with the Aspire Group Chief Executive Sinéad Butters) for not only winning a Star Award but also for being successful in receiving a special recognition, Shining Star Award.**



# PM Training's most successful year...

**Academic year  
August 2010 to July 2011:**

- ▶▶ Foundation Learning - 283 starts - up 13%
- ▶▶ 16-18 apprenticeships - average numbers 158 - up 50%
- ▶▶ 19-25 apprenticeships - 118 starts - up 60%
- ▶▶ 25+ apprenticeships - 138 starts - up 590%
- ▶▶ Train to gain - 170 starts

## Services grow across county...

### PM Training is to offer new services in Stafford and Leek.

Apprenticeships and training to get ready for work will be provided from the workshops of Indigo Training, which will be rebranded as PM Training from January.

Indigo Training has provided practical learning for 14- to 16-year-old school students from its workshops on Staffordshire Technology Park and Portland Mill, Leek since 2004. It also provides apprenticeships and workforce development.

PM Training in Stafford and Leek in future will also provide:

- ▶▶ Apprenticeships in construction trades such as plastering, brickwork, and painting and decorating
- ▶▶ The opportunity for learners in Stafford and Leek to do pre-apprenticeship training as part of PM Training's successful Homeworks service, which provides gardening, caretaking and home maintenance

Will Nixon, chief executive of Enterprising Futures, the social enterprise arm of the Aspire Group, said: "With training centres in Stoke-on-Trent, Newcastle, Stafford and Leek we are now in a great position to support more learners and businesses.

*"It makes sense to offer our services under one name as PM Training and to provide the same opportunities across North Staffordshire."*



Leek

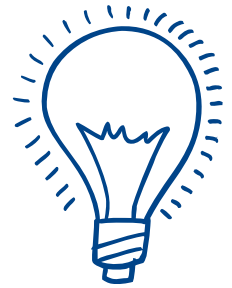
Staff and learners from Indigo Training



Stafford

Company

# spotlight on...



## GB Office Group

### Introduction

The GB Office Group is one of the largest independent Office Supplies dealers in the UK. With sites nationally and a forecasted 2011 turnover of £20m, we provide cost effective quality products with an efficient, reliable, personal service. Within our Corporate Division we have a strong policy of providing on-going pro-active account management throughout the life of an account in order to create opportunities for reductions in cost both in terms of service solutions and product analysis.

Our group is made up of six divisions and many of our customers utilise us as their single source supplier by purchasing more than one product range.

### Our Objective

We aim to provide a personalised service. This is achieved through dedicated account management, understanding our customer needs and building long term relationships based on trust and mutual respect. We strive to provide a service that will give our customers ongoing savings in both cost and time. The approach we take is focused and proactive and our intention is to not only meet your needs but to surpass them. Our ethos of commitment, honesty

and value for money to our customers and our level of customer retention levels are testimony to this.

### Training

GB-Office Group currently have eleven members of staff on NVQ courses via PM Training, which range from NVQ Business Management level 3 to ITQ courses. We are also looking at enrolling 2 more on the ITQ course and one more on the level 2 Customer Service NVQ in the near future.

GB Office Group are proud to say that we have seen a large number of people successfully complete their NVQs in both customer service and business management in the last 12 months, again all in conjunction with PM Training.

GB Office Group are a recognised Investor in People.

"We believe our best investment is in our people". We continuously prove that we both meet and exceed the standards and principles of IIP (Investors in People).

GB Office Group have retained the accreditation ongoing since 2000.



## Wallace Contracts Ltd

Wallace Contracts Ltd was founded in 1978 by Managing Director Daniel Wallace. The core trade is painting and decorating and we offer a wide range of specialisms within this to various market sectors.

We are able to carry out all types of works for commercial, residential and industrial customers. We provide a personal service to customers, along with advice, support and planning, appropriate to the customers' needs. We pride ourselves on a professional and safe approach, and a clean and tidy finish for all works we undertake.

We offer a wide range of painting and decorating services, which include:

- Wallpaper coverings
- Specialised paint finishes, e.g. Rag roll, scumble, marble, wood graining, etc
- Varnishing
- Staining
- Spray painting
- Fire retardant / nullifiers
- French polishing
- Plastering
- Internal and external

Our client base includes: Philip Lally Builders & Bar Fitters, Phones 4u, Next, Mothercare, Early Learning Centre, Middletons Maintenance, Seddon Property Services, Various Breweries, KIER & Alton Towers, to name a few.

We have a proven track record of completing work on

time to the highest standard with all our work and for all market sectors. We only use the very best materials for all our works to ensure a high quality finish.

Examples of the types of property we have experience working on are as follows:

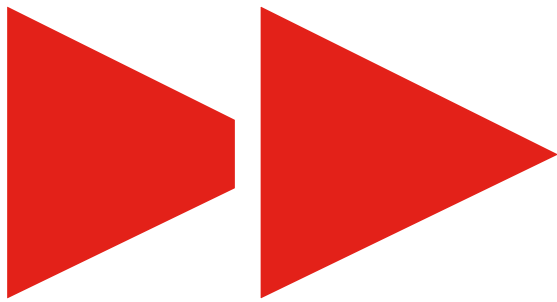
- Houses
  - new and existing
- New builds
- Pubs
- Schools / universities
- Domestic
- Offices
- Factories
- Warehouses
- Hospitals

All of our staff are trained to the highest levels so we are able to offer technical support and advice for all our services.

We are members of CHAS and Constructionline and take all matters in relation to health and safety seriously for our own staff and others who may be affected by our activities. Our safety ethos is - 'safety is a right, not a privilege'.

We have been working in partnership with PM Training for over 20 years. One of our foremen, aged 26, was a former PM trainee which proves the value of investing in our youth. We also have a number of full time employees that are former PM graduates.





# spotlight on... continued

## Re-introducing apprentices back to businesses

Ford Mainwaring Ltd specialise in commercial plumbing and heating.

With over 40 years, trading knowledge, we pride ourselves on our ability to meet deadlines and maintain operational services to all our customers including local authorities, HMP Services, private educational establishments and private housing schemes.

In 2008 Ford Mainwaring Ltd became part of the Bowdon Group, a £20 million turnover engineering and support services company providing external corporate experience and support to Ford Mainwaring in their continuing policy of selective tendering in specialist market sectors, while maximising opportunities through frameworks and strategic partnerships.

As a leading contractor within the construction industry we encourage the local supply chain to actively engage with PM Training, they provide us with vital training for all our employees in all aspects of our industry. PM Training are playing a key role in re-introducing apprentices back to business which is giving young and adult learners the opportunity to gain employment. This ethos will ultimately result in the sustainability of the local economy.

Our dynamic team's knowledge and enthusiasm enables us to approach projects from responsive maintenance works to major refurbishments and with our extensive training and continued change programme, we ensure that all projects are completed to a high standard, that meet current regulations and the client's needs. This dedication to our clients has ensured that we remain one of the leading mechanical service providers within our market sector.

Our Stoke-on-Trent Head Office gives us excellent access to all the major routes within the Midlands area and with satellite offices in Altrincham, Nottingham and Sheffield, we now have the facilities to meet the needs and share our expertise with a greater number of clients.

## FORD MAINWARING

Heating, Plumbing & Mechanical Engineers since 1966



### Market specialists for:



Local Authorities



HM Prison Services



Industrial & Commercial



Private Education Establishments

Proud to be part of the



Approved by





## Blooming marvellous...

PM Training's green fingers paid off for a third year running at the Shrewsbury Flower Show as they won the silver gilt prize for their garden pictured above.

This followed a silver gilt award last year and a silver award the previous year.

Congratulations to Carl Gerrard, Horticulture Assessor at PM and his team on his continued winning form!

## Painting and decorating course

**A group of Asian women were taught painting and decorating skills at PM Training's workshops in Shelton.**

The course was offered to the women as part of the Aspire Group's work to make its service more accessible to the wider community.

Emma Wake, an apprentice with Aspire Housing, helped to give the two week course alongside John Adams, manager of the painting and decorating department.

The women learned basic painting techniques, stencilling and wallpapering.



*PM has joined Facebook!*

'Like' our page for the latest up to date information on PM Training.  
Simply search PM Training and it will be the first group you see.

