

Perhaps I should start this newsletter offering our congratulations to Prince William and Kate Middleton (Yorkshire lass you know) on their Marriage. We wish the Royal couple, who will be known as the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, all the best for the future. I am very pleased, following our plea in the last newsletter requesting more news, has been acted on and we have included as much as possible on some very interesting articles which have been sent in. Do please remember to keep sending in as much as information possible about projects you have been, or are currently working on, as we are very happy to include the details for you. Believe it or not, this humble newsletter of ours is received by hundreds of businesses and individuals alike, with most recipients' requesting a copy, so don't miss out on your opportunity for some free publicity! As reported in our last newsletter, Sweden's **Fire and Rescue's** diving school in Gothenburg completed its first Weldcraft-pro underwater welding course in February, although we

Weldcraft Pro

respectfully request not in February next year please, not unless you are expecting a heat wave. In the north of the country, the temperature was a chilly -38°C. Fortunately, in Gothenburg things weren't quite so bad, but it was still very cold. It was quite a large class, with 17 student's producing 25 weldments for examination. We are pleased to report the average pass mark awarded was 'Distinction', with no reported failures for the knowledge based closed book exam and only one



student failing his practical weld test. Mr Dan Hedberg the head of the diving school offered a warm welcome to our intrepid welding surveyor David Keats, with introductions to their welding instructor, a top ESAB welding man, Anders Eriksson and the diving instructors, Per and Patric and not forgetting the lovely Ellen, who was acting as David's translator and right-hand women during his visit. Not that much translation was needed, as impressive standards of written and spoken English were exercised, by all. David says "thank you Ellen". While we are still on the subject of the Weldcraft-Pro course our diving school partner The **Professional Diving Academy** (PDA), in Dunoon Scotland have had a very busy 1st quarter of 2011 running two successful courses, including one for Plymouth based BAE systems. We are happy to report that one of the recently trained WeldCraft-Pro divers, **Laurence Moulton**, has

flown out to Karpathos Island, in Greece to carry out a class weld repair on the vessel **Eems Transporter**, belonging to the Dutch company Amasus. He was the only qualified welder-diver on-site and the weld repair, which



consisted of repairing a number of cracks in the underside of the hull using our **Barracuda Gold** welding

electrodes. The repair was approved by **Bureau Veritas**. The **MV Pantanal** a 7000 ton Heavy



Lift Vessel, which suffered severe bottom damage to her hull having dragged anchor and went ashore off the coast of Galway on the West Coast of Ireland on the 2nd of April. The vessel was subsequently refloated on a high tide with the assistance of Tugboats. **Irish Sea Contractors** were awarded the contract to perform urgent temporary repairs, in accordance with Germanischer Lloyd approval, to enable the vessel to sail to Bremerhaven where it will be dry-docked. The 10 man dive team worked 12 hour days, with two divers in the water, working independently, at any one time. Divers used a Tornado Gun to fire 8mm studs into the hull in order to secure a temporary work platform

to position the diver at each hole location. In order to seal the leaks prior to welding a fibreglass repair product, Tradecc 6890, was inserted into hole in plastic bags, which were punctured in position by the diver & within 30 seconds of contact with sea water sealed the hole completely. Holes were accurately measured using a plastic template & repair patches were fabricated on deck to template size. Divers welded all steel plate patches by overhead welding using 3.2mm **Barracuda Gold** welding electrodes, supplied by Speciality Welds. After some 50 hours of underwater welding was completed, the vessel was completely sealed and the GL Surveyor released the vessel for the onward 4 day passage to Bremerhaven. All work was videoed and full monitoring was provided, at all times.

As official distributor to **Lastek**, we can now offer the full range of welding products. The Belgium based company has been manufacturing top quality welding consumables since the early 1960's as well manufacturing a wide range of welding equipment, including

Some things are
built to last

lastek
Another beautiful day for welding

welding inverters and transformer-rectifier machines. We will be pleased to offer their extensive range of consumables, which include mild steel, alloy steel, difficult to weld steels, stainless steel, aluminium, hardfacing, cast iron, copper alloys, silver solder, etc, etc. So no matter what your welding problem, **Lastek** has a solution. In our last newsletter we mentioned our welder training and qualification centre, which opened early January 2011. We are pleased to announce the 1st 16 weeks of 2011 has shown a buoyant market for welder training. We have been busy training and testing welders, for both locally and nationally based businesses throughout the UK. We offer training and formal



"Fusion Line"

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welder qualification testing to all national and international standards and as official welding surveyors to Zurich, we can offer



insurance approved qualifications in the following arc welding processes; MMA, MIG/MAG, TIG and Oxy-acetylene. We also offer safety training on safe use and set-up of oxy-fuel equipment. We are pleased to have been of service to **NexGen Wind Power**, a company based in Stroud, Gloucestershire and who are Europe's leading designer, manufacturer and supplier of wind monitoring masts. We were asked to develop an approved welding procedure and qualify their welders for the new 80M masts they will manufacture. This work required a fresh look at the methodology of welding and included redesigning the weld preparations for the main mast and

welding set-up, etc. We also looked at increasing productivity as well as quality, but still using the MAG (135) welding process, which was best suited to this application. We supplied a new Mahe C-MIG 250



welding machine to ensure the best possible welding conditions, for the most cost effective solution for their application. We attended site to work with the team and produced welding procedures in accordance with BSEN ISO 15614-1, with welder qualifications to BSEN 287-1. **C. E. Bennett & Sons** recently attended our test centre to undertake qualification for their

TIG welders welding 50.0mm diameter carbon and stainless steel pressure process pipework to BSEN 287-1 standards. The Greek based company **Marex** recently visited us here in Cleckheaton, to discuss joint working and delivery of products and services to their part of the world. We have also discussed an underwater welding project, which involves welding a 250mm diameter pipe underwater. We are pleased to be working with **WMS Fabrications**, an aluminium



specialist, to start manufacturing specialist bespoke roof racks for a range of vehicles, initially starting off with roof-racks to fit Toyota vehicles, with other vehicles coming online shortly. **We would also like to say a big thank you to the following customers for their support since the beginning of the New Year; Hytech, Dutch Diving, Divewise, Marex, Terrossystem, Underwater Centre, Shearwater, Clyde Commercial, Advanced Marine, Subsea Services, Corrocell, Advanced Marine, Chamber Oceanics, JG Burns, Norwegian Diving School, Ship Technics, Kortek, ADS Diving, Spiro Services, Atlant AS, JS Dykkerservice, BPN Explorer, Luskia, Fish Dive, Coral Windows, Pete Noble, Provence Soudage, Sea & Land Technology, Tecnosoud, Trans Continental and Gate Elektonk.** If want us to include one of your stories, send us the details and we'll do the rest.

