

*Built on reputation since 1985*

JAN 2016

## NOTE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



A huge welcome to you all in 2016, I hope you all managed to enjoy some much needed down time over Christmas and the New Year. 2015 went by in a flash proving to be a very busy, productive and positive year for us all at Agetur; we additionally celebrated our landmark 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October. In May last year we had a very successful "family fun day" and are looking to do a repeat of this again in spring when we will hopefully have more conducive weather. I hope to see many of you there.

I for one came back to work in 2016 refreshed, renewed and ready to go. I was in India for New Year and spent time in some beautiful and serene landscapes which allowed me to stop and think and make plans for the company's future. The company in 30 years has evolved and continues to do so but we must not rest on our laurels and must always strive to be the best and improve ourselves at the same time as looking at the long term plans for the company.

The team at Agetur are core to us achieving all we do and once again I thank you all for your hard work last year and look forward to another successful year in 2016. We must not of course forget our clients and say a big thank you to them for their continued support and business, we really do appreciate it.

Rob Rexton  
Chairman

*"In the race for quality there is no finish line"*



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## COMMERCIAL

We hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year, the end of 2015 was manic as usual and we appreciate your efforts in making it easier (slightly) for us.

2015 was an extremely busy year which allowed Agetur to continue to grow. July being a particularly good month to affirming the make hay while the sun shines adage. With the government “determined” to build around 200,000+ homes a year to meet the rising needs of the population and with the news this month that they are committed to putting £1.2 billion to prepare brownfield sites for 30,000 starter homes over the next 5 years they have certainly started the year positively and this can only be reassuring as we head into what will undoubtedly be another productive year.



Since you last heard from us we have been working **extremely** hard and have secured works with:

Taylor Wimpey - Didcot Blue land (252 units) and Chinnor commercial unit (21 units)

Heyford Homes - Brook Furlong (48 units)

In addition to the above we have either submitted or we are currently tendering for :

Dorchester- Upper Heyford, Phase 4—(86 Units)

Taylor Wimpey - Wheatley (51 units) and Marcham (61 units)

Bovis Homes - Biddenham Eastern Parcel (133 units), Irthlingborough (76 units)

Linden Homes – Oxley Park (130 units), Biddenham East (101 units)

Miller Homes – Drayton (73 units), Didcot (33 units)

Looking forward we are expecting to receive new enquiries for the following developments:

Taylor Wimpey – Brackley (73 units), Chesterton (45 units), Longford Park (125 units), Harwell (203 units), Chinnor (80 units).

Bovis Homes – Phase B3 Upper Heyford (100 units)

Linden Homes Abingdon – East Hanney (150-200 units)

Linden Homes Peterborough – Biddenham Joint Venture with Bovis (350 units)

Last year’s pace shows no signs of abating and this is only a positive for us all despite the pressures that this brings. It is imperative that we get all variations agreed by your surveyor prior to the works being carried out, **if they are not agreed we don’t get paid**. As always please keep in close contact with your surveyor and don’t hesitate to call if you have any queries or concerns.



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## HEALTH & SAFETY

**Control of Contractors:** We are not alone in using specialist Contractors to complete works on site and as we use the same guys quite regularly it is easy to become complacent in their supervision. All site supervisors and foremen must remain vigilant when contractors work on site. The Contractors work for you, the quality of their works reflect on Agetur (UK) Ltd, the method of working, use of barriers, use of PPE reflect on you as the Foreman/Supervisor. If an accident/incident occurs you will be looked at.

Ensure any contractor coming to site, yes even JO Paving, Bancumm etc. report to you each morning, that they have booked into site, ensure they are wearing suitable and clean PPE, on the first day of the visit, for each and every contractor employee, ensure they have signed up to their Risk Assessments and Method Statements and finally monitor their works as needed each day they are on site

If you have any safety issues with them that do not seem to be resolved call me or Lee and we will do something about it. If you have issues with the quality of the works speak to John and John G and they will do something about it.

There are lots of Contractors that would love to work for Agetur (UK) Ltd we don't have to accept unsafe or poor working practices.



**Training:** I failed to introduce Jane Rexton to you on the last newsletter. Jane has taken over from Janette and has revolutionised the training database and the provision of information cards etc. for you, and contracts for employees. Welcome Jane.

Jane books training and sends out joining instructions and chases the cards/certificates as needed. So if you need anyone trained speak to me/Lee/Jane but having said that CITB have changed the rules on eligibility for funding and we are working on this at the moment to make sure we get value for money in all that we do. So there may be a bit more of a process for us to go through before we organise something.

**Audit:** Lee and I plan to complete desktop audit of your paperwork in your site office over the coming months. Lee is putting together a programme that we will do our best to keep too.

Wally Lishman

## HUMAN RESOURCES

Over the last year there have been many changes to family rights that apply to employees of companies. These include Shared Parental Leave, Antenatal Rights, Flexible Working, Time off for Dependents, New Childcare Savings Scheme and finally Statutory Payment Rates. We have attached a leaflet to cover all these which will apply to all **employees** of Agetur.



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## AGETUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015 the management team along with many of our long serving staff members celebrated Agetur's 30 Anniversary with a day at Towcester races' Lord Hesketh Box. Much fun was had by all.



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## PLANT DEPARTMENT

For a second year running we survived the festive period unscathed with no damages or theft. Please let's continue this trend by being very vigilant on site, also when locking up at night and over weekends.



We have a new addition to the plant team in Jason Popham who has joined as Plant Assistant to manage our fleet of vehicles and ensure we are completely compliant. Jason will visit all sites to ensure all vehicles are up kept, are taxed and have up to date MOT's. He will decide when replacements are required, sort out breakdowns, services etc. His job is also to deal with our fleet insurance and lastly to ensure that all our licences are valid and as clean as they can be with regular checks. Please make sure you assist him.

Jason has joined us with a wealth of experience having worked in fleet management with his previous employer. He will make sure all sites have his contact details and is now the man to call with all queries/problems regarding vehicles. Jason's mobile number is 07885 367369.

With Jason in charge of our vehicle fleet, Karla and I can concentrate on the plant side of things supporting site when needed. Hiring of plant will always be required and we will continue to minimize this by utilising our own plant as best we can. This is only achievable with help as we have said many times before; if there is equipment not being used, please get in contact so we can utilise it.

At the end of last year we were busy buying pumps; a 2no. 4" super silent, 2no. 3" open set and 1no. 6" open set pumps. These are now being allocated and will be used across all our sites when required. If there is kit on site not needed then let us know, also if there are plant requirements, let us know.

We have also purchased a new service van for Steve and pick up for Sean over the last few months and will continue to upgrade and increase as and when required.

Many thanks for your support.

Gary



## **GWP DISTRICT CENTRE STORM TANK TEMPORARY WORKS**

During the construction of the Wantage Road Junction another insitu Storm tank was added to the design, this one being an awkward half-moon shape constrained by the live new junction on 2 sides which included water mains (400mm ductile) and gas, electric and BT.

MGF designed the temporary works to support all these factors and allow an access slope on the rear side, the sheets were driven first, then the brace installed at a ground level reduced to exactly the level of the underside of the brace following which the tank was excavated through the bays from the top. A small excavator then trimmed the tank base accessing down the slope.

It was a case of working with the shoring designer and installing exactly to a pre-planned process which ended up as a safe and calculated temporary works procedure.

Sam James



## MOTOR RACING ARRIVES AT AGETUR

Senior Quantity Surveyor Cormac Flanagan has purchased the above car to go motor racing in 2016 in the Historic Sports Car Club Formula Ford Championship. The Historic Sports Car Club Championship is the most prestigious historic motor racing championship in the UK and organises racing at some of the country's leading circuits like Silverstone, Donnington Park and Brands Hatch as well as hosting races internationally. Its well worth attending a race day as they have usually around 10 – 12 races per day featuring various other types of historic racing cars including GT, Formula Cars and Saloon Cars.



Cormac's car is a 1968 Formula Ford 1600 and is one of only 59 ever made (Nr 39). Alexis Formula Fords were the first car designed specifically for the new Formula Ford racing class and this category is still going strong today with championships all over the world.

The Alexis Mk14 Formula Ford was first seen on track in Autumn 1967. Seventies Formula One star James Hunt was the most famous driver to start his single seater career in an Alexis Mk14 (car number 24).

Cormac took delivery of his Alexis in September and to date has completed one test session at Silverstone in November 2015. Another test session is planned for late February with his first race on 16<sup>th</sup> April at Castle Combe Circuit near Bath. There are further dates at Silverstone International Circuit (May 21<sup>st</sup>), Snetterton (4<sup>th</sup> June), Cadwell Park (18<sup>th</sup> June), Brands Hatch GP Circuit (1<sup>st</sup> July), Croft (6<sup>th</sup> August), Oulton Park (27<sup>th</sup> August), Brands Hatch Indy Circuit (24<sup>th</sup> September) and Silverstone Club Circuit (15<sup>th</sup> October).



Agetur have sponsored his Racing Overalls, Helmet etc. and the Agetur Logo will be displayed on the car.



We are delighted to inform you that at the event at Towcester races in November to celebrate Agetur UK's 30 years in business we held a raffle to raise funds for Kidsaid, and are pleased to let you know we raised a fabulous £1,000. Well done all.

### STOP PRESS

After a very successful fun day for Agetur Staff in May last year it was unanimously agreed that we had to hold another one again in 2016, so ...

**SAVE THE DAY – SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016** (More details to come)

