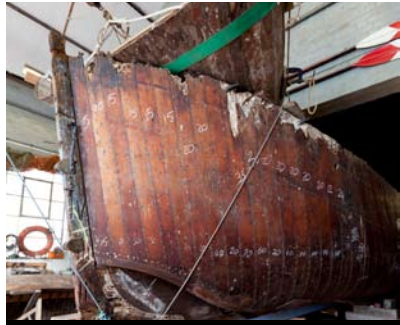


# PORT of TYNE TYNE CRIER

SEPT 2011 ISSUE 70



**BRIDGES FESTIVAL / AN UNUSUAL ADDITION TO THE SWING BRIDGE – P4**



**PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE / THE HENRY FREDERICK SWAN – P5**



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**LISTENING TO YOU / SEE THE HEADLINE RESULTS OF OUR ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT SURVEY**

**OUR GREAT NORTH RUNNERS / PROVING TO BE GOOD SPORTS**

**QUARTERLY RESULTS / FIND OUT HOW WE'VE DONE SO FAR THIS YEAR**



## BOOSTING THE REGION'S ECONOMY

**Summer 2011 has proved to be an extremely busy time at the Port – so much so that a couple of 'Peers of the Realm' came up to find out exactly what's been going on.**

The two Lords – Lord Mandelson, the former Labour Minister and European Commissioner and Lord Green, the current Minister for Trade and Investment – both visited on the same day, as part of two separate delegations. Lord Mandelson was here as part of a study into the impact of globalisation, and Lord Green's visit was part of a wider UK Trade and Industry investment delegation to the North East. Both were eager to understand more about the about the

Port of Tyne's existing role in contributing £421m to the North East economy, as well as the future business opportunities presented by renewable energy and offshore wind.

In preparation for these prestigious visits, we did some additional research into the value of goods that actually passed through the Port of Tyne last year and came up with a number of very interesting facts and figures.

If we estimate how much the cargo that passes through the Port each year is actually worth, we arrive at a figure that comes to almost £10 billion! Approximately 74% of that consists of the value of the cars that we import

and export, with 22% down to the value of the goods within the containers we handle and just 4% covering the value of the conventional and bulk cargoes that cross the quayside. Of that £10 billion value, 59% is exported from the Port, with imports counting for 41%.

So with July the busiest month so far this year and August not far behind it, there's no doubt that the Port of Tyne is playing its part in enabling companies to get their goods to international markets in Europe and beyond competitively – that's good news for the North East and for the UK economy as a whole! ■

### FAST FACTS

**£9.6BN**

APPROXIMATE VALUE OF ALL GOODS IMPORTED AND EXPORTED THROUGH THE PORT OF TYNE IN 2010

**£5.6BN**

APPROXIMATE VALUE OF GOODS EXPORTED

**£3.9BN**

APPROXIMATE VALUE OF GOODS IMPORTED

From left to right: Sir Ian Wrigglesworth, Chairman; Lord Green; Andrew Moffat, CEO.



**WELCOME...**

...to latest issue of our new-look *Tyne Crier*.

We've received very positive feedback from you about the new look and style and I'm pleased to hear that it's gone down so well. But don't forget that *Tyne Crier* is **your** magazine. Please let us know if there are specific stories that you want to see in *Tyne Crier* and whether we're giving you too much or too little information – that way we can fine tune your magazine to make it even better.

Since the last issue of *Tyne Crier* we've had a few major milestones and events to report. Not only have we broken quite a few records on the river, but we've also been having a big impact out there in the local community. In this issue you can read more about how the business is continuing to perform well, the arrival of several record-breaking vessels, and how our support of both the Bridges and the Mouth of the Tyne Festivals has helped to draw many more visitors to the local area.

**Andrew Moffat**  
Chief Executive Officer

**NEWS IN BRIEF/**

# BIGGER SHIPS MEAN



**The recent completion of the major dredging operation on the river has resulted in noticeable increases in bulk cargo activity at the Port. With bigger and bigger vessels now able to dock with ease, we're seeing more and more coal cargoes coming into the Port than ever before.**

Deepening the channel to 10 metres along its length has really put the Port into a new league of international ports for bulk shipping. The Port's first fully-laden coal panamax vessel, the *Alam Penting*, berthed on 4 August, carrying a cargo of 75,000 tonnes of coal, shipped from New Orleans and bound for Drax power station. Since then, records have been broken

almost every week with the arrival of even bigger ships. The largest ship that has docked to date is the 229m-long *Key Guardian*, which docked on 16 August.

This is all good news for the Port, as we expect to get busier and busier with coal shipments going forward. In 2010 we had 21 shipments of coal during the year – by the end of August 2011 we had handled 20 shipments of coal already, with an average of three shipments per month expected between now and Christmas. But it's not just the number of shipments – it's the increased volume of coal in each vessel that has put the volumes of coal passing through the Port up by

78% on last year's levels. And that's just counting to the end of August!

**“YOU ONLY HAVE TO LOOK AT THE AERIAL SHOTS OF THE PORT AT THE MOMENT TO SEE HOW BUSY WE ARE.”**

The Port's Chief Operating Officer, Steven Harrison, explains that despite the national emphasis on renewable energy sources, coal is still an important source of energy in the UK.

**FAST FACTS**

**75,000**  
TONNES CARGO OF COAL ON THE ALAM PENTING

**755,000**  
TONNAGE OF COAL HANDLED IN 2010

**1.35M**  
TONNAGE OF COAL HANDLED TO DATE IN 2011

**CONTACT**

**Tyne Crier is your magazine and we want to make sure it's full of the right information to keep you informed about the issues that are important to you.**

We know from the employee survey that you think *Tyne Crier* is an important means of communication, so please get in touch with any comments you have, any information you want to see included and any news you want to publicise.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Lisa Donohoe  
T. 0191 440 7463  
lisa.donohoe@portofityne.co.uk

# BETTER BUSINESS



“Coal accounts for almost 30% of the UK's energy production,” explains Steven, “so it's a vital part of the country's energy mix. The UK still produces its own coal, but because we currently consume over 50 million tonnes a year, we need to import about two thirds of that total to meet our energy requirements.

“The Port of Tyne has become an increasingly popular import route for coal into this country. This is mainly because of the cost effective way that

we can transport the coal from here to its end destination at the power stations in the Aire Valley.

“As well as our £5m investment in dredging the channel, we've also invested £1.6m in restoring the Boldon East Curve stretch of rail track which allows the coal freight trains to go directly east from the Port of Tyne to pick up the main East Coast mainline – by doing this we've saved seven route miles and up to two hours on journey time.”

The joint impact of the Port's increased capacity for the bigger vessels and the improved transport links shows how joined-up thinking about how we invest in our infrastructure here at the Port is paying big-picture dividends.

“You only have to look at the aerial shots of the Port at the moment to see how busy we are,” says Steven, “and the prospects for the future mean we look set for it to continue that way.” ■

**OTHER NEWS/**



**The Port of Tyne has welcomed** a new non-executive director to its board.

Maxine Pott has over 20 years' experience in accountancy and business management and is currently director of RMT Accountants and Business Advisors in Newcastle upon Tyne. As a former non-executive director of the Universal Building Society and of the Newcastle Building Society,

Maxine will be a key addition to the Port's board of directors.

CEO Andrew Moffat said: “As well as her operational expertise and proven track record, Maxine brings with her a wealth of national and international board experience. I'm really looking forward to working with her as we progress our business growth plans for the Port.” ■

**We've landed a brand new** warehousing and distribution contract with Co-operative Clothing, a subdivision of the Co-operative Group that supplies workwear to all the different divisions of the organisation. This new contract will see up to 500 pallets of different uniform items held in the warehouse at any one time. Any Co-operative employee will then be able to order a full set of clothing items to fit them, right down to their shoe size and the pack will be wrapped in one go and delivered to that employee anywhere in the country! ■

**The North Eastern Local Enterprise** Partnership (LEP) has just won Government approval for a new low-carbon development zone on the banks of the Tyne.

The new zone will consist of 117 hectares of land that includes the former Swan Hunter shipyard, the Neptune Yard and the Port of Tyne North Estate, as well as the ultra low carbon vehicle sites adjacent to the A19 in Sunderland. Creating the zone is intended to result in approximately 7,000 jobs for the local economy and will also encourage investment because of the enhanced capital allowances available to potential investors. The zone is intended to be fully functioning by 2022. ■

**DAY IN THE LIFE OF... DANIELLE DIXON**



**Danielle Dixon joined the Port of Tyne in 2003 after being offered the job whilst on a work placement. She has just recently returned back to work following her maternity leave after having her first daughter Grace.**

“I started out in the Accounts department originally and I'm now a Traffic Administrator in Logistics,” explains Danielle. “This means that every day is really varied – one minute I'm inputting the status changes on items in the warehouse or proof of delivery notes and the next I'm tracking down missing pallets.

“My biggest challenge is getting the proof of deliveries on the system as quickly as possible so that our customers get the most up to date information and can see what's going on straightaway. I can get anything from 40 to 50 jobs to input every morning which all need doing straightaway.

**“IT GIVES ME REAL JOB SATISFACTION TO KEEP MY CUSTOMERS HAPPY.”**

“I also deal with the drivers and all the different traffic departments within the Port. Twice a day I go through the warehouse to see whether I have any delivery notes to be scanned and filed. Being organised is such an essential part of my job and there's always something that needs doing so my days are always filled.

“The other thing I enjoy is dealing directly with the customers and getting to the bottom of their enquiries. It gives me real job satisfaction to keep my customers happy and know that I have done the best job possible.

“Having a great team around you to bounce off definitely helps. The people here at the Port are great and it really helps me get a lot out of my job.” ■

SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY/

HERE...

...at the Port of Tyne, we're very proud to support our local communities. We believe that as well as the great impact we have on the region's economy, it is essential that we play our part in the social and cultural development of the North East too.

We do this by actively supporting community projects as well as sponsoring arts and sporting events that benefit the wider community. Here's just a selection of the events and activities that the Port and its employees have been involved in over recent months.

THE SWING BRIDGE GOES GREEN



The Port of Tyne was a major sponsor of the first-ever Bridges Festival this year, with our very own Swing Bridge being one of the festival's star turns.

As one of the focal points for the festival, the Bridge hosted workshops and performances, as well as tours of its inner workings. Artist Julia Barton also created a new art installation on the Bridge – a specially-planted garden, entitled *Lost and Found*.

Julias' inspiration for the garden came from the bridge's original designer, Lord Armstrong. Both he and his wife were keen horticulturists, bringing plants from around the world back to their home in the North East, so creating a garden on his bridge seemed a fitting tribute.

The Swing Bridge was also the star of the festival's spectacular finale when special lighting and an explosion of



fireworks lit up the night sky. Thanks to the many members of staff who made this event such a great success.

The Port of Tyne's support of the festival was part of our community activities but it was also a stepping stone towards the celebrations being planned in the region for the Olympic Games in 2012. Watch this space for more information! ■

MAKING WAVES

A dozen swimmers made a splash with their own aquatic version of the Great North Run.

Instead of joining 54,000 runners on the road from Newcastle to South Shields, the twelve open water swimmers plunged into the River Tyne and made the journey in their own way, ending at Littlehaven beach.

The 16km river race was to raise money for the RNLI, and the competitors worked closely with the Port of Tyne and the Environment Agency to ensure that the water quality and cleanliness were up to scratch. As Harbour Master, Mike Nicholson explains, there were also safety concerns to consider. "On the day, we had to take great care to monitor all the traffic on the river and make sure the swimmers were safe," said Mike. "The swimmers also crossed paths with the Shields Ferry on their journey, so the passengers got a unique view of the swimmers in action."

The swim took four hours and in the view of organiser Tony Green from South Shields, it's definitely not a soft option. "In our view it's even tougher than the run!", said Tony. "We hope the attention will help to boost our sport of open water swimming and demonstrate the Tyne's clean water, thereby promoting one of the UK's best salmon rivers."

Go to <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/tyneswimteam> to support the team's fundraising efforts. ■

KEEPING IT LIVE



One of the community arts groups supported by the Port of Tyne, through the Community Foundation, held its 13th annual Youth Theatre Festival this summer.

Live Youth Theatre encourages young people from across Tyneside to use theatre and drama to improve their social and interpersonal skills, with almost 250 youngsters getting involved every year. This year's festival, entitled *Quality Treats*, was an opportunity for families and audiences to see some of the results of Live



Theatre's work, with a range of performances taking place around NewcastleGateshead Quayside as part of the Bridges Festival.

*Blackout*, a hard-hitting play about bullying, was one of the highlights as was *Words on the Street*, which used unknown and surprising locations on the Quayside as inspiration for fun and lively street theatre performances, each devised and performed in response to the theme of bridges. ■

GOING DOTTY

Here at the Port we are getting into the Christmas spirit and sponsoring the Customs House pantomime *Aladdin* which takes place from 30 November to 7 January. As part of the support, we are working with a local primary school in South Shields to design a dress for Widow Twanky, otherwise known as Dame Dotty.

The designs will be inspired by the Port itself and will be bought to life by the award-winning costume designer Paul Shriek. Paul is renowned for his avant-garde style and engineering eye so you can expect something spectacular.

You'll be able to see the dress for yourself by going along to the panto on 10 December. Join your family, colleagues and friends for the Port of Tyne's own special show – book your tickets through [jean.dodds@portoftyne.co.uk](mailto:jean.dodds@portoftyne.co.uk) ■



PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

They don't build them like they used to...

That's the view of the dedicated volunteers down at the North East Maritime Trust and the reason why they are busy raising money for their biggest project to date: the renovation of the Henry Frederick Swan. This 94-year-old lifeboat was heading for the scrapyards until the North East Maritime Trust stepped in back in 2005.

As Tim West explains, since the Maritime Trust started up in 2005, their aim has been to do what they can to preserve the heritage of the River Tyne and its seafaring history.

"Many of the skills and techniques used in building boats such as the Henry Frederick Swan have all but disappeared from the Tyne," explains

Tim. "We wanted to rediscover those original skills and bring an important part of the river's history back to life."

The Trust's first project was the restoration of the Royal Diadem 11, a Port of Tyne Foy boat, a job that took the band of volunteers over 14 months. However, the restoration of the Henry Frederick Swan is a much bigger task altogether.

"This vessel has been through so many different jobs in its lifetime. It served during wartime, it's been a training vessel for the Sea Scouts, you name it," says Dave Parker. "We discovered it abandoned in 2005 and we plan to renovate the boat as closely as possible to her original state, from the oak and mahogany timber used in her construction to the brass bolts holding her together."

One piece of luck was discovering the Henry Frederick Swan's original blueprints, obtained through a long-shot phone call to the National Maritime Museum. This has meant that the team of 15 volunteers have got a very clear idea of what they're working towards. The other piece of good news for the project is the support they have received from the Port of Tyne through its Community Foundation, which has allowed the volunteers to purchase the timber they need to complete the boat's hull.

"The money from the Port has made a huge difference," says Dave, "but we've still got a long way to go. We need to raise more funds for the sails and to rebuild the engine, so we've got fund-raising events constantly on the go."

We want as many people as possible to come along and find out more about what we're doing, and hopefully staff at the Port will be interested in finding out how the Port's support is helping."

Visit [www.nemaritimetrust.co.uk](http://www.nemaritimetrust.co.uk) to find out more about the work of the Trust. ■

**"WE WANTED TO REDISCOVER THOSE ORIGINAL SKILLS AND BRING AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE RIVER'S HISTORY BACK TO LIFE."**

EVENTS FOR THE DIARY

<p>Sunday 9 October</p> <p><b>It's a Knockout</b> Carolyn Cormier 0191 427 4326</p>	<p>Saturday 29 – Sunday 30 Oct</p> <p><b>Charity zip slide river event</b> Come along and take part</p>	<p>Thursday 10 November</p> <p><b>Port of Tyne Reflect Awards</b> Winners will be announced</p>	<p>Saturday 10 December</p> <p><b>Aladdin at Customs House</b> Jean Dodds 0191 440 7429</p>	<p>Friday 23 December</p> <p><b>Port of Tyne Christmas Party</b> Gill Scott 0191 440 7497</p>
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BUSINESS PERFORMANCE/

# HOW ARE WE DOING? THE FIRST SIX MONTHS



**“AS ALWAYS, WE WILL NEED YOUR SUPPORT IF WE ARE TO CONTINUE TO MEET OUR TARGETS.”**

John Hudson, Chief Financial Officer

We're now a full six months through the financial year at the Port of Tyne, and in line with our commitment to keep you informed about how the business is doing, we've put together a summary of our performance at this key financial milestone.

At the end of Quarter 1 (January to March), our turnover was lagging slightly behind the budget forecast due to the timing of the payments we receive through our 'take or pay' contracts for coal. In the last quarter we've caught up on the turnover gap and our turnover now stands at £26.7m, £0.1m ahead of where we expected to be in the budget.

There are a number of reasons for this. Firstly we have had strong car volumes through the last quarter as well as good performance in the income we receive from harbour and mooring fees and pilotage services. Also, those of you working in bulk and conventional cargoes will have noticed the increases in activity, particularly around coal shipments. As a result, the turnover for bulk cargo is now back in line with budget.

But it's not just about turnover. Our key profit measure, EBITDA, is slightly behind budget, again because of the impact on our figures of the flexibility of our 'take or pay' coal contracts.

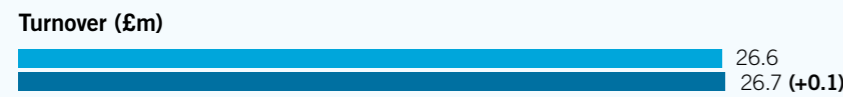
We expected to handle a number of shipments in the first half of the year, which did not materialise, and this has had a downward effect on our EBITDA to date. However, we will either receive this income as we handle further coal cargoes during the year, or we will receive a payment of the contract balance at the end of the year.

Our forecast for 2011 therefore remains on target for an EBITDA figure of £14.8m and a profit before tax figure of £8.4m.

The charts below give a snapshot of our performance so far this year. ■

## PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT YEAR TO DATE

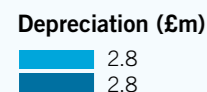
Key ■ Budget ■ Actual



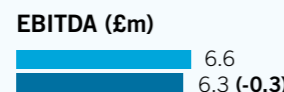
In six months turnover was £26.6m, slightly more than budget



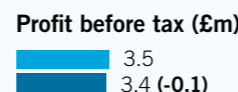
In six months gross profit was £17.8m, slightly less than forecast



Depreciation was the same as forecast



EBITDA was slightly behind budget



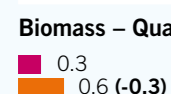
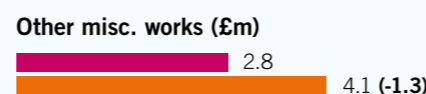
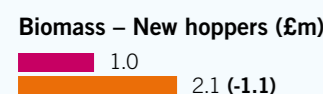
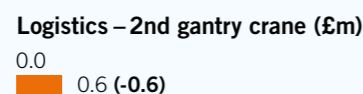
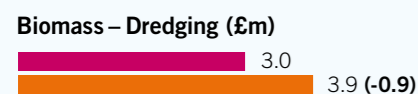
Profit before tax was slightly behind budget

## CAPITAL INVESTMENTS FOR 2011

Key ■ Budget ■ Quarter 2 forecast

We are forecasting that we spend £11.9m on capital investments this year, which is higher than originally proposed. We have brought forward some of our

planned investment expenditure for 2012 to enable us to capitalise on demand for our services, including new biomass hoppers and a second gantry crane.



# LISTENING TO YOU

Here at the Port of Tyne we've been formally asking employees for their views and thoughts on how we operate since 2008, through our annual employee survey.

Although we understand that filling out a survey form is not everybody's idea of fun, it's been heartening this year to achieve a 38% increase in the number of you who have responded as part of the survey and we'd like to say a big thank you to all of you who took the time to take part. However at 57% of all staff, it's still somewhat short of the response rate we'd like to achieve so that we can fully understand the thoughts and feelings of the Port's workforce as a whole.

The detailed results of this year's survey are published in full in the *Investors in People* newsletter, but here's just a snapshot of what we've learned.

The findings from this year's survey are being used to create a detailed action plan for each of the business areas to try and address the issues that you have raised. In a spirit of openness and transparency, we aim to keep you up to date with the actions we'll be taking – after all the success of the Port as a business depends as much on the investment we make in our workforce as the investment we make in our infrastructure.

We'll be keeping you posted. ■

## GETTING IT RIGHT

- The results show positive improvements in all six areas of the survey compared to last year:
  - Job satisfaction
  - My role
  - My Manager/Supervisor,
  - Training and development
  - Being part of the Port
  - Communications and employee involvement
- Almost **90%** of you feel that the Port is committed to training and development, a **12%** increase on last year
- **75%** of you think that communication has improved, a **10%** increase on last year
- **80%** of you say you feel part of the Port, a **10%** increase on last year



## ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

- There are two specific areas with higher levels of dissatisfaction amongst some employees: Training and Development and My Manager/Supervisor. These areas have already been identified as key priorities
  - **28%** of employees do not feel valued by their manager – this is a priority area for us
  - Just over **40%** of you feel that you do not get adequate feedback from your manager or supervisor
  - **40%** of you feel that your training needs are not regularly reviewed
- Action plans to address these issues will be discussed at your next team briefing.**



**57%**  
OF STAFF TOOK PART IN THE SURVEY

**38%**  
INCREASE IN RESPONSE RATE ON 2010 LEVELS

**“WE'D LIKE TO SAY A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU WHO TOOK THE TIME TO TAKE PART.”**

Geoff Gillon  
Director of Human Resources

## ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Here at the Port we have a big challenge on our hands to get more environmentally aware and take steps to reduce our carbon emissions.

From 2012, the Port has to pay for carbon allowances to cover the carbon emissions it makes. If we had had to pay for the emissions we've made this year it would have cost us almost £95,000 – a hefty sum.

So we are actively looking to reduce our carbon emissions by over 7,500 tonnes next year. We will be looking at infrastructure changes such as

installing solar panels for energy production and new, more energy-efficient street lighting, but each and every member of staff has a part to play in their individual job areas.

Here's just a snapshot of some of the initiatives that are underway.

– The Port has successfully retained its Environmental Certification to ISO14001. This internationally-recognised certification standard demonstrates that organisations have an effective environmental management system in place.

– Environmental awareness issues now form part of the standard induction for all new starters, so that we can help to embed energy saving principals in our people right from the start. The areas covered in the induction include issues such as oil handling, waste disposal, dust management and energy use, and the sort of steps staff can take in their everyday working lives to help reduce our carbon impacts.

– Across the organisation, we have seventeen 'champions' who encourage people in their area to

act more responsibly regarding their environmental impacts. Twice a year, the champions conduct environmental audits in an area of operation away from their usual sphere of work. This makes sure we get a fresh perspective on what's being done in each area and what can be done better. ■



# CELEBRATING OUR PEOPLE

The Port of Tyne is about much more than boats, cranes and containers – it's the people who make it tick.

Every year, we make a point of celebrating the achievements of staff members during the year, whether it's reaching a milestone in their length of their service, the completion of specific training programmes, or any new qualifications that they have obtained.

This year's presentation took place at Maritime House at the end of June and the nominated employees and their guests were invited to the ceremony and to a reception afterwards.

Here are just a few pictures of the presentations made at the ceremony, and a list of all those who received an award on the night.

**"Well done to everyone. It's a very special event and we are really proud of our employees' achievements."**

**Geoff Gillon**  
Director of Human Resources

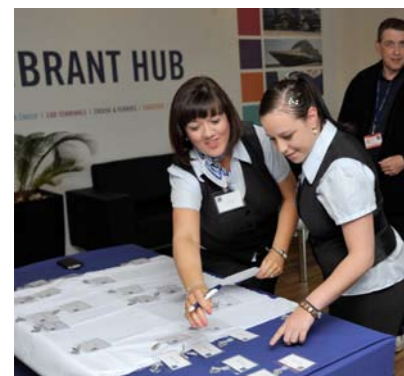
*Pictured below (clockwise from top left): Julie Cook & Sheridan Saleh; Lisa Fagan (with magician); Geoff Gillon & Andrew Moffat say a few words; Sheridan Saleh, Dorothy Tweddell, Jennifer Smith, Rob McMahon & David Lewcock; Bob Compton, Bryan Elliott, Dave McKay & Mike Nicholson.*

NAME	BUSINESS AREA	NAME	BUSINESS AREA
<b>Long service award</b>		<b>Training award continued</b>	
Ailsa Javan	Credit control	Kevin McNicholas	Security Supervisor
<b>Retirement</b>		David Houshby	Boatman
John McCormack	Master Hedwin	John Fada	Warehouse Operative
Dorothy Tweddell	Facilities Assistant	Ben Garlick	Warehouse Operative
Norma Spink	Cleaner	Colin Ratcliffe	Warehouse Operative
Dave McKay	Docks Manager	Dave Lewcock	Training & Audit Co-ordinator
Brian Elliott	Rail Freight Operative	Gordon Gibson	Terminal Operative
David Appleby	Swing Bridge Watchman	Craig McMorine	Terminal Operative
David Grant	Terminal Assistant	Alan Jeffrey	Terminal Operative
William Jobson	LGV driver	Peter Lowrey	LGV Driver
David Withycombe	LGV driver	Barry Williams	LGV Driver
Preston Wardale	LGV driver	Stephen Clark	Terminal Operative/LGV Driver
David Cliff	LGV driver	Shaun Bone	LGV Driver
<b>Professional qualification</b>		Les Ingleby	Terminal Operative/LGV Driver
Nicola Smith	HR Administrator	Mark Dugdale	Terminal Operative/LGV Driver
Lisa Fagan	HR Assistant	Alan Thompson	Terminal Operative/LGV Driver
Heather Coltman	Purchasing Supervisor	Richard Lowery	LGV Driver
Helen Watson	Purchase Ledger Clerk	Colin Fisher	Terminal Operative/LGV Driver
<b>Training award</b>		Paul Armstrong	Terminal Supervisor
Steve Young	Port Operative	Ivan Moxon	LGV Driver
Lee Callender	Port Operative	Kevin O'Brien	LGV Driver
Ken Frazer	Port Operative	Wayne Mann	LGV Driver
Robert Nesbit	Cargo Supervisor	John Hannon	LGV Driver
Dave King	Security Officer	David McDonald	Pallex Manager
Paul Boyle	Security Officer	Robert Belson	LGV Driver
Kevin Hyde	Security Officer	Len Wayman	LGV Driver
Jeff Burns	Coxswain	Brian Magnus	LGV Driver
Keith Appleby	Coxswain	Stephen Farmer	LGV Driver
Russell Herron	Boatman	Kelvin Marchant	LGV Driver
Verrill Ellis	Marine Services Manager	Jim Kennon	LGV Driver
		Wayne Mann	LGV Driver

*Pictured below (clockwise from top): Colin Ratcliffe, Ben Garlick & John Fada; Geoff Gillon & Paul Armstrong; Geoff Gillon & Ellis Verrill; Geoff Gillon & Dorothy Tweddell; Heather Coltman, Lisa Fagan & Nicola Smith.*



*Pictured below (clockwise from top left): Paul Boyle, Kevin Hyde & David King; Geoff Gillon & Ailsa Javan; Russell Herron & Keith Appleby; Andrew Moffat & Dave McKay; Geoff Gillon & Paul Boyle.*



STAFF NEWS/

60 SECONDS WITH... **SIMON NICHOLSON**



**What is your role at the Port of Tyne?**  
I work as an IT support technician, which means I look after the computer networking system across the Port.

**Likes about job?**  
I get to work with everybody at the Port. I also have to keep up with the latest technology – it all moves so quickly it keeps me on my toes.

**What did you want to be when you grew up?**  
Dirk Benedict, just so I could have such a cool name. I would have been Face out of the A-Team as well as being in the original Battlestar Galactica.

**What is your:**  
**Proudest moment?**  
I once hit a golf ball and managed to wedge it in the opening of a bird house. Literally a birdy!

**Hidden talent?**  
I play the guitar. My favourite riffs to play are *Wish you were here* by Pink Floyd, *Angels* by Jimi Hendrix and *Harvest Moon* by Neil Young.

**Favourite book?**  
The Ice and Fire Series. Best things I have ever read. Great epic sci-fi.

**Favourite sound?**  
Either Formula 1 car engines or no sound whatsoever. I have two kids so silence is rare in my house.

**Favourite drink?**  
I'm quite partial to a Bovril at work or a Bloody Mary after hours.

**Karaoke classic?**  
Hey Jude. I have been known to belt it out a few times.

**How do you relax?**  
Drawing on bananas with a biro – trust me, it's the most therapeutic thing ever!

**What historical moment would you witness?**  
A Beatles concert.

**What your colleagues don't know about you?**  
I was the 1993 McDonalds Mini Bridge Champion. I entered as a laugh and ended up winning!

**What's been your 15 mins of fame?**  
I was on telly once – the Great North Dog Walk. I managed to get on telly standing behind Katy Hill, while doing rude gestures.

**What are you looking forward to in the future?**  
I am looking forward to my son playing computer games with me so I can beat him! ■

RUNAWAY BRIDE



**Metro Radio recently held a competition for brides-to-be to win £10K towards their dream wedding. The brides were each given £10 to see who could get the furthest away from Newcastle in 24 hours.**

Two brides got to the final stage, with one bride heading of to the airport and the other, Jackie Lowes, heading straight to the International Passenger Terminal at the Port of Tyne. Alma Graham, the Terminal Supervisor saw a bride and groom walk in and thought it was a newlywed couple off on their honeymoon. "When I heard it was part of a competition we did everything we could to help Jackie," said Alma.

The winner was decided on the number of miles travelled, so DFDS Seaways kindly donated a ticket on the next ferry to Amsterdam. Jackie arrived in Amsterdam the next morning, travelling 308 miles but was sadly pipped at the post by the other bride, who travelled 336 miles to Plymouth.

It was however a great day at the Passenger Terminal, with Metro Radio making announcements throughout the day and giving lots of shout outs to Alma and Joe and the team. ■

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

We welcomed a film crew on-site recently to film part of a docudrama about the influential scientist Alan Turing, widely considered to be the founding father of artificial intelligence and computer science. The docudrama focuses on a period of his life when he sailed from Bergen, Norway to North Shields.

The filming took place at the North Pier in Tynemouth, as well as the Port of Tyne's Passenger Terminal and the finished docudrama should air on Channel Four towards the end of 2011. ■

WEDDING OF THE YEAR



Congratulations to Alan Brown (Electrician) and his wife Lisa on their recent wedding in Cyprus. ■

STAFF BENEFITS FOR YOU

FOOTIE FOR FREE

**Port of Tyne staff can receive free entry to South Shields Football Club.** To claim this offer, all you need to do is present your Port of Tyne security pass on entry to the match.

FANCY A NISSAN?

**If you are in the market for a new car make sure you look at Nissan.** The full details on this offer will be sent to all members of staff via email. It will also be posted on the Intranet and discussed at your next team briefing.  
**We have recently negotiated discounted rates for any employee who buys a new Nissan vehicle.**

2 FOR 1 AT TYNESIDE CINEMA

**Every Thursday Port of Tyne staff receive 2 for 1 entry to Tyneside Cinema in Newcastle city centre.** To claim this offer, all you need to do is present your Port of Tyne security pass at the box office. For information on what's currently showing please visit [www.tynesidecinema.co.uk](http://www.tynesidecinema.co.uk).

DISCOUNT AT BALTIC

**Port of Tyne staff receive a 12.5% discount at the BALTIC restaurant SIX and the cafe.** Present your Port of Tyne security pass to make the most of this offer.

RUGBY RULES

**Free entry to Westoe Rugby Club to watch any home game.** To claim this offer, all you need to do is present your Port of Tyne security pass on entry to the match.

DOING IT FOR CHARITY



IT'S A KNOCK OUT

The Logistics Team led by Carolyn Cormier have organised 10 plucky volunteers to take part in 'It's a Knock Out' to raise funds for St Claire's Hospice – so dig deep to support them every penny counts. If you would like to cheer the Port of Tyne team on, come along to Monkton Stadium on 9 October. It will be a great day. For more details call Carolyn on 0191 427 4326. ■



PEDALLING FOR POUNDS

Congratulations to John Hutley, HGV driver within Logistics who completed the Coast to Coast cycle ride from Whitehaven to Sunderland on the 1 July in aid of breast cancer care. A big thank you to every one at the Port of Tyne who made a donation – we raised £480 as well as £400 from John's justgiving page online. ■



OUR GREAT NORTH RUNNERS

To show support to all staff members who donned their trainers for this year's Great North Run, the Port of Tyne contributed £100 to each employee's chosen charity. Those who took part in the mammoth half marathon were:

**Ian Blake**, IT Manager, ran for the third time for his chosen charity Grace House Hospice Appeal.  
**Jim Barker**, Tyne Dock Security, ran in support of Cancer UK. Jim has completed every single Great North Run to date!

**Kevin Emmett**, Head of Infrastructure Development, did his first half marathon for Cancer Research.

**Micheal Pearce**, Fitter, ran in memory of his mother for the mental health charity MIND.



**Paul Johnson**, Fitter, ran for Cash For Kids, a charity that support sick and underprivileged children in the community.

**Stephen Goodwin**, Senior Traffic Co-ordinator, ran for the Lymphoma Society, the world's largest voluntary health agency dedicated to tackling blood cancer.

**Trevor Towns**, Security Officer IPT, ran for St Luke's Hospice which cares for people with incurable illnesses.

**Richard Mackay**, Stock Checker, ran to raise money for the Samaritans.

**Kris Reburn**, Electrician, ran for Macmillan Cancer Support. ■

CHILDREN IN NEED



It is *Children in Need* on Friday 18 November and we are looking for a team of charity fundraisers to help come up with fun and innovative ideas. If you would like to get involved please email the Marketing & Communications team at [marketing@portoftyne.co.uk](mailto:marketing@portoftyne.co.uk). ■

NEW STARTERS

We have had 14 new starters since the last issue of *Tyne Crier*, so give a warm welcome to:

**Natalie Kay**  
Environmental Health and Safety Student Placement

**Jon Fletcher**  
**Lee Sarginson**  
Warehouse Operatives

**Stephen McMillan**  
Electrical Craftsman

**Michael Kersey**  
Terminal Manager, Logistics

**Den Barrington**  
Commercial Manager, Logistics

**Sarah Piggett**  
Marketing & Communications Intern

**Nicola Hurst**  
PA to the Management Team

**Colin Stevenson**  
Head of Operations, Port Services

**Dayang Darnell**  
Security Officer, IPT

**Ray Morrell**  
**Craig Pattison**  
Terminal Assistant

**Leigh Alder**  
Business Administration Apprentice

**Shaun Neath**  
Terminal Operative

PORT OF TYNE'S ALADDIN

10 DEC



Come and see the Port of Tyne designed dress for Dame Dotty at Customs House. What better way to get into the Christmas spirit with friends, family and colleagues.

Adults £9  
Children Free

To book your ticket email [jean.dodds@portoftyne.co.uk](mailto:jean.dodds@portoftyne.co.uk) or call 0191 440 7429.

This is a special performance exclusively for the Port of Tyne, so come along!

## PORT IN PICTURES/



**GET YOUR FILL/** TO DATE WE HAVE FILLED TYNE DOCK WITH 108,000 CUBIC METRES OF SOIL AND CLAY – ONLY 32,000 CUBIC METRES TO GO!



**LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION/** FILMING FOR A CHANNEL 4 DOCUMENTARY ON SCIENTIST ALAN TURING TOOK PLACE AT TYNEMOUTH PIER THIS AUGUST



**ALL DECKED OUT/** THE SWING BRIDGE IS CURRENTLY HAVING THE DECKING REPAIRED ON THE WEST WING AND IS DUE TO BE BACK IN FULL OPERATION IN OCTOBER



**FANCY FLEET/** THE PORT OF TYNE TRUCKS ARE GETTING GREENER WITH NEW AERODYNAMIC TRAILERS, MORE FUEL EFFICIENT TYRES & AUTOMATIC IDLING CUT OFF



**ALL ABOARD/** WE WELCOMED THE CRUISE SHIP ARCADIA, A P&O VESSEL CARRYING 2,000 PASSENGERS ON A ROUND BRITAIN CRUISE



**AROUND THE WORLD/** JUNE SAW THE ARRIVAL OF MS THE WORLD, A LUXURY RESIDENTIAL VESSEL CO-OWNED BY ITS RESIDENTS



**FAST TRACK/** IN JULY WE LOADED 57 BIOMASS AND 156 COAL TRAINS AT THE PORT OF TYNE



**BIGGER & BIGGER/** WE HAVE BROKEN PORT RECORDS THIS AUGUST, WITH THE ARRIVAL OF HARMONY EXPRESS, BARILOCHE, ALAM PENTING, & KEY GUARDIAN