

ISSUE 6 DECEMBER 2011



# THMAIL

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM TEAM HUMBER MARINE ALLIANCE

## The London high

Member gives Shard site a lift  
[For full story click here](#)

## Steel works

Tata becomes member

## Bigger HOTA

Phase one complete

## The apprentices

Wind energy programme

## Home in Hull

TransAtlantic UK welcomed



# All in this together

To take a popular political line these days, if we want to stoke up a Humber economic powerhouse, we really are 'all in this together'. Which makes it essential over the coming months for everyone concerned to demonstrate unity in promoting the Humber as 'one' place. The feeling at our recent annual general meeting was that everyone should work together under the 'Humber hat' if we are to progress profitably and sustainably. So we look forward to the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership making its presence felt and working with supportive local authorities, to continue to 'sell' the region as a place for business.

We are now a BIG trade alliance and every single member needs to know that we are batting on their side. Membership is approaching 140 companies, which adds power to our 'Strength in numbers' slogan, giving us even more clout as the 'voice of the Humber'. We now represent local businesses with more than 15,000 employees. It was only 1,300 not so long ago so we are certainly achieving impressive growth. Nevertheless, we must continue to look for further income streams, such as sponsorship, to support our efforts, including attendance at the major trade shows. We have had great feedback from Offshore Europe in Aberdeen and Renewables UK in Manchester and I have just been in Amsterdam for EWEA Offshore, which reinforced my belief that the next few years will be very exciting for marine industries.

There are a host of opportunities out there in the wider world, and through our close relationship with World Trade Centre Hull & Humber and UK Trade & Investment we can offer expert guidance on doing business abroad and in fact we are looking to run a trade mission to Brazil next year.

As an organisation we continue to grow and change. So I would like to thank Andy Fairburn, who has stepped down as steering group chairman, for his valuable contribution over the years. I am pleased to say that Andy will continue as a director with a view to working in the background and helping the Humber win business.

In finishing, may I extend the compliments of the season to you all.



## Mark O'Reilly

Director, Team Humber Marine Alliance

# Raising the glass

## THMA Member provides lifting equipment for Europe's tallest building

**Peter Hird and Sons, from Hull, is helping the record-breaking Shard building get off the ground.**

When it's finished next year, the 1,017ft high Shard will be Europe's tallest building and house apartments, restaurants, bars, offices and the UK's first seven-star hotel.

Peter Hird supplied powered access and spider cranes, through its southern hire depot at Redhill, Surrey, for work on the first phase of five giant canopies on the Shard's lower level.

Glass lifting equipment and accessories are also being provided for the Shard, which is part of the New London Bridge Quarter development that also includes a London Bridge Station upgrade.

The company is no stranger to south London as last year it supplied mini cranes to carry out glazing work installing all of the 11,500 glass panels at the prestigious site.

Director Phil Hird said: "Because we now have our southern depot, we can provide our ever increasing customer base with

an extensive range of spider cranes, pick and carry cranes, glass handling equipment and lifting training we offer at our UK training centres."



**Going up: The Shard**

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

# Alliance shows its metal

**Team Humber Marine Alliance has welcomed nearly 40 new members including Tata Steel, Europe's second largest steel manufacturer, and Parsons Brinckerhoff, one of the world's leading engineering consultancies and energy specialists...**

As part of the global diversified Tata Group, Tata Steel wants to develop the market for its steel products and services in the renewable energy sector.

It has made major investments in the Humber region in the past 12 months including the creation of a wind tower hub in Scunthorpe to process and distribute up to 200,000 tonnes each year of steel plate.

Phil Knowles, commercial manager power generation & renewables Tata Steel, said joining THMA would help with the company's ambitions.

"We recognise that for things to work there has to be more collaborative effort from everyone involved, and becoming a THMA member allows us to add our voice and support for business in the

region as it becomes a major centre for the country's renewable energy industries."

The dedicated wind tower hub in Scunthorpe offers a range of product services including shot-blasting, priming, cutting of plate to size and edge profiling ready for welding.

Tata Steel's large land-holding also enables them to offer stock marshalling services so that plates can be delivered in accordance with customers' tower or section build sequence. These services reduce the need for extensive stockholding in customers' own fabrication yards.

"This means increased productivity within the supply chain and shorter lead times for the end client," added Phil.

**'Becoming a THMA member allows us to add our voice and support for business in the region'**

Tata Steel is also actively involved in the other forms of renewable energies including wave, tidal and solar power generation.

Parsons Brinckerhoff, part of the Balfour Beatty group, now views THMA membership as an important part of its strategy for growth in UK renewables.

"After carrying out projects in the Humber region, mainly focused on offshore wind, Parsons Brinckerhoff has been very encouraged by the help and support of Team Humber Marine Alliance, so much so that we

have become full members of the organisation," said Emma Toulson, project manager, renewables.

"We hope this will allow us to get to know and assist other members of the Alliance as well as help raise our profile more generally in the region."

## THMA extends a warm welcome to the new members who have joined us...

**July: AB Rooms & Son Limited, Arco, Forte Maritime, Henderson Insurance Brokers, Language is Everything, Line Ryder, Paradigm Risk Management, Peter Hird & Sons, Renewables Network, Structural Rig Surveys, Insurance Partnership**

**August: Abeko, Alpha Energy, Barrett Steel, Beerhouse Self Drive, Colt Industrial Services, Danbrit Shipping, DFDS Seaways, Dutton International, George Lodge and Sons, Humber Work Boats, Neptune Renewable Energy, Tata Steel**

**September: ABB Engineering Services, Brodrick, Wright & Strong (Humber), Denison Till, Marine & Industrial Transmissions, Muehlan Surface Protection, Nortech Services, Survitec Service and Distribution, Rope Access NDT**

**October: London Investments Consultancy, LV Shipping, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Rollo Power Solutions, Rope Access NDT, Technical Solutions 24 Seven, Witham Associates**



**Team Humber's Mark O'Reilly, right, and Mary Green with Tata Steel's Phil Knowles on a tour of the company's Scunthorpe site**

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

# Promise on the Eastern front

## 'The opening of McAusland's new St Petersburg office is an important step'

McAusland Turner is in the middle of a rapid expansion that will see it open two offices in Russia and two in the UK.

The Team Humber member, one of the UK's leading providers of marine surveying and consultancy services, opened a new office in St. Petersburg at the start of November.

This will be followed by a new head office in Moscow as a base for the company's new Russian subsidiary, which will be a separate legal entity to the UK business and have its own board of directors.

The has followed an increase in the number of

instructions received from Russian clients over the previous two years.

"The opening of McAusland's new St Petersburg office is an important step towards realising our goal of expansion

into this growing market, and makes us the first UK-based consultancy in our sector to have a Russian office," said Albert Weatherill, managing director, who spent two weeks in the country canvassing clients ahead of the move; his

third visit so far this year.

"They like the fact that we have been in business for 125 years and that we have great experience in dealing with Russian companies – they appreciate our honesty, integrity and the reputation we have built up over the years."

Two of their biggest customers include Ingosstrakh, the former state owned, and biggest, Russian insurer, and the German giant Allianz.

In the UK, in addition to a head office in Hull, and offices in Felixstowe and Scarborough, McAusland is at advanced stages in opening new offices in Southampton and Wales.



## Grasping a local opportunity

McAusland Turner's managing director, Albert Weatherill, pictured, says he has been buoyed by the chance given to the company to tender for work on one of the Round 3 offshore wind farms.

"It shows local companies are being considered, and although it is early days and we may not even get the work, at least we are being given the opportunity," said Albert.

The tender is for monitoring initial equipment movements.



## 160 new jobs at YMC

YMC Container Solutions has created 160 new jobs, a move partly driven by £9m worth of new orders from GE SeaCo, one of the world's largest container leasers.

Wakefield-based Thurston Building Systems bought the THMA member out of administration earlier this year.

Thurston created 100 new jobs at YMC's East Yorkshire factories at Beverley and Brandesburton and now a further 60 employees have been taken on to service an order book that has grown to £14m following orders for swap bodies, the standard freight containers for road and rail transport.

"We have fully incorporated YMC into the Thurston family," said Thurston chief executive Jonathan Petch.

The acquisition has allowed us to extend our product range as they manufacture a specialist container that is used in the offshore industry, the nuclear industry and the logistics sector."

Thurston is one of the UK's longest-standing modular and portable building manufacturers.

## Chance to show our enterprise

➔ Dong Energy's proposed Westermost Rough offshore wind farm was approved in Chancellor of Exchequer George Osborne's autumn statement. Westermost Rough will include between 35 to 80 turbines with 3MW to 7MW of capacity, provided Dong makes a positive investment decision.

Christian Skakkebaek, UK manager, said: "The government's consent will allow us to proceed with the detailed design and geotechnical investigation of the project. Westermost Rough is an attractive project which benefits from shallow waters, good wind resource and access to suitable ports."

Mr Osborne also announced a second Enterprise Zone for the Humber with the port of Grimsby being one of the zone sites. The Grimsby zone will target operations and maintenance and associated supply-chain activity for the renewables industry. It will contribute towards the vision of the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership to become a national and international centre for renewable energy.

The new zone also includes around land at BAe Systems at Brough and at Hull's Queen Elizabeth dock.

## In tune for new bandstand

➔ The bands will play on as the result of a partnership between Point Engineering and Hull Training that will help Humber engineers of the future on a project to create a new bandstand in the centre of Hull.

Point has been commissioned by Hull City Council to construct a traditional bandstand in Queen's Gardens and the company's industrial division is working with engineering apprentices from Hull Training on the project, which should be finished in time for Christmas.

Steve Norton, managing director, said: "We have always supported the view that young people must be given

opportunities to learn a trade with hands-on experience.

"Hull Training has supported our apprentices for many years and we're pleased to be playing a major role in this project for the City Council."



An artist's impression of the bandstand

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

## New home onshore for RES Offshore

RES Offshore's O&M is looking to a green future on the Humber after building new offices at Port of Grimsby East.

The company's six-strong team will move out of its Portakabin office to the new building in the New Year.

RES Offshore is currently responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Lynn and Inner Dowsing offshore wind farms, near Skegness, and is

upbeat about the potential for more work.

"We have identified the opportunities in the Humber region and are preparing ourselves to be a major player in this emerging new industry," said Lisa Somerscales, marine data technician, pictured second left with the RES Offshore O&M team.

RES Offshore, part of RES Ltd, of Kings Langley, which offers integrated development, engineering, construction and O&M services for utility-scale renewable energy projects, has been in Grimsby since 2008.



## Paul's perfect year on the road

Car transporter drivers have to carry a wide variety of vehicle types on busy roads.

It's a tricky combination that makes some kind of vehicle damage quite likely, either to the vehicles being transported or the transporter itself.

All of which makes Paul Hayhurst's driving skills that bit special.

The GBA Group driver, who is based at the THMA member's transport depot at Sandtoft, Doncaster, has just completed 12 months' operations without a single

occurrence of vehicle or truck damage.

Captain Sam Judah, GBA Group's managing director, said: "This is an extremely rare achievement in the field of car transportation.

"When you consider the number of vehicles a single car transporter carries in a year and the diversity of vehicles ranging from the smallest hatchbacks to light commercial vehicles, it really takes a special talent and a high level of dedication to achieve such a quality standard."

## Skills survey

➔ Parsons Brinckerhoff is producing a study for councils in the Humber sub-region on the skills and training required to develop offshore wind and what skills are currently available or transferable.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council, with partner organisations including Hull City Council, North Lincolnshire Council and North East Lincolnshire Council, commissioned the survey.

# HOTA offers 'unique facility'

## Expanding firm set to attract new customers

The completion of phase one of a major green energy training centre expansion programme at HOTA's Malmo Road facilities in east Hull has created 11 new jobs.

The extra staff, in the training unit, accounts, administration, marketing and catering departments, will help the Team Humber member meet increased training course capacity for the wind energy and renewable energy sectors.

As part of the expansion HOTA has collaborated with Total Access (UK) Ltd for the provision of Renewable UK and Industrial Rope Access Trade Association (IRATA) approved working at height training courses in a purpose built training centre at Malmo Road.

HOTA now has the ability to provide both Renewable UK working at height and marine safety training on one site.

Linda Ellis, HOTA general manager, said: "Providing such a unique training facility will attract not only additional outside customers to the local area but also new business prospects in this relatively new industry coming into Hull and the Humber."

Next year's developments include refurbishing a 22-metre tower on Albert Dock for working at height training.

HOTA's training and maintenance staff work across the company's three sites, on Albert Dock, and the Cullen and the Ellis Buildings on Malmo Road.

➔ **HOTA came away from this year's Bridlington & Wolds Chamber Business Awards with not just one, but two top awards, winning the medium/large business of the year and overall business of the year.**

**Lord Cullen with Linda Ellis on his visit to HOTA to officially name the two buildings**



Welcome to



The Cullen Building  
Entrance & Car Park

← The Ellis Building  
Entrance & Car Park

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

## More metal

➔ Barrett Strip and Alloys, part of Barrett Steel, has moved into larger 20,000 sq ft premises in Bradford.

The THMA member said this will help provide greater stockholding and faster metals processing as stock items can now be picked and packed within one hour from order.

BS&A is one of the world's largest independent suppliers to the gasket manufacturing industry. The company is also planning a greater presence in the Far East.

Separately, Barrett Steel has just opened a new office in Houston, Texas, to serve the oil and gas industry in the Gulf of Mexico and Brazil. It has also has increased capacity at its C. Roberts facility in Rotherham with a £500,000 upgrade to cutting operations.

It has installed an automatic CNC drilling and thermal cutting line for wide steel plates up to 200mm thick.

## Steaming up

➔ Fabricom GDF SUEZ, of Immingham, is managing the installation of a temporary steam blow pipework system at EDF's new West Burton power station which will generate enough electricity for around 1.5 million homes. Steam blow ensures that pipes feeding are free of any debris that could cause damage to turbines on start-up.

A team of 25 to 30 people will be employed on the 12-month project.

The company has also been awarded piping work at the Runcorn energy from waste facility in Cheshire. Fabricom's part in the project will be managed from their new Liverpool site and includes mechanical installation, fabrication and installation of piping systems and pipe bridges.

# Apprentices aim high with bespoke courses

## HETA first in the region to offer wind energy programme

The first 10 apprentices have been enrolled in HETA's new bespoke wind energy training course.

HETA is the first training provider in the region to offer a programme for the wind energy industry. The first Humber company to enrol an apprentice is another Alliance member, RES Offshore, whose contract manager, Chris Holden, said: "HETA was very flexible in meeting our requirements and design a bespoke renewable energy apprenticeship."

Apprentice Mike Smith has now finished his course and is continuing his studies at Lincoln University to be a wind turbine engineer.

Five new apprentices from Blackrow Engineering, of Grimsby, and four from Stroud-based Ecotricity, have also been enrolled.

The apprenticeship is designed with operations and maintenance technicians in mind.

After a first year based around electrical and instrumentation training the apprentices cover topics such as measurement methods and control engineering, electrical testing and commissioning, maintenance of pneumatic systems and components,

'There is strong competition with as many as 750 applying'

wiring and testing electrical equipment and circuits, installation and maintenance.

All prospective HETA apprentices go through a selection process which begins in February and there is strong competition with as many as 750 applying.

It recruits and trains over 200 apprentices each year across the three sites in Hull, Scunthorpe and Stallingborough.

HETA is also running a four-year schools project, called Smart Futures, in conjunction with SMart Wind, Siemens and Mainstream Renewable Power.

**Bespoke training:** Jacob Lofthouse, who works for Ecotricity in Louth, has just started his second year, and is now working in the field

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

## Prescott surprise

Former deputy prime minister Lord Prescott was a surprise guest at the Renewing the Humber event organised by the Renewables Network.

Sam Pick, director at the Team Humber member, said: "He spoke passionately off the cuff for about 10 minutes about the opportunities for the Humber region."

Around 220 delegates and exhibitors attended the event at Forest Pines, near Scunthorpe.

Other speakers included Martin Vickers, MP for Cleethorpes, and two other THMA members: MTL Group's Darren Taylor and Andrew Oliver, a partner and head of offshore renewables at Andrew Jackson.

## Proteus partners

Three Alliance members are helping Neptune Renewable Energy with the deployment of its Neptune Proteus tidal stream demonstrator in the Humber after receiving parliamentary approval. They are SMS Towage, Point Engineering, which has built a shore bridge, and Humber Work Boats, responsible for piling and installing the bridge.

## Software launch

THMA member ProtEx has launched a new reliability software package for failure and reliability analysis in the oil and gas and petro-chemical industries.

The company says its ProTechnis package has engineering applications, is user friendly and can be installed simply onto company networks.

A free trial can be downloaded at: [www.protechnis.com](http://www.protechnis.com)

# Steel skills make an impression

## Energy secretary visits Rotherham steel firm



MTL Group's export and training successes were the focus of Energy Secretary Chris Huhne's visit to its new £5m, 300,000 sq ft Rotherham factory.

The tour included the company's new welder training school, which is currently recruiting 25 trainees.

"I am determined that the UK obtains the maximum benefits from the green economy," said Mr Huhne. "I am particularly impressed with the steps MTL has taken to bring forward the skilled staff that will be so important to us in the future."

Mr Huhne also met management from WeserWind GmbH, which recently placed a significant export order with MTL for the supply of secondary steelwork fabrications.

The picture shows Chris Huhne, back right, with David O'Hara, group finance director MTL Group, and at the front Karl Stewart, sales director MTL Group, left, and Maximilian Stierle, UK sales manager for WeserWind.

## Cosalt marine sold to Survitec

➔ Safety equipment specialist Cosalt's marine division has been sold to another THMA member, Survitec Group. The £27m deal had been delayed by the Office of Fair Trading, but was subsequently not referred to the Competition Commission.

Cosalt is now headed up by David Ross, chairman, who is looking to purchase the company following financial difficulties. Trevor Sands became chief executive in October after joining Cosalt from Emerson Electric.

## Fitting tribute to a true character

An anchor made by three apprentices at Hull Training has been dedicated to the memory of Tony Lewis, managing director of Holderness Ship Repairers, who died in August.

Adam Bourne, Callum Dixon, pictured here, left, with Ray Renton, worked hard for 20 weeks to complete the anchor, on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, as part of a training project conceived by Hull Training tutor Len Atkinson, with the help of local businesses.

The anchor, which now stands in the grounds of Hull Training's Faculty of Engineering and Manufacturing Technologies, is a memorial and tribute to Tony's service and commitment to training.

Graham Billany, THMA director, said: "The marine industry and especially the local marine industry is a very close knit society and true characters like Tony are cherished but very rare and irreplaceable – he had passion, compassion and understanding, especially for his apprentices."



Tony, who died on August 10, aged 69, leaves a wife, Joyce, four children and many grandchildren.

➔ Hull Training's Faculty of Engineering's annual awards took place at the city's Guildhall on October 13, where more than 400 people celebrated over a thousand qualifications and awards achieved by students throughout the year.

## Keeping legal talent in Hull

➔ Myton Law has started working with the University of Hull Law School to train maritime lawyers. Myton will then make these recruits available to help with university research projects.

Two graduates have already joined the firm. Sam Minall is one of the first graduates to benefit from the partnership and is working for Myton as a paralegal. He already has a masters degree in maritime law from Bristol University.

Katarzyna Wujec, who has a masters degree in international business law and worked at the Ministry of Justice in Poland, is now also with Myton.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

## Going green with Danish blue

➔ A new logistics firm targeting green energy generators has been set up by Team Humber member Danbrit Shipping and the Danish firm of Blue Water Shipping.

The joint venture, Blue Water Danbrit UK, will be dedicated to the renewable industry sector, including ships agency, wind turbine transportation, workboat support, stevedoring and terminal operation and related support services.

Peter Aarasin, Danbrit's managing director, said: "Renewable energy is vital to the future of the Humber, as vital as oil and gas were to Aberdeen in the 70s.

"We can offer the wind turbine industry in the UK a well established and tested logistics product. We hope to offer people in the Humber region new employment opportunities and a chance to be part of the future, the renewable energy sector."

Blue Water managing director Kurt Skov said: "With the future major development of the wind turbine industry in and around the UK, we have decided to join forces with Danbrit Shipping and look forward to a very interesting period together with our new partner and future UK customers."



Warm welcome: **Matt Jukes, ABP port director Hull & Goole, left, and Nick Green, managing director TransAtlantic UK**

## New home in Hull

**TransAtlantic UK and ABP sign on the dotted line**

**ABP has signed a 10-year agreement for TransAtlantic UK to use a new 10-acre terminal in Hull after transferring its business from Goole.**

THMA member ABP is to invest £3.5m on a 8,500 sq m warehouse in King George Dock while refurbishing other facilities, including storage and railway sidings. Two mobile harbour cranes will be relocated as part of the move and TransAtlantic expects to be operating completely from Hull by the end of the year.

TransAtlantic operates up to three sailings a week between the Humber and Sweden. The company handles about 400,000 tonnes of cargo a year and has seen increasing volumes of trade.

ABP is marketing the Port of Goole site used by TransAtlantic UK. "We are in discussions with a number of companies which see Goole, the UK's most inland port, as an exciting opportunity for new trade development," said Matt Jukes, ABP port director for Hull and Goole.

## VAT's the way for THMA

➔ THMA has applied to become VAT registered from November 1 and in future will have to add VAT to all of its invoices, including annual subscriptions.

"We acknowledge a small number of our members are not VAT-registered, but hope that this change will not cause too much difficulty for you," said Mary Green, THMA office manager. "We will be able to claim back our VAT for everything we purchase, including costly exhibition space," Mary added.

## Upcoming Alliance events

Site visit and networking event:

### Arco Distribution

Henry Boot Way, Priority Park, Hull,  
3-5pm, Mon, Dec 19

Site visit:

### Tata Steel

Scunthorpe 10am-1pm, Jan 19, 2012

Exhibitions:

### Seawork 2012

Southampton, May 22-24  
The 15th year of this commercial marine and workboat event.

### All-Energy 2012

Aberdeen, May 23-24  
Now it's its 11th year.

For further information on any of the above events contact Mary Green on 01482 485271 or [admin@thma.co.uk](mailto:admin@thma.co.uk)

## A night to remember...



**Left to right, Christopher Butterfield, Carole Cater, David Woodford, Carole Butterfield, Frank Butterfield, Jonathan Butterfield and Navenka Hribersek**

More than 120 members and guests attended the Alliance's inaugural dinner and dance at Willerby Manor Hotel, near Hull.

The evening raised £574 for Humber Rescue with the help of some special raffle prizes from MTL Group, plus a helicopter underwater escape training 'dunk' from HOTA, won by Andrew Oliver of Andrew Jackson, and a trip around the Humber for four in the Humber Rescue boat.

A 'fantastic night' was helped along by music from Sean Finch and the Rogues of Rhythm and a champagne reception courtesy of the law firm, Andrew Jackson, which sponsored the event with Team Humber's PR firm, Mapa.

