

The staff newsletter of AJ Engineering and NEWCo



## BACK IN TIME FOR MUSEUM PROJECT

**AJ Engineering will be going back through time when it works on a project involving a historic visitor centre.**

A team has been deployed to Lyness on the Island of Hoy in Orkney where Orkney Islands Council secured a grant of £1.155 million from The Heritage Lottery Fund for the project.

The project will involve the restoration of the historic buildings, enhancement of interpretation and displays, and the creation of a building which will house an exhibition space, café, toilet facilities and information areas.

General manager, Graham Alexander who is leading the project said: "We are

delighted to be involved in this project which has huge historical importance. The works involve input from our teams at our headquarters in Forres, but also the skill of our employees at our sister company NEWCo based in Fort William."

He added: "The works that we are involved in are an extension to the visitor centre and also replacing the roof cladding on an existing building."

"However, there are also two existing steel chimneys and as the existing buildings are historically significant these features must not be lost. The NEWCo team has taken away the chimneys and one will be repaired and they will make a replica of the second one which sadly cannot be restored."

"We have just had a team return from Sumburgh and they will now be deployed to the Island of Hoy. There are huge logistics with this type of project as we have to get the steelwork from the mainland to the Orkney mainland and then across to the Island, but AJ Engineering is no stranger to working in remote locations so the contractors are in safe hands."

Scapa Flow served as a sheltered harbour for British ships during war, with some 12,000 people once stationed off the Orkney isle. Lyness became the naval headquarters in Orkney during 1919 before works were undertaken to further enlarge the base in the 1930s.

## Shop extension for community group

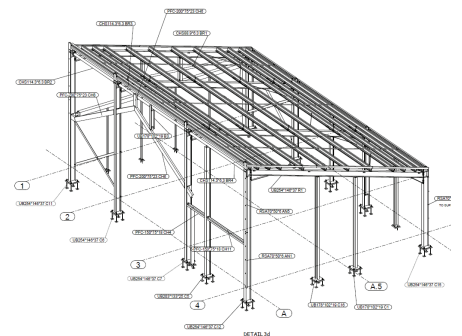
A COMMUNITY group which took over the ownership of the Skye Ferry Filling Station has engaged with AJ Engineering via MacQueen Building Contractors to manage the steelwork and cladding for an extension to its shop.

In 2007, with support from the Big Lottery and Highlands & Islands Enterprise, Sleat Community Trust took over ownership of the Skye Ferry Filling Station which is now known as

the 'Armada Stores' which is managed by the volunteer directors of Sleat Community Trading Co Ltd.

Armada Stores comprises the shop, post office and garage and a team from AJ Engineering has made the steelwork which will be erected by the team at MacQueen Building Contractors.

Once complete, the AJE team will visit the site to handle the cladding which is expected to begin this month.



## Charity mountain climb will go ahead

**A charity walk up Ben Nevis which was cancelled due to Covid will now take place later this month.**

The walk which will involve twelve workers from the NEWCo team had been due to take place in April but had to be postponed.

However, the team will put their best foot forward on August 28 to raise money for Star For Harris a cause close to the heart of general manager Neil Worsdall.

Neil has continually supported the charity as he is a friend of the family who founded it in memory of their son Harris who passed away at just 15 months old after a battle with a cancerous brain tumour.

The NEWCo team will also be joined by accounts manager Liz Flatt and fabrication manager Craig Johnston who are based at AJE's HQ in Forres and because of the date change, Lee Binks and James Attridge from AJE will also now take part.

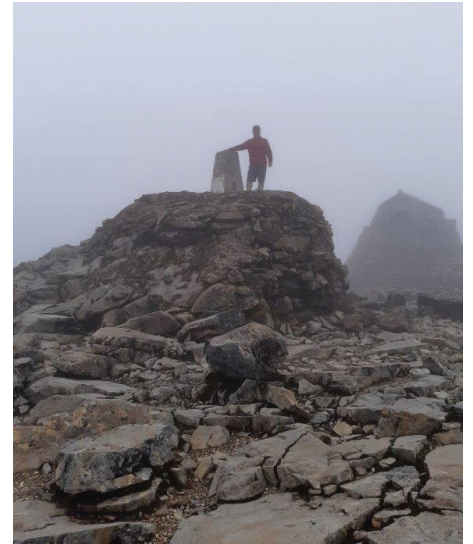
Neil said: "We are still all really looking

forward to the challenge and of course the postponement couldn't be helped. In some ways it has maybe been beneficial as we have had more time to do more training and the guys are taking it really seriously. We have had team members out cycling, doing other hills and getting loads of walking miles under their belts in preparation. They are a competitive bunch and nobody will want to be left behind."

Neil an avid hillwalker added: "I'm confident that we will manage it. It can be a long slog and a toughie, but I am sure we will crack it. I have been up Ben Nevis recently and it was great, I will try and get up a bit nearer to our climb date to check the conditions.

"The walkers have all been issued with sponsorship forms and NEWCo supplier Highland Industrial Supplies has offered a prize to the person who raises the most money.

"This just adds that we bit more competitiveness amongst the team," explained Neil, "and we thank HIS for their contribution."



## New look CNC shop meets demand from customers

**A timber supplies business which ships all over the world is now using AJE's new look CNC shop for producing components to assist in their manufacturing process.**

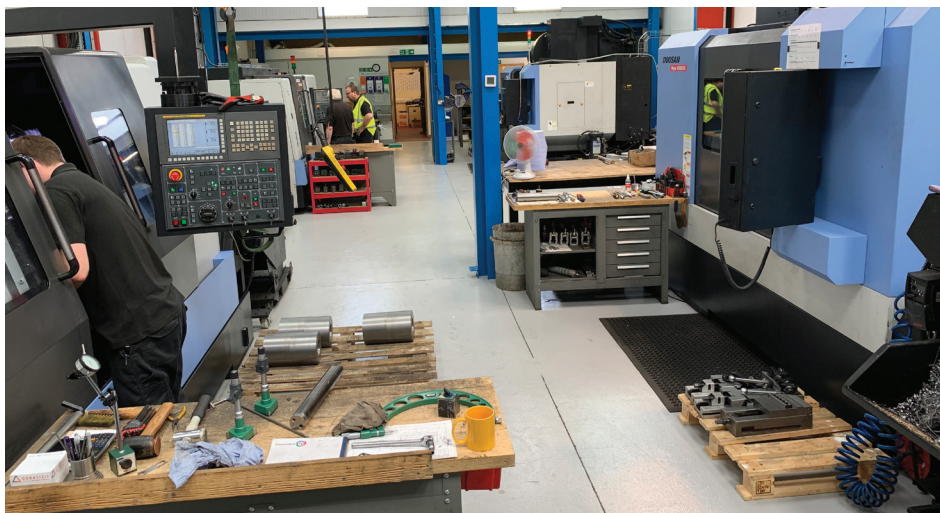
WoodblocX which creates raised bed kits, offers a bespoke design service and whose product has received funding on the BBC TV show the Dragons' Den and won awards at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, has commissioned the company to produce 26 off Drill Arbor Assemblies to produce the holes in the wooden blocks.

Another new customer is Stonehaven-based Tube Tec UK which manufacture

underwater cable clamping systems. The CNC shop has recently completed several orders for them and the potential for extra business going forward is very encouraging.

Recently AJE has seen the need to acquire more efficient machines in the CNC workshop to meet demand from customers.

The workshop has been given a makeover with the installation of two upgraded CNC machines and you can learn more about this on the website – with a video featuring CNC manager Willie Mackintosh.



## LONG DAY IN STORE FOR AJE PROJECT ENGINEER

**Project engineer Gary Moyes is raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support this month.**

Gary plays with Rothes-based team 'It's All In The Hips' who are taking on the Longest Day Golf Challenge between Rothes Golf Club and Spey Bay Golf Club to raise vital money for people with cancer.

Macmillan Cancer Support provides physical, financial and emotional support for people living with cancer.

By playing 72 holes and doing over 20 miles of walking in one day, this band of golfers will help Macmillan continue to be right there when they're needed most.

Speaking before the event, Gary said: "We are looking forward to what promises to be an enjoyable and gruelling day's golf, sure to be full of banter and more than a few lost balls."

To support 'It's All In The Hips' please visit:  
<https://longestdaygolf.macmillan.org.uk/Team/itsallinthehips2>