



Life During Lockdown

June 2020 Newsletter



As we all watched Boris Johnston tell the UK to Stay Home, Protect the NHS and Save Lives, we were filled with anxieties like how can I possibly work from home? How will home schooling work? How will I cope not seeing my family and friends? How can we safeguard our jobs? Will we have a business to come back to on the other side?

Overriding this was the, at times, overwhelming fear of contracting the virus and what this could mean.

The early stages of lockdown were the toughest as we all adjusted to meetings on Microsoft Teams; queueing at the supermarket; crossing the road to avoid people; facetimeing family rather than visiting; and getting our kids off their iPads!

The team spirit at Redpath has been nothing short of remarkable. Supporting one another by becoming overnight IT experts; working together to close down sites safely; keeping in touch via Teams and WhatsApp to keep our essential healthcare projects moving forward. Sourcing PPE and cleaning products to ensure our key workers are protected.

As we tentatively come out of lockdown into what will be a new version of business, we do so with safety uppermost in our minds.

A story from our Site Manager, George

Lockdown Day

Very strange commute to work this morning, the streets were empty and the city was an eerie place.



I arrived on site early as usual, but no one came, our supply chain had taken heed of the Scottish

Government's advice - Stay Home, Stay Safe and Protect the NHS. I closed the site for lockdown and went home.

The first three days for me were very strange, waking up every morning at the same time, but no work to go to. Fortunately the weather was good and I have a garden, but I thought of those without.

DIY duty did not last long for me, so I then decided to do my bit for the community. On day seven, I started to deliver basic food items to some local people who lived nearby.

As a wee extra, I left strawberry tarts hanging on front doors of the senior citizen's homes as a treat and ended up with the nick name 'the strawberry tart man'.

These people, like myself, began to look forward to my morning visit and I loved our chats. They told me some amazing stories

about their past lives: miners, club singers, joiners, nurses, etc. It really is good to talk.

These people lived so close to me and yet I had never spoken to them before.

Community spirit is strong, it's out there if you want to be part of it. When this is all over I will make sure I keep in touch with my new friends. They're all invited to mine for a barbecue and a strawberry tart.

After every storm there is a rainbow.

**Thank
You**



Project News

At a time when new opportunities became scarcer and public procurement slowed to an almost standstill, Redpath has bucked the trend and secured three new projects.

The first of these projects is at University Hospital Wishaw for NHS Lanarkshire to create a Trauma Ward. This award was a real team effort and allowed us to test our ability to collaborate via Teams. The project started two weeks after award and will complete in August.

The second award is the new build of 14 apartments and ground floor restaurant space on Sinclair Drive, on the Southside of Glasgow for Bapu Properties Ltd. The project will start on site in September and we are now working on the 2nd stage of the tendering process.

The third project is a fire damaged restaurant reinstatement in Glasgow city centre which will start as soon as we can mobilise a site start.

Never before has it been so crucial to be in touch with our clients and consultants, sharing information and supporting one another to kick start business opportunities. As we move out of lockdown and back to site, we are positive about the opportunities in the market and confident that the strength of our relationships will allow us to navigate what will be an unsteady course for some time.



Site Preparation

Our essential healthcare sites at University Hospital Crosshouse and University Hospital Wishaw, which have been operational throughout lockdown, have given us the opportunity to prepare and develop workable social distancing solutions and procure appropriate PPE; as we move to the site preparation stage of the Scottish Government's guidelines for non-essential projects.

Our Toolbox Talks and revised RAMS explain that on site the teams must:

- Maintain a 2m distance.
- Wash hands regularly.
- Clean down all regularly touched surfaces such as handrails, tools, toilet flush and seats and furniture.
- Wear PPE such as face masks and if they are reusable, clean regularly to disinfect.
- Not leave site at break times, instead bringing packed food and refillable bottles.
- Avoid all activities involving close contact work.

Regular communication with our clients, their consultants and our supply chain to ensure we are following guidelines and working together, will be crucial as we move out of lockdown and deliver our projects.

We have consulted with the RICS, CIOB and our H&S consultants, and are adopting the CICV Forum's guidelines on how we prepare for a safe return to work.



Training

What a perfect opportunity this period of lockdown has given us to undertake training and review our systems and procedures.

One of our Project Managers, David McCann has used his time to complete all 15 Considerate Constructors' online modules as well as building a 'Man Shed' with his little boy in the back garden.

Our cloud-based document management system, RedSky, has had a refresh with various templates and procedures being updated by our management team. Making us more efficient as we face the challenges of the future.



Rainbow Week

Redpath was delighted to sponsor, along with other participants from the construction sector, Threesixty Architecture's Rainbow Week charity fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House.

Ronald McDonald House provides parents with a place to stay while their seriously ill child is in hospital. Children come from all over Scotland and further afield to receive treatment at the Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow and other West of Scotland hospitals. They help keep families together by providing free, high quality accommodation, only a few minutes walk from the hospital.

Our challenge was over five days, wear five outfits, five different colours. Every day there was a Zoom chat with over 80 people taking part, organised by Threesixty Architecture. The week long challenge raised over £12,500 for the charity.



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