



March 2018

AGM and National Rally
Saturday 30th June 2018
Hosted by South West Region



Leigh Park Country House Hotel & Vineyard. Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire.
Please book asap.

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Welsh Contractor

Welsh contractor GD Harries has built what is said to be the first and only concrete velodrome in the UK.



Concrete was poured into a series of bays to create the banked track

Construction of the £500,000 structure in Carmarthen posed some interesting challenges for the contractor, as it had to find a way to pour concrete onto a sloped surface without gravity redistributing it before it set.

"The shape of a velodrome has no horizontal or flat areas; even the straits are slightly inclined, so laying concrete is quite challenging," said GD Harries senior quantity surveyor Richard Burton.

"We had to come up with method of getting it accurate and making sure the concrete stayed where it was supposed to. We achieved it by pouring the concrete into a series of bays, continually moving from the bottom to the top of each bay as we poured."

The velodrome, funded by Carmarthen Town Council, Carmarthenshire County Council, Sports Wales and Welsh Cycling, opened at the end of October. It is used by the public and by local cycle team Towy Riders.

The construction required 570m³ of concrete, which GD Harries supplied, and it is expected to last 50 years. It replaces the original velodrome, which was built in the early 20th century.

An added benefit of the new velodrome is that its concrete surface is expected to enable cyclists to travel at higher speeds than on velodromes made from other materials.

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Health & Safety

Health and safety statistics for the construction sector in Great Britain

80,000 workers suffering from work-related ill health each year (LFS)

30 fatal injuries to workers in 2016/17 (RIDDOR)

64,000 non-fatal injuries to workers each year (LFS)

Are you a small builder?

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM 2015) - What you need to know

Who is a small builder?

A small builder is a contractor and includes sub-contractors or any individual self-employed worker. Small builders will usually carry out construction work on:

- **Domestic projects** – involving extensions, repairs and refurbishment work on the homes of domestic clients. A small builder will usually have the sole responsibility for site health and safety on these projects
- **Small commercial projects** – involving short duration repairs and refurbishment work (with 15 or fewer people on site) for business commercial clients where site health and safety responsibilities are shared between the small builder and the commercial client.
 - **Why is it important for a small builder to ensure construction work is**
 - those at most risk of injury and ill health on construction sites and suffer the majority of construction fatal accidents each year. Most deaths involve falls

from height including: ladders, scaffolds, working platforms, roof edges, and falls through fragile roofs or rooflights. Because they have first-hand experience in doing the actual work, they are in a good position to ensure the work is carried out in a way which secures their own health and safety and that of others.

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Welsh Construction

The Welsh construction industry is set to grow at nearly triple the UK average, with over 27,000 jobs to be created in the coming five years, according to new research released today by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB).

The most comprehensive and up-to-date industry forecast predicts an annual average growth rate in output of 7.1% for Wales, compared with 2.5 % for the rest of the UK between 2016 and 2020.

With this strong outlook for Welsh construction, the industry, working with CITB, has launched **Go Construct**, an awareness campaign and bilingual web portal designed to encourage more people to consider a career in construction.

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