

Countrystyle wins Kent plastics collection contract

Countrystyle Recycling has added another contract to its portfolio of dry mixed recyclable services by winning a four year contract with Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council in Kent.



Starting in May 2014, Countrystyle will collect mixed plastics from public 'Plastic Bring Banks' located at 10 sites across the Borough.

Countrystyle will be providing specialist containers and aims to collect over 300 tonnes of the public's plastic bottles each year for onward reprocessing. Using Countrystyle's own fleet of vehicles, the material will be taken from the Borough to Countrystyle's baling facility at Lenham, Kent and ultimately processed into food grade plastic, dependent on quality.

Tonbridge & Malling's plastic bring banks will take a wide range of plastic from fizzy drinks bottles to washing up liquid bottles and bathroom product containers such as shampoo and bubble bath bottles.

Countrystyle's Managing Director, Chris Howard comments, "Our aim is to support Kent's local authorities and businesses by providing services that are reliable, flexible, cost effective and most importantly, locally available right here in Kent. This is what our local customers tell us is important to them."



Countrystyle expands London portfolio with West London Waste Authority

Countrystyle Recycling has been awarded a two year contract with an option to extend for a further two years, worth in excess of £1.5m a year for the haulage and composting of up to 60,000 tonnes of organic waste by West London Waste Authority.

Under the contract, Countrystyle is responsible for the collection, haulage and treatment of up to 30,000 tonnes of separate green waste and up to 30,000 tonnes of mixed food and green waste from the six boroughs which make up West London Waste Authority's jurisdiction. Countrystyle will provide haulage of all materials from three waste transfer stations in West London to treatment facilities using the Countrystyle fleet of vehicles, recently renewed to meet the highest environmental standards.



The mixed food and green waste will be treated at Countrystyle's Ridham In-Vessel Composting facility in Kent where it will be processed into a PAS 100 certified compost product. The green waste will be taken for treatment at Open Windrow Facilities.

Councillor Bassam Mahfouz, Chair of the West London Waste Authority added; "Food and garden waste composting is key to achieving our objective of recycling 50% of waste by 2020. We look forward to a successful partnership with Countrystyle Recycling."

Countrystyle Recycling & DS Smith close loop for ragger rope recycling



Countrystyle Recycling has invested £1.4 million in new equipment and infrastructure for recycling ragger rope, a waste stream arising from the paper recycling process at the DS Smith plant at Kemsley Mill, Sittingbourne, Kent.

Countrystyle is now one of only a handful of companies capable of recycling and reusing the old ropes, diverting c 12,500 tonnes per year from landfill and conserving the recovered resources for use in the mill. Ragger rope is used in the paper recycling process to shred and pull out contaminants from the paper stream. A ragger rope weighs between 20-30 tonnes and has to be replaced fairly regularly, previously being taken to landfill for disposal.

Investment in the new state-of-the-art shredder and screener for the DS Smith Kent facility, will allow the ropes to be cut down into smaller sections by the shredder. Ferrous metals are recovered via an over-band magnet. The remaining fractions will be screened to separate fibre from plastics with the reclaimed fibre being reused in the mill to create new paper and the resultant plastic stream being used for energy recovery to power the mill.

Graham Appleby from D S Smith said, "We are delighted to be working with Countrystyle on this innovative new recycling

process, allowing us to re-use and recover material on-site. Our commitment lies in landfill diversion and achieving zero waste through closed loop management processes. Our perpetual devotion to making 100% of resources useful once more, delivers financial benefits and environmental sustainability to both us and our customers."



Images left show the BDR 2400 shredder in construction at Kemsley Mill, Kent and also at MTB's factory near Lyon, France.

Countrystyle re-awarded contracts

Camping and Caravanning Club

Countrystyle have been re-awarded a 2 year contract for waste and recycling services for The Camping and Caravanning Club (CCC). The contract (which was originally awarded in 2012) sees Countrystyle continue to manage the collection and recycling of the general, recyclable, wet and sanitary wastes for 96 sites across the UK, including Scotland and Northern Ireland.



Kimberly-Clark

Countrystyle have been re-awarded a 3 year contract with Kimberly-Clark based in Northfleet, Kent. Countrystyle has been working with Kimberly-Clark since 2010 managing and recycling all waste produced on the Northfleet site from general, wood, metal, paper pulp, cardboard etc.





Chris Howard **new Managing Director** for Countrystyle

Chris Howard, previously the Commercial Director at Countrystyle, assumes the role of Managing Director to formalise the role Chris has effectively undertaken throughout the current financial year. Chris has been key, along with other board members, in driving profitability across the Group and has directed much of the new initiatives for Countrystyle such as our RDF Bale & Wrap line and processed wood export operations. Chris joined Countrystyle in 2009 following 15 years' previous experience within the waste and recycling sector.

SUPPORTING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

Countrystyle supports local sports teams

Countrystyle recently embarked on a programme to develop stronger links with the community, charities and environmental organisations. The Company is now the proud sponsors of the locally-based 'Countrystyle' Netball team in Ashford and the Aylesford Bulls under 13 rugby team. They both had a great season in 2013, with 'Countrystyle' netball team coming top of the Ashford Netball League. We wish them both luck for 2014.



Staff go head to head in the 2014 Countrystyle Cup



The annual Countrystyle Cup football match took place at the home of Ebbsfleet United FC in Northfleet on Monday 12th May. This year's match saw staff from all depots come together to raise money for the Kent Air Ambulance.

A combined team captin out of our head office at Lenham went head to head with our Strood depot winning 3 - 1 at the end of an entertaining game.

If you would like to supprt the Kent Air Ambulance please visit www.kssairambulance.org.uk

Supporting the KM Charity Awards

Countrystyle were proud to be able to support the KM Charity and the Green travel heroes from across Kent and Medway at the KM Walk to School Awards. The ceremony took place on Tuesday, February 11th at Canterbury's Gulbenkian Theatre.

The event recognised the efforts and achievements of parents, helpers, schools, sponsors and community groups in supporting and expanding Kent's network of walking buses and walk to school schemes. Through the hard work of all those involved an amazing 218,000 of car journeys have been taken off Kent roads in 2012-2013.



Countrystyle shortlisted for KEiBA 2014 Awards

Countrystyle Recycling are very excited to have been shortlisted for the Kent Excellence in Business Awards (KEiBA). Countrystyle will be attending the Awards dinner in June as a finalist in the Business Commitment to the Community category.

The KEiBA Awards are organised by Kent County Council and the KM Group. The awards attract a wide range of entries from across a variety of sectors and show case the most innovative businesses in Kent.



Countrystyle Welcomes ...

Ben Austin Group Health & Safety Manager



What was your first job?

For my first job I worked in the despatch department of the General Trading Company in Sloane Square.

What aspect of your job do you enjoy the most?

The best part of my job is being challenged by an operative when they feel that they can justifiably refuse to do something that they feel it is too unsafe. To me it means the message is sinking in.

What book did you last read?

Storm of Swords by George R.R. Martin. I got impatient waiting for the next episode of Game of Thrones to be televised so I started to read the books. Sad but true.

Who is your hero and why?

My Grandfather worked hard all his life and left me the money that I invested in my first professional qualifications. Without that money I would still be Scaffolding for a living.

Where would you most like to visit in the world?

I have been pretty lucky to have travelled quite a lot. I suppose it would have to be a safari in Africa.

If you were to have lunch with anyone living or dead who would it be?

Tough question. It would have to be Jim Morrison.

Recycling & Waste Management Exhibition

Countrystyle are pleased to be exhibiting at the only event in the UK dedicated to the waste management and recycling industry - RWM in partnership with the CIWM. The exhibition takes place at the NEC, Birmingham on Tuesday 16th to Thursday 18th September.

Why not come and see us at stand 4L10-M11



New Fleet

FGS Agri have added 5 new tractors and 4 trailers to their fleet. These modern tractors and high capacity

trailers enable FGS Agri to provide a highly efficient service for their customers.

Demand for water work

FGS Agri have recently been undertaking a variety of jobs through its water supply service. They have been able to provide emergency drinking water for residents in parts of the flood affected Thames Valley; from facilitating temporary portable water supplies for the Olympic Park construction team in Stratford and for a Solar PV installation team working in Oxford; to adding additional resources for a food processing factory in Thetford.

Services include a range of water supply and storage solutions from site storage tanks through to portable grade artic road tankers. The service operates as an emergency provision for drinking quality water providing 24/7 cover for residential and commercial customers in times of outage. For the commercial

customer, service level agreements can be established for guaranteed rapid responses around the clock.

For more information visit www.fgsagri.co.uk or call 01233 820055



Fowlmead Restoration Project

FGS Organics are working on a project to restore barren areas of Fowlmead

Country Park in Deal, formerly the Betteshanger Colliery spoil tip. The aim of the restoration project is to increase the park's biodiversity. Nutrient rich materials such as paper crumple, compost and gypsum which are high in nutrients are being blended with the colliery spoil to create a soil that will enable plant growth. Different varieties of grass will provide homes to all the different species that are needed to extend the biodiversity.

For more information visit www.fgsorganics.co.uk or call 01233 820055



FGS Plant enter next phase of M25 maintenance

FGS Plant are now entering into the next phase of replacing damaged concrete bays on the southern section of the M25 motorway, the process is carried out using vacuum lifting plates that attach to the excavator, then lifts the sawn cut complete segment from the bays, these segments can weigh up to 5000kgs each.



The work will be carried out at night over the next 12 - 16 weeks.

For more information please visit www.fgsplant.co.uk or call 01622 713930