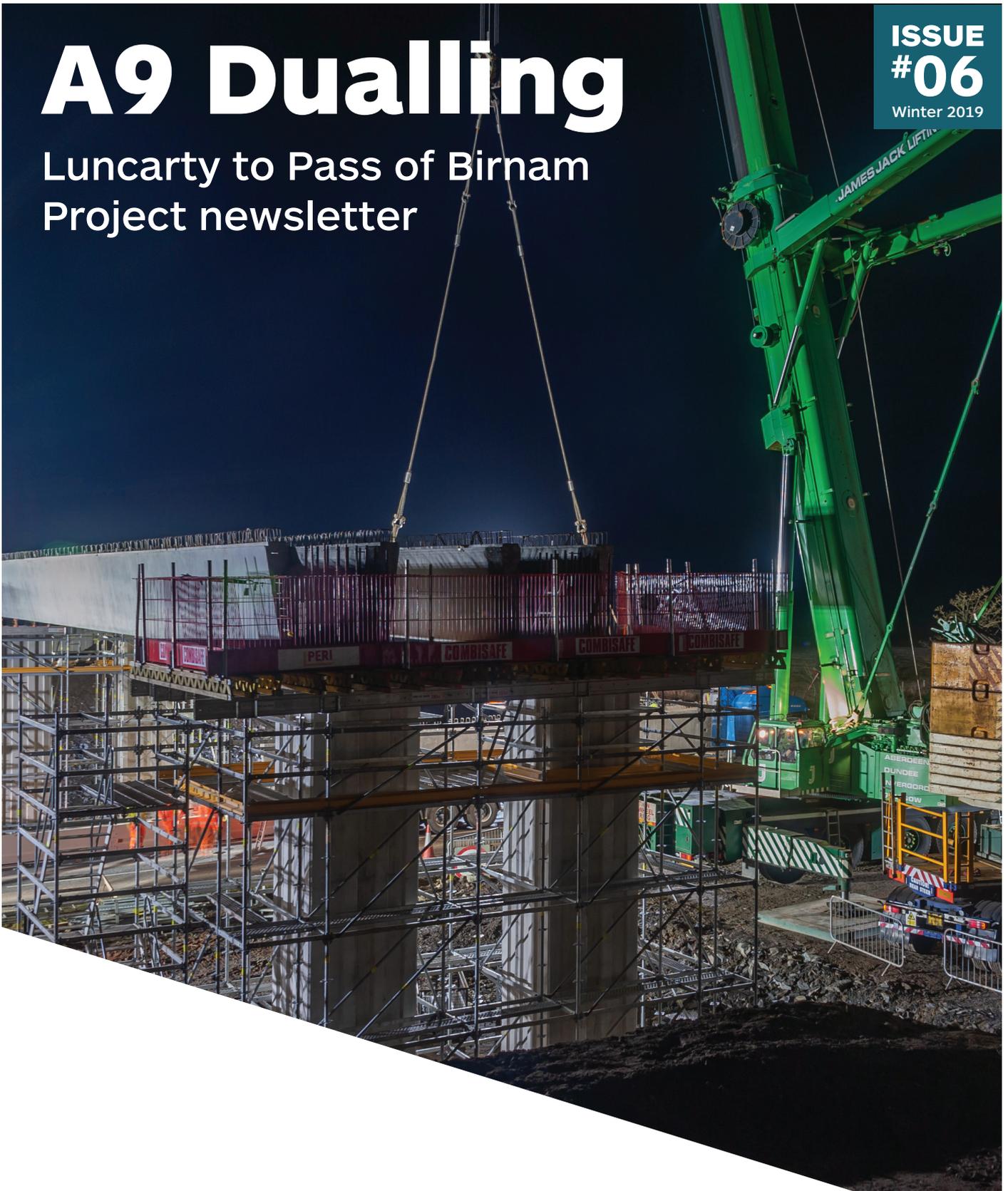


A9 Dualling

Luncarty to Pass of Birnam
Project newsletter

ISSUE
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Winter 2019





Building bridges on the A9

Another major milestone was achieved in November as precast concrete beams were lifted into place on two new overbridges at Coltrannie and Pitlandie.



The new overbridges will provide new safer access for residents and farmers who live and work adjacent to the A9. This will allow the existing accesses off the A9 to be closed to help improve road safety along this section of the A9 for all road users.

The A9 was closed overnight between Luncarty and Dunkeld from the 27 to the 29 November, to allow a 500 tonne crane to be positioned adjacent to the A9 carriageway to successfully install the beams. We lifted six concrete beams, measuring up to 27 metres in length and weighing up to 64 tonnes - the equivalent of approximately 50 small cars - into place on each overbridge during the closures.

We also took the opportunity to undertake some further works at the Stanley/

Tullybelton Junction and to carry out preparatory works for the parapets at Pitlandie and Coltrannie which will be constructed over the coming months.

A few local residents braved the winter temperatures to watch the bridge beams being landed at Pitlandie from the public viewing platform and we have captured time-lapse footage showing the beams being lifted into place. To view the film see the attached link. <https://www.transport.gov.scot/pitlandie-coltrannie-timelapse/>

We are also working on plans to install bridge beams on the last structure as part of this Project, to construct the 'green bridge' at Gelly at the northern extent of the site. Look out for further information on our plans for this in the coming weeks.



Beams lifted in to place at Pitlandie overbridge



Bankfoot church restoration project

As part of our commitment to support the local community through the A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project, Balfour Beatty has donated £2,000 to the Auchtergaven Old Church Restoration Community Group in Bankfoot.

The Grade B listed parish church of Auchtergaven and Moneydie was destroyed by fire on 25 February 2004 and has been derelict since. The church was built in 1812, however the site has been used since 1567.

Facing the potential demolition of the parish church building, the Minister for Auchtergaven and Moneydie approached the local Community Council in December 2016 offering the opportunity to establish a local community group to take on the ownership and restoration of the church tower. This resulted in the establishment of the Auchtergaven Old Church Restoration Community Group.

The project is community-led and relies on volunteers from within the village to make it happen. It is hoped that the project will help to strengthen the community by providing the opportunity to enjoy the most distinctive and prominent building in Bankfoot - a landmark for many and an important part of the cultural identity of the village.

Part of the proposal is to involve young people from the community in the restoration project, including the creation of at least one apprenticeship. Local young people will also

benefit from the activities and facilities associated with the restored church tower. The project aims to commence in Spring 2020, subject to funding.



Local residents accept donation at Christmas light switch on event

Christmas celebrations with Stanley Lunch Club

Balfour Beatty has been working closely with the Stanley Development Trust (SDT) on several initiatives as part of our ongoing engagement with local communities. The SDT was formed in 2008 to improve the quality of life and environment in the village of Stanley and its surrounding area.

The project team has developed important links with various groups through SDT including the Stanley Men's Shed, the Stanley Lunch Club and a volunteer group aiming to provide a new non-motorised user link between Luncarty and Stanley.

A monthly lunch club was started in 2015 by the SDT's Care and Wellbeing Project. The lunch club aims to help increase the social wellbeing of older and socially isolated people in the village of Stanley and the surrounding rural communities.

Christmas came early for the Stanley Lunch Club as the A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project team treated

approximately 60 lunch club members to a traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings at the Tayside Hotel. This was to recognise all the great work the Stanley Lunch Club does to support elderly and isolated people in the local community.

After the meal, entertainment was provided by a local band playing an assortment of Christmas carols and songs and Balfour Beatty gifted a Stanley Lunch Club calendar to everyone who attended.

Laura Baird, Stanley Development Trust's project coordinator, said:

“This was such a special treat for everyone. We had a great afternoon celebrating Christmas together and providing the opportunity to meet new friends. It was also a lovely way to say thank you to our volunteers who organise the monthly lunch club throughout the year. We can't thank Balfour Beatty enough for their support.”



Members of the lunch club



Balfour Beatty volunteers hand out gifts

The scope of works includes:

- Stabilisation and restoration of the masonry tower and adjacent side walls
- Installation of a steel access stairway and viewing platform at the top of the tower
- Lighting of the tower
- Restoration of the clock and installation of the bell from Moneydie church
- Restoration of the side rooms to the tower to provide a shelter for visitors to the graveyard and a local historical display to highlight historic prominent locals
- Creation of a community garden and outdoor recreational space

Chris Pasteur, the group's chair, said: "The Auchtergaven Old Church Restoration Community Group is extremely grateful to Balfour Beatty for its generous donation of £2,000 to our restoration fund. This money will be used to help fund the design and planning work required to get the project to the construction stage."

Considerate construction

The A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam project is registered with the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS) and Balfour Beatty takes its commitment to this important industry organisation seriously.

Being part of CCS making a commitment to a code of practice covering five key areas: Appearance, Community, Environment, Safety and Workforce. As part of our membership, the site receives bi-annual audits which review site performance against these five key areas. This includes assessing site safety; staff welfare; community engagement and communication with the public.

We are delighted to announce that, at our last audit, the A9 Dualling: Luncarty to Pass of Birnam site received a five-star rating. The auditor's report stated: "This is one of the best sites I have visited, with consideration for the public and workforce being at the forefront of everything."

We are working hard to maintain these standards. To find out more about the Considerate Constructors Scheme, visit www.ccscheme.org.uk/affected-by-work/affected-by-works/

Staying safe on the roads this winter



Restrictions are in place 24 hours a day

Winter is now upon us and with it, longer darker nights and lower temperatures. We would like to take this opportunity to remind road users to take care when driving through the site and observe all signage. The 40mph and 30mph speed restrictions remain in place 24 hours a day to ensure the safety of road user and our operatives, and drivers are reminded that overtaking is not permitted.

Police Scotland and the Scottish Safety Camera Programme have advised that compliance with the speed restrictions has been very good and we would like to thank all road users for their continued compliance and patience when passing through our works area.

Christmas is just around the corner and is often a busy time of year.

We want to make sure that ALL of our staff and ALL A9 road users arrive home safely every night.

Please help us to do this by observing all traffic signs and restrictions in place.



No overtaking and speed restrictions through the works

Volunteering bears fruit for Stanley Men's Shed

Volunteers from the project team attended Stanley Men's Shed in October to help them progress plans to create a Community Orchard at Stanley Mills.

Stanley Men's Shed has been working with Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to plant a community orchard in land surrounding the car park at Stanley Mills where the group regularly meet. Agreement in principle for the orchard project was successfully gained, but progress had stalled over the requirement to test the soil for pollutants at the proposed location.

Stanley and District Community Council sought assistance from Balfour Beatty and subsequently, the project team agreed to spend the day at Stanley Mills collecting soil samples which were then sent to a laboratory to be tested. The raw data has been provided to the Men's Shed and will be assessed independently by HES.

A Men's Shed is a place open to all men over the age of eighteen, run on a voluntary basis, where the members can socialise and work on projects and hobbies. Men's Sheds help reduce loneliness and isolation, particularly amongst older men. The Men's Shed is traditionally split into two main areas; social and workshops.

Stanley Men's Shed boasts a range of fantastic facilities at Stanley Mills which includes everything from woodwork and metalwork workshops, to an extensive Information Technology suite including a 3D printer.

Alex Cockburn, the chair of the Stanley Mens Shed, added:

“Men's Sheds offer a place to relax and socialise over a cup of tea or coffee, with new or old friends, create or learn a new skill, for yourself or the benefit of the local community. We have a fantastic facility here at Stanley Mills and we would welcome new members to come and join us.”



Alex talks to Transport Scotland about the Men's Shed



Soil samples bottled and ready for testing



Duncan talking to members of the Men's Shed



The combined team outside Stanley Mill

Breaking news and ground investigations

Balfour Beatty has teamed up with John Robertson of Developing the Young Workforce and Shannon Cuddihy at Perth Grammar School to offer secondary pupils the opportunity to hone their communications skills by becoming A9 Dualling Roving Reporters.

The team will have the opportunity to work directly with the project's Community Liaison Officer, to visit the site and to experience first-hand what it's like to report on project progress. It is hoped that, over the course of their experience, the Roving Reporters will be able to sharpen their journalism skills, develop their confidence and experience what life is like as a communications professional on a major infrastructure project.

This intrepid journalist team will provide a behind the scenes look at the project and will help to develop content for our Spring and Summer 2020 newsletters.

Your local news anchors for the project are:



Katie

My name is Katie and I live in a small village near Perth. The A9 is an essential part of my journey to school on the bus, so I will benefit from the improvements to the route like many others.

My interests are photography and being creative, and I enjoy using my imagination. I have an excellent eye for a good photo opportunity when I see it. Eventually I would like to have a career as a photographer. My village is very scenic, therefore I have plenty of opportunities to take photographs.



Eilidh

My name is Eilidh and I live near to the A9 Dualling project site. When I leave school, I aspire to study photography at Edinburgh College and then go onto a career as a photographer. My favourite hobby is photography, specifically

taking nature photos because I love capturing the moment and I find nature so beautiful and vibrant. My favorite class at school is digital media, where we capture images, audio and video and then edit the content which I find very interesting and useful.



Phil

I'm Phil and I frequently use the A9 to visit Birnam as I'm a member of the Highland Games Committee. When I leave school I would like to work in either government or journalism, as I like expressing my views and learning

new things. I'm interested in video games, politics and photography.

Season's Greetings

We would like to thank all road users and members of the local communities for their continued support and patience as we progress this vital infrastructure project.

Minimising disruption to road users and those affected by our works is at the forefront of our planning process. We will continue to plan our works with road users and local communities in mind and will strive to keep you up-to-date with our progress and plans.

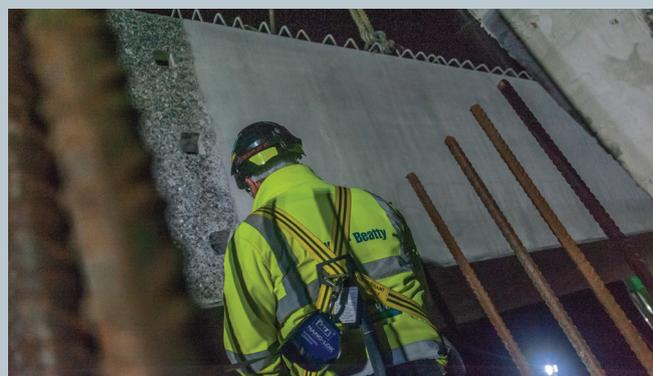
The site will be closed from the 21st of December 2019 to the 6th of January 2020.

However during this time, a few tasks will still be completed and our traffic management team will be on site to monitor and maintain all traffic management measures.

A response team will be on call over the Christmas shutdown to respond to any emergencies.

If you need to contact us, our enquiries line will remain open 24 hours a day throughout the closedown.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Our teams work through the night to deliver the project

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