

In the pipeline

Erskine Bridge project news

Issue no. 4 December 2018



A major energy infrastructure project to replace two High Pressure (HP) gas pipelines currently suspended under the Erskine Bridge with a new pipeline.

Project achieves latest milestone with micro-tunnel

Our micro-tunnelling operation crossing below Kilpatrick Railway Station is complete and the micro tunnel boring machine has been successfully recovered from the reception shaft located to the rear of St Patrick's RC Church in Old Kilpatrick.

The crossing has several phases.

First, two shafts are created by building the segments on top of the steel cutting ring to form the walls of the shaft. The walls are jacked down using hydraulic rams. As the material is excavated from the centre, these walls go deeper into the ground. As they are jacked down, a new ring is built, and the operation continues until the required depth is reached. Our launch shaft of 8m in diameter and 20m deep; with the reception shaft 5m x 18m.

The next stage is to build the tunnel. This is done using a tunnel boring machine. As the boring head cuts through the ground, concrete pipes are pushed in behind to support the ground and create the tunnel.

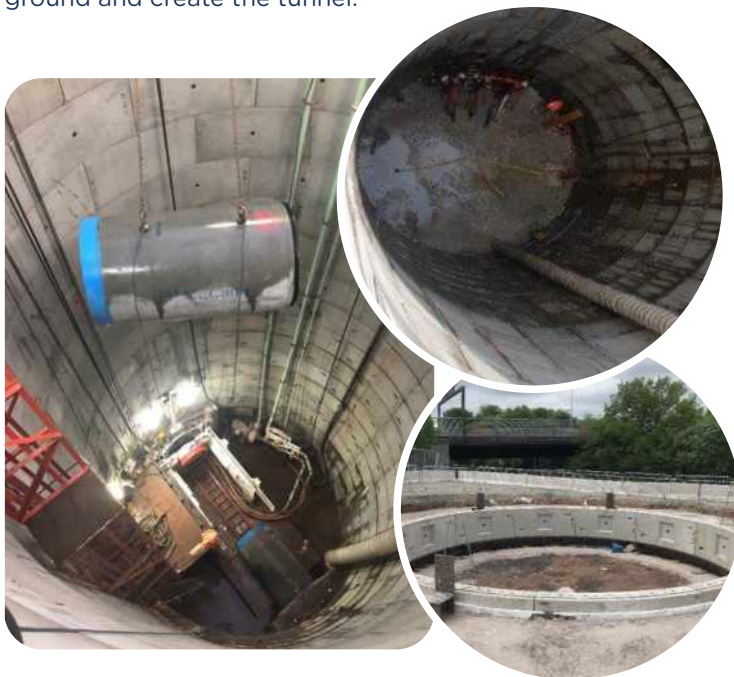


Finally, the new gas pipeline is constructed by lowering the steel pipes into the shaft, welding them together before the welds are radiographed and coated. The pipe is pushed into the tunnel and the process repeated until the pipe is through to the exit shaft.

SGN Project Manager David Rae said: "During this part of our operation the work needed to be carried out in a continuous section which meant tunnelling 24-hours a day. This obviously presented us with some challenges, not least keeping the disturbance for residents down to a minimum. We'd like to say a huge thank you to residents for their patience when this operation was carried out."

David added: "Work continues to progress however due to some of the challenging conditions we've encountered with the construction which included Horizontal Directional Drilling under the River Clyde, our original planned completion date of December is running a bit later than we'd hoped."

"However, with the micro-tunnelling operation now complete, the main elements of the work are now in place and we're on the final straight."



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Considerate Constructors score us A1

We were pleased to learn that following an audit, we were awarded A1, Beyond Compliant Status as part of the Considerate Constructors scheme. The scheme scores our performance in a number of areas including safety, the environment and respecting the community.



Community news

Safety first as Gavinburn steps out for charity

As the children of Gavinburn Primary School braved the stormy weather on 5 October, during their sponsored walk to raise school funds, we were able to fence off a safe walkway area and Murphy's provided hi-vis vests to ensure the children could be seen and stay safe.



Bowled over

We were delighted to attend the Old Kilpatrick Bowling Club's annual presentation of prizes as a VIP guest of the Club President.

The Bowling Club sits adjacent to our Lusset Park site and as part of our project's community initiatives programme, SGN has sponsored 'The Tony Fox Triples' tournament in memory of one of the most successful bowlers in the Club who sadly passed away recently, aged 50.

We provided a new trophy for the tournament as well as a prize money fund for the next 10 years.



Safety Ambassador programme

A talk as part of our Safety Ambassador programme was well received by pupils at Our Lady of Loretto Primary School in Dalmuir.

Erskine Hospital Activity Centre

Veteran George Mackie was gifted sleepers to build a base for his proposed pottery studio in his independent living cottage in the grounds of Erskine Hospital. George has taken up pottery since joining the Erskine Reid Macewen Activity Centre a year ago, and some of his work will be sold to raise funds for the centre. We think he is amazingly talented as these pictures show.



Charity corner

World's Biggest Coffee Morning

There's nothing we at Murphy's and SGN like more than raising money for charity and if it involves eating cake - even better. On Monday 5 November we all took part in the annual fundraising event in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support raising £532.50 - this was matched by SGN's 'Into Action' scheme making a total of £1,032.50.

IGEM

SGN was the main sponsor at the Institution of Gas Engineers and Managers' Scottish Section Annual Dinner Dance held on September 14 when Erskine Hospital was selected as the nominated charity. We raised a fantastic sum of £1,301.75 which again we are topping up with a further £500 from our 'Into Action' scheme. Gift Aid also applies bringing the grand total to £2,062.10.



Photo: SGN Deputy Project Manager and IGEM Immediate Past President, Sheila Lauchlan presents cheque to Karen McAuley, Erskine Hospital Community Fundraising Manager

To find out more

Regular updates will be posted on sgn.co.uk/roadworks/Erskine-Bridge. You can also register your interest and receive news updates and notifications about the work by visiting smartsurvey.co.uk/s/SGNerskineBridge

If you have any specific enquiries about this project, please call us on **01506 856633** during office hours (8am to 4pm) or **0800 912 1700** outwith these times.



Finally, everyone working on our project team would like to wish you all the compliments of the festive season. Merry Christmas and a safe, prosperous and very Happy New Year.