

# Overnight News

Your update from Gardner Distribution

Issue 1 – Spring 2015



## Welcome

To something new – Overnight News from Gardner Distribution.

This is the first issue of what will become a regular communication and one that you hopefully will find both interesting and useful.

We'll try to vary the content so that you can keep up-to-date with what is happening at Gardner Distribution, meet some of the people and equipment involved and keep up-to-date with developments in the wider world of the pallet distribution industry. We will also be able to advise you of any special delivery schedules surrounding public holidays.

I hope you enjoy reading Overnight News and that it helps you get to know us a little better.

*Kevin Gardner*

Like to Meet the Team – [Click here](#)

## An Even More Modern Fleet

The reliability and efficiency of our vehicle fleet is paramount in enabling us to offer the highest levels of service to our customers. Consequently we are constantly evaluating new vehicles that could help us achieve our objectives.

The Renault T Series has been voted International Truck of the Year 2015 and guess what? We've just taken delivery of some of them.

These latest editions to our fleet, have better aerodynamics and feature Renault's new Euro 6 engines with the widest torque range on the market to reduce fuel consumption and maintenance costs, an Optidriver Gearbox for improved gear shifting and a larger fuel tank for greater long distance operation.

As with all our vehicles these new arrivals are already starting to clock up miles and the feedback from our drivers is that they love them.



## Electronic POD

These days everyone is used to signing for home deliveries on an electronic tablet but in the pallet distribution business it has not been possible due to regulations.



Now however there have been some changes across the industry so that we are, at last, able to accept an electronic signature as proof of collection or delivery.

The electronic handsets are now here and our drivers are being briefed on their use so next time you send or arrange the collection of a pallet you'll need to sign for it in a different way – electronically.

It's almost as if the industry has moved into the 21st century!

Like to know more about our services?  
01752 283111 [www.gardnerdistribution.com](http://www.gardnerdistribution.com)

## Apprenticeships on Offer

For a few months now we have been offering apprenticeships covering both warehouse and office staff as part of the government scheme, and been very pleased with the people we have recruited.

Now the scheme is being extended to include drivers.

The types of driver apprenticeships we can offer cover large goods vehicle (LGV) drivers to transport and deliver goods between suppliers and customers, travelling across the roads and motorways of the UK and beyond.

As well as transporting goods with pick-ups and multi-drop deliveries, apprentice drivers may be involved in planning schedules and routes, supervising the loading and unloading of cargo and completing paperwork and log books, all leading to their NVQ qualification.

We're all very excited about the prospect of helping young people take the first step of a very worthwhile career.



## Do You Remember?

Back in 1963, when a company called HT Gardner was established in Plymouth, teenagers were all getting very excited about a new music group called The Beatles? The band had had their first number one the year before, and were already making significant progress towards world domination and in 1969 Harold Gardner bought his very first brand new lorry, a Perkins engine Dodge from Renwicks Commercials.



The incumbent MD remembers it well, although there is no admittance of his age at this time, along

with the pride from Harold (never dad) and swelled chest and beaming smile of the driver Roger Pine. In those days the cab had to be lifted to check oil and water levels. This achieved by unscrewing two locks at the back of the cab and literally pushing the cab up and over to gain access.

Well, a funny thing happened on the way to work one morning when a new driver forgot to re-attach the locking bolts and latch.

Whilst exiting the yard at Laira Battery he touched the brakes...and over he went followed by a mad rush from all and sundry to the scene...and we found a rather rotund, red cheeked typical Devonshire boy bent double and trapped between seat and steering wheel with a cab dripping with expletives.

After a suitable period of rolling around clutching bellies the cab was pushed back into position-no harm done-and off he went...Ahh memories

## Did You Know?

That we have a depot in Exeter?



Opened a little over 18 months ago and located just off Junction 30 of the M5 this not only enables us to service our customers more efficiently throughout Devon but also places us that bit closer to our important hubs based in the Midlands.

The team in Exeter, managed by Luke Gardner, the third generation of Gardner involved in the business since 1963, is a combination of experienced loyal staff from our Plymouth Depot and some new arrivals.