



Contractors Mechanical Plant Engineers

NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

Welcome to another edition of your National Newsletter.

CMPE NEWS FROM AROUND THE BRANCHES

CMPE Glasgow Branch:-

On Friday 27th February 2026, Glasgow branch attended a traditional Burns supper albeit later than the traditional Burns date.

The evening was very well organised and the speakers were a credit to the organisers.

The table at the evening was sponsored by Versatile Plant.



From Left To Right:- John O'Hare, David Macaulay, John Longmuir, Gordon Robertson, Scott Robertson, Adam Bruce, Allan Toal, Billy Johnstone



From Left to Right:- John O'Hare, David Macaulay, John Longmuir



Adam Bruce



Allan Toal and Billy Johnstone

CMPE Wessex Branch:-

A Charity/Ladies Night is to be held by Wessex Branch on 16th May 2026 at the Botleigh Grange Hotel.

This will be a black tie event starting at 6.30pm for 7.00pm with a 3 course dinner for £45.00 per person.

The chosen Charity is Cystic Fibrosis and all are welcome.

Contact Angie Farrington on 02380844588 for reservations.



Botleigh Grange Hotel.

CMPE NATIONAL AGM & DINNER DANCE.



CMPE 62nd NAGM Weekend 19th—21st June 2026

The Stanwick Hotel
West Way
Stanwick
Northants
NN9 6QY



The current National Vice Chairman Gerry Hill is pleased to host the 62nd NAGM of the CMPE at The Stanwick Hotel.

Nestled amidst the breathtaking Northamptonshire countryside, The Stanwick Hotel is a charming gem that combines the allure of a mock Tudor house with the elegance of bespoke renovations. With two acres of landscaped gardens, a restaurant, bars and built around two beautiful courtyards.

Rushden lakes shopping centre is just 4 miles for anyone wanting to explore.

Costs:

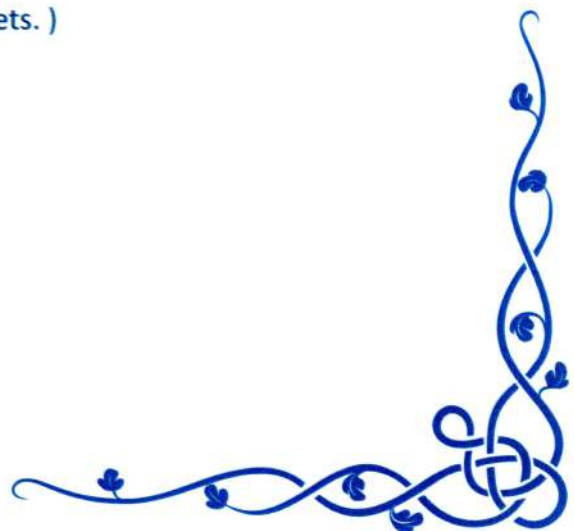
(Weekend costs do not include Dinner Dance Tickets.)

Couples weekend £350.00

Single weekend £295.00

Saturday night B&B £125.00

Dinner Dance Tickets £45.00 per person.





More information regarding this weekend shall be circulated when more details are available. However we are taking bookings from now.

The CMPE National Annual General Meeting Weekends are a great way to socialise and are always an enjoyable experience. Your support as always is greatly appreciated.

How to Book:

Please email or phone Grace Tidbury to book your room and advise of any dietary requirements.

cmpesecretary@gmail.com

07473 264539

Payments should be made to:

The Contractors Mechanical Plant Engineers

Sort Code: 20-42-58 Account No: 30801135

Reference: Your name DD26

Costs:

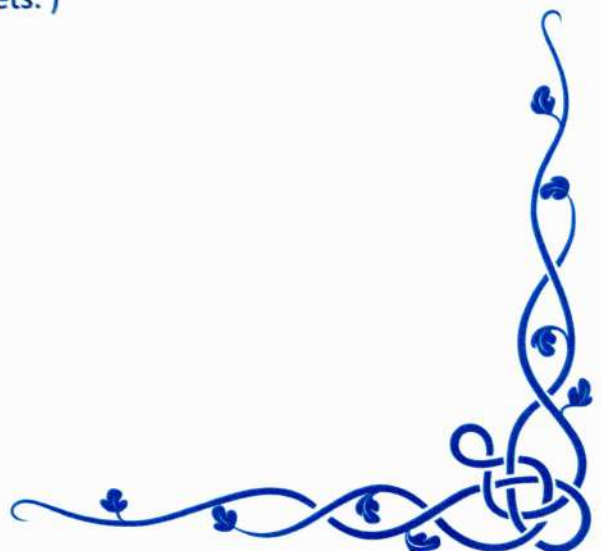
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CMPE Annual Subs.

We are almost at the end of our financial year and it would be timely to remind all branches and members of the following:-

- “Annual Subscriptions” are due from the 1st April 2025.
- Annual Full Membership is now £60.00 per member.
- Annual Retired Membership is now £35.00 per member.
- Any member whose subscription has not been paid by 31st May 2024 will *ipso facto* cease to be a member of the Association.
- Branch Honorary Treasurers are to remit to the Honorary National Treasurer half of the Annual Subscriptions paid to the branch by the 30th June 2024 and all new members subscriptions thereafter are to be remitted every three months.
- The Annual Subscriptions remitted to the Honorary National Treasurer must be accompanied with a list of the members names and addresses, telephone numbers, email address, and whether they are a full or retired member.

Your co-operation to the rules of the association would be appreciated.



Industry News

Rentool fleet growth continues with Kubota.

Hampshire and Dorset plant and tool hire business Rentool invested £1m in new equipment last year, including another three Kubota KX085-5 excavators.

Rentool has a hire fleet of more than 150 excavators, 130 site dumpers, telescopic handlers, compaction equipment and a wide range of power tools.

The company was formed in 1982 by Bill Collings and Mike Jackson. In 2019 their sons Ben Collings and Toby Jackson took over. Head office is in Chandlers Ford in Hampshire and it has a second depot in Poole, Dorset.

Though initially more of a tool hire business, the power tool side has become secondary to the main [plant hire](#) business as the fleet has expanded. All equipment is supplied on a non-operated basis and Rentool covers the central south of England, from Brighton to Bridport. The customer base ranges from civil engineering contractors to DIY-ers.

The company's **excavator** fleet includes models from a sub-1 tonne micro, through to 13-tonne crawlers. Almost all of the mini and midi excavators are Kubota models, supplied by local dealer Lister Wilder. Site dumpers range from 1-9 tonnes and that line-up also includes Kubota's 3-tonne tracked machines, alongside traditional wheeled models. Rentool also offers compaction equipment, fuel cubes and bowsers.

And while mini excavators have been offered with breakers for many years, Rentool now also has augers, grabs and other **attachments** available, with rotate function hydraulic lines installed on larger **excavator** models.

"Every **excavator** 2.7-tonnes and above is specified with a hydraulic quickhitch and auxiliary hydraulics," says Ben Collings.

Latest additions to the Rentool fleet include three Kubota KX085-5 excavators.



The KX085-5 is currently Kubota's largest compact excavator, weighing in at 8.4-tonnes with a monoboom, or 9.0-tonnes with a two-piece articulating boom. Powered by a 46.5kW (63.2hp) Stage V diesel engine, the machine uses a load-sensing two-pump hydraulic system to ensure smooth operation and consistent productivity.

The KX085-5 delivers up to 7.33 metres of forward reach and a maximum digging depth of 4.6 metres. Equipped as standard with the Kubota tracking system, operators can remotely access operational performance in real-time, to plan maintenance, diagnose faults and ensure maximum on-site security.

The KX085-5 has become an increasingly popular option for Rentool's customers and the latest additions to the fleet complete more than £1m of investment in new equipment during 2025. As the company looks to the new year ahead, additional equipment and a relocation are on the agenda.

"We've increased the fleet a lot over the last five years," Collings says. "We are now on the hunt for larger premises, so that we can expand further."



Rocket Rentals goes big on zero tailswing JCBs.

Rocket Rentals has fired the starting gun on a major fleet expansion with a big JCB order.

Rocket Rentals has added more than 55 new JCB machines to its fleet, including 35 zero tailswing excavators.

The Gloucester-based hire company is investing to keep pace with demand across construction, civils and infrastructure. Its latest investment includes 145XR, 90Z 2, 50Z 2 and 25Z 1 excavators, alongside JCB Loadall telehandlers, X Series tracked excavators, and the new JCB CT430 140 tandem roller.

Managing director Simon Tomblin said: “We like that JCB is a British, family company with a fantastic dealer network. Our relationship with Holt JCB is one of the reasons we choose JCB, the level of service we receive from them is outstanding as they truly understand our business and our needs.

“Running zero tailswing wherever possible is now a must for our customers, and with this order we can offer zero swing options from one tonne right up to the new 15-tonne models. JCB’s new CT430 140 roller is also a superb addition, giving excellent compaction results on both asphalt and aggregates.”





Contractors Mechanical Plant Engineers

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