

20 YEARS



of CCGI

The Beginning

On the 21st June 2001, Mark Carden and Rob Clarke took delivery of their first Terrier rig and commenced their CCGI journey.

Their main objective in setting up CCGI was driven by their desire to work for themselves and create a ground investigation company that they would be proud of. They wanted the challenge of going it alone and creating a



business from scratch – they looked at their combined levels of experience and knowledge and just went for it! Mark and Rob then spent the first few years on the road with the Terrier rig working as drillers, engineers, technician, directors, small works crew, cleaners, labourers. You name it they did it – hard work but they loved every minute!

After a year or so clients were asking when CCGI was going to increase capacity and get some more rigs. Mark and Rob’s response was to this was “To be honest, we were having a good time and we had not really thought about it. However, it was clear from our early success that growth was the right thing to do so.... we bought another Terrier and employed some drilling staff. We were off!” In 2005, Jim Constantine joined the CCGI team, and the first rotary rig was bought - a Comacchio MC300. Within three years CCGI had three rotary rigs and had purchased the first Fraste, which was set to become CCGI’s rig of choice for the future.

The Present

Fast forward to 2021 and CCGI now has a comprehensive ground investigation capability including Fraste and Comacchio multipurpose rigs, Cable Percussion rigs, Terrier rigs and a vacuum extraction unit, all supported by experienced drilling managers and a team of experienced engineering geologists. CCGI is now a respected member of the ground investigation community with membership of the British Drilling Association (BDA) and the Association of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Specialists (AGS). Representatives of CCGI contribute to working groups of the AGS and the Geological Society of London. We



were also runners up in the GE Awards 2019. With ISO 9001, 14001 and 45001 accreditations, along with SSIP Acclaim, Constructionline Gold, Builders Profile, RISQS Audited and UVDB Verified, the quality that we deliver to our clients is assured.

Investment is key to the success of CCGI - both in rigs and our people.

In 2020 a major investment programme included the purchase of three Fraste drilling rigs and ancillary vehicles. This investment also included an Fraste ML with wireline capability to a depth of 80m, to allow delivery of quality samples for complex construction projects.



Investment in our staff is also a priority, and includes

essential training, NVQ and BDA accreditation, the Graduate Training Programme, CPD and our “down days” where all staff gather together for a Company learning day on a chosen subject, followed by a hearty social.

Looking to the future



Before Coronavirus hit, CCGI’s objective was to grow the business allowing access to larger and more complex projects, to grow our reputation further and develop stronger relationships with our clients and supply chain. Although the last 18 months has thrown so many challenges at us, our objective remains the same and the investment in people, rigs, equipment, and vehicles that started in 2001 will continue.

The pandemic has thrown a shadow of doubt, worry and real concern over our business and the GI industry, but we remain confident in our staff, ability and our product. We also believe there is a willingness and desire to push forward and leave these troubled times behind us.

Mark and Rob’s last thoughts are towards the team at CCGI “What an incredible group of people! There are so many cliches about Company strength and success being down to the calibre of staff you employ, and they could not be truer for CC. We have a fantastic blend of characters, personalities, skills, experience and strengths. No obstacle is too big for this bunch! A huge thank you for your loyalty and perseverance over the years and we hope you all stay with us for the journey ahead”.