

# GALVANeyes

Issue 28

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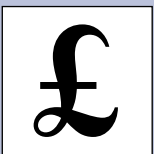
Case Study –  
The Dance



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Hereford  
Galvanizers



Shropshire  
Galvanizers

[www.galvanizers.co.uk](http://www.galvanizers.co.uk)

## Powder coating cover story

Welcome to GALVANeyes, the Hereford and Shropshire Galvanizers newsletter.

For as long as we have been galvanizing customers have been asking us about powder coating. Do we offer it? Do we know a company that can? Well we can take a hint.

It is my great pleasure, and after 47 years of asking, to announce the launch of our brand new Powder Coating plant.

The new plant has been open for business since March at our newly acquired site on Maesbury Road in Oswestry, a mere stones throw from Shropshire Galvanizers.

Customers can now choose from three coating options...

1. Hot dip galvanized
2. Powder coated
3. Duplex (both)

... and we offer all three to both our Shropshire and Hereford customers.

We trust that you will see the benefit of having a single supplier for both coating types. All you need to do is give us a call at either plant and we will do the rest. We will also do the transport if you prefer.



*David Watkins,  
Managing Director*

Hot dip galvanizing and powder coating each have their own benefits. Hot dip galvanizing is a long lasting and durable coating that will last decades. However, sometimes appearance is everything and customers require a particular colour or a consistent and smooth finish. This is where powder coating comes into its own.

Please contact us for more details.

Enjoy GALVANeyes.



*Aspect House, our new  
powder coating plant*



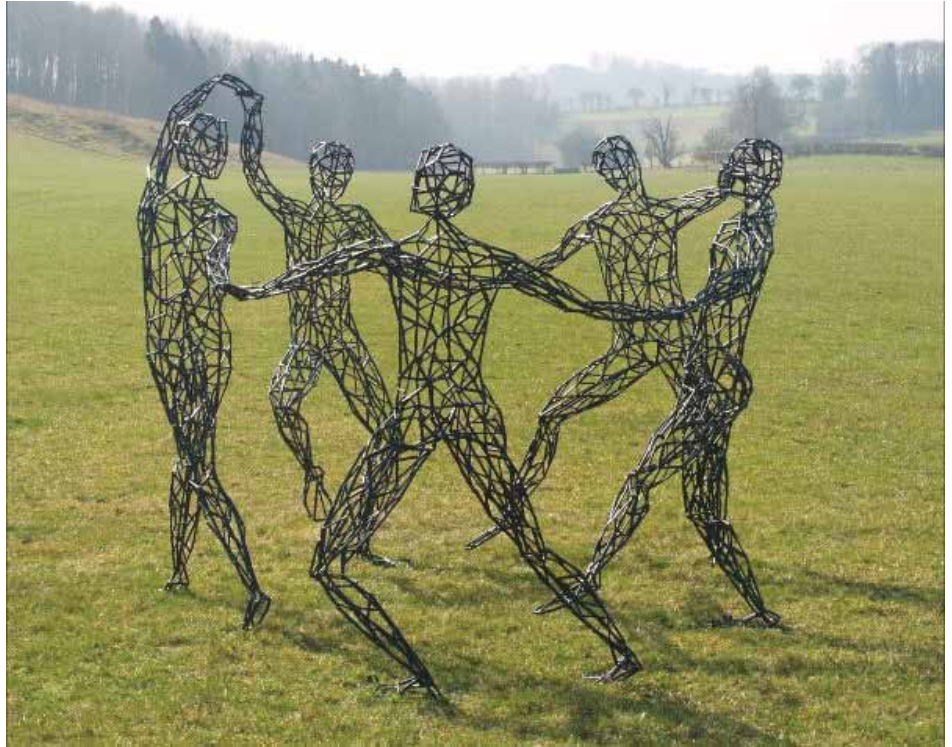
# Dressed to impress

One of the first jobs processed by our new powder coating plant was for Gloucestershire sculptor Lucy Unwin. Lucy asked us to hot dip galvanize and powder coat a five piece sculpture entitled *The Dance*. *The Dance* is to be exhibited at the 'Sculpture at The Grove 2011' art event held at a 5 star hotel resort in Hertfordshire, during May to August.

## Hassle free

Lucy said "This is an important event for me with artists and sculptors from around the world exhibiting their work. It was vital to me that my work looked exactly the way I wanted it to. An important part of a sculpture is its durability and finish. I am very pleased with the quality of work that Hereford and Shropshire Galvanizers have achieved. They collected the work, galvanised and powder coated it and returned it back to me as they said they would, hassle free".

As with all Duplex coats, the steelwork was first hot dip galvanized, dressed (fettled and linished), in this case at the Hereford plant, and then transported to the powder coating facility in



*The Dance (after Matisse) by Lucy Unwin*

Oswestry where it was polyester powder coated a semi gloss black and securely packaged before being sent back to Hereford.

Brent Gould is the Powder Coating Manager at the new Oswestry plant. "Powder coating sculptures is no different to coating other types of steelwork. Providing that care is taken at every stage, especially the preparation and packaging, customers should have a positive experience. We

hear of instances where customers require a duplex coating and if problems occur the powder coater will blame the galvanizer and the galvanizer will blame the powder coater. Another concern of customers is where they have to spend hours fettling galvanized steelwork in preparation for taking it to their powder coaters. As we do both, we make these problems ours rather than our customers and hopefully they will see the time and cost benefits".



*Still dancing in the powder coating plant*



David Howle  
Works Manager  
Hereford Galvanizers

# Technical bit

I'm not sure if we mentioned it earlier but we've just opened a new powder coating plant. So, how does it work? We have summarised the process involved for powder coating a galvanizing finish and a mild steel finish below.



Mike Jones  
Production Supervisor  
Shropshire Galvanizers

## Powder coating process

We can apply a powder coating finish to both galvanized steel and bare mild steel. The processes for powder coating both are similar but require different preparation. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Coating galvanized steel	Coating bare steel
<p><b>STAGE 1 : FETTLING</b></p> <p>Any defects such as pimples, runs and spikes on the galvanized surface are removed and/or smoothed.</p>	<p><b>STAGE 1 : SWEEP BLASTING</b></p> <p>Rather than fettling and chemical pre-treatment (see galvanized steel - left) the first stage involves removing any surface contaminants by sweep blasting. The steelwork is placed within a shot blasting booth and pounded clean with abrasive shot material.</p>
<p><b>STAGE 2 : PRE-TREATMENT</b></p> <p>A chemical etch primer solution is applied to the steelwork protecting and improving the surface enabling adhesion of the powder.</p>	
<p><b>STAGE 3 : DRYING</b></p> <p>Following the pre-treatment the product is suspended on the overhead conveyor or on racks and moved into the dry-off oven to ensure that all moisture is removed from the surface.</p>	
<p><b>STAGE 4 : POWDER APPLICATION</b></p> <p>The powder is applied using an electrostatic spray gun. Electrostatically charged particles of powder are evenly dispersed over the surface of the earthed steelwork.</p>	
<p><b>STAGE 5 : CURING</b></p> <p>The curing oven has a temperature up to 200°C and takes around 15 to 20 minutes according to product size. During the curing process the powder melts to produce a smooth, hard barrier. After curing the coated steelwork is removed from the oven and carefully packaged ready for despatch.</p>	



Shot blasting



Spray booth



Curing oven

# Employee focus

**Name:** Brent Gould  
**Title:** Powder Coating Manager  
**Started:** February 2011



Brent Gould has had two stints at the company. The first started in 1991 and led to Brent eventually becoming the Works Director at Shropshire Galvanizers. He's here again, and this time it's personal, as our new Powder Coating Manager in Oswestry.

We are very confident that Brent's experience will be of great benefit to our business.



Congratulations to Barry Onions of PCP Gratings who correctly answered '1969' to our Bulmers Woodpecker question in the previous edition of GALVANeyes. Barry's name was drawn from a hat by our MD David Watkins to win £100 worth of Marks and Spencer gift vouchers. Here he is receiving his vouchers from Shropshire's Works Manager, Lee Lightwood.



**Hereford Galvanizers Ltd**  
 Westfields Trading Estate  
 Hereford HR4 9NS  
 T 01432 267664  
 F 01432 352735  
 zinc@hereford.galvanizers.co.uk



**Shropshire Galvanizers**  
 Units 12 & 13, Maes-y-Clawdd,  
 Maesbury Road Ind Est, Oswestry,  
 Shropshire SY10 8NN  
 T 01691 670757  
 F 01691 670636  
 zinc@shropshire-galvanizers.co.uk

# Competition time...

A big thank you to all those who took part in the competition in the previous edition of GALVANeyes. Here is another opportunity to win. This time the prize is a case of Wye Valley Brewery beer. All you need to do is answer the following question...



**At what temperature do we cure our powder coating? .....**

Please answer and complete your contact details below and post, fax or email this page back to Hereford Galvanizers (for contact details see top right of page) by **30th June 2011** to enter the draw.

Name: ..... Company: .....

Address: .....

Post code: .....

Tel: ..... Fax: .....

Email: .....

*The first correct answer drawn from a hat by our Managing Director, Dave Watkins, will win. The winner will be announced in the next edition of GALVANeyes. Good luck.*

