



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2026

ISSUE #07

RINGMER, LEWES

THE BROYLE

Residential Development,
Foundation Construction.



PROJECT OF THE QUARTER

This quarter, the spotlight goes to The Broyle in Lewes, a project that really shows how a well-planned foundation package keeps everything moving. The works took place during the wettest months of the year, often in heavy rain. Despite the challenging weather and difficult ground conditions, the team still delivered the foundations three days ahead of schedule.

WHAT WE'RE SEEING ON SITE RIGHT NOW

A few clear trends are coming through across multiple projects:

- More complex ground conditions earlier in the process. Sites are being pushed forward faster, but ground risk is still there, so its good to get on top of any issues before works start on site,
- Tree influence becoming a bigger factor. Particularly on tighter residential schemes, where layouts are being maximised.
- Greater focus on compliance and future standards. With upcoming changes, there's more scrutiny on getting things right first time.





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FOUNDATION SOLUTIONS FOR CLAY SOILS IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND

Clay soils are widespread across southern and south-eastern England, forming a significant engineering challenge for construction projects. The most well-known of these is the London Clay Formation, a thick, fine-grained sediment that underlies much of Greater London, Essex, Kent, and extends into parts of Surrey, West Sussex and Hampshire.

This clay is notorious for its susceptibility to moisture changes, expanding when wet and shrinking when dry, which can cause ground movement and structural issues if not properly managed in foundation design.

Other clay deposits also occur from the Weald through to more recent superficial clays such as clay-with-flints and glacial deposits across southern England, adding to the variability and engineering complexity of subsoils outside major urban centres.

Clay's shrink-swell behaviour is a common cause of differential settlement and subsidence, especially under shallow foundations that cannot adapt to seasonal volume changes. These challenges are particularly pronounced in densely populated zones of London and the wider Southeast, where infrastructure and buildings are frequently affected by soil movement.

[You can take a look at the full article on our website today.](#)



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INVESTING IN OUR TEAM

Away from site, we've completed our new on-site employee gym, including a reformer pilates machine (which has definitely tested a few of us already).

It's part of a wider focus on keeping the team fit, healthy, and supported.



COASTAL CHALLENGES AT RUSTINGTON

Building near the coast is never straightforward. We've completed the first stage of foundation works for Macar Homes at the former Rustington Convalescent Home site in West Sussex, six rafts across 26 units, delivered in nine weeks.

The scheme will deliver 33 new homes alongside restoration of a Grade II listed building.

The ground conditions combined coastal ground, tree influence, chalk and saline conditions, but exactly what piled raft systems are designed to handle.

Blocks A and B are now complete, with the remaining phases progressing well.

THE FERNS, WINDLESHAM – COMPLETED EARLY

We've wrapped up works at The Ferns for Rivium Homes Ltd, delivering six slabs three weeks ahead of programme.

With heavy tree influence across the site, a piled raft foundation wasn't optional, it was essential. No redesigns or delays. Just a solution that allowed the client to move straight on with the build.

