

## A COMPANY HISTORY

Farm Services Ltd. was originally set up by a local forester and millman as agricultural and land drainage contractors in **1942**. The company was actually incorporated in Llandudno which was where companies house had been evacuated during the war.



**1954** saw the appointment of R.D. Burtonshaw as general manager, having been a drainage officer in North Warwickshire and having been trained by the war ag he was in the perfect position to turn the company focus solely onto drainage. This was the beginning of a relationship between the Burtonshaw Family and Farm Services which has lasted until the present day and seen the family become the majority shareholders.



To begin with the company was based in the centre of Barford, Warwickshire, but eventually the original yard proved too small and the company moved to purpose built depot and offices at the Chesterton Estate Yard, in Lighthorne. The move was completed in **1975** and the company is still based at the site today. The cost of the new building and land was a meagre £3,614.00.



In **1982** Ian Watt joined the company closely followed by R.P Burtonshaw both of whom are still directors today.

When in **1992** R.D. Burtonshaw retired having served the company for over thirty five years, R.P Burtonshaw took over as Managing Director and oversaw the steady diversification into differing types of drainage, a process which has included the founding of a specialist sportsfield division called: [sportsdrainage.com](http://sportsdrainage.com).



In **2001** R.J. Burtonshaw joined the company and became the third generation of the Burtonshaw Family to own and manage Farm Services, in **2012** Rob was awarded a Nuffield Scholarship which saw him travel the world meeting leading drainage professionals and studying drainage worldwide.



The company continues to evolve and embrace new equipment such Track Gravel Carts and GPS devices. Almost all the plant is owned, operated and maintained by the company. Over the years considerable investment has been made in new plant and machinery. Many plant items are specialist and designed to our requirements.



Farm Services Ltd. Client base is wide and includes, all types of farmers, professional football clubs, local authorities, small village sports clubs, and major civil engineering companies. The vast majority of our custom is repeat business and many names can be traced back through the years.

Almost every metre of drain laid by the company has been mapped and recorded on a 'completion plan'. These records are stored under lock and key, in a fire proof room at Chesterton and have proven a rare glimpse into the history of not just Farm Services but of British agriculture. This tradition is continued today, only far than being hand draw and measured by a wheel, GPS and CAD software allow for great clarity and accuracy.



***Farm Services is recruiting new members of staff and investing heavy in new cutting edge machinery, the hope is that the company will be able to celebrate another 75 years in business.***