Steve started with Pearce Group in the workshop and worked his way up from supervisor to manager, recently being given a directorship at the age of 29.

It was during his early work in the repair shop that he would identify problems affecting the performance of a machine and would then use his skill and initiative to develop improvements for existing and future models.

Steve has designed, developed and overseen the build of a wide range of waste handling and recycling equipment. Through his hands-on involvement with the business, Steve spends considerable time on the workshop floor.

One of his most innovative and unique projects has been the first UK built solar panelled waste compactor, made to order for Windsor Castle. He went on to build a demonstration model for exhibition at the Resource Efficiency and Waste Management Show at the NEC in Birmingham. The product was shortlisted in the ‘Innovation of the Year’ category at the National Recycling Awards.

As a visitor to the New Forest Business Expo last year held at Berthon Boatyard, Pearce Group recognised an opportunity for the installation of a compactor to reduce waste recycling costs at the same time as reducing their carbon footprint. From this, a machine for Berthon Boat Company is currently under construction.

Such is the perceived quality of these machines throughout the industry that some of Pearce Group’s competitors have now begun to sell them.