

Navigating tight spaces: G&R Groundworks turns to Yanmar C12R-C Dumper

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With a reputation for precision and reliability, G&R Groundworks is tackling complex excavation and utility projects across North Devon. To enhance efficiency in confined spaces, the company has added a [Yanmar C12R-C](#) dumper to its fleet – delivering the power, agility, and versatility needed to keep operations running smoothly.

G&R Groundworks, a specialist in excavation and utility projects, has expanded its fleet with the addition of a Yanmar C12R-C compact dumper, improving its ability to navigate tight spaces in residential areas and narrow footpaths. The Barnstaple-based company, which has been operating for three years, primarily serves Network Plus – a leading utility and infrastructure service provider – delivering excavation, reinstatement, and spoil management solutions.

Compact power for complex sites

With projects frequently taking place in back gardens, on narrow footpaths, or within one-way road systems, G&R Groundworks needed a dumper that could handle confined spaces without sacrificing performance. Joint Director Richard Smale explained that standard dumpers were often too large for these environments, prompting the company to seek a more compact and efficient solution.

After evaluating various options, G&R Groundworks selected the Yanmar C12R-C for its competitive pricing, compact footprint, and proven reliability. The unit's hydrostatic transmission and three-way dumping capability allow for precise material handling, a major advantage for the company's utility and

reinstatement work.

“We’ve used a variety of machines in the past, but the Yanmar C12R-C stood out as the perfect fit,” Richard said. “It’s powerful, highly manoeuvrable, and helps us work more efficiently in the confined spaces we deal with every day.”

Power and precision in a compact package

The Yanmar C12R-C features an operating weight of 1,100 kg and a payload capacity of 1,150 kg, all within a compact 960 mm width; making it an ideal solution for sites with restricted access. Its hydrostatic transmission ensures smooth operation, while its three-way dumping capability allows materials to be offloaded to the rear or either side.

Richard emphasised how this flexibility has transformed operations, making the transport of spoil, aggregates, and trench fill far more efficient. Since its arrival in October, the dumper has been deployed across various utility and groundworks projects, proving to be an essential addition to the fleet.

A strong partnership with Machine Serve

Another key factor in G&R Groundworks’ decision was the strong support offered by local Yanmar dealer Machine Serve. The team worked closely with Joint Director Guy Newton to ensure the company secured the right machine for its needs.

“The service from Machine Serve has been excellent,” Guy said. “Phil Davey and the team understood what we needed and made the buying process seamless. Knowing we have reliable dealer support gives us confidence in our equipment choices.” Having dependable dealer backing is essential for G&R Groundworks, particularly for quick access to parts and servicing. The company values the peace of mind that comes with strong aftersales support, ensuring minimal downtime on critical projects.

Built for the future

Looking ahead, G&R Groundworks is focused on steady, sustainable growth while staying true to its hands-on, customer-first approach. The demand for infrastructure upgrades continues to rise, particularly with the shift toward electrification and more sustainable solutions, and the company is well-positioned to meet these evolving needs.

“With our new Yanmar unit, we’re better equipped than ever to support our clients efficiently, whether in excavation, reinstatement, or spoil management,” Richard said. “We take pride in delivering reliable, high-quality service, and as we grow, it’s important that we maintain the strong relationships and trust we’ve built. The C12R-C is already proving to be a valuable asset in helping us do just that.”

With a reputation built on quality workmanship and reliability, G&R Groundworks continues to make its mark in the groundworks and utility sector. Yanmar Compact Equipment is proud to support their journey with high-performance, durable solutions that keep projects moving forward.