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Rob Wilson MP

Member of Parliament for Reading East

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Rob Wilson MP visits the first of 240 Pack & Send stores in the UK



Written by Craig Morley

Reading East MP, Rob Wilson, dropped into the Reading store of **Pack & Send** to meet with the team there and get an understanding of how the business lives up to its claim of being able to send anything anywhere. He was also interested to learn how the company, new to the UK, was getting on with their plans to open a further 240 stores across the country.



Pack & Send is a new packaging and shipping company which officially launched their unique collection, packing and freight management service in the UK in January this year. Although [the Company's philosophy](#) is that they can 'send anything, anywhere', their UK Chief Executive, Mike Ryan, did not expect to have this tested quite so hard by their first customer.

"Our customer wanted us to provide safe collection and delivery of some catering items", he explained, "but the challenging thing was that the items were 60 Mars Ice Cream Bars which needed buying in the UK and delivering still frozen to her in Sydney, Australia!"

The **Pack & Send** store at 91 Kings Road, Reading is the first outlet for the business which handles the [collection and delivery](#) of any item to any location in the world, but it is their secure packing and crating services and door-to-door freight management and ability to handle fragile, large, awkward and valuable items that sets them apart from conventional courier solutions.

"**Pack & Send** was the perfect choice for this shipment", continued Tony Fowles, UK General Manager. "Not only were we able to supply insulated packing and sufficient dry ice to keep the ice cream frozen for the day long plane transit, but through our contacts with the airlines we were able to arrange refrigerated storage at Heathrow prior to the flight down to Sydney and again at the other end."

"You must love your ice cream to have it shipped halfway around the globe", he added, "but as **Pack & Send** originated in Australia, and is the leading retail freight business there, it is no surprise that we were the first choice when it came to shipping from the UK."

Pack & Send are able to help businesses and consumers across the UK with more conventional requirements too. Their range of domestic and international courier services and collection and custom packing solutions are ideal for transporting anything from spare parts to works of art.

Since serving their first customer and delivering her ice cream bars safely to Sydney, **Pack & Send** have packed and sent [12th century Islamic pottery](#), an antique model of a London Trolley bus that was one of only five left in the world, thousands of pounds worth of paintings including a Rolf Harris original.

"We've also been involved in packing and sending more conventional items – though no less important and valuable to the sender," explained Ryan. "We have packed and sent [personal possessions](#), [excess baggage](#), [laptop computers](#) an [IT equipment](#), mobile phones, teddy bears, birthday presents – the list is endless."

Rob, who during the visit tried his hand at the unique foam packaging system said of the business, "I was delighted to come along and see for myself how someone is starting a business up in the middle of the recession. Mike has found a gap in the market and it appears that his flagship store here in Reading is doing extremely well. It's great to hear of a success story during these difficult times and I wish the team all the best for the future expansion of the business."



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