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opendoor

Welcome... from works manager Sinan Urhan

Welcome to the summer edition of *Open Door*, which includes lots of information about what is happening at our Ketton works.



Later this year, we will apply for planning permission to extend the life of Grange Top quarry by another 25 years to secure the future of the works and its staff (see story below). The application was discussed initially at the site's liaison committee and we hope to provide more detailed plans later this summer. Worked out areas are currently under restoration, with planting taking place soon and I hope that by next year the old quarries will be full of greenery.

We continue with our efforts to reduce CO₂ emissions by maximising the use of alternative fuels and carbon-free alternative raw materials, as well as reducing clinker usage in our cement. I am delighted with the progress our plant team has made and am confident we will be able to do even better in the coming months.

I want to pay tribute to our transport auxiliary Marie White, who joined volunteers from Ketton Climate Action group to help pick litter from around the works and raise awareness of the need for good housekeeping. Her efforts haven't gone unrewarded as, from March, we launched a 'Housekeeping Day' and I hope all our colleagues will do their bit to keep our working environment clean and tidy.

We have already made a good start to reduce litter by installing a drinks machine which uses recyclable cups – and incentivises employees to reuse them.

Congratulations to employees Paul Shalliker, David Wray and Peter Hill who have all celebrated 40 years' service with the company. And good luck to packing plant manager Tim Gooch who retired recently; we will miss him but are confident his successor Danny Vincent, who started as an apprentice with Tim, will do an excellent job.

Finally, my condolences to the family of process operative Viv Russon, who passed away this year after 33 years' service. We will all miss him and will support his daughter Stacey in her 100-kilometre walk in aid of The Brain Tumour Charity in September.



Marie hopes colleagues pick up litter message

Marie White, right, with Lynn Thacker of the Ketton Climate Action group

Transport auxiliary Marie White is sending out a strong message to her Ketton works colleagues about the need to look after their own litter and have pride in their workplace.

Marie joined volunteers from the Ketton Climate Action group for a litter pick from Pit Lane, the social club and transport park, which

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Quarry extension crucial to long-term future of works

Hanson Cement will be seeking planning permission later this year for an extension of Grange Top quarry to secure the long-term future of Ketton works.

Initial plans have already been discussed with the site's liaison committee, with more detailed plans being prepared

during the summer. The aim is to submit a planning application to Rutland County Council later this year or early 2023.

Grange Top quarry has approximately 10 years of permitted limestone reserves

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HI-TECH HELPERS ARE SAFER OPTION

The use of robots helped Ketton works engineers eliminate the risk of injury and save a valuable seven days during their annual maintenance shutdown.

Usually, steeplejacks working on scaffolding with pneumatic peckers are used to remove debris and worn refractory bricks from inside the site's two cyclones, but kiln production manager Neil Clarke opted for an automated solution to what can be an extremely uncomfortable and dangerous task working in confined spaces.

In this latest shutdown, there was a need to replace all the steel and refractory bricks in the lower part of both cyclones.

Neil said: "Before 2022, I had been looking to increase safety and efficiency of this process using the robotic demolition machines, which had recently completed their development trials.

"With two robots working side by side, which I believe is a world first, we reduced the time from 140 hours if the work had been carried out manually to 26 hours using the robot arms and, more importantly, there was no risk of injury."

LITTER MESSAGE TO COLLEAGUES

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generated 20 bags of litter, containing a large number of bottles and plastic cups.

She said: "I felt that if the community was helping us out at Ketton works then it was a perfect opportunity for me to lend a hand and get the message out to the staff and drivers that volunteers had assisted in clearing up their workplace.

"I want to change attitudes and bring back the pride in the workplace and this was a perfect place to start."

BIODIVERSITY STUDY REACHES UK FINAL

Cranfield University's study into ways of preserving carbon in soil to boost site restoration and biodiversity at Grange Top quarry is one of six projects to reach the UK final of the Quarry Life Awards.

The global award scheme is run every three years by Hanson's parent company HeidelbergCement, with a £5,000 top prize for the winning UK entry, which will then also go forward to compete for the £26,000 international prize.

The winner of the UK final will be announced on November 3 at Middleton Hall in Staffordshire.

Quarry extension plan heading to council

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remaining and a time extension to December 31, 2032, agreed by the county council in November last year, will enable current permitted reserves to be worked.

Two areas in Hanson's ownership, known as Northwest Land and Field 14, have been identified as potential quarry extensions and will provide about a further 25 years of limestone and clays for the cement works.

Land and mineral resources manager Mark Page said: "We are in the initial stages of preparing the planning application and environmental impact assessment, but hope to have a more detailed plan of quarry working and a progressive site restoration scheme to show the liaison



committee in July."

Technical consultants are working on a range of topics including ecology, archaeology, noise, traffic, hydrology, air quality and blasting vibration assessments. A screening and scoping request will be made to Rutland County Council later this summer.

Established in 1928,

Ketton works is nationally important, with 60 per cent of production being railed into London and the south east. It is also seen as a significant business in Rutland, employing 250 staff, both direct and indirectly, and pays £1.3m a year in business rates, which represents 17 per cent of the county's total.

Engineering apprenticeships are available

Ketton works is offering two apprenticeships – in mechanical engineering and electrical engineering. The apprenticeship are for three years, with the offer of an additional improver year. Anyone

interested should contact Richard Gray on **07813 342808** for more information. Hanson Cement also has a number of other vacancies, which can be viewed at www.hanson-careers.co.uk/en



Aurelien Colas and graduate trainee manager Janique St Prix soil testing in the restoration area

Restoration work continues

Ketton Parish Council will be checking on the progress of restoration work at Grange Top quarry later this month.

Quarry manager Aurelien Colas confirms that the landform has been restored and the soil quality is now being improved with compost in readiness for planting grass seed later this year, as well as new trees over the winter months.

The plan is to restore half the area, about 36

hectares. Some land will be left untouched because it is designated as a regionally important geological site and the remainder will be restored next year.

Aurelien said: "We are really looking forward to early autumn when the grass seeds will have had a chance to grow.

"It will be very much dependent on the weather, but it will be a very encouraging start."



Enjoying the benefits of Wellbeing Wednesday, shift manager Anthony Igbodudu, second left, and profuel controller Roger Dumford, with organisers Tracy Mitchell, left, and Alison Mytton

Healthy options are food for thought

The Ketton site has introduced Wellbeing Wednesdays as part of a company-wide scheme to provide healthier meal options to workers.

Once a month for the next 12 months, employees at all three Hanson Cement plants will be offered alternative meal ideas. So far at Ketton, the 250 staff have been provided with a breakfast box in April and the distribution of fruit in May, while June's focus is on hydration.

Health and safety advisor Paul Aldersea said: "The scheme is all about giving something back to employees and improving morale.

"Many sites do not have canteens, so we are encouraging our people to think about healthier alternatives."

Danny delight at new packing role

Danny Vincent has taken over as packing plant manager following the retirement of Tim Gooch (see story below).

Danny, 32, from Stamford, joined Hanson Cement in 2016 as a mechanical apprentice, successfully completing his time, plus an improver year.

After 18 months in a local engineering works, he returned to the Ketton plant as a night shift operator working the machines and later became a team leader. Danny then got the opportunity to go back on days as a fitter team leader, to make sure he retained his engineering skills.

Working for both production and engineering gave him considerable experience in the packing dock, and he is hoping to make improvements.

It's turning out to be a big year for Danny as he and his partner Helen are expecting their first child. He continues to enjoy cycling, golf and restoring classic cars.



Danny Vincent

DUKE'S MEMORIAL STONE UNVEILED

The memorial stone to commemorate HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, who died last year, was unveiled by HRH The Duke of Gloucester and Lord Lieutenant Dr Sarah Furness at a new orchard created at Rutland Showground.

The large block of limestone had been selected by the Lord Lieutenant from Grange Top quarry and a bas relief of the duke was carved by South Luffenham sculptor Chris Groombridge. This stone is like those at the entrance to Ketton village.

The Duke of Gloucester also planted the final tree in the orchard.

SADIE SEALS BOOK SUCCESS

Hanson Cement donated a £50 Amazon voucher to the winner of Stamford Welland Academy's World Book Day competition.

To mark the day, the academy held a book cover design competition based on the theme of *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr Morris Lessmore*.

Sadie Taylor was chosen as the winner by headteacher Victoria Lloyd.



Tim Gooch and his wife Theresa

Tim lines up fishing hobbies after retiring

Former packing plant supervisor Tim Gooch has retired after 28 years at Ketton works and now aims to concentrate on his passion of keeping koi carp.

Tim, 56, retired in the spring but was asked to manage two important projects to increase efficiency on the packing plant.

"I am now planning another large koi carp pond in my garden," said Tim, who is also a keen angler. "This one will be raised, with a

glass-fronted viewing platform and six feet deep."

After recovering from cancer, Tim contracted Covid-19 and was the first person in his local hospital to be admitted with the virus. Covid has taken its toll; it took him 12 months to fully recover and was one of the reasons for his retirement.

He and wife Theresa are looking forward to the marriage of one of their daughters in July.

Talk to us...

Hanson Cement operates an open door policy – if you want to talk to us about our operations or visit the works, please contact Sinan Urhan on 01780 727041 or email sinan.urhan@hanson.com

Service stars celebrated

Three Ketton works employees who have clocked up a combined 120 years' service have been honoured by the company.

They are process operative David Wray and LGV driver Peter Hill, who both live in Stamford, and process analyst Paul Shalliker, from Ketton. All received 40-year certificates from CEO Simon Willis at a celebration dinner in London.



Left to right, David Wray, Peter Hill and Paul Shalliker



Stuart Moss hands over a bag of cement to sister-in-law Sarah

DONATION HELPS HOSPITAL GARDEN

Work to provide a wellbeing garden for staff at the Stamford & Rutland Hospital, after two years of dealing with Covid-19, are well advanced and being supported by local businesses including Hanson.

A former concrete courtyard is being transformed into a calm and reflective space for staff, who are also expecting the next few years to be demanding as the hospital tries to catch up on all the care that had to be delayed during lockdown.

Ketton works has donated 60 bags of FastSet PostFix cement to the project, thanks mainly to docking plant operative Stuart Moss, whose sister-in-law Sarah Moss works at the hospital. Hanson Cement's donation will be used to secure the posts of the pergolas.

Other offers of help have come from an artist to provide murals, local businesses restoring old seats, offers of plants and ornaments and a design from a landscape architect.

Sarah said: "It has been a hard couple of years. The garden has been designed with discreet areas that are not overlooked so staff can take a few minutes to compose themselves."

STACEY'S WALK TRIBUTE TO DAD

Stacey Warrington is planning a 100-kilometre walk in support of The Brain Tumour Charity following the death of her father Viv Russon.

Viv, a process operative, had worked at the Ketton site for 33 years before his sudden death in March. The walk, organised by the charity, will be staged in London in September. Stacey, who lives in Uffington, hopes to raise £2,500 and wants to thank people in advance for their donation.

She has set up a GoFundMe page at [gofund.me/87c47942](https://www.gofundme.com/c/87c47942)

Pair pedal 100 miles to boost chosen charities

Drivers Simon Lawes-Cole and Peter Daniels tackled the ups and downs of the 100-mile RideLondon cycle ride to Essex and back to raise money for their favourite charities, backed by the Hanson charity match fund.

Simon, 52, from Stamford, raised £500 for WheelPower, a charity based in Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire, which encourages wheelchair users to get involved in sport. He chose the charity as his son Lewis is wheelchair bound and his total has been doubled to £1,000 by the charity match fund.

Peter, 63, who lives near Bourne, raised £250 for WaterAid, which will be doubled to £500.

"In this part of the world, we take water for granted but in other countries, it's simply life or death," he said.

The ride started on the Embankment in London and finished on Tower Bridge and took in around six hours of tough climbing in the Essex countryside.



Simon Lawes-Cole, left and Peter Daniels



Chris Sharman and Marie White of Hanson Cement hand over a giant tyre to Maria Durrant, right, activities co-ordinator at Chater Lodge

Tyre training keeps cyclists on track

Two members of Chater Lodge care home in Ketton got a boost to their training regime for RideLondon with the delivery of two huge tyres from Ketton works.

Care home general manager Zoe Postgate and deputy manager Mandy Myciuk used the tyres, which weigh 55kg each and are from a telehandler, to flip across the lawns at Chater Lodge in a bid to build up their core strength. It was a welcome sight for the residents who cheered on the pair.

All money raised by the pair will go to the Barchester Foundation, the charity which owns Chater Lodge.

First-aiders come to the rescue

Ketton works first-aiders Rob Peachey and Tim Neal put their training and experience to good use when they came to the rescue of an elderly lady in Ketton village who had fallen and suffered heavy blood loss from a head injury late at night.

Neighbours had called 999, but were told an ambulance would be a two-hour wait, so through a series of contacts, including storeman Steve Goodbody, a message for help eventually got through to the cement works at 11.30pm.

Night shift manager Rob was the first to offer help and found the lady, aged 93, had fallen over and that the bleeding wouldn't stop.

Rob said: "After 15 minutes of applying pressure, I became more worried about her condition."

He contacted the site for more help, and swapped employees around to release profuel controller Tim, another first-aiders, who also brought along the work's defibrillator. With two members of staff away from the works, Nick Pearce and Michael Russon were on hand to cover.

Rob added: "Together, we stayed with the lady for another hour, keeping pressure on the wound and keeping her warm and awake.

When the ambulance arrived, we passed on all relevant information and returned to work.

"We've since been told that she's home from hospital and recovering well."

Works manager Sinan Urhan congratulated the pair for their swift and caring response.

"Thanks to the site's first aid training, Rob and Tim were able to give the lady the help she needed until professional help arrived," he said.



Left to right, Rob Peachey, Steve Goodbody, Sinan Urhan and Michael Russon. Tim Neal and Nick Pearce were not available for the photo