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Welcome... from plant manager Stewart Jones

Thank you for taking the time to read the latest edition of *Open Door*, which aims to keep the community informed about key events and developments at Hanson Cement.

This has been another challenging year, with maximum production demand to supply a very busy marketplace. Performance has been good following the stack repair and other major projects have been completed on time by combining internal employee skills with key contractor input. These include installation

of new filter units for the main cement mills and the installation of a new packer and palletiser for our bagged cement products. Other key investments for the main kiln line and quarry are taking place for completion in 2017 and I believe the plant has a fantastic future.

Critical to our operation is Grange Top quarry and, provided the stopping up order for Empingham Road is granted, it prepares the overall plant for the next generation of employees. Two new apprentices joined us in September

and Hanson UK has key programmes for graduate trainees, supervisory trainees and apprentices in place. These developments ensure the future security of our employees and contractors – and also ensure continuing benefit to the economies of Ketton and other local villages and the wider environment.

I'd like to thank all our dedicated employees and contractors for making 2016 a great success and I wish all members of the community the very best for the coming festive period.

Public to have say on road diversion

A public inquiry is to be held next month to consider issues and hear outstanding objections against the proposed diversion of a section of Empingham Road, near Grange Top quarry, Ketton.

Hanson Cement proposes to build a new one-kilometre section of road to allow development of the quarry which supplies limestone to Ketton cement works.

The inquiry into the stopping up order will open at Barnsdale Hall Hotel, Oakham on Tuesday, December 6 and is scheduled to last three days. Planning permission to extend the quarry and to construct a new section of road was first granted in 2002.

The proposal is to remove a section of road between Wytchley Warren and Wytchley Warren Farm and replace it with a new road and bridge on Hanson land. A new footpath will link up and expand existing routes for walkers.

Recommendations

The quarry extension, as well as the new road and bridge, have already been approved by Rutland County Council. The inquiry inspector will hear objections to the stopping up order to close and divert part of the road before making his recommendations to the Department of Transport.

Grange Top quarry manager Clifford Daly said: "The diversion of Empingham Road is critical to the long-term futures of the quarry, the cement works and the people who work there. The diversion will allow us to access vital reserves of high quality limestone, a core mineral required for cement production."

Talk to us...

Hanson Cement operates an open door policy – if you want to talk to us about our operations or visit the plant, please contact Stewart Jones on 01780 727041 or email stewart.jones@hanson.biz



Mapping out the future, Stewart Jones, left, and Grange Top quarry manager Clifford Daly

HI-TECH PLANS TO REDUCE EMISSIONS

Hanson is planning to invest almost £10 million in the latest technology by the end of 2017 as part of its ongoing drive to reduce emissions at Ketton.

The company will seek planning permission from Rutland County Council to carry out major works, including the replacement of the kiln filter, which removes dust particles from the kiln gases and the raw mill. This system alone will cost £8 million.

Around 300 tonnes of dust an hour are processed in the operation and excess dust is removed from the kiln gas stream by the current equipment but, to comply with changing legislation and to continue to secure clean operations at the plant, Hanson is committed to installing the latest technology.

Plant manager Stewart Jones said: "Our current filter system is 30 years old and as dust limits have been lowered over its life it has become difficult to squeeze any further improvement out of the system."

New bag filters have already been installed on two of the cement mills at a cost of £1.8 million to ensure continued cleanliness of the stack emissions.

PACKING SYSTEM SET FOR UPGRADE

New equipment to update the cement packing operation will be installed by the end of the year at a cost of around £500,000.

Ketton packs more than seven million bags of cement a year in paper sacks, while the paper packing machinery installed in 1990 has packed more than 200 million bags. A new replacement packing machine and palletiser is now needed to make sure Hanson can meet market demands.

The new machine will have modern-day control and digital weighing systems which will weigh the sacks more accurately, guaranteeing less reject bags and improving efficiency and energy consumption.

Cement supervisor Tim Gooch said: "When the bags have been packed, they are stacked by a palletiser machine. The existing machine does not offer a particularly well-stacked pallet and the control system for both machines is getting old. The new system will greatly improve this."

Meanwhile, the plastic bagging system installed in 2011 goes from strength to strength.

Luke Gledhill, right, with his life-savers, from left, Bob Cowles (QPI), Colin Adams, Mark Stead, Roger Dumford, John Bentley (all Hanson) and Jamie Coulson (QPI). Luke returned to Ketton to say thank you and presented everyone with cut-glass decanters



Thank you... quick-thinking colleagues save Luke's life

A speedy response from Hanson first aiders and workmates saved Luke Gledhill's life when he collapsed and stopped breathing.

Luke, 24, who works for conveyor belt company QPI, was helping to service and maintain a conveyor belt at the Ketton site when he collapsed with what he believes was a form of cardiomyopathy.

On the day, workmate Bob Cowles tried to revive him and called for a first aider. First on the scene was Mark Stead, who started CPR and also called for more assistance.

Tony Hand and Anthony Igobodu called for an ambulance and liaised with security to assist the medical staff to the scene. Two other first aiders, Colin Adams and Roger Dumford accompanied by John Bentley, arrived with a defibrillator.

Roger, who has worked for Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service for 27 years as a firefighter and incident commander, took over control.

With the defibrillator, Colin, Roger and Jason Lindsay carried on with CPR until Luke started breathing and the paramedics arrived.

Luke was stretchered from what was a difficult location by Danny Osborne and Neil Clarke to medical staff above ground and transferred to hospital.

Some six weeks on and Luke, who lives in March, Cambridgeshire, is doing well and hopes to return to work soon.

Luke said: "I don't remember a thing about the day or what happened to me. I feel 100 per cent at the moment. I am so grateful to everyone and feel I have been given a second chance of life."

Roger Dumford added: "Luke was saved because there are three trained first aiders on call each shift at the Ketton site, aided by defibrillators located around the works. Without these, Luke's outcome would have been so different."

High-profile projects keep demand ticking over

There is still uncertainty in the construction industry following the UK's vote to leave the European Union, but Ketton cement is featuring in a number of high-profile projects.

An immediate drop in demand after the June vote was countered in August with a period of modest growth, but industry statistics suggest a flat period between 2016 and 2018. Sales of aggregate, concrete and cement may grow by about three per cent during that period.

One of the high-profile projects using Ketton cement is a new clinic at University College, London Hospital.

Main contractor Bouygues has used 33,000 cubic metres of concrete which equates to 11,000 tonnes of Ketton cement and a cement substitute made from blast furnace slag.

A further 6,000 tonnes of Ketton cement will be used by Laing O'Rourke at the Newfoundland Quay residential development in Canary Wharf.

£30m investment will help safeguard jobs

Ketton cement works and the associated Grange Top quarry are moving into an important stage of development with Hanson Cement set to invest £30m in the next five years.

Grange Top quarry is a key factor in the future of the cement works and its 250 employees. The site also provides work for 80 indirect employees and 100 contractors during annual shutdowns.

Plant manager Stewart Jones said: "We have a significant record of offering long-term employment in the area. Generations of local families have worked for us for more than 40 years. This

investment for the future is good news for current employees and the next generation. But, as we take these big steps, we are mindful of the local community."

While the company is investing heavily in the latest dust suppression systems in the cement works, a new haulage fleet and new quarry plant and vehicles, a considerable amount of environmental related work is also being undertaken.

As part of the quarry development, a new road and bridge will be constructed to enable the proposed road diversion to go-ahead (see page 1), links with existing and new permissive footpaths put in place

and soils and curves will be translocated to ensure ecological conditions are complied with. Newly planted hedgerows, together with existing hedgerows, will form corridors for bat species that roost within an old mine shaft and artificial bat cave built by Hanson in 2002.

"We have a long-term future on site and as part of our strategy we want to fully comply with all aspects of our planning consents which include restoring quarry areas to a mix of agriculture and improved habitat areas aimed at increasing biodiversity and providing an amenity for the community," added Stewart.



Clifford Daly (left) receives the award from Daniel Cooper watched by, from left, plant manager Stewart Jones, senior safety health and environment advisor Graham Dunwell and members of the quarry team Martyn Horton, Paul Knighton, Neal Wood, Gareth Earnshaw, Stuart Brown, Alan Wharton, Neil Atkins, John Jamieson, Neil Bushnell and David Whittington. Not present for the picture were Peter Bell, Roy Dumford, Everett Jackson, Samantha Loxley and Barry Woodthorpe

Platinum praise for quarry's safety success

Workers at Grange Top quarry have received a platinum award from Hanson for clocking up more than 10 years without a lost time injury (LTI).

The award was presented by Hanson CEO Daniel Cooper, who said: "More than a quarter of a million hours have been worked at Grange Top quarry since the last incident."

He praised manager Clifford Daly and the site team of 15. "You have clearly embedded a culture where personal safety is paramount and it sends out a clear message to the rest of the business."

Grange Top's total at the start of October, 2016 was 3,937 LTI-free days.



HAPPY HANSON FELINE GREAT

Hanson the cat, pictured above, who was found injured near Ketton works, has made an amazing recovery.

His new home is with Hanson driver Lee Benniman, who took care of his medical costs, helped by donations from local residents and Hanson Cement.

Lee, who christened the cat Hanson, said: "Local residents close to Ketton works continue to drop in money and food for Hanson and I would like to thank them for their generosity. I'm sure he will have a long and happy life thanks to everyone's help."

The cat was discovered with four fractures to his pelvis, a dislocated leg, a broken tail and a head injury.

GOOD CAUSES GET CASH BOOST

Hanson Cement continues to support charities and appeals in the Ketton area. These include ball sponsorship for Easton on the Hill cricket club, NSPCC Oakham's Christmas concert, Easton on the Hill leaflet printing costs, several raffle prizes, the Stamford Festival, Kiwanis' firework display, the Ketton Music Festival and helping to buy a new trailer for Ketton Brownies.

■ Paul Knighton club's new pavilion has benefited from a £3,000 donation of materials. The club's old flat roof changing facilities was leaking water and badly in need of replacement. Hanson supported the three-month project to build a new pavilion with the donation of concrete, aggregate and cement.

SERVICE STARS

Ketton shift manager Chris Munton has completed 40 years with the company, while Andrew Parker, an analyst in the laboratory, and plant manager Stewart Jones have completed 25 years.



Paul Knighton and son Martyn

Long service is a family affair

Paul Knighton and his son Martyn are carrying on a proud family tradition of long service at Grange Top quarry.

Team leader Paul, 61, who has clocked up 43 years, looks set to beat his father George's 45 years in the quarry, while son Martyn, also a team leader, has been working at Grange Top for two years.

Paul joined as an 18-year-old in September 1973 and worked alongside his father, an uncle and a cousin. Three of his brothers have also

worked at the site. George started at the age of 14 as a gardener before moving on to the quarry, where he worked as a block driller, on the locos and as a crusher attendant before his retirement in 1986.

Ketton-born Paul, who lives in Stamford, has also had a varied career. He started as a block driller doing secondary blasting, was then a groundsman on a RBS face shovel before moving on to dump trucks. He was appointed a quarry team leader in 1992.

Apprentices start their Ketton careers

Apprentices Harry Payne (left) and Kyle Chalk have started their first-year studies at West Anglia Training Association in Huntingdon, after which they will work four days a week at the Ketton plant while continuing their education.

Harry is a keen rugby player and plays for his local Coalville team, while Kyle from Stamford supports Peterborough United and enjoys music. Both are 19 and studying for engineering operations apprenticeships.

Ketton manager Stewart Jones said: "Both



Harry and Kyle impressed the team at Ketton during their interviews – they will work hard and are looking forward to their future with the company."