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opendoor

Welcome... from works manager Sinan Urhan

Thank you for taking time to read *Open Door* during these difficult times – the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns have drastically changed our way of living.

The mood of the workforce is sad as one of our colleagues, Alan Heathershaw, has passed away after contracting Covid-19. Our deepest sympathy and prayers go to his family. Alan will be deeply missed by us all (see below).

We are continuing improvements at the plant and recently started work on a major investment to upgrade our cooler filter, which will reduce dust emissions

significantly in 2021.

I am sure you will have noticed that the new Empingham Road is now open and I hope you enjoy using it. The diversion of the road allows us to increase our reserves and secure our future. As the quarry gets closer to Ketton village, we are aware that we need to minimise the impact of blasting on some of our neighbours. We are working hard on this and our article below explains what we are doing.

Control of CO₂ emissions is a challenge for global industry, but we all also have an individual responsibility to minimise our impact. I am trying to make a small

contribution by growing trees from the fruits that I eat. I am currently growing 20 at home and nine at work – perhaps you might like to do the same?

At the cement works, we burn around 70,000 tonnes of waste in our kiln each year, which would otherwise go to landfill. That's nearly 70 per cent of the fuel we consume, enhancing our sustainability credentials.

Finally, from all the staff at Ketton works I would like to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. But, most of all, please keep yourself and your family safe in these difficult times.

Colleague Alan will be missed by all

Ketton works has been shocked by the death of colleague Alan Heathershaw from Covid-19. Alan, 57, pictured below, was a profuel plant controller at the site and had worked for the company for 20 years.

Alan was admitted to Lincoln County Hospital in early October and after four weeks there appeared to be improving, before relapsing. He leaves two sons, a daughter and a step-daughter.

Alan, who lived in Grantham, was extremely fit, often cycling to work, and was a member of Belvoir Tri Club, competing in many triathlons.

His son Lewis said: "He was proud of his achievements and

kept all his medals to show visitors, but not many people knew he was a big Lego enthusiast, collecting anything from the Lego train set to staging battles from his Lego *Star Wars* set."

He was also interested in painting, as well as creating, models and he crafted a ceramic chess set to play with his relatives.

Alan will be missed by all at Ketton and our condolences go to his family, friends and colleagues.



The new road diversion includes a bridge over Grange Top quarry

Works aims to minimise impact of quarry blasting

The opening of the new Empingham Road diversion, which includes a bridge over Grange Top quarry, allows the site to expand into new areas towards the north west of the village.

As a result, works manager Sinan Urhan is reviewing the blast design, with the aim of lowering the level of vibration to minimise the impact on the local community.

The company is currently working limestone in two new fields closer to the village than previously, with blasting taking place four or five times a week.

Rutland County Council has set blasting limits in the planning consent and, for

inhabited properties, this is a maximum of six millimetres per second.

To demonstrate compliance with the vibration limit, monitoring is carried out at 50, 100 and 150 metres from the blast. Monitoring has shown that the vibration limit was not exceeded in 2019 and hasn't been exceeded in 2020 – the average result this year is 3.5 minimum to 3.7 maximum millimetres per second.

Any complaints related to the sites' activities are reviewed at regular liaison meetings, where Ketton Parish Council,

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MOVING TRIBUTE TO FORMER MD

Former managing director of Ketton Cement Geoffrey Turner, who played a significant role in developing the works as we know it today, died earlier this year aged 94.

Geoffrey's wife Katharine died in May and he passed away two days before her funeral. This year would have been their 68th wedding anniversary.

Geoffrey's son Chris said: "The hearse carrying his coffin was able to go up The Avenue to the offices where he worked for so many years and staff were able to show their respects. The family found this a very moving tribute."

Geoffrey was born in Scunthorpe and started his employment with structural engineers engaged in the design of power stations and then joined consulting engineers, specialising in the design, construction and operation of cement works.

In 1952, he married Katharine and two days later the couple were off to Trinidad where Geoffrey took up the role of resident engineer, building a cement works. He gained chartered membership of The Institute of Civil Engineers in 1955 and, shortly after, son Chris was born.

Two years later, the family moved to Ketton when Geoffrey was appointed deputy works manager; becoming MD of the company in the 1970s and joining the board of the parent company Thos. Ward of Sheffield.

During his time at Ketton, he was able to grow the output to 1.3 million tonnes and was instrumental in building kiln 7 and securing funding for kiln 8.



Former Ketton Cement MD Geoffrey Turner

Monitoring offer to reassure neighbours

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Tinwell Parish Council, Rutland County Council and the Environment Agency meet with Hanson Cement.

Environment manager Tim Fox said: "We are strictly monitored by our regulators and take any complaints very seriously. The new bridge, which offers a view into the quarry, has made the extraction work more visible and, during this

pandemic, the village is much quieter.

"With many people now working from home they are much more aware of the quarry and we have offered to monitor at our neighbours' houses to reassure them we are working well within our limits.

"The key, as a minimum, is for the site to comply with its legal requirements and to continue to work on minimising the impact where possible on the local residents."

A DAY IN THE LIFE HOUARI RAIS



Houari Rais has worked in several countries since starting his career in Algeria

Houari targets increased reliability

Globetrotting Houari Rais joined Ketton works as an electrical engineer just months before the start of lockdown.

As well as working on a number of electrical upgrading projects, he has a key role within the engineering department, to support, maintain and improve electrical installations to increase the plant reliability.

Houari is originally from Algeria, where he started his career in 2000 as an electrical engineer with an oil and gas company. Five years later, he gained a full scholarship from the European

Commission to continue his postgraduate studies at the Polytechnic of Turin in Italy and the Delft Technical University in Netherlands. After his graduation, he worked for six months on a power plant project with Schneider Electric in Italy.

He joined HeidelbergCement Gabon in 2007 as an electrical and instrumentation manager and was then offered a deputy maintenance manager role in Tanzania in 2011.

With his multi-cultural, international experience with HeidelbergCement, he is in the process of implementing

a better organisational and maintenance approach that has the added value of supporting Ketton works operations and safety. He emphasises that working as one team is a key factor for the future of Hanson Cement. He said: "I am enjoying working with the Ketton team and it is a great opportunity for me to be part of a company where the safety of its employees is the number one priority."

Aged 45, Houari lives in Bourne with his wife Fadila and their children Raouf, Adem, Youcef and Houda.

Hanson fleet is gold standard

Hanson UK's entire fleet of company owned vehicles, which includes the Ketton fleet, has achieved the highest standard in the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS) for the seventh consecutive year, demonstrating they are operating to the highest level.

FORS is a voluntary accreditation standard encompassing legal compliance, safety, fuel efficiency, vehicle emissions and improved operations.

Gold accreditation is awarded to exceptional operators who have demonstrated they meet the specific requirements covering management, vehicles, drivers and operations.

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



Sponsorship promotes healthy outdoor lifestyle

Ketton works is supporting the latest issue of the *Discover Rutland* visitor guide by sponsoring four pages that promote a healthy outdoor theme.

The sponsored section of the guide gives details of an 11-mile circular walk starting and finishing in Market Overton. The feature gives useful advice on suitable attire for walking as well as safety tips such as closing gates and keeping dogs on leads.

The final page includes a link to the Hanson UK video.



Long-serving four celebrate 40 years

Four Hanson Cement employees based at Ketton works who have chalked up 160 years' service are being honoured by the company.

Maintenance fitter Malcolm Kew, shift analyst Paul Shalliker, process operative David Wray and LGV driver Peter Hill will all receive 40-year awards. David and Peter started work the same day – July 2, 1979.

Paul started at the works on his 18th birthday as an electrician's mate, but then moved to the cement process side of the business. He has been working in the laboratory testing cement and kiln materials for 25 years.

Process operative David, from Stamford, says he has seen huge changes in his 40 years – in his early days, the work was very manual with no radios for communication.

LGV driver Peter spent five

years working on the plant before switching to the transport division. He was trained through the company to secure his HGV licence and now estimates he drives around 2,000 kilometres a week.

During his 35 years driving, Peter has seen the roads become busier but the road network and vehicle safety standards significantly improve.

Mechanical fitter Malcolm started as an apprentice mechanic in the works garage and stayed for 23 years before switching to work on the plant. As part of his training, he achieved an ONC qualification in engineering.

Receiving awards for 25 years' service are engineering manager Danny Osborne, packing plant operative Neil Townsend, LGV driver John Hillson, packing plant supervisor Tim Gooch and shift analyst Jason Lindsay.



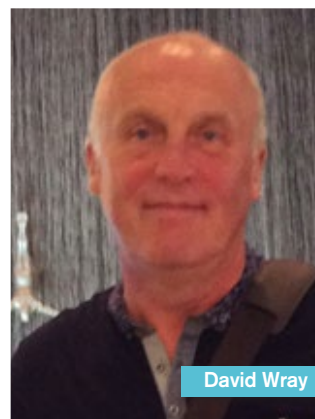
Malcolm Kew



Peter Hill



Paul Shalliker



David Wray

Manager Aurelien ready for new quarry challenge

Aurelien Colas is the new manager of Grange Top quarry.

Aurelien, 42, is a native of Perpignan, France and has a strong quarrying background. He worked for Hanson's aggregates division in south Wales for three-and-a-half years, managing all the hard stone quarries in the region.

He left the company at the start of the year to go travelling with his wife Jenny, but their plans were curtailed by the pandemic. He ruefully admits: "It was not the year to go travelling."

Aurelien said: "I am looking forward to learning about cement making. My main challenge will be to ensure the quarry provides the works with a consistent raw material so that clinker can be produced as efficiently as possible."

He has a master's degree in mining engineering and before joining Hanson worked for quarrying companies in the UK and France.



Aurelien Colas has a strong quarrying background

PPE donation is a family affair

Brothers Colin and Andrew Hales teamed up to help provide vital PPE for the East Midlands Ambulance NHS Trust during lockdown.

The donation of 50 overalls by Hanson Cement was made after the trust put out a request for help. Andrew, who works at Peugeot dealership Hindmarsh & Co in Stamford, contacted his brother Colin, who is a cleaner at Ketton works, to secure the donation.

Connor's parents Stacy and Craig on the new patio



Cement donation helps youngster

A disabled boy, who due to his condition has been housebound during the pandemic, will soon be able to experience the delights of a sensory garden thanks to Deeping Round Table.

Connor is wheelchair-bound and needs 24-hour care, while his garden was not wheelchair safe because of uneven slabs and a rough grass areas.

The round tableers cleared,

levelled and squared up the garden and installed two seating areas with a connecting concrete path to keep the ground smooth, while setting out new turf and trees, plants and shrubs.

Hanson Cement donated 22 bags of cement to help with the laying of slabs. A hard standing car park with ramps to the house was installed to allow use of the garden space.

Peter Stimpson with the two trucks made by his father Ken, below inset



Proud moment as trucks reunited

There was a huge moment of nostalgia when Peter Stimpson saw two model trucks, made by his late father Ken some 30 years ago, reunited at Ketton works.

Ken Stimpson, a carpenter who worked at the cement works in the 1960s, made the first truck as a raffle prize for the Ketton school fete in 1990.

Workshop manager Chris Sharman takes up the story: "My family were very good friends with Ken and we asked him to make another truck for my brother Guy who was four at the time. It has been in our family ever since."

The two trucks, in the shape of cement tankers, were made of wood and carried the Castle Cement logo.

The whereabouts of the first truck after the fete was unknown – until Craig Ryles, an avid company

memorabilia collector, who works at Hanson Cement's Ribblesdale works in Clitheroe, Lancashire, stepped in.

Craig scoured the internet and found and bought the truck, which belonged to a lady in Gedney near Spalding. Peter was invited to the works to see the two trucks his dad made reunited. He also brought along an album which included a photo of Ken making the models.

Ken, who died in 2007 at the age of 84, used KS26 on the licence plate of both trucks – his initials and number when he was in the care of the National Children's Home in Newcastle.

Peter Stimpson said: "My father would be pleased that the two models had been reunited. He was always proud of what he achieved, especially coming from such humble beginnings."

Ketton footage included in art project

Footage of the cement making process at Ketton works filmed three years ago has been mixed with four heritage films about Corby Steelworks and included in an online video exhibition as part of an art project.

The project, called Triple Harvest, explores the effect extracting resources from the landscape has on those living in it. Artist Amanda Loomes combined the steel industry footage with material she collected

on a 2017 visit to Ketton.

On her visit, she was escorted by former national technical liaison manager John Taylor, who provided part of the voiceover for the film.

John said: "The visit went really well and Amanda filmed for most of the day. I've seen the completed film and it's very good."

Details about the art commission and the film can be seen at fermyinwoods.org/triple-harvest-films/

COMBINE, FILM STILL, AMANDA LOOMES 2020

