

Community matters

A community newsletter from Heidelberg Materials
Ketton Cement – Winter 2023

Welcome...



We have entered the next stage of our journey at Ketton works. Our history started in 1928 with Ketton Portland Cement Co Ltd, changed to Castle Cement in 1986, Hanson Cement in 2009 and has now rebranded to Heidelberg Materials.

It's an exciting time for us as we align with our parent company (see story right) and has also led to a new look for our community newsletter.

We are proud that Ketton is the best performing cement works in the global Heidelberg Materials Group in terms of kiln reliability and alternative fuel usage rates and we will continue to strive for environmental and performance improvements.

To ensure the future of the works, we are applying for planning permission to extend Grange Top quarry with proposals including linking the main plant road to the A606 to relieve traffic in Tinwell and Ketton. You can find out more about our proposals on page 2.

I wish you all the best for the festive season and for 2024.

Sinan Urhan, Works Manager

Our annual plant shutdown, to enable a full maintenance check of plant and equipment, will take place between 02-31 January 2024.

Rebrand reflects the company we are today

On 02 October 2023, we rebranded to Heidelberg Materials. As well as aligning with our parent company, our new name better reflects the company we are today.

We're focused on driving down carbon emissions, increasing the use of recycled materials to grow the circular economy and leading our industry towards net zero.

Some of the new Heidelberg Materials signage at Ketton is already in place and we have started to change the livery on our cement tankers and other vehicles. Our email and website details have also changed (see panel below).

Cement your future

Kickstart your career with one of our apprenticeship programmes. Applications are now open for the 2024 intake of our three-year higher apprenticeships, which allow you to earn while you learn and develop supervisor skills in a hands-on environment. To apply visit www.careers.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/apprenticeships/higher-apprenticeships



A quick catch-up for Ketton apprentices with Mechanical Supervisor Phil Gray – from left, Aaron Minchell, Phil Gray, Phillip Andre and Jake Green

Talk to us: 01780 727041

kettoncementworks@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com
heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/Ketton

Plans to extend Grange Top quarry

Earlier this year, we held a public drop-in event to set out our proposals to extend Grange Top quarry's extraction area, which will ensure the supply of raw materials and the long-term future of Ketton works.

Since this consultation closed, we have reviewed the feedback received and carried out some further studies. We have also developed a response document which provides more

information on the key issues raised and highlights where adjustments have been made to our plans. This, and other information about our proposals, is available to view/download online at www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/ketton

The plans have been developed to make sure they enhance nature and mitigate the impact on our neighbours. They will also provide transformative

improvements to footways and bridleways as well as a new Ketton works access road which will reroute HGV traffic away from Ketton and Tinwell.

The next step for us will be to submit a full application to Rutland County Council (RCC), which we expect to do in the coming weeks. RCC will then consult with statutory bodies and invite comments from residents before making its decision.

Supporting the community

Employees at Ketton works have remembered David Young, who died earlier this year, with donations of £250 to two of his chosen charities, Age UK and Mutts Nuts animal rescue.

David, 64, was a Shift Operator who lived in Uppingham, but was originally from Ketton and had been with the company for 47 years.

Shift Manager Chris Munton said: "Characters like David don't come along very often. He had a rapport with everyone and will be sadly missed by us all."

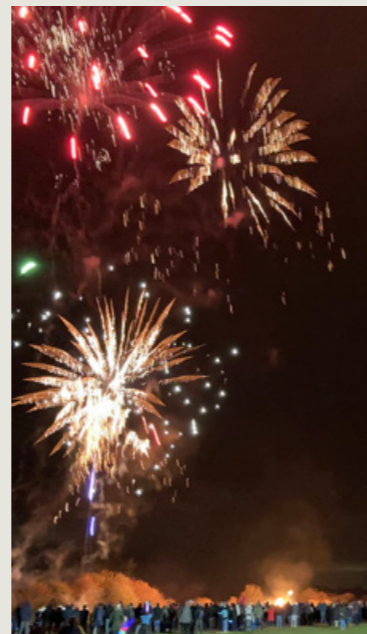
The company has also continued its long-term sponsorship of the Stamford Kiwanis' fireworks night, donating £1,000. The Kiwanis, a group of businesses in the town, raise £10-12,000 from the event, which goes to worthy causes in Stamford and surrounding villages.

In addition, Heidelberg Materials was the main sponsor for a quiz night which raised more than £2,000 for Bumps and Beyond, a Stamford charity which provides free equipment and clothing to parents and caregivers in the area.

A donation of £5,000 was also given to the Lord Lieutenant of Rutland Sarah Furness' appeal to raise funds for a statue of Queen Elizabeth II to be sited in Oakham.

Ketton works has also donated time, money and materials to:

- Rutland Festival of Remembrance
- Cameron Greeves
- Peterborough Rugby Club
- Ketton Good Neighbour Scheme
- Casterton School
- Bourne Rugby club
- Tiny Steps Farm
- Polish war memorial
- Ketton primary school
- Rutland Historic Church
- Collyweston Players
- Nassington School
- Sue Ryder Hospice
- Catmore Club Oakham for Alzheimer's UK.



Stamford Kiwanis' fireworks night

Creating a buzz at Ketton

Cement Driver and avid beekeeper Bruce Stokes has got everyone buzzing at Ketton works, donating three hives of bees to support the biodiversity of the site.

"I have enough bees at my own two sites and wanted to do something to support our local ecosystem here," he said.

Heidelberg Materials' Health and Wellbeing Specialist Tracey Middleton-Lee organised a volunteering day for members of the cement and pack products team to create access to the new hives by cutting back branches and overgrown bushes and laying five tonnes of recycled aggregates for pathways.

"We're trialling the bees at Ketton with a view to introducing them at other sites as well," Tracey said.

The harvested honey will be sold in Ketton, with the money raised being donated to East Midlands Immediate Care Scheme, a network of volunteer doctors with specialist training in pre-hospital emergency medicine who assist East Midlands Ambulance Service at the scene of life-threatening emergencies.



Tracey Middleton-Lee checking one of the hives for honey

Uncovering the past

Staff at Ketton works are trying to make family connections with a photograph of quarrymen, taken in 1920, unearthed in the visitor centre. The 35 men have names that either relate to former employees or have strong Ketton or Oakham connections. They include Feggy Crowson and Gedge Dumford as well as the surnames Green, Burrows, Walpole, Berridge and Jesson. Can you help? Please email kettoncementworks@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com



Plant Manager's Secretary Alison Mytton is hoping to find family links to Ketton quarrymen



Helping fill the gap

Two residents of The Green in Ketton sought help from Heidelberg Materials to fix a pothole problem on their unadopted road, which is not maintained by Rutland County Council.

Bill Jackson and Charles Naylor, who between them have lived on The Green for more than 100 years, contacted Grange Top quarry Manager Aurelien Colas, who delivered 20 bags of cold lay asphalt to improve the road surface for vehicles and pedestrians.

Over the summer, Bill and Charles set to work filling the potholes.

"The cold lay asphalt is ideal for filling the ever-growing number of potholes," said Charles, a retired builder.

Charles Naylor, left, and Bill Jackson fill more potholes, watched by Quarry Manager Aurelien Colas





Feathered visitors

Grange Top quarry provides a great opportunity for birdwatching, including those species that have flown thousands of miles to visit the site. Some are year-round residents such as dunnock and snipe, but others, like the little ringed plover (pictured), are only at the site during spring and summer. Safe access is available via the existing public rights of way.

Picture by Pat Waring

Pedal power for charity

Ketton employee Rob Swayne joined other members of his family to raise £5,000 for Prostate Cancer UK by taking on the Big Blue Bike Ride in and around Windsor and the Chiltern Hills.

Rob, Head of the Maintenance Control Centre, said: "I had never ridden a road bike before signing up to the 65-mile challenge, so it was a steep learning curve getting used to cycling the distance."

Rob was delighted with the total they raised, which included a £500 donation from the Heidelberg Materials charity match fund. They took on the challenge as Rob's dad, John, was diagnosed with prostate cancer some years ago and is still having regular treatment to control his levels.



The Swayne team, left to right, uncle Dave, wife Jess, Rob and dad John

- **Driver Simon Lawes-Cole raised £1,000 for Wheelpower, which encourages wheelchair users to get involved in sport, by taking part in the Three Peaks Challenge. He chose the charity, based in Stoke Mandeville, which encourages wheelchair users to get involved in sport, as his son Lewis is wheelchair-bound.**



Rob Mills and Nathan Parsons moved the stones into place

Sitting pretty

Grange Top quarry has provided a rock-solid seating solution for Ketton's outdoor community area in Hall Close.

Large limestone boulders from the quarry were sited close to the local primary school and can also provide an outdoor classroom space.

Stonemason Andre Vrona of Ketton Stone Ltd cut the boulders into the shapes needed for the seating area before local contractors, R&R Mills, transported the stones into position.

"The stones replaced wooden seating that had seen better days and look wonderful. A huge thank you to Heidelberg Materials for its support," said Mary Cade, Deputy Chair of Ketton Parish Council.