

# Plugged in

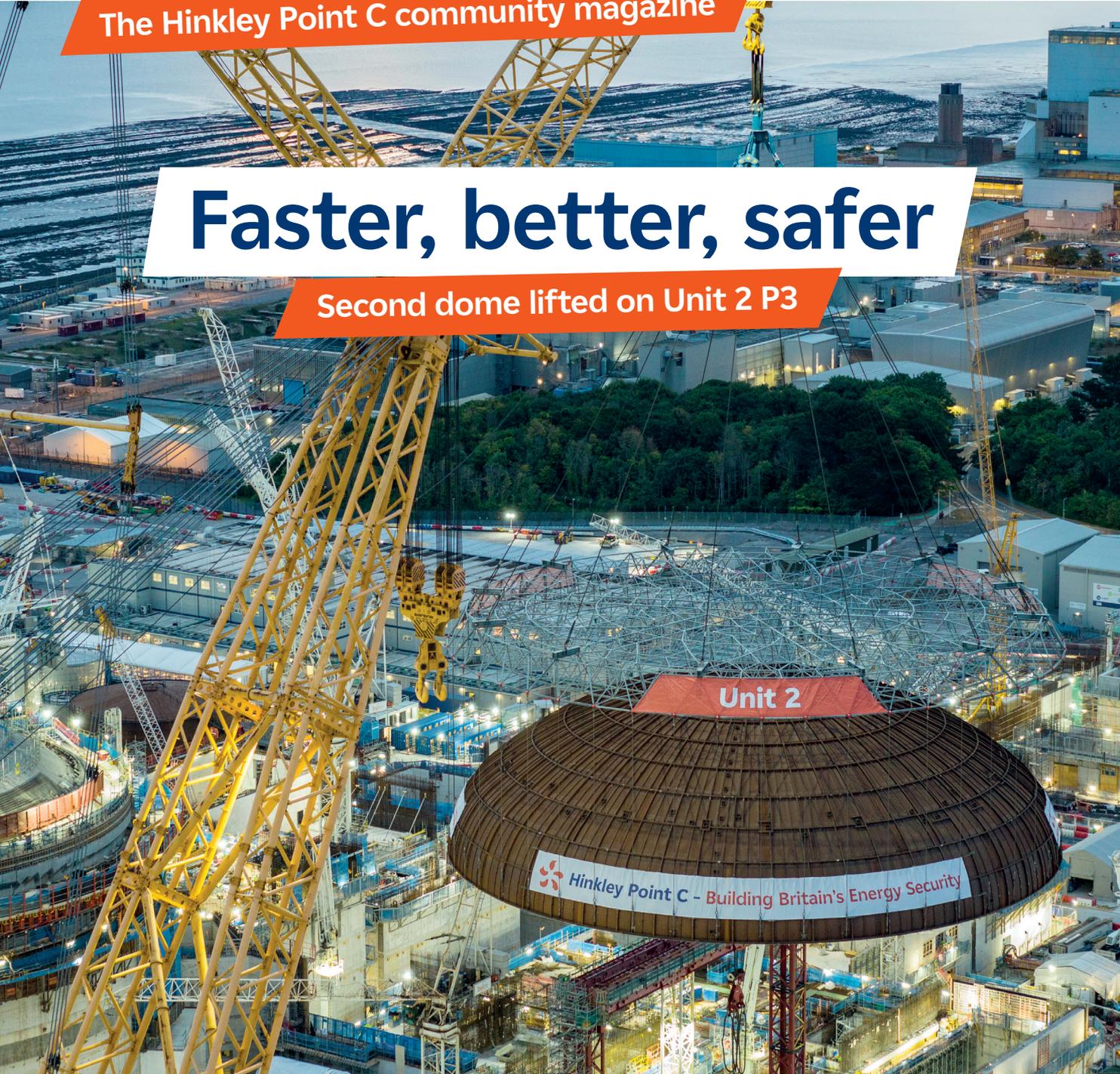
Summer 2025



The Hinkley Point C community magazine

## Faster, better, safer

Second dome lifted on Unit 2 P3



Cricketers get funding boost P6-7

Investing in people and local businesses P8-9

Meet the women following their dreams P12-13



## Rob's welcome

### Welcome to the Summer 2025 issue of Plugged in.

We've achieved our biggest moment of the year - the dome has now been lifted onto the second reactor building.

It's incredible to see both units with their domes in place. This shows how much we're progressing with the delivery of Hinkley Point C. You can find out more about this achievement on page 3.

We recently celebrated Family Day, where we got to share in the successes of our project with the people closest to us. Take a look at some photos from the event on page 10.

Our investment in people, skills and industrial capacity is driving growth across Britain, increasing productivity and giving thousands of people new skills and jobs. Our latest Socio-economic Impact Report is now available to read - see pages 8 and 9 for highlights and a link to the full report.

### Rob Jordan

Project Construction Director

## SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

# WIN! A £100 THEATRE GIFT VOUCHER



Plugged in is here to keep you up to date with what's happening at Hinkley Point C -

from project milestones and the people behind them to the positive impact on the local community.

We'd love to hear what you think about our publication, and what you'd like to see covered in future editions.

Just scan the QR code to complete a quick survey. There are only three questions, so it will

only take a couple of minutes.

As a thank you, you'll be entered into a prize draw to win a £100 ATG Theatre gift voucher.

Make sure to send your feedback by Friday 26 September to be in with a chance!

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mounia Miguil,  
Plugged in Editor



SCAN FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A £100 ATG GIFT VOUCHER.

## MUST-WATCH TV



Did you catch Hinkley Point C on the TV? Somerset Larder, the project's catering provider, gave behind-the-scenes insights into life on site on ITVX.

The programme lifted the lid on how the team feeds a construction site the size of a town, using locally sourced ingredients, with meat and dairy supplied by more than 60 regional farms.

Last year alone, Somerset Larder served up a staggering

half a million bacon butties and 42 tonnes of sausages.

Don't worry if you missed it - it's still available on ITVX.



Watch the video by scanning the QR code.



# Dome time

## How the dome was installed on the second reactor building faster than the first.

The team at Hinkley Point C ticked off another big milestone when the second domed roof was lifted in to place in July.

The dome is a huge steel construction measuring 47 metres across - wider than the dome of St Paul's Cathedral. It weighs 245 tonnes, more than a "jumbo-jet".

It was lifted on the top of the second reactor building by Big Carl, the world's biggest land-based crane.

With both domes now installed, the reactor buildings can be seen rising above the skyline - a powerful symbol of progress. But

this dome lift wasn't just a repeat of the first. It was completed more efficiently, with fewer people, and in less time.

That's because the team took everything they'd learned from the first reactor and applied it to the second - along with new innovations that are shaping the future of nuclear construction.

Matt Hargreaves, EDF Area Delivery Manager, said: "I'm humbled by the team's dedication to evolve the build.

"What we've learned isn't just great for us, it'll benefit the rest of the nuclear industry for years to come."

## Fab four

**1** At the point of dome lift, the teams on the second reactor building had delivered 40% more construction work on its large internal structures.

**2** A giant crane sits in the reactor building just beneath the dome. This crane was assembled 40% faster for the second dome lift.

**3** The reactor buildings are made from concrete reinforced by huge steel cages. On the second reactor building, installation time was reduced by up to 75% by using cages that were manufactured in sections in a yard nearby.

**4** Each reactor building has a thick circular concrete and steel structure within them. On the second reactor building, the time between the completion of the work on these structures was cut on average by 40%.

## GET IN TOUCH

Have an interesting story you'd like to share, or know someone who has?

**VISIT:** [edfenergy.com/hpc](https://www.edfenergy.com/hpc) **TWEET US:** @hinkleypointc

**CALL US:** 0333 009 7070 **INSTAGRAM:** hinkleypointc

**EMAIL:** [hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com](mailto:hinkley-enquiries@edf-energy.com)

## Sign up to Plugged in



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# Construction updates

ASSEMBLED  
**40%  
FASTER**



## Build and repeat

**B**uilding a power station the size of Hinkley Point C is a huge challenge, but building two identical reactors side by side brings unique opportunities.

Because they're built to the same design, every lesson learned on the first reactor is helping the team build the second one faster and smarter - sometimes up to 30% quicker!

For instance, on the second reactor's civil construction, 30% fewer people achieved 40% more work than on the first. And at the same stage, more equipment has been fitted and 300 tonnes of internal steel installed, versus just 10 for the first reactor.

Over the past few months, there have been other clear examples where this 'replication effect' - the benefit of building the same design again - has been seen.

### Polar crane

The polar crane sits inside the reactor building, rotating 360 degrees to lift heavy components during construction. It will also be used during refuelling once the power station is operational.

It is made from more than 250,000 components. But the team built the second reactor's polar crane 40% faster than the first. How?

#### LOGISTICS

A new system was used to track the 250,000 components and create an assembly schedule.

#### QUALITY CONTROL

More quality checks were carried out in the factory and before the

parts arrived at the construction site. This meant any issues were dealt with immediately.

#### LIFTING

More work was completed on the rails onto which the polar crane would be lifted.



**60%  
CONSTRUCTED  
USING  
PREFABRICATION**



### Prefabrication benefits

Prefabrication and off-site construction are helping to boost productivity, safety and quality at Hinkley Point C.

Nearly 60% of the work at Hinkley Point C now uses prefabrication methods, which is when structures are built or assembled away from their final location and then moved into place. One example is the installation of the first 3D

modules on the project - so called because they include floors, walls and ceilings. It's like a Lego kit being built on a base board and then, once finished, added to another one.

The precast modules each weighed between 300-400 tonnes. This method cuts the overall 'in situ' construction time, speeding up the building completion.

**57%  
INCREASE IN  
CONSTRUCTION  
SPEED**



### Electrical Building

The second reactor's Electrical Building will hold all the equipment that's needed to run the giant turbines and generate electricity from the second reactor.

The last concrete has now been placed in the building - that represents a 57% speed improvement from the first reactor building.

## Steam success

The first steam generator has been installed in the first reactor building.

Once the power station is operational, each of the eight generators will take heat from the nuclear reaction and produce the steam needed to spin the turbine that generates electricity.

At nearly 24m tall, they are one of the tallest components of the power station.

Here's how it was done...

### THREE-STEP OPERATION



STEP 1

The Steam Generator was moved on a transporter from storage to the reactor building, before being lifted outside of the building and in front of the reactor's door.



STEP 2

Using a rail system, the steam generator was brought into the reactor building, where it was attached to a lifting device.



STEP 3

It was picked up by the polar crane and lowered onto four supports. In time, three more steam generators will follow the same path.

# Supporting the community



## Riding the **funding wave**

Supporting Sea Scouts, coming out to bat for cricketers and revitalising community centres - the HPC Community Fund continues to make life better for communities across Somerset.

**T**he HPC Community Fund, run by Somerset Community Foundation, is designed to support local projects.

Here are just a few of the latest projects that are maximising opportunities.

### 1st Watchet Sea Scouts

**£10,000  
granted**

For generations, the 1st Watchet Sea Scouts has helped young people build confidence, learn new skills and enjoy adventures on the water.

Scout Leader Simon Bale said he's even seen Scouts grow up and bring their own children there.

Now, thanks to a £10,000 grant, they've added a weatherproof storage facility to keep their equipment safe and close to the water. It means they can sail, kayak, powerboat and row more than ever before.

Simon said: "With the new storage we can keep equipment next to the water. So, if we think it's going to be a good day, we can open the doors and get straight out there. It will make a massive difference to us."



**£47,000  
granted**

### Victoria Park Community Centre

In Bridgwater, Victoria Park Community Centre has been a welcoming hub for local residents since 2007.

Whether it's parents attending baby groups, older residents enjoying lunch or neighbours meeting for yoga, it brings people of all ages together.

A £47,000 grant will upgrade youth club facilities, install a commercial fryer for the

community café, support a much-loved lunch club, and kit out baby and toddler sessions with soft play equipment.

Laura Fowler, the centre's Operations Manager, said: "These investments will support a wider range of users and maintain our current services. Modernising the centre will create a lasting legacy by reducing running costs and helping to future-proof it."

**"The community centre is well-used and locals agree it's a wonderful place."**

**LAURA FOWLER, VICTORIA PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE OPERATIONS MANAGER**



### A stronger network

More than 90 people from 28 local organisations recently came together for the annual HPC Community Fund Networking Event, hosted by Somerset Community

Foundation. Held at Bridgwater and Albion RFC, the event gave groups funded through the programme a chance to meet and celebrate the brilliant work being carried out.

### Somerset Cricket Foundation

With its grant, Somerset Cricket Foundation is launching a three-year programme to open cricket up to everyone. This includes sessions for people with disabilities,

walking cricket for older residents, and 'sporting memories' sessions that combine light activity with conversation. They'll help people enjoy both sport and socialising.



**£50,000  
granted**

### The future of the fund

Somerset Community Foundation is carrying out research to shape how the HPC Community Fund is delivered in the years ahead.

Through surveys and conversations with local people, the aim is to better understand:

- How the fund can help communities that haven't yet benefited, or have faced extra challenges because of construction.
- How to create lasting legacies for communities with the remaining funds.

The results will be available later this year.

# Driving growth

Hinkley Point C is building more than a power station - it's creating careers, helping businesses develop and investing in communities. Here's an insight into some of the socio-economic benefits.

## Turning potential into power

**M**egan Ellicott from Bridgwater came across Hinkley Point C as a Haygrove School student, where she was the only girl in her year to take part in a workshop run by the project. The 21-year-old is now a Pipefitting Apprentice on site and looking forward to a future in the industry.



Megan (pictured, below) said: "The workshop sparked my interest in science and technology, and pushed me to pursue A-Levels in Maths, Physics and Aeronautical Engineering.

"Now I'm working on the project, I'm determined to inspire other young women that construction and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) are amazing career paths - just like I was inspired."

Kester Ansah-Akrofi, 20, is another young person making the most of opportunities created by the project. With a background in art and design, he's now applying his creativity on site - earning a degree from the University of Exeter while learning from experienced engineers.

Kester (pictured, main) said: "This project is amazing and it's great to be part of one of the largest construction sites in Europe.

"The journey is demanding, but the knowledge, skills and professional development you gain are worth it, with Hinkley Point C supporting me every step of the way."



## Turnbull's turn for the better

As a supplier to Hinkley Point C, engineering firm Turnbull has grown from just eight employees to more than 230 today. Their journey shows what's possible through the project's supply chain.

Based in Nailsea, Somerset, Turnbull was formed at the start of the construction phase and has won contracts worth tens of millions of pounds. They provide civil engineering design, build, operation and maintenance services across the construction site, specialising in water management and utility services.

More than 90% of Turnbull's workforce is local, covering roles including quantity surveyors, operators and project managers.

The company is committed to developing its staff and sourcing local talent. They're currently training 11 apprentices on site at Hinkley Point C, providing clear career pathways that span all skill levels and disciplines.



## Counting the benefits

**26,000**

people from across the UK are now supporting the project

**14,000**

people have been trained in the project's new Centres of Excellence, giving them new skills and better jobs

**£5.3 billion**

has been spent with South West suppliers

**35%**

of the workforce come from the UK's most deprived areas

**1,500**

apprentices have been trained, with 70% from the South West

**£17 million**

has been invested into local communities through grants



For further details on the positive impacts, scan the QR code to view the full Socio-economic Impact Report.



# Voices of the workforce

## Championing wellbeing

Meet Sophie Phillips, Wellbeing Physiologist at Hinkley Point C.

One of the unique benefits of working at Hinkley Point C is access to its own on-site medical centre, Hinkley Health. From minor injuries, wellbeing checks and even GP appointments, the team is there to help - often with same-day appointments - and all whilst reducing pressure on local NHS services.

At the heart of this care is Sophie Phillips, a Wellbeing Physiologist born and raised in Somerset, who joined the Hinkley Health team nearly a year ago.



### FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE

Sophie started her career as a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant specialising in physical education, before earning a First-Class Honours degree in Sports Therapy at the University of Gloucestershire.

Alongside her studies, Sophie played rugby for Bristol Bears Women and worked as a sports therapist for Bridgwater & Albion RFC. She said: "This gave me first-hand experiences of the physical demands athletes face, which was invaluable for my development."

After graduating, Sophie joined Hinkley Point C in a role she described as "the perfect fit", as it aligns with her passion for health and fitness,

as well as the skills and knowledge gained during her degree.

### POSITIVE IMPACT

"I applied because of the workforce's diversity and the chance to make a positive impact," Sophie continued. "Every day presents new challenges and learning opportunities."

Sophie is making her mark with a range of initiatives that are benefitting our workforce.

"I conduct cardiovascular health screenings, measure vital signs and test for blood glucose, cholesterol, and diabetes indicators," she said.

"I also lead one-on-one coaching sessions tailored to individual needs,



such as stop smoking and weight management, to help people make sustainable lifestyle changes."

When she's not supporting the workforce, Sophie stays active in the community - coaching rugby at Bridgwater & Albion RFC and playing cricket for Bridgwater CC.



## Family Day: In pictures

Hinkley Point C team members welcomed family and friends to site for the annual Family Day event.

Each year, Hinkley Point C workers have the opportunity to invite their loved ones to the construction site for a 'Family Day'.

Many local families got to see the project up close and learn more about Hinkley Point C through short tours and expert talks.

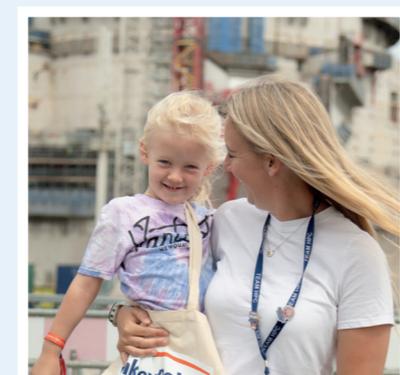
There was fun for all ages, with a

variety of enjoyable and educational activities - from assembling cranes using Lego to generating electricity by pedalling bicycles.

And there were also presentations on nuclear power and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) by Dr James Mansfield, Hinkley Point C's Education Visit Coordinator.



"I was very impressed with how tall Big Carl is. When I am older, I want to be a farmer, dance teacher or operate Big Carl. I'm very proud of my mum - 10 out of 10, my mum is the best!" **Jenny**



## EXPERIENCE HINKLEY POINT C

If you live in Somerset and are interested in seeing the site for yourself, why not book a public tour? You can explore the Visitor Centre at Cannington Court and see the construction site from the comfort of a coach. To book or find out more information, contact the Visitor Centre team on: 0333 009 7070 or [hinkleypointtours@nnb-edfenergy.com](mailto:hinkleypointtours@nnb-edfenergy.com).



Hinkley Health is a dedicated on-site medical centre staffed by 30 health professionals, including GPs, specialist nurses, and physiotherapists. Services include health screenings, lifestyle

coaching, and treatment for minor injuries and illnesses. The centre is designed to respond quickly to workers' needs, improve access to care, and ease pressure on local GP surgeries and hospitals.



# Women leading the way

**At Hinkley Point C, women are taking on a range of roles often considered male-dominated - shaping the future of clean energy and inspiring others to do the same.**

**F**rom engineering to transport, project leadership to apprenticeships, women are making a huge contribution across every part of Hinkley Point C. A recent event with the Women's Institute brought that message to life.

Held at Cannington Court and hosted by Hinkley Point C's community team, it was a day of community connection, education and inspiration in action.

More than 80 members of the Women's Institute attended to learn

more about the project and hear from female talent contributing across technical, operational and leadership roles.

Stacy Walker, Stakeholder Relations Manager at Hinkley Point C, opened the event with an overview of the project and the benefits it's bringing to our region through employment, training and business opportunities.

Attendees heard from three remarkable women forging successful careers on the project: Megan Ellicott, Pipefitting

Apprentice; Sharon Reynolds, Area Delivery Manager; and Helen Milburn, Decommissioning Lead.

Each speaker brought a different perspective, but a shared message - there's space for everyone in the industry and the possibilities are wide open.

The event went really well and feedback from the day was positive. In fact, another session has already been arranged following its success.

Read on for two examples of women who have carved out successful careers at Hinkley Point C.



## From models to reality: **Natasha's story**

Natasha Robertson has been working on the Hinkley Point C project for six years, initially as a Digital Engineering Apprentice and then on site while completing her degree.

Natasha said: "I grew up in Bridgwater so working just down the road feels extra special. I'm now a Site Engineer Apprentice and it's been fantastic to move from creating 3D models to using them on

site and seeing how they come to life on such a huge scale.

"There's a real buzz working here. Everyone's pulling in the same direction and when we hit a milestone, it's an amazing feeling. One of my proudest moments was helping to prepare a complex concrete pour that we spent eight weeks planning. When we finally did the pour, it felt like such a win.

"Once Hinkley Point C's operational, I'd love to take everything I've learned and apply it to Sizewell C. I'm looking forward to seeing where the journey will take me next."

## Driving change: **Deborah's story**

Deborah Winn is one of many women growing a career at Hinkley Point C, helping change perceptions and empowering others.

Deborah's a Bus Driver for Somerset Passenger Solutions (SPS), which runs 199 buses for staff and the community during Hinkley Point C's construction.

"More and more women are becoming bus drivers and that's a good thing," she said. "SPS is inclusive and everyone's welcome."

After moving to Somerset with her husband and children, Deborah joined SPS and hasn't looked back. She quickly progressed to Yard Supervisor and embraces ongoing training and education.

She added: "I've completed



Driver Certificate of Professional Competence training to become a better driver and I'm waiting to start a mental health first-aid course. I'm already a first-aider and emergency marshal."

Deborah has an empowering

message for women thinking about starting a career in construction: "Go for it. Whether you're just leaving college, or, like myself, a mum and nanny - follow your dreams and passions, and don't let anyone stop you."

# Education initiatives



## A trip to remember

The Hinkley Point C Visits team regularly welcomes school trips to the site to help children learn more about the power station being built on their doorstep.

A recent visit from students at Bridgwater College Academy gave them the chance to dive into the world of nuclear power - starting at the Hinkley Point Visitor Centre, followed by a guided tour of the construction site.

The visit didn't just leave the students impressed - it was also a special day for Helen Goodland, Head of Site Operations and Performance Improvement, who said: "One of the pupils was my 11-year-old niece, who always asks me lots of questions about Hinkley Point C. She thought it was amazing."

"The team do a fantastic job of making it fun as well as informative." Class teacher Mr Johnson agreed: "The children were really engaged. The trip was a huge success."

### The children's comments

"I enjoyed the tour and seeing the crane, Big Carl, and finding out how many tonnes he can lift." **Aleks**

"I loved the sensory stuff in the Visitor Centre. I learnt about energy and how it is made." **Alex**

"The tour guides were nice and the tour was cool, especially all the moving cranes." **Lexi**

"I've never seen so many huge buildings being constructed. The tour guides knew so much." **Maizy**

"I learnt how huge the site is and how much more there is than I expected. I found it really interesting." **Brodie**

### Puzzle time: Solve the anagrams

Can you unscramble these words to reveal five topics we've talked about in this issue? We'll give you a clue, they all relate to construction stories at Hinkley Point C (see pages 3-5).

- Time fold (4,4)
- Carp loaner (5, 5)
- Team green roast (5, 9)
- Facelift reception (11, 6)
- Carbon aperitif (14)

Answers: dome lift, polar crane, steam generator, replication effect, prefabrication.

# Your next move

Calling all school leavers interested in a career in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths (STEM)...

Did you know that Hinkley Point C has its own free skills programme for under 21s? Young HPC gives young people exclusive access to employers on the project, as well as insights into the latest opportunities, making it a great first step if you're looking to get on the STEM career ladder.

Another benefit is having a great range of resources at your fingertips. There are activities you can get involved with at your own pace, and they'll help build your knowledge around engineering and nuclear power. There's also workshops on topics like CV writing and interview preparation.

As a reward for learning, nationally recognised digital badges are issued. These can be added to



CVs and applications, helping you stand out from the crowd.

It worked for Anabella Andison, a 17-year-old from Bridgwater who was inspired to join Young HPC after it visited her school. Now an apprentice at the National College for Nuclear, she said: "Young HPC equipped me with the communication skills and knowledge that helped me secure my apprenticeship."

For more information, visit [hpcjobsservice.edfenergy.com/content/Young-HPC/](http://hpcjobsservice.edfenergy.com/content/Young-HPC/).

### SAVE THE DATE

On Tuesday 19 August, between 12:30 and 16:30, Young HPC is running a 'Next Steps' workshop at Cannington Court. It will include a trip to the Hinkley Point Visitor Centre, a site bus tour, and a walk through of a typical Apprenticeship Assessment Day. Spaces are limited and only Young HPC members can attend. Scan the QR code to apply via email.



### Ask Sacha



Sacha Hawthorne, Visitor Centre Receptionist, manages all public enquiries at Hinkley Point C.

**Q** I would like to speak to EDF Customer Service. How can I do this?

"If you would like to talk to EDF regarding your electricity or your recent bill, please call **0333 006 9950**. You can also find more information and access your account at [edfenergy.com/help-support/contact-us](http://edfenergy.com/help-support/contact-us)."

### GET IN TOUCH

If you have a question for Sacha, you can reach out via **0333 009 7070** or [hinkley-enquiries@edfenergy.com](mailto:hinkley-enquiries@edfenergy.com).

# Meet Letty

from Wedmore,  
Somerset

One of 1,500  
apprentices trained  
at Hinkley Point C

