Jetty goes live with deliveries

How the new jetty takes 100,000 lorry loads off Somerset’s roads p10
Welcome to the Autumn issue of Plugged in.

It’s hard to believe we’re nearing the end of another year of construction at Hinkley Point C, in which we’ve made great progress.

It’s satisfying to see the build move forward, and the piece on pages 6-7 is a great reminder of the important part the power station will play in the UK’s overall energy mix once operational.

I’m pleased to discover how local people are benefiting from this project, especially young people like those opposite (page 3), who’ve had exciting career paths open up to them. They’re just three examples of what Hinkley Point C has to offer the local community.

I’m also delighted with the great work happening across the region as a result of HPC Community Fund grants to local organisations (pages 4-5).

I hope you enjoy this issue, and please do send us your feedback.

Rob Jordan
Hinkley Point C Site Construction Director

Meet our Editor: Immy

When it comes to Somerset, Plugged in’s Editor Immy thinks there’s no place like home.

Having grown up on the Quantocks, she was drawn to the job because of her love of the area, and the job security of having Hinkley Point C on her doorstep.

She’s worked on the project for two years and recently taken on her community relations-focused role. Plugged in is a key part of her work.

Immy said: “There are so many brilliant and important areas the project is helping in; I’m focused on choosing articles that I hope people find interesting.

“It helps that I’m local because I can appreciate the changes in the area, both good and bad, which really helps when working with the local communities.”

If you have a story to share with Plugged in, you can contact Immy via the details on the left.

ON THE COVER: How the new Hinkley Point C jetty is making a difference on site and in the local area.

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Your new career awaits

Whether you want to work in a busy café or operate the world’s biggest lifting crane, there are plenty of opportunities to carve out a new career at Hinkley Point C. Three local team members explain how they’re doing just that...

Towering above

When Amy Scone signed up for a Bylor lifting apprenticeship during a recruitment drive she didn’t even know if she liked heights. Previously, she had been cleaning the Hinkley Point C Park and Ride sites. Now well into her 18-month apprenticeship, she’s often 40 metres above ground.

Bylor lifting apprenticeship during recruitment events.

Amy said: “I’ve got skills that I would never have had the chance to gain before. I can stand out from the crowd and I’m proud to say I’m building the power station.”

Counting the opportunities

After 10 years as a local bricklayer, Sam Shaw, EDF Energy Commercial Apprentice, wanted to move into a managerial role. Nothing came of it until he spotted his current role on a job advertisement website and decided to go for it, even though he didn’t have the skills to be a quantity surveyor at that time.

“I wasn’t sure I could do it,” Sam said. “Now I’m three years into my five-year degree apprenticeship and starting my BSc in Quantity Surveying and Commercial Management.”

Supporting success

Finn Cavanagh loves his job as Bylor General Storeman. It’s his first permanent role and he got it after completing a recruitment events.

Finn said: “During the programme, we practised skills like teamwork, problem solving and using initiative. We received support with job applications and interviews too. I’ve used and developed all of these skills working in the stores. I enjoy everything about the job!”

Your way to your dream career. Young HPC has the support, guidance and resources to help you on your way to your dream career. www.edfenergy.com/younghpc

EDF Energy can offer you a bright future no matter what age you are: www.edfenergy.com/hpcjobservice

Hinkley Point C has many more opportunities for local people.

www.edfenergy.com/younghpc

www.edfenergy.com/hpcjobservice
The fact that the number of foodbanks has increased tenfold since the start of the recession in 2008 is proof that UK families have been hard hit. But the HPC Community Fund has been helping to make sure local children had a chance to enjoy the school summer holidays. Thanks to a grant of £2,563 from the Fund, Quantock Foodbank has been able to help reduce ‘holiday hunger’. The charity was launched last October to support families who struggle to afford extra meals during the school holidays. With the funding, the foodbank has supported 961 people, 431 of them children, and delivered 120 food bags to families in Watchet, Williton and the Quantock area. With the funding, the foodbank has also been able to move into a dedicated space and grow its services.

There were also lots of fun things to do thanks to St Francis Youth Group, which received £5,000 from the HPC Community Fund to run holiday activities for young people on Bridgwater’s Sydenham estate.

In Charley’s Memory (ICM), based in Burnham-on-Sea, is benefitting from £10,000 from the HPC Community Fund to provide outreach support in Bridgwater and the local area. The charity, which was set up by Jo Clement after her son Charley took his own life, helps individuals and families struggling with mental ill-health. October marked the end of the first year of funding for ICM, and it’s been a busy year for the team. It has been putting plans in place to find secure premises in Bridgwater and expand its counselling service across the local area.

Without this money, we wouldn’t be here. The sooner we see someone and offer support, the better.

Since January, the charity has provided over 800 hours of counselling to young people. The service is free and confidential and there’s no need for a referral. Assessments take place within two weeks of the first phone call and there’s no cap on sessions, so the door is never closed.

ICM has also launched a regular drop-in service from the Apprentice and Skills Hub at Hinkley Point C for workers.

Dawn Carey, Operations Manager at ICM, said: “Without this money, we wouldn’t be here. The sooner we see someone and offer support, the better. Sometimes all it takes is to listen and help someone build resilience, as opposed to what could be months of struggles with a mental health problem.”

Since 2008, the number of foodbanks has increased tenfold. The HPC Community Fund has helped local children enjoy the school summer holidays by providing funds to Quantock Foodbank, which has supported 961 people, 431 of whom are children. The charity was launched in October to support families who struggle to afford extra meals during the school holidays. With the funding, the foodbank has delivered 120 food bags to families in Watchet, Williton, and the Quantock area.

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Charity Champions

Hinkley Point C team members have been raising money for great local causes. Over 1,000 spectators helped raise £15,000 for Mind in Somerset when a football team from Hinkley Point C took on the Man Utd Legends. Meanwhile, Bylor Batching Plant Drivers Martin Farmer and Mark Fisher raised more than £600 for Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance through a 120-mile motorcycle ride-out.

New Coastal Walk Opens

Walking enthusiasts can now enjoy even more of Somerset’s coastline and countryside via the new Castles and Coast Way. The 13-mile circular walk was developed with funding from Hinkley Point C and takes walkers from Nether Stowey, past Stogursey Castle and along the England Coast Path National Trail.
Hinkley Point C: Why we need a mix of energy sources

Here’s why the low-carbon energy that will be produced at Hinkley Point C is vital to helping tackle climate change as part of our future energy mix.

1 WE HAVE TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE

The threat of climate change, bringing extreme weather patterns and potentially devastating consequences worldwide, is in the news more than ever before.

Greenhouse gases including carbon dioxide are a major factor in global warming and climate change. Most of the world’s man-made carbon emissions are released by burning fossil fuels – from coal, oil and gas – for electricity, heat or transport.

To play our part as a nation, the Government has committed to cut UK carbon emissions to Net Zero by 2050.

2 WE NEED TO KEEP THE LIGHTS ON

Last year, total UK electricity production stood at 335 terawatt hours – with around half coming from low-carbon electricity including wind, nuclear, hydro and solar power. This still leaves us heavily reliant on polluting gas in electricity generation and for heating, and on petrol and diesel for transport.

Switching to electric and hydrogen power instead of oil and gas for transport and heating means we’ll need a lot more electricity in the future. However, the wind doesn’t always blow and the sun doesn’t always shine so renewable power can’t get us to Net Zero alone.

Backup power is an extra expense. The Committee on Climate Change says that around 40% of electricity needs to be reliable and nuclear is the only proven and reliable low-carbon technology available, although it is hoped that other technologies may be able to play a role in the future.

3 WE NEED A DIVERSE ENERGY MIX TO REACH NET ZERO

Low-carbon power comes from sources that produce electricity with very low amounts of carbon dioxide emissions compared to conventional fossil-fuel power generation.

The two main sources of low-carbon energy are nuclear and renewables, which includes solar, wind, hydro and tidal energy.

Together with nuclear, low-carbon sources contributed 53% of UK electricity generation last year. The remaining 47% came from fossil or other fuel sources.

People and businesses everywhere will have to adapt their habits to tackle climate change by cutting energy consumption, decarbonising heating and transport and switching to electric or hydrogen vehicles. Hydrogen can be made using low-carbon nuclear or renewable power. We will all have to stop using polluting coal, oil and gas.

4 HINKLEY POINT C WILL PROVIDE 7% OF THE UK’S LOW-CARBON ELECTRICITY

Countries like Sweden and France that currently use nuclear and renewables together have already successfully cut their carbon emissions from electricity generation. Countries relying on renewables alone like Germany have spent billions with little impact on emissions and they remain reliant on coal and gas when there is not enough wind and sun. EDF Energy is investing heavily in both renewables and nuclear in Britain and around the world.

It’s the world’s biggest low-carbon electricity company, operating more than 30 wind farms in the UK with plans to double its renewables capacity in the country.

Hinkley Point C is the first in a new generation of nuclear power stations to be built in the UK and the first to be built in a generation. Experience from around the world shows that repeating designs can cut construction and financing costs – that will make successive plants cheaper for consumers.

The electricity generated by Hinkley Point C’s two reactors will offset nine million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions a year. That’s equivalent to taking nearly four million cars off the road annually.

These figures take into account any carbon emissions produced during construction of the power station. Its overall carbon impact is about the same as onshore wind.

When it comes online, Hinkley Point C will provide low-carbon electricity for around six million homes. That’s 7% of the UK’s electricity demand.
Fossil find gifted to museum

Digging up a 200 million-year-old fossil doesn’t happen every day at Hinkley Point C, but when it does, it’s a cause for excitement for the site team as well as the local museum that will show the find.

Rachel Trick, Field Engineer and Geologist, spotted this bone on rock on site. She said: “I live in Devon so I’m used to finding ammonites but this was my first bone find.” Hinkley Point C is committed to gifting fossil discoveries to science.

The Kier BAM Geology team manages the palaeontological watching brief on behalf of EDF Energy, employing Taunton-based environmental consultant Geckoella to inspect any finds. They confirmed the 4x5cm bone was from an Ichthyosaur, a large marine reptile that resembled modern fish and dolphins. It was safely removed for preservation and will soon be on display at Taunton Museum.

Ichthyosaurs first appeared around 250 million years ago. The species survived until around 90 million years ago. The first complete skeletons were found in 1811 in Lyme Regis, Dorset. Ichthyosaurs first appeared around 250 million years ago. The species survived until around 90 million years ago. The first complete skeletons were found in 1811 in Lyme Regis, Dorset.

Helping to train up talent

Following the success of 2018’s initiative, Hinkley Point C’s programme to help local young adults gain employability skills has kick-started once again. The Assisted Traineeship Programme is aimed at 16-24-year-olds with additional needs, including Autism, Asperger Syndrome and Down Syndrome. This year’s course is supported by Bridgwater and Taunton College. Another key partner is Discovery, a social enterprise providing extra support in areas such as travel arrangements.

The programme helps individuals learn more about working on a construction site and find out how teams work together on collaborative projects. Cara Heal, Early Skills Coordinator, EDF Energy, said: “We want to leave a lasting skills legacy in Somerset and beyond.”

Sustainable success

As well as serving thousands of meals on site every day, Somerset Larder also dishes up local jobs and business opportunities. Victoria O'Connor, Catering Operations Manager, explains how…

Q What is Somerset Larder?
A It’s a cooperative of local food producers who came together to cater for the project. It’s created local jobs as a result, on site and at our Central Production Kitchen in North Petherton. We’re about nourishing the community – it’s our strapline and our driving force.

Q Who do you cater for?
A Every day on site, 4,500 people are served good quality meals and snacks. There are always hungry team members wanting a start to their day and we recently celebrated serving the 200,000th full English breakfast eaten on site since 2016 and dishing up our two millionth meal.

Q What’s involved in feeding so many people?
A We have 140 colleagues – mostly people from the local area – helping to run our operation, from preparing and serving food, to sourcing quality, local ingredients. Somerset Larder supplies the project with fresh, seasonal food from local businesses and producers. For example, 85% of our meat comes from North Petherton butcher Pyne’s of Somerset; all our fruit and veg comes from Bristol-based farmer Arthur David and our dairy is from Gundenham’s farm in Wellington.

Q So sustainability is important?
A Absolutely, it’s a big focus for us. As well as sourcing seasonal, local foods, ethical ingredients are on the menu too. Where possible, our fish is certified by the Marine Stewardship Council, our eggs are free range and we serve ethically-sourced coffee too.

Q What else is a focus for the company?
A We try to be as environmentally friendly as we can when it comes to waste. Around 95% of the packaging waste we produce on site is made from plant-based materials that biodegrade within 12 weeks. And we’re always on the look-out for new ways to re-use waste, such as refining oils and fats for use as vehicle fuel.

Campus allotments blossom

Gardening enthusiasts are digging in to new allotments created at Hinkley Campus. Hinkley Point C team members can now have their own plot to grow veg and flowers. It’s a great way for residents to get outdoors, meet new people and enjoy the fruits of their labours.

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Seventh safety award

From working to the highest standards, to looking after the mental health and well-being of its team members, safety is the number-one priority at Hinkley Point C. EDF Energy and its contractors are delighted that their commitment in making sure everyone gets home safe at the end of each day has been recognised.

They’ve been presented with a seventh-in-a-row Gold Health and Safety Award from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents’ internationally recognised scheme.

DID YOU KNOW:

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TOGETHER FOR FUN AND FUNDRAISING

A great atmosphere helped to make the Sedgemoor Campus Family Fun Day a success. Local families and campus residents enjoyed playing giant board games and sports and browsing craft stalls to raise £479 for Children’s Hospice South West, which offers care for the region’s life-limited children and their families.
Hinkley Point C is a busy construction site but it takes its environmental and neighbourly commitments seriously. Here’s the low-down on its planting progress...

**GREEN GROWTH**

Hinkley Point C

- **2014 North West Bund**
  - 6,400 trees and shrubs planted
  - Native species suitable for a coastal location: sea buckthorn, sycamore, holm oak

- **2017/18 Eastern Bat Crossing**
  - 5,000 trees and shrubs planted
  - Allows bat population to navigate between different habitats

- **2019**
  - 4,000 standard trees and shrubs planted
  - 37,000 large area of woodland and wild flower seeding

**DID YOU KNOW:**

All woodland on site is planted with native species including oak, silver birch, cherry, poplar, hawthorn and gelder rose.

Jetty delivering on low-carbon

Hinkley Point C’s new jetty is now operational and is helping to keep lorries off Somerset roads and reduce the impact of construction traffic in the local area.

The first shipment of 6,000 tonnes of gravel and sand was delivered by the Aastun motor vessel, 32 miles along the River Parrett. Wharf – the first delivery of permanent equipment

**ENVIRONMENTAL EFFORTS:**

As well as using local aggregates, Hinkley Point C is cutting the CO₂ impact of its concrete by using recycled industrial materials in its mix, such as ground granulated blast furnace slag (GGBS). GGBS is a by-product from steel manufacturing plants in South Wales which would usually be discarded as a waste product.

Bore and build of tunnels commences

The first of the tunnels that will pump water around the reactors at Hinkley Point C is beginning to take shape, all thanks to a Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) named Mary. Mary is the first of three TBMs that construction contractor Balfour Beatty is using to bore out and build the power station’s three main cooling water tunnels.

The tunnels are key to the safety of the power station. They can bring in 120,000 litres of water a second – this is the same as filling an Olympic-size swimming pool in under a minute!

Since the TBM installed the first tunnel ring section, more than 17 of the 6,000 rings that will form the main tunnel network have been installed. There are three tunnels and several galleries that will move water from the Bristol Channel around the pipe system.

Balfour Beatty is keeping work local by using factory facilities at nearby Avonmouth, Bristol, to create the rings and associated segments.

Large lifts go live

You may have seen a blue and yellow crane tower high above Hinkley Point C. Big Carl (Saners Giant Crane SGC-250) is now constructed and has made its first move across the construction site. The purpose-built crane became operational in September and will remain on the project for at least the next four years.

Following lessons learned from Flamanville 3, Hinkley Point C’s sister project in France, the reactors’ steel containment liner structures are being prefabricated in weatherproof bunkers. Big Carl will play a key part in the heavy lifting on site, and will lift items out of the bunkers and into their final destination. The crane will also be vital in the upcoming dome lift.

**DID YOU KNOW:**

- Mary is capable of speeds of up to 120mm per minute, excavating 11.4 tonnes of rock in that time
- The tunnels will be 39m under the seabed of the Bristol Channel
- 631,411 tonnes of earth will be removed and stored on site to create the tunnels
- Each tunnel will take around 12 months to construct
- 215 primary schools across Somerset took part in the TBM-naming competition
- Mary was named by children from St Peter’s First School in Williton in honour of Lyme Regis-based paleontologist Mary Anning
- Bristol-born suffragette Emmeline Pethick Lawrence was the name for the second TBM, chosen by Stogursey Church of England Primary School
- The third was named by Cannington Church of England Primary School after Beatrice Shilling, known as Tilly, who helped improve the Spitfire during World War Two.

**TO FIND OUT MORE**

Visit www.edfenergy.com/pluggedin and watch the TBM in action.

POWERING AHEAD WITH PERMANENT EQUIPMENT

Four diesel fuel tanks have been unloaded at Combwich Wharf – the first delivery of permanent equipment for Hinkley Point C to arrive via the facility on the River Parrett.

The tanks will fuel emergency generators, just one of the many safety features built into the design of the power station. They are a back-up measure to ensure that, if required, the station can supply its own power.
Win… a £50 Amazon voucher

Congratulations to last issue’s winner Luke Perrett, who has won a £50 Amazon voucher for this brilliant image (above), taken at the River Parrett.

IT’S TIME TO GET SNAP HAPPY…

Summer may have been and gone, but with the onset of autumn comes the opportunity to take some beautiful snaps. Whether it’s a leafy landscape shot or a calming coastal picture, we want to see where you’ve been venturing in or around the South West. Our favourite photo will feature in the next issue of Plugged in, and the winner will receive a £50 Amazon voucher. To enter, submit the image via your Instagram account, using #PluggedInPhotoComp, and remember to include the place in which the picture was taken. Good luck!

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Visit www.edfenergy.com/pluggedin for full terms and conditions.

PICTURE PERFECT

Follow Hinkley Point C on Instagram to see the latest updates from the project.

Keep an eye out for our advent calendar on social media

The first of three tunnel boring machines, named Mary by a local school, has started excavating one of the water intake tunnels.

The 500m long jetty at Hinkley Point C has been declared fully operational.

Are you aged 16-21? Activate your career with the Young HPC programme.

WHAT’S ON NOV 2019- FEB 2020

24 NOVEMBER
Shop ‘til you drop and enjoy festive entertainment at this popular seasonal fayre. www.glastonburyfrostfayre.co.uk

28 NOVEMBER
Hinkley Point C Recruitment Event, Bridgwater and Taunton College, Taunton Campus, Wellington Road. From 5pm to 8pm.

3 DECEMBER
Enjoy Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol in the nave of Wells Cathedral. Ebenezer Scrooge will be taken on a journey to find the true meaning of Christmas. www.wellscathedral.org.uk

31 DECEMBER
See in the New Year at Wookey Hole with live entertainment, a hog roast, disco and fireworks. The party starts at 5.30pm at Captain Jack’s restaurant. www.wookey.co.uk/new-years-eve-party/

6 FEB
Hinkley Point C Recruitment Event, Somerset Energy & Innovation Centre, Woodlands Business Park, Bristol Road, Bridgwater. From 5pm to 8pm. Visit the ‘Recruiting Events’ tab on www.hpcjobsservice.edfenergy.com

For information about the Hinkley Point C Transport, Community or Main Site forums, please visit www.edfenergy.com/hpc