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195

The number of flavours of ice cream Granny Gothards makes – it started out making six

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BUSINESS

## Consultancy firm celebrates first anniversary of city office

AN engineering consultancy firm is celebrating its first year operating from its Exeter office – and has called for like-minded collaborators to join its vision for the city's sustainable future.

Since its regional office opened at Broadwalk House a year ago, Hoare Lea has brought its global network to the city by drawing on the expertise of its more than 1,000 engineers, commissioning agents and energy analysts.

Exeter director Steven Libralon said the move has helped the firm feel part of the city, and it is looking forward to help shape its future.

“Exeter is the thriving capital of Devon, and we were delighted to open our office in such a prime location at the heart of the city centre,” he said.

“We already felt very much part of the city, thanks to our other South West offices, but this past year has demonstrated how we can be much more involved in creating an exciting, sustainable future for this wonderful city.”

The team of engineers and specialist consultants at the Exeter office marked the first anniversary with a celebration event, bringing together colleagues and connections from across the construction industry and region.

“We were delighted to catch up with friends old and new,” added Mr Libralon. “It also gave us an opportunity to update our guests on the exciting new era for the firm. It's been a very positive year of growth and I was delighted to announce that, in our 160th year, our firm has turned over in excess of £100million for the first time.”



» Hoare Lea's Exeter staff, left to right, Jeremy Butt, Sam Westaway, Steven Libralon, Phil Cottingham and Ally Brown

Glen King

Hoare Lea's Exeter-based projects include the Nightingale hospital, the new emergency department at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital and supporting the University of Exeter with

its electrical infrastructure strategy.

“We have many more projects on the horizon and, now looking forward to 2023, it promises to be an exciting future for the Exeter office,” Mr Libralon said.

“The team and I would really love to hear from like-minded engineers, specialists and built environment consultants who would like to join us for the exciting next chapter in the city.”

## Ice cream now sold in carbon-balanced packaging with ‘match made in Devon’

by HANNAH BAKER

hannah.baker@reachplc.com  
@businesslive

A LUXURY ice cream company that sells its products in Waitrose has agreed a major deal with a fellow business in the county to create ‘carbon-balanced’ packaging for its range.

Granny Gothards, which is based in Willand, joined forces with Newton Print to develop the sleeves for its pots of ice cream, which are currently being sold in 60 of the supermarket's stores across the UK.

According to the Newton Abbot-based printing firm, the packaging is being offset through the World Land Trust scheme – an international conservation charity that protects the world's most biologically-significant and threatened habitats.

Amanda Stansfield, managing director and owner of Granny Gothards, said: “We have been producing our



» Newton Print's Simon Besley with Granny Gothards' Susie Hodgkin (left) and Amanda Stansfield and the new packaging Porcupine PR

range of ice cream for more than 10 years and were approached in 2021 to trial our products in 60 Waitrose stores.

“We all buy products with our eyes and we knew packaging was extremely important, so approached Newton Print to help us come up with something fabulous, and they didn't disap-

point.”

Ms Stansfield said her company thought it was important to work with another Devon-based business on creating the new packaging.

She explained: “People are always interested in where the product they're consuming comes from. With our mar-

keting campaigns, customers can find out where the milk or the eggs used to make the ice cream come from, and now we can tell them the packaging also comes from a producer based only a few miles from us; it really is a match made in Devon!”

Simon Besley, sales and marketing director at Newton Print, said his company helped Granny Gothards match colours to its previous sleeve packaging and also made suggestions to improve its appearance.

He added: “The finished sleeves look amazing with vibrant pantone colours and spot UV varnish. We've also been able to carbon balance the sleeves through our World Land Trust scheme, meaning they are produced with a clear conscience.”

Granny Gothards was established in 2006 on Gothards Farm in Somerset, but switched its base to Devon. It has gone from making six flavours of ice cream to creating 195.