



The Institute  
of Quarrying

Heavy Clay  
Technology  
Association

North Staffs  
Branch

Chair- Jonathan Noake – Email [Jonathan.Noake@potclays.co.uk](mailto:Jonathan.Noake@potclays.co.uk)  
Secretary- Liam Fairclough – Email [Liam.fairclough@ibstock.co.uk](mailto:Liam.fairclough@ibstock.co.uk)

## **April- Hollybank Quarry Talk and Tour**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Please arrive from 10:30am for the tour at 11:00am. The event will last ~2.5hrs.**

Site Contact: Mark Rowlands ([mrmineralsltd@gmail.com](mailto:mrmineralsltd@gmail.com))

Address- The Beeches, Warstone Rd, Essington, Wolverhampton WV11 2AR

**You should sign in at the visitor's office on arrival.**

### **Health and Safety!**

**Mandatory PPE for the Factory Tour is full High visibility jacket and trousers, safety boots, hard hat and safety glasses.**



Ketley Brick are the current owners of Hollybank Quarry and have history dating back the same year the Battle of Trafalgar. Ketley is known for durable engineering bricks, tiles and pavers, playing a significant role in Victorian infrastructure projects. The family-run business, now led by the Davenhill Family, blends traditional craftsmanship with modern technology for bespoke architectural features. In 2018 Hollybank Quarry in Cannock was purchased by Ketley Brick to secure ongoing supplies of the dwindling Etruria clay famous for its high Kaolin content.

‘Clay is one of the most variable of geological materials and our challenge is to deliver clay to our extruders that is as consistent as possible. To achieve this, we build layered stockpiles from the different seams of clay at the quarry, and we test the mineralogy and particularly the silica content; only natural ingredients are used to create our range of Staffordshire clay colours, simply Etruria marl clay, natural gas and water. Our expertise, developed over a long history in brick and tile making, enables us to produce our beautiful Staffordshire clay colours through careful control of the temperature and the amount of oxygen in the kiln.’

**Spaces are limited, so please contact our Secretary Liam Fairclough by the Email listed above.**