

NEWSLETTER

December 2021



Name our Gritters

Name our gritters for Winter 2021/2022 via an [online portal](#)! Entries will be accepted from Monday 13th December 2021 until Monday 17th January 2022, when a shortlist of names and winners will be announced. A similar appeal last winter led to over 2,000 names being submitted by the public; with the newly christened gritters joining such classics as “Charles Rennice MackinSlush”, “Snowcially Distanced”, “Sir Grits Hoy”, “Sleetwood Mac”, “Skid Vicious” and the Harry Potter-themed “You’re A Blizzard, Harry”. While the majority of entries were from the UK, Amey received gitter name suggestions from as far away as the USA, Tasmania, and Russia. A list of named gritters can be viewed on the South-West Trunk Roads [website](#).

The South-West gitter fleet can be followed on the @SWTrunkRoads Facebook and Twitter channels and will appear live on the nationwide [Traffic Scotland Gitter Tracker](#).

Scotland’s tradition of coming up with inventive and fun names for their gitter fleet has gone viral on social media and made headlines around the world.

In 2020, Amey’s South-West fleet, with their distinctive bright orange livery attracted the attention of IRN-BRU®, with gitter “Grits You Thru” joining the winter fleet in January 2021. This year, another iconic Scottish treat has joined the fleet with staff at family-run bakery Tunnock’s selecting the name “Caramelt Wafer”. A big thank you to Tunnock’s and keep an eye out for Caramelt Wafer and others this Winter!





Winter Service



Amey's gritters are ready for action in Scotland's South-West! We kicked off Winter 2021/2022 by unveiling a brand new 17,500 tonne capacity Salt Barn at our Polmadie depot. The barn will aid operatives in tackling adverse weather conditions across the network this winter and was visited by the Minister for Transport, Graeme Dey MSP and STV News meteorologist Sean Batty.

Condition Monitoring Equipment and are fitted with Dash Cams to ensure the safety of operatives and the public. In addition, an innovative liquid brine solution is being used on our footpaths to provide a more effective clearance of ice and snow and a 70/30 mix of brine and salt treats the roads.

In preparation for this Winter, Amey have amassed 25,000 tonnes of road salt, 231,000 litres of Brine and 100,000 litres of Potassium Acetate, the distribution of which will be overseen by 10 Winter Service Duty Officers (WSDO) to provide a 24/7 service across the network.

Don't forget to sign up to our free Winter Alerts Service for real-time updates on weather-related incidents on the network. All you need is an email address! Sign-up [here](#).

Amey's winter service is comprised of 26 Frontline Routes, 15 Patrol Routes and 12 Footway Routes, a massive 1059km of network will require treatment this winter. The service will be delivered by 56 Econ gritters with snowploughs, 16 new footpath gritters, 12 tractors and over 100 Highways Operatives. Winter Patrol vehicles are equipped with the latest Mobile

@ Sean Batty <https://www.instagram.com/seanytheweatherman>



Zero Emission Eco-Temporary Lights Trial

In September 2021, new zero emission eco-lighting was trialled on the A8 during road maintenance between layby and Stonymollan, with a view to reduce carbon emissions and continue working towards our contract's goal of reaching carbon neutrality by 2032. The objective was to trial zero emission temporary lighting as a replacement for the standard diesel-powered lighting currently used widely throughout the network.

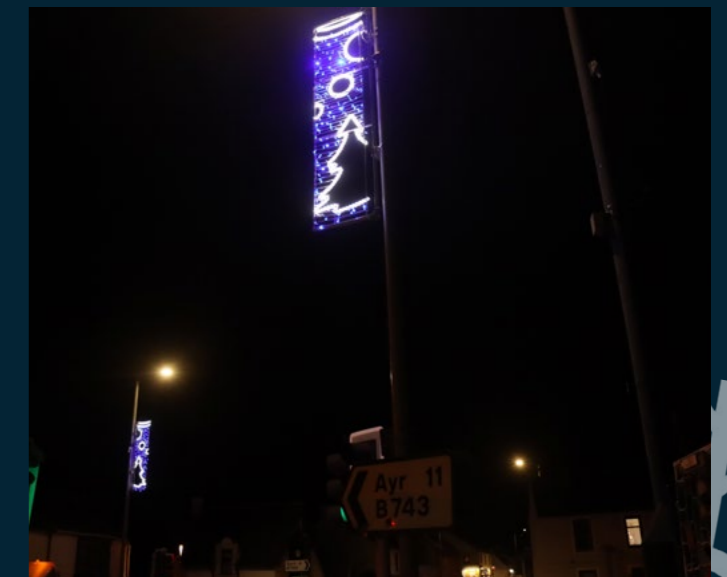
The hydrogen lighting employed on site was the Eco-lite TH200, which uses hydrogen fuel cell technology to produce energy and water as the only by-product. The ProRXM solar lighting tower was also used on site, which

has sufficient capacity to work during winter conditions. These solutions also reduce the need for diesel refuelling, which mitigates any potential pollution issues.

Unlike diesel units, both the solar and hydrogen units are zero emission. There is no CO2 released at source and no other harmful chemicals which can impact air quality. They are also completely silent which will be of benefit when working close to sensitive noise receptors. The successful trialling of zero emission lighting is an exciting step towards the end-goal of carbon neutrality on Scotland's South-West Trunk Roads.

Spreading Christmas Cheer

Amey South-West Trunk Roads were delighted to come to the aid of the village of Mauchline ahead of a community switch-on event on Sunday 5th December 2021. The community required urgent installation of their Christmas lights when their appointed contractor fell through. Amey operatives donated their time and service to get the village Christmas-ready with a starry display along the A76 trunk road. Amey also provided the village with timers that will be installed in the light columns to prevent the festive LED lanterns burning 24 hours a day, reducing the community's energy consumption.





BRAKE

Road Safety Week 2021

Every year, road safety charity Brake, co-ordinates a week-long road safety campaign which took place this year from Monday 15th November until Sunday 21st November 2021. The theme was Road Safety Heroes, celebrating the heroic work of road safety professionals and exploring the ways in which we can all work together to make journeys safer for everyone.

At Amey South-West Trunk Roads, we focused on our highway operatives. From acting as first responders at road traffic incidents and repairing roads, to clearing debris or snow, road operatives work tirelessly to ensure that road users can complete their journeys safely.

Through a series of interviews with road operatives, as well as Joe Docherty, HSEQ Director for Transport Infrastructure at Amey, we shared our team's experience and enabled operatives to discuss and explain the more challenging aspects of their jobs, with a focus on their mental health. Watch the interviews [here](#).

Our social media campaign received fantastic support from Brake, as well as members of the public.

A big thank you to Brake for all its hard and important work, to our road workers and all the Road Safety Heroes!



Dumfries and Galloway *Standard 2021 Toy Appeal*

For the third year running, Amey's Dumfries depot supported underprivileged children and young people through the Dumfries and Galloway Standard's 2021 Christmas Toy Appeal. The depot raised a fantastic £350 worth of donations including toys and gifts for babies and young children, as well contributions suitable for older children and teenagers, such as gift cards and toiletry sets. Selection boxes were also welcomed as Christmas gifts.

Donations were collected on Thursday 2nd December at our Wayside Depot with a special appearance from our Dumfries glitter Calvin Harr-ice. From here, they will be distributed to those in need across the D&G area. A huge well done and thank you to all those involved in organising, and to those who donated.

St Andrew's Santa Dash *And Reindeer Run*

St. Andrew's Hospice Santa Dash and Reindeer Run For the seventh year running Amey is supporting the St. Andrew's Hospice Santa Dash and Reindeer Run. In normal times this popular event is held as an actual race around Strathclyde Park in Motherwell, and a team of Amey Santas normally take part. However, due to Covid-19 it is being staged as a virtual event this Christmas and we have entered a team of Amey Santa's into a virtual 6K race. The hospice provides end of life care for adults and children and support for their families.

St. Andrew's have set up a special Amey Text donation service for this occasion. If you would like to support our Amey Santa team, please text AMEY to 70085 to donate £5*.

Many thanks for the support of the Amey Scottish Regional Hub in helping put this team together. You can also sign-up to take part [here](#). The appeal takes place until Friday 31st December 2021.



Report a Problem

If you need to report an immediate issue on the South-West Trunk Roads network, please use our Report A Problem form on the website. Completed forms are sent direct to our control room who operate 24/7, 365 days a year.

[Report a problem](#)

Sign up for Roadwork Alerts

Roadwork alerts are available for all 17 of South West Scotland's Trunk Roads. This is a free service where the latest road maintenance and improvement schemes are announced FIRST. Updates on incidents and weather events will also be delivered straight to your inbox and you can personalise the alerts to your needs. All you need is an email address to get started.

[Sign up](#)

Twitter <http://twitter.com/swtrunkroads>

Find us on Facebook

Connecting with the communities we serve is a priority for our teams. To facilitate information sharing we have launched a Facebook page.

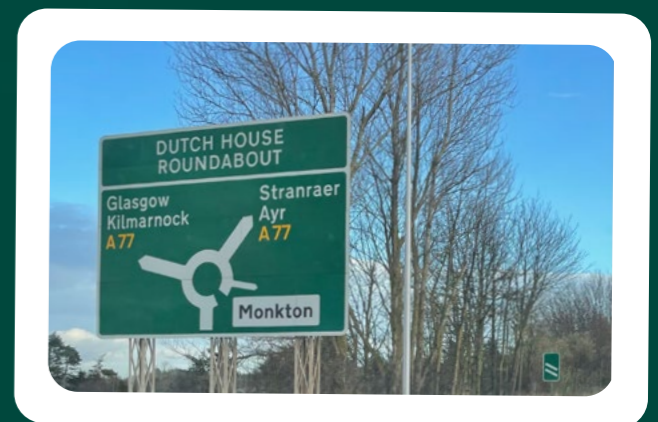
[Find us](#)

Dates for your diary

Essential weekend maintenance is planned on the the A77 at Dutchhouse Roundabout with programmed dates from 8pm on Friday 14th January until 6am on Monday 17th January 2022. Full details of the scheme are available on our website.

Road users are advised to plan ahead.

Please note, Winter 2021/22 is here and the delivery of all maintenance schemes is dependent on favourable weather conditions.



Website <http://www.swtrunkroads.scot/>



Christmas Message

This year, Amey South-West Trunk Roads have been involved in countless major projects and dealt with challenging weather conditions to keep Scotland moving. We have supported various events in 2021, from charity campaigns to momentous global conferences.

From all of us at Amey South-West Trunk Roads, we hope you have had a wonderful year and wish everyone a safe and merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.