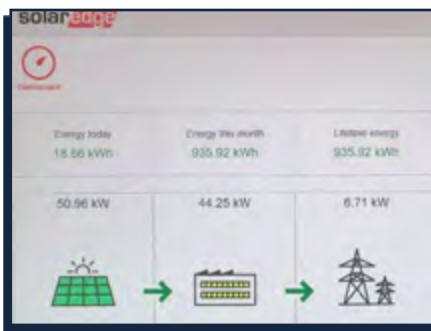


Welcome back to Viscose Voice, for all your Viscose news on what's happening in our factory, what our colleagues are up to and how we are doing as a business!

This month we completed the installation of our solar panels, refreshed our website, learnt more about the lifecycle of our Viskrings and supported our community with a foodbank donation. Read on to find out more...

SOLAR PANELS COMPLETION:



Here's our panels hard at work!

We're excited to announce that the installation of our new SolarEdge Optimisation panel system was completed at the end of July and our 250 solar panels are now fully operational.

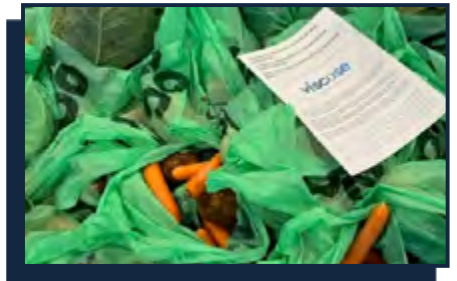
Here's a picture of our Solar Edge system in action on 25th July. The clever optimisers attached to the panels feedback real time data that allows us to monitor individual panels and track our energy generation and usage.

As you can see everything we generated was used in the factory and we even had some leftover to go back to the grid!

FOODBANK DONATION:



Some of our team and Peter Hurst (one of the Foodbanks Line Managers) with our colleagues' dried food donations



Pic 1: Our total donation - this will all be used in one day.

Pic 2: Sponsored fresh fruit and veg bags - these will feed approx. 35 families and are always in high demand.

The cost of living crisis has affected everything from our energy costs to our food bills. As a responsible, local employer we wanted to give back to our community and help those in need.

Sketty foodbank is approx. 15 minutes from our factory and provides a crucial service to 35-50 households each week and that number is growing.

FOODBANK DONATION (CONT):

The service is 100% volunteer led they have no paid staff and is open every Wednesday. A third of what they provide is from donations such as ours with the rest provided by some Welsh government funding and donations from local supermarkets. Many of their visitors are referred by GPs or other social care and are regulars coming in each week to be able to support their families.

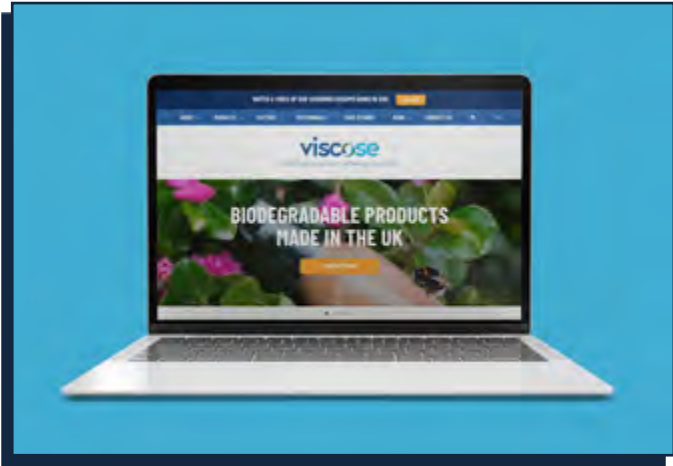
A visitor will typically be given a fresh fruit and veg bag, tinned meats, dried goods such as pasta and coffee as well as cupboard essentials like chopped tomatoes.

The parcels are designed to last at least 3 days. They also provide essential toiletries as well as baby formula and nappies.

We asked our staff to donate as many dried / tinned items as they could in particular items that are always in high demand such as cereals, tea, coffee and long life milk. The turnout was outstanding, a real testament to our brilliant staff as you can see above. The company matched this by sponsoring 50 bags of fresh fruit and vegetables which again is in high demand.

A few of our colleagues visited the foodbank to drop off our donations and whilst there met the brilliant volunteers, and had a tour of the entire foodbank. The volunteers talked us through the running of the foodbank and the stories of the people in need. It was a humbling and eye-opening experience, one that we'll always remember and appreciate. We're now planning our next donation in time for Christmas.

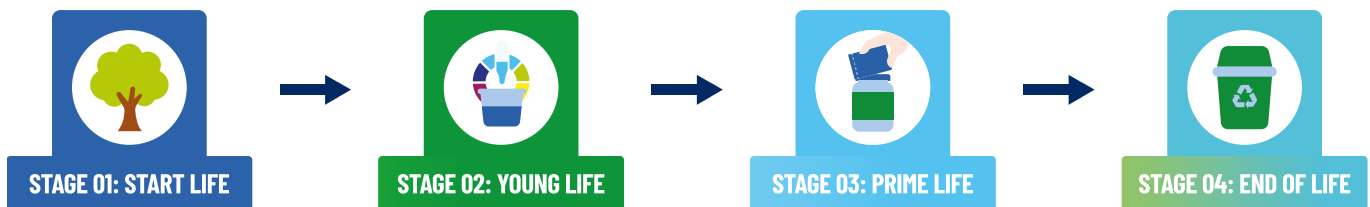
LAUNCH OF OUR NEW WEBSITE:



If you've headed over to our website recently, you'll have seen it has had an extraordinary make over!

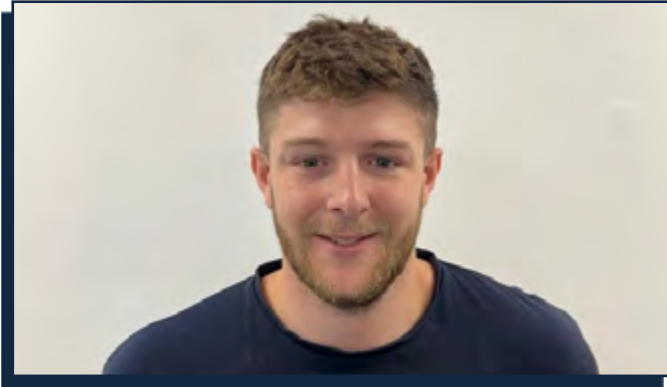
We launched this sparkling new website in July and are really pleased with how it looks and how it presents us as a company. We've introduced new sections, including 'Meet the Team', 'Case Studies' and an improved News section with a drop down to the Viscose Voice so you can get all your newsletter fixes whenever you may need them. We still have some tweaks to complete and new content to share over the next couple of months so watch this space! Browse our new website here- [Viscose Closures](#) - [Tamper Evident](#) and [Packaging Solutions](#)

LIFECYCLE OF A VISKRING:



The circle of life of our Viskrings is so unique that we wrote a whole piece on it in July. For us, the best thing about our compostable bands is that they biodegrade in soil completely disappearing within 4 months, meaning that used bands become part of the soil that future bands will be made from. Read more about this amazing sustainable product here- [The lifecycle of a Viskring](#) - Viscose Closures Ltd.

STAFF PROFILE: DANNIE WHITE



Dannie White our Electrical Engineering Apprentice

Introducing our new staff profile section. Each month we'll be introducing you to a different member of our lovely team, so you can get to know the people behind our tamper evident products!

This month we're focusing on Dannie White, our Electrical Engineering Apprentice who started his Viscose journey in September 2020. Dannie completed the first part his apprenticeship and is now a qualified Electrical Engineer. He will now move on to a HNC accreditation and on completion of that a HND.

We asked Dannie to outline a typical working day at Viscose:

"I'm mainly working on the cellulose side of the business at the moment, (where we manufacture our biodegradable Viskrings), as part of our brilliant Engineering team.

We're focused on modernising the machinery and technology used to make these bands.

Prior to that I played a key role in the installation of our new Diamond duplex slitler and re-winder completed in May this year.

I removed the cables of the old machine from their place and installed new ones for the new machine on our factory floor.

I'm also training on the mechanical side of engineering, with one of our mechanical engineers Simon Jones who has been a great mentor. I enjoy both electrical and mechanical engineering so am really pleased to be able to train in both."

Outside of work Dannie plays rugby for a local team twice a week and is an avid gym goer.

We asked him to share an interesting fact or two about himself with us, which were both Rugby related!



He has played a game of rugby in Wales's national Principality stadium, as part of the Swansea District School Boys a few years back.

His second interesting fact is that he played for the Ospreys (Swansea's regional rugby team) Under 16s team.

Dannie's favourite thing about working for Viscose is how friendly our colleagues are:

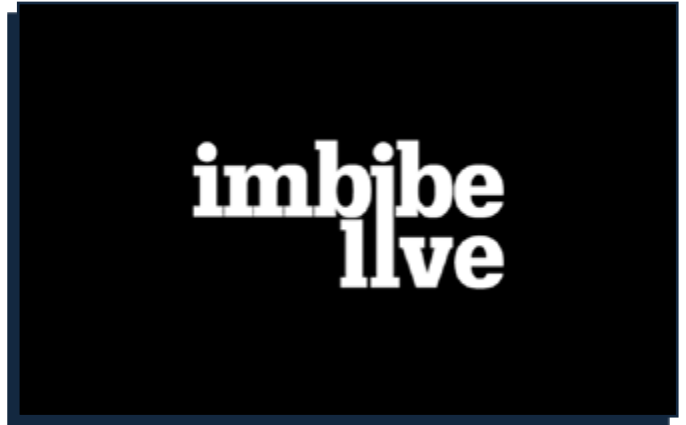
"I'm grateful to have made good friends, who I consider close friends, and who continue to support me in my role and training."

Thanks Dannie for your time with us for this edition.

VISCOSE IN THE PRESS

We've had an exciting couple of months in the press!

Our recent big investments in new machinery and solar panels were released in July, in partnership with Lloyds Banks. The editorial provides a background and basic info on the company, going onto explain how we've used funding through Lloyds to install a new slitter for our heat-shrink film department and install our new solar panels. This is an exciting and proud moment for us and has been shared on many media outlets including on Business News Wales and Insider Media.



Our colleagues Claire and Seren attended the Imbibe Live drinks show in the London Olympia at the beginning of July. They both had a great time and enjoyed networking with suppliers and producers including some current customers in the drinks sector.



We were featured in Food & Drink Process & Packaging's latest edition and in Process Engineering Control & Manufacturing's latest newsletter. Both these features covered our products and the range of solutions we are able to offer.



(Seren & Claire at the Imbibe Live Show in July)

[\(PAGE 36\)](#)

NEXT EDITION

Look out for our October edition which will feature our Macmillan Coffee Morning, our next exciting case study, our company beach clean (weather permitting) and lots more...

