

Editorial

Quarry gold dust comes to the rescue as councils fight freeze



It has taken the coldest winter in a generation to remind us that a pile of grit is a very useful substance and should be much revered in snow. As Britain slithered and slipped

its way around in the recent cold snap, it was our quarries that came to the rescue.

Grit became gold dust in local councils' battles to keep roads open. Thousands of tonnes of fine aggregates have been supplied throughout the UK over past weeks. In Lanarkshire, Cloburn Quarry director Robert Durward has revealed an upswing in orders for its distinctive bright red granite.

Demand increased from a few hundred tonnes to more than 10,000 tonnes in recent weeks. The granite is especially favoured by airports because it will not corrode aircraft or cause acidity in the local environment. It has the added advantage that pilots can clearly see the taxiways.

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