



DEAR NEIGHBOUR,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Local Community Newsletter.

Work on the new Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) offloading and storage building was completed earlier this year and we have commenced the test programme using SRF to reduce our need for imported fossil fuel. The trials are going well and the success of this project will help improve the sustainability of our cement factory into the future.

Congratulations to the team in Limerick on achieving the Energy Management System ISO 50001. This global benchmark standard for Energy Management is compatible with our other management systems in Limerick; Quality Management Standard ISO 9001 and Environmental Management Standard ISO 14001.

On Biodiversity, we were delighted that in its first year our new Sand Martin nest wall on the shores of Bunlicky had 16 Sand Martin nests, so we would be hopeful of more success next season. We have developed some wildflower areas on site for the local pollinators and we have been managing the water levels in our quarry to encourage a range of species of waterbirds to nest in the area.

As you can see in this Newsletter, we have been happy to welcome more groups to the site to see how we make cement. We also had a fabulous family fun day for employees and their families in Mungret St Paul's GAA club in July, despite the rain everybody enjoyed the day.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Shane McCarthy

Limerick Works Manager
T 061 487200
E info@irishcement.ie

FAMILY FUN DAY



Despite the dreadful weather we all endured last July, (remember all that rain!) we went ahead with our Family Fun Day on the 15th of July in Mungret St Pauls GAA Club. During the gaps in the showers we held an array of outdoor sporting activities for all ages. Then we retreated into the clubhouse for the day for some food, refreshments and indoor games. The day was a huge success. All employees and their families are looking forward to welcoming Santa at the Family Christmas Party on Sunday 3rd December.

SOLID RECOVERED FUEL

Pictured here is our first delivery of SRF inside the offloading building. As you can see in the image the truck is reversed into the offloading hopper where the loose dry SRF is delivered. From here the SRF is transferred via an enclosed conveyor to our storage compartments which have a capacity for 140 tonnes. Following a screening process to check for small fragments of metal or oversized particles the SRF is blown using compressed air through a sealed 12 centimeter diameter pipe directly into the cement kiln, where it is combusted at over 2,000°C. Our test programme is running well and we have been able to replace 10% of our imported fossil fuels.



WHOOPEER SWANS BACK FROM A SUMMER IN ICELAND

It doesn't seem that long ago that we were bidding farewell to the flocks of Whooper Swans as they headed north to their summer breeding grounds in Iceland. Over the past few weeks they have begun to return to spend the winter on grassland along the banks of the Shannon. (photo Hugh Sweeney)



SUPPORTING INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

Pictured here, one of the pedestrian crossings in the factory painted in the colours of the rainbow flag as part of our initiative to support Inclusion and Diversity throughout the company. Each year our Human Resources team run a series of events, activities and talks by external experts to raise awareness of important topics. Most recently they arranged for events to support SeeChange Ireland's wear a green ribbon campaign to help end the stigma of mental health.



BIODIVERSITY – SAND MARTIN NEST WALL SUCCESS

On yet another damp day over the summer we hosted a visit by local wildlife enthusiasts to see the diverse biodiversity on our site. The tour was lead by Gerry Murphy, seen here describing the Sand Martin nest wall on the shores of Bunlicky. In its first summer, eggs were laid in 16 of the nest holes and some young Sand Martins fledged successfully. Gerry and other experienced biologists have been carrying out extensive surveys of the flora and fauna throughout the site. This work will help us to identify opportunities to support and promote the diversity of nature on our site.



DAIRY FARMERS ON TOUR

Pictured across are a group of dairy farmers from Munster in our new SRF unloading facility as part of a site visit to our Limerick factory and quarry. Concrete is an important material on Irish farms and they were keen to hear about the science and technology that goes into making cement. There were engaged discussions about sustainability and how businesses of all types, including farmers, are investing and adapting to reduce their impacts.

