



DEAR NEIGHBOUR,

Welcome to the Local Community Newsletter.

We recently completed our annual major factory overhaul. During the month long stop we carry out extensive work on site on all the key systems and machinery in the factory. Specialist contract teams come to site and work closely with our own teams to ensure all of the tasks are completed on time to get cement production back up and running as quickly as possible.

Work is progressing well on the new SRF offloading and storage building and you can expect further updates as this project develops in subsequent Newsletters.

As you can see in this Newsletter our team members have been out and about in the local community and we have also been delighted to host a number of site visits this year already. We are progressing a number of biodiversity projects around the factory and we look forward to being able to share these projects with future visitors to our site.

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

Yours sincerely,

Shane McCarthy

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HAPPY HARD HATS!



Pictured are an enthusiastic and very well-behaved group of pupils from 1st class Scoil an Spioraid Naoimh, Roxborough in Limerick who, with their teacher Martha O'Regan, came in for a tour of our cement factory in Limerick in April. It was great to see their excitement as they got up close to the huge quarry vehicles.

THOMOND'S TINY FOREST



900 native Irish trees such as alder, oak, Scots pine, hazel and birch were planted by pupils from Thomond Community College on their school grounds last month.

The 'Tiny Forest', funded by Irish Cement, will help create a haven for biodiversity and will be used by the students as an outdoor learning space.

Living Woodlands, a Limerick-based social enterprise founded by brothers Colm and John Galvin, managed the project. They tested the soil in advance, provided the saplings and supervised the planting. They will manage the forest for the next three years. Eve Howard, Environmental Manager in Limerick, was on site for the planting and said, 'The students really enjoyed the chance to be outside the classroom creating this wonderful new woodland'.



**BIODIVERSITY
IN LIMERICK**

WHOOPEER SWANS GETTING READY TO FLY NORTH

Whooper swans who have spent the winter with us in the fields and lakes on the banks of the Shannon will be getting ready for their return journey to Iceland. Over the next few weeks when the weather is favourable flocks of whoopers will begin their northward migration to their summer breeding grounds.



SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day took place on March 8th this year and the team in Limerick celebrated their female colleagues with a special event on the day and a gift was presented to each of the 'Limerick Ladies'.



BIODIVERSITY - SAND MARTIN NEST WALL

Last summer we were very excited to receive a booklet from Swift Conservation Ireland on how to build a sand martin nest wall. So earlier this year we selected a suitable site near Bunlicky Lake and built our own version using our own cement and Roadstone blocks. Following the precise instructions, the nest wall includes over 100 correctly sized and angled openings that lead to individual nest cavities.



The Sand Martins breed in our quarry each summer but we are keen to see if any returning migrants take up residence in our new nest wall. We will keep you posted in later Newsletters.



TEAM LIMERICK CLEAN-UP

Pictured across are our 27 volunteers from the factory who took part in the annual community clean-up organised by Team Limerick Clean-up. Community groups, local residents, schools and businesses are encouraged to take part in this great community initiative on Good Friday each year. Our team had a head start as they did their clean-up on the Wednesday before Easter. They collected 35 bags of rubbish from the Dock Road West Roundabout to the Quin's Cross Roundabout, out the N69, and on the Barrack Road. Thanks for all the support along the way despite the heavy rain!

