



## DEAR NEIGHBOUR,

Welcome to the latest edition of the Platin Local Community Newsletter.

In September, Platin hosted site tours for delegates from a Global CemFuels conference which this year was held in Dublin. Visitors from all around the world attended the conference, some from other cement companies and others who are experts in alternative fuel equipment and supply. The day went well and the weather cooperated, thankfully.

Our use of fossil fuels to heat the cement kiln continues to decline as use of two alternative fuels, SRF and solvents, grows. Working closely with our suppliers the SRF and solvents are delivered to agreed quality specifications. The fuels are stored temporarily on site in their own dedicated storage facilities before being transported into the kiln. We remain on track to reach the target of 80% fossil fuel replacement by 2030.

We continue to host site visits by local schools, colleges and customers, and we have more visits planned over the coming months. We are also continuing to work with Hugh Sweeney the wildlife photographer and were delighted to see his recent video and photography of the varied flora and fauna on the Platin site.

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

Yours sincerely,

## David Chambers

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## PLATIN'S PINE MARTENS



We were delighted to see recent video footage of Pine Martens living on site in Platin. Hugh Sweeney our wildlife cameraman has been setting trail cameras on site this year and one of the species he discovered when he reviewed the video footage was this Pine Marten.

Pine Martens, one of Ireland's rarest mammals, faced near extinction by the 20th century due to hunting, habitat loss, and poisoning. Legal protection since 1976 has helped its population recover slowly in Ireland. Pine Martens, related to stoats, otters, and badgers, are about the size of domestic cats. Although they are largely nocturnal, they can be active during the day, especially in the summer. Their large feet, ears ringed by pale fur, and long bushy tails are distinctive features, along with their rich brown coat and pale-coloured chest patch. They spend a lot of time in trees, hence their Irish name, "cat crainn," meaning "tree cat." Their natural dens are often found in hollow trees, rabbit burrows, squirrel dreys, tree roots, and rock crevices.

Pine Martens have a varied diet that includes berries, fruits, insects, frogs, birds, small mammals, and carrion. They are solitary, slow-reproducing animals with breeding occurring once a year, with two or three kits born in the spring. The kits are born blind and hairless, relying entirely on their mother for the first 40 days.

## ON TOUR IN PLATIN



During Inclusion Week 2024 we were delighted to welcome Autism Support Louth & Meath Youth Club members to tour our Platin cement factory. Thank you to Frank Hughes and Paul Owens for conducting this tour. We received great feedback from the club, who said their members had a fantastic time touring the factory and especially seeing all of the huge quarry machinery.



## 50KM CHARITY CYCLE



Platin Works held their annual Platin Wheeler's Charity Cycle 2024 in aid of the Irish Motor Neurone Disease Association. The 50km cycle started in Platin before passing through Oldbridge, Monasterboice, Clogherhead and Baltray before heading back to Platin. Well done to everyone involved!

## GLOBAL CONFERENCE VISITS PLATIN



In September, Platin hosted a site visit by a large group of delegates attending the global CemFuels conference in Dublin. The annual conference is dedicated to sharing best practice and the latest knowledge on the use of alternative fuels in the cement industry and brings together experts in the topic from around the world. The team in Platin was delighted to host the visit and arranged a series of group tours to show the operation in Platin including the alternative fuels facilities and equipment.

## DROGHEDA & DISTRICT CHAMBER AWARDS 2024



Irish Cement was proud to sponsor the SME 11+ award at the annual Northeast Business Awards, held at the CityNorth Hotel & Conference Centre. Employees Frank Hughes, Paul Owens, Matthew McKenna and Helen Bennett attended with their partners, with Helen presenting the award to Wogan Build Centre in Drogheda. Congratulations to Wogan Build Centre for winning this category and well done to all the nominees!

## GOLD CERTIFICATION FOR PLATIN

Platin achieved Concrete Sustainability Council (CSC) Gold certification reflecting Irish Cement's strong commitment to environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and governance.

This outstanding achievement highlights the dedication of the team at Platin and will undoubtedly inspire other companies in Ireland to pursue CSC certification and contribute to a more sustainable future for the construction industry.

