



DEAR NEIGHBOUR,

Welcome to the Local Community Newsletter.

I am happy to report that we have made good progress with our fossil fuel replacement plans. The factory has been using Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) for almost twelve months now and we have already seen a reduction in the carbon footprint of our operations. This initiative and others we are working on will help improve the sustainability of our cement factory into the future.

The Limerick factory was chosen as the location for Irish Cement's first investment in a plastic bag packer. For decades our cement has been available in the traditional paper bag but after a successful project by the team in Limerick, the new packing line was commissioned earlier this year and now our popular cement is available in both paper and plastic bags. The bright blue bag, ideal for outdoor jobs as it provides protection from rain and damp conditions, is now available in many hardware stores.

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

Yours sincerely,

Shane McCarthy

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TEAM LIMERICK CLEAN-UP



Our 27 volunteers from the cement factory got a head start on this years' Team Limerick Clean-Up (TLC), they were out on Wednesday, two days ahead of the other groups. Head to toe in the customary orange high visibility clothing they tackled both sides of the road, from the Dock Road West Roundabout along the N69, the Barack Road and Dock Road West Roundabout to Quin's Cross Roundabout. In total they collected 50 bags of rubbish and thankfully the rain held off. It is great to support such a wonderful local initiative. Well done to all the other groups and businesses that cleaned-up their local areas on Good Friday.



SOLID RECOVERED FUEL

Almost 12 months ago we received our first delivery of Solid Recovered Fuel (SRF) in Limerick. We used nearly 10,000 tonnes of SRF in the second half of 2023 and this year we are continuing to reduce the need for fossil fuels by gradually increasing our use of SRF.

SRF is manufactured to a specification by our waste industry partners from non-recyclable waste materials.

The recently published National Waste Management Plan for a Circular Economy sets a Priority Action to maximise the use of SRF in cement kilns.



**BIODIVERSITY
IN LIMERICK**



**CLEAN UP
TEAM
LIMERICK**



**NEW
PLASTIC BAG
LAUNCHED**

CLOSE ENCOUNTER IN BUNLICKY

While photographing wildlife from the shore of Bunlicky recently Hugh Sweeney heard a loud splash in the water close to where he was sitting. He stayed motionless under a camouflage blanket and was rewarded when the cause of the splash was revealed. An otter clambered up the bank within 10 feet of Hugh and in its mouth was a large eel. Hugh described the experience “as an amazing moment, the otter was so close, I could hear the crunch as the otter chewed the eel. The otter was too close for the zoom lens on my camera, and it was only when it slipped back into the water that I was able to get a few photos, it was a really special moment.” (Photo. Hugh Sweeney)



ANOTHER TINY FOREST

Some excellent work by the pupils from Ballybrown National School has begun the transformation of a corner of their grounds into a ‘Tiny Forest’. Irish Cement partnered again with Living Woodlands, a local social enterprise. They carry out an assessment of the site and provide the native trees and expertise on the best way to plant the Tiny Forest. The pupils provided the spade work. Planting the trees close together allows them to grow rapidly and establish a haven for all kinds of wildlife. We look forward to seeing the progress of this small biodiversity space.

DAFFODIL DAY 2024

Last March the team in Limerick celebrated Daffodil Day 2024 with their annual coffee morning to increase awareness of the work of the Irish Cancer Society and also raise vital funds. Proceeds from the event totalled €1,500 which will be donated to the Irish Cancer Society.

The Marie Keating Foundation Mobile Unit and the community nurse were also on site for the day; And employees attended a workshop learning about their 7 pillars of cancer prevention and they also had the opportunity to get one to one advice.



NEW PLASTIC BAG FOR OUR POPULAR CEMENT

Customers now have a choice between paper and plastic bags of Irish Cement. Following requests from customers who spend much of their time working with cement outdoors, Irish Cement has this year launched a new plastic bag for its cement. Both paper and plastic bags are packed in the Limerick cement factory.