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# opendoor

## Welcome... from plant manager Murat Burakcin

With a history dating back almost 70 years, Padeswood works is one of the oldest members of the Flintshire business community and we hope to be here for at least another 30 years.

During the 1950s, we produced cement vital for the reconstruction of the UK after the war. Many grandfathers, fathers and children of this community had worked or still work here today.

The tradition goes on with Padeswood works continuing to invest in people. Six more people from our community started work in the packing bay and five apprentices and two graduates are currently being trained.

The safety of our staff is important to us and we are improving our capacity to tackle emergencies – fire warden, rescue team, first aid and spill response are some of the training programmes staged this year. To deal with potential heart attacks, three automatic defibrillators are available

at the gate entrance, central control room and rescue team van.

With the strengthening of the maintenance control department, efficiency of the plant has improved in respect of maintenance and troubleshooting.

Work on the new cement mill is on schedule and will be completed in January 2019. This means we will be able to grind all the clinker we produce at Padeswood. But the benefits aren't simply about cement production. We also see it as a great environmental investment.

It means we will no longer have to transport excess clinker to other Hanson plants for grinding and the introduction of the railhead, also scheduled to be completed in January 2019, is another environmental improvement. The new mill replaces three obsolete mills; it carries the latest technology which will in turn minimise environmental impact. Other

significant improvements include the fitting of new dust filters.

In this issue, we discuss the reasons for removing the air quality monitoring station in Penyffordd. It has been discussed by the site liaison committee and a briefing note is being sent to Penyffordd Community Council so councillors can provide more information to residents. If you want to talk to us about the issue, contact details are displayed in this newsletter.

As the manager, I want Padeswood works to be a responsible member of the community and be totally transparent. This is why the name of this newsletter is *Open Door*.



## Air monitoring station removed

The air quality monitoring station at Penyffordd bowling club has been removed by Hanson Cement because the technology is obsolete and has been replaced by new on-site monitoring which is far more accurate.

Community representatives were informed of the decision at a site liaison committee meeting and the company is to write to Penyffordd Community Council to provide councillors with briefing information to further inform residents.

The monitoring station was set up to track offsite kiln emissions after the closure of three old kilns and the commissioning of the current kiln four in 2005.

Following the outcome of the Public Health Wales (PHW) inquiry into the site PHW stated the monitoring station was no

longer needed. In 2013 the regulator Natural Resources Wales (NRW) agreed the monitoring station ceased to be a requirement of the site's permit.

Equipment at the monitoring station can no longer be calibrated and is old and redundant technology. The data it produces is not reliable.

Several emission limits at the site were reduced in 2017 and additional emissions monitors, certified by the Environment Agency, were installed at each of the site's stacks; the data is reviewed daily and audited by NRW. Any breach of emission limits is reported directly to NRW and an investigation carried out.

Quality and environment manager Robert Keough said: "The Public Health Wales investigation found

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Left to right, Craig Goodwin, Tomos Lappin, Connor Sheady, Anthony Robinson and Andrew Travis. Because of shift patterns Wayne Waterhouse was not available

## Busy packing plant recruits six

The introduction of a new grinding mill has prompted an increase in staff numbers in the packing plant with six new employees.

When the new mill 5 project, part of a £20 million investment, is completed in early 2019 the packing plant will need to cope with greater volumes as the new mill will increase output.

Packing plant supervisor Mark Banks said: "We felt it was important to increase the headcount in the packing plant early so that training and familiarisation work could be completed in time to deal with the increased production in 2019."

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## Six join plant

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Supply of cement in plastic bags is proving popular and production has increased from a Monday to Friday shift pattern to a 24/7 pattern which has increased production capacity. So far this year the plant has packed 87,760 tonnes of paper and plastic packed cement.

The new employees are Anthony Robinson, who has joined from Shell UK; Tomos Lappin from Holywell, from ACE lifts; Connor Sheady from Connahs Quay who worked for JSM engineering; and Andrew Travis from Birkenhead from UPM Shotton. Craig Goodwin and Wayne Waterhouse have worked at Padeswood for a number of years and are internal transfers to the packing plant.

■ The establishment of a new railhead at Padeswood is on track for completion in January 2019. Three new silos, each capable of holding 1,000 tonnes of cement, are being erected alongside the existing rail line, allowing Padeswood works to transport cement to Hanson depots across the UK, strengthening its commercial viability.

The rail link is currently used to bring in coal, but was previously used to transport cement into north Wales and the Midlands.

Hanson Cement's technical director Gareth Price said: "Not only will the rail link help safeguard the future of the works but, along with the new grinding mill, will help improve our environmental performance."

## Grassland is 'rare'

Limestone grassland at Cefn Mawr quarry has been resurveyed and identified as a particularly rare type, found only on a handful of sites in Wales.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) reclassified the grassland in the quarry's Site of Special Scientific Interest area as part of its annual review.

Richard May, the local officer, said that NRW was very happy with the work undertaken by Hanson Cement to look after this nationally important grassland and to recover areas from scrub.

He added: "The increase in grassland area achieved through scrub control and follow-up grazing is really positive and I'm glad to see that it's continuing."

## Air quality station replaced by onsite monitoring

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no evidence emissions from the site resulted in harm to health. In fact, the health of people living near the site was generally good or better than that of those living elsewhere in Wales."

The monitoring station measured emissions

from all sources such as traffic, long-range pollutions from continental Europe and local industry. Padeswood works' contribution could only be measured when the wind was blowing directly from the site to the monitor, which was less than 12 per cent of the time.



On a rescue mission, left to right, Clive Edwards, Matt Sankey, Keith Chellew, James Kevill and James Kidd

## Rescue team recruitment drive

Padeswood works is strengthening its on-site rescue team to ensure the safety of employees on what is a very busy and complex industrial site.

The team, which was established in 2016, has been bolstered to more than 20 employees following a recent recruitment drive.

Rescue team co-ordinator James Kidd said: "There is a strong safety culture on site and, while there have been near misses, we have been fortunate not to have had a major incident."

New members of the team, which includes

contractors who work on the site, will be trained in a number of disciplines including advanced first aid, rescuing from confined spaces and incidents from working at height.

The importance of training, particularly in the use of defibrillators, has helped save lives at other Hanson Cement sites.

Safety training is carried out daily and a recent review by the team recommended that two more defibrillators should be installed on site, taking the number to three, and the launch of a poster campaign to raise awareness.

## Car park gets stone donation

A donation of 200 tonnes of stone from Cefn Mawr quarry has helped ease parking problems at Penyffordd and Penmynydd War Memorial Institute.

The Hanson Cement quarry provided crushed stone for the car parking extension works.

Institute secretary Lindsay Winkwork said the extension of the car park, which has provided much improved facilities for users of the hall, could not have been achieved without this generous donation of material.



Cefn Mawr quarry manager Jason Parry checks out the finish to the car park surface with Lindsay Winkwork



## Play area improved with new fencing

Old concrete posts and wire fencing have disappeared from Penyffordd's children's play area. Thanks to a donation from Hanson Cement, following a request from county councillor Cindy Hinds, the play area has a new wooden fence.

Councillor Hinds said: "I want to thank Hanson Cement for the donation towards the fence and, in the past, the multi-use games area. It makes our play area by the Millstone look a lot better, but we still have a little more to do. Thanks to Craig Mossman for erecting the fence and members of the community who helped take all the weeds and bushes out. We could not do without them."

Other community donations include Buckley Town Council – £150 to the mayor's charity concert; Pantymwyn Village Hall – £150 for raffle prize; and Mountain Lane School charity golf day – £500.

Inspecting the new play area fence, left to right, councillor Cindy Hinds, chairman of Penyffordd Community Council Jeff Pridden, Padeswood works manager Murat Burakcin and the manager's PA Jo Hodson

## Mark celebrates four decades of service

Stores co-ordinator Mark Lamb is celebrating 40 years at Padeswood works. Mark, 58, from Buckley, started with Castle Cement on July 24, 1978.

"The time seems to have gone very quickly," he said. In his spare time he enjoys crown green bowls, supports both Wrexham and Buckley FC, and is a keen gardener.

Five other employees have notched up more than 30 years' service. They are quarry operative Steve Prydderch – 38 years;

shift manager Andy Roberts and maintenance fitter Craig Scragg – both 32 years; head of maintenance control (designate) Mike Cotter – 31 years; and plant inspector Marc Pickles – 30 years.

Other long servers completing more than 25 years are: maintenance fitter Mark Gardner – 29 years; quarry operative Tony Lappin and shift manager Darren Pritchard – both 28 years; quarry operatives Phil Davies and Jimmy Silcock – 27 years.



Mark Lamb

## Remembrance garden support welcomed

Hanson Cement has been praised for its support for Gwernymynydd's new garden of remembrance.

County Cllr Kevin Hughes said: "I'm really proud of the support we have had from ASH Waste Management and Hanson Cement who have worked with the Village Centre Management Committee to improve the garden."

There had been an increase in the number of people attending the service on Remembrance Sunday, but they had nowhere to stand in front of the war memorial.

John Dennan, of ASH Waste Management, and Jason Parry, manager of Cefn Mawr quarry, were asked to help and Hanson Cement arranged for trees to be cropped by a tree surgeon and provided rocks for the rockery. ASH cleared the ground, laying a new hard surface which provided more room.



Sylvia Vaughan, whose great-uncle is one of eight names from the village that appear on the memorial, cuts the ribbon to open the new garden



## Marathon men ready for charity challenge

Kevin Groom and James Kidd are running in their first marathon to raise money for charity.

Kevin, a process operative at Padeswood works, will be running the Chester Marathon for two charities, Muscular Dystrophy UK and Jenson's Fight, while James, a kiln engineer, will be running to raise money for BEAT eating disorders, a charity close to his heart as he has a close loved one afflicted by anorexia.

Jenson is a five-year-old boy from Buckley who was diagnosed with

muscular dystrophy at the age of three.

Kevin said: "He's a local lad, I know his mum and dad well. Jenson is likely to be in a wheelchair at an early age and will have a shortened life expectancy. The money raised will help with his care and support his family."

With the help of the Hanson charity match scheme, Kevin is hoping to raise £500 for each charity and James also has a target of £1,000.



Getting ready for a training run, Kevin Groom, left, and James Kidd

## Swim coach makes a splash

As head coach for the British Deaf Swimming Club, Sam Chamberlain is committed to creating more opportunities for deaf swimmers.

He swam competitively himself, reaching international standards in Deaf European and World Championships and for the last five years has taken on a coaching role.

He said: "I am passionate about deaf swimming and I want to help swimmers to reach their potential, both within our club and potentially on the international stage."

Sam, from Buckley, is storeman at Padeswood works and it's his enthusiasm which persuaded Hanson Cement to donate £500 to help pay the costs for swimmers on international duty at the European Championships in Poland.



Sam Chamberlain, centre, with multiple medal winners Danielle Joyce and Jack McComish at the Deaflympics in Turkey

### Talk to us...

Hanson Cement operates an open door policy – if you want to talk to us about this newsletter, our operations or visit the plant, please contact **Murat Burakcin on 01244 550330** or email **murat.burakcin@hanson.com**



Pauline Kershaw checking out the limestone boulders with quarry manager Jason Parry

## Search on for suitable sculpture stone

The hunt is on at Cefn Mawr quarry for the perfect block of limestone to create a sculpture for a community art project in Pantymwyn to celebrate 70 years since the village hall was built in 1948.

Hanson Cement has been supporting work on the village's community garden,

which won first prize in this year's Flintshire Best Kept Community Garden competition.

Pauline Kershaw, chairperson of the village hall committee, thanked quarry staff for their involvement in developing the garden and helping with the delivery of stones.

## Protection work preserves rare plant

Work has been completed to protect a rare plant on land owned by Hanson Cement at Cefn Mawr quarry near Loggerheads Country Park.

Spring sandwort (*Minuartia verna*), pictured right, is a delicate plant with white flowers which appear in May. It is classed as nationally scarce. The population close to the country park is small and confined to one former lead mine spoil heap. It is vulnerable to natural succession and to

inadvertent damage from woodland operations and trampling from visitors to the woodlands.

Ecologist Pauline Michell said: "Given its specialist habitat, steps had to be taken to protect the plant or there was a danger it would be lost from the area."

Working in partnership with Flintshire County Council and Natural Resources Wales, Hanson Cement helped erect temporary fencing to redirect visitors

away from a path on which the plant grows. Tree branches and scrub were removed to allow access to an alternative path and signage erected to inform the public.

