

# Community matters

A community newsletter from Heidelberg Materials  
Padeswood cement works – Winter 2026

## Welcome...

When I first came to Padeswood as Production Manager in the summer of 2008, relocating my young family from Northern Ireland, I could never have imagined that Padeswood would be at the forefront of decarbonising the UK cement industry through carbon capture and storage (CCS), yet here we are.

In September 2025 we reached a final investment decision (FID) with the UK Government to build a carbon capture facility

adjacent to our existing cement works, designed to capture almost all of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced. Once operational, the facility will allow us to produce near-zero cement and help the UK construction industry reach its decarbonisation aims. You can read more about this world-leading project on **pages 2 and 3**.

During the planning process we were pleased to meet with our neighbours to discuss the project and address any concerns

raised. Now that work is underway, we will continue to provide regular updates and you can get in touch with the project team by email at [padeswoodccs@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com](mailto:padeswoodccs@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com) if you have any questions.

CCS is about protecting the future for the next generation and we are pleased to have welcomed four apprentices and one graduate from the local community to help us build that future (**page 8**).

We continue to support a range of community



**David Quick**  
Works Manager

initiatives, including new football kit for Mynydd Isa's youth team and a new outdoor learning area and playground for local primary school pupils, and you can find out more about these on **pages 4 to 5**.



**School's outdoor learning space gets a boost... and a slide! Page 4**

Talk to us: 01244 550330



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From left, Works Manager's Secretary Dereth Holland, Headteacher Andrew Jones and Operations Manager David Rawcliffe join Ysgol Derwenfa Primary School pupils in their new outdoor space



## Padeswood facility is a world-leader

Work has started on a landmark project at Padeswood to build the UK's first carbon capture facility at a cement works.

Backing for our Padeswood carbon capture and storage (CCS) project was announced when Energy Minister Michael Shanks visited the site in September 2025 to confirm that Heidelberg Materials and the UK Government had reached a final investment decision.

It means that we will be able to produce near-zero cement, which will help decarbonise the construction industry, when construction of the carbon capture facility is expected to be completed in 2029. The project also brings significant economic benefits to the region through investment and job creation; it will protect more than 200 direct and indirect jobs and create around 50 new ones, as well as up to 500 more during construction.

Michael Shanks said: "The Government's clean energy mission means good jobs, regional growth, and investment for communities. This

trailblazing project showcases the north Wales workforce on the global stage – leading the charge in the clean industries of the future and powering Britain's reindustrialisation."

We have also signed an engineering, procurement and construction management (EPCM) contract with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) and Worley, continuing our working relationship with the partners, who successfully completed the front-end engineering design for the project.

Early clearance work has begun on site with some tree felling and excavation taking place. This is part of the overall plan for the construction of the carbon capture facility, which will see an overall biodiversity net benefit on completion. New trees, shrubs and hedgerows will be planted, including an extensive new broadleaved woodland, and more than 10 hectares of enhanced grassland habitat. In addition, four new ponds for great crested newts will be created as well as wildlife refuges and additional shelters for hibernation.

## Project at the forefront of carbon capture technology

Heidelberg Materials opened the world's first carbon capture facility at a cement works at its Brevik site in Norway last year. Here, around 50 per cent of the plant's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are being captured as part of the Norwegian Government's Longship programme.

The Padeswood carbon capture facility builds on this knowledge and experience and is designed to capture almost all (around 95 per cent) of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced – around 800,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> a year. The carbon captured at Padeswood will be compressed and transported via an underground pipeline for secure storage under the seabed in Liverpool Bay as part of the HyNet North West project.

Carbon Capture Project Director Gareth Price, who is based at our Padeswood site, added: "CCS is a growing sector worldwide and our Padeswood project is an exemplar, helping position north Wales as a global force at the forefront of this technology."



### Government site visit after investment decision last year

Energy Minister Michael Shanks, left, with Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Wales Office Anna McMorrin and Heidelberg Materials UK CEO Simon Willis during their visit to Padeswood

## Meet our project lead...

Gareth Price joined Padeswood cement works, then owned by the Tunnel Portland Cement Company, as a 16-year-old electrical apprentice and is now back at the site heading the CCS project team in his role as Carbon Capture Project Director.

Last year Gareth, who lives close to the site in Buckley, marked 50 years of service with the company and has been instrumental in the success of the project to date.

"I started my career at the site so it is very special to me that it is where we are developing this world-leading project," he said. "It's been an incredible journey to get to this stage, but it's just the start – now it's time to put our plans into practice."



Gareth Price

## Join our team

Are you interested in joining our CCS project team? We are actively recruiting and opportunities will increase as the project progresses.



Visit [padeswoodccs.co.uk/jobs](https://padeswoodccs.co.uk/jobs) to view our current vacancies or sign up to our talent pool and we will contact you as/when a relevant position arises.



You can find out more about our Padeswood CCS project by visiting our dedicated website at



[padeswoodccs.co.uk](https://padeswoodccs.co.uk). It contains background information, FAQs, useful links and news as well as how to express your interest in working on – or supplying – the project.



From left, Works Manager's Secretary Dereth Holland, Works Manager David Quick, Operations Manager David Rawcliffe and Headteacher Andrew Jones join pupils in their new outdoor learning area and playground

## Smart outdoor learning space gets a thumbs up

Pupils at Ysgol Derwenfa Primary School in Leeswood are enjoying a new outdoor learning area and playground thanks to support from Padeswood cement works.

We contributed £6,400 to help transform the space into a safe and stimulating environment that supports active learning, wellbeing and collaboration for foundation learning pupils aged four to seven.

The area now features a colourful outdoor reading shed that encourages a love of books and storytelling, a climbing frame and slide to promote physical development, new picnic benches for group learning and outdoor drawing boards to inspire creativity and imagination.

Headteacher Andrew Jones said: "We are incredibly grateful to Heidelberg Materials for its generosity and belief in our school. Our outdoor learning space is now a bright, welcoming space that truly reflects our values of caring, growing, nurturing and succeeding. It's wonderful to see the joy and enthusiasm the children are showing."

Works Manager David Quick added: "We were delighted to support the school in creating its new outdoor learning and play area. It's great to know that we are supporting the pupils to get the most from their learning."



## Eco centre upgrades support learning

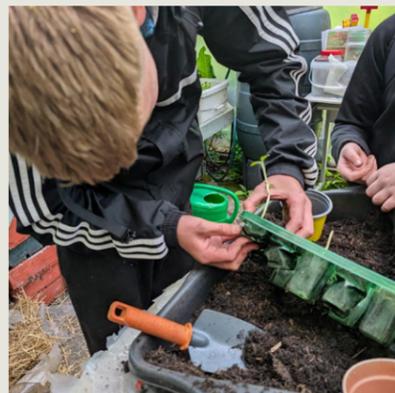
Visitor facilities at the Eco Centre at Padeswood have been improved following a major electrical refit as well as repairs to the roof and the addition of guttering.

Staff and pupils have planted approximately 250 trees and hedging plants in the woodlands and recycled wood from trees felled due to wind damage, as well as pallets from a local building firm.

A new, bigger kitchen has also been fitted in the cabin and lessons in basic baking and cooking are now on the menu for young people.

Eco Centre Coordinator Derek Hayes said: "We have welcomed groups from two Flintshire secondary schools as well as groups of Afghan refugees and families from Ukraine."

The Eco Centre also supports those working towards the John Muir certificate, a national environmental award scheme, which encourages people to connect, enjoy and care for the environment.



Pupils from local schools engaging in a variety of projects at the Eco Centre



## Football team scores bright new kit

Members of the Mynydd Isa Football Club youth team are showing off new kit this season thanks to a donation from Heidelberg Materials.

The under-17 side, based just three miles from our Padeswood works, plays in the North East Wales Junior & Youth League, with the majority of the team hailing from the village and the surrounding area.

**Padeswood cement works is committed to supporting local charities and organisations. Recent donations include:**

- **Buckley Cricket Club: £175.**
- **Millstone Allotments and Community Centre: 10 bags of PostFix concrete.**
- **Penyffordd Drury Primary School: £289 for high viz jackets for working outside school.**
- **Penyffordd Bowling club car park: 120 tonnes of aggregate.**
- **Penyffordd Women's Institute: £60 to help with printing costs.**

## Major rail siding investment allows the train to take more of the strain

A major investment in rail infrastructure at Padeswood works will see more cement moved by rail, reducing lorry traffic on the wider road network and cutting associated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

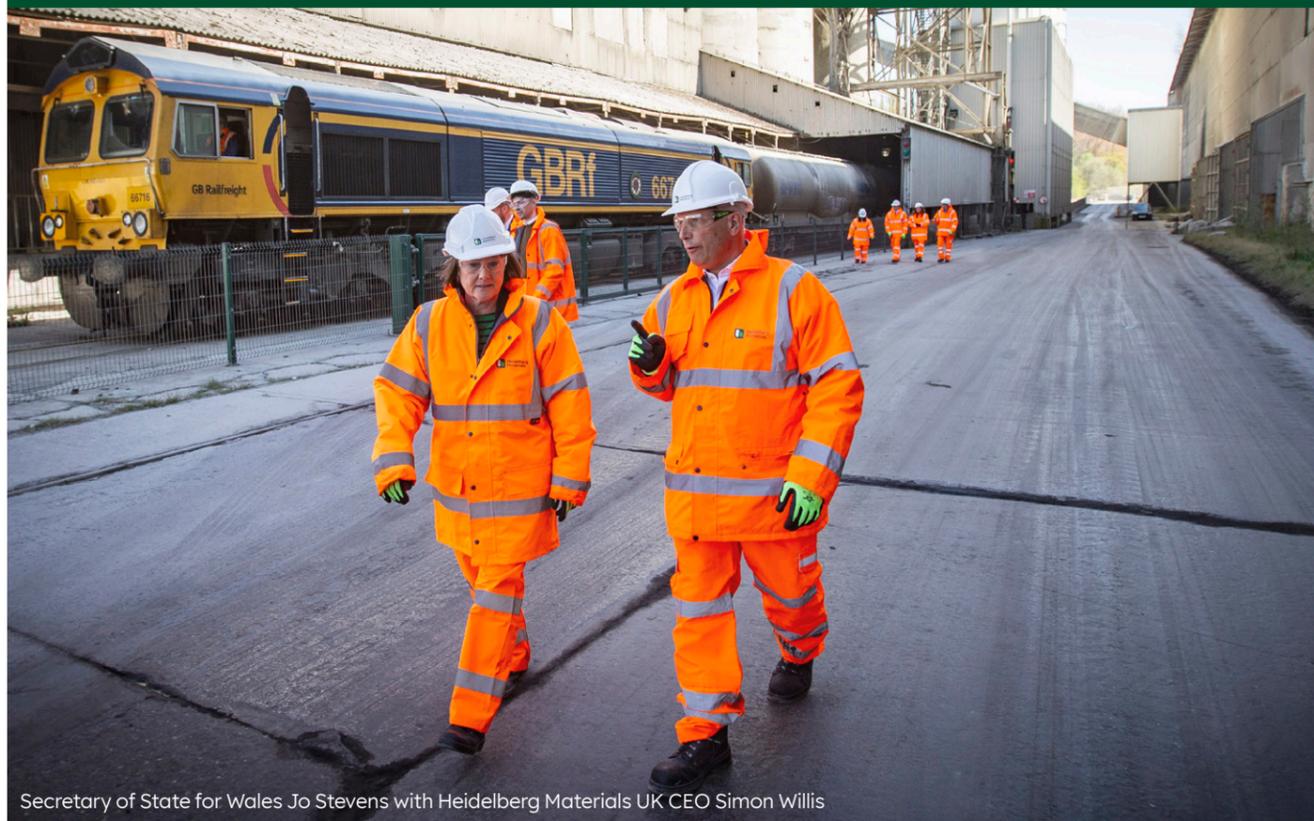
The Welsh Government's Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales Ken Skates spoke about the improvements – the first stage of a £445 million investment by the UK Government in Welsh rail – during a visit to the site with Secretary of State for Wales Jo Stevens.

The Cabinet Secretary said that the improvements would not only benefit the cement works but allow better

scheduling on the line between Wrexham and Liverpool, allowing two passenger trains per hour.

At the moment, trains accessing the cement works have to reverse into the loading facilities and then wait for all the necessary signalling to be in place. It's complicated and can take up to 40 minutes.

Padeswood Works Manager David Quick said: "These improvements, as well as our planned investment in updating our internal rail infrastructure, will allow us to access the rail network much more quickly and move from three trains a week to five."



Secretary of State for Wales Jo Stevens with Heidelberg Materials UK CEO Simon Willis

## Careers fair inspires future cement workers

Employees from our Padeswood works attended careers fairs and conducted mock job interviews with pupils at a number of Flintshire schools, introducing them to the exciting career opportunities the industry has to offer.

Higher Apprentice Ana Luiza de Melo Coradassi returned to her former school, Mold Alun High School, along with another Higher Apprentice Dominic Furnivall, and Kiln Engineer Chris Blackburn. They also visited Maelor School, Penley and Ysgol Bryn Alyn.

Quality Manager Sonia Evans conducted mock interviews at St Richard Gwyn Catholic High School, and Operations Manager David Rawcliffe and Works Manager's Secretary Dereth Holland took over the roles at Connah's Quay High School.



Back at her old school, Ana Luiza De Melo Coradassi, with Engineer Chris Blackburn (left) and Dominic Furnivall

## Raising funds for good causes

### DJ Jones drops extended set for online donations

Kiln Burner Rob Jones put his skills as a music producer and DJ to the test to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust.

He took part in an online DJ Livestream Challenge, with members of the public able to tune in to hear his music, make song requests and donate.

"My plan was to do it for an hour, but I kept going for around 2.5 hours because people were continuing to tune in and donate," said Rob. "I was delighted to raise £700 with help from the Heidelberg Materials charity match fund for this important charity that provides great care for those affected as well as their families."



### Other charity match donations include:

- Driver Andrew Ablitt raised £4,000 for Prostate Cancer by completing three consecutive rounds of golf at Padeswood and Buckley Golf Club. It took Andrew and his friends 10 hours to complete the 12-mile challenge.
- Works Manager's Secretary Dereth Holland raised £2,000 for the Wales Air Ambulance by organising a works' raffle.



Ready for the 54-hole golf challenge (from left): Bannel driving range owner Andy Povey, Driver Andrew Ablitt, Concrete Mixer Driver Pete Wahl, and Heidelberg Materials Driver Sam Cartwright

## High score sets the standard for maintenance

Our maintenance procedures at Padeswood received a glowing report following an inspection from our parent company's Central Competence Centre, based in Germany.

The week-long audit is carried out periodically across all Heidelberg Materials' cement works in Europe, measuring them against "ideal" maintenance practices. It included observing maintenance on site, looking at how supervisors performed, how work was planned, and how engineering functions were adhered to and followed up.

Mike Cotter, Head of the Maintenance Control Centre at Padeswood, said: "Our works received a score of 81 per cent, indicating a world-class maintenance structure."

## Steve takes a well-earned retirement

Stephen Prydderch has retired after completing 45 years with the company, including the last 10 at Cefn Mawr quarry.

Steve, 63, joined as a Quarry Operative at Trimm Rock quarry, Mold, before being transferred to Aberduna quarry and then applying to Cefn Mawr.

Cefn Mawr Quarry Manager Jason Parry said: "Steve has been a significant part of our team, and he has demonstrated a huge amount of effort and determination year-on-year. We will all miss the laughter he brought throughout the working day."

Steve lives in Higher Kinnerton, south-east of Mold, with his wife Elaine and has two children, Mark and Amy. During his retirement he aims to keep active, including pursuing his passion for flyfishing.



Stephen Prydderch: retiring after 45 years with the company

## Young talent joins Padeswood team

We have welcomed five new faces at Padeswood – four engineering apprentices and a graduate trainee manager.

**Robert-Lee Games-Lewsey, Alastair Morrish** and **Ben Roberts** have all joined as Craft Apprentices, taking the opportunity to earn while they learn new skills and study at TTE Training in Ellesmere Port.

Robert-Lee, 16, from Maeshafn, near Mold, attended Ysgol Mold Alun School and his hobbies outside of football include



Robert-Lee



Alastair

training in the gym. He and Alastair, 23, who lives in Chester, are both Electrical Engineering Apprentices. Alastair also plays football and enjoys socialising with friends.

Ben, 19, who lives in Minera, near Wrexham, has joined as a Mechanical Engineering Apprentice. He attended Ysgol Y Grango and sixth form at Castell Alun High School and enjoys playing football, scuba diving and supporting Wrexham FC.

**Josh Stennett**, 20, from Caergwrle, near Wrexham, is



Ben

a Mechanical Engineering Higher Apprentice and his hobbies include mountain biking and playing and watching football.

Graduate Trainee Manager **Antoine Kitten** has a



Josh

master's in chemical engineering with process systems engineering from Imperial College, London. Antoine, whose main hobby is fencing, lives in Buckley but hopes to move to Chester soon.

"We are delighted to welcome Robert-Lee, Alastair, Ben, Josh and Antoine to the team," said David Quick, Padeswood Works Manager.

"They have brought great enthusiasm to their roles and are enjoying the hands-on experience our apprentice and graduate programmes offer."



Antoine