

Corcanree Business Park

ONE of the several business parks to open along the Dock Road in the past couple of years is the Corcanree Business Park, which is adjacent to the Corcanree marsh area. The business park is on the right-hand side of the road as you are leaving the City Centre.

At the immediate front of the business park is Mike O'Dwyer Motors, which has been at the location for four years now. O'Dwyers prides itself on being the 'premier supplier of Mazda cars to Limerick City and County'.

Behind the dealership are offices for a variety of businesses including a main drinks supplier, office equipment providers as well as a medical accessories suppliers, couriers to name but a few.

While companies many major companies have offices all across the country, some of the businesses in Corcanree are one of a kind. Take for example

the medical accessories supplier, which operates out of a 5,000 sq meters office and warehouse facility, produces a wide range of medical supplies.

Currently, the company employs 40 people in several departments, including specialists in several product areas including: accident and emergency, wound care and incontinence.

There is also an office supplies provider which was set-up in 1992 and operated in the city centre until the late 90s when it moved to its current custom built office furniture showroom and warehouse.

Other companies are carving out niches in the Corcanree Business Park and one such specialised company sells cleanroom consumables and anti-static solutions products to the Irish market.

Business diversity is key to this area and it's set to continue as it looks back over the prosperity of years past.

Limerick Search and Rescue



Limerick Marine Search and Rescue Centre relies entirely on volunteers for training and 24/7 staffing, and on fundraising to support costs.

Another facility located on the Dock Road is the Limerick Marine Search and Rescue. The 21 year-old service that is ran entirely by volunteers built the 20 x 15 meter facility in 1995.

Limerick Marine Search and Rescue works in conjunction with the Irish Coast Guard and usually patrols the area from the Shannon Bridge down to port at Foynes.

From private donations and local fundraising the 23 member volunteer force runs the rescue service which includes a river rescue boat, a sea-going rescue boat, a special built dive truck, a rescue swimmers truck and a pick-up truck for transporting boats.

According to a co-founding member of the group, Jimmy Connors the traffic levels on the road have steadily increased since opening the building mak-

ing it difficult at times for the volunteers that run the service to get to the site. There is however a slipway for launching boats from, just 270 meters directly behind the facility. But on occasion the rescuers have had to face the traffic to use the Dock Road in order to get to St. Michael's to launch a boat.

On average the Limerick Marine Search and Rescue perform around 40 rescues a year. Some could take five minutes others can go on for weeks on end explained Connors. Hopes are to extend the existing building to include the paved courtyard in the back within the next five years so that all the equipment can be stored under one roof.

The building already contains a radio room, a three-bed dorm room, a small meeting room, an ensuite kitchen, and a garage area.

Blackberry Park is host to a combination of retail and services.



CastlePark Motors on the Dock Road is main dealer locally for Citroën cars and LCVs; showrooms are superb.

Irish Cement, fuelling construction

EASY access to limestone, clay and shale made Limerick a logical area for cement manufacture. As far back as 1904 Limerick Harbour Authority prepared a detailed report indicating the potential of local materials for cement production at Castlemungret.

The Limerick Cement Works dates back to the late thirties and the first deliveries of cement from the original small single wet process kiln took place in 1938. By the early 1950's, however, the rising demand for cement called for expansion and the years that followed saw an almost continuous series of projects, which by 1965 had

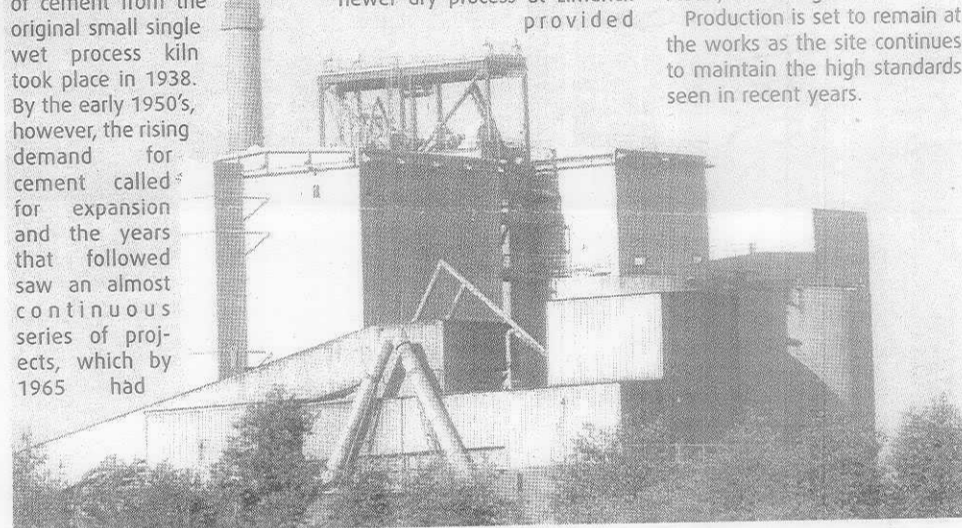
increased annual capacity to 725,000 tonnes from five wet process kilns.

It was not until 1980 that forecasts of further growth in construction activity indicated the need for additional development at Limerick. A modern dry process kiln - Kiln 6 - with a capacity of close to 800,000 tonnes was completed in early 1983. The introduction of the newer dry process at Limerick provided

benefits in terms of fuel efficiency over the older wet process kilns, which were taken out of service.

Today, Limerick Works supplies the market in southern and western parts of the country and also serves export markets when required. Operated by Irish Cement, the works are one of two main worksites in the country the other being at Platin, near Drogheda.

Production is set to remain at the works as the site continues to maintain the high standards seen in recent years.



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