



## Eversley Quarry, Hampshire

CEMEX's Eversley Quarry is an exceptional site, which consists of a carefully planned mix of commercial sand and gravel operations and leisure and biodiversity developments.

The site, covering 89 hectares, was formerly river meadows. Sand and gravel extraction from the valley of the River Blackwater started in the early 1970s and has yielded significant amounts of materials for use in the construction of local homes, schools, roads and hospitals.

Long term planning and close liaison with the local authorities and community groups has resulted in a thoughtful and well-designed restoration. The site, known as Blackwater Valley Leisure, has 4 key areas providing opportunities for a diverse range of recreation and conservation.

### Facilities for the community

Moor Green Lakes Nature Reserve is an outstanding development offering sanctuary to many species of wildlife. An enthusiastic local community group with over 500 members help preserve and support the reserve, which is managed by a steering group chaired by CEMEX.

For those in the local community with an interest in golf there is Blackwater Valley Golf Centre with its nine hole course and 30 bay driving range which retains some of the features from the excavations. The golf course lies on the land that was silt ponds from the earliest processing plant.

Devereux Park playing fields have been created on a former landfill site and offers football, cricket and hockey pitches leased to Yateley Town Council for use by local clubs.

For those interested in water skiing, Blackwater Valley Watersports offers an excellent slalom course, tuition centre and facilities for personal water craft use. The club is a family run enterprise operating on 3 lakes, totalling 21 hectares.

Below: Eversley Quarry offering sanctuary to many species of wildlife



‘A good example of how commercial operations can go hand in hand with sustainability, leisure activity and community involvement’



Above and below: sporting facilities at the Eversley Quarry site



## EVERSLEY QUARRY, HAMPSHIRE

### And the future ...

There are plans to restore the current working areas to double the size of the existing nature reserve with a mixture of reed beds, wet grassland and woodland.

CEMEX is also landfilling two further areas of former workings to create a cricket square and further football pitches, for use by the Eversley Sports Association. A long term lease has been granted at no cost and it is anticipated that this will form a focal point for the village of Eversley.

In addition, an innovative match fishery will be carved out of the inert landfill adding to CEMEX Angling's extensive portfolio of coarse fisheries.

### Awards

The progressively restored quarry has won major awards including the Quarry Products Association's Cooper Hayman award in 1997 and a European Aggregates Association's award in 1998.

### Working hand-in-hand

Throughout the life of the site, an effective balance has been sort between the community and conservation use with income generating facilities to ensure the long term sustainability.

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