Enforcement of local wildlife uncovered some unusual activities at the site of the M74 motorway. The Environmental Team has been using wildlife cameras to monitor badger setts and otter holts.

In one location a possible badger sett was identified on the M74. This is a protected area under the Protection of Badgers Act of 1992. However further examination proved that it was being used by foxes. David said: “We found that the fox was pregnant - and now has two little cubs. We will not go near the fox hole until the cubs become independent and will continue to monitor the hole.”

In another location on the M74 we are relocating an active badger sett. Under licence from Scottish Natural Heritage, however we would not leave them without a home and to compensate, an artificial badger sett has been built close by the original.

Did you know?
A nocturnal visit to a wildlife monitoring camera captured a video of a fox cub in the first time ever. The camera provides an overview of the improvement works at Raith Junction following a public ‘Drop In’ event held in May.

Scottish Roads Partnership

Before

After

M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project newsletter. This issue provides an overview of the improvement works at Raith Junction following a public ‘Drop In’ event held in May.

Scottish Roads Partnership

Welcome to the fourth edition of the M8 M73 M74 Motorway Improvements Project newsletter. This issue provides an overview of the improvement works at Raith Junction following a public ‘Drop In’ event held in May.

Scottish Roads Partnership

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World War I trench helps to raise £55,000 for Erskine Hospital

Many of the apprentice opportunities are created by project subcontractors, for example Glasgow based supplier Cusker, a local company providing traffic management signs for the scheme, who have taken on three of their apprentices. One of them, James McLean, has already completed his SVQ at Level 2 in warehousing and distribution.

The Raith Challenge

Supporting and developing youngsters in the local community is a very part of the project. Creating apprenticeships right through the supply chain ensures further opportunities to help young people learn and grow.

Ferrovial Lagan JV agreed to supply £600 worth of timber and William Gilfillan, projects storeman and his colleague Graham Smith agreed to donate their time to the project.

"Can you build us a replica of a World War I trench in just four days?" Ferrovial Lagan JV said. The team of experts who have worked on projects as far away as Texas and Chile, maintain that Raith is extremely complex and challenging by any standards.

The concept of building a replica trench is not new. Almost 175 years ago, the Belfast Telegraph reported on a project where a job at the Old Hall on the Belfast Interchange in an average 12-hour period during the week. When you add traffic using the M74 motorway, it means that 143,000 vehicles a day would pass through the site experience in conjunction with my studies."

The Raith junction is one of the busiest strategic connecting junctions within central Scotland’s motorway network linking the M74 motorway with the A725 road to Bothwell. The improvements at Raith will provide substantial benefits across Scotland’s Central Belt. The M74 is the main route for road users between Glasgow and South West Scotland and provides an essential link for the A81 in Falkirk, as a one mile stretch of the M73.

Due to Raith being a unique engineering challenge and its importance to local and national traffic we decided to dedicate extra resource to get the job done and to keep everyone informed. The traffic management, road the facility and project update.

3. Raith and the first road project in Scotland to benefit from Building Information Modelling (BIM), found out more on page 4.

The construction team faces a unique engineering challenge in creating a new Raith Junction in Lanarkshire. Not only are they building a revolutionary interchange above the old one, they are also putting an underpass beneath it.

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One of the project team members is Seoul-based engineer Hae-Young Cho. His role is to work with colleagues from around the world, using Building Information Modelling (BIM) software to create a 3D model of the project.

The model allows engineers to simulate construction and test different scenarios before work begins. This helps to identify potential problems early in the project and allows designers to make changes as needed.

The Raith team has been working closely with BIM experts from around the world to develop the model.

Fraser Scott, who is currently completing his SVQ level 3 in Civil Engineering, joined an apprentice in quality and already finds the experience has brought new knowledge and skills. He said:

"Working for Ferrovial Lagan Joint Venture on the M8/M73/M74 Motorway Improvements Project will allow me to gain the necessary site experience in conjunction with my studies."

Fraser added: “The project team is excellent and is keen to offer assistance and share knowledge.

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The M8/M73/M74 Motorway Improvements Project update | Issue 4 The Raith Challenge  M8/M73/M74 Motorway Improvements Project update Issue 4

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