



A word from the Chair

It's been a packed three months since the last newsletter, and lots of things are happening on Rossall Beach, both in our bid to improve the environment and to create a strong community, and you can read all about it in this newsletter.

People from round and about are starting to hear about what we have been doing and support for our group is increasing, with people from all over Cleveleys getting involved and I'd urge anyone who supports us to put their name down for Associate Membership. All kinds of membership are currently FREE and we'd urge anyone from anywhere to put their names down and keep up to date with what's happening, and show their support for our group.

We are always open to suggestion about things that need addressing, events that can be planned, or any ideas at all about how to make the area a nicer place for everyone who either lives here or visits the promenade. Apparently, it's going to be a hot summer (!) and we've already got things planned to make the best of it!

Jane Littlewood, Chair
e: jane@rabbitdesign.co.uk



Kiting Event

Kite sports are becoming increasingly popular at Cleveleys, and in association with Hangtime Kites at Fleetwood we'll be staging our own event this summer, and Stephen Pickup is currently putting together the event.

There will be huge demonstration kites flying, along with a range of demonstration equipment where the public can try out the sport themselves. It's all perfectly safe and anyone of any age and ability can have a go, so turn up and have a try! For all you photographers out there it will be a perfect opportunity to put your cameras to the test, and we'll be adding a gallery of photos taken on the day to the website and submissions from anyone are welcome.

The event has been arranged for Sunday 16th August at mid day – watch out for leaflets and posters for further details.



Tea on the Beach

This will be an excellent event for all the community to enjoy! Bring along your own deckchair, food and provisions – wind-breaks and picnic rugs! We'll meet on the beach from about 4.30pm on Sunday 7th June – and finish when it goes cold or everyone has had enough! If anyone has got anything that could be used for fun and games bring it along – quoits, kites, beach toys etc.

Please note – on current form of large gatherings of Rossall Beach Residents Association, this could get a bit raucous and noisy, so anyone not attending you have been warned!
(Event subject to weather)



Coffee Mornings

Once again, our third coffee morning, held on Wednesday 22nd April, was really well attended by friends and neighbours. Raffle prizes were donated by Jeff and Margaret Greaves and David and Margaret Yule. Barbara baked some of her delicious scones which she very kindly donated and they sold out quickly.

My trusty helpers, Jim and Audrey, were on hand doing the raffles and 50/50 draw and with the generosity of everybody we raised £66.50 which is really great and we should all be proud of ourselves.

When it's up and running, we are hoping to hold coffee mornings at the new cafe – dates and times to be arranged. We are hoping to hold our coffee mornings every month. *Janice Pickup, Fund Raising Co-ordinator*

Dates for your diary

Tea on the Beach:

from 4.30pm Sunday 7 June - somewhere on the beach!

Kiting Event:

Sunday 16 August at mid-day – further details to be confirmed.

RA Committee Meetings:

3 June, 1 July, 29 July at 6.30pm

RA AGM and Open Meeting,

everyone welcome

26 August –

6.30pm at Frank Townend Centre

PACT Meetings:

26 May, 30 June, 4 August, 8

September –

6pm at Frank Townend Centre

Cleveleys Area Forum:

7 July and 6 October –

7pm at Frank Townend Centre

Next Beach Clean:

2 June at 9.30am

The Secretary Says...

When we first set up the Residents Association our main concerns were speeding cars, anti-social behaviour and of course dog fouling, but as we got more involved with residents and environmental problems we found that the condition of our roads and footpaths was also a major concern.



A number of residents who have tripped and fallen as a result of the poor and uneven footpaths and we are determined to try to get this unacceptable hazard rectified on our section of the promenade.

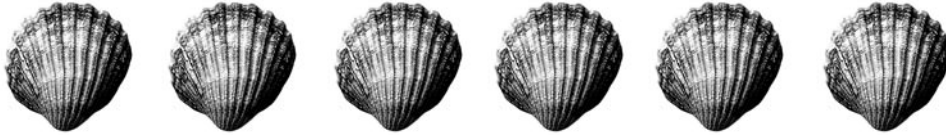
Most of the environmental improvements we have been involved with up to present have been the responsibility of Wyre Borough Council but roads and footpaths are the responsibility of Lancashire County Council, so we are now faced with a whole new set of officers and councillors with whom we must convey our concerns.

From our initial discussions and a site visit by officers from LCC we have been told that our footpaths are no worse than many other areas in the County and therefore are not considered to be a priority, but clearly it is a priority to residents and visitors and something we are continuing to pursue.

Paul Maynard came to our meeting in March and he mentioned that he had received many complaints about poor footpaths in response to the survey he conducted at the start of the year, so clearly it is a problem that most people can see and would like sorting out.

Dave Hewitt, Secretary





Fund Raising

Through the generosity of residents, we have been able to raise enough funds to cover our room hire and to collect a small kitty, and our material costs to date (stationery, postage etc) have been covered by Officers. We have also paid for Neighbourhood Watch signs both on the promenade and on The Bay at the back of the houses.

You'll read in this newsletter that we are getting involved in Northwest in Bloom, staging events and widening our membership, and all this increases our costs, so we are starting to fund-raise in earnest.

50/50 draws are a popular way to raise money – where one lucky person gets half of the money collected and the other half goes in the kitty. Along with raffles, this is covering room hire and maintaining a float, and jumble sales/car boots are next on the list, with Janice Pickup co-ordinating these. Janice is looking for volunteers for a Saturday car boot sale – to help man a stall, collect items etc. It's an early start and depending on how many items there are to sell, they may need extra transport!

Has anyone got a portable clothes rail that we could borrow? If so, please phone Janice on 821703. Any unwanted items must be in good order, clean and saleable. No electrical items please! Books, cds and dvds, shoes, handbags, pots and pans, bric a brac etc are all welcome.

Anyone who has any jumble to donate or who would like to help with fundraising please get in touch with Janice on 821703 and your help would be greatly welcomed. Any other ideas would be welcome too!

Tales from the Treasury

Our bank balance is currently a healthy £537.70, thanks to the generosity of the residents. Our main expenditure is the room hire for our committee meetings and unfortunately this has gone up recently to £14 per meeting, however steps are being made to see if we can get this subsidised in any way.

A detailed summary of the accounts is updated monthly and can be found on the website. *Emma Norris, Treasurer*

The committee of the Residents Association:

Jane Littlewood	<i>Chair</i>	854145
Dave Hewitt	<i>Secretary</i>	829390
Emma Norris	<i>Treasurer</i>	
Janice Pickup	<i>Fund-raising co-ordinator</i>	
Jim Bolton	<i>Neighbourhood Watch</i>	
Stephen Pickup		
Tony Greenwood		
David Yule		
Beryl Hancock		
Val Pounder		
Freda Tomlinson		



Rossall Beach Residents Association and Neighbourhood Watch is a not for profit and non-political organisation. Get in touch to make a suggestion or ask for further information - email jane@rabbitdesign.co.uk, or visit our website www.rossallbeach.org.uk

Neighbourhood Watch

Eagle eyed ones among you will have noticed that the **Neighbourhood Watch signs** are finally in place along The Bay at the back of the flat topped houses, along with the original ones on the promenade.

Rossall and North Promenade suffer from anti-social behaviour, some of which spills over into people's gardens and private land. A man called Oscar Newman did a lot of work on the subject of what's called 'defensible space'. People who are up to no good take advantage of areas where the demarcation between public and private space isn't clear, and the front and sides of some of the sea front properties would fit into that category, hence why there are ASB problems. Have a look at the side, front and back of your property. Could more be done to make your land a 'defensible space' and keep out those who are up to no good?

Visit www.garden-security.co.uk for hints and tips about how to secure gardens, outside property, valuable plants and pots etc.

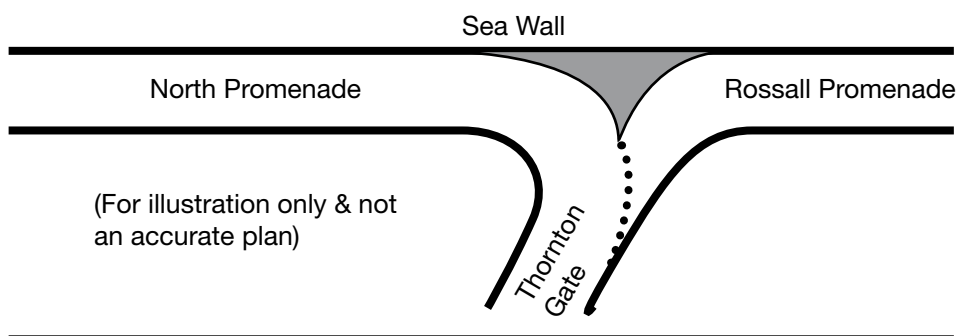
The **CCTV** saga still rumbles on, and as we all know on Rossall Beach, that once the weather picks up the anti-social behaviour starts again! **PLEASE ring each and every event through to the Control Centre on 876611** as logging problems proves that there are issues down here that need to be addressed and that there is a strong case for CCTV.

Thornton Gate

We announced in the last newsletter that our campaign to slow down boy racers had been successful in securing funds to re-route the promenade down Thornton Gate.

North Promenade coming from the cafe will be curved round into Thornton Gate, and Rossall Promenade will curve away from sea wall to join it in a more narrow and defined junction. This will create a 'gap' next to the sea wall where a raised pavement will be built, and filled with a large built-in planter, and highlighted with chevron signs. The existing 'Dead End' signs will be moved closer together where they will become more obvious and hopefully that will stop buses and hgvs from getting stuck. Dropped Kerbs will also be added just down onto Thornton Gate and just off the main corner of the junction where it is safer to cross.

Rossall Beach Residents Association campaigned hard to get this Scheme passed. It had to be funded through Lancashire Locals because the need for it is considered to be an issue of anti-social behaviour rather than a problem with the road itself. Several months of negotiations and campaigning with the help of Wyre and Lancashire Councillors, along with support from Wyre Borough Council who all worked hard on our behalf, got the plans approved. The unexpected spin off is that the built-in planter will hopefully come at a perfect time to be incorporated into plans for Cleveleys in Bloom – more about that later!



Update on Coast Protection Works Phase 2 Works:

The wind turbines outside the new café at the north end of the works have been installed. These were commissioned and power generation commenced on 24 March 2009.

Fleetwood Ferry Dock Emergency Works:

The sheet piled bulkhead wall was installed across the Ferry Dock between 9 and 31 March 2009. Despite three days had been lost due to high winds preventing crane work, the emergency works were completed on time and the ferry service recommenced on 1 April as planned.

Phase 4B Works:

Works commenced to phase 4b of the scheme on Monday 23 March 2009. North and south gated accesses have been established, traffic and pedestrian management systems set up and bridge crossings of the United Utilities storage tank constructed to prevent any damage by heavy construction plant.

Earthworks have started at the south end of the project to settle the ground prior to placing the new revetment units. Two complete diaphragm walls have been cast, the first settlement monitoring station installed and stone filling for the surcharge commenced.

Caroline Mottram, Business Development Director, Birse Coastal



Bins

You will notice that extra recycling bins have been placed at either end of the car parking area – for glass, bottles and cans. A peek inside one last week showed that they are being used as one was full to the top! However, car drivers have been spotted emptying sacks into them so can residents please keep an eye out as the bins are for pedestrians and visitors, not a municipal alternative to driving to the skip!



Environment Week 1-7 June Another Beach Clean!

Environment Week is all about highlighting the importance of being environmentally friendly. That could mean small things you can do yourself, like reducing the energy you use and being careful with the car to reduce emissions, through to projects with a large scale impact on the environment.

Rossall Beach is holding another beach clean on Tues 2nd June at 9.30 to mark the importance of preserving our natural environment, but if anyone has any suggestions for other projects that could be done during Environment Week or even at a later date, then please come forward – you can ring 854145 or email jane@rabbitdesign.co.uk

Dog Poo

It's fair to say that the dog poo problem rumbles on. A public consultation process has taken place on Dog Control Orders and anybody is entitled to make representation on the subject. Currently, a dog ban isn't proposed for Rossall Beach, and members of the public were invited to make their thoughts known to the Council on whether or not they thought a ban should be made. The consultation process was completed on 4 May 2009. It might be worth mentioning here that the recent note about the consultation and request for comments didn't come from the Residents Association, and was circulated independently.

Dog poo isn't just something that people like to make a noise about – it's unsightly, revolting if you come into close contact with it, and

potentially dangerous as it carries bacteria and pathogens. Whether your dog fouls on the beach or the walkway it is your legal obligation as the owner to clear it up and put it in the bins provided (not drop it bagged up on the floor). The high reaches of the beach aren't cleared by the tide for most of the year and children, people and other dogs can easily walk through it when it is disguised by pebbles.

Wyre Borough Council's website states *'All the following will be areas that dog foul must be picked up forthwith, unless subject to a dog ban. Any highway, footways, footpaths, promenades, steps and towpaths within the area of Wyre Borough Council and any adjoining verges or ornamental areas, which are maintained at the public expense. This may include some areas of access land, all pedestrianised areas*

within the Wyre Borough Council. All Parks, Gardens, Recreation and Sports Grounds, Commons, Amenity Areas of other open spaces owned, occupied or maintained by or on behalf of Wyre Borough Council Any public car park or parking space and all beaches and dunes.'

Information on offenders (descriptions and car registration numbers) is collected by residents, the public, Rangers, PCSOs and council workers, and passed to the dog warden for further action to be taken. If a dog ban is put on Rossall Beach it also means that dogs will have to be on a lead at all times on the promenade. All responsible owners will then suffer because of a selfish few – no one will be able to exercise their dogs off a lead and enjoy the pleasure of walking on a beautiful beach with their pet.

SO CLEAN IT UP!



Community Beach Clean

Rossall Beach Residents Association held its first ever community beach clean on the grey (but dry and still!) morning of Monday 30 March.

Over 30 people turned out to help: residents, people from surrounding streets and even a volunteer from Poulton, two of our local PCSOs, two people from B&Q - plus people from the Community Payback team.

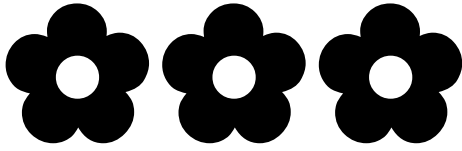
Dave has applied for two grants for equipment which the Rangers are

storing for our future use. A £500 grant from Green Partnership Awards paid for litter pickers and a £250 grant of goods from B&Q paid for gloves, wheelbarrows and brushes. It might be hard work, but boy is it rewarding to see a scruffy, litter covered beach turn into something clean again. Well over 70 large sacks of man-made rubbish were taken away in a lorry that was full to overflowing.

A couple of weeks later the JCB was back to pile up the large items of wood, concrete and rubble that have

either come in on the tide or were left from the sea defences, ready for removal by a grab-lorry. The stones are going to the new sea defence site to be recycled into the works at the top of Cleveleys.

You'll see that Alan, the Wyre Borough Council beach cleaner, has been hard at it and the beach is now cleaner than ever before, but there is always scope for more work. In association with the Waterfront Rangers, the Residents Association is holding a second clean on 2nd June and regular cleans thereafter.



Cleveleys in Bloom

It's been suggested that Rossall Beach Residents Association enter for a Neighbourhood Award in the North West in Bloom competition. It's all about just what we have been doing: increasing pride in the area and a true sense of community, encouraging voluntary work and co-operation between residents and local authority, real reduction in vandalism and litter, and a whole host of other achievements that we can already demonstrate – and nothing to do with plants!

The built in planter which comes as part of the Thornton Gate Scheme may or may not be just in time for our entry this year, but maybe next year we will also be in a position to enter Rossall Beach in Bloom!

Anyone who is interested in getting involved in this project should get in touch. We would also like to hear suggestions from people about other things that could be done with general cleaning up and maybe some strategically placed planting which could be in gardens and walkways rather than in the public domain. Even better still, would anyone be willing to do some general tidying up of paths and walkways in much the same way that the beach was cleaned? It's an excellent opportunity to get recognition for our hard work and make the whole place look better while we are at it. You can contact Janice on 821703 or Jane on 854145.

Thanks for your help!

A word of thanks to our neighbours who help us out.

Barkers Butchers on Rossall Beach – for fresh meats and other products. Also home to Fylde Postcard History – www.rossallbeach.co.uk

Cafe Cove – for ice cream, food, drinks, snacks and takeaways



The Cafe (to be called 'Cafe Cove')

By the time this is distributed, the long awaited beach front cafe will be open! Trevor and Anna Hodgkinson are the owners and have made a fantastic job of fitting the cafe out with a very calm and peaceful beach side theme. Open all hours and while trade demands it, Cafe Cove will offer a full range of food and drinks. There is an ice cream counter, and they will be offering meals and snacks that can be eaten in the premises or as take-away. Just the ticket for beach goers – and a wonderful idea for those tea-times when you can't think of what to have and can't be bothered to get it ready – let someone else do it!

We are hoping to hold coffee mornings and events at the Cafe, and I am sure that everyone on Rossall Beach will be happy to see the cafe open and being used at last, and will welcome Cafe Cove into our patch!

Website and web stats

Regular users of the website will know that it's home to all kinds of information about what Rossall Beach Residents Association has been up to. It's an archive for our quite considerable library of press cuttings, home to photos of events and coffee mornings, and shows our 'Grot Gallery' of before and after photos of environmental improvements we've effected.

Anyone who would like to add any information should send it to Dave Hewitt, Secretary, and his email details are on the site. Local shops and businesses who would like to advertise on the site can do so – either for free if you can do something in return for us, or for a small fee.

Since the website started last year we have had 2129 unique visitors!

www.rossallbeach.org.uk

Just for laughs:

Primary school children writing about the sea:

If you are surrounded by sea you are an island. If you don't have any sea all round you, you are incontinent.

Anticipation

by Mrs Mollie Brown, Pudsey (Taken from Northern Life magazine)

I've just got a letter this cold winter morn
From the people who pay my state pension
I couldn't believe what my old eyes were reading
So thought I would give it a mention
The thought of the coming event later this year
Has made me feel all sick and dizzy
Just how shall I cope when this thing comes to pass
Puts my little old mind in a tizzy
I'm preparing myself for this wondrous affair
And am feeling all chewed up and tense
'Cause they've told me when I get to
eighty this year
I'm entitled to 25 pence!
Can anyone tell me what
this sum will buy – not
even a loaf or some tea
So perhaps the
Exchequer can spend it
himself, for it's certainly
no use to me!!



Marine Conservation Society

Through MCS it's possible to Adopt-A-Beach, and through quarterly beach cleans the rubbish that is taken from the shore is counted and monitored and efforts are made to reduce it at source. For example, if cotton bud stalks are a problem, we could work with United Utilities to explore ways of them removing the problem at source.

Keith Urwin, our Waterfront Ranger, is putting the Adoption process into motion and if anyone is interested in working with Keith to develop the project further please get in touch.



Roll Up- Join Up!

Application for Free Membership

Rossall Beach Residents Association covers the area from the Five Bar Gate to Durban Court at the end of Thornton Gate (although we include the whole of the old prom in our work). Constitutionally, only people who live in the area can be full members, with the right to elect officers (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer etc).

Other people who want to get involved and show their support can put their names down for Associate Membership and attend events and meetings. You can come from Green Drive or Bolton - it doesn't matter where you live!

We can't just automatically put everyone down for membership – you have to add your name to the list yourself. It is important that everyone is in support of what we are doing – when we are campaigning it adds weight to what we say if a majority of people are in favour – so please join up!

Membership is FREE and you don't ever have to come to a meeting, or any of the events, it just shows that in principle you are in favour. Please join in though – it's your Association and you should get the benefit of it and reap the rewards of a strong community and new friends and good neighbours.

Just fill in the form on the back page - and drop through the letterbox of Jane at number 2 Rossall Prom, or Dave at 9 Durban Court. Or you can email your name and address to jane@rabbitdesign.co.uk

All monies raised by Rossall Beach Residents Association and Neighbourhood Watch will be used solely for the furtherance of our Aims and Objectives. Full accounts will be available for public scrutiny at our AGM or from the Treasurer on request.



Rossall Beach Notecards now Available!

Many of you have seen the postcard style leaflets with beach and sea shots on the front, well now you can write to your friends and relatives on our personalised notecards - and show everyone how lovely it is here! The cards are postcard sized, with a tempestuous sunset on the front, and a sunny beach shot on the back, and are blank inside.

A set of six complete with envelopes, including a further six ordinary postcards is £4 and as a bonus you'll get six of the leaflet type postcards FREE with each purchase. Have a look at the website for more details.

If you don't live in walking distance please add £1 for P&P and send cheques payable to Rossall Beach Residents Association to Jane Littlewood, 2 Rossall Promenade, Cleveleys, FY5 1P



YES please, I'd like to join Rossall Beach Residents Association!

Address

I live on Rossall Beach and would like to be a **Full Member**

I live outside the patch and would like to be an **Associate Member**

Names

Email address (if available)

An email address would keep our costs down as all correspondence, minutes of meetings etc can be sent to you electronically and would avoid printing costs.

Any information you supply will only be used by Rossall Beach Residents Association and/or other statutory bodies and won't be published or passed into the public domain.

Members must be at least 18 years of age.