



Rossall Beach Residents Association

Rossall Beach Residents Association & Neighbourhood Watch

*'Working together to improve the area for
residents & visitors'*

Newsletter—Summer 2010 **Edition 6**

Message from the Chair and Editor



Time flies when you are having fun ...

It's six months since I wrote the last newsletter and six months in which lots of things have happened at Rossall Beach – things which we have been working towards for a good while now.

There's been a bout of spring cleaning, work on improving the environment for everyone, and projects to come for summer. Between that we've had more good fun at meetings, fund raising events and social occasions. We've got our sign boards done at last, and that's helped people to see who we are and what we have done. Why don't you get involved and have fun with us! *Jane Littlewood*

We've planted the plantpot!



Go on then, 'plantpot' is a gross exaggeration for something so big, but it's what I affectionately call it! It's been a long process getting to this point but finally we have something to be proud of. The outbuild was originally created to try and reduce the speed of cars coming along the promenade, which created a space for something attractive to be built – which also makes the outbuild more obvious and safer. A number of options were considered and if you saw the last newsletter you'll know that the final thing is different to what we thought would be built. The blocks were left over at the end of the sea defence works, and have made a really solid and attractive edge, and of course it's a green re-use of materials.



We've begged and borrowed to create the finished effect. The planks that have been used to create some shelter are from the sea defences, and a number of residents donated hardy plants from their own gardens to create some evergreen structure. We did a second phase of planting to add the pretty bits – Janice contributed money from an anniversary which paid for a number of plants that we bought, and Wyre Borough Councils nursery donated some lovely specimens!

It's been a really good project to work on, it's created something to be proud of and a great sense of community pride and achievement. Everyone has done really well, everyone got involved and took part, and it's fired us all up for what we can do next – more of that later! I'd just like to officially say thank you to everyone who has been involved in this masterpiece!

Spring Cleaning at Rossall.



You will know that we have been working with Wyre Borough Council to look at ways of improving this stretch of the promenade in the medium term and before it is eligible for a capital project to rebuild it. The sea defences might be in good order and we might be safe from flooding, but let's face it, it did need some work!

The workmen at Birse had finished the final phase of the sea defences ahead of schedule so before they were due off site in Spring they cleaned the whole of the promenade including all our sea wall and revetment. An exceptional job they made of it too, and they worked hard to get it done quickly. It's still an old wall and nothing will change that, but at least now it's not as filthy and does look better.

**Thank you to Lancashire Police at Cleveleys Station for copying this newsletter....
... and for your continued support to reduce anti-social behaviour in the Rossall Beach area**

Rossall Promenade 'In Bloom'

Last year we entered the Neighbourhood Award category of the Britain In Bloom competition. We did get a certificate and a prize for entering but were badly let down on judging because we didn't have any planting (which is obvious, but to be fair the criteria weren't all that clear and that wasn't made obvious at the outset). Anyway, the recent success of the planter, coupled with some changes in the competition put us in a strong position this year.

The work we have continued to do in the community, on the beach, and as a team all stand us in good stead along with the planting in the planter, but really we need to extend the plant element of our entry. We have racked our brains trying to think of ways to introduce more public planting but it's just so exposed that it's not really practical – unless anyone can make suggestions of course! Reading the new criteria made a clear suggestion, that we include a trail of our own private gardens in the application, because that's just the kind of thing that the judges are looking for and will award points against.

It's a complete myth that you can't grow plants on the seafront – you can but you have to pick wisely and then a garden will flourish. A number of residents already have established gardens so the Association decided to include a trail of numbered gardens in our submission to the competition. You'll have had a letter inviting you to join in, and there's time to add your plot right until the judges come. Between us we can make this area even nicer still and the envy of every other street in the neighbourhood!

Beach Cleaning Programme

The dates for the rest of this year are: **9 August** **4 October** **29 November**



Meet at 9.30 at the hump in the road, finish lunch time, all equipment provided. If you can't bend and work the beach, come along and pass sacks and equipment, and if it's warm enough just come along and watch! Everyone can find something to do!

We were lucky enough to get some funding through Lancashire Locals to buy two sign boards to which David attached some leaflet dispensers. They have made a big difference because now people know who we are and what we are doing, and along with our high –vis vests they make us look professional!

A big vote of thanks goes to Terry the ice cream man for providing hot drinks at our beach cleans. It's very welcome!

Monitoring our Beach



I wrote in the last newsletter that with the support of the Waterfront Rangers we have adopted the beach with the Marine Conservation Society. One of the things that we do is to report back the results of the litterpicks and tell them what we found so that they can use it to petition against pollution at source. We received a letter of thanks from the MCS:

'Thank you for sending us your latest beach clean survey, please pass on our thanks to your volunteers'

Thanks,

Rachel Bailey, Litter Projects Officer, Marine Conservation Society

Along with that, on alternate months to the beach cleans we are holding Strandline Surveys with Len Blacow, our Waterfront Ranger. Don't think it's a highbrow official monitoring exercise – it's actually good fun and a morning on the beach! A gentle stroll with a little plastic bag starts the morning off and gives you the chance to collect what you see. Then Len shares the benefit of his years of experience with us and tells us all about what we have found. As I keep saying, coming from inland I can identify garden birds but all the sea birds look the same to me! Many people in the Rossall Beach area are also from inland so I am sure we all have lots to learn! Come along and get stuck in, it's really absorbing and good fun.

At the first survey 22 species of plants and animals were found on the beach, and this information is recorded to see how the levels of plants and animals change through the year and over time.

Have a look at our website www.rossallbeach.org.uk to see everything that we are up to, lots of pics, lots of fun, lots of projects, and lots of achievements!

Put YOUR name down for membership, come along and join in, make new friends & put something back into YOUR community!

Would you like to spend a penny?

... to coin a phrase! Rossall Beach Residents is just a few hundred pounds short of the £5000 that is needed to apply for official Charitable Status. We have raised the rest of the money through some small grants and fundraising – the Christmas hamper raffle, jumble sales, and a lot of effort and hard work and donations from kind residents and supporters. We just need a final push to be raise just a few hundred pounds, and then we can get the paperwork in. Charitable status opens up a whole new world of opportunities – we can apply for grants and funding streams that are only accessible to charities, and do all kinds of wonderful things to make Rossall Beach even nicer still.

Anything that you would like to donate is more than welcome – a couple of pounds or your crown jewels – it all adds up! Just push your contribution through the letterbox at 9 Durban Court, 2 Rossall Prom or Seaspray.

Which leads me onto the next fund raising event...

... Rossall Beach Table Top Sale & Home Made Baking!



It seems ages ago now since we held the last coffee morning/jumble sale at the Methodist Church on West Drive, where we did home-made baking. It was a great success and in total we raised about £300, so we decided to do it again, alfresco!

We've done the paperwork with the council, checked out the free Neighbourhood Watch insurance, looked at the risks and risk assessments, and roped in the bakers, so now we are all set!

The date is to be confirmed, it will be either the last Sunday in July or first in August – we are going to try and hedge our bets and put both dates on the event notice so that we can take a judgement call the week before with regard to the weather!

We'll have our parking plots booked early in the morning, and the tables out and set up for 11am, selling a range of home-made cakes, jumble, bric-a-brac and fund raising games – to add a bit more to the coffers!

It's really good fun (especially if the weather is nice, fingers crossed!) you get to chat to the world and his wife, and have a laugh with friends. If you would like to join in please come along, you can do as much or as little as you like.

A sign of the times



Birse very generously offered to provide some sign boxes for the Association, although the road to getting them has been beset with problems including companies going out of business!

They are now in place and the Association would like to say a big thank you to Birse for providing them. **THANK YOU BIRSE!**

Alreday they are proving very effective and people are frequently seen stopping to read them, and at the last beach clean when they had only just been put up people were talking to us because they knew who we were! Along with the sandwich boards which we use to promote our events and the vests that we wear, people can see exactly who we are and what we have done.

Trouble at 't mill....

It seems incredible that the reason that the Residents was started was to get a CCTV camera for the prom... and it's about the only thing that we haven't managed to get! It's been like the saga of noggin the nog, the emails, phone calls, conversations, nagging (who me?) has not really led anywhere yet! Anyway, light is on the horizon, in the form of the new Wyre Community Safety Partnership Officer, Jane Dunleavy. Jane is well aware of the problems we have had here and is currently putting an application in for funding for a camera which will be used on Rossall Prom for part of the year. So watch this space. There are other plans in the pipeline to address the anti-social behaviour that we experience on the full length of the prom.

To repeat what has been said before, PLEASE if you see anything you don't like, ring it in to the police control centre. Ring it in even if you don't think a police officer should attend and you just want to log a problem. Get a log number, and then pass it on to Jim Bolton at 3 Rossall Court. Jim is the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator and is keeping a log of everything that happens. If you don't ring a problem in, it didn't happen. The police don't get evidence of problems, we don't get help... or a camera! Remember, he who shouts loudest gets helped most!

Membership

It's important that you register your name and address to make sure you get up to date information, newsletters and your right to elect Officers at the Annual General Meeting (if you live between Thornton Gate & the Five Bar Gate – our constitutional area). Membership is still free to all, so put your name down and keep up to date with the goings-on on Rossall Beach! The more people who sign up, the greater weight of support that we can demonstrate for our projects and requests, so everyone counts!

However, Rossall Beach is not just used by residents, and people from outside our catchment area are more than welcome to show their support with Associate Membership and by attending meetings and events. We would like to enlist as much support as we can from anyone from anywhere – involving the wider community is one of the main Objects of the Association and the help and support of all of you is vital to the success of the group.

To register for your FREE membership send your name and postal address, along with your email address if you have one, to secretary@rossallbeach.org.uk or ring 854145 and leave your details, or drop them off at 2 Rossall Prom. You can also register your details with any of the other Trustees who you might know.

A new project from the Chair lady!



www.visitCleveleys.co.uk

Most of you know that I have a design business, and we also do websites. We've recently launched a new website all of our own that we have created and publish, and it's all about where we live!

www.visitCleveleys.co.uk is all about everything that we enjoy – the place, the people and how lovely our little corner of the world is. Have a look and see what you think. If you have any ideas let me know, you'll see people there that you know! It's kept up to date with all kinds of information, and it's for everyone who comes to Cleveleys, whether they live here or just visit. Tell all your family and friends to have a look! If you are into social networking there's a really good Facebook page with an active community and lots of stories about Homer!

Dates for your Diary - Cut out and keep!

Everyone is welcome to come along to these public meetings. You don't have to be a member of Rossall Beach Residents, or sign up to anything to come along and find out what's happening and contribute to your community.

Monthly Rossall Beach Meetings:

6pm at Frank Townend Centre

7 July
4 August
1 September – AGM
29 September
27 October
9 June
24 November
15 December

PACT Meetings:

6pm at Frank Townend Centre

20 July
24 August
28 September
2 November
7 December
(please check dates before attending)

Beach Cleans:

9.30am at the Hump on Rossall Promenade

9 August
4 October
29 November

Strandline Surveys

9.30am at the Hump on Rossall Promenade

12 July
13 September
8 November

25 November, Light up a Life Christmas event & parade

The committee of the Residents Association:

Jane Littlewood

Chair, 854145

Stephen Pickup

Audrey Bolton

Dave Hewitt

Secretary, 829390

David Yule

Freda Tomlinson

Treasurer

Beryl Hancock

Janice Pickup

Fund-raising co-ordinator

Val Pounder

Jim Bolton

Neighbourhood Watch

Pam Moulton

Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, tel 864908 Lancashire Police, tel 876611

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**To make a suggestion, donation or ask for further information, ring 854145 (Jane) or 829390 (Dave)
visit our website www.rossallbeach.org.uk, or email secretary@rossallbeach.org.uk**
