



# STB Newsletter

April 2020

## Visit the Boardwalk ... 'Cautiously'

We may not be able to be out and about, given that we should only leave the house for very limited purposes, but the boardwalk may be part of your route perhaps when you make your infrequent visits to the Londis to shop for basic necessities, when heading to a vulnerable person you look out for, or when running or walking for exercise. In those solitary outings, it might well be a highlight of your day.

In line with **current Government advice** (as of 1st Apr 20):

### STAY AT HOME!

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times - Whilst using the boardwalk please use the wider sections & viewing areas as 'passing places' ... If you're walking along and see someone coming towards you - Give Way, 'dip into' one of those areas and let them pass at a good social distance. Pass this message onto all of your family, this small advice might save a life.
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home
- Do not meet others, even friends or family - the picnic area is not exempt from this.

You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms

Lives are saved if you follow the rules.

The Slash Pond Boardwalk is an alternative attraction to our wonderful Seaside Award beach (the national standard for the best



beaches across the UK). At more than 350 metres, the boardwalk is a sheltered, non-slip, paw friendly decked walkway surrounding a serene pond in a habitat that supports a wildflower meadow, a picnic area, willow dens, bug houses and bat & bird nesting boxes.

Parking at Trafalgar Terrace car park (along the seafront, turn left at the Galleon Inn, ¼ mile on the left. Parking is free with a donation box at the entrance to help local community groups). Walk out of the car park, turn left, the walk entrance is 30 metres on the left. Sat Nav directions use SA62 3JU. Bring along a small net and enjoy the 'Dipping Deck' or test yourself with our Nature Trail Quiz. The area offers a circular route of approximately ½ mile which is accessible to motobility scooters, wheelchairs and pushchairs.



## Triathlon

We await news of a decision on the planned July 11th Bluestone Pembrokeshire Coast Triathlon.

[Click here](#) for their website and any updates 'straight from the horse's mouth.'

## What Do You Do?



### An idea from Lynn...

What do you do when your life is turned upside down by a small organism named after a childhood pop manufacturer? Count bees of course! Like humans there are lots of bees and they come in all sizes,

shapes and colours and are also threatened by virus, fortunately at the moment I can count them from my garden without threat of being arrested.

Britain has about 270 UK bee species including honey, solitary, bumble and cuckoo bees. You can find lots information about them from the [Bumblebee Conservation Trust](#). Bees are essential to our food supply, do you know - one in three bites of food we take is provided by bees, likewise they need us to protect them and their habitat.

The 'bee counting' equipment is minimal and cheap.

- Download a free identification chart from the [Bumblebee Conservation Trust](#) website.
- A fine net to catch the bee, or take a photograph if not quick enough to catch anything.
- A clean jar to hold the bee for just a few minutes, while you decide what it is.
- A small hand lens is useful.
- Somewhere to record what you find.

If you don't have a garden, you could try a pot of herbs on the windowsill?

In my garden I expect to find, common carder, buffed tailed and red tailed bumble bees they're three of the 'big seven' bumblebee species common in UK and I will be really pleased if I find anything else. At the end of the summer I am going to use what I find to decide what more I need to plant to support them. I am already planting sunflower seeds to provide food into the winter.

If anyone has time to a keep of record of bees they see, please let us know what you find (contact details are below) and it will help the boardwalk gang to plan how we can provide and protect these habitats for humans and bees.

Don't fancy counting bees? Try butterflies, you can get information from [The Butterfly Trust](#)

When the current restrictions are relaxed and we are able to really enjoy the great outdoors again, then the boardwalk provides plenty of opportunities for both bee and butterfly watching, as well as a peaceful place for humans.

[Preview ...](#)

[Look out for next months newsletter, David will have news of spring bird activity !!!](#)

### Join Us:

**Please keep an eye on our Facebook page for news of meetings, TLC days and updates to any of the dates/times listed in this newsletter.**

Facebook - [facebook.com/supporttheboardwalk](https://www.facebook.com/supporttheboardwalk)

If you're not on Facebook and have a query please email us [boardwalkgang@gmail.com](mailto:boardwalkgang@gmail.com)

We are a lovely community group - have a think about coming along, you'll be most welcome.

**'Support the Boardwalk' – Fundraising to Preserve and to Enhance**

Website - <http://www.supporttheboardwalk.co.uk>