



STB Newsletter

August 2021

A Fond Farewell

It was the worst news to hear in the middle of July that Linda Rehorn had passed away. Our thoughts are with Les and the rest of the family, and we are aware that Linda's absence will leave many gaps in all sorts of people's and groups' lives. We felt it was right, then, to say a goodbye on behalf of the Support the Boardwalk group, both past and present, and to say a thank you for everything that Linda contributed to this one project among the many she got involved in.

The simple way to put it is that it's quite likely that the boardwalk would not be here for people to enjoy today had it not been for the galvanising energy that Linda brought to the Support the Boardwalk adventure. Back in 2014 there were a lot of people concerned that the boardwalk was falling into disrepair, and many that would gladly do something to help – but who was going to pull everyone together, get us in a room, get us organised and get results?

Of course, Linda would say that it was a team effort, and so many people came together and pulled their weight – that's what got the job done. And she'd be right; it was a supper effort from so many people, particularly in the first months of making the boardwalk temporarily safe to use and in the coming months as the dream of a longer term solution (the galvanised steel frame) was realised. However, as much as so much time and energy was given by so many, the crucial job of keeping everyone moving in the same direction, and keeping on top of what everyone was doing was Linda's. And without that we'd probably still be replacing rotting bits of boardwalk every weekend.

It seems that Linda really did enjoy seeing a project that needed doing and needed some organisation. The energy she put into it was one of the big motivators for the rest of the team, and her organisation skills meant that it was often clear to us that the job we were doing was contributing to our goal of a boardwalk that maintained and enhanced. Her initial enthusiasm for seeking and applying for grants was the key to the major refit of the steel frame. Her general friendliness and positivity encouraged more than a few people to get on board with the team. Her creativity in communication was both great for keeping folks in the village and beyond updated with what the group was up to, and it was helpful for writing the right kind of persuasive / convincing / enquiring / decisive letters and emails to get the right kind of help. The can-do attitude and generally being on the look-out for whatever we could do next meant that we never were given the opportunity to say "So I think the job's done now."

Linda certainly left her mark on the STB group, and on the village itself. Her shoes are simply too big for any one person on the STB group to fill – we'll just have to do our best between us. But we're going to miss her greatly as we try.

Ben, Chair and the boardwalk gang



TLC - Recent & Planned



On a soggy summer morning some of the STB volunteers cut back some of the lockdown growth along the boardwalk. There's now no need to duck - hooray!!! **Thank you** to those involved.

'Course the thing about flora & foliage is that it can't be kept down for long, especially at this time of year - so plans are afoot for further forays to continue attempts to hold it back.

A couple of the volunteers have earmarked two mornings (when it will be cooler if the good weather of late continues) ...



Thurs 5th Aug & Sat 7th Aug

... head over to the boardwalk at 9am or soon after to find them if you'd like to join them in this satisfying, outdoor activity. They'll be the ones wielding a hedge trimmer (don't worry, we'd just ask extra hands to collect trimmed foliage etc!)

Pembs Coast Triathlon

It was great to help out at the Pembrokeshire Coast Triathlon recently with Pembrokeshire Triathlon Club . Well done to all the participants of Race 1 of the Welsh Super Series.

A big thanks to all our STB volunteers who helped out from before 6am(!) all the way through until around 1pm when it was all closing down . You helped the event run smoothly and everyone to have a great time.

As a thank you for the support the Pembs Triathlon Club have donated £500 to help our community maintain and improve the boardwalk area. **Thank you** to the club for their generosity, and to Dave Astins & the crew for organising it so well!

Quiz Trail

With the boardwalk trimmed & spruced, it could be a good time to walk around it armed with the quiz leaflet - perhaps you are reuniting with friends over the summer and looking for outdoor activities in these still cautious times? Look out in the local retail/hospitality etc. outlets who are all friends of the boardwalk and happily stock the leaflets (**Thank you** to them all!) or download from the Nature Trail page on our website - www.supporttheboardwalk.co.uk.

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

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

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.