



# STB Newsletter

December 2021

## Looking Ahead

The boardwalk crew (which could include you! Any time you fancy picking up a spade/saw/lopper with some company) are hoping in the not too distant future we will:

- get some expert guidance in to help us understand what animals & plants there are around the boardwalk & hopefully the pond too, to know what to look after & what might be a problem.
- solve some of the issues around the water-side plants needing attention – particularly the reeds, which without good management could cause problems for the life of the pond.
- turn our sights on trees that are blocking the viewing from the viewing platform & the plants that are making dipping from the dipping deck a bit tricky.
- continue to maintain the space for the boardwalk walkway, learning as we do about how to cut back the willow in a way that's good for all – healthy for the tree, simple to do & keeping out of walkers' ways for longer.
- be able to invite larger groups of people to come & do stuff! We look forward to when we can get many together safely.

If you've an interest in helping to maintain a space that so many in the community use & enjoy, or learning about & helping all the different sorts of plants & animals we have around the boardwalk, please get in touch. Support the Boardwalk exists as people give their time to make a positive impact on one small but beautiful space.

Hopefully if you've walked through the boardwalk picnic area recently, you'll have seen the newly refurbished bug hotel. It's been very tricky to try and do everything we'd have liked to have done this year. We had hoped to get a lot of people together to redo the bug hotels together – but the timing wasn't right. So next year we'll look to do the second bug hotel, and with luck we'll be able to get folks together. It will be great because it was a big community day that built them in first place.

**Keep safe this Christmas & enjoy the outdoor space that is the Slash Pond boardwalk and picnic area.**

**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)

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

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**

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 & 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.