



STB Newsletter

May 2018

Inspired by the Boardwalk?

What more could I have asked for on a cold wet April day than the beautiful sight and melodious song of a male Blackcap (one of our African Summer visitors) - it warmed my heart that Spring has actually sprung – just the weather had not caught up with the season. Sitting atop the willows it sang for joy and no doubt for a mate. I felt quite poetic as I stood and listened and the thought crossed my mind – why not hold a Boardwalk Poetry Competition? ... Hold that thought for next year as we prepare for this year's special community event – An Open Art Competition (details below.)

As a community group we seek to raise the profile and appeal of the Boardwalk and Slashpond area through special activities and by creating an ongoing all year round experience. The Birds of the Boardwalk Art installation has spawned new interest as well as bird listening and ID walks with the school and art sessions back in the classrooms. So given the opportunity how would you capture the special nature of the area? In word, through art or by song? Please do let us know how you are inspired.

Our visiting Blackcap is not alone so if you see any thing of interest in the ornithological sense do inform us (contact boardwalkgang@gmail.com) as we embark on a more formal process of recording our bird life thanks to the help of a visiting BTO (British Trust for Ornithology) volunteer. We look forward to hearing of your creative urges.

David Meanwell

Also on the birdwatching front, work is due to commence any day-now on the installation of the bird watching platform; it is set to be another feature that will enhance your visit and allow you to observe the visiting birds while discretely hidden from them!

Working Party

The Boardwalk gang recently congregated to take an initial look at the boardwalk and picnic areas to assess how it stands at this early Spring stage. We were pleasantly surprised that just a minimal amount of cutting back and litter picking was needed. We took the chance to enjoy a catch up with each other over some delicious cakes and bakes brought by some of the gang and we started making plans for other social occasions (see Diary Dates below) ... it would've been rude not to (on both counts!)

Mike's Bikes Pembrokeshire Coast Triathlon

16th June 2018

'Support the Boardwalk' are delighted to have been selected to help Marshall the event again this year. If you can spare a few hours to come and help Marshall please contact us (boardwalkgang@gmail.com)

The Slashpond Boardwalk is an alternative attraction to our wonderful Blue Flag beach. A sheltered 235 metre 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 Nature Trail Quiz. The area offers a circular route of approximately ½ mile which is accessible to motobility scooters, wheelchairs and pushchairs.

The Boardwalk Through Young Eyes

Open Art Competition

Open to all under the age of 18 years and under, by 31st August 2018

Categories: Under 11 years / 11-14 years / 15-18 years

Any artistic medium (except photographs or computer generated)

Cash prizes - £25 - for the winner of each category

and selected entries will be reproduced to be displayed as banners around the Boardwalk

All entries will be exhibited in Broad Haven Village Hall's side room from May 28th (half term week). They must be delivered to the Rafters (above the village Hall) on Weds May 23rd 2018 between 3-6pm

Even if you do not qualify to take part in the event you can always give your support in helping to fund the prizes or at least attend the exhibition of all the entries to be held in Broad Haven Village Hall small room during the week of 28th May.

Any queries? Call David: 07429 494 479 or Lynn: 01437 781 795

Diary Dates:

June: 30th, 3PM - TLC day cutting back overgrowth, strimming, litter picking. All help appreciated

July: 1st, 3PM - Family Picnic & Bake Sale. Come along and enjoy exploring reptile mat habitats, help with any renovations to our bug palaces, explore sites for hedgehog houses etc. Why not bring along some sandwiches for a picnic ... we'll have cakes, bakes and squash for sale.

Watch This Space !!

... For information of future **FUNDRAISING EVENTS** we will be holding to help fund our projects as well as to preserve and enhance the Boardwalk and Slashpond area.

Facebook: [facebook.com/supporttheboardwalk](https://www.facebook.com/supporttheboardwalk) Our **website:** www.supporttheboardwalk.co.uk

Join us !

Our next meeting is 8pm Monday, 21st May at Sunshine Italian, Anchor House, Broad Haven. Our meetings are open to all and we are always looking for more willing volunteers to join our group. We are very fortunate to have a great gang of people who bring a mixture of skills, knowledge, fun & laughter to the group and we'd love to have more people join us who have a keen interest in preserving a wonderful area of the village. GET IN TOUCH - boardwalkgang@gmail.com, or just come along!

(Pre-orders of Pizza for the meeting can be made by contacting Helen or Ian on 01437 781175)

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