



# STB Newsletter

February 2020

Thank goodness we finished that boardwalk! We hope everyone is enjoying being able to rise above the mud & sogginess? On the other hand ...

## Up for getting down & dirty?

Pull on those wellies, don ideally waterproof trousers and arm yourself with a packed lunch & water, then come along with the boardwalk gang to muck in with our National Parks friends as they dig out "scrapes" alongside the boardwalk to encourage wading birds and use waste gathered to provide reptile habitat. To quote the Park's leader of the activity " *There will be mud/comedy moments and memories made.*" ... Sound like a grand day out?



**Date:** Feb 9th

**Time:** 10am-2pm (if you have to leave earlier that's understood),

**Place:** Meet at Dipping Deck, just off Trafalgar Terrace car park.

*It will help the organisers to have some idea of numbers ... please email [christ@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk](mailto:christ@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk)*

## APPEAL

So much of what 'just happens' in the Havens is a result of a small number of people. By way of an appeal to you: ask yourself if you might consider this for a moment, please?

'Many hands make light work' and 'the more the merrier' aren't just words, they are mantras that impact on what happens in the Havens. So much great work has been achieved by groups such as the Carnival & Fireworks Crews, yet sadly, those groups have all but disappeared ... we can't all be too busy surely?

*Don't we all need to socialise more, join groups of real people rather than those on our phones?*

Can you believe the Support the Boardwalk folks are now into their 7<sup>th</sup> year of activity?! During that time, we have achieved so much and yet, have had few new volunteers. Reader, ask yourself, "these things that 'just happen', could I do a little something, even just the smallest task? To be able to say, 'I did that', I contributed to the life of the community!"

If you didn't make a New Year's resolution, perhaps you could act now – find the group on Facebook that you think you could help and give them your contact details!

*Be that person that makes the work a little lighter for those that have been at it for years.*

Facebook: Support the boardwalk

Email: [boardwalkgang@gmail.com](mailto:boardwalkgang@gmail.com)

If you think you are too small to be effective, you haven't spent the night with a mosquito! The key to our success lies in people like you, who embody the spirit of greatness by saying

*"Yes! I can, I'll join you too!"*

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.

## A Full 'Makeover' Is Imminent ...

Work has progressed on the design, copy and production of new information boards & signage for the entire boardwalk, slash pond & picnic area.



Their aesthetics match the recently re-vamped nature trail quiz leaflets (remember copies of these are available from many of the retailers, bars & restaurants around the Havens), so our image makeover is nearly complete.

Thanks to funds awarded for a community project by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water, the signs are 'fresh' off the printing presses ... as can be seen from this 'teaser' picture. Our volunteer crew will now be making plans to organise labour and materials to mount and install them on site.

## A Tribute

The crew of Support the Boardwalk would like to express our great sadness at the passing of Havens Community Council's Clerk, Christine Lewis.

Everything we do is in partnership with the HCC and Christine always worked tirelessly with us on every project, making sure we crossed all the T's and dotted the I's!

We were lucky to have you on board Christine x



**July, Saturday 11th** : *keep the date* - **Mike's Bikes Pembrokeshire Coast Triathlon**, a very important date again this year for Support The Boardwalk. *A big thank you to the organisers for having chosen us as its charity once again.* Our team will be marshalling and directing cars in the car park adjacent to the Youth Hostel (and will have buckets for donations). Funds donated during the day will go to the ongoing maintenance of the boardwalk area and any projects at the time. We rely on volunteers, so look out for details as they emerge through the coming months and keep in touch if you can help

### 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>