



STB Newsletter

July 2020



Time Marches On

& Mother Nature waits for no man (nor for easing of restrictions)

The boardwalk is lush and verdant:



Our followers will no doubt recall in past times we've made a conscious decision to leave specific areas 'as nature intends.' Some areas of the meadow and boardwalk habitat have been specifically left uncut to allow new habitats to form for pollinators & other wildlife as well as a good crop of blackberries in the autumn!

Hands up, in recent months, the whole area has not had quite the attention it might normally have. Our volunteer gang normally enjoy a get together from time to time, to socialise around the boardwalk, while trimming back any overgrowth and making any minor repairs needed, pausing to eat cake or sarnies. For a myriad of reasons, both our volunteer's commitments and restrictions in place have held up normal proceedings. Shout outs of **'Thanks Bob!'** for the fixing/pruning you've done & continuing to conduct our Risk Assessments and **'Cheers Billy!'** for always keeping an eye & the lopping/pruning you too have done, over the period. If anyone else has 'had a go' ... **'diolch yn fawr!'** much thanks, to you too!

The Havens community is not one to under-estimate though and demonstrates we are none of us needing to act alone. **The Havens Community Council** recently got in touch to offer their assistance with cutting back. The exact phrase was *'looking to help'*. Music to ears of a volunteer group and **very much appreciated**, by the wider Havens community as well as by us for sure!!!

Imagine our delight too, when we saw the social media post ... shared here:

So, while we're giving out 'thanks' ... Our boardwalk crew would like to add a hearty one from us to that of the The HCC's in this post, to **George** and **Bevan Lawn Care**, for such generosity and for your support.

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.

The Havens Community Council
7 mins · G

The wonderful team at **Bevan Lawn Care** have decided to cut the boardwalk foliage back

FOR FREE as a thank you to all their customers in the Havens for the all the work and support they have received throughout this Co-Vid19 pandemic. The **Support the Boardwalk** crew have been unable to rally the volunteers as normal as, like everyone, they've all been on lockdown. Huge thank you George and team.

This good spirit is clearly infectious! Any major cutting back will therefore have been tackled soon (possibly already, by the time this goes to print). There will be, of course, lots of growth over the coming summer months. Lopping here, trimming there will probably be needed. Perhaps you'd consider pitching in? Are you a couple, or members of the same household, keen to get out for exercise and have a purpose too?? We are able to direct you to accessible tools if you don't have your own? (Email us at boardwalkgang@gmail.com for access to them).

One of our crew 'hits the nail on the head' ...

"Don't moan, get stuck in & cut back what's grown!" 😊

There can be times when out & about enjoying the countryside, when we get too 'up close and personal' with nettles or brambles, for example. We've all been there 😬 One of our young followers recently experienced just that and their family has shared some good 'first aid' tips: "Wash with cold water and soap to remove any possible sap. Keep covered from sunlight. Dress so that air can get to it (gauze & tape)" If worsens or blisters develop, a visit to a pharmacist would be advisable, to check out further treatment options such as antihistamines or steroid cream.



A great source for this type of first aid advice for stings etc - is the **St Johns Ambulance** website (<https://www.sja.org.uk>). From their home-page, search for 'nettle stings' or 'bramble grazes' and you're directed to the best advice on their pages.

A final note, while we are talking webpages ... The Covid-19 situation and our Government's response to it, is of course an ever changing picture. For clarification and if pondering how a planned visit to outdoor spaces is affected, refer to the latest Welsh Government advice (<https://gov.wales/coronavirus>). Remember, the boardwalk has narrow stretches but there are wider "passing places" along it. Many of these occur at bends so it is usually possible to spot other people coming and stay in a wider spot until they have passed. Remember too - whatever you carry in ... please carry out, don't leave any rubbish behind. Thank you.



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

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>