



STB Newsletter

September 2021

Sincere Condolences

The Boardwalk Gang are very saddened to hear of the passing of Gordon Smith. For a variety of projects he, alongside his son Bob and Down To Earth Landscaping, has been a valued and trusted partner, for which we're grateful. He'll be sorely missed. Sincere condolences to Bob and all of the family.

Look Closer



Those of you who follow us on Facebook may have seen a recent post of this splendid grasshopper, shared by a visitor Nicola Fairbrother.

Nicola was very excited with her sighting, She told us it was a first visit to the boardwalk - we're betting now she knows there's exciting finds to look out for, it won't be her last!

What else is there to see?

Another visitor shared this gem of a pic of a busy bee hard at work ...

... doing what it does best:



'What's that the sunshine is throwing a spotlight on, just off the path?' you ask ... could it be a tree? a shrub?

In fact, this living willow arch, started its life in 2016.

Look at how it's evolved, those willow 'whips' have thickened and have really taken root. The habitat around them has also transformed over time!



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, 1/4 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 1/2 mile which is accessible to motobility scooters, wheelchairs and pushchairs.



A typical stretch of the boardwalk, right?

The recent TLC by volunteers means it's clearer to walk along again! Thanks to those of you who've headed out in a mixed bag of weather conditions to lop back overgrowth and identify the next jobs for the to-do list, to maintain the integrity of the boardwalk and railings. The boardwalk's visitors benefit enormously from your efforts and commitment.

But what's that right in the distance?

That'll be the 'kissing seat' put in situ in 2017:

Do you take a moment to stop there and ponder on the meaning of life?



You must've seen these flowers recently if you've walked around the boardwalk - they've been all around the slash pond habitat.

An online search suggests they are Montbretia (also called Crocosmia), of the iris family. This one, appropriately, the 'August Orange' variety it seems.

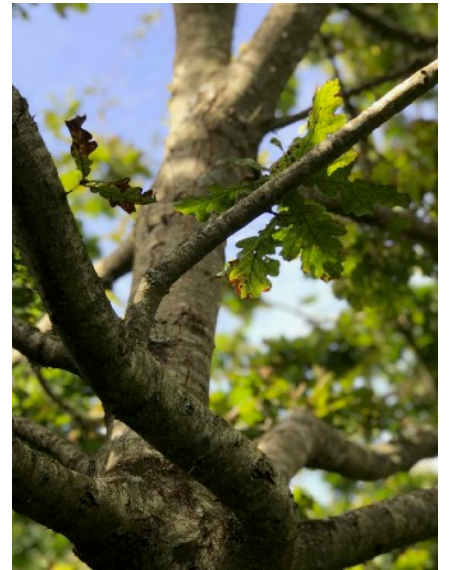
Happy to stand corrected if any of our followers throw a different light on this.



Last but not least - look out for this young oak tree. Keep your eye on it, over the next few years it's sure to become quite majestic!

If you've any comments to make or photos to share re: your sightings - be sure to tag Support the Boardwalk in any Facebook posts, or email them (add below) to us to share.

Thanks!



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>