

## Borth-y-Gest Update

April 2013

Dear All

Hello from Borth-y-Gest where we can tell that Spring has finally arrived! And not just because it's now raining again, after several dry weeks, but because it's warmer, our hanging baskets are in place, the Glaslyn ospreys have laid three eggs and the first swallow has been seen! [I know...it doesn't make a summer....]



*Daffodils and gorse on the headland*

As ever, there are a few things to report:

### 1. Tree planting & holly clearing – Wed April 17<sup>th</sup>

**Next Wednesday** we are finally going to be planting the trees provided by The Woodland Trust, and we will be assisted by children from Borth-y-Gest School and environment contractor Andy Kehoe (who did much of the work on Pen-y-Banc Local Nature Reserve). And we will also start the work of clearing holly and laurel from Parc-y-Borth woods.

**For the holly & laurel clearing, please meet at the gate into the wood just above the children's playing field at 10.30am.** We will provide loppers, secateurs and saws, and some protective gloves. Dress appropriately, with stout footwear.

**For the Tree Planting, please meet at the top of the hill above the wood, near the obelisk, at about 1.15pm.** Again, dress appropriately. We will provide tools and tree protectors. Let me know if you have any questions.

### 2. Open Gardens Day – Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup> 11am – 5pm

The village Open Gardens day is slightly earlier this year – and the gardeners are worried about the delayed Spring. I'm sure nature will catch up by then, though.

There will be more updates about this, through the May Update, the noticeboard and the website, so just put the date in your diary. It was a superb and very successful event last year – do invite your friends to come and see the gardens of Borth-y-Gest.

This year's supported charities will be the Air Ambulance and Aberglaslyn Mountain Rescue Team.

### **3. Village clean up – Clean Coast week. Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May**

**The week of May 13<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> is Clean Coast Week in Wales**, organised by Keep Wales Tidy. We are joining in with this by organising a clean up of the coast at Borth-y-Gest, and around the village. This will ensure the village is looking at its best for the Open Gardens Day on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>. So, please help on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May - meet at the Car Park at 10am**. Black bags and litter pickers will be provided.

### **4. The Annual General Meeting.**

Our AGM will be held on **Wednesday May 15<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm in Bethel Chapel on Mersey St** [to be confirmed]. There will be a **speaker from North Wales Wildlife Trust**. Do come along and learn about what we have been doing in the last year, and give us your ideas for the year ahead. And please do consider joining the Committee – more volunteers are always welcome.

### **5. Tir-a-Môr Project**

As I have reported before, we have won an amazing £10,000 grant for work on Parc-y-Borth woods and their surrounds. The project will run until Spring of next year. We are about to start the detailed planning and will welcome members who would like to join in that process. So, if you use the woods for walking, bird-watching, flower-spotting or simply contemplating, do join in. All ideas for the location of benches, paths, bird boxes and other woodland developments will be very welcome. Let me know, please.

### **6. Wild flower walk**

I hope that we will have another Spring flower walk in May, looking at the extraordinary variety of local flowers that are in our coast, heath and woodland. Details in the next Update.

### **7. Dog mess**

This summer we will be looking at ways to reduce dog mess in the area, without a proliferation of ugly signs everywhere. If you are a dog owner, please do your bit – don't leave mess anywhere where people might walk or children might play, and please don't bag it and then throw it into the bushes! We are arranging an outdoor meeting in the village with Gwynedd Council's Tidy Towns Officer in May and anybody will be welcome to come along. I will let you know the date in the next Update.

### **8. Pilot Race 2013**

The Rowing Club have informed us that this will be on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September. This is later than in previous years to avoid clashes with other Regattas for the Welsh Rowing Clubs.

### **Finally.....**

Did you know – that we have some Bronze Age Stone Hut Circles in Parc-y-Borth woods? They are currently well concealed by a mass of vegetation, but we have permission from CADW [the Welsh Heritage body responsible for such things] to carefully clear the site and, perhaps, put an interpretation board nearby. It's amazing to think that people were living in what is now Borth-y-Gest over 4,000 years ago!

As ever, you can find details of all events, plus photos, on our website: [www.friendsofborthygest.com](http://www.friendsofborthygest.com)

If you use Facebook, we now have a Facebook page – search for Friends of Borth-y-Gest and “Like” us!

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