

**FRIENDS OF BORTH-Y-GEST  
MARCH 2013 UPDATE**

**Annwyl Cyfeillion/Dear Friends**

Hello from Borth-y-Gest. There was no February update, as I ran out of time to prepare it, but there was still plenty going on and being planned for the year ahead.

**1) Parking Charges in Borth-y-Gest Car Park**

Gwynedd Council's proposal to charge for parking in Borth y Gest has been dropped. Many thanks to all of you who have helped by sending letters and emails to the Council. Let us hope that this has been put to rest for a long time to come. Do pass this information on to anybody you know who was concerned about this Council plan. Thank you.

**2) Dog Control Orders – Borth-y-Gest Beach.**

After an extended consultation, Gwynedd Council is not proceeding with their plans to ban dogs from the bay next to the car park in Borth y Gest as public opinion was against this.

**3) Village Bus stop signs**

The bus stop signs in the village were looking very 'tired'. After contact from the Friends, Gwynedd Council have renewed the signs and, we hope, will soon paint or change the rusty poles.

**4) Borth y Gest Open Gardens Day will be on Sunday 19th May 2103** from 11 am to 5pm. Please make a note of the date and do get in touch with the Secretary of the Friends of Borth y Gest Open Gardens Committee if you would like to either open your garden or give some help on the day: Cathy Woodhead tel: 01766 512115 or email [cathy.woodhead@btinternet.com](mailto:cathy.woodhead@btinternet.com)

Once again the event will raise funds for charity – this year the selected charities are the Air Ambulance and the Glaslyn Mountain Rescue team.

**5) Criccieth Beach Clean was held on on Friday 8th March 2013**

The Friends were again involved in a very worthwhile activity, helping to reduce the large amounts of sea-carried plastic bottles, bags & crates along the shingle bank. Croeso Criccieth organised the event and were helped by Porthmadog Rotary Club, the Friends of Borth-y-Gest and other organisations, along with Gwynedd Council Maritime Unit.

**6) Porthmadog Litter Clean - Llyn Bach/Cob Crwn on Friday 5th April 2013 from 10am - 12 noon**

There is a Litter Pick planned for the inner harbour pool [Llyn Bach] on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April. This area, next to the pleasant footpath along Cob Crŵn, has masses of plastic debris accumulated over several years – it is time it was cleaned up. Enquiries to Cathy Woodhead 01766 512115

**7) 2013 Tide tables are available from the Home page of our website**  
[www.friendsofborthygest.com](http://www.friendsofborthygest.com)

We will continue to put the monthly tide tables on the Village Noticeboard.

**8) Porthmadog Maritime Museum.**

During the winter there are working parties every Wednesday morning at 10.30 am at the Museum. Volunteers are needed to man the museum during opening times. The Museum will open on 29th March and be open each week through the holiday season. Please contact Moragh Bradshaw on 01766 770034, or email her at [moragh@bradshaw-web.me.uk](mailto:moragh@bradshaw-web.me.uk). There is a Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/porthmadog123maritime/>

### **9) Flower Baskets**

The Hanging Baskets will be in place before Easter. Help is needed with the watering rota. Please contact Sheila Roberts on 01766 512735 if you would like to help.

In the next couple of months we will be painting the Flower Boats and restocking them for the summer.

### **10) Free mulch for your gardens!**

Purple Moose Brewery have a continual supply of used hops, available in sacks for collection free of charge during normal opening hours. Contact Liz Evans on 01766 515571 or call in to the Brewery in Madoc Street in Porthmadog.

### **13) Grants for work on our Nature Reserves**

You will hear much more about this in months to come, but we have been successful, through our Countryside Warden Haydn Hughes, in getting a massive £10,000 grant from Tir-a-Môr for work in Parc-y-Borth woods. Also, Keep Wales Tidy have funded the purchase of numerous small tools to help with the work around the village. You can find a full list of these assets on the website.

### **FINALLY Did you know.....**

The Glaslyn estuary is world famous for its bird life, especially in Winter, and Borth-y-Gest has some interesting visitors and residents.

The small brown-headed ducks that are often in the bay are Wigeon. Each year there are about 900 over-wintering in the estuary – in the next few weeks they will leave us, heading back to Iceland, Scandinavia or Russia for their breeding season. We also have around five Little Egrets which use a tree above the rocky cove between Craig y Don and the Sailing Club as a regular roost. The same cove is home to a pair of Rock Pipits and is visited regularly by at least one Kingfisher. Keep your eyes open for the flash of vivid blue as he/she moves between coves.

As ever, this Update, details of events and photos can be found on our website:  
[www.friendsofborthygest.com](http://www.friendsofborthygest.com)

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

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