

BORTH-Y-GEST UPDATE

MAY 2012

Hello from Borth-y-Gest

Apparently April was the wettest on record in the UK. It wasn't too bad in Borth-y-Gest, but it certainly wasn't 'summer' as it has been in the Aprils of the last couple of years. Nonetheless, the village is looking great as flowers and trees have really come to life. Here's hoping for summer weather in May – we have a lot of events on! I hope you have your diaries/calendars handy.

Thursday 3rd May – Coastal Path Clean Up 10am to 12.30pm

Sorry this is rather short notice, but do help if you can. Keep Wales Tidy has asked voluntary groups to do 'tidy-ups' of litter along the Wales Coastal Path before its official opening on Saturday 5th May. The section through Borth-y-Gest is kept pretty clean by volunteers through the year, but the section beyond Black Rock has been appalling. It is much better after a big "litter-pick" a couple of weeks ago, but there is more to do.

Porthmadog Rotary Club are co-ordinating a "clean-up walk" between Black Rock and Morannedd [Criccieth] on **Thursday 3rd May**, starting at 10am at either Black Rock Café at the end of the Morfa Bychan road or at Morannedd Café on Criccieth Promenade. Both cafés will allow participants to park and Gwynedd Council will be on hand to provide black bags and litter grabbers. They will also dispose of the full bags.

Please meet at either café at 10am. You will need stout shoes, clothing appropriate for the weather and gloves for handling the debris.

Saturday 5th May – Official Opening of the Wales Coastal Path 10am

The Friends are organising a 5-mile walk from Borth-y-Gest to Criccieth [some people may wish to carry on to Llanystumdwy – another 2 miles]. We will return to Porthmadog by bus [approx every half hour from either destination].

Meet at Borth-y-Gest Car Park, near the [new!] noticeboard at 10am, wearing stout shoes or boots and clothing appropriate for the weather. Our Chairman, Richard Walwyn, will officially open the Borth-y-Gest section of the path where it leaves the road below St Cyngar's Church.

Why not join us to celebrate the completion of the new National Path?

Note: You may wish to bring binoculars to take part in the "Visit Wales" Bird Survey along the Coastal Path which takes place on Saturday to coincide with the many 'opening walks' along its length.

Thursday 17th May – Annual General Meeting 7.00pm Bethel Chapel

Do come along to hear what we've been doing over the last year and to have your input with ideas for the future. As always we will welcome new Committee members, this is particularly important this year as we will lose a long standing member [Phil Eccles] who is moving away. So – don't be shy, come and join the team.

After the formal meeting, Phil Eccles will give us a slide show about his recent trip kayaking in the icy fjords of Greenland.

Saturday 19th May – Nature Walk 4.00pm

Last year we had a very interesting "nature" walk through Parc-y-Borth and Pen-y-Banc Local Nature Reserves, so we are repeating it this year. It will be led by our Countryside Warden, Haydn Hughes, assisted by one of our members, Kevin Hall, and myself.

Meet by the Noticeboard in the car park at 4pm. You will need stout shoes and clothing appropriate for the weather.

Saturday 26th May – Village Barbecue 4pm on the beach

This is still being planned, so no firm details yet. I'll send out an email nearer to the date.

General

It's bracken-bashing time – if you are out and about on our new paths and cleared areas, please use a stick to behead any bracken shoots that are invading!

Work has continued on paths, signs and fences – if you haven't been in Borth-y-Gest for a while, take a walk around to spot some of the changes! The new benches have been very much appreciated already – go and try them out and spend a few minutes just looking at the amazing environment that we are blessed with in Borth-y-Gest!

Cofion gorau/Best regards

David Medcalf

Ysgrifennydd/Secretary

Cyfeillion Borth y Gest - yn gofalu ac yn gwella ein pentref

The Friends of Borth y Gest – looking after and improving our village