

LIVING STREETS

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

Living Streets Guernsey LBG Local Group Newsletter— December 2018

“Bright Day” highlights our BE SAFE BE SEEN message

We held our “Bright Day” dress down day on 26th October—just before the clocks go back. The aim is to encourage islanders to take care after dark and wear bright clothes—or preferably high visibility vests when they are walking or cycling on Guernsey’s dark roads. Frossard House, once again, raised the most funds for us and Canaccord, B&Q, BDO and Guernsey Post all took part. We raised £675 and with a £500 donation from Specsavers in Market Square the total came to £1,223.



Tom & Pat with B&Q staff on “Bright Day”

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

National Walk to Work Day
Friday 5th April 2019

Tranquillity Walk
Sunday 15th September

World Car Free Day
Sunday 22nd September

“Bright Day”
Friday 25th October 2019

Road Safety Week
Monday 18th November

Road Safety Week— free hi-vis vests in the Pop Up Shop



Thanks, once again, to the generosity of OSA Recruitment, Living Streets spent the whole of Road Safety Week (19th November) in the Pop Up Shop in Smith Street promoting our BE SAFE BE SEEN message.

Around 600 hi-vis vests were purchased out of the funds collected during Bright Day (including a contribution from Living Streets) and around 200 vests were donated by Specsavers.

We opened the shop between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday and all the vests were given away free of charge. Footfall this year wasn’t as good as previous years—possibly due to the bad weather.

Living Streets merchandise—our 2019 calendar, Christmas cards and greeting cards—were on display and proved popular amongst the islanders who visited the shop.

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped us man the shop during the week.



World Car Free Day



This year Living Streets tried to encourage islanders to take part in World Car Free Day (or sometimes called “In Town without my car day”). The day is always celebrated on 22nd September—no matter what day on which it falls. This year it was a Saturday and we thought it was worth trying it to encourage families to come into town by bus.

CT Plus and E&I collaborated and agreed to offer free buses on the day.

Sadly the weather was terrible—it poured with rain all day and so it was a wash out. Never mind, we will try again next year!

Merchandise sales

The sale of our greeting cards, calendars and Christmas cards still provide most of our annual income. At the Charities Christmas Fayre we sold 86 calendars and took £283. During Road Safety Week in the OSA Recruitment Pop up Shop we took £279 in merchandise sales and £142 in donations. However, this was much less than last year.

Tranquillity Walk 2018

Our Tranquillity Walk this year was held on Sunday 7th October—later than usual. Tom Le Pelley, who had designed and lead the walks over the years was unwell, and so Eric Graham kindly stepped in to help design the route.

The walk was shorter than usual—about an hour. It consisted of a circular walk in St. Saviour — starting at the main car park at the reservoir. The route circumnavigated the reservoir through the quiet lanes and Ruettes Tranquilles . There was an option to use the Millennium Walk on the way back but everyone stayed on the lanes outside the reservoir. We saw some lovely old farmhouses, Guernsey cows, chickens with their babies and lots of conkers on the road.

Anne Sandwith very kindly agreed to lead the walk and Tom was well enough to start it off.

We had a good turn out—26 families and children took part. We raised £175—which was much better than last year.



Schools benefit from our hi-vis giveaway



Alun Williams and Tom Le Pelley with Le Murier pupils

We always like to help schools during Road Safety Week so we were pleased to be able to provide funds to purchase 100 hi-vis gym sacks for Le Murier pupils. Sue Pratt, PHSE Co-ordinator at Le Murier School, told us that their School Councilors were concerned about their students leaving school in the dark evenings wearing a dark coloured uniform and decided they needed to be seen more easily.

In addition, Alun Williams, co-ordinator of the “Be Active” forum received 100 5 –6 year old vests for his Early Years learning groups to encourage families to be more active but also be seen when out and about walking to school or to the park.

The Seafont Enhancement Strategy

At our AGM on 11th December Caroline McManus gave us a stimulating talk on her ideas for enhancing the seafont—based on discussions with tourists during the seafont Sundays. She wanted to make the seafont traffic free and move all the cars out of town. The answer was park and ride car parks with frequent shuttle buses into Town. The picture shows Tom and Ken Wheeler during a seafont Sunday. Has anyone the vision to do this?



NEWS IN BRIEF

Ban pavement parking

Local Authorities in the UK want more power to ban inconsiderate motorists from parking on the pavement. A ban on pavement parking has been in place in London for 40 years. In recent months childminders in Worcester, guide dog trainers in Shropshire and residents in Essex have all issued safety warnings. Being forced to step out into the road to get round parked vehicles is particularly dangerous for blind or partially sighted people and mums and dads with prams. (*Daily Telegraph*)

Sustainability

The UK government has announced plans to offer £2 million in funding to support the uptake of electric delivery bikes—as a way to reduce congestion and vehicle pollution from last mile deliveries in urban areas. Electric bikes are seen as a low-emission alternative to the rising number of diesel vans commonly used for local deliveries. (*Brake Vision zero 29/09/2018*)

Electric Vehicles

Research has shown that increasing the number of public charging points for electric vehicles could significantly increase uptake of these vehicles. (*Transport & Environment research 29/09/2018*)

Government unveils new road safety measures

The action plan is based on feedback from more than 14,000 people and organisations who responded to the Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy safety review call for evidence. Councils will be given powers to tackle parking in cycle lanes and encouraged to spend around 15% of their local transport budget to boost walking and cycling. (*Road Safe 27/11/2018*)

Active Travel first

The Department for Transport has announced a major review of the Highway Code which will prioritise the safety of people on foot and cycle. (*18/10/2018*)