

LIVING STREETS

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

Living Streets Guernsey LBG Newsletter— May 2014

The Baubigny Schools pathway extension is now open

Throughout the winter months we have planted 2,000 bare root trees and shrubs to delineate the new pathway extension around the football pitch at the Baubigny Schools. The planting programme (which also includes a picnic and woodland area and an “outside learning” area for the schools) was designed by Nigel Clarke and Vic Froome and they organised the whole project for us.

The pathway around the football pitch now means that children using our route from the Bowl can enter the front car park of the schools rather than using the Prison Road.



Roger Domaille, with pupils from the schools opens the pathway extension on April 4th 2014
L-R Peter Creasey, Nigel Clarke, Pat Wisher, Tom Le Pelley, Vic Froome, Val Loaring, Joan Ozanne

This has been a huge community project which has involved not only the two schools but also many volunteers who have helped us plant over the past six months.

Laurence Hill Tout’s Community Service Team has given us tremendous support during the planting. They have done some of the very important preparation work for us—strimming the rough areas and marking out where the plants should go and digging out pampas grass which is endemic in the area. Without their assistance we would not have been able to meet the February/March deadline for planting bare root trees and shrubs.



Volunteer—Andrew Male

Living Streets undertook to pay for the 2,000 plants initially in order to get the project going during the key planting season over the winter. We then sought sponsorship to cover the costs.

We are most grateful to Marks & Spencer for contributing 50% of the plant costs from their plastic bag fund. The Creasey family has been a staunch supporter of the project since its opening in 2010.

We would also like to thank the Association of Guernsey Charities Lottery Fund for providing the other 50% of the plant costs.

Further funding for some of the mature trees has come from Nigel Clarke’s Green Legacy Guernsey and Ronez and Vic Froome have provided the granite marker stones that guide walkers along the route.



Pupils learn how to plant trees

Amongst the volunteers who have come out in all weathers to plant the saplings we would like to particularly thank Joan Ozanne at JLT Insurance Management and her colleagues.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

AGM 7.30pm
Wednesday 21st May
Old Board Room, PEH
Peter Roffey will give his interpretation of the Integrated Transport Strategy
States debate

May 12th to 16th
Walk to Work Week

May 19th to 23rd
Walk to School Week

Sunday 13th July 2pm
The Living Streets Tranquillity Walk

This year the walk will be around the lanes and green lanes of St. Martin
Starts at Grande Rue car park



Community Service Team

Other volunteers included Living Streets’ member, Ken Wheeler, who provided his digger to clear planting areas where rubble was found under the top soil. Joanne De La Mare, Carl Bisson, Andrew Male, Val Rowland, Pat Wisher, Tom Le Pelley and Val Loaring all helped with the planting.

Students from the schools also planted saplings as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award scheme.

Finally, none of this would have been made possible without the tireless dedication and guidance of Nigel Clarke and Vic Froome who were on site every Saturday morning and many other days from November 2013 until April 2014 when Roger Domaille opened the path.

NO PARKING NO WAITING NO EXCUSES campaign



Tom Le Pelley & PC Nick Boughay

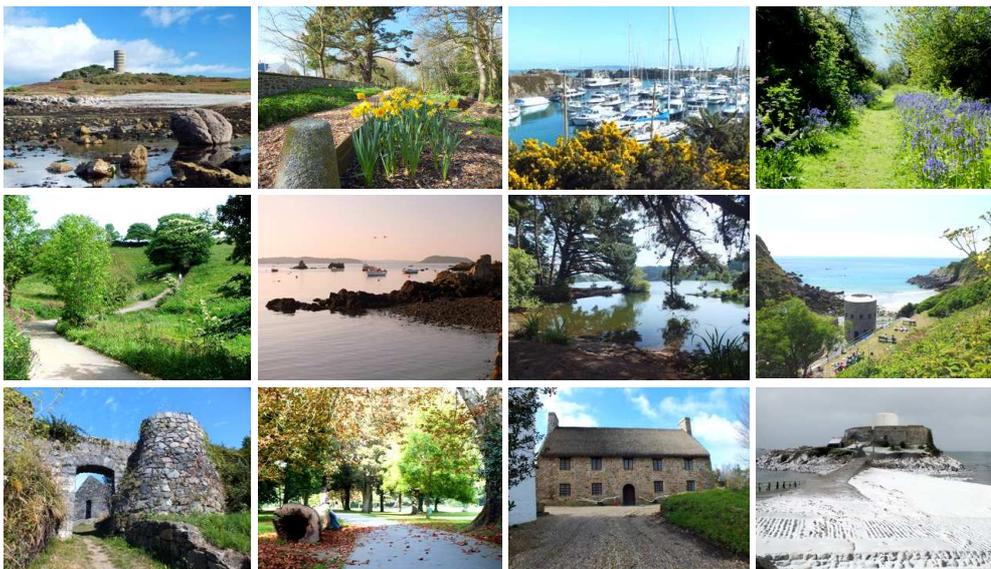
The project was launched at the Vale School where parents not only park on the footpath but also on the yellow lines outside the school. This makes it very dangerous for parents and children trying to walk to school.

Illegal parking carries a fine of £70 and the Police are intending to take a zero tolerance approach to those who break the law. Illegal parking has been greatly reduced around the school since the banner was put up.

Living Streets has joined up with the Neighbourhood Policing Team in a campaign to encourage parents to be more considerate when parking near schools. Living Streets has paid for two new banners with a clear message and these will be used at various trouble spots around the island.

Living Streets is also working with the Vale school to help it develop a Schools Travel Plan (STP). It is hoped to encourage more car sharing by pinpointing on a map where children live. Identifying the location of safe parking areas within walking distance of the school and developing at least two walking buses are other initiatives.

Guernsey Country Walks Calendar 2015



Our 2015 Calendar will be out towards the end of May. Contact Pat if you would like a copy (patwisher@cwgsy.net). It will be £5 and it includes 12 walks, 4 of which are new.

Reminder for members

Subscriptions were due on 1st April. If you do not pay by Standing Order, please could you send your annual subscription of £12 to:
Ms Dania Lloyd,
Seaview Flat, 2 Marine Terrace
Les Banques, GY1 2HY

Grants

Living Streets received £1,750 from the Marks & Spencer's plastic bag fund towards the cost of the plants for the school pathway extension and enhancement programme.

£1,655 was received from the Association of Guernsey Charities Lottery fund for the same project.

We are most grateful to both organisations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

London to trial "intelligent" pedestrian crossings

Called the Pedestrian Split Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique (SCOOT) it addresses the problem of how to properly time pedestrian crossings in such a way as to make sure as many people as possible cross with the lights, as well as keeping traffic flowing as smoothly as possible. (www.gizmag.com/pedestrian-scoot/31154)

80 years since the introduction of Belisha Beacons

2014 marks the anniversary of many milestones that have made our roads less dangerous. It was 1934 when the first Belisha Beacon (named after the Transport Minister Leslie Hore-Belisha) arrived, marking out pedestrian crossings. In the same year a speed limit of 30mph in built up areas was made compulsory. (*Daily Telegraph*)

Urban sprawl is sickening

Researchers at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto found that obesity and diabetes was 33% higher in suburban areas that discourage walking. The layout of a neighbourhood has a big impact on the health of the people who live there. Mayor Rob Ford said: "Discouraging driving and broadening opportunities for strolling, cycling and using public transit don't constitute a "war against the car" but part of a battle for better health". (www.thestar.com)

New guidance by RoSPA

RoSPA has published new guidance to help road safety and public health professionals to work together to promote opportunities for walking and cycling. The report concludes that road safety fits best with public health when both are seen together as "Healthy transport". (*Road Safety and Public Health: RoSPA (DOP:3/14)*).

Time to Cross campaign

Living Streets UK's "Give us time to cross" campaign is asking for a reduction in the assumed walking speed when the guidance is reviewed this year. The "green man" time allowed assumes a walking speed of 1.2m/s, but researchers at UCL found that over 75% of people over the age of 65 move at a much slower pace—0.8m/s for women and 0.9m/s for men.