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Chairman: Jo Woodward
Vice Chairman: Roy Gray
Secretary: Julie Downton
Treasurer: Trevor Mason

## **NEWSLETTER No 11**

October 2016

## There is another QUIZ NIGHT on the way

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm at the Trades and Labour Club in Walton

We will be pleased to see lots of our members and their friends and relatives who enjoy the facility of a hut or chalet. Roy Gray will be the Quiz Master.

There will be some light refreshments, so <u>please let Trevor Mason know if</u> you are coming (either by email or give him a ring on 01394 274331) so we provide the right amount of food. The bar will be open, as usual.

There will also be a raffle with the first prize of a £50 voucher for a meal in a Felixstowe restaurant. If anyone wishes to donate a raffle prize it will be gratefully accepted. Proceeds will be donated to Felixstowe Coastwatch.

## **COMMITTEE MEMBER NEEDED**

As one of our Committee members has sold his hut, we now have a vacancy on the Association Committee. Ideally we would like someone with a hut at Brackenbury Fort to come forward so we have a representative at every site. But we will welcome anyone who is willing to put themselves forward. It isn't an onerous task, why not give it a go? Please get in touch if you are willing.

Suffolk Coastal have carried out a review of beach huts. We will be meeting with them next month when we will find out just what they have come up with. We'll let you know the outcome in due course

You may well remember the article in our last newsletter about the beach clean carried out by our members in support of the initiative 'Clean for the Queen' to celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Every organisation that took part was able to nominate a charity to receive £20, and a cheque has now been sent to Felixstowe Volunteer Coastal Patrol and Rescue Service (FVCPRS). We are pleased to be able to continue to support this service.



There have been several burglaries in and around the town recently. Let's all make sure our huts and chalets are well secured and that we report any suspicious activity to the police.

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We received many complaints this year about the lack of maintenance by way of grass cutting, weed-killing, bramble clearing, bin emptying etc., especially in the area of Brackenbury Fort, Brackenbury Cliffs and Clifflands. The sighting of rats in the Brackenbury area and Manor End (undoubtedly encouraged by overflowing bins) was disturbing for hut owners. All these complaints and sightings were passed on to NORSE and several members also lodged their own complaints and let us know they had done so. Eventually the maintenance was carried out (more or less to your satisfaction) but it is a great shame that it is necessary to bombard NORSE with complaints before any action is taken. However there seems to be little progress in getting rid of the rats.



If you want to bring any complaints to the notice of NORSE please contact them and let us know you have done so. Their contact details are: scs@ncsgrp.co.uk or 01394 444000.

Joy and Karen will be opening the Charity Café at Hut 9 Manor End again this winter. From mid-November they will be serving teas and coffees etc. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7.30am to 12.30pm to raise even more money for Cancer Research UK. Why not pay them a visit?

Does a hut near yours appear to be abandoned? We'd be interested to know of any huts that don't have anyone using them so we can pass on the information to Suffolk Coastal at one of our meetings.

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We are delighted to have been given permission by Suffolk County Council to place a bench on the promenade at Manor End, where there was a chronic shortage of somewhere to sit and watch the world go by.







Thanks to 'Marketing Force' for producing the excellent plaque to show that the bench was donated by us.



Following a consultation exercise, cycling on the promenade is going to be permitted. Responsible cycling where consideration is given to others is acceptable, but those who use it with total disregard for pedestrians or people seated on the prom are a menace. Please report any incidents of irresponsible cycling that you witness, or any accidents involving cyclists, so that a proper evaluation of the policy can be carried out after the 12 month trial period.



Again this year we will be entering a tree, decorated with a beach hut theme, in the Christmas Tree Festival at the Salvation Army Church from 29<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Last year we were awarded second place. Maybe we can go one better this year. By all means drop in to see it. Any donations will go to Felixstowe Coastwatch.



We often get requests for details of people that carry out hut maintenance or provide insurance. We have a list of businesses that offer services and discounts to our members on production of your membership card, which is on our website. Just to remind everyone, an updated list is being sent out with this newsletter. Please remember that the Association does not 'recommend' any of these businesses. We are happy to pass on their details so you can make up your own mind whether or not to use them.

WELL DONE TO DI AND PETER CHILVER AND EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THEIR MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING AT HUT 787 AT BRACKENBURY CLIFFS. A MAGNIFICENT £773 WAS RAISED FOR A REALLY WORTHY CAUSE.

Have your contact details changed? Do you have the same address, telephone number(s) or email address? If not, please let us know your new details so we can keep our records up to date and you get all the correspondence we send, either by post or email.