

North Meols Civic Society

Newsletter



Summer 2010

Churchtown in Bloom 2010

Last year was the first time that the North Meols Civic Society entered Churchtown Village into the North West in Bloom -Best Neighbourhood Competition - and we won an 'Award of Merit'. We had won awards previously for the Civic Garden but not the whole village.

Now a certain other 'village' in Southport also won the same award but they had been entering for some years. They also got quite a bit of publicity in the local press and Churchtown missed out for some reason.

This year we have entered 'Churchtown Village' again and it will be judged on the afternoon of Thursday 22nd July. The route will be Botanic Road from Peet's Lane to the Church green and will include the Civic Garden. The judges only allow half an hour for each entry.

Pupils from Churchtown Primary School are putting together a floral display which will go on the pavement near to Clauds. If you live or work nearby, PLEASE help to keep an eye on it in case of vandalism - and also if it needs watering.

Now another plea! - Are you free on Wednesday 21st - the day before the judging to help tidy up the Civic Garden? If so please come along from 10am onwards to give us a hand for half an hour or so- to give a final weeding and litter collection.

Thank you to all the retailers who have put our displays this year - more than double those of last year. Further details from Secretary - John Dodd - 231840

Churchtown Village Trail Leaflet

The new edition of the Village Trail is now out. There have been corrections and and additions to the previous leaflet. Copies have been distributed mainly to Churchtown Library, Botanic Museum and some local shops. I have a large stock available if anyone would like some to give out or if they know of an outlet that would like some.

Thanks to our Sponsors - Bernard O'Malley and CPL Estate Agents and Solicitors, Cambridge Road for their financial support in enabling this edition to be printed.

I would like to join / know more about North Meols Civic Society

Name.....

Address.....

Post Code.....

Email..... Phone.....

I enclose £ 8 for a household. / £15 for corporate membership for one year

Please send to the Secretary NMCS, 57 Longacre, Southport PR9 9TB

The Fog Bell. - Marshside Road.

This project seems to be taking a long time to come to fruition but a lot of work has been going on 'behind the scenes' so to speak.

The project is snow balling from a simple idea of tidying up the building and its surrounds to a more ambitious project to restore the building to a useful purpose linked to its past uses. This has and continues to involve a lot of paperwork and approaches to various bodies such as Planning Department etc.

We now have three schools wishing to be involved and they are Stanley High School Sports College, Marshside Primary School and St. Patrick's RC Primary School.

The primary schools will be designing and helping to make two mosaic panels which will fit at the rear of the seats. The panels will depict the history, geography and natural environment of Marshside. A commercial firm will assist the schools in this part of the project.

Stanley students have already helped to weed and clean up the area. They have made and erected a dozen nest boxes to provide alternative nest and roosting sites when we block up the holes in the building. They also planted an area with ornamental grasses which unfortunately died during the very hot dry weather. They are now designing a pebble pavement with a local theme to replace the planting. A local Landscape Gardener has offered his help with this.

Later they will also help to design an interpretation and information map to go on the building. This will show the history of the coastline and give ideas for routes for visitors - and local people - to walk. This will tie in with the new footpath which will link the present pavement of Marshside Road to the coastal road near to the old sandplant and the RSPB Reserve.

We have now received approval from Sefton Planning Department to go ahead with the scheme so its now down to submitting funding applications to the Lottery and other bodies.

Footpath Work.

Stanley High School students have also been helping on another project, the clearing and re-surfacing of 'Public Footpath No 7'. Otherwise known as the footpath between Stanley fields and the Golf Course.

Late last year they tackled the job of levelling and removing overgrowth. Earlier this year Councillor Sue Maguire help to get a large load of woodchippings off the Council. Unfortunately communications broke down and instead of dumping the chippings in several piles along the length of the path on Stanley field they dumped them in one huge pile. This has proved to be a nightmare to shift although we did manage to complete over half the length of the path.

On Tuesday 20 th. the students had another go but heavy rain brought it to a premature stop

Executive Committee

Chair and Editor - Ken Bridge. - chair@northmeols.org.uk - 01704 507284

Vice Chair - David Barton - vice-chair@northmeols.org.uk - 01704 226640

Secretary - John Dodd - mail@johndodd.co.uk - 01704 231840

Treasurer - Joan Lowe - 01704 505185

Botanic Gardens/Bandstand Liaison - Christine Bradshaw - 01704 220806

Historical Researcher - Gladys Armstrong - 01704 214120

**Consultant Architect.- Jason Reynolds BA (Hons) Arch. Dip. (Arch) RIBA.
jcr@reynolds-ad.com. Or phone :- 07837064091**

New Members Needed!

Yes you — if you are not a member of the North Meols Civic Society but you are interested in the Churchtown, Crossens, Banks or Marshside area or in Botanic Gardens -why not join? It is only £8 per year for everyone at one address.

We would like people who can help with fund raising events or in any other practical way - but if this not your 'cup of tea' but would just like to support our work you will be eqully welcome.

Contact any of the committee members for further information.

Stop Press _ Botanic Gardens Lake

We have been told that due to the present state of the lake a contractor is being employed to clean the lake once a fortnight!

He has been seen in the lake - but there is little evidence of any work being done - Watch this space — or rather - watch the lake and let us know if you think there has been any improvement.