

Paignton in Bloom 2010



Contents

<i>Introduction & calendar of Events</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Route plan</i>	<i>3</i>
<u><i>Horticultural achievements</i></u>	
<i>I Occombe Farm</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>ii Cliff Walk improvements</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>iii South Devon College</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>iv White Rock Primary School ~ Chelsea entry</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>v Paignton Zoo ~ hydroponics</i>	<i>11</i>
<u><i>Environmental responsibly</i></u>	
<i>I Smoke Alarms legislation</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>ii Esplanade lights ~ solar and wind power</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>iii Refuse & Recycling Centre</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>iv Paignton Hub Centre</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>v Environmental crime</i>	<i>16</i>
<u><i>Community participation</i></u>	
<i>i Police Initiative ~ Take a Stand litter dog fouling</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>ii Band in the Park ~ Consultations</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>iii Community Involvement</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>iv Plethora of Awards for park's group</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>v Seashore Centre/Geo Park education</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>Four seasons of Paignton</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Forthcoming Projects</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	<i>30</i>

South West in Bloom 2010 Route for Paignton Roads

July 20th 9.30am

Start at Occombe Farm – Go down Preston Down Road to Old Torquay Road past Manor Inn turn left into Manor Road at lights turn into Torquay Road and then turn right into

Oldway Mansion from here leave by main entrance into Torquay Road and drive to

Hollacombe Resource Centre – Clive – on leaving here drive down Torquay Road then into

Seaway Road and on to Marine Drive and then Esplanade Road

Pull in by road leading to Pier– Paignton Green natural play area – Richard Maddocks

Drive on to Apollo Cinema – Walk to Torbay Park & New War Memorial
Walk to

Paignton Harbour

Pick up at Harbour drive up Roundham Road turn into Cliff Road and then right into Roundham Avenue to go to Roundham Cliff Gardens – Meet Gardeners

Walk to Youngs Park

Leave from Goodrington Park Car Park into Tanners Road turn right into Dartmouth Road into Fisher Street on to

Winner Street - Street furniture and then into Palace Avenue

Palace Avenue Gardens – Guardians on leaving drive along Torquay Road into

Hyde Road past

Station Square – Hanging Baskets

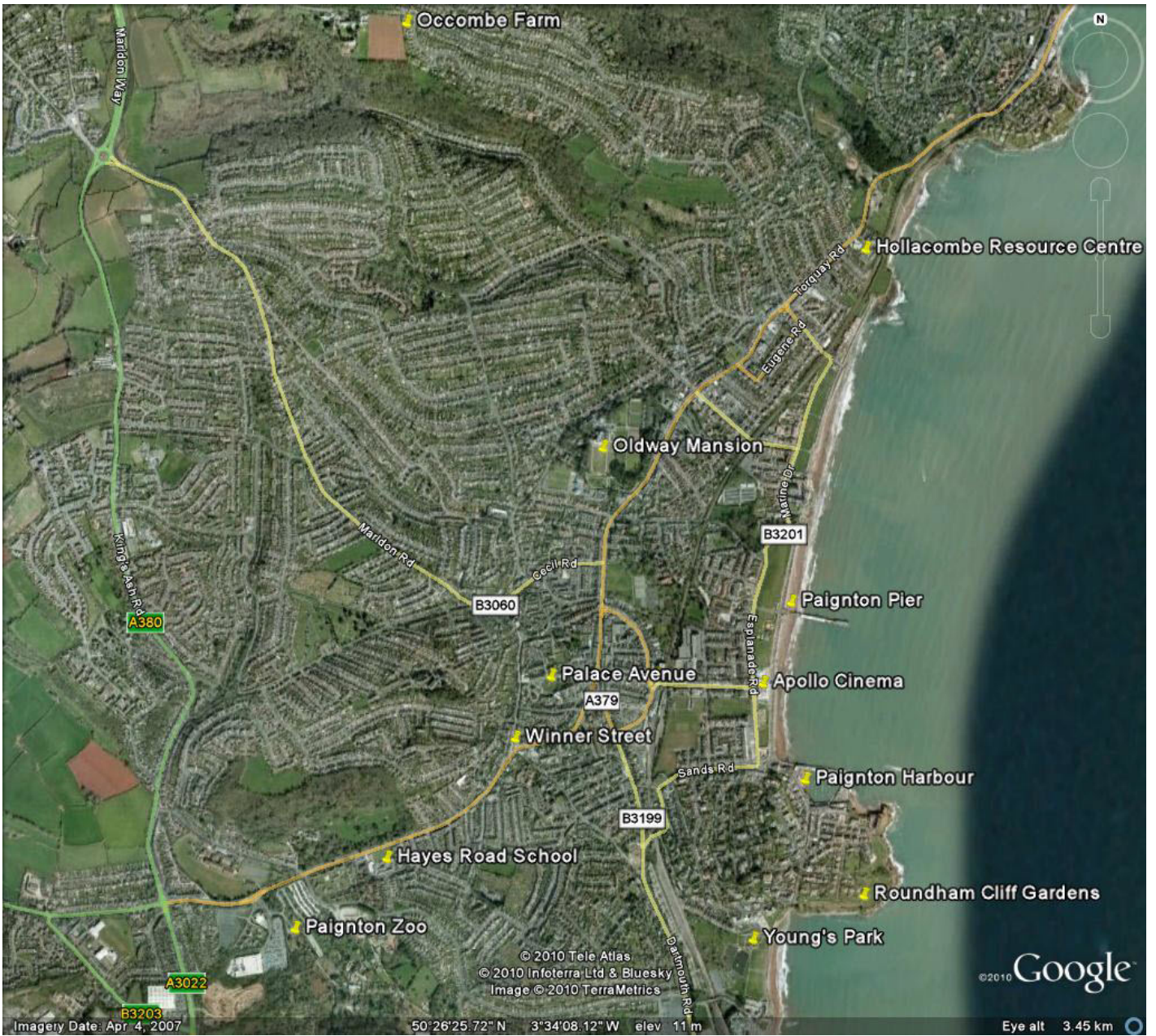
Into Dartmouth Road and then into

Penwill Way and then to Hayes School and on to

Paignton Zoo



Planned Route 2010



Occombe Farm

wild for food

The overall aim of Occombe Farm is to reconnect people with food, farming and the countryside and to have a profound effect on the local food culture of South Devon. The Farm Shop, Butchers, Bakery, Cafe, Education Centre and Nature Trail will show people how the way food is produced is important for our health, for the environment, for the economy and for society. Occombe aims to provide an example of what is possible and a catalyst for improving the way food is produced, sold and consumed in our region. We have a very simple belief - that the food we eat shapes the countryside we live in. The choices we make as consumers affect farmers and the way they manage the land. So, eating food grown by environmentally-friendly farmers is one of the greenest, most wildlife-friendly things you can do!

Occombe farm is run by Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust - a unique local conservation charity dedicated to looking after the wildlife and heritage of Torbay. The Trust manages 1750 acres of land including Occombe Farm, Cockington Country Park, Berry Head National Nature Reserve and the South West Coast Path through Torbay.

The Torbay Coast & Country Trust are committed to reducing our energy and water use, and to using renewable sources of heat and electricity wherever practical. So far they have installed photovoltaic electricity panels which you can see on one of the barn roofs at Occombe Farm. These generate 4 kilowatts, enough to power about ten square metres of chiller display cabinet in the shop when the sun is shining.

In the first of our straw bale buildings, the square one above the shop, we have a 6 kilowatt wood pellet stove. Wood pellets provide a convenient source of heat without the hassle and dust of a normal wood stove.

The new larger straw bale building at Occombe has solar heating and also a rainwater collection system which uses water from two roofs to irrigate the poly-tunnels and other plants in the One Planet field adjacent to it. They will be continuing to work on improving the insulation, efficiency and management of their buildings and will be adding to this part of the web-site as they do more.

Occombe Farm, Paignton, have sponsorship of their One Planet Food Project by a garden tool specialists - Burgon & Ball are providing Occombe with a large supply of quality children's gardening tools for local visiting schools, including small hand tools, digging spades and forks, watering cans, trugs, claw cultivators, hand hoes, daisy grubbers and herb planting bags. The new project at Occombe Farm is moving quickly - a second straw bale building has been constructed to house a community kitchen and classroom; and the hard landscaping on the community garden has recently been completed, with the first crops already harvested. Along with a team of volunteers, Occombe's Grower Emily Vevers has been busily planting and sowing herbs, flowers, fruit and vegetables. The garden is open to the public seven days a week and has become a site for running lots of growing activities, classes, courses and events with school children and local community groups



Local
Food





During 2009 TCCR were successful with a bid to the Local Food Fund (Lottery) for a £297,000 grant to fund their One Planet Food Project. This three year £600,000 project aims to promote sustainable food-growing and cooking in and around Torbay, based on the fact that we only have one planet to feed us.

The key elements of the project are:

- * construction of a new low carbon straw bale building housing a Community Kitchen
- * creation of a new 4 acre growing area and vegetable box scheme
- * new educational programme for schools and groups utilising the kitchen and growing area
- * new programme of public events and courses promoting local food
- * advice and guidance to groups who want to get involved with growing
- * support for the creation of two more community growing projects in deprived areas of Torbay

A four acre field next to the new building will be the location for a new growing area at the farm. This will enable them to grow vegetables and fruit for the first time and set up a community supported agriculture scheme whereby local people can purchase veg boxes directly from the project. The income from this will enable the project to become sustainable in the longer term and encourage local people to get involved in a hands on way. There will be regular volunteer days and training placements available. As well as field scale growing we will be putting in a "hub" consisting of an Outdoor Classroom and raised beds which will be a focus for visitors, school groups and practical courses that they want to run.

A second straw bale building is being constructed, like the first, by students studying construction at South Devon College. This will house a Community Kitchen fitted out with ovens and sinks enabling us to run a variety of cookery related courses for visiting school children and adults. As well as this the building will house Torbay's first purpose built disabled Changing Space toilet specifically designed to accommodate a wider range of disabled needs.

The new kitchen and growing area will allow them to offer a wider range of activities for schoolchildren and other groups visiting the farm. This will include field to plate activities encouraging children to discover where food comes from and the different ways in which it can be produced. Activities will be linked to the curriculum and address topics such as food miles, organic farming and climate change. They have already started running a Saturday morning Cookery Club which has proved extremely popular, so much so that they are starting sessions for adults as well.



Goodrington Cliff Walk

Extensive work was carried out this winter on the higher tiers of Cliff Walk Gardens. The council gardeners primarily Roger and Ray made a sterling job of removing the overgrown hedging and cleared the beds for new planting. Although most of the plants were supplied by the council some were donated by local people. The improvements have made a vast Difference and was nicely finished off with new galvanised railings. New railings are also being installed along the promenade at the base of the Cliff Gardens this month.

The gardens are lit up at night time with attractive and coloured lights. Known locally as Paradise walk, or Cliff walk, it's a very popular evenings stroll for the visitors and local residents. Its locally famous lights have made it a regular attraction for almost all the pleasure boats working in Torbay and they regularly run evening trips from Paignton Harbour to witness the illuminated cliff walk from the seaward side. The garden forms a veritable "sun-trap" and the red Devon cliffs give a feeling of warmth and welcome even on sunless days. The view from this popular rendezvous commands the greater part of picturesque Torbay, Brixham Harbour, the neighbouring coast and glorious Devonshire landscapes. The planting of the garden comprises trees and plants of subtropical nature, the climate enabling them to flourish in profusion.



Paignton Gardeners see crop chosen for Chelsea

A GROUP of young gardeners are celebrating as their edible crops were chosen from thousands to appear in a garden at this year's prestigious Chelsea Flower Show.

Students with learning difficulties studying the Greenfingers course at Paignton's South Devon College have been busy all year preparing for the final stage of a schools competition to have a display at the show, run by the Royal Horticultural Society.

The college was chosen at the start of the year to be one of 100 schools nationally to receive a special Let's Grow to Chelsea growing crate, seeds, and compost.

The students then had to keep a photographic record of how the crate developed from empty wooden box, to a thriving patch of garden, brimming with plants and vegetables.

The students' crate was chosen by Peter Seabrook, gardening editor of The Sun newspaper, and the Let's Grow gardening team from competition sponsors, Morrisons, to be one of only 30 schools' display crates on display at the show.

The Greenfingers course teaches learners all basic gardening skills including planting, growing and caring for plants throughout the seasons.

The learners get to travel to practise their skills in the community, from clearing bridle paths on Dartmoor to keeping the willow man neat in tidy near Exeter. Course lecturer Pete Boon said: "It really is such an honour to have the hard work of the class on display at the most famous horticultural event in the world. It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience for most of the students and here at the college and an outstanding addition to their gardening CVs." "I'm very proud of the hard work they have put into this and really hope they are too."



Huge pond will encourage wildlife to return

Report taken from the Herald Express

A POND is being built on South Devon College land to help improve the environment and expand the students' learning facilities. The new large water feature at the top of the Paignton campus is being built by the Animal Care and the Estates Departments. Emma Hayes, animal unit coordinator at the college, who spearheaded the project, said the tonnes of soil generated from the building of the new £8 million University Centre were being recycled to create the large pond.

She said: "As an area which was rich in conservation it is of interest to both Animal Care and Conservation staff and students.

"I decided to take up the offer of doing something with the site and involve the students who were concerned for the welfare of the habitats up there. "I thought a large pond would fit the bill. This initially generated a great deal of interest with the animal care, environmental science and conservation, and construction departments at the college but has since attracted the attention of all the other departments at the college, who are keen to use it."

She said the pond and surrounding area will provide the students with new resources to carry out projects and studies such as habitat conservation and management, environmental monitoring, environmental interpretation, species monitoring, and many other science-based projects.

Mrs Hayes said: "The large pond has been dug out with a small island in the middle. The college construction department are keen to build a platform for the island and a shelter to encourage birds.

"We have sand on order to line the pond which will then be lined with a heavy duty liner. "I plan to seed the surrounding area with native grasses and wild flowers to encourage the wildlife back again."



White Rock Primary School



A GROUP of South Devon schoolchildren are basking in the glory of having their plants on display at the world's most famous flower show. White Rock Primary School was one of 100 chosen from 22,500 to grow plants for RHS Chelsea Flower Show in Morrison's "Let's Grow" Garden after its entry in the Let's Grow to Chelsea competition.

White Rock received a special growing crate from the Let's Grow Team at Morrison's supermarket and the Sun's gardening editor, Pete Seabrook, who helped select the final 30 schools.

Based on the weather conditions and soil type in the area, they were allocated cauliflower seeds. The crate included seeds and compost, and a digital camera to record their progress. After months of careful nurturing by members of Mr McGregor's Gardening Club, led by Mrs Liz Chase, their cauliflowers were chosen for the Morrison's garden at the show. Children from the gardening club enjoyed growing the seeds into show standard plants.

Head teacher Lyn Elliott said "We are delighted with the achievement of our gardening club. To be showing our cauliflowers at such a prestigious event was exciting and rewarding." Interest in our school garden has grown as a result of working on a joint project with our partner school in Cusco, Peru. It is great to see the increasing interest and enthusiasm the children have for growing their own organic food. It is an excellent learning opportunity."



The garden won a prestigious RHS Bronze Medal.

Paignton Zoo ~ Hydroponics

Television presenter John Craven, of BBC Countryfile, opened an innovative new plant growing system at Paignton Zoo on 30th September 2009. VertiCrop™ sustainable hydroponics installation is the first of its kind in Europe and the first in a zoo or botanic garden anywhere in the world.

The Zoo has teamed up with the developers of VertiCrop™, [Valcent Products \(eu\) Ltd.](http://www.valcent.com), based in Launceston, a company at the forefront of global efforts to find new ways of growing plants in a world of rapidly-diminishing resources.

VertiCrop™ is the latest in plant growing technology, meeting the needs of the human population while reducing the pressure to clear precious habitat to grow crops. This technology could usher in a new era of urban horticulture. VertiCrop™ is a commercial high-density vertical growing system which increases production volume for field crops up to 20 times over but requires as little as 5% of the normal water supply. It is a non-GM solution to food problems, using trays on a looped dynamic conveyor belt and automatic feeding stations to grow plants efficiently.



The VertiCrop™ polytunnel at Paignton Zoo



Paignton MP Adrian Sanders launches smoke alarm safety Bill



PROPOSED legislation making it a legal requirement for smoke alarms to be fitted in rented properties has been introduced in Parliament by Torbay MP Adrian Sanders. The Fire Safety (Protection of Tenants) Bill was given its formal first reading in the Commons recently, following the weekly Prime Minister's Questions. There was no debate or decision, but a date was set for its second reading on Friday, November 19. The Lib Dem MP has branded it unacceptable that five people a week die in domestic house fires where there was no working smoke alarm. It follows the deaths of Torquay youngsters Stephanie Wojak and Ben McAuliffe in the Ellacombe blaze in October. The house in Ellacombe Church Road where the children lived with Gill and Mike Wojak and their son Ricky, did not have a fire alarm. Following the tragedy it was revealed that 25 per cent of the trust's homes, some 690 properties, did not have fire alarms at the time. It had planned to install smoke detectors in the remaining properties as part of a major home improvement programme, which it brought forward immediately. Mr Sanders wants to ensure that there are working hard-wired fire safety devices in all rented properties at the start of a tenancy.

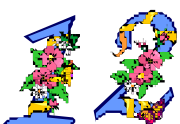
This would be alongside the existing legal requirements for gas and electricity checks, and an energy performance certificate. The backbencher, who is a long-time campaigner for smoke alarms, was one of 20 MPs drawn in a ballot for the chance to get a Private Members' Bill on the statute book. The first reading is a formality which allows the legislation to be printed. Mr Sanders was drawn 11th in the ballot. Usually a Bill coming as far down the list would stand little chance of success given the lack of parliamentary time. But Mr Sanders is very hopeful given it is an 18-month Westminster session

His proposals, if passed into law, would require all private and socially rented homes to have a working, hard-wired, smoke alarm at the beginning of any tenancy agreement. The measure could save around 200 lives every year, with hard wired alarms proving more effective than battery powered alarms.

Currently it is not a legal requirement for most homes to have a working smoke alarm while legal standards exist for gas appliances, furnishings and so on.

The importance of the issue, which Adrian has campaigned on since 2004, was highlighted last year with the tragic death of two children in a social rented property in Ellacombe, Torquay. Adrian said: "It is very often the most vulnerable in society who live in homes that do not have working smoke alarms and the figures show that this costs dozens of lives a year and causes hundreds, if not thousands, of injuries."

"There is a small minority of private landlords, many of them absentee landlords, who do not sufficiently look after their tenants but more worryingly it is social providers who have the most to do on this issue; the fact that over a quarter of Riviera Housing properties did not have alarms this time last year is shocking. Social homes often contain some of the most vulnerable tenants who are more at risk from fire and often less able to take responsibility for their own protection."



Renewable Energy ~ Esplanade Lights

While strolling along Paignton's main promenade it would be almost impossible not to notice the modern lighting which operates on the latest renewable energy systems. Both solar panels and wind turbines supply the electricity to run these amenities.

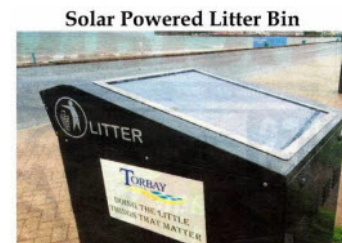
Renewable energy technologies use the readily available energy from the sun, wind, waves, tide, water or bio-products from managed forests to provide energy for your home or business that doesn't emit add carbon dioxide to the atmosphere or contribute to climate change.



Grants

Through the Low Carbon Buildings Programme householders, community organisations, schools, and the public and not for profit sectors can receive grants for microgeneration renewable energy technologies. Grants of between 20% and 50% of the costs are available for the purchase and installation of any combination of the following technologies:

- Solar photovoltaics.
- Wind turbines.
- Small hydro.
- Solar thermal hot water.
- Ground source heat pumps.
- Bio-energy.
- Renewable combined heat and power
- Micro combined heat and power
- Fuel cells.





Torbay Council have joined forces with May Gurney to improve our recycling and waste services. The new company, called TOR2 will be introducing huge improvements to our services from 6th September 2010. These services will allow us to **recycle up to 85% of our waste**, with all residents able to recycle the same materials

May Gurney has signed a £130m contract to provide a range of front line services to residents in Torbay. Torbay Council and May Gurney have signed a joint venture, which will last for an initial 10 years with a possible 15 year extension, to provide a range of bundled services. These include waste and recycling collections, the maintenance of highways, grounds, parks, car parks, buildings and the council's vehicle fleet; street and beach cleaning and call centre support. May Gurney will own 80 per cent of the joint venture company, which will source new business clients in the region.

Mobilisation of the joint venture company will begin in April, with work starting in July.

The main improvements with regard to our waste & recycling are:

- A weekly collection of recycling from all households in Torbay
- An increased range of weekly recyclable materials collected at kerbside
- A new weekly kitchen waste recycling collection
- New recycling containers (2 recycling boxes, a kitchen caddy and kitchen waste bin) to replace the current large, green wheelie bin for recycling, which will allow better and more flexible storage of recycling
- Same day collection for recycling and residual waste to the majority of households making it easy to remember collection days

For those living in flats (with shared recycling facilities) there will be improvements to their recycling collections, which will include, an increased range of materials collected and a new weekly collection of kitchen waste.

This scheme will have extensive opportunity for locals to ask questions of 'Waste Doctors' and door to door canvassers on the ground as well as at roadshows this summer.

TOR2 will provide Torbay and its residents with a first class waste service to ensure

Torbay can achieve and comfortably exceed its recycling target of 50% by 2012.

Torbay's current recycling rate is 35.7%.



New Paignton Library Hub



BREEAM: Measuring the library's environmental impact

We are delighted to announce that the new Paignton Community Library and Information Centre has achieved a BREEAM rating of very good. BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) is a voluntary scheme that aims to quantify and reduce the environmental burdens of buildings by rewarding those designs that take positive steps to minimise their environmental impacts.

Projects are assessed using a system of credits. The credits are grouped within the following categories:

- ❖ management
- ❖ energy
- ❖ transport
- ❖ health and well-being
- ❖ water
- ❖ materials and waste
- ❖ land use
- ❖ site ecological value
- ❖ pollution.

The assessment process results in a report covering the issues assessed, together with a formal certification giving a rating on a scale of pass, good, very good and excellent. Community involvement in our new Paignton Community Library and Information Centre is rapidly becoming reality, thanks in significant part to the diversity of community effort that has been volunteered to the project. For instance, the Friends of Paignton Library are going to be working on the library's Reading Garden; they have hopes to produce one that delights all the senses. Meanwhile, Paignton Preservation Society will be helping library staff with the mammoth task of digitilising artwork and photographic images of Paignton through the ages for the public to enjoy. There's also a special piece of art from a local artist on its way. The Hub will also accommodate a Tourist Information Centre, a Police command and Job-search facilities.



Environmental crime

Graffiti

Graffiti is an environmental crime, along with dog fouling, fly-tipping and littering. Torbay Council operates an online reporting system where residents can give details of incidents and describe the perpetrators.

The Problem

The term 'graffiti' refers to any drawings, paintings or messages that are written, painted or carved on public and private surfaces without the permission of the property owner. Graffiti defaces property and is often referred to as vandalism.

Graffiti is a problem because it can:

- ❖ Look bad.
- ❖ Be offensive.
- ❖ Make an area appear rundown and neglected.
- ❖ Encourage more anti-social behaviours and crimes.
- ❖ Make people feel frightened and intimidated.
- ❖ Be difficult and expensive to remove.
- ❖ Negatively impact on the local economy as visitors are less likely to want to visit an area defaced by graffiti.

The Law

The following legislation is in place which aims to help local authorities and private land owners to control graffiti in their area:

- ❖ Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
- ❖ Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003
- ❖ Town and Country Planning Act 1990
- ❖ Criminal Damage Act 1971
- ❖ Local Government Act 2000

Taking a Stand

If council property is defaced by graffiti action will be taken as soon as possible to try and remove the damage especially if it is deemed to be offensive to others. If private property has been subject to graffiti it is the responsibility of the property owner to arrange for its removal, and not the council. The council can provide information about methods of graffiti removal to the owners of private property

Specialist companies can carry out graffiti removal on various types of surfaces and buildings. Unsightly and often offensive graffiti can be removed using a series of specialist graffiti removers and then protective anti-graffiti coatings can be applied. Using invisible micro-crystalline wax coatings this makes future graffiti removal easier, more cost effective and less detrimental to the masonry ~allowing it to breathe.

In Torbay any person found committing a graffiti offence may be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice for £75. If a person is issued a Fixed Penalty Notice and chooses not to pay it they may face a fine in court of up to £2,500.



Chewing gum

Chewing gum has become one of the fastest growing environmental problems of the past decade. Retail parks, schools, colleges, shopping centres and public spaces that have cost millions to develop have been spoilt with covered with trodden-in blobs of discarded gum. The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 classified chewing gum as litter and allows for the issuing of fines and fixed penalty notices to people who don't dispose of used gum properly.

Despite changes in the law and increased awareness of the problem, discarded chewing gum remains a problem in most pedestrian areas.

It's classification as litter means that Local Authorities have a legal responsibility to remove it, and they have turned to specialist cleaning companies.



Before



After



Police Initiative ~ Take a Stand litter and dog fouling

Young's Park People in Goodrington join forces with The Council's Dog Wardens to highlight the 'scourg's of dog fouling and littering in our public parks.



Neighbourhood Police Team held a community awareness event on the 23rd June this year. The PCSO's and regular officers were on hand to answer questions and advise the public in Palace Avenue Gardens.

Devon & Cornwall Police
Building safer communities together

Paignton welcome to your Neighbourhood Police Team

Front row left to right: PC Tony Harkin, PCO David Thomas, PC Garry Bell, Sgt Mark Pridmore, Sgt Paul
PCO Mike Sheppard & PC
Second row left to right: PCO Tom Dayman, PCO Alan Pugh, PC Jane Wood, PC Public Relations,
PCO Gerry Phillips, PC Steve Archer and PC Greg Jones
Back row left to right: PC Graham Jervis, PCO Will Hyndes, PCO Mike Brown, PC Simon Lee,
PC Mike Corbridge & PCO Steve Baker.

Our commitment to you...
Neighbourhood Policing provides a dedicated Policing presence for every local neighbourhood. Its purpose is to ensure that despite the size, the scale or the complexity of the problems that Devon & Cornwall Police provide a good service in dealing with the problems that are important to them.

Neighbourhood Policing is based on four key principles:

- Access** - provides an accessible Policing service through a named point of contact.
- Influence** - is in place for communities to have an input and influence the activities of Neighbourhood Policing in their area.
- Intervention** - enables a coordinated approach for action by the Police, partners and the local community to address identified neighbourhood priorities.
- Advice** - communities are kept informed of the outcome of activities undertaken in response to their priorities.

Neighbourhood Police Teams actively conduct community engagement activities to identify key priorities. They work in partnership with relevant agencies and local communities to address these priorities and make a difference to the outcome.

Contact us with any concerns, issues or enquiries.
Telephone: 08452 777444
Website: www.devon-cornwall.police.uk



Park group volunteers along with their local councillor show this year's awards while holding their annual consultation. Asking what the park users want is of primary importance to any good group.



Bands in the Park

Torbay Concert Brass

Every month throughout the summer season, and at Christmas, Torbay Concert Brass perform in Young's Park. June's event was a lovely balmy evening with over 100 people enjoying the free entertainment.



Samba Roc

Samba Roc is part of Roc Creative, an arts, media and educational project and a part of Robert Owen Communities. This is a registered charity, based at The Palace Theatre, Paignton, providing educational and vocational pathways for adults with learning disabilities.

The band has played hundreds of Gigs, including some big national level events, such as The Down Syndrome Association AGM in 2002 and The Danny Mardell Celebrity Football Competition at the West Ham Utd. Stadium in 2008.



Samba Roc performing in Young's Park

June 2010



Aiming high

In January, Torbay Council and Torbay Care Trust organised a free, two day event at Torbay Leisure Centre in Paignton: Aiming High for Disabled Children. Families with disabled children and young people were able to meet local providers face to face and find out about the wealth of activities, services and facilities that are available to them in and around Torbay. Children and young people enjoyed a variety of free "taster" activities such as archery, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair football.

Have your say on building heights in Torbay

The TDA has been gathering public feedback on the Building Heights Strategy, which is currently being drawn up. Following the launch of the Mayoral Vision and with many exciting regeneration projects in the pipeline for Torbay, the Building Heights Strategy aims to give guidance to the authority and developers to ensure that any future development is right for the Bay. Tall buildings, particularly in the wrong place, can have a dramatic effect on an area, therefore, good quality, independent research and information is vital for future planning decisions. The strategy will be part of an important planning process, which will set out recommended building heights for different areas in Torbay, set out the circumstances and locations in which that height can be modified, and provide guidance for the location and design of taller buildings.

The Building Heights Strategy will be part of the evidence base for informing the Torbay Local Development Framework, which is a blueprint for Torbay's sustainable development over the next 20 years. The strategy will be in line with current guidelines and best practice for tall buildings from the Commission for Architecture and Built Environment (CABE) and English Heritage.

CAB makes financial savings of over £1m for local people

Torbay Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) has been able to handle more enquiries than ever during the credit crunch and has increased household incomes by over £1 million for Torbay residents - a 17% increase on the year before. Counting funds and successful bids, a staggering £1.25 million has been fed into the local economy in 12 months. Partly funded by Torbay Council, the CAB is a registered charity providing confidential and impartial advice to everyone who needs it. Advice is given on handling debts, benefits, housing, employment, relationships and many other issues affecting the daily lives of people.

More information about Torbay Citizens Advice Bureau is available on
www.torbaycab.org.uk



Citizens Advice
the charity for your community

Neighbourhood Watch – Make a Difference

Neighbourhood Watch has over 300 street co-ordinators protecting nearly 8,000 households across Torbay? Working closely with the Neighbourhood Policing Teams, Neighbourhood Watch helps to ensure Torbay remains a safe and attractive place to live, work and visit. Everyone knows that the police are there to fight crime but they cannot succeed on their own - they need support from the public. This support can be given most effectively by forming a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Whatever the problem in your neighbourhood, you have the power to do something about it and when several people act as a group it becomes much easier. Neighbourhood Watch provides a way for local residents to get together and do something about matters they are concerned about

What is Neighbourhood Watch?

Neighbourhood Watch is one of the biggest and most successful crime prevention initiatives ever. Behind it lies a simple idea, and a central value shared by millions of people around the country:

Getting together with your neighbours to take action can cut local crime.

Everyone knows that the police are there to fight crime, but they need your help to do an effective job. Neighbourhood Watch is all about an active partnership with the police. Neighbourhood Watch schemes can:

- Cut crime and the opportunities for crime
- Help and reassure those who live in the area
- Encourage neighbourliness and closer communities
- Create better places in which to live, work and play



Neighbourhood Watch is not just about reducing burglary figures - it's about creating communities who care. It brings local people together and can make a real contribution to improving their life and environment. The activity of Watch members could help foster a new community spirit and a belief in the community's ability to tackle problems. At the same time, you feel secure, knowing your neighbours are keeping an eye on your property. There are other benefits to belonging to a Neighbourhood Watch scheme in this area too. You will have the opportunity to become familiar with crime prevention ideas. This will help keep your home and belongings safe and together with the extra security.



*This is just one of the park's group in Paignton ~
with so many awards this year!*

Maybe a Green Flag coming soon?



Seashore Centre

Torbay's Marine World is a hidden jewel and we are trying to unlock the box to reveal this great jewel. The Bay has 16 marine sites of National importance, including Saltern Cove - designated an underwater Local Nature Reserve and the only local underwater Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The underwater habitats in the Bay range from eel grass beds to fantastic limestone rock gullies. These host many species, ranging from cuttlefish (*Sepia officinalis*), jewel anemones (*Corynactis viridis*), honeycombe worms (*Sabellaria alveolata*) and the Devonshire cup corals (*Caryophyllia amithii*). One of the most important discoveries was finding both species of seahorses (*Hippocampus hippocampus* and *Hippocampus guttulatus*) in the Bay.



Through work by staff and volunteers, our records are increasing every day and we are slowly starting to understand the marine environment of our Bay as well as the complexities of its conservation.

.At The Seashore Centre are trying to unlock the box to reveal this great jewel. The Centre, which is located very close to the beach, Goodrington Sands in Paignton, is equipped with:

- a Rockpool Zone with seawater tanks displaying marine wildlife
- interactive displays about the seashore
- a video microscope for examining finds
- a classroom space for group sessions

The experienced Rangers can offer the following types of activities or tailor made visits:

- Centre Visit
- Rockpool Ramble
- Plankton Trawling
- Shell Hunt
- Beach Art

They welcome visits from primary and secondary schools, colleges and community groups. The Centre is on the South West Coast Path and within walking distance of Paignton harbour and Saltern Cove. They can also host seashore activities at other beaches around Torbay.



Goodrington's Seashore Centre

