

Flotsam and Jetsam

September 2013

Welcome to the Argyll and Bute Beach Forum quarterly e-bulletin. The Argyll and Bute Beach Forum is a project run by the GRAB Trust (as part of our Beaches and Marine Litter Project). Our main aim is to raise awareness of the impacts of and reduce beach and marine litter and to support communities to take action by cleaning beaches.

We hope you will find our e-bulletin interesting. The bulletin is also available by post and on our website. Your contributions are always welcome. We want to make this bulletin as useful as possible. Tell us what you would like to see in the bulletin, it is your bulletin!

CONTENTS

- 1. [The Argyll and Bute Beach Forum](#)
- 2. [Your shout](#)
- 3. [Flotsam and Jetsam Features](#)
- 4. [Forthcoming events](#)
- 5. [Funding](#)
- 6. [Resources](#)

1. THE ARGYLL AND BUTE BEACH FORUM -----

Argyll and Bute Beach Forum Education Event

Next Education event will take place in Campbeltown on Tuesday 24th September and all schools in Kintyre have been invited.



Scottish Marine Litter Strategy Consultation

The Forum will be submitting a response to the consultation.

2. YOUR SHOUT -----

News from the Isle of Colonsay: Litter Free Island ! by Jane Rose



1 Copyright Jane Rose

Co-ordinated by Kevin Byrne an amazing band of people have already devoted a great deal of time and energy to an ambitious plan to make Colonsay the first island to be litter free before the end of the summer. Starting at Easter all the coast is now clean and a celebration took place in the local hotel.

Over 110 bags of rubbish and as much in larger items were collected with the aid of quad bikes and a borrowed tractor and trailer for reaching remote areas.

Even a boat was used along the East coast to pick up

the litter. The Council have been very helpfully disposing of it all from collections on the roadside. The project is under the auspices of the Community Council. Kevin Byrne is planning to do it all again next year.

Jane Rose from Colonsay

I counted 170 plastic drinks bottles in one small remote gully on the island. Unbelievable!

According to the Marine Conservation Society's Beach Survey in 2012, figures showed a high percentage of plastic drinks bottles:

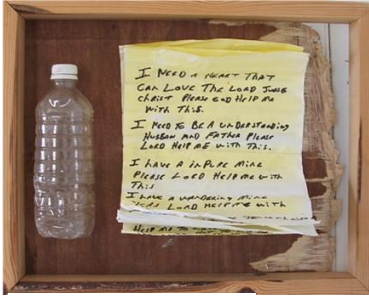


2 Copyright Jane Rose

11223 collected, 781 per kilometre. In the most common top 10 items they were ranked 6th in 2011 from 9th in 2010.

What can be done?

As a beach litter artist I would like to start a campaign to encourage the public to consider re-usable bottles and drink more tap water. (Look out for my exhibition of real messages in bottles)



3Copyright Jane Rose

The cost to the environment in terms of pollution from the plastic as well as the manufacturing, transportation etc, of bottled water is huge.

If you have any ideas for furthering this campaign email me on janerose.beachlitter@gmail.com or visit my website <http://www.janerose.co.uk/exhibitions.html>

News from Beachwatch Bute

Follow Sandra MacMillan's work on <http://en-gb.facebook.com/pages/Beachwatch-Bute>

News from Re-Jig, Islay

Re-Jig has set up a beach maintenance program from Portnahaven (pictured on the right) to the Strand. They have carried out 'deep cleans' and the coastline is now in a good position to simply maintain the tideline and what it brings in. We would like to extend this programme to the whole coastline. Watch this space.



4Copyright Alec Ohnstad

We have litter grants for local organisations that carry out beach cleans. For more information contact Re-Jig re-jig@btconnect.com T: 01496 810880

3.FLOTSAM AND JETSAM FEATURES -----



5Copyright Aisa Nebreda

Ocean Explorer Opening

SAMS has recently opened a new visitor centre to showcase the outstanding research work carried out at SAMS. The exhibits at the centre also highlight the threats to our marine ecosystem including climate change. The centre also has a small cinema, shop and coffee shop overlooking Dunbeg beach.

For more information, opening times and to arrange a school visit email info@oceanexplorercentre.org or phone T: 01631 559123



Islay Festival of the Sea, 1st-4th August

The festival took place in Port Ellen and included activities such as coracle building, crabbing, sand castle competitions as well as many water sports. As part of our commitment to raise awareness of the problems caused by marine litter, The GRAB Trust had an informative display as well as examples of marine litter. Thanks to everyone that came to see us.



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Consultation: Draft Scottish Marine Litter Strategy

You have an opportunity to shape the government’s Marine Litter Strategy by sending your comments by email or in writing. The Strategy’s proposed vision is “by 2020 marine litter in Scotland is reduced and does not pose significant risks to the environment or communities. This is achieved within a zero waste Scotland where people and businesses act responsibly, and reduce, reuse, recycle and recover waste resources”.

You can find the consultation at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/07/2688/downloads>

4.FORTHCOMING EVENTS -----

Marine Events in Argyll

To tie in with the Scottish Government Consultation process there are a several information events organised locally. Scottish Natural Heritage will run the events to provide information on the Marine Protected Area Status on several sea sites to protect wildlife. For more information on the events follow the link:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/marine-consultation/events>



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September

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Thu 5 th | Jura, The Jura Hall | 1-8pm |
| Tues 10 th | Lochgilthead Community Centre | 1-8pm |
| Wed 11 th | Inveraray, Loch Fyne Hotel | 1-8pm |
| Thu 12 th | Islay, Columba Centre | 1-8pm |
| Thu 12 th | Dunoon, The Braes | 1-8pm |
| Tues 17 th | Campbeltown, Victoria Hall | 1-8pm |
| Thu 19 th | Oban, Corran Halls | 1-8pm |
| Thu 26 th | Craignure, An roth Enterprise Centre | 1-8pm |

Marine Conservation Society Beachwatch Weekend 20th-23rd Sept

Once a year the MCS encourages people to carry out beach cleans and marine litter surveys to inform their annual summary report. Will you give it a try this year? Get in touch with us if you want to borrow cleaning equipment and need help to organise



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a beach clean and remember that we can offer funding to help your charity.

For more information on the MCS campaign contact T:01989 566017. To register a beach clean or to download the 2012 marine litter report visit www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch

Beach Cleans & litter surveys

Inveraray: Sat 21st Sept, meet at recycling point in Avenue Car park, 2pm. For more information contact Richard 07832990107 or visit www.facebook.com/BeachwatchInveraray

Dog Fouling Fortnight, 30th Sept - 13th Oct 2013

Keep Scotland Beautiful will focus their campaign Clean Up Scotland in raising awareness on the problem of dog fouling. Recent research suggests that dog fouling is the single item of litter that most people are concerned with. KSB is looking for volunteers to survey a local public area next

to them. For more information on the campaign phone T: 01786 468248. You can register your dog fouling survey by Friday 20th September 2013 online.

For information to organise a survey you can download the "Dog Fouling Fortnight Information Pack" from <http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/environmental-quality/clean-up-scotland/get-involved/dog-fouling-fortnight/>

5.FUNDING -----



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The GRAB Trust Litter Grants

We can give small grants to groups that carry out a village or beach clean in the area of Argyll and Bute Local Authority. You need to inform one of our key contacts prior to carrying out the clean up. You also have to fill in the application form "[Application & Criteria for The GRAB Trust Litter Grants](#)" in order for the money to be processed. The application form includes our criteria, key

contact details and other useful information.

We can also lend you cleaning equipment (litter pickers, gloves and bags), help you carry out a risk assessment and organise collection of the litter. Please get in touch with the project worker in your area for more information.

6. RESOURCES -----

For a list of useful resources and publications please see our Beaches pages on our website www.grab.org.uk

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Disclaimer

Thanks for reading. Please note that all views expressed are not necessarily the views of the GRAB Trust or the Argyll and Bute Beach Forum. We hope that you have enjoyed our e-bulletin. We would like to hear from you and would appreciate any comments you may have about it.

The Argyll and Bute Beach Forum

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