

LIVING STREETS

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

Living Streets Guernsey LBG Newsletter— September 2013

A challenging Tranquillity Walk in intense heat!

Our annual fund raiser, The Living Streets Tranquillity Walk, explored the lanes and green lanes in the Vale and St. Sampson's. It was a sweltering hot day which meant that the turn out was less than usual. 38 walkers set off from Capelles Church to brave the two and a half hour circular walk.



This year's event was a joint fund raising afternoon with Capelles Methodist Church on "Action for Children" day.

Led by Tom Le Pelley the first part of the walk went through the Bukit Estate to join the Living Streets Baubigny Schools path. This was developed in 2010 to

allow children to take a safe (traffic free) route to St. Sampson's High and Le Murier.

After joining the Baubigny Road we then headed for Delancey Park and onwards towards Maritain Road and Cuckoo Lane. A lovely green lane just off Route des Landes provided some welcome shade for one family with three very young children.

Turning westwards we headed back to the Capelles Church via Douit Lane and the Vale Church for afternoon tea provided by the church.

We are most grateful to

Judith Le Tissier for organising the link up with the church.

Funds from the teas went towards the Guernsey Youth Housing Project. We raised £463 from the walk and we are most grateful to everyone who supported us and gave so generously.



The Leitheiser family

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
September 22nd European Car Free Day
October Walk to School Month
18th November Road Safety Week

Living Streets Christmas cards

Sales of our "Guernsey Country Walks" greeting cards slow down between October and December and although we have our 2014 Calendar to boost sales we decided to try to fill the gap with a set of Christmas cards this year. The photos were taken in March.

Please support our new venture.

A pack of 8 cards (illustrated below) will cost £5.99. You can also buy the cards individually for £1 each or in a pack of just one design—again 8 in a pack for £5.99.

Our website will have stockists in due course, or buy direct from us at the St. Martin's Farmers Market or call Pat on 268088.

"Guernsey in the snow" Christmas cards



Top left to right: St. Pierre du Bois church; Rue du Gains, St. Pierre du Bois; Rue du Hurel, Torteval; Jubilee Walk, Torteval
Bottom left to right: Rue des Clercs, St. Pierre du Bois; Fort Grey; Torteval Church; Silbe Nature Reserve, St. Pierre du Bois

Walk to Work leaflets are launched in St. Martin



Tom, Val & Pat with Postie Jamie Roussel

In May, to coincide with Walk to Work week, Living Streets worked in partnership with Guernsey Post to publicise and distribute new leaflets which aim to promote the benefits of walking, cycling or jogging to work. The project follows on from our successful “Guernsey Country Walks” greeting cards.

Each leaflet includes information on the health benefits of an active commute and

a sketch map showing the quietest and quickest route to your workplace. Leaflet No. 1 was aimed at residents in St. Martin’s and St. Peter Port South who work in Town. It features a route from St. Martin’s Church to Town through the lanes and Ruettes Tranquilles. It takes just 30 minutes to walk to Trinity Square.

Two thousand five hundred leaflets were delivered to residents in the area and we are most grateful to Guernsey Post for their support.

The St. Martin’s leaflet is the first in a series of “Walk to Work” leaflets which we will be designing. We particularly want to show commuters the quieter lanes and streets so that they avoid the noise and pollution of the main roads. The maps also pinpoint bus stops so that you have the option of taking the bus home (or the bus to work in inclement weather).

We are hoping that the direct marketing approach might inspire commuters to consider the health benefits of building exercise into their daily routine.

Pavements are for pedestrians—concerns over kerbside recycling



Living Streets (Guernsey) is not alone in calling for a stop to pavement parking. Living Streets Scotland has long campaigned for anti-social parking to be outlawed. In London parking on the pavement is illegal and it is controlled by the local authorities rather than the police.

Car ownership continues to increase in Guernsey and in many areas the streets are not wide enough to accommodate all of the drivers who want to park there. However, rather than finding somewhere more suitable to park—and continuing their journey on foot—many drivers simply drive up onto the pavement and park there.

People with disabilities and parents with children in pushchairs are those most affected by vehicles blocking the pavement. Will this get worse when kerbside recycling is introduced?

Whereas I am sure that

most Living Streets members support recycling, are we going to end up with the situation illustrated by the photo opposite?

Two of our committee members have reported tripping over black bags on the pavement in the dark. What will it be like when island-wide kerbside recycling is introduced?

Tom Le Pelley has written to the PSD department about our concerns and has made suggestions for solutions in urban areas.

We hope that the department will consider the needs of pedestrians.

Winter bus proposals consultation

The winter timetable proposals are out and you have until **13th September** to respond to the Environment Department. If you are a regular bus user please have a look at the proposals in the Gazette Officielle on 30th August or on the CT Plus website: www.buses.gg

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Play Streets are catching on

Following Bristol and Hackney in London, Reading Borough Council is to introduce a Play Streets scheme for a trial period in which parents can apply to have their road closed for a few hours every fortnight. Two thirds of the residents must agree. One mother said: “We need to teach our children ways of self-preservation, not imprison them in the house then complain they have nothing to do.” (Daily Telegraph 12/6/13)

Government initiative to promote cycling—a missed opportunity

Living Streets UK’s Chief Executive, Tony Armstrong, has said that the new initiative to inject 77 million into cycling is a huge missed opportunity. “We don’t want to see less money and attention for cycling. What we want is more money and attention for walking. The quality of our streets and public spaces is not given the priority it deserves either in terms of making everybody’s daily routine more pleasant and safer, and in terms of encouraging more people out of their cars for walkable journeys.”

(Living Streets Blog Post 15/8/13)

Children need one hour’s exercise a day

Children under 10 should get between 60 and 85 minutes’ exercise a day to reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke later in life. A study of 3,000 young children by European researchers found that 15% had levels of blood pressure, cholesterol and body fat that suggested they were at future risk of cardiovascular disease.

(BMC Medicine journal 30/7/13)

Should we ban the school run?

The new President of the Faculty of Public Health, Professor John Ashton, has called for parents to be banned from driving to the school gate to help tackle the inactivity crisis. Car dominated transport policies and their impact on school travel are condemning today’s children to unhealthy lives and in some cases, early deaths. The car should be unwelcome outside schools, 20mph limits should be the norm, and cycle training should be on the national curriculum. (Sustrans blog 23/7/13)