



BEACHCOMBER

The first newsletter of the Furness and South Cumbria Beach Clean Group

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I know it's a bit late, but this is the first time that I've contacted you, and it seems as good a greeting as any. A few of you know me, some of you might have seen me at a beach clean, and most of you are probably wondering who on earth I am!



My name is Matthew (Matt) Sanderson. Late last year I took on the role of volunteer beach clean organiser for the Morecambe Bay Partnership and set up the beach clean group on Cumbria side of the bay. For many years there have been successful beach clean groups at Arnside and Hest Bank, but until now no organised group in South Cumbria.

So far this year we have held three beach clean events in the Furness area. The first was the most successful events that the Partnership has ever held in Furness; 71 volunteers turned out at Roanhead on a beautiful day in January and we removed nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ ton of litter! Following on from that, we've held two smaller events at Biggar Bank on Walney and on Roosecote Sands.



Lots of people show real interest in our beach clean events but one of our biggest problems seems to be letting them know when and where the events are. We need **YOU** to tell us what the best way to do this is. Would a monthly or quarterly newsletter like this be best? Do you read all about us in the local papers or hear about us on the local radio? Is our website the best way to reach you? Please call, write or email and let me know!

Upcoming Beach Cleans

Sat 12th April - Cark
Sat 3rd May - Bardsea
Sat 31st May - Piel Island

For details see page 2 or:
www.morecambebay.org.uk

If you would like to host a beach clean or take part in a planned event please write to me, call me on my mobile: 07933 744222 or email me: beachclean@btinternet.com

We also welcome enquiries from organisations that would like to hold events. Recently we have worked with Associated British Ports who very kindly donated the equipment we use, the National Trust, and Cumbria Wildlife Trust.

Upcoming Beach Cleans

Location	Date	Times		Grid Reference	Notes
		Start	Finish		
Cark Sandgate Marsh	12 th April Saturday	10:00	12:00	SD355764	Event hosted by Jules Evans of Cark
Bardsea Ulverston Sands	3 rd May Saturday	13:00	15:00	SD304744	Part of Ulverston Walking Festival
Piel Island	31 st May Saturday	11:30	15:30	SD209639	Snab Point at 11:30 to sign in. Please park elsewhere!

If you have any questions or queries please feel free to call me on mobile 07933 744222 or by email: beachclean@btinternet.com

How do we organise Beach Cleans?

Several of you have asked me how a beach clean location is decided upon. At the moment it's a bit random! Some of the beach cleans have been organised because people like Jules Evans contacted the Partnership and enquired about hosting a beach clean event, others because of a conversation with someone involved in another event or organisation, like Steve Povey and the Ulverston Walking Festival. Some have happened because I was worried that Furness beach cleaning was getting quiet and I didn't want you to forget us!

South Cumbria Beach Care Social

The Arnside and Hest Bank beach clean groups hold social events typically twice a year and decide then what beaches to target for the next six months. We would like to do the same! We are looking for a suitable venue and when we find something we will let you know. In the meantime please call or email with your ideas for a beach clean or social venue, to let us know whether or not you like our newsletter, and with any other news or ideas you have!

Finding a Beach Clean Site

People often say to me "we would have come to the beach clean but we didn't know where it was". If you have the internet, it is very easy to find the sites. Just follow these steps.

1. Open web site www.multimap.com
2. In the box at the top left entitled "GB Postcode or Place" just enter the grid reference (e.g. SD355764 for Cark)
3. This will open a map of the location! You can print it out, or even get directions there from your home!

Finding a Beach Clean Site

People often say to me "we would have come to the beach clean but we didn't know where it was". If you don't have the internet it is very easy to find the sites:

- We try to get the local press to print as detailed directions as possible
- You can check the grid reference on an Ordnance Survey Map
- If in doubt please call me and ask!

Or You can travel towards where you think the beach clean is and follow the crowds!

If you want to write to us....

South Cumbria Beach Clean Group, Morecambe Bay Partnership, 32 Market Place, Kendal, LA9 4TN