

‘FRIENDS OF THE TOWANS’
AUTUMN-WINTER NEWSLETTER & EVENTS 2019-20

I must apologise for taking so long to produce our autumn/winter programme. By now, we have made a start anyway. It’s been great to catch up with many of you helping to clear gorse and brambles from the top of Godrevy Warren in recent weeks. Nice also to have some new people joining in – all hands are needed, as you know, the hilltop provides a lovely view of the vast swathes of scrub we need to reduce!



Godrevy Warren, 17th Oct 2019. It’s a struggle working up here, terrible views..... We’ve also enjoyed the company of the rare-breed Whitbred Shorthorn cattle (‘Cumberland Whites’) while we work. Many hands (and mouths) make light work, as they say.

Exciting news that many of you already know is that we are now very close to the Friends of the Towans being an official, free-flying charity! I’m very grateful in particular to Dorothy, Paul and Liz who have waded through some tedious forms etc to get to this point. We’ve just created a logo – see end page – and will now develop a website to start promoting ourselves more widely.

This is perfect timing for us to play a full part in the new Dynamic Dunescapes lottery project, which starts in earnest in early 2020, but even more importantly, means that we will be well-established to continue our work *after* that project has finished.

Thanks for your continued work and company, and I hope to work with you again very soon.

Martin ‘the Ranger’

AUTUMN-WINTER EVENTS – Oct 2019 - March 2020

All events **start at 10am and run until about 2pm**. I will bring tools, gloves, tea, coffee and biscuits, but please make sure you bring some lunch and appropriate clothing and footwear suitable for working in the exposed Towans' environment.

It would be useful if you could let me know via text, phone or email if you plan to attend - thanks. martinrule@talktalk.net; mobile - 07854 123 877

Thurs Oct 24th Gwithian Beach Clean – 0930-1130

Working with Save our Sand to carry out a beach clean at Gwithian.

Meet in the large council car park by Sunset Surf SW579/413. You must place a sign on your dashboard stating the date and that you are helping with the SoS beach clean, to obtain free parking. Any queries, contact Paul Clark on 07584 060100

WEDS Oct 30th Godrevy Warren, near Godrevy

Continuing our work here, but this time closer to the sea. We will rake and burn brambles and gorse cut by tractor and flail. Meet at the 2nd 5 bar gate on the right, beyond the NT main car park, just next to the cabbage fields. SW583/426.

Thur Nov 14th Godrevy Warren, near Godrevy

As previous outing.

Thurs Nov 28th Gwithian Green Nature Reserve

Various work – willow and elm coppicing, pond and stream 'weeding' and raking up and burning bramble cuttings.

Meet in car park just north of Gwithian Church at SW587/413.

Thur Dec 5th Godrevy Warren, near Godrevy

Sorry, here again – you've seen how much there is to do! Same meeting location as Oct 30th

Thurs Dec 19th Gwithian Towans....and Thurs Jan 2nd

Following some successful work last winter, we will carry on reducing scrub in this area to expand the habitat for the silver-studded blue butterfly. This is an important narrow corridor linking the two main dune areas of Godrevy Warren and Hayle-Gwithian Towans. We'll have our usual 'bring and share' Christmas lunch on Dec 19th, by the bonfire.

Precise details and meeting point to be confirmed nearer the time.

Thurs Jan 16th Upton Towans Cornwall Wildlife Trust Reserve....and Jan 30th

Continuing last years' work to remove *Cotoneaster*, clematis and other scrub from within some of the WWI bunkers and pathways. Meet at main reserve entrance, near the tall chimney SW 579/397

Thurs Feb 13th Godrevy Warren

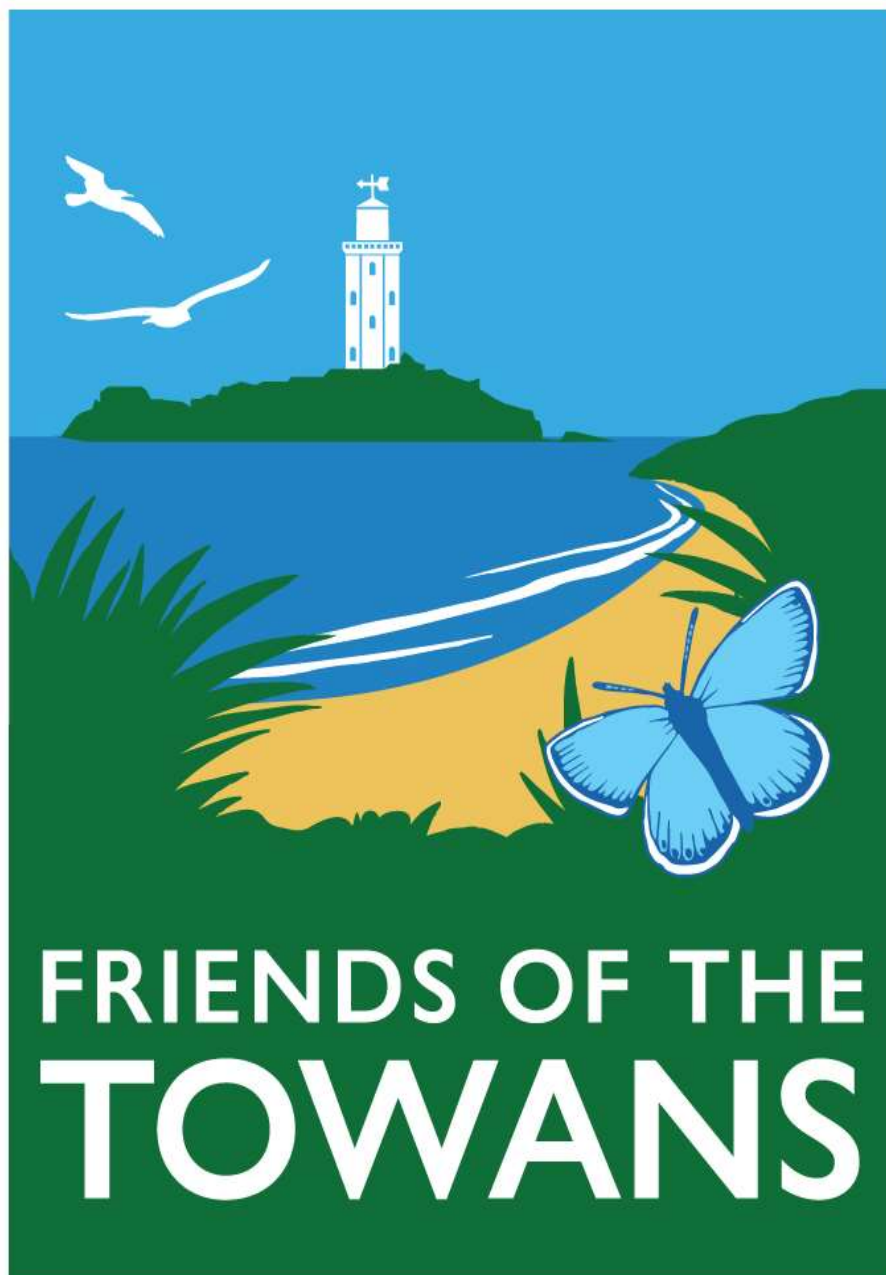
Precise details and meeting point to be confirmed nearer the time.

Thurs Feb 27th Godrevy Warren....and Thurs March 12th - As previous outing.

Thurs March 26th Gwithian Green Nature Reserve

The annual spring check-around to make sure stream is clear of choking weeds, final last bits of coppicing, raking and burning have been done before the flowering season begins. Meet in car park just north of Gwithian Church at SW587/413.

Our new logo below!



(Produced by Sarah McCartney, see smccartneyartist.com)