

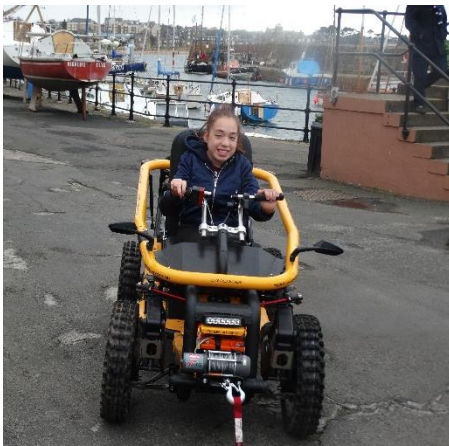


# Beach Wheelchairs Newsletter

Spring 2017

## Spring is in the Air

### Disabled Access Day



Thanks to everyone that joined us for Disabled Access Day this year. We had a great day with loads going on! We were delighted to be joined on the day by Trossachs Mobility who brought along a fantastic powered all-terrain wheelchair as seen in the photo above. This made light work of the soft sand at North Berwick. Although unfortunately we aren't at the stage where this is something we can offer it is a long term ambition for the group.

Trossachs Mobility hire out the Terrain Hopper for a fee from their Callendar base. To find out more check out their [website](http://www.trossachsmobility.com) [www.trossachsmobility.com](http://www.trossachsmobility.com).

Disabled Access day also welcomed three registered therapy dogs from Canine Concern. The dogs were a big hit with the kids that came along on the day.

Beach Wheelchairs loves working with other organisations and hope to collaborate more in the future!

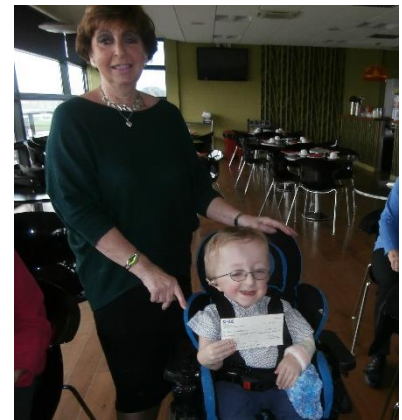
### Volunteers

Beach Wheelchairs is run completely by volunteers. Over the Easter period we trained 7 new volunteers to help hire out our beach wheelchairs from the Beach Hut. Our volunteers come from all walks of life, from high school students, to busy mums, employed and the retired. They give up their time freely to help others to

have a special day out with their loved ones. THANK YOU!

For more information about volunteering please contact us on: [info@beachwheelchairs.org](mailto:info@beachwheelchairs.org).

### Donations



Ethan and myself were delighted to be presented with a very generous cheque for £1,200 by Cathie Grandison on behalf of Musselburgh Ladies Links Golf Club from a recent raffle.

We have been selected as the chosen charity of Madsurf, a local business that produces clothing that

promotes sport and activity. This means that for every sweatshirt or hoodie sold Madsurf will donate £5! They have already donated £140 from this fab initiative ☺ We are also looking forward to sporting our designer tees soon!

We are also so grateful for generous donations from local North Berwick shop LOCO of £317.

Thank you to all individuals and businesses that donate to Beach Wheelchairs!

## Afternoon Tea

On June 17<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting a 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Afternoon Tea at the Marine MacDonald Hotel in North Berwick. We are currently planning entertainment and music to make this a great afternoon.



Tickets will cost £25 and will include an arrival drink on the lawn and a beautiful afternoon tea. It will be an opportunity to get together to celebrate 2 years of Beach Wheelchairs and share some of the stories and memories that have been created by getting back on the beach!

Tickets will go on sale soon. Please email [info@beachwheelchairs.org](mailto:info@beachwheelchairs.org) for more details

## Ramp Feasibility Study

Beach Wheelchairs has been awarded £1000 to go towards a Ramp Feasibility Study by the North Berwick Area Partnership. The ramps that are currently available to be used in North Berwick to access the beach are not ideal as they are uneven and steep. The feasibility study, which is being carried out by East Lothian Council, will look to identify ways the ramp may be upgraded to make it Disabled Access compliant and how costly this may be. This feasibility study will take place in April and we will be in a better place after this to know whether this is possible and can be done within a reasonable budget. I'll let you know how we get on in the next newsletter!

## Interim Chair

Melanie Kay has kindly agreed to step up to the position of Chair as Robin concentrates on looking after his partner Elizabeth.

Melanie has been our Vice-Chair since the AGM in December and has worked tirelessly with the charity since its start up in October 2015. We are delighted she has accepted this role and are so pleased that Robin is

able to continue on the Board as a Trustee. Thanks Robin for all your hard work as Chair and all our best wishes to you and Elizabeth.

## Portobello

Plans for Beach Wheelchairs Portobello have unfortunately slowed down as the team struggle to find suitable premises or land on the promenade for storage of beach wheelchairs. If you think you might be able to help we would love to hear from you. Please drop the Portobello project team a line at: [info@portobellobeachwheelchairs.co.uk](mailto:info@portobellobeachwheelchairs.co.uk)

## How to book

Beach Wheelchairs are available to hire every day during daylight hours from our Beach Hut in North Berwick Harbour.

Please call us in advance to book.

**0300 111 2112**



We have three beach wheelchairs and a beach walker all available for hire free of charge. And we have a fixed hoist to assist with transfers if required. Call us to find out more details.