



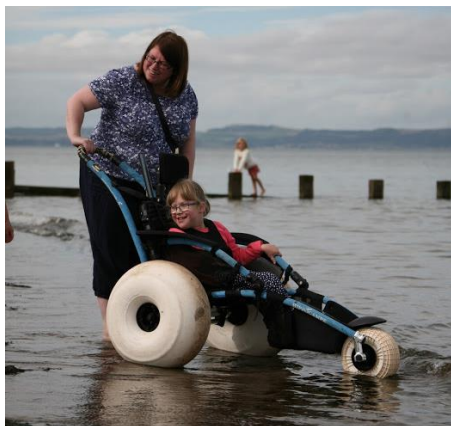
Beach Wheelchairs Newsletter

Summer & Autumn 2017

Busy Summer!!

Welcome

Beach Wheelchairs is dedicated to getting more people with disabilities on the beach. Our first project was in North Berwick and started in July 2015. We are very much part of the North Berwick community and we hope we are a source of pride to residents as they make their town more accessible and welcoming. We are so grateful to all the local individuals and businesses that support us in our work.



The North Berwick project will continue to work at ways to improve access to the

beach for people with disabilities with future work looking at ramp upgrades and we continue our quest to find a powered wheelchair solution that suits our needs.

As well as the North Berwick project we are now working on a separate project to provide beach wheelchairs in Portobello. This project has a great group of local enthusiastic individuals leading the way and reports to the Beach Wheelchairs charity. We are also actively looking to start up new projects in other areas – exciting times!!

Portobello

Portobello Beach Wheelchairs has a container for storage of beach wheelchairs located on a piece of land



adjacent to Tumbles in Portobello. This land is being leased from Edinburgh City Council who have upgraded the area to improve access for us.



Portobello Beach Wheelchairs has a Nomad and a large Hippocampe beach wheelchair. We do not have a hoist at Portobello and transferring remains the responsibility of carers.

Portobello is currently running a limited service while more volunteers are found and trained. If you are interested in volunteering or want to book please contact us at info@portobellobeachwheelchairs.org

Volunteer tribute

Len Groom a Board Member and amazing volunteer with Beach Wheelchairs passed away recently. Len was very dedicated to the charity from the start – and loved meeting new people and helping them enjoy time together on the beach. He will be greatly missed by all of us.



Summer in North Berwick



We were delighted to welcome so many users to the Beach Hut in North Berwick. Since we started up in July 2015 we have now rented out our beach wheelchairs 250 times!

And thank you so much to all our amazing volunteers that give so generously of their time 😊

“What a fantastic charity! We have had a fabulous day. The wheelchair enabled my grandma to spend time on the beach with her grandchildren and great grandchildren”.

Afternoon Tea

On June 17th we hosted a 2nd Anniversary Afternoon Tea at the Marine MacDonald Hotel in North Berwick. This was a fantastic event that looks set to be an annual occurrence! Thank you so much to the Marine and all other local businesses and artists that supported this event. And to Rhona for performing as part of Drake Music. We raised a whopping £2700!

Fundraising

As always we are amazed by the generosity of groups and individuals in North Berwick and beyond who support Beach Wheelchairs. Special mention this newsletter to Fenton Barns nursery. The kids at the nursery completed a sponsored walk in the pouring rain and raised an amazing £565!



We are also a chosen charity for the Tesco Bags of Help scheme for both the North Berwick and Portobello projects. Please drop in your blue token in store now!

Dates for your diary!

AGM

Our AGM will take place on 30th November from 7pm at North Berwick Community Centre. Everyone is welcome to attend to hear about our work and plans for next year. We would also love to hear from you if you would like to become more involved in the charity. Please get in touch at info@beachwheelchairs.org

Christmas Get Together at the Beach Hut



Join us again this year for our joint event at the Beach Hut with FACE (Fight Against Cancer Edinburgh) and with the support of North Berwick Rotary Club. The festivities will take place on early evening Thursday 14th December. Please see our Facebook page for details.