

Dates for your diary

MEETINGS MARCH 2008

- 18 Tuesday Town Team, 7.00 pm, Cavalier Suite, Royal Hotel, St Nicholas Street
- 27 Thursday Harbour, Sandside and Piers, 7.00 pm, Business Centre, Auroburgh Street

MEETINGS APRIL 2008

- 2 Wednesday Arts, Culture and Festivals, 5.00 pm at the Stephen Joseph Theatre
- 3 Thursday Transport, 5.30 pm at the Renaissance Centre
- 3 Thursday Forum for Tourism, 7.30 pm at Scarborough Bowls Centre
- 10 Thursday Urban Space Group, 7.00 pm, venue to be confirmed
- 15 Tuesday Town Team, 7.00 pm, venue to be confirmed

What's on around the area in MARCH

Every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 10.00-12.00 and Friday 19.00-21.00, Free Coaching at Scarborough Bowls Centre (Please pre-book at Reception 01723 353992)

 Details of various events around the Borough can also be found at www.discoveryyorkshirecoast.com/content/whats_on and www.hightidemagazine.com

If you have an event you would like us to publicise, please let us know.

Agenda

Scarborough Town Team Meeting

Tuesday 18 March 2008, 7.00 pm at the Cavalier Suite, Royal Hotel, St Nicholas Street

- 1. Parking, Park and Ride, Buses**
– Scarborough Integrated Transport Scheme – Presentation by John Riby.
- 2. Legoland**
– Presentation by Benchmark, developers of the Sands Project.
- 3. Next meeting 15 April 2008**, venue to be confirmed

 Minutes of previous meetings available at: www.scarboroughsfuture.org.uk



Supported by



For any further information, or to get yourself or a friend added to our data base, please call Nick Taylor or Linda Tindall on 01723 341346 or email nick@scarboroughsfuture.org.uk

A large print version of this newsletter is available online at www.scarboroughsfuture.org.uk or by contacting the Renaissance Office on 01723 341346 or by emailing nick@scarboroughsfuture.org.uk

From the Renaissance Manager

Wherever you look in Scarborough at the moment, the road is either being dug up or there is scaffolding surrounding a building. As a town you might say 'the builders are in'.

Although this might seem inconvenient in the short term, it is an exciting sign that the town is moving forward and that change is afoot.

Advantage has been taken of funding from a wide range of sources but this is technically very tricky to achieve and it takes some particularly skilled people who know how to write funding applications that sufficiently whet the appetite of the source of the cash. It then takes project managers to deliver the project on time and on budget – no mean task when you are dealing with old buildings and all of the hidden ailments that only get discovered when you knock down a wall or check the foundations.

The community involvement has been excellent and this fact has helped attract the funding all the more. But the one thing we have in Scarborough, which some of the other Renaissance Towns do not have to the same extent, is the involvement of the elected Councillors. In some of the action group meetings we often see up to four attending and in most of the Town Team and action group sessions there are always some within the group. This is work in addition to their council commitments - attending sessions at the town hall or out in their wards. The guidance and advice they frequently give to each group greatly helps the discussions, opinions and outcomes.

Our new Chairman, Tony Peers, along with other members of the Town Team, are keen to spread the word and promote involvement with the Renaissance process and Town Team. To effect this, Tony and others will be holding open sessions in a wide variety of places around town such as the new café at Eastfield, the town centre, Sandside and somewhere on the North side of town. Our ambition is to grow the already great involvement we are achieving and to allow us to find out your views to help develop the town.

So please watch the Scarborough Evening News, as well as announcements in this newsletter, for dates and locations of these 'Tea with Tony' sessions.

Nick Taylor
Renaissance Manager



Scarborough's Future



MARCH 2008
NEWS FROM SCARBOROUGH'S URBAN RENAISSANCE
www.scarboroughsfuture.org.uk



FEATURES
NEWS & DATES
PROJECTS & UPDATES
TOWN TEAM & ACTION GROUPS
GET INVOLVED

the coast gets blogging

-action group report inside

The next Town Team Meeting will be on Tuesday 18 March at Cavalier Suite, Royal Hotel, St Nicholas Street at 7.00pm

Creative Coast

Creative Coast will be two years old this month – and we've reason to celebrate. In that time we've held monthly events which have brought together the coast's creative community – artists, poets, designers, website developers, writers, curators and more... the area really is alive with creative professionals. We've rapidly become the first calling point for creatives moving into the area by providing a valuable place to meet peers and understand the local scene.



As well as providing networking opportunities which have led to new work and collaborations for members, Creative Coast has also provided training and an engaging series of guest speakers all aimed at helping members to do what they do better and more productively. Events have also been a starting point for ideas which have gone on to have a life of their own such as research into the possibility of an arts and music venue in the town.

One of our most recent successes has been to equip members with 'blogs' – online journals through which they can promote what they do and provide a valuable in-road to the coast's creative scene for people searching online for creative activity on the North Yorkshire Coast. Plans for the coming year include launching a Whitby-based branch of the network – something we hope will help encourage a cohesive view of art and creativity along the coast.

These are exciting times – if you're working, studying or intending to work in the creative industries do come along to an event.



Details can be found at www.creativecoast.net

Cover and above images from Creative Coast blogging event at Cielo, Sandside, January 2008

Moors and Coast Tourism Summit

On Thursday 21 February there was the Annual Summit of the Area Tourism Partnership.

The great and the good of tourism were there, chaired by Clive Rowe-Evans from Raven Hall Hotel, who opened up the event explaining that tourism is worth £797million to the economy of the Yorkshire Moors and coast area.

The role of the partnership is to ensure the impact of this sector on the region continues to grow through better business performance, high levels of customer satisfaction and ensuring that businesses are managed in a sustainable way. They will do this through business support, especially for young companies, promoting the area and providing high quality visitor information. The partnership is also keen to see new products being developed in the region.

David Andrews, Chief Executive of Yorkshire Tourist Board spoke challengingly about spending the marketing budget in a focussed fashion to ensure the best return, with a desire we create a world class experience for visitors and ensuring the brand of Yorkshire is a strong and compelling one. Alison Barker of Yorkshire Forward's Tourism section similarly spoke of their commitment to the sector with business support, marketing activity and initiatives in return for a 5% growth in the market. To have such support from people at that level should be somewhat comforting to the sector. With Renaissance there are some exciting projects looming, but more of that in future issues.

Over the last summer a visitor survey of over a thousand people was undertaken. Sixteen locations all over the Moors and Coast Region from Thirsk to Scarborough and Filey to Whitby were covered. It was designed to capture the day and staying visitor and was carried out during school holidays and term time, weekends and mid-week. Several interesting factors came from it, that 80% of those surveyed had been before, 17% stayed for two nights and 25% stayed for a full week. There was a very high level of satisfaction with over 85% stating 'very good' as their overall impression.

The use of the internet to source information and make the booking was significant, and it was interesting to see the small proportion who used printed tourism guides. In fairness however, the proportion of guides distributed compared to the total number of visitors is equally small. Our main competition was the Lake District and Scotland. London was equally popular, but apparently in any country, the capital will have a similar effect.

The second part of the day was the opportunity for practitioners to get together and have their say, the results of which will be featured next month.



Sport in the Bay

First National Thundercat Racing Event to be held in Scarborough - 26-27 April 2008

Due to popular demand, the 2008 racing season will start this year in Scarborough. Be prepared for 2 days of extreme sport excitement in the bay.



Go to www.thundercatracing.co.uk for more details

Polo on the Beach

Taking account of existing events on the beach (such as Beached and the Thundercats), recognising the needs of the donkeys and assuming that the tide is right, plans are afoot to introduce Polo on the beach in the summer months. Watch out for further details in future issues of Renaissance News.



Shared Space

A study visit to Drachten in the Netherlands.

The relationship between traffic, pedestrians and cyclists has been a concern for highway designers for many years.

We are frequently left with a sea of sign posts, steel 'cattle pens' and road markings that frankly spoil the enjoyment of the area for many, obliterating views and disguising pleasant buildings.



To the right is a roundabout with no road markings, traffic signs and very little instruction. Hans Monderman designed this area after considerable public consultation and involvement. 20,000 vehicles per day pass through this intersection. There is no formal separation between shop fronts and vehicles apart from a change in the texture of the road surface. Speeds have reduced by 35% and there has been no variation in the number of accidents.

The reaction from the users is mixed. Some avoid the area as they find it worrying, but most agree it has been a good move. The main aspect is that it has bought a new vitality to this part of town and business performance has improved. When we were visiting it was a particularly quiet day. There is a bus station close by and all the buses pass this area. The theatre is also located here and before the alterations was not doing well.

As well as removing all the signage, a water feature was incorporated and fountains achieve the creation of a quality public space during the summer. The height of the water varies with the volume of the traffic - the more vehicles, the higher the spout. Lighting has been re designed and now emphasises the whole space. The increase in human activity and redefining of who goes where - be it vehicular or human has introduced a different feel to the area. The bus company have even reported a reduction in delay for their vehicles from 55 to 9 seconds.

It would be interesting to see how the intersection at the junction outside the railway station in Scarborough would work with 30,000 vehicles per day.

To find out more and get involved in further discussion, come along to the Urban Space Group on the third Thursday of the month at 7.00pm, or the Transport Group on the second Thursday at 5.30pm.

News in brief

from February's Town Team Meeting at Pindar Leisure Centre, Eastfield

Four young people from George Pindar Community Sports College attended the meeting and gave an excellent, thought provoking presentation on the way forward for Eastfield from their point of view. They raised a variety of issues and members of the Town Team were able to offer to provide specific assistance to help them achieve some of their goals.

The students' presentation was followed by an update from Chris Brogan, Community Link Worker, on the proposed development at Middle Deepdale. A draft Community Action Plan has been drawn up, copies of which can be obtained from Chris. The next phase is to take the draft Action Plan to the Eastfield Stakeholders Group and develop the final version.

A Neighbourhood Management Scheme is also being drawn up which will bring together service providers. This will mean that a co-ordinated approach to the delivery of services can be adopted.

The Town Team were also pleased to learn that completion of phase 1 of the Eastfield Business Park development (a major Renaissance project) is fast approaching.



Full minutes of Town Team Meetings can be found on the Renaissance website www.scarboroughsfuture.org.uk

The next meeting of the Town Team will be held on 18 March 2008 at 7.00 pm at the Royal Hotel, St Nicholas Street.