

# Towans Partnership Meeting

Report from Cornwall Council's Countryside Officer

Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009

## Progress Report

- ✿ The steps to the north of Gwithian Towans are to be removed and the cliff re-profiled as the steps have become dangerous. This work is to be carried out imminently and should be completed by the high season.
- ✿ A programme of summer events is under way across the Towans and on the beaches – activities include beach bonanzas, sand dune safaris and history walks. School and educational visits are also taking place
- ✿ The entrance stone commissioned for Gwithian Towans in a similar style to those on St Gothian Sands has been put in place and has received many favourable comments.
- ✿ Ragwort puling in the grazing areas has been planned for mid July and will be carried out by volunteers from BTCV in anticipations of the ponies returning to the site in September.
- ✿ There have been large numbers of woolly bear caterpillars and their associated moths sited on the Towans this year – much above average. It is thought that the moths are Cream spot Tiger moths *Arctia villica*.
- ✿ **Beach Zoning Trial – update** – The Beach Management Advisory Group has reviewed the 2008 trial zoning scheme and has revised the zoning of Gwithian Beach for 2009. The zoning will come into action on July 11<sup>th</sup> until September 6<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 10am and 6pm and will be signed on the cliff top and in the Gwithian Towans car park. Stake holders and interested parties have been informed and information is available from local outlets and on the internet.

## Work Programme

- Ⓢ It is planned that a new lifeguard hut will be installed at Peter's Point before the peak season begins. Ecological assessments have been carried out and a site meeting has been held to instruct contractors on how to avoid unnecessary damage to the environment.
- Ⓢ Patrols and surveys will be carried out on the Towans over the summer season to monitor activities and wildlife.
- Ⓢ The 2009 beach zoning will be reviewed in the autumn and appropriate alterations considered for the coming year.
- Ⓢ The ponies will be returning to the Towans in the autumn to continue the conservation grazing programme.

*The work carried out on the Towans is guided by local input. If you have any suggestions or comments or would like to take part in any of the events or activities mentioned you can contact Sarah Byham on 07800 610560 or e-mail [sbyham@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:sbyham@cornwall.gov.uk) .*