



MABLETHORPE & SUTTON-ON-SEA
COASTAL COMMUNITY TEAM no. 99

PART OF



Honorary President: Victoria Atkins MP

Chair: Cllr Helen Matthews
Vice-Chair: Gareth Rowlands



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A THUMBNAIL SKETCH OF THIS COASTAL COMMUNITY TEAM AREA

“I like this coast ~ so flat & fresh & open... with a big sky & sweeps of sand & a low sea always making a noise... And the bathing is very surfy & good. I wish you were here. it is so blowy & blustery & sea-foamy & healthy, so very bracing. I like it.”

~ extracts from postcards sent from Sutton-on-Sea by D. H. Lawrence when staying, during the September of 1926, in “a little bungalow, one field away from the sea & sandhills”

Surprisingly little has changed since then.

The majority of visitors, however, now stay in static caravans, many of them on large well-maintained parks & others in nearby homesteads alongside farm animals & stables from which horses can be ridden along the sands. Bungalows have multiplied, providing homes for those who, having previously holidayed here, return in their retirement ~ attracted by the level pavements, the many imaginatively kept gardens & a quiet life-style. That said, there is a huge range of social activity available at little cost.

Alongside several supermarkets & an increasing number of recognized national High Street names, there are family run shops & a weekly market in Mablethorpe. A few minutes' drive takes one to the huge Woodthorpe Garden & Aquatic Centres, & a little further along the road is the market town of Alford nestling beneath the Wolds. Here are mapped rambles through Tennyson country, such retreats as the Claythorpe WaterMill & Wild Fowl Gardens & opportunities to fish, to glide or to fly model aircraft. A few miles north is Donna Nook where, in November, hundreds seal-pups are born & spend their first few weeks of life undisturbed by the many watching from only a few yards away.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06r8583>

A Seal Sanctuary & Wildlife Centre has been created in Mablethorpe's northern sand-hills, while along the main sea front is the Dunes Leisure Complex, a funfair & the Queen's Park boating lake & miniature railway. On the beach during the summer season are donkeys & a sand train, while set week-ends are devoted to motorbike racing & sand-gliding. On the Coastfields Leisure Park can be found Lincolnshire's biggest floating inflatable course at the new Aquapark.

In the central resort of Trusthorpe during August the big top of Russell's Circus is erected, while, further to the south, the village of Sutton-on-Sea has pleasure gardens, tennis courts & a paddling pool, now the site planned for a major new Seascape gallery & restaurant. The largest breach in the East Coast Sea Defences during the 1953 Flood, the Acre Gap, is now a conservation site with reed-beds & two lagoons. Tracks through this site lead to Sandilands where the National Trust is making an exciting investment with the help of the Towns Fund: a welcome point for the Wild Coast's Country Park stretching down towards Skegness.