



Communities join #SeftonSelfie campaign to celebrate our beautiful coast



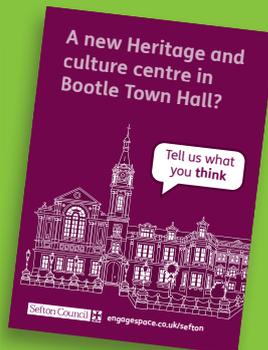
A big thank you to the coast lovers who got behind our #SeftonSelfie campaign.

We were inundated with snaps of families, schools, community groups and animals enjoying the 22 miles of our beautiful coastline. The best photographs will be used to form a huge collage to commemorate the end of Sefton's Year of the Coast campaign and will be displayed in some of our iconic buildings. See the first one in the Eco Centre, Southport from November 22.

Read more online
MySefton.co.uk



What's inside:



Page 2
Find out how you can get involved in the Bootle Town Hall Heritage and Culture Centre Consultation

Page 3
Beware of buying an illegally imported puppy



Page 3
Young people launch Savvy app

Page 4 See what events are happening near you this festive season



Welcome from the Leader of Sefton Council



Welcome to our very first edition of the MySefton newsletter, which showcases just some of the great things that are happening across our borough. It highlights the work that we and our partners are doing to make Sefton a great place to live, work and have fun.

As the festive season approaches there's plenty of activities happening across Sefton to get you in the festive spirit. From Christmas lights switch-on events and seasonal markets to volunteering activities and fun runs there's something for everyone. Check out the 'what's on' guide on page 4.

Christmas isn't a great time for everyone though. There are families who are struggling to make ends meet, so spare a thought and give to one of

the vital foodbanks across Sefton. It's not just about foodbanks, having a cup of tea with someone who is feeling a bit lonely may be their best Christmas present so please take the time to wish people well and let them know about the many exciting opportunities in this newsletter as they may wish to join in.

Watch out for news on the Mayor's Toy Appeal in the next few weeks.

Do make sure you stay well this winter, follow advice from our public health and our NHS partners – and don't forget to get your flu jab.

You can keep up with all the latest community news on the **MySefton.com** news channel. We've also just launched an email community messaging system so you can receive all the latest events and the Council's important news straight to your inbox – sign up via www.merseysnowsefton.org.

Best wishes

Cllr Ian Maher
Leader of Sefton Council

You can take non-perishable food donations to one of the following collection points: Bootle Town Hall reception, all Sefton leisure centres (Bootle, Meadows, Crosby Lakeside, Netherton and Dunes), or the Housing Standards Reception on the second floor of Crown Buildings, Eastbank Street, Southport.



We want your views – building on Bootle's history

There's still time to give your views on Sefton Council's proposals to create a cultural and heritage facility within Bootle Town Hall's complex of Grade II listed buildings.

A consultation and engagement exercise has started, looking at the potential to build on Bootle's rich history and create a facility in the former Bootle Free Library and Museum within the town hall complex. Other civic functions within the town hall would still be maintained.

The consultation runs until December 1. Visit sefton.gov.uk to put forward ideas.



Don't take flu with you

With flu season upon us it's time to start thinking about protecting yourself from illness.

Free flu vaccinations are available to pregnant women, children aged two to four, children in years 1-3 at school, residents of all ages with a long term health condition, and people aged 65 and over.

The jab is available at your local GP practice and it's recommended you get it early.

Don't forget www.nhs.uk has lots of health news and you can find services near you, including chemist opening times over Christmas



Young people launch 'The Savvy App'

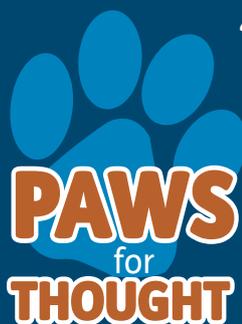
Inspirational young disabled people in Sefton have joined forces to create an app which provides information and support for anyone under 25 with additional needs.

The Sefton Savvy app has been developed in conjunction with Sefton Council's Special Educational Needs (SEN) & Inclusion service, Atomic Productions and Rix Wiki. The technology gives young people the opportunity to share ideas or feedback on local services

with their peers, as well as simplifying the information on Sefton's Local Offer website.

The Savvy app can be used on all mobile devices, including smartphones and tablets. It can be downloaded free from iTunes and the App Store by searching for Sefton Savvy.

You can find out lots of information within the Local Offer at seftondirectory.com/localoffer



'Paws for Thought' is Sefton Council's latest campaign asking residents to think about the consequences of buying an illegally imported puppy, especially in the run up to Christmas.

Be cautious if the seller cannot show you the puppy with its mother and litter mates, ask to see vaccination documents and check that the veterinary practice is within the UK.

Also, never pay for a puppy in advance, and never agree to have the puppy delivered to your home.

Report concerns using the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on **03454 04 05 06**

Help fight the illegally imported puppy trade



Cooking up Christmas dinner for lonely elderly

Emergency services staff from Southport's Community Fire and Ambulance Station are once again looking to cook a meal for lonely elderly people on Christmas Day.

The free dinner is a joint project thought up by North West Ambulance Service Paramedic Sara Smith and Merseyside Fire and Rescue Fireman Ian Nelson.

To find out more about this kind initiative, contact sara.smith@nwas.nhs.uk



Pupils help clean up Derby Park

Pupils from St Monica's Primary School in Bootle donned their rubber gloves to help make Derby Park sparkle.

Over 60 pupils and teachers managed to fill five full bin-bags worth of litter, while the Friends of Derby Park group swept away fallen leaves.

Thanks to everybody who helped with the clean up! If you're interested in getting involved the Friends of Derby Park group are on the lookout for new members. To get involved email parks@sefton.gov.uk

Join us in our family

FESTIVE

Fun Run

at Crosby Lakeside Adventure Centre



There's a wealth of festive fun lined up for all ages at Crosby Lakeside.

The bistro is inviting youngsters along to have lunch with Santa Claus himself on December 10, and Christmas party nights will take place throughout December.

Fitness fanatics will also have the chance to take part in a festive fun run on December 10 with a 5k run for over 14s and a 1k race on offer for the little ones.

To book a place at a Christmas party night, or lunch with Santa, call **0151 966 6868**. To sign up to the Festive Fun Run visit forms.sefton.gov.uk/festivefunrun

New sports pitches heading to Dunes Splashworld

Work is set to start on all-weather sports pitches at Dunes Splashworld in Southport.

Due for completion in Spring 2018, the state of the art pitches will open up a world of sporting opportunities in Southport and across Sefton.

While the pitches are the perfect size for a game of 5 a-side football, they can be booked out for any sports activities that would usually take place on grass.

Bookings are already being taken. To make yours contact **01704 537160** or email promotions@sefton.gov.uk the ones.



Council services over Christmas

Sefton Council will provide restricted services only throughout Christmas and New Year - as most staff are required to take unpaid leave as part of cost-savings.

Services that will continue to operate include critical social care services for adults and children, and urgent highways issues, including gritting.

To access a range of service and transactions online, visit sefton.gov.uk.

An automated phone service will be in place between December 22 and January 2, 2018 on **0345 140 0845**. Most service requests will be actioned beyond January.



Festive events guide



Date	Time	Event	Place
11 Nov	2pm - 5pm Switch on: 4.30	Sparkle in the Strand	Bootle Strand
19 Nov	Main show: 2.45pm Switch on: 5.30pm	Southport Christmas Light Switch-on	Southport town centre
23 Nov	3.30-5.30pm	Kirkstone Park Xmas event	Litherland
24 Nov	7pm	Thornton Christmas Light Switch-on	The Nag's Head pub
25 Nov	11am - 4pm	Christmas Vintage and Makers	The Atkinson, Southport*
26 Nov	5pm	Formby Christmas Light Switch-on	Chapel Lane
30 Nov	5pm	Waterloo Christmas Light Switch-on	South Road
30 Nov	6pm	Hightown	Hightown Village Green
23 Nov - 17 Dec	Mon - Thurs: 10am - 5.30pm Fri - Sat: 10am - 6.30pm Sun: 10am - 5pm	Southport Christmas Markets	Southport town centre
1 Dec	6-8pm	Merry, Merry Maghull Light Switch-on	KGV Playing Field
1 Dec	4pm	Seaforth Christmas Light Switch-on	Bowersdale Park
8 Dec	Times vary	A Christmas Carol	The Atkinson, Southport*
16 Dec	2.30pm	Comedy Club 4 Kids Christmas Cracker!	The Atkinson, Southport*

* Booking fee applies. Please check theatkinson.co.uk/whats-on

Sefton Council



Don't forget, you can visit sefton.gov.uk/events for more activities across Sefton.