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| **FLEETWOOD BEACH WHEELCHAIRS****Newsletter 5 - August 2021***"Making Memories!"* |

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| **Welcome to our fifth Newsletter.  It has been quite a while since we last sent one, sorry!**We started the year back in lockdown again and finally reopened our doors on the 30th of March.  We have not looked back since!  Our fleet now consists of 8 wheelchairs (see below) and we are getting plenty of bookings to keep us busy!    |

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| **Opening Hours:**10:00 - 16:00 daily.We are open for business every Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holiday unless the weather has other ideas.  Weekdays we are open for advance bookings only.  |

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| We welcome "walk-in" customers whenever we are open but it is best to book in advance where possible to reserve the right chair for your needs and avoid disappointment |

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| **If you can help ... we'd love to hear from you!**We are a registered charity run entirely by volunteers. Please email volunteer4fbw@outlook.com, fill in the form on the [Volunteer page](https://www.fleetwoodbeachwheelchairs.co.uk/volunteer) of our website or call us on 03000 111 003 to get involved. Thank you. |

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| As volunteers, we do not push the chairs, nor do we help with transfers in or out of chairs. We are merely there to advise on equipment and book out wheelchairs. It is great fun, we love the chatter and meeting clients and carers.   Our volunteers come in all shapes and sizes, from all walks of life and all age groups. Many but not all are retired, some are single, others come as couples. Some are students volunteering as part of their Duke of Edinburgh awards, others are students home from university for the holidays. Some volunteer regularly, others just come for a couple of hours every month or so. We are very flexible and never expect more than our volunteers are willing to give. If anyone feels they would like to join our volunteer team, we can assure you of a very warm welcome. See the contact information above - or come along to our Wheelbase and meet us, have a chat, and we can show you around. We're extremely proud of what we have achieved so far, and would love to have you on board for as much or little of your time as you can spare. |

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| When we opened in September 2020 we had just 1 beach wheelchair & our plan was to have 3 chairs within three years. We have passed that target in less than a year & currently there are 8 in the fleet:-2 x Sandpiper,  2 x Sandcruiser,  1 x Hippocampe,  1 x Hippocampe XL,  1 x De-bug,  1 x EZ-Roller...and more expected soon!We also have a range of accessories, cushions. games and activities for families to take onto the beach to add more to their day out.  We will soon be getting some beach-friendly trolleys to allow families to take all that they need for a great day out onto the beach  |

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| We are currently trying out an online booking form on our web site & Facebook page.  It is early days but proving to be quite popular. It is not fully automated - we will get in touch to confirm the booking or discuss futher if necessary.   Click [here](https://www.fleetwoodbeachwheelchairs.co.uk/online-bookings)to have a look - but please don't hit submit unless you really want to book! |

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| **Spread the word!**We have posters and leaflets available and these are being distributed in Fleetwood and Wyre to promote us.If you're further afield but can display a poster for Fleetwood Beach Wheelchairs a copy can be [downloaded and printed from our website](https://www.fleetwoodbeachwheelchairs.co.uk/post/can-you-help-2).Any services or venues who would like to work with us as a partner, please use the contact details at the foot of the page to get in touch. |

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| **Changing Places**We recently ran a survey to gauge the level of support for a Changing Places facility close to the wheelbase.  The result was quite staggering... all 402 people who took part said "Yes" although one person managed to say "Yes", "No" and "Not Sure" all at the same time.  We have passed the results and comments recieved on to Wyre Council and are due to meet with them in Sepember |

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| **Keeping in touch ...**A reminder you can contact us by the links below for our email, website and social media pages.**Thank you for your support and helping us to keep Making Memories!** |

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