

PORTOBELLO BIG BEACH BUNTING PROJECT!



The aim of this project is to unite the Portobello community by bringing them together on one project which everyone can take part in.

We would like people to make **ONE** bunting flag of their own design and the only stipulation is that you must have walked along Portobello Promenade at some time in your life!

All the flags created will be sewn together and strands of bunting will be created which can be used by local groups at community events in Portobello throughout the year.

The Project also aims to create an archive of all the flags. For this purpose we would like to know a little about you and your flag – if possible we would like you to tell us your name, where you live, your relationship to Portobello and the inspiration behind your flag, along with permission for us to use this information on our Facebook and Tumblr pages. Don't worry if you don't want to divulge any of this – you can still submit your flag!

We are hoping that this project can go on year after year with new people creating new flags which can be added – in this way we can create a history of Portobello and the people who have taken the time to contribute to the project. All being well, our first batch of Big Beach Bunting will go on display at the annual Big Beach Busk on 25 August 2012.

WHAT TO PUT ON YOUR FLAG



Your flag can be anything you like! It's YOUR flag! It doesn't have to represent Portobello, just let your imagination run riot. It could be a family crest, or a pretty pattern, or a group project with the flags spelling out a name, you could use buttons, embroidery, patchwork, ribbon etc – it really doesn't matter as long as it is robust enough to withstand being outdoors!



HOW TO MAKE A FLAG



We need to have all the flags as near to the same size as possible and for this reason the easiest way is to use a template. You can make a template by taking a plain sheet of A4 paper and folding it in half long ways (this will give you the middle point), from the middle point, fold in each side to make a triangle, tuck in loose edges and fold over the top.

The main things to remember are:

- You must use an A4 sheet for your template
- The flag must be made of fabric
- Everything (including embellishments) must be sewn, either by hand or machine, for durability so no glue please – this will be outdoors and we want it to last!

Method One

Cut two pieces of fabric, one piece for the front, decorated part, and the backing material (these don't have to be the same material). Cut slightly larger than your template to allow for a seam. Once you have decorated the front half of your flag put the two fabrics together, **right sides facing** and stitch down the two long sides. Iron the seams open. Turn your flag the right way out and iron flat.

Method Two

Using pinking shears cut two pieces of fabric, one piece for the front to decorate and one piece for the back. Cut slightly larger than your template to allow for a seam. Once you have decorated the front put the two pieces of fabric together **wrong sides facing** and stitch down the two long sides – this will give a frilly look to the outside edge of the flag.

Method Three

If you have fairly thick material such as felt then you could use a single thickness. Use pinking shears if the material is likely to fray and then hand or machine stitch along the two long edges. You could even use a blanket stitch or running stitch using contrasting embroidery thread!

Top Edge of Flag

Don't worry about finishing off the top edge of the flag. This will be done when all the flags are being stitched together by the Big Beach Bunting Babes.



* If you are a group of people and want to completely finish the string of bunting please leave one flag width between each flag – ie there's a gap between each flag. *

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED YOUR FLAG



Please send your completed flag (and your archive info if desired) to:

Laura Whillock

31 Stoneybank Gardens South

Musselburgh EH21 6NA

Or pop into one of our drop off points which are:

In-House Design, 322 Portobello High Street; Annie & Belle Cafe, Portobello High Street; The Dalriada on the Promenade and COVE, 250 Portobello High Street



If you are struggling with your flag, fear not! There will be bunting workshops and get togethers to help you with your flag. You might have a great idea but aren't sure how to get started or you would just like some ideas or guidance. Fabric will be available at these events and access to a sewing machine (or bring your own!). You could make your whole flag there and then.

Dates will be advertised in local shops and on Facebook.

