

# COMMUNITY BENEFITS

## Duchy Beach Party

**Scheme:** Duchy Phase 1 - Decent Homes Improvements

**Client:** Salix Homes

**Duration:** 27 weeks, completing March 2011

**Works:** Emanuel Whittaker are delivering an £800k programme of internal and external improvement works to 87 occupied dwellings on the Duchy Estate, Salford, bringing them up to Decent Homes standards.

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**Community Contact:** Lee Turnbull  
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Child Action Northwest  
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**Community Support Donated:** **Materials:** including sand, timber, skip hire: £1100.  
**Labour:** Designing, and creating the beach.  
Volunteers to assist during the day: 48 hours



Building on the success of the previous years event, the enthusiastic team at 'The POD' in the heart of the Duchy estate were keen to hold a street party for the local community. They had already secured the support of Salix Homes and Salford City Council, who had generously contributed the funds to support an event.

When Lee Turnbull from Child Action Northwest approached Emanuel Whittaker, he explained that the community had already arrived at a theme, a beach party. The funds they had were earmarked to hire a variety of attractions including a surf machine, bungee run and a Punch and Judy show. But something was missing... to hold a beach party - surely you need a beach! But the party was being held in the street in the heart of the estate, so how could we bring the seaside to Salford?

A tough ask, but with a tradition of designing bespoke solutions, Emanuel Whittaker's worked with the POD team to design, procure, erect and dismantle a temporary beach to fit in the front garden of the two adjoining properties that make up 'The POD'.

Getting hold of the volume of sand, safe and suitable for small children to play in was the least of our worries. Designing a solution to contain the sand, enable access to 'The POD', retain the sand in the event of rain, and get rid of the sand after the event were much more difficult issues to address...



An ideal location for a Beach Party?



It just needs a bit of imagination...

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Despite constant downpours in the preceding days, the rain managed to hold off whilst 22 tons of play sand were delivered to The POD. With the help of the 'Duchy Army', Site Manager Paul Robinson, began the back breaking job of creating the beach, complete with a boardwalk to stop you getting sand in your toes! The sand was contained within a purpose built framework, which ensured the sand didn't run into the drains if the rain fell.



On Friday 27th August the sun shone and the community came out in force to join in the fun. The Beach created a fantastic back drop and set the scene for the Beach Party, which carried on well into the Bank Holiday weekend.

