



# thanet coast 9

autumn 2005

## Project Officer's log book

Welcome to our fact and fun packed autumn edition of the Thanet Coast Project newsletter. I hope that you'll find something of coastal interest to read, do or view here!

Whether you would like to become a volunteer coastal warden, join our summer seashore safaris, take part in some summer art, do your bit on an autumn beach clean or attend a winter's walk with the Rock Doc – we have a packed diary full of events on offer for all to enjoy!

You can read about proposals for offshore wind farms. Thanks go to Warwick Energy for helping with the article and supporting the production of this newsletter.

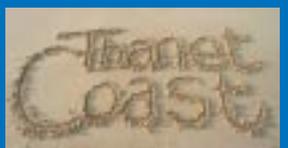
We've been really busy with events, beach cleans, schools and group visits, spreading the message about protecting our coastline and we need your help to keep this message alive! You can help by joining in as a volunteer (page 2) or by following the revised Thanet Coastal Codes 2005, now available in the Visitor Information Centres and local libraries.

*Tony Child*



# Sea Thanet Coast 2005

Art themes run through the Thanet Coast Project's links with the SeaBritain 2005 celebrations – see page 4 for more!



# FALL IN WITH A COASTAL EVENT 2005/06

## Guided Walks, Cycle Rides, Beach Cleans and Family Events

Most are not too physically demanding and would suit a variety of ages – but check details as longer events require more careful preparation. Always wear suitable clothing and shoes. Bring drinks, sun-block and hats in hot weather.

**C** – For cycle rides, please ensure your bike is roadworthy or the leader may refuse to take you! We also recommend that riders wear helmets and for children this is compulsory.

**B** – For the practical events, gloves and bags will be provided. However, it is advisable to wear stout footwear and suitable clothing (waterproofs/windproofs, depending on the weather) and to bring a drink and packed lunch.

**F** – These activities are particularly suitable for children and families, however children must be accompanied by a parent, or responsible adult, throughout the activity.

**What else?** There's a variety of different events that takes place around our coastline. For further information call into Thanet's Visitor Information Centres on **0870 2646111**.

### KEY

**A** Art Related

**B** Beach Clean/Practical

**W** Wildlife (Seashore/birds)

**C** Cycle Ride

**F** Family Event

**G** Guided Walk

**M** Meetings

**O** Other Events

**Book** Booking essential via the Ramsgate Visitor Information Centre via 0870 2646111

**KWT** Kent Wildlife Trust

**PBCP** Pegwell Bay Country Park (TR 342634) Off the A256 Cliffsend to Sandwich Road.

**TCP** Thanet Coast Project

**SBBOT** Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory Trust. The Field Centre is on the private Sandwich Bay Estate, but the toll road fee is reduced from £5 to £1 when visitors say they are only parking at the Field Centre for the event.

**VIC** Visitor Information Centre

# Summer Seashore Safaris

Back by popular demand – this year, they're bigger and better than ever!

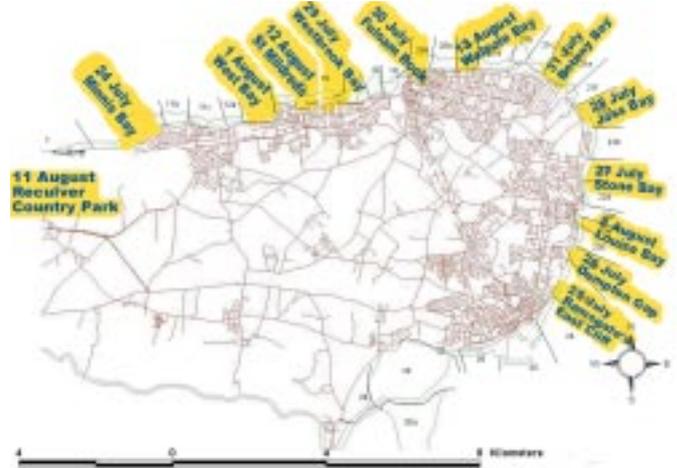
**T**hese fun beach events start on Monday 25 July at Ramsgate's Eastcliff, when Chas Matthews, from the Kent Wildlife Trust, will be joining the Thanet Coast team to help host 13 marine events around our shores during the summer holidays.

With rockpooling activities for the whole family and experts on-hand, there are plenty of opportunities to get tips on the best places to

look for marine beasties, as well as help with identifying and learning how to help protect them. This year's Seashore Safaris are run with the support of volunteers, so expect environmental games and beach art activities galore!

Take a look at the map below to find when a Safari will be coming to your local beach this summer and check out the events listings, or visit [www.thanetcoast.org.uk](http://www.thanetcoast.org.uk)

## Seashore Safari 2005 - dates and locations



## Walk for health

**I**f you fancy getting a bit of extra exercise then why not join the 'Walking for Health' organised group walks.

This autumn you don't have to worry about getting cold toes on the beach or sand in your

shoes, as the Thanet Coast Project brings the marine world to Dane Park. The 'Save Our Seas Nature Trail' will appear on Thursday 27 October and gives people a chance to find out about some fascinating marine facts. A walk leaves from SureStart Millmead at 10.30am.

For more information, call East Kent's Walking for Health on 01304 828731 or email [healthwalks@ekentmht.nhs.uk](mailto:healthwalks@ekentmht.nhs.uk)

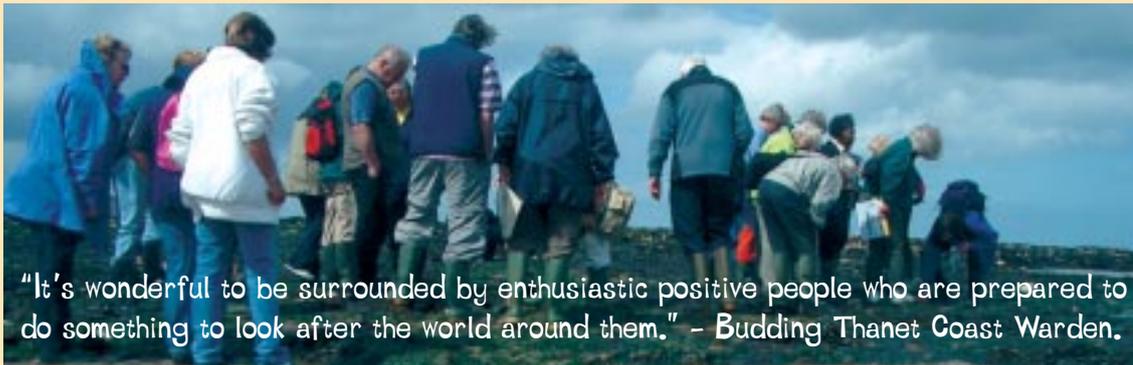
## MARINE WEEK

**T**his is a chance for everyone to celebrate the UK's amazing sea animals and plants with a week of special events from 6 to 14 August 2005 across the country with the Wildlife Trusts and partners. So take the chance to explore the rocky shore, mingle with the mussels and wallow with the whelks this summer!

You can go on Safari, join sand artists, learn the language of the Rocks with the 'Rock Doc' or take a 'Wildlife Sailing' trip to see the seals. Kent Scuba and Seasearch divers will be taking a dip in the Walpole Bay tidal pool, giving dive demonstrations and surveying the wildlife under the sea on Saturday 13 August.



# Volunteering for action!



"It's wonderful to be surrounded by enthusiastic positive people who are prepared to do something to look after the world around them." – Budding Thanet Coast Warden.

**T**hanet's newest team of coastal wardens are already making a difference to the area's coastline.

More than 70 volunteers have already completed the core training for the Thanet Coastal Warden Scheme, enabling them to take up their new roles as the "eyes and ears" of a particular part of the coastline.

Wardens are asked to help with two separate surveys. The first is the Thanet Coast Activities Survey – which they can complete as often as they can – including reporting incidents whether anti-social behaviour, unauthorised recreation activities, algal blooms or pollution! The second is the Shorelife Survey, which contributes to the county's biological records. Wardens have been trained by the Kent Wildlife Trust and so get to know their seaweed from their sponges!

The Thanet Coast Project team was delighted to see that, just one week after the initial training, the Wardens' completed survey forms flooded

into the office.

Pfizer is helping to sponsor the Warden Training and has also adopted the Warden Scheme within their staff volunteer programme.

If you fancy being a Warden, call **01843 577409** to find out more.

## Thanet Coastal Warden Scheme Training Core modules

- 1 Coastal Warden Induction (Oct/Nov 2005)
- 2 Activities Survey (Oct/Nov 2005)
- 3 Shorelife Identification (April 2006)

## Optional modules

- 1 'Adopt-a-beach' with Marine Conservation Society (Aug 2005)
- 2 Coastal Bird Identification (Oct & Nov 2005)
- 3 TCWS: First Year Celebration (Nov 2005)
- 4 Photographic Records – your bay, wildlife records and incidents (TBC- 2006)

## TRY A TIDAL TIDY UP!

**I**t's the 'Year of the Volunteer' and already local volunteers – including ones from Ursuline College, the Kentish Stour Project, ASDA, Pfizer and Barclays – have all given up their time and energy to help clean up our beautiful coastline.

Naomi Biggs, Thanet Coast Education Officer, was delighted with the response from the local clubs and companies: "The events have been very encouraging, in just a couple of hours volunteers can collect up to 20 bags of rubbish, which has a really positive and immediate impact on a beach."

To get involved, keep an eye out for our autumn and spring beach cleans, or give us a call. The more hands, the better!



Ursuline Outdoor Pursuits Volunteers, Pegwell Bay

You can help make a difference on a Beach Clean this autumn – see event listings for details.

Sat 17 Sept	<b>Pegwell Bay</b>	Sun 18 Sept	<b>Plumpudding</b>	Sat 8 Oct	<b>Plumpudding</b>
Sat 17 Sept &	<b>Margate</b>	Sun 25 Sept	<b>Plumpudding</b>	Wed 12 Oct	<b>Pegwell Bay</b>
Sun 18 Sept		Sun 25 Sept	<b>Reculver</b>	Sun 23 Oct	<b>Coldharbour</b>

## EVENTS...

**A** Throughout August

### 'Sandscript'

Look out for the works of Ruth Cutler, artist in residence in the Ramsgate area for SeaThanetCoast 2005 (see 27 August), with her temporary "sandscripts" appearing on the local sands. Ramsgate sands (TCP)

**C** Wed 3 August, 10am (4hrs)

### Cycle the Viking Trail

Free. Take in the maritime heritage of Thanet as you ride around the Viking Coastal Trail Meet: Palm Bay – outside Pitch and Putt 01843 577672 (TCP/Thanet Cycle Forum)

**B** Thurs 4 Aug, 7.30pm (2-3hr)

### Beachcombing in Sandwich Bay

£2 per adult. An evening of beachcombing and identifying finds in the lab! Meet: SBBO Field Centre 01304 617341 (SBBOT)

**O** Fri 5 – Fri 12 August

### Broadstairs Folk Week

[www.broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk](http://www.broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk)



**Marine Week 6-14 Aug**

**F** Sat 6 Aug, 9am (2hrs)

### Thanet Coast Mini-Draw

Free. A chance for young artists (16yrs and under) to have fun as they take on the role of sand sculptor!

**Margate** Main Sands. 01843 577409 (TCP / Art Monkeys)

**O** Sun 7 Aug, 3pm Margate

### Carnival Parade

01843 293733

**F** Sun 7 Aug, 9am (4hrs)

### Beach Party

Free. Drop in or stay the day to investigate the exposed rock pools and sandy areas. Reculver Country Park 01622 662012 (Chas Matthews, KWT)

**GW** Sun 7 Aug, 2pm

### Flowers and Insects of the Saltmarsh

Join the Warden on a walk to see the wildlife of the saltmarsh around Pegwell Bay. PBBCP 07889 822408 (Pete Forrest, KWT)

# EVENTS...

**G** Sun 7 Aug, 7pm (2-3hr)  
**Marine Life of the Summer Shoreline**  
 £2 per adult. Explore the various habitats of Sandwich Bay. SBBOT Field Centre 01304 617341 (SBBOT)

**WF** Mon 8 Aug, 9am (2hrs)  
**Seashore Safari**  
 Free. 'Rock-pool life' – help us discover and record what lurks between the tides.  
**Louisa Bay**  
 01843 577672 (TCP/KWT/Art Monkeys)

**WF** Tue 9 Aug, 9am (2hrs)  
**Seashore Safari**  
 Free. **Minnis Bay**  
 (See 8 August)

**F** Wed 10 Aug, 10am (2hrs)  
**Thanet Coast Mini-Draw**  
 Free. A chance for young artists (16yrs and under) to have fun as they take on the role of sand sculptor!  
**Ramsgate Main Sands.** 01843 577409 (TCP / Art Monkeys)

**WF** Thur 11 Aug, 10am (5hrs)  
**Oh I do like to be beside the seaside**  
 Free. Find out how to care for marine wildlife with wildlife displays and beach rambles.  
**Reculver Country Park**  
 01227 740676 (KWT/TCP)

**WF** Fri 12 Aug, 10.30am (2hrs)  
**Seashore Safari**  
 Free. Discover what lurks between the tides.  
**St Mildred's Bay** (KWT/TCP)

**G** Fri 12 Aug, 11am (2hr)  
**Coastal Rock Doc Walk**  
 Free. Discover the ancient wonders of the chalk cliffs, flints, fossils and sands  
 Minnis Bay Promenade above tidal pool (TR 287697)  
 Book: Ramsgate VIC 0870 2646111 (TCP)

**WF** Sat 13 Aug, 11am (2hrs)  
**Marine & Seashore Safari**  
 Free. Join the rockpool exploration, watch the art sculptures and scuba dive and seasearch survey demonstrations. **Walpole Bay**  
 01843 577672 (TCP/KWT/Art Monkeys)

**O** Sat 13- Sun 14 August  
**Margate's Fiesta**  
 Within the town and seafront  
 01843 297350

**O** Sat 13- Sun 14 August  
**Sail East Regatta**  
 Royal Harbour  
 01843 591766 Royal Temple Yacht Club

**O** Mon 15 - Fri 19 August  
**Ramsgate Regatta Week**  
 01843 591766 Royal Temple Yacht Club



# SeaThanetCoast

**T**aking a fresh look at the sea with the work of locally inspired artists, the initiative will help to develop artistic links between local communities and the coastal environment, in a range of ways, from traditional art exhibitions to innovative approaches including using the sand itself as a canvas.

Some of this summer's Seashore Safaris have sand art on view over the busy school holidays. Sponsored by local people and businesses, these involve work by artists Angela Molloy and Matt Searles. 'Art Monkeys', an Isle of Thanet Arts project, will also be on hand to help develop new young talent in the form of Beach Art and Mini-Draws open to the under 16s.

The Ramsgate Brewhouse and Brewery in the town's Harbour Parade is the setting for an art exhibition of works by local artists, who have been inspired by our coastscape. Running from 27 August to 30 September, the exhibition includes paintings, sculptures, photographs and images.

The exhibition will be co-ordinated by the Thanet Coast Project's first 'artist in residence', Ruth Cutler. The exhibition will also be accompanied by two special events – 'Sandscripts' by Ruth along Ramsgate's coastline, and an evening viewing of locally inspired coastal films and images on Friday 16 September.

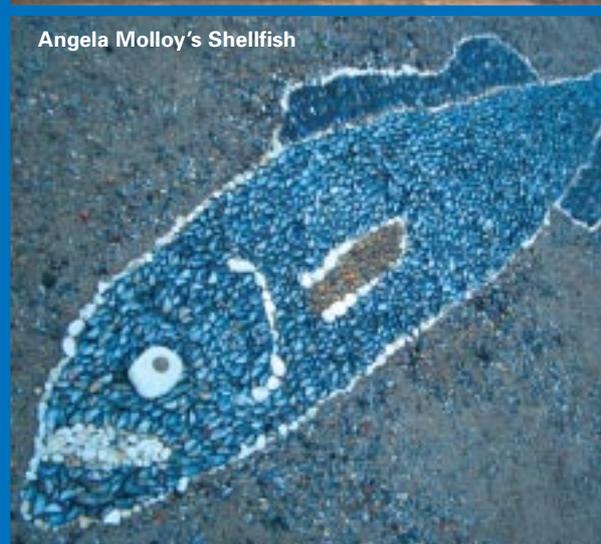


Ruth Cutler's Salvage Collage

Artists have been inspired by the beauty of Thanet. From the days of JMW Turner, who featured hundreds of his works, the spectacular shore has inspired many other artists. David Dimbleby's 'Picture of Britain' includes coastal landscapes, including William Dyce's 1858 painting 'The Sea at Margate'. That fascination continues today with SeaThanetCoast, aiming to add a marine conservation theme to the Big Draw.



Angela Molloy's Sand Eels



Angela Molloy's Shellfish

As we head into the autumn, SeaThanetCoast's Big Draw will link into the national Big Draw campaign to inspire drawing [www.drawingpower.org.uk](http://www.drawingpower.org.uk) Artists Paul Goodrick and Angela Molloy, will build upon last year's work, which involved 20 artists, with new

# the coastline through

# Coast 2005



## EVENTS...

**O** Wed 17 August  
**Gala Day**  
Viking Bay, Broadstairs

**WF** Fri 19 August, 7.30pm  
(45mins+)

**Moth Night at Pegwell Bay**  
See a variety of moths caught from the previous night; enthusiasts can continue to midnight!  
PBCP 07889 822408 (KWT / www.planetthanel.org)

**G** Fri 19 August, 1.30pm (2-3hr)  
**Beach mini-beasts**  
£2 per adult  
Hunt out the creatures of Sandwich Bay  
SBBO Field Centre  
01304 617341 (SBBOT)

**W** Sat 20 Aug, 6.30pm  
**Shoresearch Survey**  
Free. Hunt for the rare Honeycomb Worm Reefs (Sabellaria)  
Meet above Louisa Bay, Broadstairs (TQ397675)  
01622 662012 (KWT)

**W** Sun 21 August  
**Seal and Cetacean Watch**  
Free (limited places)  
National watch for seals and cetacean activity.  
Reculver 7am and Westgate Bay 8.30am (1½hrs)  
Book: 01227 750092 (Kent Seal Survey)

**O** Sun 21 August  
**Westgate Carnival**

**W** Mon 22 – Thurs 25 Aug  
**Kent Seal Surveys**  
£20 per survey (limited places)  
Volunteer for seal surveys in the outer Thames Estuary.  
Book: 01227 750092 (Kent Seal Survey)

**A** Sat 27 Aug–Tues 30 Sept  
**SeaThanetCoast 2005** – through the eyes of artists!  
Art exhibition with local artists showing a blend of work influenced by Thanet's marine and coastscape (see p4.)  
Ramsgate Brewery and Bakery (TCP)

**GW** Sun 28 August, 2pm  
**Dragonflies and Grasshoppers**  
Meet at Pegwell Bay Country Park.  
PBCP 07889 822408 (Pete Forrest, KWT)

**O** Mon 29 Aug, 12pm (5hrs) –  
**Rotary Sea Front Fayre**  
Broadstairs (01843 602972)

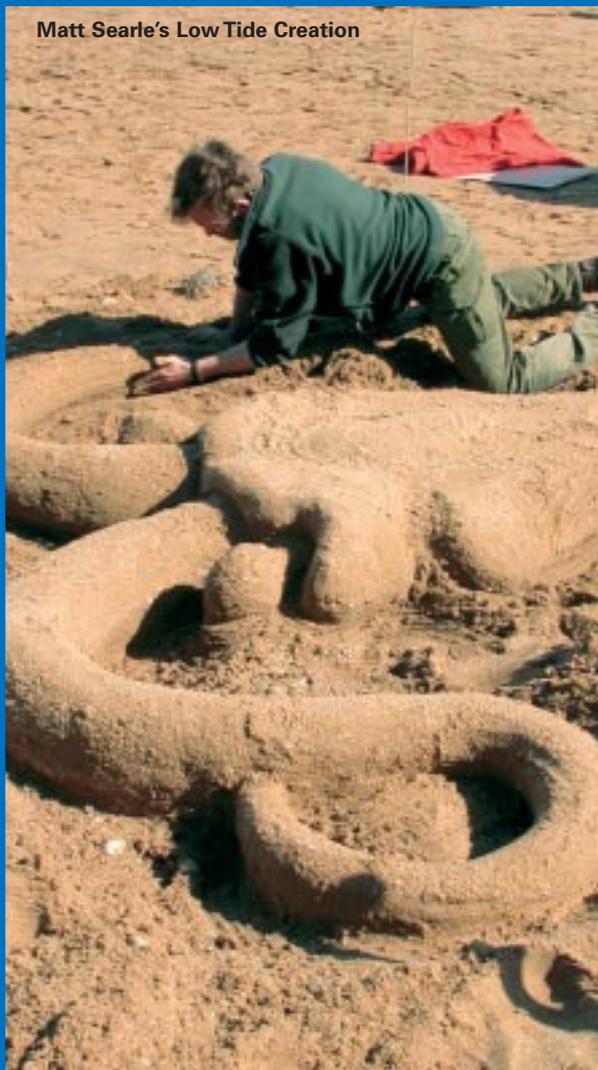
**O** Sun 4 September –  
**Ramsgate's Annual Model Ships Rally**  
Westcliff Leisure Park, Ramsgate

Thanet's coastlines for hundreds of years. The East Kent coastline in more than a line and lighting in the area has fascinated recently looked at artists influenced by their picture of people and cliffs at Pegwell Bay. **SeaThanetCoast 2005**, a series of art projects to the current SeaBritain 2005 celebrations.

**T**he art season closes in November, when winter sand barriers will be created in front of the kiosks and chalets on the main beaches in Margate, Broadstairs and Ramsgate.

Using JCBs, these sand banks will not only be a work of art, but will help to prevent winter storm damage from the North Sea and English Channel. Paul Goodrick and Angela Molloy will create features in the sand barrier to reflect these maritime sites, leaving them on public view as they gradually disintegrate throughout the winter.

Matt Searle's Low Tide Creation



Big Draw



Look out for the picturesque **SeaThanetCoast 2005** events over the next few months

### Sand Art

– see Seashore Safaris page 2

**Mini Draws** with Art Monkeys (under 16s)

– 6 & 10 August

**'Sandscripts' by Ruth Cutler**

– August

**SeaThanet Coast 2005 Art Exhibition**

– 27 August to 30 September

**Thanet Coast's Big Draw (Viking Bay)**

–15 October

**Thanet Coast Winter Sand Barriers**

– November

[www.seabritain2005.com](http://www.seabritain2005.com)

designs and an ambitious plan to involve 100 people using sand as their template within Viking Bay in Broadstairs. The image will follow the tide as it retreats and will be based on sea life forms. The drawing starts at midday on Saturday 15 October.

# in the eyes of artists

## EVENTS...

**O** Sun 4 Sept, 11am Thanet  
**Coastal Marathon and Half Marathon** £10+  
Cliftonville 01843 862554  
(Thanet Roadrunners)

**O** Sun 11 Sept, 11am (6hrs)  
**Reculver Towers Heritage Day**  
Free. A rare chance to climb the medieval towers and a guided walk around the historic site.  
Reculver Country Park  
01622 662012 (KWT)

**G** Tues 13 Sept, 11am (2hrs)  
**Rock Doc Walk**  
Free. Dumpton Gap  
(Book: See 12 Aug)

**A** Fri 16 Sept  
**SeaThanetCoast 2005 Special**

A screening of images and film amongst the works by local artists (see 27 Aug)  
Ramsgate Brewhouse and Bakery (TCP)

### Beachwatch 2005

Volunteer to help clean up Thanet's beaches as TCP links in with the Marine Conservation Society's annual Beachwatch!

**B** Sat 17 Sept, 2pm (3hrs)

### Pegwell Bay

Free. Beach below former hoverport access road (TCP)

**B** Sat 17 and 18 Sept, 2pm (2hrs)

### Margate Main Sands

Free. Outside 'Sands' café (MCS volunteers)

**B** Sun 18 Sept, 2pm (3hrs)  
**Plumpudding**

Free. Outside the Minnis Restaurant (TCP)

**W** Sat 24 Sept, 10am  
**Shoresearch Survey**

Free. Help survey Minnis Bay's marine life. Outside the Minnis Restaurant (TR284694)  
01622 662012 (KWT)

**B** Sun 25 Sept, 10am (3hrs)  
**Plumpudding Beach Clean**

Free. Volunteers help clean up along the Northern Sea Wall beaches  
Outside the Minnis Restaurant  
01843 577672 (TCP)

**B** Sun 25 Sept, 10am  
**Reculver Tidal Tidy-Up**

Free. Help clean the rubbish from Reculver to Bishop Stone Glen. Reculver Visitor Centre  
01622 662012 (KWT)

# Offshore winds t

**T**hanet's powerful offshore winds are not to go to waste! A change in direction in how households, businesses, hospitals, schools and shops are powered is coming closer, as wind energy blows down to the south east coast.

Since 1991, 105 wind farms have been built around the UK, from Scotland down to Norfolk, using nearly 1273 wind turbines to create renewable energy for lighting, cooking and heating for nearly half of a million British homes. The Kentish Flats Wind Farm is currently being constructed 10km (6 miles) offshore from Herne Bay, but two different consortiums are now interested in siting wind farms in two different locations off our coast.

One of the companies interested in Thanet's coast is Warwick Energy, who are proposing to site the Thanet Offshore Wind Farm – with up to 83 wind turbines – approximately 12km (7.4 miles)

north east of North Foreland, with undersea cables coming in at the north end of Pegwell Bay.

Not only will the wind farm help to meet strict Government targets to generate 10% of the UK's electricity needs by 2010 through renewable energy, it will also provide enough power for 240,000 homes. The project would create up to 20 full time jobs to provide ongoing maintenance over the wind farm's 40 year life span.

The company has recently staged a series of public exhibitions and is aiming to submit their application for consent later this year. If approved, construction could start in spring 2007 and it could be powering local homes by the autumn of that year. To give your views or to find out more visit [www.warwickenergy.com](http://www.warwickenergy.com) or contact the Project Manager, Thanet Offshore Wind Limited, Wellesbourne House, Wellesbourne, Warwick CV35 9JB.



## Catching up with coastal drift

### Workshops to 'have your say' on helping coastal wildlife!

Over 30 'stakeholders' representing the North East Kent coastline came together in April to help start the review of the NE Kent European marine sites Management Scheme and were asked to think about the things they value most about the Thanet Coast. They came up with a list ranging from ice cream, sea views to wildlife!

Nearly 70 organisations and 90 individuals with an interest in the coast were involved in the original workshops, and we would like to invite a wide range of representatives to join new workshops at the Winter Gardens this autumn for the review on the Scheme for 2006 to 2011. Contact the Thanet Coast Project to find out more.

### Advisory Group

This North East Kent Coastal Scientific Advisory Group (NEKCSAG) advises the Management Group on scientific issues affecting the Thanet Coast and the Management Scheme.

A report is now available on the group's 'North Kent Coastal Conference – Making Connections'

(Nov 2004) from Susannah Peckham at English Nature on 01233 811215

The Group has recently been instrumental in setting up a Kent Coastal and Marine Database Project, to pull together scientific research information for the whole of the Kent Coast, which initially focuses on the North East Kent area. For more information on the project, which is funded by Kent County Council and English Nature, email: [stefanie.buell@kmbrc.org.uk](mailto:stefanie.buell@kmbrc.org.uk)

### Recording Kent's Wildlife

The Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre has recently been launched and is now the central point of contact for information on plant and animal records in the county. You can take part, sending your own records to the Centre, or request information from them on particular species. [www.kmbrc.org.uk](http://www.kmbrc.org.uk)

The Kent Biodiversity Action Plan has been revised and updated to include Habitat Action Plans (HAPs), including ones for the Marine, the Maritime Cliff and Slope and the Littoral and Sub-Littoral Chalk habitats. [www.kentbap.org.uk](http://www.kentbap.org.uk)

# hat blow!

The second consortium the London Array project, are proposing a wind farm 21km (12 miles) from the coast of Margate in the outer Thames Estuary and have already submitted consents and planning applications. If built, the site could generate up to 1,000 megawatts of renewable energy, which could power up to 750,000 homes – equivalent to the household demand of Kent and East Sussex combined. Undersea cables would come ashore to a new substation at Cleve Hill (Graveney marshes), west of Whitstable. Details of this application are available online at

[www.londonarray.com](http://www.londonarray.com)

For any wind farm to be built, developers must follow strict Government guidelines, which means they must investigate and produce a full Environmental Statement reporting on a wide range of issues, including the impact on wildlife, noise and shipping.



Alison Hill BWEA

## For further information

British Wind Energy Association [www.bwea.com](http://www.bwea.com)  
Renewable energy [www.dti.gov.uk/renewables/](http://www.dti.gov.uk/renewables/)

View from Wellington Crescent, Ramsgate (Warwick Energy)



## EVENTS...

**O** Sun 25 Sept, 11am  
**Quicksand Race**  
Marine Sands  
01843 862554 (Thanet Roadrunners)

**WF** Sun 2 October, 5pm  
(1½hrs)  
**Rocky Shore Discover Tour!**

A wildlife meander across the rocks and pools with marine ecologist Ian Humphreys. Walpole Bay, Cliftonville. 01843 577672 (TCP)

**O** Mon 3 October, 11.15am dep. – check date/time as may change

### The Waverley

World's only ocean-going paddle steamer excursion up the Thames to London's Tower Bridge via Whitstable and Southend; return by coach (approx. 8.45pm) Margate Harbour Book: Hotline: 0845 1304647 (Costs £35.95/£33)



**B** Sat 8 Oct, 10am (3 hrs)  
**Plumpudding Beach Clean**

Volunteers clean up along the Northern Sea Wall beaches towards Reculver. Outside the Minnis Restaurant. 01843 577672 (TCP)

**W** Sun 9 Oct, 9.30am (2hrs)  
**Seaweeds and their Secrets**

Free. Discover the secret world of Seaweeds with expert Ian Titley. Botany Bay 01843 577672 (TCP)

**B** Wed 12 Oct, 10am (3 hrs)  
**Pegwell Bay Beach Clean**  
Beach below former hoverport access road  
01843 577672 (TCP)

**A** Sat 15 Oct, 12-4pm  
**Thanet Coast's Big Draw**  
Free. As part of the National Big Draw, a group of 100 people, led by environmental artists, will create a huge sand sculpture based upon sea life forms (see p4) Viking Bay, Broadstairs (TCP)

**O** Fri 21 – Sun 23 October  
**Trafalgar Day Bicentennial Celebrations**  
Various Events around Thanet Ramsgate Harbour 01843 572100

## Thanet Water User Group

The Beresford Gap launch site, and barrier, is now run privately by the 'Beresford Gap Waterski & Wakeboard Club' – call 07974 509807 for details. If any personal water craft users are interested in commencing launches at the Western Undercliff site, then they are requested to initially contact the TDC Foreshore Manager on 01843 577275. The Group's membership application details for are available from Jean Reynolds on 01843 577274 and the fee remains at £15 in 2005.



## Blue Coast to Boast!

Some of Europe's best beaches are here! Three of Thanet's beaches are flying the prestigious Blue Flag, the only ones in Kent to do so this year. For the first time, the Blue Flag is out at Westgate Bay and it returns to Westbrook Bay and Minnis Bay.

At a national level, North East Kent scooped 80% of the county's Seaside Awards, with resort beach awards going to Minnis Bay in Birchington, Westgate Bay and St. Mildred's Bay in Westgate, Westbrook Bay, Margate Main Sands, Walpole Bay and Ramsgate Main Sands.

Additional rural beach awards went to Joss Bay and Botany Bay in Broadstairs, Reculver, Herne Bay (West) and Tankerton at Whitstable.

Check out the new beach concessionaire websites for both Joss and Botany Bays – [www.jossbay.co.uk](http://www.jossbay.co.uk) and [www.thebeachkioskatbotanybaykent.co.uk](http://www.thebeachkioskatbotanybaykent.co.uk)

For further information on the awards, see [www.blueflag.org](http://www.blueflag.org) [www.seasideawards.org.uk](http://www.seasideawards.org.uk) [www.thanet.gov.uk](http://www.thanet.gov.uk)

# EVENTS...

**B** Sun 23 Oct, 10am (3hrs)  
**Coldharbour Beach Clean**  
Outside the Minnis Restaurant  
01843 577672 (TCP/Barclays)

**G** Wed 26 Oct, 11am (2hrs)  
**Rock Doc Walk**  
Free. Kingsgate  
Fayreess Hotel  
(Book: See 12 Aug)

**F** Thurs 27 Oct, 10am (2hrs)  
**Save Our Seas Nature Trail**  
Make your way along the SOS Nature Trail – see page 2  
Dane Park  
01843 577409 (TCP)

**G** Sun 6 Nov  
**Rock Doc Walk**  
Free. Pegwell Bay  
Hugin Viking Ship  
(Book: See 12 Aug)

**M** Mon 14 Nov, 7.30pm (2hrs)  
**'The Thanet Coast'**  
Illustrated talk covering the work of the TCP with Tony Child, and film about underwater sea life in the south-east.  
Park Hall, Pierremont Hall  
01843 863110 (Isle of Thanet Geographical Association)

**G** Sat 10 Dec  
**Rock Doc Walk**  
Free. Minnis Bay  
(See 12 Aug)

**2006**  
**M** Mon 9 Jan, 7.30pm (2hrs)  
**Illustrated Walk along the Wantsum Channel**  
Park Hall, Pierremont Hall  
01843 863110 (Isle of Thanet Geographical Association)

**G** Sun 15 January  
**Rock Doc Walk**  
Free. Pegwell Bay  
Hugin Viking Ship  
(Book: See 12 Aug)

**G** Sun 5 February  
**Rock Doc Walk**  
Free. Kingsgate  
Outside Fayreess Hotel  
(Book: See 12 Aug)

**W** Thurs 16 February,  
10.30am (2hrs)  
**Winter Warmer Walk**  
Free. Wrap up warm for a coastal beach stroll towards Broadstairs (for hot drinks!) and back.  
Ramsgate Marina (besides 'Needle', o/s the casino)  
01843 577672 (TCP)

**G** Sun 26 March  
**Rock Doc Walk**  
Free. Pegwell Bay  
Hugin Viking Ship  
(Book: See 12 Aug)

# shore lines

LATEST NEWS FROM AROUND THE THANET COAST

## New nutty discovery!



Fred Booth and Daphne Mills discovered a new species of crab to our area at Sandwich Bay on 6 March. The Pennant's Nut Crab, *Ebalia tuberosa*, is a deeper water species rarely found in intertidal waters.

## 'Hugin' returns in shipshape

The replica longship at Cliffsend is one of Thanet's best landmarks. It has been restored to its former glory following six months of renovation at a Gloucester shipyard, achieved with funding from Thanet District Council and Interreg.

## Adventures in Shrimptville

A 68-page book exploring Pegwell's former glory days and Ravenscliff Gardens is now available. Proceeds from book sales will go to the Ramsgate Library Fund. Contact Martin Easdown [marlinova@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:marlinova@yahoo.co.uk) or 01304 230202 for details.

## Future funding

We are looking for sponsors to help shape our future events and work. To see a summary of what we have achieved in the last four years visit [www.thanetcoast.org.uk](http://www.thanetcoast.org.uk) and if you, your organisation or company would like to support us, please contact 01843 577672 or [thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk](mailto:thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk)

## Kent Police take to water

A new partnership is tackling anti-social behaviour in the water and helping to promote coastal community safety.

Kent Police and Maritime Coastguard Agency are working in partnership with other organisations. Thirteen police officers are now enforcing the law out on the water. For more information, contact PC Andrew Small on 01622 654007.

## UK protects our coastal wildlife

The North East Kent coast's wildlife sites have now been formally designated for their European importance. The UK is the first EU member to take such action at a national level for protecting vulnerable wildlife and habitats. The UK's network of sites contribute to Natura 2000, the cross-Europe network of ecologically important protected sites.

[www.defra.gov.uk/news/2005/050718a.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2005/050718a.htm)

## Ramsgate coast

Apart from Ramsgate's summer costumed walks, why not try the Ramsgate Coast Walk designed to coincide with the BBC2 TV series 'Coast' from July to Sept.

[www.bbc.co.uk/kent/coast05/index.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/kent/coast05/index.shtml)

# thanet coast

The Thanet coast, together with Pegwell Bay, is an internationally important asset for wintering and breeding birds, the marine life associated with chalk caves, reefs and sand dunes. The area is a designated European Marine Site.



**Thanet Coast** is produced by the Thanet Coast Project

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Please note: To the best of our knowledge, the information in these articles is correct, but errors may unfortunately occur from time to time. Thanet Coast Project cannot be held responsible for any changes to events and information listed in the newsletter. Please telephone the numbers listed to confirm information. This document can be made available in other formats, including Braille, large print or audiotape. It can also be made available in other languages on request.



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