

Thanet Coast Project

Feedback 2023 to NEKMPA Management Group / NEKSCAG

Tuesday 28 November 2023 - Margate Visitor Information Centre



with support from Southern Water, Natural England & the general public donations





NEKMPA

**Thanet Coast Project &
Coastal Wardens
2023**



COASTAL WARDENS



North East Kent Marine Protected Area

Coastal Warden Introductory Training



Delivered by Tony Child

with support from Greg Bessant & Jasmine Beveridge

2023



Coastal Warden Introductory Training Sessions 2023

Drum Room, Margate Visitor Information Centre

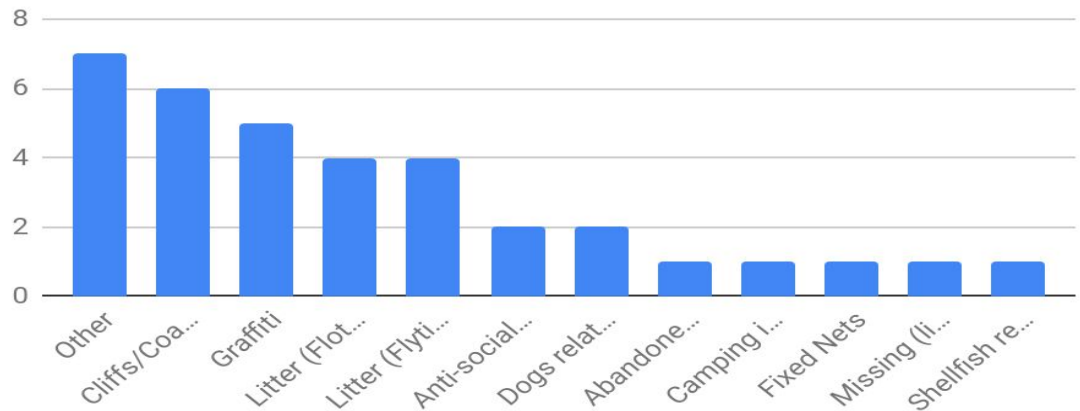
- Sat 3 June = 6
- Fri 28 June = 22 (+2)

= 28 new volunteers trained!

Incidents reports: 35

2022 to 2023 (1 Oct to 30 Sept)

2023 Type of Incidents

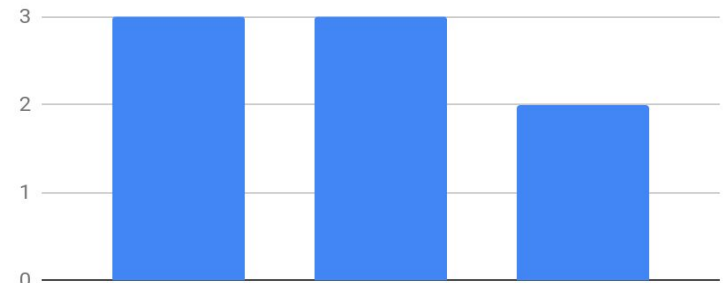


Type of Incident:

Wildlife incidents reports: 8

2022 to 2023 (1 Oct to 30 Sept)

2023 Wildlife Incident reports

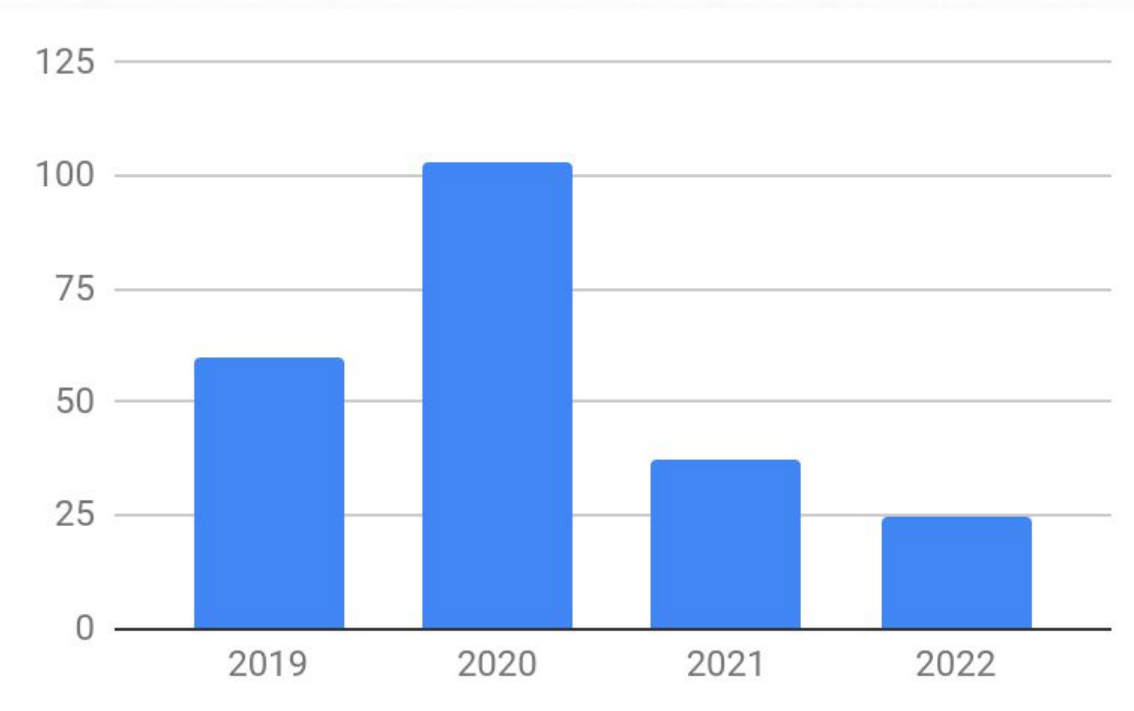
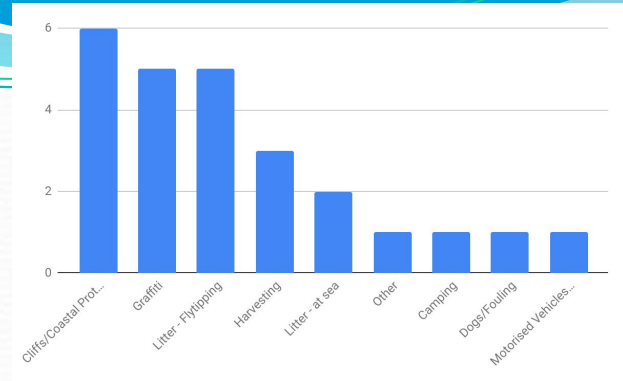


Wildlife reports

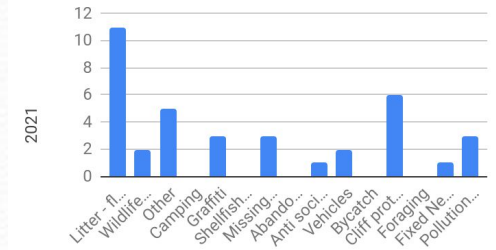
Hugh 'under-reporting' on system = as more have come through outside of system - via telephone, emails, social media!

Incidents: 25 reports

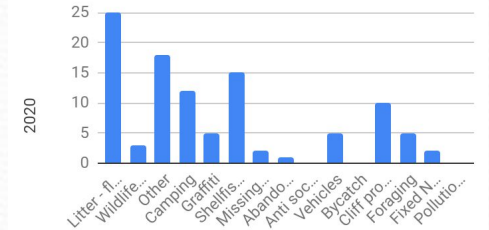
2021-22 = down from 37 in previous year



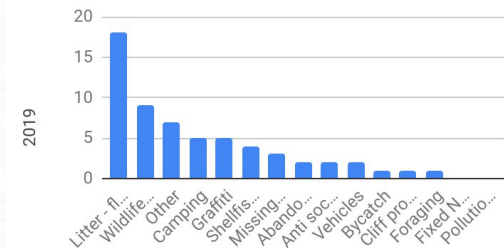
2021 vs



2020 vs



2019 vs



Comms

Website:

thanetcoast.org.uk

- 2023: 28,772 hits (so far); 2022: 28,846

Facebook: 2.6k followers

- X/Twitter (1,106)
- Insta

Coastal Wardens:

Closed Facebook Group

- 136 members

Mailchimp:

- E-News/Newsplash x4

'Online resource locker'

- Coastal Wardens Only resources

NEKMPA Thanet Coastal Wardens E-Newsplash: Summer 2023

Thanet Coast Summer 2023
Join us on the beach for some natural fun!
For event details please book online at: Thanetcoast.org.uk

Seashore Safaris
Explore Thanet's rocky chalk shore for its fascinating rockpool life - with help on hand to identify your finds (4-14yrs & all the family; 2hrs; suggested donation £2pp)

- Sat 22 July, 9am - Minnis Bay
- Sun 23 July, 9am - St Mildred's Bay
- Mon 24 July, 10am - Walpole Bay
- Tue 25 July, 10:30am - Western Undercliff
- Tue 1 Aug, 6pm - Stone Bay (evening)
- Wed 2 Aug, 7pm - Walpole Bay (evening)
- Sat 5 Aug, 9am - Margate Main Sands
- Sun 6 Aug, 9am - West Bay
- Mon 7 Aug, 10am - Botany Bay
- Tue 8 Aug, 11am - Stone Bay
- Wed 9 Aug, 11:30am - Louisa Bay
- Thur 10 Aug, 12:30pm - Dumpton Gap
- Mon 21 Aug, 9am - Minnis Bay
- Tue 22 Aug, 9am - Walpole Bay

Seaweed & their Secrets
Everything you need to know about Seaweed: a walk & talk with expert Ian Tittley (14yrs+; 2hrs; £4pp donation)

- Tue 11 July, 12pm - Walpole Bay
- Tue 5 Sept, 9am - Dumpton Gap

White Cliffs of Kingsgate:
Evolution of a Kentish Coastal Landscape
A step back in time to uncover the secrets of this stunning coastscape on this walk & talk with expert Richard Hubbard (11yrs+; 2hrs; £4pp donation)

- Wed 23 Aug, 9.30am

Great British Beach Clean
Join these beach clean / litter surveys as part of the MCS national campaign to clean our shores (5yrs+; 2hrs)

- Sat 16 Sept, 10am - Cliffsend
- Sat 16 Sept, 2:30pm - Birchington
- Fri 1 Dec, 10am - Cliffsend

Scavenger Hunt
Look for clues of life from our seas and for shark egg cases; with marine art (4-11s; 1.5hrs; £2pp donation)

- Tue 24 Oct - Margate
- Wed 25 Oct - Viking Bay
- Thur 26 Oct - Ramsgate

Look Out for more online...

- 24 June - Solstice Fayre (Newgate Gap)
- 2 Aug - Water Gala (9:30am - Seagull Hunt / stalls)

East Kent Coastal Photography Exhibition

2023
Whitstable - Reculver - Margate - Ramsgate

Join us in celebration of the East Kent coast and our glorious wildlife this summer. Appearing in a town near you.

Local landscapes and local wildlife by local photography enthusiasts

NEKMPA Thanet Coastal Wardens

Thanet Coast Project
working with people for coastal wildlife

Facebook: @nekmpa1
Instagram: @thanetcoastproject
Twitter: @ThanetCoastProj



BEACH CLEANS



Children	Adults	Beach Cleans
0	15	31 March 2023 - Pegwell Bay
0	48	Friday 16 June - Pegwell Bay
10	39	Sat 17 Sept - Pegwell Bay
16	32	Sat 17 Sept - Birchington
		Thur 1 Dec - Pegwell Bay
48	5	Fri 15 Sept 2023 (German sch)-Co



- ❑ TCP Online Beach Clean Advisory Service
 - ❑ Great British Beach Clean
 - ❑ Quarterly Beachwatch
 - ❑ Community Beach Cleans
- 47 beach cleans (1 Oct to 30 Sept)
 - 903 volunteers involved
 - Equipment loan to loan to 23



COMMUNITY EVENTS



Community	48	5
Community	371	26
Community	47	4
Community	50	4
Community		30
Community		8
Community		96
Community	16	18
Community		20
Community		16
Community		32
Community	23	13
Community		75



Exhibitions		605
Exhibitions		879
Exhibitions		208
Exhibitions		1,539
Exhibitions		1,149

- Summer Solstice Safari
- World Ocean Day: adult safari/pledges
- Broadstairs Water Gala
- ZeroMargate
- Chalk grassland walk
- School Groups.....
- 13 events**





SCAVENGER HUNTS



children	adults	Scavenger Hunts	
14	10	Margate - 4 April	
35	26	Broadstairs - 5 April	
12	10	Ramsgate - 6 April	
20	15	Walpole - 24 October 2023	
19	16	Botany - 25 October 2023	
22	15	Dumpton Gap - 26 October 2023	





SEAWEED & THEIR SECRETS

WHITE CLIFFS OF KINGSGATE



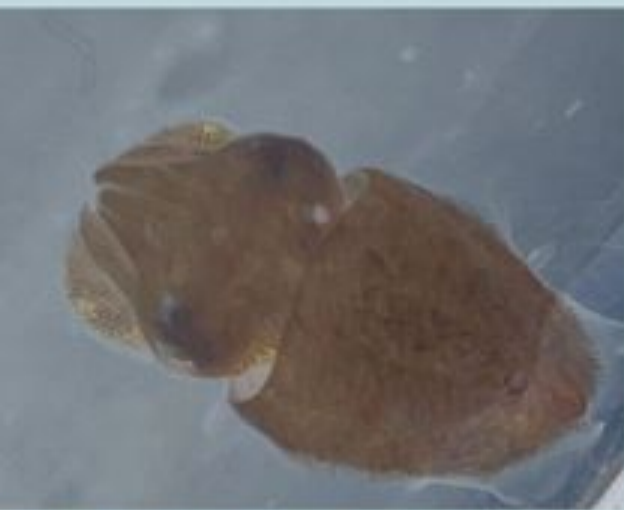
children	adults	Seaweed & Cliffs Walks
	19	Wed 10 May - Botany Bay (Seaweed)
	22	Tue 11 July - Walpole Bay (Seaweed)
1	30	Tue 5 Sept - Dumpton Gap (Seaweed)
	14	Wed. 9 June-Kingsgate (Cliffs)
2	26	Wed. 23 Aug (Cliffs)





children	adults	Seashore Safaris 2023
16	13	Sat 22 July, 9am - Minnis Bay, Birchington
23	11	Sun 23 July, 9am - St Mildred's Bay, Westgate
58	27	Mon 24 July, 10am - Walpole Bay, Margate
49	32	Tue 25 July, 10.30pm - Western Undercliff, Ramsgate
31	29	Tue 1 August, 6pm - Eastcliff, Ramsgate (Evening Safari)
28	24	Wed 2 August, 7pm to 8.30pm - Walpole Bay, Margate (Evening Safari)
0	0	Cancelled = Sat 5 Aug, 9am - Margate Main Sands
34	25	Sun 6 Aug, 9am - West Bay, Westgate
42	23	Mon 7 Aug, 10am - Botany Bay, Broadstairs
50	39	Tue 8 Aug, 11am - Stone Bay, Broadstairs
42	25	Wed 9 Aug, 11.30am - Louisa Bay, Broadstairs
44	34	Thur 10 Aug, 12:30pm - Dumpton Gap, Broadstairs
37	21	Mon 21 Aug, 9am - Minnis Bay, Birchington
46	38	Tues 22 Aug, 9am - Walpole Bay, Margate
500	341	





SUMMER
SEASHORE
SAFARIS





SUMMER
SEASHORE
SAFARIS

378 hours of volunteer time



13 community events (10 in 2022)

555 children

347 adults

36 public events (33 in 2022)

651 children (463 last year)

798 adults (750 last year)

5 photo competition exhibitions - led by Bird Wise

4,380 visitors (1194 in 2022)

4 Warden events (5 in 2022)

82 attendees (72 in 2022)

Total: 6,813 participants



Volunteer Hours: 1,801

Surveys & Events (1388.5hrs in 2022)

= £12k vol. days

= £17K (@£9.5/hr)

Coastal Wardens 'Feedback':



Coastal Wardens

'Feedback':

1a) Best bits

11 responses

Meeting potential new Wardens. Keeping eye out on coast from Minnis Bay to Epple Bay.

Learning! Observing, helping the children on safari's.

Being on the beach

seashore safaris

Seeing the enthusiasm in the fellow volunteers at each event and also in the children and their guardians as they discover new aspects of wildlife on their doorsteps.

Seashore Safaris! 🦀 And meeting new volunteers 😊

Being able to share information

Seashore Safaris

Being part of the TCP Education team , meeting and engaging with the general public and especially all the children .

Just getting out into nature

taking notice of what's going on at the beach

Coastal Wardens 'Feedback':

1b) Do better?

9 responses

Improve reporting system. See coastal signage continue to be clearer

Training that is not on a week day

Refresher meetings

refresher training on access to forms.

More group training sessions and opportunities to network

The feedback form

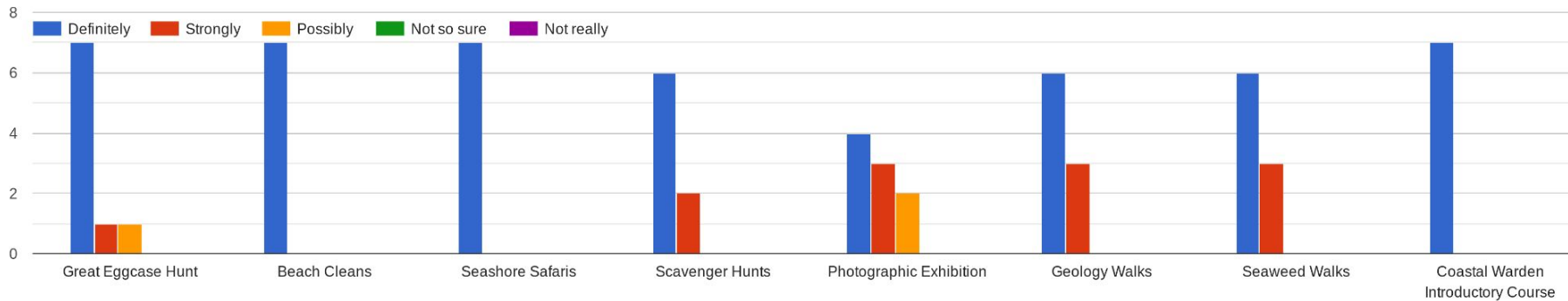
Improve notice of information eg forthcoming events or call out for volunteers . This would give volunteers more time to plan and possibly increase their availability etc Short notice impedes any planning.

More opportunity to get updates on any work , changes or progress on local areas

have a better survey form

Coastal Wardens 'Feedback':

2a) Public Events



2b) New Events

7 responses

Develop public understanding of when bird life needs to be avoided.

School visits / engagement

making a video for presentations to schools and community

Perhaps more meetings with regulatory bodies to find out what they do and expect volunteers to do to help them.

Adult rockpooling

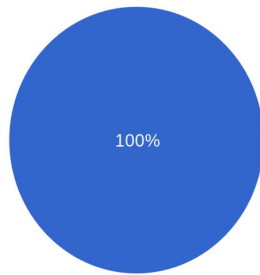
Fossil hunting for children. Simple " Geology Rocks" type walks for children. Bird walks for children. Walks and talks on local coastal insects and fauna & Flora. Childrens seaweed pressing sessions. Walk and talk about coastal photography, walk and talk with local archaeology team exploring coastal heritage.

a walk for all wardens to join

Coastal Wardens 'Feedback':

3a) Community Events

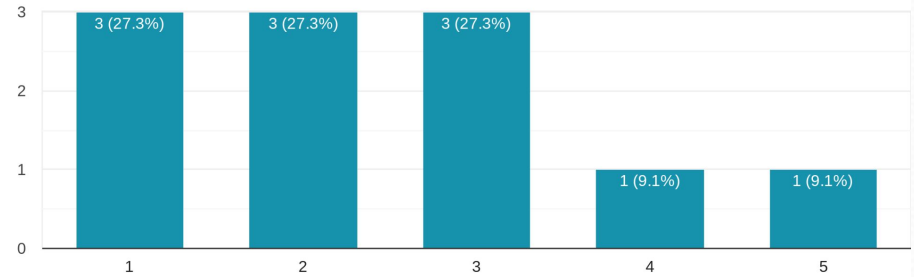
11 responses



● Yes
● No

3b) Community help!

11 responses



3c) Comments

5 responses

The Coastal warden scheme is a vital & needs full support and financial support.

I would need more training and then I would be able to help

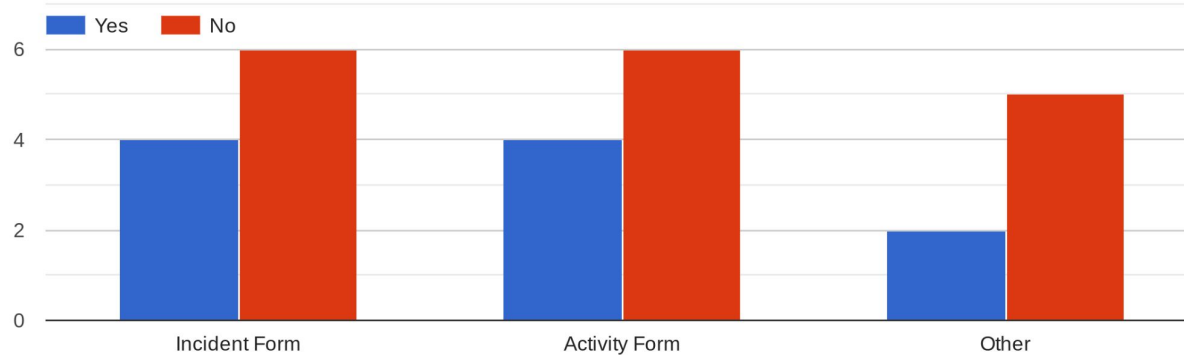
Events will need to be limited to resource available... need to be realistic

Improved advertising of public events with wider distribution. And a more efficient booking in system.

i think they're a good way of involving people but I'm not keen on being a volunteer for that

Coastal Wardens 'Feedback':

4a) Survey Forms



4b) Form Comments

7 responses

Less complex. Better layout.

make less complicated

Activity form process not as easy as it used to be

The activity form is very cumbersome needs simplifying

Clearer format , where relevant and useful information is recorded. The form user needs to know why information is gathered and to whom it is of use .

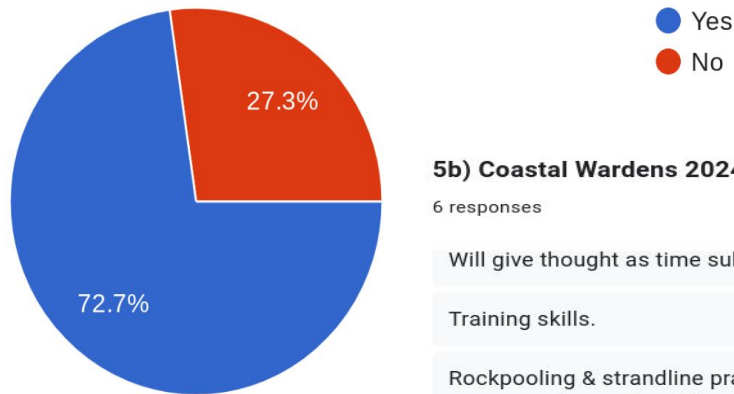
Simple activity forms and instructions, the system needs to be able to be used on mobile phone.

it is a difficult form, no need to keep saying no, or for the time of eaach activity, the start and finish has been recorded,

Coastal Wardens 'Feedback':

5a) Anniversary Group

11 responses



5b) Coastal Wardens 2024

6 responses

Will give thought as time submission for this survey is short.

Training skills.

Rockpooling & strandline practical sessions with id skills before seashore safaris to give confidence also more socials maybe a bbq on the beach to celebrate

Refresher training

Hands on workshop to ID local fossils . Walks & talks for wardens from local experts on geology, fossils, birdlife ,fish , flora and fauna, mammals etc Also if possible obtain simple reference information sheets from the experts on relevant items for wardens to use as teaching tools for school visits and public events .Information on local invasive species. Coastal archaeology and heritage. Photography workshop, Seaweed pressing workshop and marine themed art ncluding craft/art and games for children.)Sea safety/RNLR,Night time safari.Coastal wardens introductory walk and talk of their adopted bays.Beach BBQ (like in previous years) Invitation to wardens to participate in fun hands on SSS sessions .

maybe a couple of hours for wardens to get together on a beach, chat about the birds etc every so often wld be nice

2024:

- INNS / Coastbuster training?
- Geology or climate change indoor session?
- ?

Coastal Wardens 'Feedback':

6) Your Skills

4 responses

...

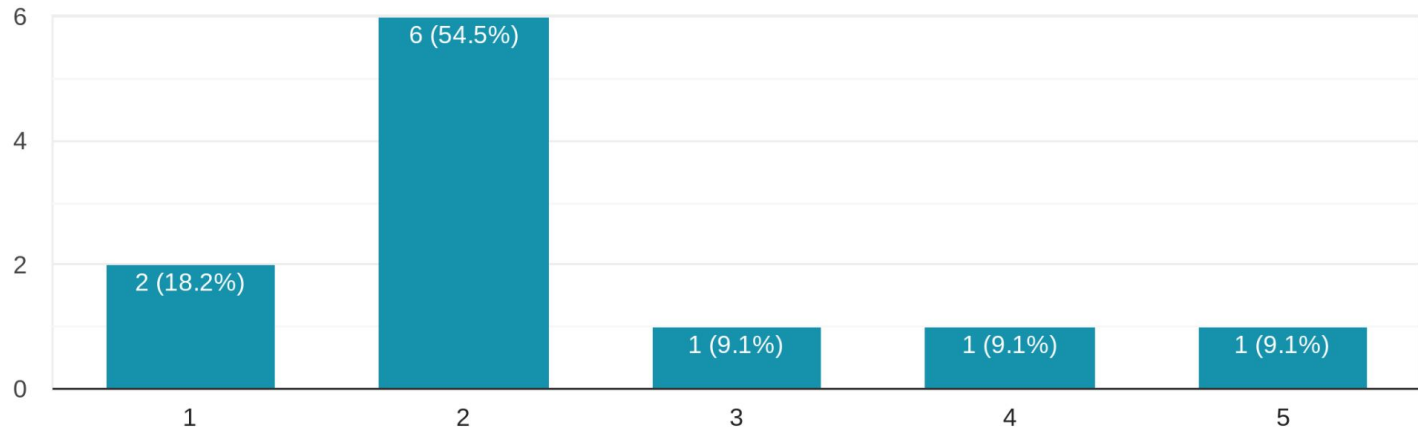
do not think so apart from knowledge gained on seashore events.

Creative /art background

Enjoy amateur photography.. Lot of hands on experience supporting coastal events(public & School)

7) Satisfaction:

11 responses



Thanet Coast Project - NEKMPA

Coastal Wardens 2023 Annual Forum
16 November - Margate Visitor Info Centre



with donations support from Southern Water, Natural England and general public





King Charles III England Coast Path – Ramsgate to Whitstable, Kent

More online at:

https://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/en_GB/trails/england-coast-path-south-east/

SEE online video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFHc7ELOMPY&t=4s>



Agenda

Coastal Warden Forum 2023

6.30pm Welcome

6:35 Thanet Coast Project & Coastal Wardens 2023

6:45 Short Sharp Shore: updates/presentations

8.10 Climate Change - Thanet

8:30 Feedback comments - Networking, nibbles & drinks

9-9.15 Depart



Short Presentations

1. **Natural England update** - NEKMPA MG-AG/Coastbusters
Becca Turley, Natural England
2. **King Charles III England Coast Path** - short film
Laura Whitfield, Natural England Access Team
3. **Is our Kelp disappearing?**
Ian Tittley, NEKSCAG/Kent Field Club/SeasideMuseum
4. **Sea Level Change in Thanet**
Richard & Tina Hubbard
5. **Coastal Bird changes**
Greg Bessant, Bird Wise East Kent
6. **Save Minster Marshes**
Nik Mitchell, Wildlife Conservation in Thanet
7. **Pegwell Bay NNR updates: The Good & the Bad**
Nina Jones, Kent Wildlife Trust
8. **Zero Margate Update** and display panels
Sam Causer, Zero Margate

