



working with people
for coastal wildlife

Thanet Coast (NEKMPA)
Coastal Warden
Introductory Training
The eyes and ears of the Kent coast

12 June 2024

Please make sure you have signed in, picked up a pack
and helped yourself to a drink!





**LEAVE
ONLY YOUR
FOOT
PRINTS
ON THE
BEACH**



Health & Safety

Evacuation – fire exit/meeting point

First Aid

Toilet

Smoking – outside

Mobile phones – on silent please

Refreshments

Timetable

- Welcome, H&S and introductions
- Why do we need to protect the coast
- NEKMPA & Thanet Coast Project
- Volunteer Role

Break

- Coastal Codes, Activity Surveys and Incident Reports
- Coastal Warden Agreement
- Health and Safety

- [More about:](#) Pegwell Bay NNR with Kent Wildlife Trust
- [More about:](#) Bird Wise East Kent
- [More about:](#) Kent & Essex Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Agency

- Coastal Warden Agreement - adopting your bay/sharing contact details/signing



New Volunteers: Coastal Warden/Guardian INTRODUCTIONS



Coastal Wardens

- Coastal Warden Scheme set up in Nov 2004
- To be the 'eyes & ears' of the Thanet Coast

You may hear about 'Guardians of the Deep' - GOTD - set up with Lottery funding to extend the role around the Kent Coast 2017-20



Guardians of the Deep



Engaging people in helping to protect Kent's natural marine environment



Caring for and safeguarding it for present and future generations

Projects:



Coastal Connections



Undersea Explorers



Wildbeach



Coastal Citizen Science

Coastal Guardians / Wardens



Volunteers who become the eyes and ears of a stretch of coastline near where they live or regularly visits



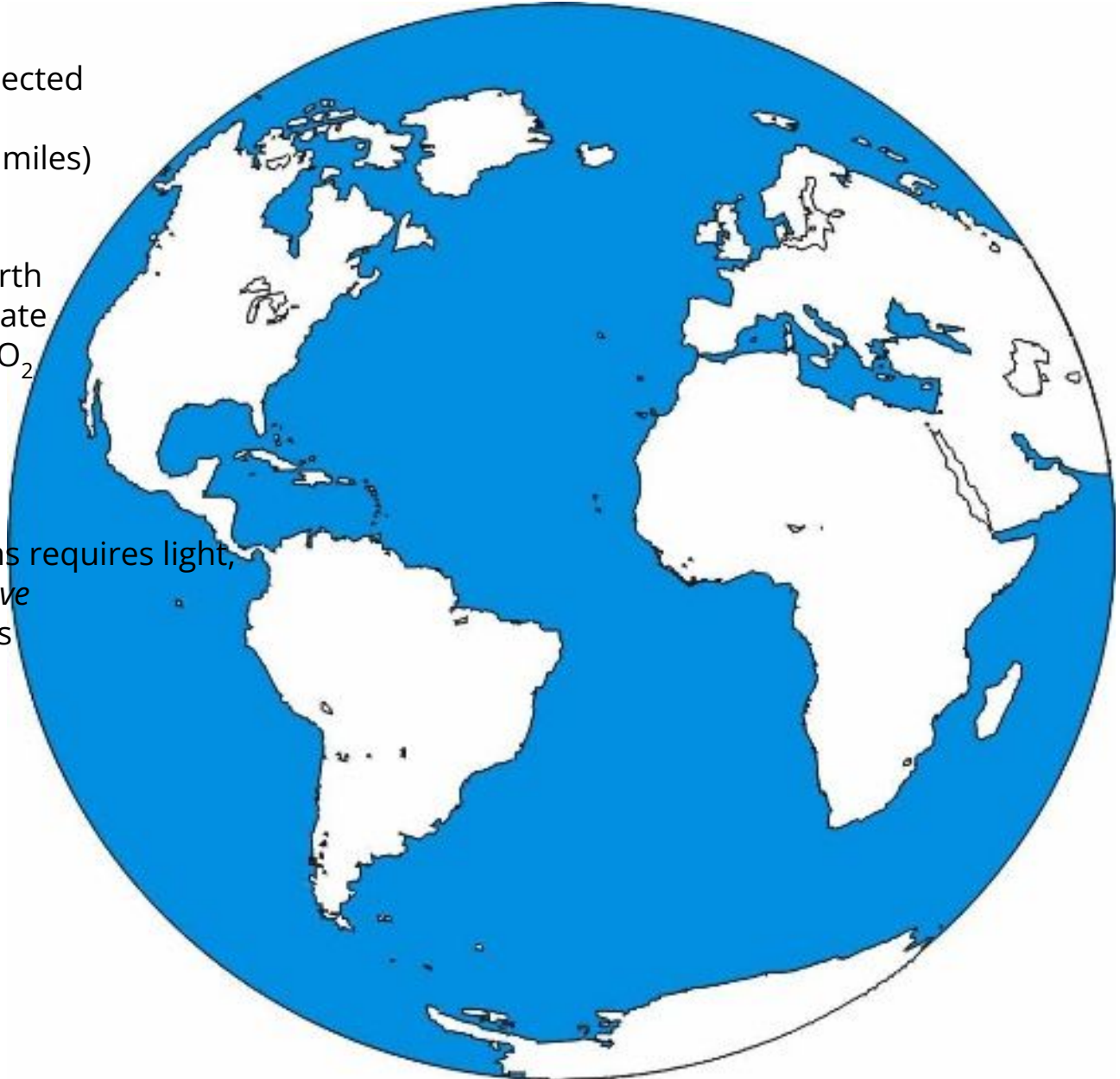
Ocean facts

- Only one ocean - its all connected
- 71% of the Earth's surface
- Average depth is 3.8km (2.4 miles)
max = 7 miles; 1.3 t/cm²
- 96% of all 'living space'
- Almost every element on Earth
- Governs our weather & climate
- Absorbs huge amounts of CO₂
- Home to the largest animal & the smallest plants
- Microscopic marine algae

Produce 50% of Earth's oxygen

- Like land, marine ecosystems requires light, nutrients & water = most productive areas are surface & coastal waters

- Great diversity of habitats and species...

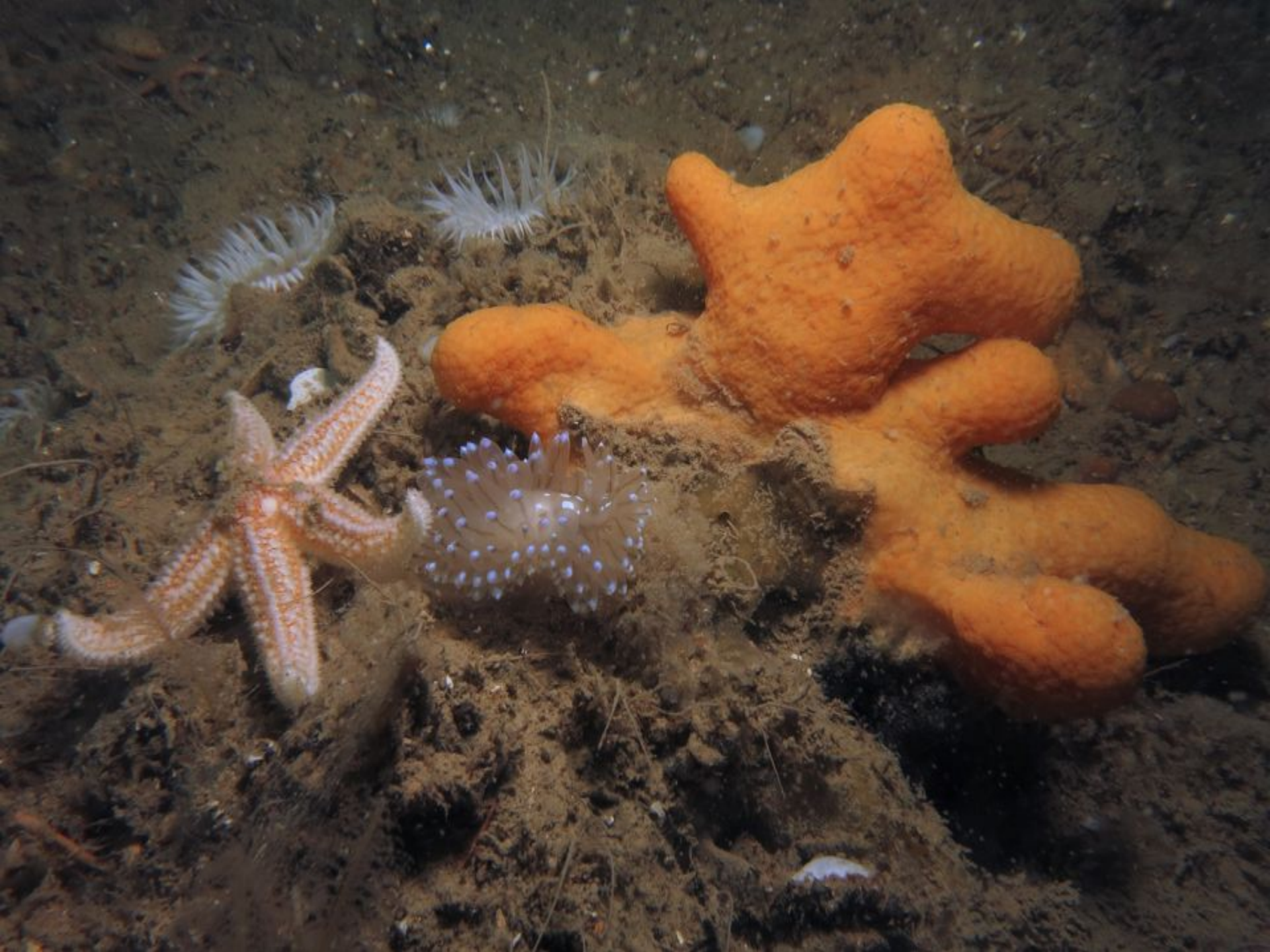


What is this?

















South East England Marine Conservation Zones

B	Bembridge	OB	Offshore Brighton
BCRC	Blackwater, Crouch, Roach & Colne Estuaries	OF	Offshore Foreland
BHE	Beachy Head East	OO	Offshore Overfalls
BHW	Beachy Head West	PH	Pagham Harbour
DD	Dover to Deal	S	Swanscombe
DF	Dover to Folkestone	SBH	Selsey Bill and the Hounds
FP	Folkestone Pomerania	SE	Swale Estuary
GS	Goodwin Sands	TC	Thanet Coast
IB	Inner Bank	TN	The Needles
K	Kingmere	U	Utopia
KKE	Kentish Knock East	YC	Yarmouth to Cowes
ME	Medway Estuary		























Internationally important coastal bird populations

Golden plover

- Winter visitors
- Found mainly on pasture & on the mudflats at Sandwich Bay
- Can form very large flocks of 2 to 10,000 birds



Turnstone

- Breed in arctic & spend winter in Thanet (*Oct-April*)
- Roost sites found all around the chalk coast
- Feed on chalk reefs & beaches – *crustaceans, periwinkles & peeler crabs*
- Vulnerable to disturbance from people & dogs...



© Brett Lewis



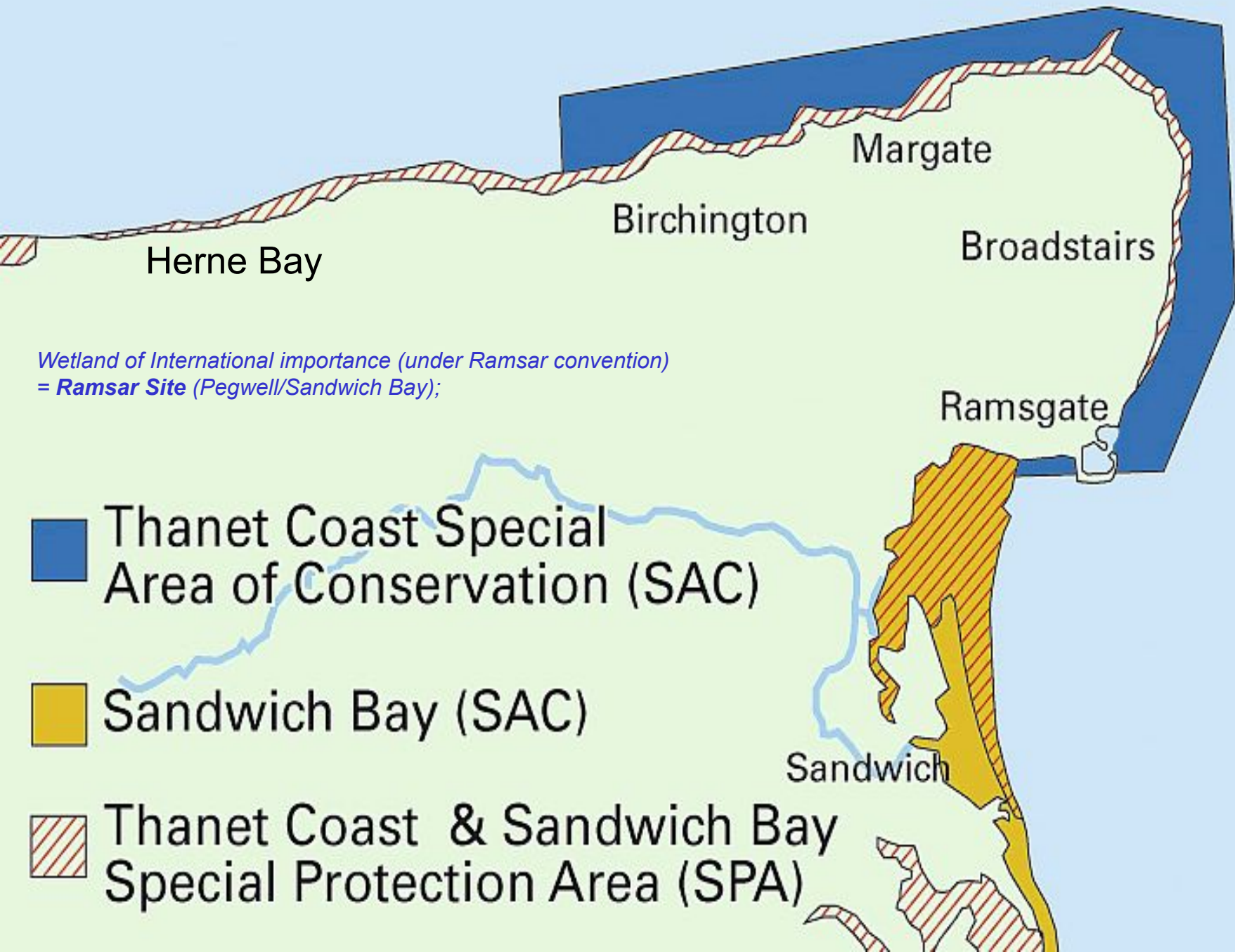
Quite simply...

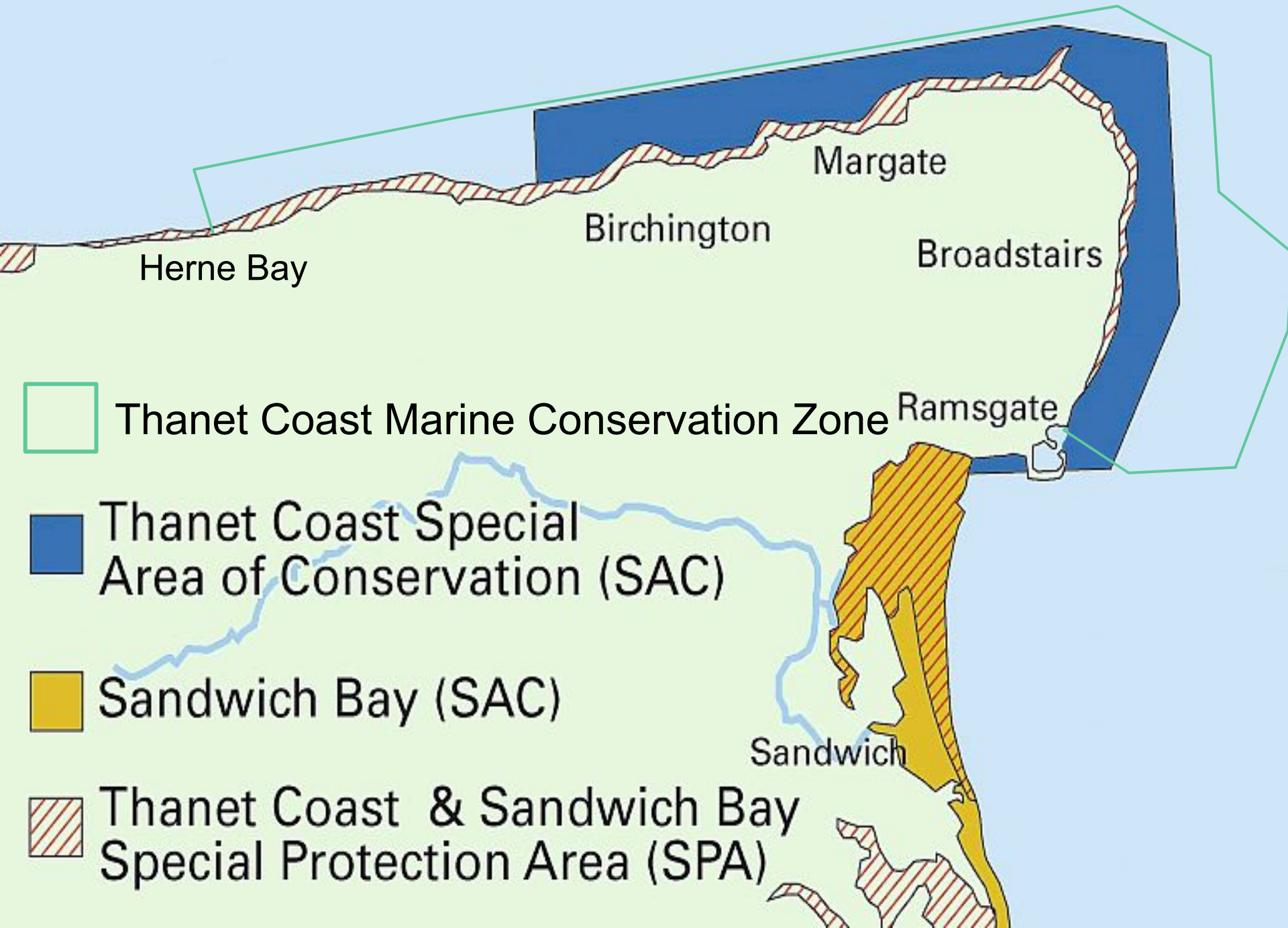
Thanet Coast (NEKEMS)

- three particular features considered to be important in a European context:

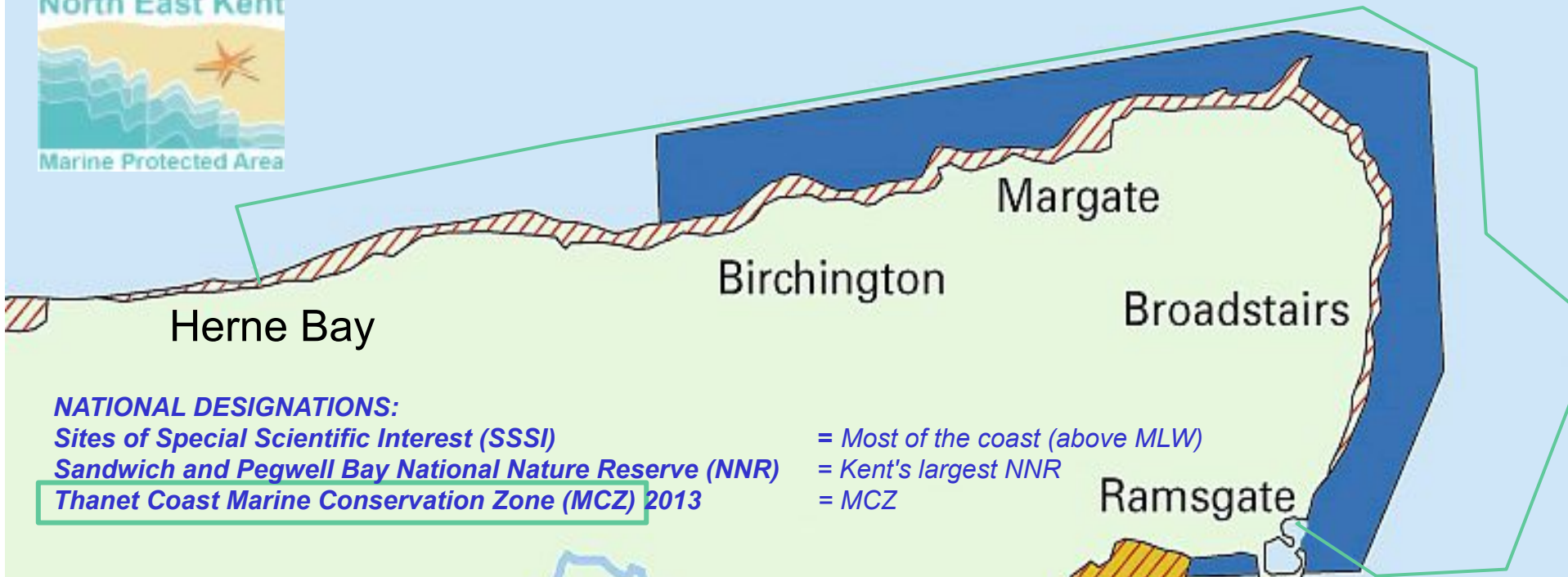
- Chalk reef & sea caves
- Sand & mud flats
- Over-wintering birds
 - *internationally important populations*











NATIONAL DESIGNATIONS:

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Sandwich and Pegwell Bay National Nature Reserve (NNR)


Thanet Coast Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) 2013

= Most of the coast (above MLW)

= Kent's largest NNR

= MCZ

 Thanet Coast Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

 Sandwich Bay (SAC)

 Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay Special Protection Area (SPA)

Sandwich

Wetland of International importance (under Ramsar convention) = Ramsar Site (Thanet Coast/Pegwell/Sandwich Bay);

Busy urban coastline!





All our activities have an effect -
*and we need to consider what actions
we can take to keep it in a favourable condition!*

NEKMPA Management Group



NEKEMS Management Group

Determining policy (1990s):
Approach and principles of stakeholder
dialogue and voluntary measures

NEKEMS Stakeholders workshops

- Identifying issues
- Clarification of objectives
- Identification solutions

Agree action

Management Scheme 2001-06

★ Implementation of Action Plan 2001-06
Launch coast project and advisory group

Review of Management Scheme through
stakeholder dialogue workshops (2006)
using 'ecosystem approach' principles
NEKEMS Management Scheme 2007-12

- Subject/activity tables
- Actions, research and monitoring
- Action Plan 2007-12

Implementation of actions
TCP Business Plan 2008-12
Monitoring and review

Towards NEKEMS aims and objectives
Review of Scheme



Action Plans

2013-18 & 2019-24 & Next?

Action Plan

- **General Activity Management** (Shore, Water and Air Based Recreation)
- **Shoreline Management**
- **Fishing & Harvesting**
- **Ports, Harbours & Navigation**
- **Research & Education**
- **Water Quality**
- **Species Management & Control**
- **Extraction of Material**
- **NEKMPA Designation Features**
- **NEKMPA**
- **Management Group responsibilities**
- **Strategic Access Management and Monitoring**

TYPE OF ACTION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATION	APRIL 2020 UPDATE	APRIL 2021 UPDATE	APRIL 2022 UPDATE	APRIL 2023 UPDATE	APRIL 2024 UPDATE	Comments:
General Activity Management (Shore, Water and Air Based Recreation)								
Planning	Coastal Codes: 1. NEKSCAG/NEKMPA MG to review and update the set of Coastal Codes to reduce the level of potential impact/disturbance of recreational activities across the NEKMPA - with codes made more site specific for parts of the NEKMPA (eg Thanet-Sandwich Bay; & Herne Bay-Whitstable) and incorporating the protection of the newer MCZ designation features. 2. NEKMPA MG members to individually promote the Coastal Codes in their area and ensure links to incorporate the NEKMPA logo.	TDC / DDC						2021: New Thanet Coast & Beach PSPO to be produced in 2021; Code of Conduct (including links to Thanet Coastal Codes); This reviewed & updated in 2021-22 to reflect new PSPO in 2021/22. Latest - The NEKMPA Coastal codes, covering all remit areas, the NEKMPA webpages. CCC will aim to look at and amend as relevant to the area.
	Sandwich & Pegwell Bay NNR Management: The NNR Steering Group, led by KWT, to produce new NNR Management Plan, that this time incorporates access and recreational management.	CCC						Core partners met in December 2022 to reaffirm the continuity of managing the NNR. Delay at KWT due to capacity to get the running but day to day cooperation between partners has been the reserve is managed. It is hoped to re-start meetings in 2023. Plan draft produced and includes specifics on access and recreation. This part of the plan is intended to be pragmatic and may be dependent on such conditions as recreational demand, discharges, staffing etc.
	Access Management and Monitoring: Develop 5 year business plan as part of the strategic access management and monitoring strategy (SAMMS) for along the NEKMPA coastline to address increased recreational pressures and create new opportunities in the area. See SAMM section for actions.	CCC / TDC						This element is being completed by BirdWise North-East and is able to provide an update - see later section.
	Bay Information Signs: 1. Phased, gradual update and introduction of bay information signs including: maps, water quality (for main bathing bays), safety; and links to NEKMPA and Coastal Codes. 2. National Nature Reserve - signage review and implementation of signs (NNR)	TDC						2021: Temporary Coast PSPO information will be produced/drafted in 2023/24; New bay information signs put in place. Ongoing coastal signage works; all CCC areas are up to date. Due to be replaced in '23/'24. Beach Safety signage on private Whitstable are being drafted (with the help of CCC) plus the water quality signs due '23/'24. New SSSI signage at Long Rye
		CCC						



Thanet Coast Project

Set up in 2001, works within the North East Kent Marine Protected Area (NEKMPA) & management scheme, with the remit to:



- **Raise awareness of the important marine and bird life**
and how to avoid damaging them
- **Work with local people to safeguard coastal wildlife**
and implement the Management Scheme action
- **Encourage and run wildlife related events**
and make links with wildlife, green tourism, coastscape and the arts
- **Focal point for enquiries & gathering information**
on coastal wildlife & environmental issues
- **Keep everyone informed with progress**
- through various means - website, articles, newsletter, stakeholder workshops.



The North East Kent European marine sites Management Scheme
2007-2012



Coastal Codes

Voluntary set of codes, produced by local people

- **Shore-based Recreation**

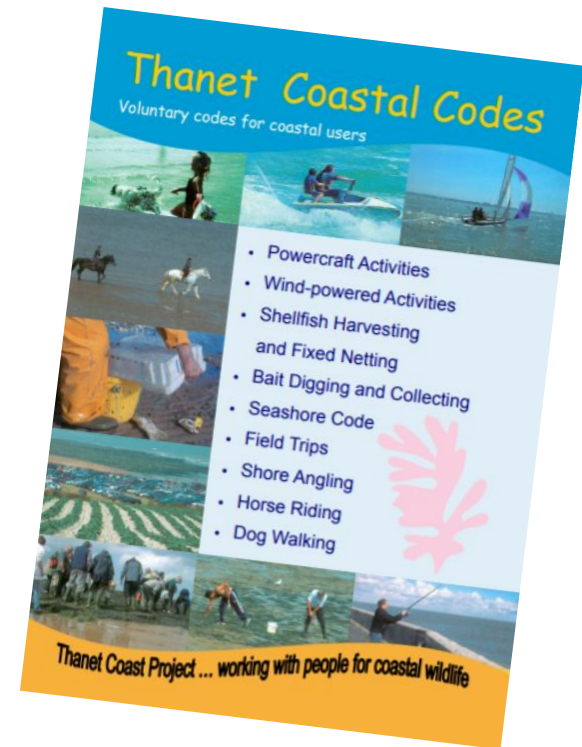
- Seashore
- Horse Riding
- Dog Walking
- Field Trips

- **Water-based Recreation**

- Powercraft Activities
- Wind-powered Activities

- **Fishing & Harvesting**

- Shellfish Harvesting & Fixed Netting
- Shore Angling
- Bait Digging & Collecting



ONLINE:

- Marine Wildlife Watching
- Seaweed Harvesting Code
- Fossil Code

**Kite Surfing Agreement (Pegwell Bay)
Bait Digging Agreement (Pegwell Bay)**

Welcome to our beach boards

- *how to avoid harming the bird & marine life*
- *responsible use of the coast*
- *safety issues relating to the activity*

*Drafted by stakeholders deciding together
Encourage self-regulation by user groups
Kept under review and monitored*





COASTAL WARDENS



Coastal Wardens

Role and opportunities

Adopt a bay to help safeguard and keep an eye on the coast = 'coastal stewardship'

Name		Bay	Date							
			___ / ___ / 20__							
Day of Week		Time	Holiday							
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	___ : ___	Bank	School	None
Tide Height		Tidal State	Sea State							
Low	In Between	High	Incoming	Neither	Outgoing	Calm	Moderate	Rough		
Weather		Temperature	Wind Strength							
Sunny	Rain	___ °C	Still							
Sunny Intervals	Showers	Wind Direction	Gentle Breeze							
Cloud	Sleet	NW	N	NE	Moderate Wind					
Overcast	Snow	W	None	E	Strong Wind					
Fog		SW	S	SE	Storm					
		Unknown								



Report Incidents



Jean Seddon



© Vicky Aitkenhead



Photo Ben Cooper

Beast from the East

Minnis Bay - May 2024



Attend Learning Opportunities

- Shoresearch (KWT)
- Species ID workshops
- Coastbusters
 - non native species (practical control work)
- Specialist topics:
 - Geology
 - Seaweed
- How to run a beach clean
- Coastal Birds (Bird Wise)
- Talks& more









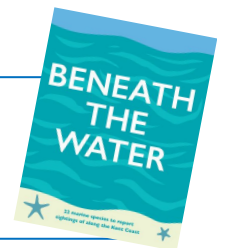


Surveys to get involved in

Survey name	Details	Organised by
Shoresearch	Organised monthly surveys of the seashore recording flora and fauna	Kent Wildlife Trust www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/whatwe-do/livingseas/shoresearch
Jellyfish survey	Identifying and reporting washed up jellyfish	Marine Conservation Society http://tinyurl.com/l43cb9j
The Great Eggcase Hunt	Identifying and reporting washed up ray and dogfish eggcases	The Shark Trust www.sharktrust.org/en/great_eggcase_hunt
The Big Seaweed Search	Identifying and recording seaweeds on the seashore	The Natural History Museum http://tinyurl.com/z7v85qs
Beach Watch	A beach cleaning and litter surveying programme	Marine Conservation Society http://www.mcsuk.org/beachwatch/



And more.... eg Coastbusters; BTO (WeBs)/Fulmars ; RSPB; Bees...
'Beneath the Water' = Non-native species reports.



Educational Events

Eggcase and Scavenger Hunts

– sign in / assistance / beach art

Seashore Safari

- set up/ assistance/ sign-ins

Great British Beach Clean

- Plumpudding, Birchington
- Pegwell Bay, Cliffsend
- Running your own Beach Clean, or Two-minute Beach Cleans!

School Trips – rockpooling, scavenger hunts etc

Community events

- Running an activity eg safari, beach clean
- Broadstairs Water Gala eg activity / stall
- Open Days - stall/activity
- Viking Ship Hugin's 75th - event



Upcoming Training events

Beginner's Intro' to Kent's Shore Life

- **1pm to 5pm, Tues 2 July - Margate VIC:** [BOOK HERE](#)

This beginner's intro' to Kent's Shore Life. This will mainly involve an indoor technical presentation running through the range of life you are likely to encounter - followed by a short look on the shore life nearby.

Pre-Safari look at Shore life & their Stories

- **6pm, Mon 22 July - Walpole Bay:** [BOOK HERE](#)

For new and experienced Coastal Wardens and Volunteers that would like to help out at our Seashore Safaris. Involves set up of the 'wet tables' with the range of the common shore life that we are likely to find - and enable us to share the stories that we can promote.

Coastbuster Training (24 April; next - tbc)

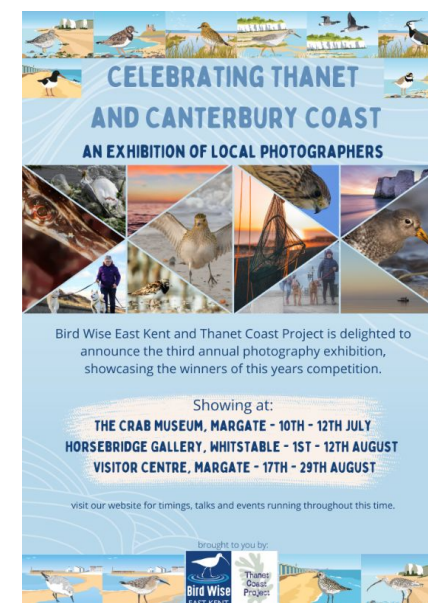
TBC - Emergency First Aid At Work (EFAW) One day training for volunteers that help at practical events - eg Coastbusters - & on the Educational Events.



Upcoming events

- ~~Active Ramsgate Week - Safari (28th) & Scavenger Hunt (31 May)~~
- ~~Scavenger Hunts - 29 May (Walpole); 30 May (Botany)~~
- ~~World Ocean Day - Sat. 8 June Seashore Safari: 8am (Stone Bay) et. 11am-4pm Broadstairs Harbour~~
- Pegwell Bay Beach Clean - Fri 28 June, 10am (TCP/KWT)
- Seaweed & their Secrets - marine algae! Thu.27 June-Botany; Mon.19 Aug-Dumpton; Tue.15 Sept-Walpole
- White Cliffs of Kingsgate - geology/history! 13 July & 9 Sept
- Broadstairs Water Gala - Wed. 24 July 10am: Safari 8:30am-Louisa Bay; 11am-4pm: Meet & Greet
- Community activity events
 - ~~Stall - Windmill Community - Wed. 28 May (Northdown Primary School)~~
 - Solstice Scavenger Hunt - Sat 22 June (FLINTS, Newgate Gap)
 - Seashore Safari - Tue 26 June (Broadstairs College Supported Learning)
 - Seashore Safari - 3 July (Guides, Minnis Bay) - tbc
 - Stall - Windmill Allotments - Fri 26 July 12-3pm
 - Stall - Viking Ship Hugin 75th - Sun. 28 July
 - Westbrook Sunken Garden Ecofair - 6 Oct
- Other: Shoresearch (KWT); Kent Field Club; Coastbusters (monthly)
 - Photographic Exhibition - Celebrating Thanet & Canterbury Coast - with Bird Wise EK
 - Art Exhibition - 16-17 November with Northdown Primary School (at The Margate School)
- PUBLIC EVENTS - see flier: Summer Seashore Safaris ...etc

For details: look at the website/E-News/CW Facebook page!





Thanet Coast 2024

Join us on the beach for some natural fun.

Please **BOOK** at: Thanetcoast.org.uk

to join and view event details.



Working with people for coastal wildlife

Great Eggcase & Scavenger Hunts

Look for clues of life from our seas and for shark egg cases; with marine art (4-11s; 1.5hrs; £2.50pp donation)

- Tue 2 April, 2pm - Margate
- Wed 3 April, 2pm - Viking Bay
- Thur 4 April, 2pm - Dumpton Gap
- Wed 29 May, 11am - Walpole Bay
- Thu 30 May, 11am - Botany Bay
- Fri 31 May, 11am - Ramsgate
- Tue 29 Oct, 2pm - Walpole Bay
- Wed 30 Oct, 2pm - Botany Bay
- Thu 31 Oct, 2pm - Ramsgate

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; £2.50pp suggested donation)

- Wed 24 July, 8:30am - Louisa Bay
- Thu 25 July, 9am - Eastcliff, Ramsgate
- Fri 26 July, 9:30am - West Bay, Westgate
- Sat 27 July, 10am - St Mildred's Bay
- Sun 28 July, 11am - Margate Main Sands
- Mon 29 July, 12pm - Walpole Bay
- Tue 30 July, 1pm - Minnis Bay
- Wed 7 Aug, 8:30am - Western Undercliff
- Thu 8 Aug, 8:30am - Botany Bay
- Fri 9 Aug, 8:30am - Stone Bay
- Sat 10 Aug, 9am - Walpole Bay
- Sun 18 Aug, 5:30pm - Walpole Bay (evening)
- Wed 7 Aug, 8:30am - Western Undercliff
- Thu 8 Aug, 8:30am - Botany Bay
- Fri 9 Aug, 8:30am - Stone Bay
- Sat 10 Aug, 9am - Walpole Bay
- Fri 22 Aug, 8am - Eastcliff, Ramsgate
- Fri 23 Aug, 9am - Dumpton Gap

Seaweed & their Secrets

Everything you need to know about Seaweed: a walk & talk with expert Ian Tittley (14yrs+; 2hrs; £5pp donation)

- Mon 22 Apr, 5pm - Walpole Bay
- Thu 27 June, 9:30am - Botany Bay
- Mon 19 Aug, 6pm - Dumpton Gap
- Tue 15 Oct, 4pm - Walpole Bay

White Cliffs of Kingsgate:

Evolution of a Kentish Coastal Landscape
Uncover the mysteries of this stunning coastscape on this walk & talk with expert Richard Hubbard (11yrs+; 2hrs; £5pp)

- Mon 13 May, 9:30am
- Sat 13 July, 9:30am
- Mon 9 Sept, 9:30am

DID YOU KNOW?

- # Thanet's coast is **internationally & nationally important** for its bird & marine life.
- # You can volunteer as a **'Coastal Warden'** to help safeguard our coastline.
- # An **online notification of School Beach Visits** includes advice to assist your beach experience.
- # Groups can use an online **beach clean notification** & borrow equipment to run their own clean!
- # **Tracker Packs** with fun things to do can be hired by families/groups (Margate/Broadstairs/Ramsgate)

North East Kent



Thanet Coast Project is a 'not for profit' project & is grateful for your donations & support.

@nekmpt1 @thanetcoastproject

@ThanetCoastProj

SUMMER SEASHORE SAFARIS



Look Out for more online...

- Active Ramsgate Week** - 28 May, 11am-Safari & 31 May, 2pm-Scavenger Hunt
- World Ocean Day** - Sat. 8 June
- 8am Safari Stone Bay; 11-4 Meet/Greet at Harbour
- Water Gala** 24 July 8.30am - Safari; 12-4pm Harbour
- East Kent Coast Photographic Exhibition** - See the winning entries from the photography competition - with Bird Wise - celebrating our coast & wildlife at various venues.





Annual Forum / Socials





2024

20th Anniversary of volunteer Coastal Wardens



20th Anniversary Walks Programme 2024

walks, talks and activities drawn up by Coastal Wardens - just for Coastal Wardens!

BOOKING: [Eventbrite booking link](#)

- Sun 28 April, 12-4pm (4hrs) - Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory & NNR
- Sun 19 May, 11am-1pm (2hrs) - Pegwell Bay National Nature Reserve
- Sat 15 June, 11am (3hrs) - Dumpton Gap to Ramsgate's Royal Harbour
 - Sun 7 July, 11am (2hrs) - Palm Bay to Botany Bay clifftop
 - Sun 4 August, 11am (3hrs) - Minnis Bay to Reculver
- Sun 25 August, 10am (3hrs) - Cliffsend to Western Undercliff, Ramsgate
 - Thur 5 Sept, 7.30pm (2.5hrs) - Walpole Bay Night Time Exploration
 - Sun 6 Oct, 9am (2hrs) - Kingsgate to Botany Bay
 - Sun 1 December, 11am (2hrs) - Long Rock, Swalecliffe, Whitstable

Special thanks to Julie, Daniel, Debbie, Greg & Tina for organising the walks - and thanks to the guest speakers.

Information Booklet



PLEASE
REMEMBER YOUR
RESOURCE LINK:
<https://www.thanetcoast.org.uk/coastal-warden-resource/>

(amend link: shown on Guardians of the Deep blue contacts sheet!)

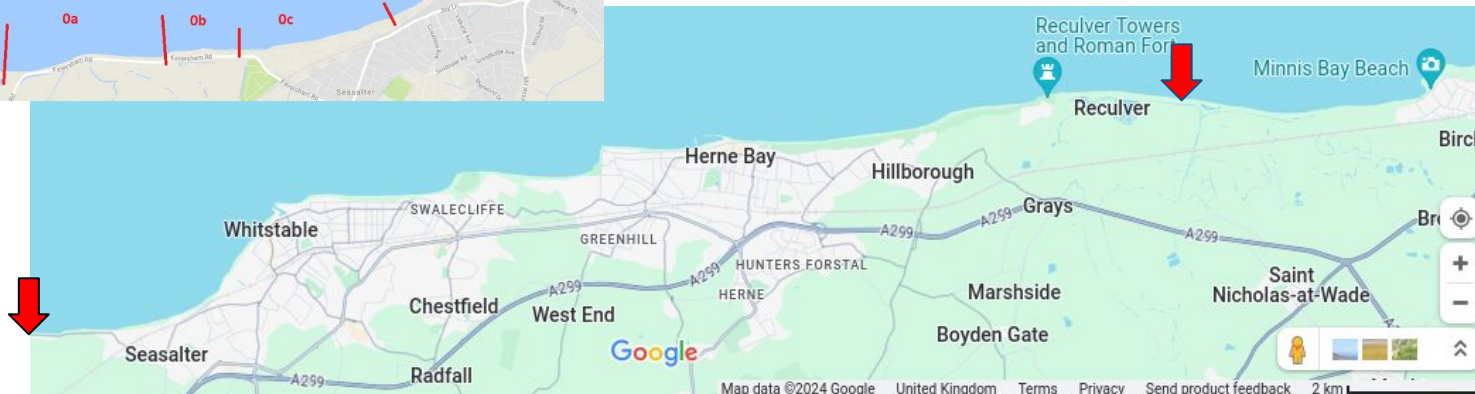
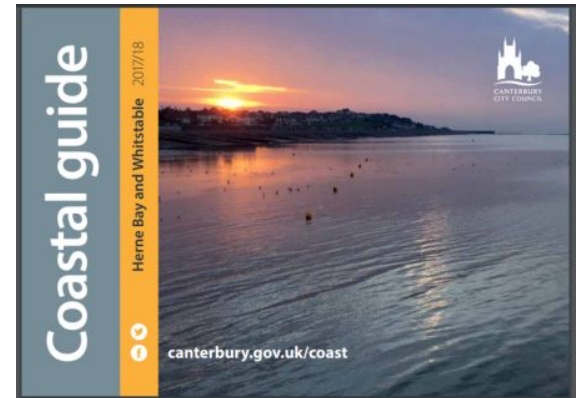
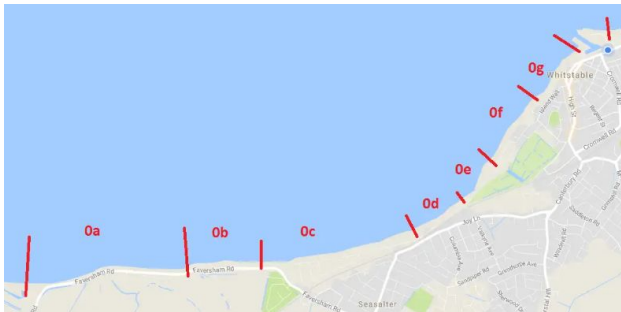
Break!



**Coastal Codes,
Activity Survey
and
Incident Reports**

Canterbury Foreshore

- We want to get a bigger picture for wider area - Whitstable/Herne Bay
- Please note parts of the Canterbury coast is privately owned and by industry (Oyster Fisheries).
- [Canterbury.gov.uk/coast](https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/coast) (<https://www.canterbury.gov.uk/leisure-and-community>)



Coastal Codes

Aims -

- **Avoid unintentional harm to marine & bird life**
- **Encourage responsible use of the coast**
- **Keep everyone safe**

Note: For coastal wardens - your activity survey monitors many of the activities listed, and 'broken code' on the form refers to these codes, so let's take a closer look at the Coastal Codes



Thanet Coastal Codes



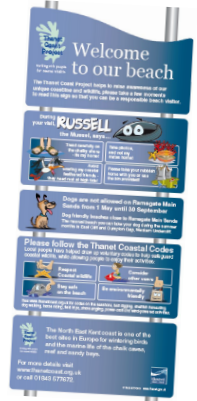
Consensus Workshops

Shore-based Recreation

- Seashore
- Horse Riding
- Dog Walking
- Field Trips

Water-based Recreation

- Powercraft Activities
- Wind-powered Activities
- Fishing & Harvesting
- Shellfish Harvesting & Fixed Netting
- Shore Angling
- Bait Digging & Collecting



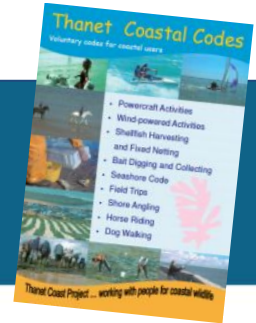
How to avoid harming the bird & marine life
Encourage responsible use of the coast
Includes safety issues relating to the activity

Drafted by stakeholders deciding together
Encourage self-regulation by user groups
Kept under review and monitored

ON:LINE:
Marine Wildlife Watching
Seaweed harvesting code
Fossil Code
?Foraging / harvesting

Kite Surfing Agreement (Pegwell Bay)
Bait Digging Agreement (Pegwell Bay)

Dog Walking Code



- To avoid disturbing birds, walk your dog towards the back of the shore and try to avoid the feeding birds along the tide line, or at times around high tide (when the beach area is smaller)
- Keep away from known bird roosts and take note of any signs requesting your co-operation in these areas
- Do not allow your dog to chase birds on the beach as this stops them from feeding and roosting
- Keep your dog on a lead when:
 - near feeding or roosting birds;
 - on shingle from April to July inclusive because of ground-nesting breeding birds;
 - in areas used by other recreational activities, as boisterous dogs can scare both birds and people.
- Please clean up after your dog to keep the beach safe and clean for other users.

It is illegal not to clean up in every public place in Thanet. This is rigorously enforced with fixed penalty notices of £100, (less for early payment), and dog owners can be prosecuted and fined up to £1,000. Over 100 people have fallen 'foul' of the law, so please clean up!

- Follow the **local Dog Controls (PSPOs)**

Dogs are banned from some of Thanet's beaches during the summer. Please obey the signs on the beaches or check the details at Thanet Tourism or local authority website. The maximum penalty for failing to obey the Dog Control Order is £1000. For further information see: [Thanet Council's Dog PSPOs & advice on Thanet beaches](#); or our advisory page on [Dogs on the Thanet Coast](#).

PLEASE NOTE: Access restrictions have changed following public consultation and launch of the national England Coastal Path in 2016 [Access Restrictions within Pegwell Bay National Nature Reserve](#) (updated with TDC's Dog Control PSPO in 2023).

Shellfish Harvesting and Fixed Netting Code

Shellfish and other marine life

- Tread carefully to avoid damage to the rocky chalk shore especially on the lower shore where the chalk is most fragile
- Always put rocks and seaweed back the way they were – there are animals underneath which need them for shelter.
- Shellfish should be collected by hand only and without breaking the chalk rocks (Local IFCA bylaws allow for the collection of periwinkle by hand only)
- Take only enough for your own needs – to a maximum of 5kg (half a normal size bucket) of periwinkles collected by one person per day – to ensure that many are left for other collectors and the species can still thrive. Other species should be left to flourish.
- Species attached to the chalk reef (eg pacific oysters and limpets) should be left as the reef is easily damaged if removed
- Select only the larger shellfish to ensure that younger ones can continue to grow on and establish the next generation
- Take care to avoid putting feeding or roosting birds to flight
- Avoid collecting shellfish during 'Temporary Prohibition Orders' (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) when it is a criminal offence to collect live shellfish such as cockles and mussels for human consumption on the grounds of public food safety. Contact your local authority for further information
- Abide by food safety standards and 'guidelines for safe working in estuaries and tidal areas' (Health and Safety Executive)
- [2022 Shellfish Collection – advisory poster](#) (1.1MB, PDF)

Additional Codes for 'Fixed Netting' on shore

- Fixed nets should comply with both national and local fishery bylaws, in that they shall:
 - be cleared within every 30 hours
 - be marked at each end (by dahn bouys 1.5m above water) with 30sq cm flag – clearly marked with name address or postcode
 - be under 100 metres in length
 - avoid the River Stour (to protect migratory species)
- Contact the [Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority](#) for details and advice, and the [Environmental Agency](#) for information on the fishing for salmon, sea trout, eels and the use of fyke nets.
- Care should be taken to avoid damage to the chalk shore and marine life when putting up fixed nets
- Take away and dispose of any entangled rubbish or disintegrating nets in suitable bins
- Avoid designated coastal activity areas or launch sites as nets could entangle and endanger other coastal users



SHELLFISH COLLECTION

RULES APPLY IN THIS AREA

This area is covered by the Public Spaces Protection Order and the Coastal and Beach Codes of Practice



HAND COLLECTION ONLY



Manila clam
Min. 55mm



Periwinkle
No size limit



Pacific Oyster
No size limit



Cockle
PROHIBITED



Mussel
Min. 18mm

Maximum collection of 5kg

- Removal using hand tools is prohibited
- Leave smaller shellfish to grow and reproduce
- Stay safe - watch the tide at all times

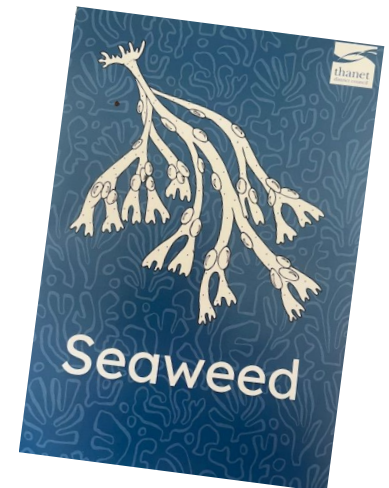


The Thanet coast is part of the North East Kent Marine Protected Area, important for its coastal habitats, marine and bird life.





Untested shellfish from this beach may not be safe and is eaten at your own risk.

Note: TDC online information

- Coast PSPO
- Dog Walking PSPO
- Information leaflets: code of conduct; Water User Group; Seaweed



How to Survey: Background Information

	NEKMPA Coastal Wardens Guardians Activities Survey Form 2020		
			<small>working with people for coastal wildlife</small>

Your Name	Bay Reference No / Location name	Date
Start time	End time	___ / ___ / 20__
___ : ___	___ : ___	

High Tides times		Low Tides times		Sea State
___ : ___		___ : ___		Calm
___ : ___		___ : ___		Moderate
				Rough
Weather	Precipitation	Temperature		Wind strength
Sunny		___ °C		Still
Sunny Intervals				Gentle Breeze
Cloud: 0%-33%	Rain			Moderate
Cloud: 34%-66%	Drizzle			Strong
Cloud: 67%-100%	Showers			Storm
Overcast	Sleet			
Fog / Mist	Snow			Visibility
				Good
				Limited

Recreational Activities

ACTIVITY TYPES		
Shore based	Water Based	Harvesting
Walkers	Kitesurfing	Beach Combing
Dog Walkers - on leads - off leads	Windsurfing	Bait digging
Cycling	Swimming	Bait collecting
Jogging	Sailing	Shellfish collecting
Horse-riding	Canoeing	Shore Angling
Aerial-Drone/Kites	Diving	Fixed Nets
Metal detecting	PWCs	Pots
Sunbathing/ relaxing	Motor-boating	Boat Angling
		Long Lines
		Shrimping

WHERE?
At Sea
Rocky shore
Sand/beach
Mudflat
Saltmarsh
Prom/Sea Wall
Cliff top
Other: please name

a) Always record numbers of birds encountered in each different location in the table above, even when no human activity is occurring nearby.
Birds: where possible identify the species of birds. Otherwise – b) note the types if you can (as below); or c) If unsure of identification, simply note the total numbers of birds -

BIRDS

BIRD SPECIES OR use categories:	<i>Gulls</i>	<i>Ducks</i>	<i>Small waders</i>	<i>Divers</i>
	<i>Terns</i>	<i>Geese</i>	<i>Med/large waders</i>	<i>Wildfowl /Waterbird</i>

DISTURBANCE SCORES

0	None (normal behaviour) <i>eg feeding, resting</i>
1	Increased vigilance <i>eg alarm calls but stays put</i>
2	Minor disturbance <i>eg walks/flies max 10m</i>
3	Local displacement <i>eg moves, but stays within sight</i>
4	Major displacement/damage <i>eg abandons area – out of sight. Ref: any direct damage/injury seen.</i>

How to Survey: Comments & Observations

Ref no. <i>(from monitoring form)</i>	Comments and Observations – non-urgent only If you are seriously concerned about anything you see, please consult your reporting advice card and contact the appropriate organisation for action & submit a 'Incident/Wildlife Report' to the Thanet Coast Project (NEKMPA). Comments noted may help explain your records – but not be looked at early enough if requires action.	Code Broken? (Y/N)
1	<i>2 dogs running all over the beach and causing multiple disturbance to small group of birds. Third dog stayed with owner away from any birds and caused no disturbance.</i>	Y

PRACTICE!









1 dog walker with 1 dog off-lead







When to Survey?

The regular surveys per month

Monitoring schedule

- Four surveys a month given as a guide:
 - 2 x 1st full week of the month (1 High & 1 Low Tide surveys on any weekday)
 - 2 x 3rd full weekend of the month (1 High & 1 Low Tide surveys on a weekend day)
- 10-15 mins ave: maybe longer depending on bay/stretch of coastline

If you can't make a scheduled survey date, please just complete close to these times if possible (or arrange cover with the other wardens who share your bay to cover for you if away!).... or alternatively just choose any other week day & weekend day during that month to survey

Plus when ever you would like ✓

Submitting Survey Data

The data you have collected will then need to be filled in on a computer and emailed to us.

<https://www.thanetcoast.org.uk/coastal-warden-resource/>

Thanet Coast - Activity Survey

Surveys: We are aiming for at least four surveys a month – please survey around HIGH & LOW tides by choosing two week days surveys (during that week starting on the Monday); and then for two weekend days – you can choose your dates/times; & complete as many surveys as possible!

2 WEEKDAY SURVEYS (eg 1st full-weekend) – one HIGH tide, & one LOW tide

2 WEEKEND SURVEYS (eg 3rd weekend) – one HIGH tide, & one LOW tide time

2024	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2 x week day surveys	Mon 1 LT=9:09 HT=14:52	Mon 5 HT=6:50 LT=13:34	Mon 4 LT=11:31 HT=17:26	Mon 1 LT=11:00 HT=16:43	Mon 6 HT=10:53 LT=17:51	Mon 3 HT=9:38 LT=16:22	Mon 1 HT=8:09 LT=14:42	Mon 7 LT=8:00 HT=13:13	Mon 2 HT=12:17 LT=19:19	Mon 7 LT=9:14 HT=14:30	Mon 4 LT=7:24 HT=12:38	Mon 2 LT=6:30 HT=11:53
2x Weekend surveys	Sat 13 LT=7:36 HT=12:50	Sat 10 HT=11:52 LT=19:01	Sat 18 HT=10:48 LT=17:54	Sat 13 LT=10:13 HT=15:39	Sat 11 LT=9:12 HT=14:35	Sat 8 LT=8:18 HT=13:39	Sat 13 LT=11:31 HT=17:13	Sat 19 LT=10:19 HT=15:48	Sat 14 HT=9:00 LT=15:47	Sat 12 HT=6:50 LT=13:39	Sat 9 LT=10:55 HT=17:00	Sat 14 HT=10:06 LT=17:14

Activities Survey Submission Form

Bay reference & name

Your name	Date	Start time	End time
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Tides

[Link to the Tide Times](#)

	1	2
High tide	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Low tide	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Weather

[Link to the weather](#)

Sea state	<input type="text"/>
Weather	<input type="text"/>
Precipitation	<input type="text"/>
Temperature °C	<input type="text"/>
Wind direction	<input type="text"/>
Wind strength	<input type="text"/>
Visibility	<input type="text"/>

Bird Summary

Total no. birds seen
Total no. of birds disturbed

Recreational Activities and Disturbance Monitoring Form



2020 Activity Survey Template

File Edit View Insert Format Data Tools Add-ons Help [Last edit was seconds ago](#)

Share

90% £ % .0 .00 123 Default (Ari... 10 B I U A

fx

Activities Survey Submission Form

Bay reference & name

Your name Date Start time End time

Tides

[Link to the Tide Times](#)

	1	2
High tide	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Low tide	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Weather

[Link to the weather](#)

Sea state	<input type="text"/>
Weather	<input type="text"/>
Precipitation	<input type="text"/>
Temperature °C	<input type="text"/>
Wind direction	<input type="text"/>
Wind strength	<input type="text"/>
Visibility	<input type="text"/>

Bird Summary

Total no. birds seen	<input type="text"/>
Total no. of birds disturbed	<input type="text"/>

Recreational Activities and Disturbance Monitoring Form

+ Survey Drop down values Instructions

Bird Summary

Total no. birds seen

Total no. of birds disturbed

Once you have entered all your information save the spreadsheet as:

Year-month-day Activity Survey ***Initials*** ***Bay ref. and name***

So this would look like:

2023-06-28 Activity Survey **TC** **23c Dumpton Gap**

Attach to an email

thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk

Incident Reporting

<https://www.thanetcoast.org.uk/coastal-warden-resource/tinyurl.com/incident19>



Incident Reports - Thanet Coast (NEKMPA)

This online report is aimed at helping Coastal Wardens and Guardians to report incidents that need to be 'actioned' (or to get 'recorded' after being actioned) and aims to assist the various statutory or voluntary organisations that can help. These forms also help record wildlife strandings and other unusual wildlife records around the North East Kent coast and are used as the basis for informing the Management & Advisory Group of the NE Kent Marine Protected Area (NEKMPA).

There are two types of reports:

- a) INCIDENTS [HUMAN based observation]
eg pollution items, oil washed ashore; antisocial behaviour to shellfish-harvesting, fixed shore nets

or

- b) WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS and STRANDINGS [WILDLIFE based observation]
eg seals, harbour porpoise, jellyfish, or unusual finds on the beach that you have seen around the NE Kent coast.

Whilst the date, time, location (& GPS) and type of record is important, please write a concise 'note' of the incident; followed by a longer 'description' (if needed) and any 'further action' you have taken (such as reporting anti-social activities to the police; people in distress to Coastguards, or live animal strandings to the BDMLR or RSPCA) - so we know if further action is required.

PHOTOS: Photographic evidence is very useful and can be uploaded as a file (if you have a google account). Photos are extremely useful for verifying reports, observations, identification or location - helping organisations to respond to an incident. Alternatively, you can send images directly to: thanet.coast@thanet.org.uk
[Please remember NEVER put yourself in any danger taking photos especially if these may inflame a sensitive situation!]

a) Incidents
&
b) Strandings or
Wildlife Reports

Email address *

Your email address

Your name: *

Your answer

Contact telephone number: *

Your answer

Your own bay (Bay Ref No./name for Coastal Wardens/Guardians) *

Other: see next



Other

(eg: Member of the public: & location, if you're not a local Coastal Warden/Guardian)

Pegwell Hub group

Date *

Date

dd/mm/yyyy

Time of incident or record *

(estimate time, or please put 00:00 if completely unknown):

Date *

Choose

(0a): Faversham Road

(0b): Seasalter

(0c): Preston Parade

(0d): Admiralty Walk

(0e): Whitstable West Beach

(0f): Tennis Courts Whitstable

(0g): Reeves beach

(1a): Whitstable Harbour and The Paddock

(1b): The Street

(2a): Tankerton Bay West

(2b): Tankerton Bay East

(3a): Long Rock

(3b): Swalecliffe Banks

(3c): Studd Hill - Hampton Bay

(4): Hampton Pier

(5a): Herne Bay West

(5b): Herne Bay Central

(6a): Herne Bay East - King's Hall

(6b): Herne Bay (The Downs) - East Cliff

rd. You can get this from Google
r Google maps, 1) LEFT Click on
umbers' in the tiny box which
c, please COPY & PASTE onto this

rcial shellfish harvesting: &
ngs (dead/alive); Starfish mass;

Date *

Date

dd/mm/yyyy

Time of incident or record *

(estimate time, or please put 00:00 if completely unknown):

Time

:

Location of Incident or Wildlife Report *

(North East Kent Bay Ref & Name)

Choose

GPS coordinates.

Please enter the precise coordinates for your incident/wildlife record. You can get this from Google Maps = <https://www.google.com/maps> (or alternatives sites). For Google maps, 1) LEFT Click on the location on the map; & then 2) CLICK on the 'COORDINATE numbers' in the tiny box which comes up, and 3) from the coordinates that appear on a large box, please COPY & PASTE onto this form (but use the numbers only; without mentioned N & E)

Your answer

Type of Report: *

'INCIDENT' REPORT = eg pollution, anti-social behaviour; commercial shellfish harvesting; & 'STRANDING' or 'a WILDLIFE' report = eg Marine mammal strandings (dead/alive); Starfish mass; unusual sightings etc

- 'INCIDENT' Report
- 'WILDLIFE or STRANDING' Report

NEXT

Page 1 of 4

Incident Reports - Thanet Coast (NEKMPA)

The name and photo associated with your Google Account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form. Not laura.welton@thanet.gov.uk? [Switch account](#)

INCIDENT REPORTS

(type of human related incident)

Type of Incident:

Choose

Brief incident description:

Your answer

More incident details

Your answer

Action you have taken (if applicable):

Your answer

BACK

NEXT

Progress bar and Page 2 of 4

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.



Choose

Abandoned vehicles

Anti-social behaviour (eg menacing groups -intimidation or harassment / drugs/ drinking)

Camping issues (eg illegal; overnight party)

Cliffs / Coastal Protection related (eg Chalk falls; Sea defence & railings damage)

Disturbance to bird or wildlife from the air (eg Kite surfers, microlights; drones)

Disturbance to wildlife eg Dog walking in restricted area, or vessels embarking at Shellness Point;

Dogs / Fouling related eg consistent breaking of PSPOs/Coastal Codes

Fisheries bycatch eg Dead Catsharks along the shore

Fixed Nets eg Shore-based nets seen along the shore; or old nets washed ashore

Foraging or Harvesting (large scale seaweed or coastal plants collection)

Graffiti

Litter - Flotsam & Jetsam (on the tide/at sea)

Litter - Flytipping or rubbish issues

Motorised Vehicles (ie illegal on beaches)

Missing (eg lifebuoy needs replacing; signs missing)

Pollution spill (eg petroleum; suspected palm oil; chemical drums/containers) = inform EA/TDC straight away!

Shellfish Harvesting or Bait collection (large scale /commercial - for more than their own use!)

Other (specify below):

BACK

NEXT

Incident Reports - Thanet Coast (NEKMPA)

The name and photo associated with your Google Account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form. Not laura.welton@thanet.gov.uk? [Switch account](#)

*Required

Wildlife or Stranding Report

(Type of wildlife sighting or stranding that you are reporting)

Type of Wildlife or Stranding report: *

Choose

Dead or Alive

Choose

Name of species (if known):

Your answer

Further Wildlife or Stranding information:

Your answer

Any Action taken:

(if needed or required)

Your answer

BACK

NEXT

Page 3 of 4

Incident Reports - Thanet Coast (NEKMPA)

The name and photo associated with your Google Account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form. Not laura.welton@thanet.gov.uk? [Switch account](#)

*Required

Wildlife or Stranding Report

(Type of wildlife sighting or stranding that you are reporting)

Type of Wildlife or Stranding report: *

Choose

- Choose
- Algal Bloom
- Bird life (related)
- Fish (related) eg Catsharks; Thornback Rays etc
- Cetacean eg Porpoise, dolphin or whale
- Jellyfish (related)
- Non-native species reports eg Brushed-clawed Shore Crabs
- Seal (Harbour/Grey)
- Shellfish (related)
- Shore life (related) eg Starfish/Crabs
- Unusual Sightings
- Other:

Incident Reports - Thanet Coast (NEKMPA)

The name and photo associated with your Google Account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form. Not laura.welton@thanet.gov.uk? [Switch account](#)

Photographic Record:

Did you take photos - as one or two can be uploaded here! Please be aware you can only upload files if you have a google account. If you do not have an account then, then submit your report & please email your photos to: thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk

North East Kent



Marine Protected Area

Add your photo here:

[ADD FILE](#)

A copy of your responses will be emailed to the address that you provided.

[BACK](#)

[SUBMIT](#)

 Page 4 of 4

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.

Summary - Incident Reports

1 Oct 2016 – 30 Sept 2017: 83

83 Incident Reports	
Litter - Fly Tipping/Posting	17
Motorised Vehicles/Bikes	10
Litter - Flotsam & Jetsam	7
Vandalism	7
Campers	6
Palm Oil	4
Dogs/Fouling related	4
Graffiti	3
Shellfish/Bait Harvesting	3
Abandoned Vehicles	2
Fixed Nets (shore-based)	2
Kite surfing	2
Plum Pudding Island	2
"Farmer" shooting geese .	1
bonfire damage and digging	1
Brick fall	1
Buoys missing	1
Digging on Long Rock	1
Drone	1
Foraging	1
frost damage	1
Further brick fall	1
Helicopter Landing	1
Horse riding on restricted area	1
Invasive species	1
No roost signs	1
Sluice gate open.	1
Wheelie bin	1



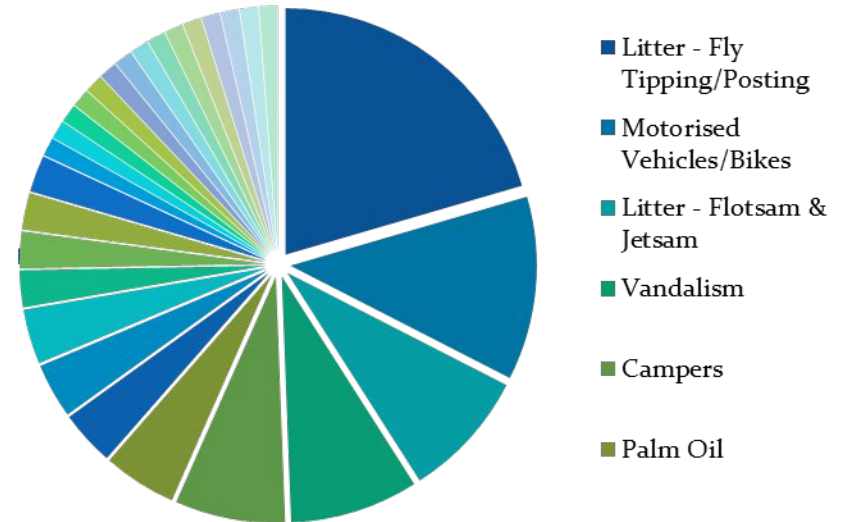
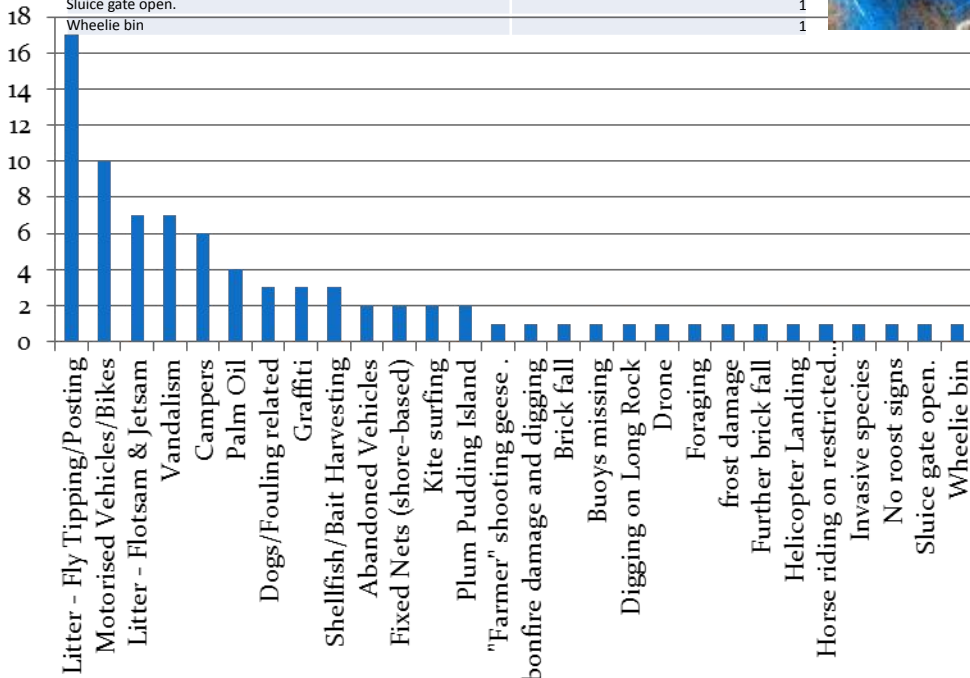
Photo:
Terry



Photo:
Mandy



Photo:
Graeme



The Difference

- **Activity Survey**

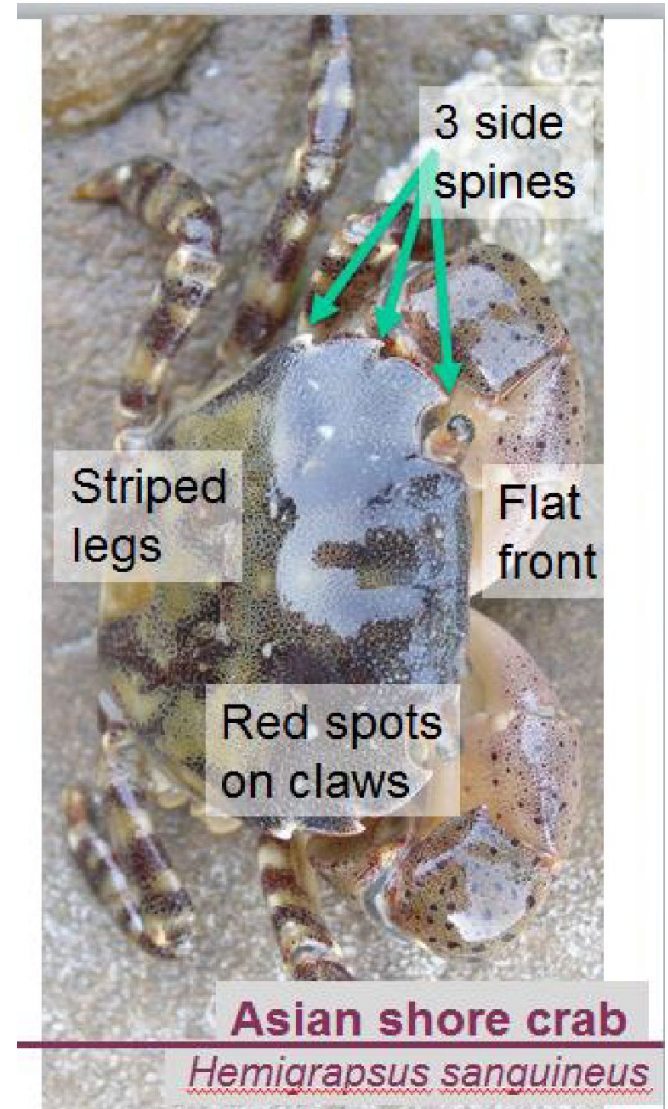
- Monthly
- Set time
- Overview of a bay
- Data goes to database

- **Incident report**

- Anytime
- Anywhere
- **Needs action**
- Data is emailed to Thanet Coast inbox

Invasive Wildlife

Asian /Brush-clawed Shore Crab



Invasive Wildlife

Wireweed (*Sargassum muticum*)



Invasive Wildlife

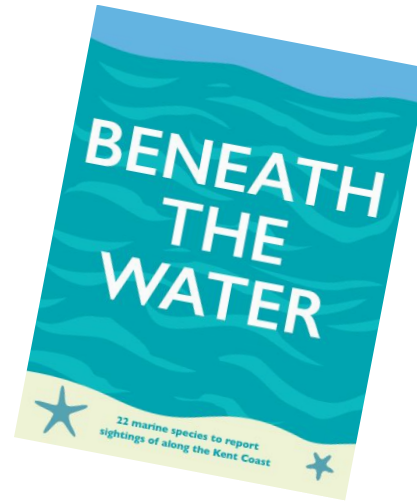
Non-native species training

- Join the Coast busters team

Pacific oyster (*Magallana gigas*)



Beneath the water



<https://www.kentwildlifetrust.org.uk/our-work/our-projects/shoresearch>

Do-it-yourself!

Kent Wildlife Trust, Natural England (& Medway Swale Estuary Partnership) produced a range of videos and a booklets to help identify and report some of our invasive non-native species [Identifying Wireweed](#); [Identifying Pacific oysters](#); [Identifying Brush-clawed shore crab](#)

NEKMPA Coastal Warden's Resource Locker

This page provides online **access** support for volunteer Coastal Wardens/Guardians in the North East Kent Marine Protected Area (NEKMPA) with background information and essential links.

If you are walking down to the beach, please remember to do so safely and follow current government advice on maintaining social distance & the current Thanet Council and Government coronavirus information/guidance.

Latest E-News

Reporting

Thanet Coast - Activity Surveys

Activity Survey Form and Guidance Notes:

Tide Tables

New 2022 Introductory Coastal Wardens notes

Useful telephone contact numbers for Coastal Wardens & Guardians

Social Media



Other useful information

For further NEKMPA background information, please browse the NEKMPA (Thanet Coast) website

Resources	>
Useful links	>
Tides and Sunrise/sets	>
Water Quality	>
UK Cetaceans & Seals	>
Guardians of the Deep	>
Marine Conservation Society related information	>
Shark Trust	>
Non-Native Species	>
Bird Wise East Kent	>
Other Birds	>
Other	>
TCP Public Events - Useful Information for Volunteers	>
Previous e-News/Forum/Feedback	>

Other useful information:

For further NEKMPA background information, please browse the [NEKMPA website](#)

Download a copy of the:

- [Health & Safety \(PDF, 224KB\)](#)
- [Thanet Coast MCZ Map \(PDF, 163KB\)](#)
- [Thanet Coastal Wardens' Survey Form \(PDF, 250KB\)](#)
- [Volunteering on the Thanet Coast \(PDF, 1.8MB\)](#)
- [NEKMPA Thanet Coastal Codes \(link\)](#) & [kite surfing agreem](#)
- [Thanet Coast & Dogs \(link\)](#)
- [Shoresearch Intertidal recording form - Single Habitat \(PDF\)](#)
- [Shorelife Intertidal Recording form \(PDF, Kent W](#)
- [2018 Strandings Warning Sign \(PDF, TDC/TCP\)](#)
- [Wader Identification Sheet - for Thanet Coast \(F](#)
- [Rockpool Reference \(PDF, 311KB\)](#)
- [Action Speaks Louder than Birds \(PDF, 539KB\)](#)
- [Salmonid & Eel information \(EA, PDF, 18KB\)](#)

Useful links:

- [Thanet Council - Beaches](#) (PSPO; Codes; Seaweed; Water User
- [Thanet Council - Coastal Engineering](#) (Sea defences; SE Coasta
- [Regulations & KEIFCA Bylaws](#) ([Kent & Essex IFCA link](#))
- [What to look out for and report to KEIFCA \(PDF - Guardians of t](#)
- [Crime/Suspicious activity on the Kent coast](#) ([Kent Police: Project](#)
- [Flood Information Service \(link\)](#)
- [Marine traffic \(link: live maps of vessels at sea\)](#)

Tides and Sunrise/sets

- **Tides4Fishing: Ramsgate; Broadstairs; Margate; Heme Bay**
- [Margate - Live tides](#) ([clo Part of London Authority](#))
- [Port of Ramsgate tides \(TDC\)](#)
- [Sunrise & Sunsets - Ramsgate](#) ([can be set for elsewhere!](#))

Water Quality:

- [Environment Agency - Swimfo](#) ([bathing waters](#)) [classifications; b](#)
- [Beach Buoy](#) (Southern Water) - real time info on stormwater/was
- [Safer Seas \(SAS\)](#) - real-time water quality service APP

UK Cetaceans & Seals

- [Seals - trips, codes and research & survey](#)
- [Cetaceans Strandings](#) - UK Cetacean Strandings
- [British Divers Marine Life Rescue](#) - Live stranded
- [Seen a Marine Mammal](#) (ZSL)

Guardians of the Deep

- [Guardians of the Deep](#) website ([link](#))
- [Guardians of the Deep - North East Kent leaflet](#) ([link](#))
- [GotD Final Report Appendix](#) (PDF, 5MB - [copyrid](#)
- [Walkover Shore Survey Form](#) (PDF, 337KB)

Marine Conservation Society related information:

- [MCS website](#) ([link](#))
- [Marine Sighthings](#) ([link](#))
- [Beachwatch Report 2021](#) ([link](#))
- [Good Fish Guide](#) ([link](#))
- [Don't Let Go - balloons](#) ([link](#))
- [Jellyfish Survey-Treatment](#) (PDF, 640KB - MCS

Shark Trust

- [Great Eggcase Hunt](#) ([link](#))
- [Eggcase Identification](#) ([link](#))
- [Lifecycle](#) ([link](#))

Non-Native Species

- [Non native species - NEKMPA](#) ([link](#))
- [GB Non-Native Species Secretariat](#)
- [Asian Shore Crab identification](#) (2014)

Birds:

- [Bird Wise East Kent](#)
- [Bird Ring reporting](#) (BTO)
- [Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory Trust](#)
- [Thanet RSPB Group](#)
- [Turnstone Roost Sites & Count 2001/2](#)
- [Turnstone information and latest Monito](#)
- [Wild Birds & the Law](#) (RSPB)

Other:

- [Big Seaweed Search](#) (NHM/MCS)
- [Capturing Our Coast](#) (citizen science re
- [Crab Watch](#) (MBA)
- [Juvernile Fish ID Guide](#) for the Tidal T
- [Kent Historic Enviroment Records](#) (form
- [How to pass on plastics](#) (Sky Ocean R
- [Plastics](#) (Ocean plastics - get involved,
- [Project Kraken](#) - reporting suspicious a
- [Public Rights of Way](#) - reporting a probl
- [Become a Tourism Ambassador](#) (Visit



TCP Public Events (eg Seashore Safaris e

Information for volunteer helpers:

2022 Thanet Coast Project event application

- [Application](#)
- [Events Management Plan](#)
- [Site Plans](#)
- [Generic Risk Assessments](#)
- [1st Aid Checklist](#)

Coastal Warden Agreement

 **NEKMPA Coastal Warden Agreement** 

Introduction:
The North East Kent coastline consists of some of the most wild and semi-natural habitats in the UK, including unique chalk cliffs, caves and reefs, which attract marine and birdlife of international importance. It is the role of the NE Kent Marine Protected Area (NEKMPA) management scheme to promote awareness of these exceptional features around our coast, and work with the local community and visitors, so that coastal activities can take place whilst keeping these features in a good condition for future generations.





Aims of the Coastal Warden Scheme:
Volunteer Coastal Wardens will be able to make an active contribution towards maintaining a sustainable coastline by becoming the 'eye and ears' of the coast and Thanet Coast Project through regular stewardship, and monitoring of human activities and local wildlife. The data collected by coastal volunteers will provide a record of the coastal activities, with incidents and wildlife records, to help inform future management of the North East Kent coastline. In addition, coastal volunteers will help open up and improve understanding and communication links of the nature conservation importance of the coast with the local community and visitors.

What does this Agreement mean?
This agreement is to help clarify what it means to be a volunteer Coastal Warden, and:

- What you need to commit to this scheme as a volunteer
- How much support you can expect from the Thanet Coast Project / NEKMPA.

What we expect from you as a Coastal Warden:

- To adopt a section of our local North East Kent coastline.
- To help look after your section by acting as the 'eyes and ears' of the coastline
- Report Incidents - things needed to be acted upon. Also undertake activity surveys each month - and help contribute towards related citizen science surveys - such as 'Shoresearch' identification, when close to your bay.
- Perform your volunteer tasks safely, looking out for and recording any potential dangers - see health and safety advice.
- Be respectful of the wildlife and environment in which you are working, by following Thanet's Coastal Codes (or related for other areas), local PSPO (public space protection orders) and bay information signs, when out on the foreshore.
- To take an interest in your role as Coastal Warden, and work towards achieving the aims of the volunteer scheme.
- To consider developing your role by attending one or more optional training sessions, volunteering at events, or helping with other related citizen science or volunteering opportunities - so that we have collaboration across projects and other initiatives.
- Maintain good relations with staff and other volunteers.
- Act as an ambassador for volunteering and the NEKMPA management scheme, and be courteous to the public.

What you can expect from the NEKMPA / Thanet Coast Project as a Coastal Warden:

- We value your gift of time, skills and effort put into the volunteering scheme by ensuring that all data collected by Coastal Wardens is used to benefit the local environment and community for the future.
- We will provide a core training programme to help you understand the role of Coastal Warden, and to give you the activity monitoring and local wildlife identification skills to undertake your role with confidence.
- You will receive Coastal Warden's information booklet detailing the role - with further online resources (Coastal Warden's Resource Locker) and links to the NEKMPA site information.
- We will place you at the forefront of local scientific study, through active involvement in conservation monitoring work around the North East Kent coastline.
- We will encourage you to learn and develop within your role by organising optional training events or learning opportunities, to complement the core skills.
- There will be once a year opportunity to meet with other Coastal volunteers, to review the year and scheme (Annual Forum)
- We will run a 'closed facebook group' for the network - to help volunteers keep in contact and help share experiences, issues and information.
- We will provide support and feedback with the Thanet Coast (NEKMPA) project officer as your main contact.
- We will value any suggestions that you may have for the volunteer scheme.
- We will give advice on how to stay safe whilst carrying out the role.
- We will endeavour to be flexible to your individual needs.
- We will respond as quickly and constructively, as we can, to requests for information, and to any complaints or problems, which may arise.
- We welcome all volunteers, and are committed to honouring principles on equality and inclusion.
- We will ensure that your personal data remains confidential under the Data Protection Act.

Please remember that as a Coastal Warden, you are a volunteer, with no legal responsibilities or powers. You should not get involved in incidents, but report them to the appropriate person and online. Always keep in mind that the Thanet Coast is "An Asset for All"

NEKMPA /Thanet Coast: _____ **Date:** ___/___/___

Coastal Warden: _____ **(Signature)**

Date: _____ **(Print name)**

This agreement is designed to represent the mutual support between the NEKMPA/Thanet Coast Project team and our Coastal Wardens. It is not intended to be a legally binding contract, and does not mean that volunteers are obliged to do the tasks provided

NEKMPA 61024

Coastal Warden Agreement

Aims of the Coastal Warden scheme. CWs:

- make an active contribution towards maintaining a sustainable coastline by becoming the 'eye and ears' of the coast and Thanet Coast Project - through regular stewardship and monitoring of human activities and local wildlife.
- data collected provides a record of coastal activities, incidents and wildlife records to help inform future management via the NEKMPA management group.
- Help open up understanding and communication links of the nature conservation importance of the coast with the community.

**What you can expect from
NEKMPA/Thanet Coast Project
as a volunteer Coastal Warden:**

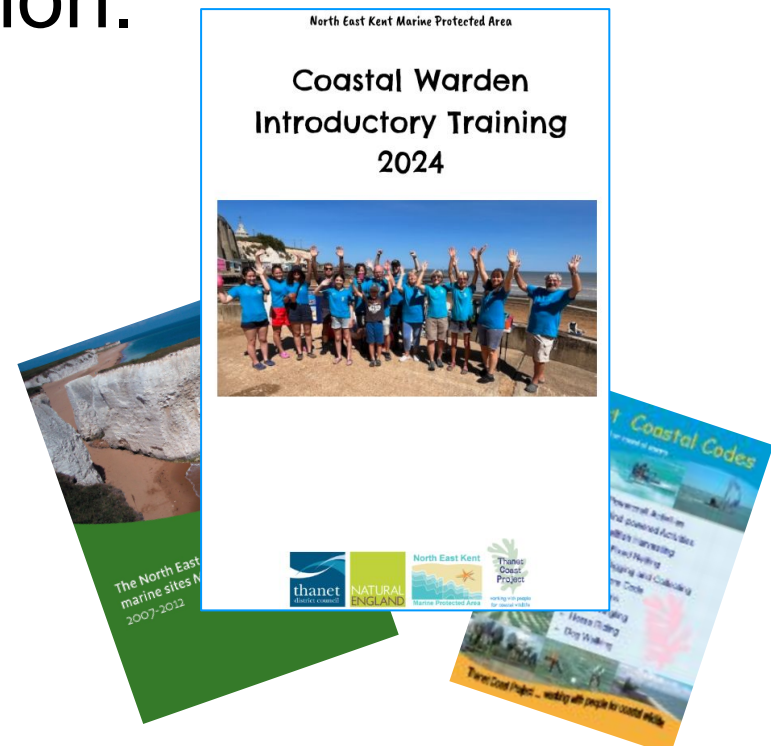
- We value your gift of time, skills and effort put into the Scheme by ensuring that all data collected by Coastal Wardens is used to benefit the local environment and community for the future.



- We will provide a core training programme to help you understand the role of a Coastal Warden, and give you the activity monitoring and local wildlife identification skills to undertake your role with confidence.



- You will receive Coastal Warden information booklet - with further online resources and links to NEKMPA site information, Thanet / NEKMPA Coastal Codes, coastal events and links to other marine related information.



- We will place you at the forefront of local scientific study, through active involvement in conservation monitoring work around the North East Kent coast.



- We will encourage you to learn and develop within your role by organising optional training events or learning opportunities to complement the core skills.



- We will provide support and feedback with the Thanet Coast Project (NEKMPA) Officer as your main contact.



- We will value any suggestions that you may have for the volunteering scheme.



- We will give advice on how to stay safe whilst carrying out the role.



- We will endeavour to be flexible to your individual needs.



- We will respond as quickly and constructively as we can, to requests for information, and to any complaints or problems that may arise.



- There will be once a year opportunity to meet with other coastal wardens, to network, review the year and scheme - and to help share your experiences (Annual Forum).



- We welcome all volunteers, and are committed to honouring principles on equality and inclusion.



- We will ensure that your personal data remains confidential under the Data Protection Act.



**What we expect from you
as a Coastal Warden:**

- To adopt a section of our local North East Kent coastline.



- Look after your section of coast - ('eyes & ears of the coastline') and undertake activity surveys, and contribute towards citizen science **surveys** (eg 'Shoresearch' when close to your bay).



- Perform your volunteer tasks safely (see health and safety advice/ risk assessment) - looking out for and recording any potential dangers.



- Be respectful of the wildlife and environment by following NEKMPA/Thanet's Coastal Codes, local PSPOs, and bay information signs when out on the foreshore.



- To take an interest in your role as Coastal Warden and work towards achieving the aims of the volunteering scheme.



- To consider developing your role by attending optional training sessions or volunteering at events - or helping collaborations, in partnership with other project & initiatives.



- Maintain good relations with staff and other volunteers.



- Act as an ambassador for the volunteering and NEKMPA management scheme, and be courteous to the public.



Please remember that you are a volunteer, with no legal responsibilities or powers. You should not get involved in incidents, but report them to the appropriate person.

...and please always keep in mind that the North East Kent Coast is **“An Asset for All”**



Health & Safety

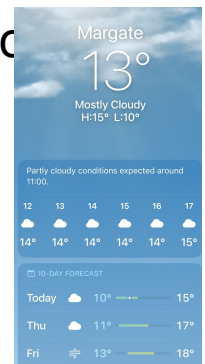
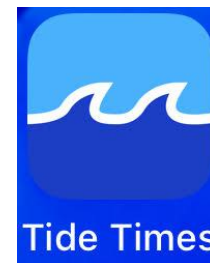
Before you go
Clothing & Equipment
On the Coast



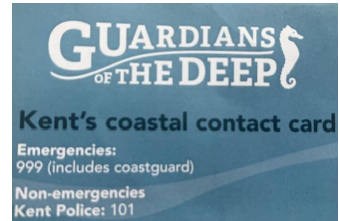
Health & Safety

Before you go

- Know your bay – Make sure that you are aware of any hazardous features at your adopted stretch of coastline, e.g., tide cut-off points or quick sand
- Check tide times to avoid getting cut off from the land
- Check the weather conditions – Avoid going out in adverse weather conditions, e.g., a storm, strong gales, or thick fog.
- Best to buddy up if possible – or if going alone, tell someone which part of the foreshore you will be surveying and what time you expect to return.
- If involved on your own beach clean, make sure you have carried out a risk assessment (*using guidance such as given by Beachwatch/MCS*)



Health & Safety



Clothing & Equipment:

- Always carry your '*Advice for Reporting Incidents*' card / telephone numbers (In your notes. You also have GotD '[Kent Coastal Contact Card](#)')
- Wear suitable clothing for the weather conditions – take water with you in the summer
- Be prepared for a change in weather – carry a spare layer of clothing, hat, or sun cream (depending on the season)
- Wear appropriate footwear for walking on rocks and slippery surfaces
- It helps to wear high visibility clothing so that you can be seen easily by other coastal users
- Wear protective gloves if you intend to take part in a beach clean or shorelife survey
- If possible, take a mobile phone with you. Make sure that batteries are fully charged, the devices are kept dry and that you know the available reception areas in your bay.

Health & Safety

On the Coast:

- Take care near cliff edges –
 - *On the top, edges can give way*
 - *At the bottom, avoid cliff falls*
 - *Cliff falls regularly occur in cold weather*
- Beware of walking on slippery rocks, slopes or near the edge of promenades
- Keep away from soft sand and mud
- Always wash your hands after handling anything on the foreshore
- Know your adopted bay activity zones, bylaws and local beach safety information (displayed at main bays between April-September)
- Be aware of other activities taking place in the bay
- Treat other coastal users with respect
- Do not touch stranded or dead marine mammals
- Do not touch contaminated litter, pollution or faeces found on the coast
- Never intervene in an anti-social incident, instead report it to the appropriate authority.

[In the Coastal Warden booklet:](#)

H&S ADVICE, & RISK ASSESSMENT

Keeping you connected



Thanet Coast: NE Kent Marine Protected Area



NEKMPA Coastal Wardens (NE Kent closed group)

Private Use it for sharing interesting things you have found, or asking questions



ThanetCoastProj

www.thanetcoast.org.uk

<https://www.thanetcoast.org.uk/coastal-warden-resource/>



Talking to the Media

- Depending on how you become involved in your role as a Coastal Warden, you may be approached by journalists for comment about a story they are following.
- Unless it is a story that you are personally involved in, we ask that you please state that you cannot comment, and direct them to us for any questions they may have.
- If you ever have any doubts about what you should say, the best thing to do is not to comment and refer them to us at Thanet Coast Project / Thanet Council - as Thanet Council Communications team will help as the main landowner contact



Any Questions?



NEXT:

- More about: -

Collaboration For Disturbance Mitigation



Nina Jones
Pegwell Bay Protected Area Warden

birdwise.org.uk | @BirdWiseEK



Bird Wise

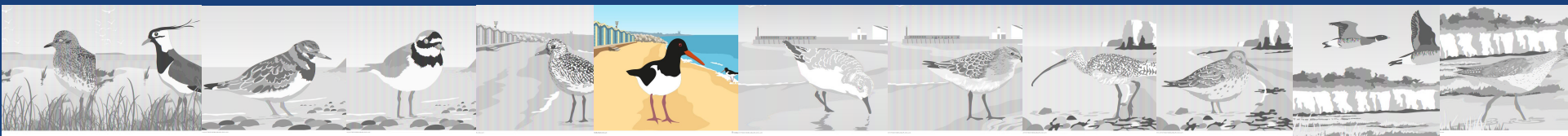
EAST KENT

Jasmine Beveridge - Engagement Officer

Greg Bessant - Engagement Officer

Michael Lee - Project Lead

Wising up to Bird Disturbance





Kent & Essex IFCA

Presentation:

Ben Hermitage

info@kentandessex-ifca.gov.uk



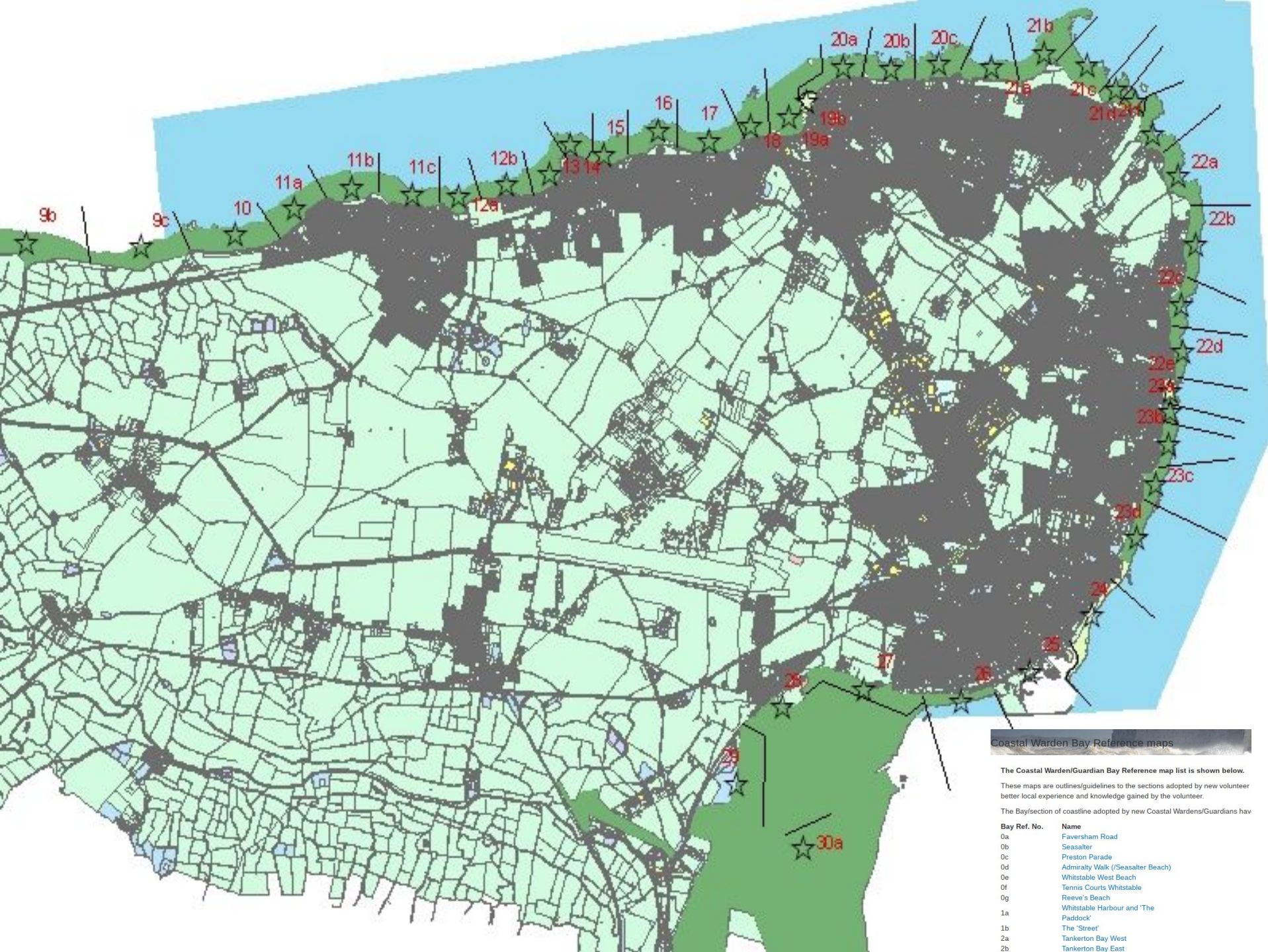


Bay Assignment and Coastal Warden Agreement Signing and Shared Contact Details



You can view MAPS online!

... and we will get back & circulate all 'Adopted Beach' contact details after the next Training session!



Coastal Warden Bay Reference maps

The Coastal Warden/Guardian Bay Reference map list is shown below.

These maps are outlines/guidelines to the sections adopted by new volunteer better local experience and knowledge gained by the volunteer.

The Bay/section of coastline adopted by new Coastal Wardens/Guardians hav

Bay Ref. No.	Name
0a	Faversham Road
0b	Seasalter
0c	Preston Parade
0d	Admiralty Walk ((Seasalter Beach)
0e	Whitstable West Beach
0f	Tennis Courts Whitstable
0g	Reeve's Beach
1a	Whitstable Harbour and 'The Paddock'
1b	'The Street'
2a	Tankerton Bay West
2b	Tankerton Bay East



THANET COASTAL
WARDEN 20TH
ANNIVERSARY
WALKS
2024



THANK YOU!!!

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR RESOURCE LINK:

<https://www.thanetcoast.org.uk/coastal-warden-resource/>

(amend link: shown on Guardians of the Deep blue contacts sheet!)

& I'll send an invite for you to join:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NEKMPACoastalWardens/>



thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk

