

Coastal Wardens e-News

April to June 2017

Dear Coastal Wardens,

Great News!!! The 3 year ‘Guardians of the Deep’ (#GOTD) project has finally commenced! Following the pilot year, successful lottery funding was secured by the partnership in December 2016. Three Project Officers have started around the Kent coast – including the new one covering NE Kent – Thanet – based within the Thanet Coast Project: so please welcome **Laura Welton** when you see her.

The new 5 themes of the GOTD project will be taken forward by the project officers including one theme closely linked to the development of the Guardians, based upon the Coastal Warden style of stewardship of the coast. New coastal warden training will combine the wardens and future guardians.

Please find the up-coming events and activities below....

Laura Welton out on the Great Eggcase Hunt



More great news - “Congratulations” to all the volunteers involved on helping to run the public events programme – such as the Great Eggcase Hunts and Seashore Safaris – as you have just won the “Volunteer of the Year” Award at the annual Pride of Thanet Tourism Awards. Thank you for Julie & Mandy to attending the event and great that it was such a great surprise ☺

Tourism Awards 27 March 2017

1. NE Kent Coast – Activity Surveys

The monthly surveys coming up:

2017	Survey 1 (every 1st full weekend: May-Dec)	Survey 2 (every 3 rd full weekend: May-Dec)
April	Sat 8 High tide 10:51 (4.7)	Sat 22 High tide 09:28 (4.3)
May	Sat 6 Low tide 16:21 (1.1)	Sat 20 Low tide 13:36 (1.5)
June	Sat 3 Low tide 14:25 (1.3)	Sat 17 Low tide 11:51 (1.2)
July	Sat 1 Low tide 12:33 (1.0)	Sat 15 Low tide 10:46 (1.0)

Note: Ramsgate Tides shown (For High Tides, add 7mins = Broadstairs, add 45 mins for [Margate](#). For [Herne Bay & Whitstable](#) - check local tide tables! [\[hyperlink\]](#))

Trainings and Events Listings:

April 2017

Shoresearch – Stone Bay, Broadstairs

- **Sat 1 April, am (3hrs)**

An investigation of the chalk reef that lies below the sandy shore in this bay just north of Broadstairs Harbour, Thanet. Another site that we haven't surveyed for a while. *Low Water Margate: 10:00, 0.3m*

Leader / book: Fiona White (07779 657573) Kent Wildlife Trust.

Meet: On the Eastern Esplanade, between the junctions with Dickens & Rectory Rd (CT10 1DP; TR 397 682)

Great Eggcase & Scavenger Hunts (Volunteer Opportunity)

Volunteer at these **public events** by helping participants look out for clues of life in our seas and the egg cases of sharks and rays - and then help to create a marine art masterpiece on the beach over the school Easter break. These hunts last for 45 minutes with another 45 minutes of 'art-time'. These events are particularly suitable for 4-11s.

- **Tue 4 April, 11am - Margate Main Sands (CT9 1XN)**
Meet: Coastal Community Beach Hut (opp. Arlington House)
- **Wed 5 April, 11am - Viking Bay, Broadstairs (CT10 1EU)**
Meet: outside old Broadstairs Harbour Master Office (opp. Tartar Frigate pub)
- **Thur 6 April, 11am - Ramsgate Main Sands (CT11 8LP)**
Meet: By the 'Needle' or Obelisk (opp. The Belgian Cafe)

To HELP us run the event, please let us know at: <http://doodle.com/poll/fp5x8ha89wxvy7p3>

Please plan to arrive on the day ½ hour before the event is scheduled to begin.

A DBS is recommended if you are able to help at all three events (otherwise not essential, as adults have to accompany children at these events). **Note: Public bookings open Feb. online at the website: nekmpa.org.uk**

Shoresearch – Stone Bay, Broadstairs

/ Support day for practice your 'Capturing Our Coast' volunteers

Sat 1 April, am (3hrs)

A Shoresearch investigation of the chalk reef that lies below the sandy shore & bay just north of Broadstairs Harbour; and a chance for Capturing our Coast volunteers to practice their survey skills.

Leader: Fiona White (07779 657573) Kent Wildlife Trust

Meet: On the Eastern Esplanade, between junctions Dickens Rd & Rectory Rd, (CT10 1DP; OS:TR 397682)

Seashore Walk – Herne Bay - cancelled

SAS Big Spring Beach Clean

3 to 9 April: Community Groups helping clean beaches on the Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) call of action

Western Undercliff, Ramsgate – clean up

Mon 5 April Time:TBC Join us on this spring clean of the Western Undercliff beach area. (Western Undercliff / Artificial Beach Group & friends)

Joss Bay , Broadstairs – big spring beach clean

Sun 9 April Time:TBC (Surf School & Friends):



'Peek Under the Waves' - Walpole Tidal Pool Draining session

CANCELLED –TOO Windy !!! = 19 April, 10-30am (2-3hrs), Walpole Tidal Pool, Cliftonville

If winds drops it may be re-scheduled for Friday 21st April - TBC (Low tide is 14:35, 1.5m neap!)

As spring approaches we have a chance to view the marine wildlife within one of Thanet's largest artificial rockpools. Come along to explore for our gems at this spring 'tidal pool maintenance' session.

Please indicate if intending to visit: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztXH9y>

Please Note: It is only a neap-tide of 1.4m – so there will not be nearly as much to see as usual during these sessions. Also, please check emails the night before, as these events have a high chance of cancellation if the sea or wind conditions are not suitable for maintenance.

Seasearch Observer Course - for divers {Kent WT}

Sat 22 April, 9:30am-5:30pm – Tyland Barn, Maidstone

Introductory one-day course for divers new to marine life and recording. Ideal for those new to Seasearch surveying or keen to refresh their skills, the course helps to recognise and record habitat and marine life. The day includes a simulated dive on video to practice the skills.

Booking form: contact Fiona White fiona.white@kentwildlife.org.uk (01622 662012) **Cost: £45** (Free for refresher)

2017 Seasearch Dive Surveys (Kent WT: See 22 April):

Cost of boat dives: £40 per day - 2 dives (subsidised by Kent Seasearch)

April – Sun 23 (shore dive); May - Sat 20, Sun 21; June – Sat 3, Sun 18; July – Sun 2, Sun 9

Something Fishy for the Evening!

Wed 26 April, 6.45pm (2hrs) - Droit House, Margate Harbour CT9 1JD

Informal evening talk about the IFCA & local Sea Life. **Guest speakers - Tom Clegg**, will give an update of the Kent & Essex IFCA (Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Agency) work in our area - including how volunteer Coastal Wardens can help keep a look out!

Joined by **Coastal Warden, Lester Hovenden**, who will be let loose on one of his favourite subjects to talk about the **local fish & shore** life that he has so ably illustrated over the last couple of years.

Please book to register if able to attend: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztxh9y>

May

Shoresearch – Whiteness: Shore-based survey workshop!

Tues 2 May, time-tbc {Kent Wildlife Trust}

Aimed at Kent Shoresearchers who regularly attend surveys and are willing to help with at least 4 quadrat surveys a year. This shore-based workshop will provide training in transect and quadrat survey techniques that we use so you can take a more active role in the surveys. Leaders: Ian Tittley/Chris Spurrier will help you describe shore zones, take survey photos, use a GPS and how to record species in a quadrat.

Places limited to surveyors: booking essential: fiona.white@kentwildlife.org.uk

NEKMPA Coastal Warden/Guardian - Introductory Training

Thur 4 May, 10am (5hrs) – Droit House, Margate Harbour

This is the first introduction module for new Coastal Wardens. We will take you through the history of the North East Kent Marine Protected Area and the management scheme, your role as a coastal warden and how you can help through activity surveys and incident reporting. A light lunch and refreshments will be served.

Booking Essential: NEW WARDENS ONLY {hyperlink; or 'copy & paste' link below into your browser}

Two Coastal Warden volunteers needed to help new volunteers on this introductory training event:

Please volunteer via: thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk



NEW OPPORTUNITY:

Guardians/Wardens volunteers – Sandwich & Pegwell NNR

Fri, 5 May, 3.30pm (1hr)

This National Nature Reserve (NNR) is suffering from increased human & dog disturbance activities that is particularly affecting the summer breeding birds (Ringed Plover & Little Tern) on the northern section of Sandwich Bay, so the NNR Warden is looking for a few volunteers – Wardens/Guardians that would like to help more. Share ideas on ways of helping at this event (monitoring disturbance, or meet/greet... etc)

Meet: Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory, Guilford Road, Sandwich Bay CT13 9PF

If you would like to get involved & attend the workshop – please contact:

volunteering@kentwildlife.org.uk

RSPB: A Field Trip to Stonelees KWT Reserve & Pegwell Bay - 'migration check'

Sat. 13 May, 8.30am

Join the RSPB on a circular walk to locate newly arrived and passage migrants at these wetland and woodland sites with abundant scrub. High tide is at 1pm. Price: Donations (Free to RSPB members).

Meet: Car park opp. Sportsman Pub (end of Ebbs Fleet Lane). CT11 2TR

Tel: 01843 961483 E-mail: therspbthanetlocalgroup@talktalk.net www.rspb.org.uk/groups/thanet/events/

Ramsgate Sea Safety Day 2017 - Volunteer opportunity!

21 May, 11am-3pm (Opposite Main Sands, Marine Esplanade)

Please get in contact if you would like to help run a NEKMPA/Thanet Coast stall/activity at the event, via: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztxh9y>

Coastal Warden 'Support Team' – catch up/discussion!

Tues 23 May, 6.30pm (2hrs): Botany Bay Hotel, Kingsgate CT10 3LG

This session is for volunteers that would like to assist the running of the NEKMPA Coastal Warden scheme. The meeting will cover the upcoming summer programme and areas for improvement for potential volunteer input/support opportunities – such as social media, summer events, education, publicity, surveys, to Guardians of the Deep and also this year's Annual Forum.

Please indicate if able to help & attend: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztxh9y>



NEW OPPORTUNITY:

Coastal Community Beach Hut (CCBH) Volunteer

(Margate Main Sands; & also Ramsgate- to be moved onto Main Sands)

We are also interested to see if one (or more) volunteers would like to help with the looking after either of the two CCBHs - in Margate & Ramsgate this year (April to Sept, inclusive). This would mainly involve looking after the hut – particularly checking that the beach play/educational/first aid equipment is back in place & the hut is clean for the next group. Bookings will be taken through the VICs.

If you would like to do this – please get in contact through: thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk

Coastal Community Beach Hut - Margate

Wed 24 May, 09.30am (2-3hrs): Please get in contact if you can help volunteer some time in helping to move equipment back into the CCBH for the summer! This should take about half a day with a few helping hands!) Let us know if you can help at: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztzx9y>

RSPB: The History of Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory

Tue. 30 May, 7.40pm - Price: £ 3.50 members £ 5 non-members.

Mike Briggs, vice-chairman of Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory (SBBO) is the RSPB's guest speaker. The SBBO was one of the first independent ringing stations founded in 1952, and the site has developed tremendously offering a wide variety of enjoyable opportunities.

Meet: The Portland Centre, Hopeville Ave, St Peters, Broadstairs CT10 2TR

Tel: 01843 961483 E-mail: therspbthanetlocalgroup@talktalk.net www.rspb.org.uk/groups/thanet/events/

June

Seaweeds and their Secrets - Cancelled

Sponges, hydroids and bryozoans - microscope workshop

Sun 4 June

Aimed at Seasearch Surveyors, this workshop will help you to know which species can be identified on dives and which need closer examination. **Meet:** KWT's Tyland Barn Visitor Centre

Booking essential: Fiona.white@kentwildlife.org.uk

WORLD OCEANS DAY Wed 8 June

The theme is *Our Oceans, Our Future*. <http://worldoceansday.org>

Cliffs, Caves and Castles: a World Ocean Day walk!

Thur 8 June, 6pm – Botany Bay, Broadstairs

Evening stroll around the Kingsgate coast with Tony Child (Thanet Coast Project/NE Kent MPA) exploring Thanet Coast's chalk cliffs, reef and caves, whilst looking out for clues of marine life along our strandline.

Please wear appropriate footwear suitable for walking on the beach, chalk reef and rockpools. Walk last 1.5 hours.

Meet: Botany Bay, by Beach Café Kiosk (bottom of steps from Marine Drive, Kingsgate (CT10 3LG)

Book online: nekmpa.org.uk (from May)

Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory – visit & walk

Sun 11 June, 9.30am (2hrs) – Sandwich Bay

A walk & talk with Ken Chapman (Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory) around the Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory and grounds – with a look on the dune pasture and golf course for the famed Lizard Orchids, and shingle vegetation.

Please wear suitable clothing and footwear for outdoor walking, & weather conditions on the day. Note: Reduced Car Toll applies: say going to the Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory (SBBOT) for £1= charge.

Meet: Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory, Guilford Road, Sandwich Bay CT13 9PF

Please book at: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztzx9y>

Talk: Life between Tides at Herne Bay - Mon 12 June CANCELLED

'Non-Native Species Control' Training – Not running this year (for 2017/18 practical sessions)

Seashore Walk – Herne Bay - Fri 23 June, 6pm CANCELLED

Walpole Tidal Pool – celebration day !

TBC - Sun. 25 June, TCP pm (2hrs) Walpole Bay, Cliftonville (CT9 3HF)

Help the swimmers to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the tidal pool. NEKMPA & the Thanet Coast Project will be helping celebrate with a stall with a 'local finds' table and art/craft activities.

Please let us know if you are able to help on the day: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztzx9y>

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Also ...remember in July, you can book now for:

Shorelife identification – introduction / Coastal Wardens/Guardians

Thur 6 July, 10am (7.5hrs), Droit House, Margate harbour / & beach

Presentations and practical training to explore the variety of life between the tides, and techniques to equip you to contribute to surveying Marine Protected Areas. Led by Fiona White (Kent Wildlife Trust). **This course is being offered FREE as part of your NEKMPA Coastal Warden Scheme.**

Booking Essential: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztzx9y>

And

CITiZAN workshop – Recording Seaside Margate

Thur 19 July, 10am (6hrs)

Free training day learning about CITiZAN and how to record archaeological sites & features with their mobile app (or on paper). No previous experience is needed - just enthusiasm! People who'd like to use the CITiZAN app on their smart phones/tablets will need to register as a CITiZAN surveyor before the event.

Meet: The Antoinette Centre, Quex Park Birchington

Booking essential to Lara: iband@mola.org.uk

Coastal Explorer – tracker packs

There will be new family 'Coastal Explorer' tracker packs' available for hire this spring/early summer –more information will be sent out via our facebook & twitter when it is launched soon.

These new interpretation packs can be hired from the Visitor Information Centres in Margate, Broadstairs (Lillyputt minigolf) and Ramsgate; with others available to use for community groups booking the Coastal Community Beach hut too!

The packs are great for families entertained with a multitude of equipment and cards to help keep the group going through a series of fun tasks allowing them to explore and have fun at these 3 main coastal locations in Thanet.



DBS CHECKS: Educational Volunteering & Seashore Safaris If you would like to volunteer to assist visiting school or community groups on educational site visits to the coast in 2017, then please let us know – as we can arrange for your DBS check to be processed (takes about 6-8 weeks). It is also recommended for volunteers that can assist for more than a couple of Seashore Safaris – though not essential, as parents are always present with the children at these events.

For more up-to-date current news & information, please look at our social media links:



www.facebook.com/nekmpa1



twitter.com/ThanetCoastProj

The facebook site is open to public view (so you do not need to be a member of facebook to view these pages!)

Also remember, we have a 'closed group' facebook page only for Coastal wardens – so you can share, ask questions and talk only other Coastal wardens online

For further details, please go online to: nekmpa.org.uk for background information. This includes an outline of some of the 2017 public events under 'What's On'

Your own page – with links to online reporting is at:

<http://nekmpa.org.uk/coastal-warden-survey/>

(Activity survey dates and all your links to online surveys or incident reports and other information!)

We hope to catch up with you on the coast very soon!

With thanks,

Tony & Laura



Thanet Coast
N.E. Kent Marine Protected Area Off
www.nekmpa.org.uk
01843 577672
c/o Thanet Council, PO Box 9,
Cecil Street, Margate, Kent CT9 1XZ
www.thanet.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/nekmpa1
twitter.com/ThanetCoastProj



Part of the 'Guardians of the Deep' partnership project.



NEKMPA Coastal Wardens – Spring 2017

Quick Doodle bookings: <http://doodle.com/poll/6yzi5i8r7dztxh9y>

Please indicate if you would like to attend:

- ~~Wed 19 April~~ - Walpole Tidal Pool (drained) viewing **Cancelled for 19th!**
- Wed 26 April - Something Fishy (IFCA/Lester – Margate Harbour)
- Fri 5 May - NNR Coastal Guardians (SBBO meeting)
- Sun 21 May - TCP stall/activity - Ramsgate Sea Safety (Main Sands promenade)
- Tues 23 May - Warden Support (Botany Bay Hotel, Kingsgate)
- Wed 24 May - CCBH task (Margate)
- Sun 11 June - Sandwich Bay Walk (c/o SBBOT)
- Sun 25 June - TCP stall/activity - Walpole Pool 80th
- Thur 6 July - Shorelife Id Training (Margate)