



#### Coastal Events

The Thanet Coast Project runs events all year round – from SeaArt exhibitions to the popular Seashore Safaris, to engage visitors and the local community with our wonderful marine environment.

As a volunteer, you can lend a hand by helping to set up events, register participants, or take photos and collect feedback. At rockpooling events, you'll get a chance to learn more about the local marine life and have fun passing on the beastly facts to other beach goers! Volunteers helping out with children's events are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check and should attend a volunteer briefing session.

16 to 24 year olds can gain volunteering certificates for helping at events.

#### Become a Stakeholder

Help find ways forward to manage and conserve important habitats and wildlife by representing organisations and local people with an interest in the North East Kent Coast at coastal workshops and meetings.

#### Scientific Research

A list of potential research ideas has been compiled by the North East Kent Scientific Coastal Advisory Group to help students and interested individuals looking for projects. Take a look at the 'Research' section on www.thanetcoast.org.uk to learn more.





## How to get involved

**The Thanet Coast Project** needs enthusiasts; you don't have to be an expert to get involved!

A number of volunteering suggestions are shown in this leaflet. However, more indoor opportunities arise from time to time, such as inputting survey data or producing new posters and website pages.

Alternatively, you may like to help support our work through online donations or business sponsorship.

To take part in any of the volunteer activities contact us on:

01843 577672 thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk www.thanetcoast.org.uk





The Thanet Coast Project's volunteer activities are run with support from Environment Agency, Natural England, Thanet District Council, Pfizer Limited









# Volunteering on the Thanet Coast

















Working with people for coastal wildlife













## Did you know?



**The Thanet Coast** is the longest continuous stretch of coastal chalk within the UK, with 20% of all the UK's coastal chalk found here.



**The Thanet Coast** has some of the country's best chalk sea caves, providing homes for unique algae and lichens – some are not found anywhere else in the world!



**The Thanet Coast** is an internationally important winter feeding and resting area for coastal birds, notably turnstones and golden plovers.



**The Thanet Coast** is the first designated marine site to have a series of Coastal Codes drawn up by its own coastal users.





#### The Thanet Coast Project



The natural features of Thanet's coast are covered by numerous national and international designations – collectively known as the North East Kent European marine sites.



The Thanet Coast Project was set up in 2001 to help safeguard our spectacular local wildlife, marine habitats and geology, whilst enabling the community to enjoy the beauty of Thanet's shores.

#### Volunteering

It's clear the Thanet coast is a treasured place from the enthusiasm it sparks in people. The Thanet Coast Project could not possibly achieve all it does without the support of so many volunteers.

Read on to find out about some of the volunteering activities you could get involved in around the coast from Reculver to Pegwell Bay – and everywhere in between.





## Volunteer Task Days

Why not get your community group or work colleagues involved in a beach clean or other team building task?

Beach cleans take place at Pegwell Bay and the stretch between Birchington and Reculver, helping to make the most sensitive spots for Thanet's coastal wildlife clean and safe. Alternatively, join a volunteer day at Ramsgate's Sea Garden and get stuck into potting hardy coastal plants, and clearing weeds and litter.

To get involved, join public beach cleans in the spring and autumn. Or we can help you plan a volunteer activity for your group anytime throughout the year.

#### Warden Scheme

Coastal Wardens are the eyes and ears of Thanet's coast, collecting crucial data on human and wildlife activity, and reporting on everything from sea mammal sightings to oil spills.

Volunteers can adopt a stretch of coast to look after, and take part in an informal training programme. This includes two core training days, and the opportunity to learn lots more about our marine world with a wide range of optional training activities.

#### Core Training Events:

- Introduction to being a Coastal Warden
- Shorelife Identification, Kent Wildlife Trust

#### Optional Activities include:

- Coastal Bird Identification
- Shoresearch Mapping
- Geology Masterclass
- Wildlife Watching Boat Trips
- and many more you decide!

Wardens are asked to carry out a survey on their patch once a month, after which they can get involved – as much or as little as they like!



