

Coastal Wardens 2023 Annual Forum

6pm, Thursday 16 November - Margate Visitor Info Centre

Part ONE



Agenda

PART ONE

6.30pm Welcome

6:35 Thanet Coast Project & Coastal Wardens 2023 (Pages 5-26)

6:45 Short Sharp Shore: updates/presentations - pt1 (Pages 27-73)

SEE PART TWO

Short Sharp Shore: updates/presentations - pt2

8.10 Climate Change - Thanet

8:30 Feedback comments - Networking, nibbles & drinks

9-9.15 Depart



Short Presentations

PART ONE:

1. **Natural England update - NEKMPA MG-AG/Coastbusters** (Pages 27-31)
Becca Turley, Natural England
2. **King Charles III England Coast Path - short film** (Pages 32-33)
Laura Whitfield, Natural England Access Team
3. **Is our Kelp disappearing?** (Pages 34-46)
Ian Tittley, NEKSCAG/Kent Field Club/SeasideMuseum
4. **Sea Level Change in Thanet** (Pages 47-64)
Richard & Tina Hubbard
5. **Coastal Bird changes** (Pages 65-73)
Greg Bessant, Bird Wise East Kent

See PART TWO

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







NEKMPA

**Thanet Coast Project &
Coastal Wardens
2023**



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

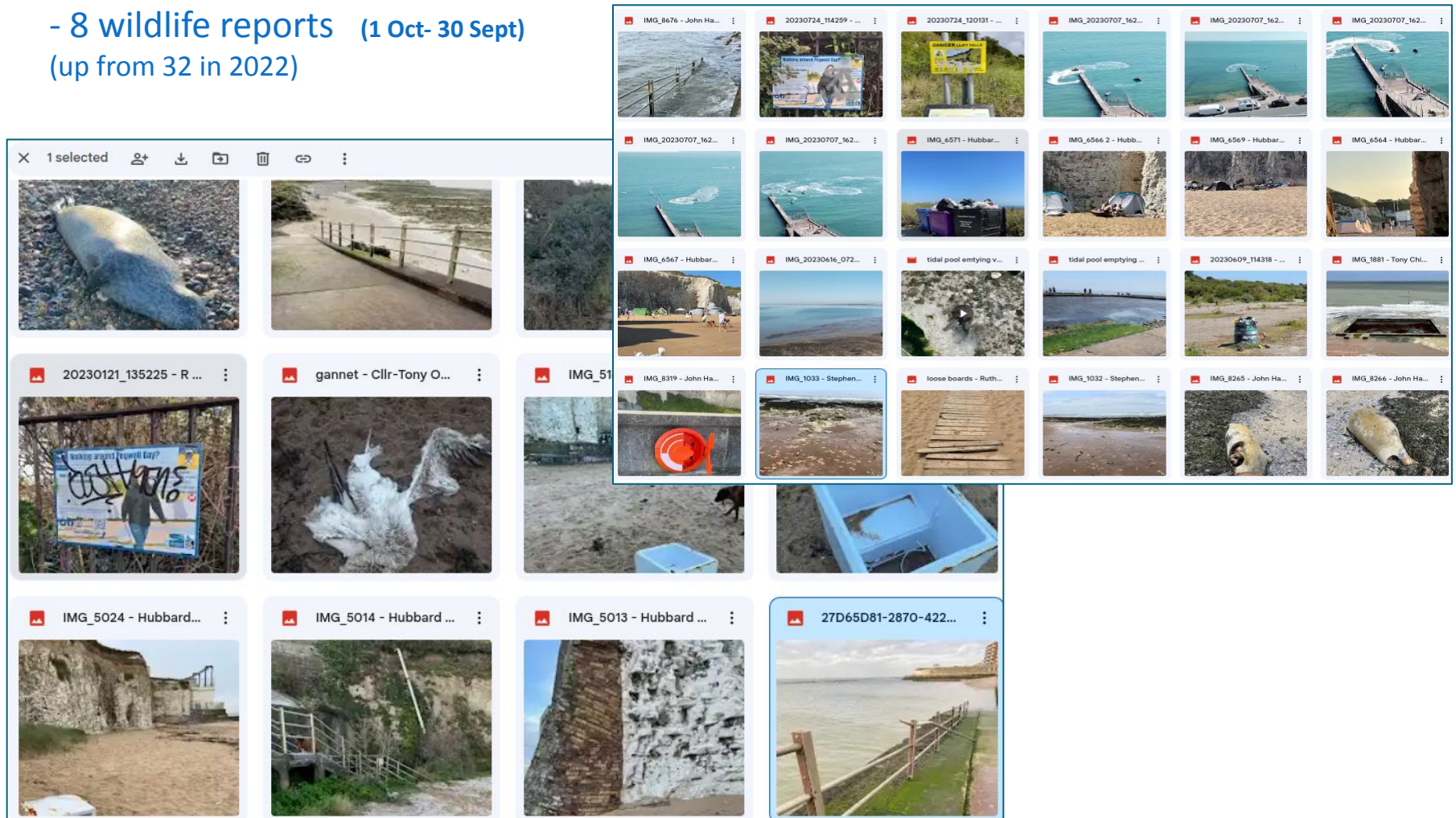
Drum Room, Margate Visitor Information Centre

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

= 28 new volunteers trained!

Incident Reports Online: 43 reports

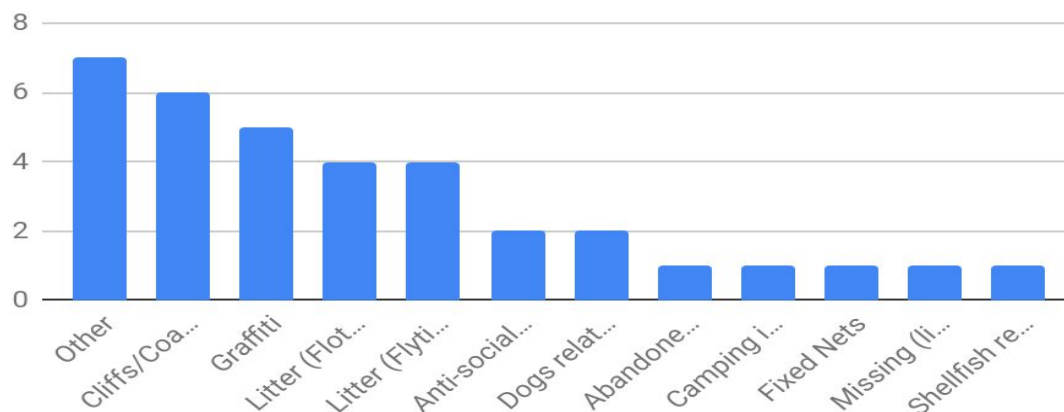
- 35 incidents; &
- 8 wildlife reports (1 Oct- 30 Sept)
- (up from 32 in 2022)



Incidents reports: 35

2022 to 2023 (1 Oct to 30 Sept)

2023 Type of Incidents

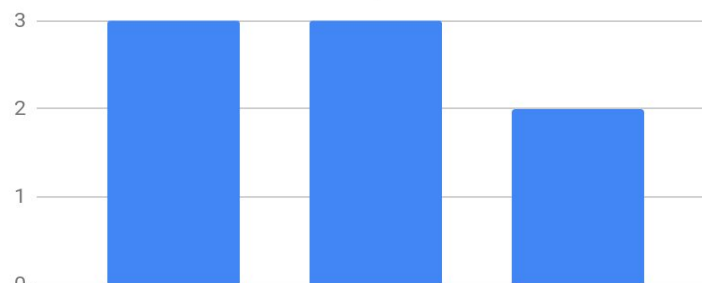


Type of Incident:

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!

Coastal Activity Surveys 2023

179 online Activity Surveys (1 Oct 2022 - 30 Sept 2023)

- highlighting activities & provides evidence for where codes of conduct are broken
- **still needs streamlining**

[illegible]

Comms

Mailchimp:

- E-News/Newsplash x4

Facebook:

- 2.6k followers

Closed Facebook Group

(for Coastal Wardens)

- 136 members

Website: thanetcoast.org.uk & “online resource locker”

(for Coastal Wardens)

- X/Twitter (1,106)
- Insta







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





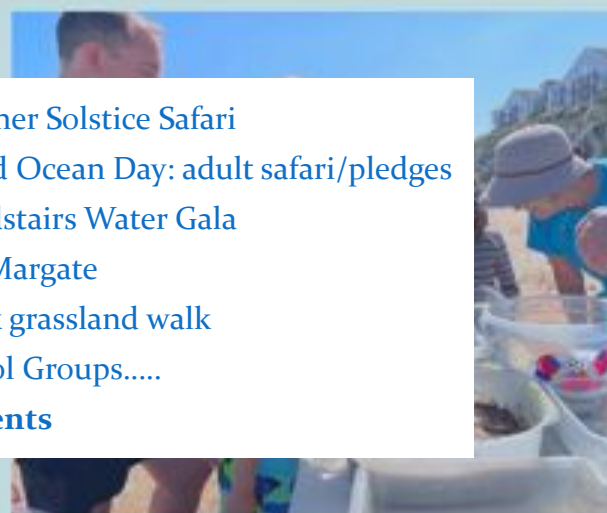


Community	48	5
Community	371	26
Community	47	4
Community	50	4
Community		30
Community		8
Community		96
Community	16	18
Community		20
Community		16
Community		32
Community	23	13
Community		75

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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**







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





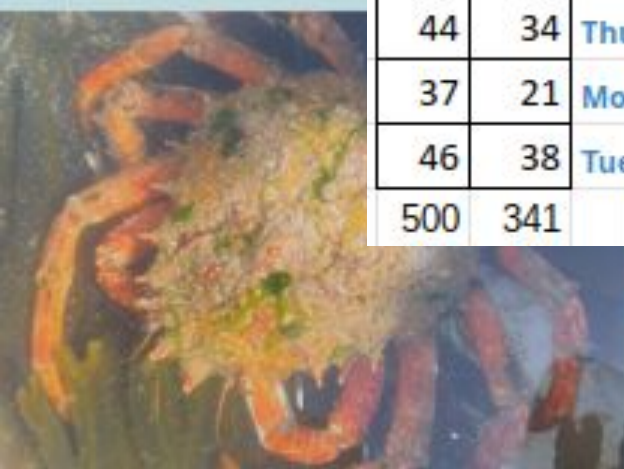
		Seaweed & Cliffs Walks	
children	adults		
	19	Wed 10 May - Botany Bay (Seaweed)	
	22	Tue 11 July - Walpole Bay (Seaweed)	
1	30	Tue 5 Sept - Dumpton Gap (Seaweed)	
	14	Wed. 9 June-Kingsgate (Cliffs)	
2	26	Wed. 23 Aug (Cliffs)	



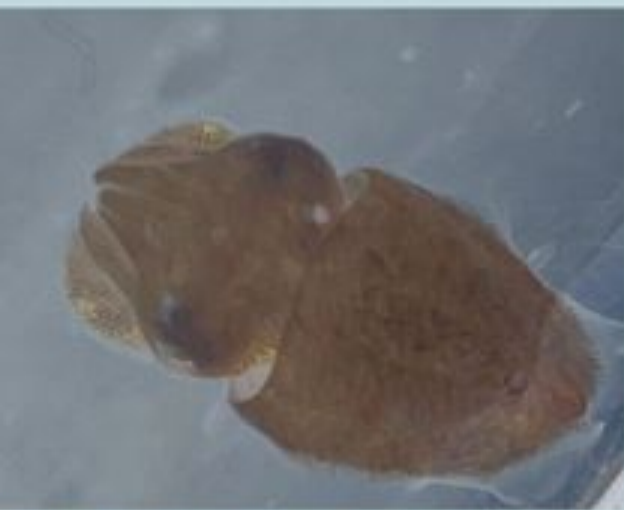


SUMMER SEASHORE SAFARIS





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



Community	48	5		Public	0	15	Exhibitions		605		Warden		6
Community	371	26		Public	0	48	Exhibitions		879		Warden		22
Community	47	4		Public	10	39	Exhibitions		208		Warden		19
Community	50	4		Public	16	32	Exhibitions		1,539		Warden		35
Community		30		Public		30	Exhibitions		1,149				82
Community		8		Public		90			4380				
Community		96		Public	14	10							
Community	16	18		Public	35	26							
Community		20		Public	12	10							
Community		16		Public		19							
Community		32		Public		22							
Community	23	13		Public	1	30							
Community		75		Public		14							
	555	347		Public	2	26							
				Public	16	13							
				Public	23	11							
				Public	58	27							
				Public	49	32							
				Public	31	29							
				Public	28	24							
				Public	0	0							
				Public	34	25							
				Public	42	23							
				Public	50	39							
				Public	42	25							
				Public	44	34							
				Public	37	21							
				Public	46	38							
				Public	20	15							
				Public	19	16							
				Public	22	15							
					651	798							
	Total				6813								

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

(1388.5hrs in 2022) surveys & events

= £12k vol. days

= £17K (@£9.5/hr)



Short Presentations

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Becca Turley, Natural England

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Laura Whitfield, Natural England Access Team

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Ian Tittley, NEKSCAG/Kent Field Club/Seaside Museum

4. Sea Level Change in Thanet

Richard & Tina Hubbard

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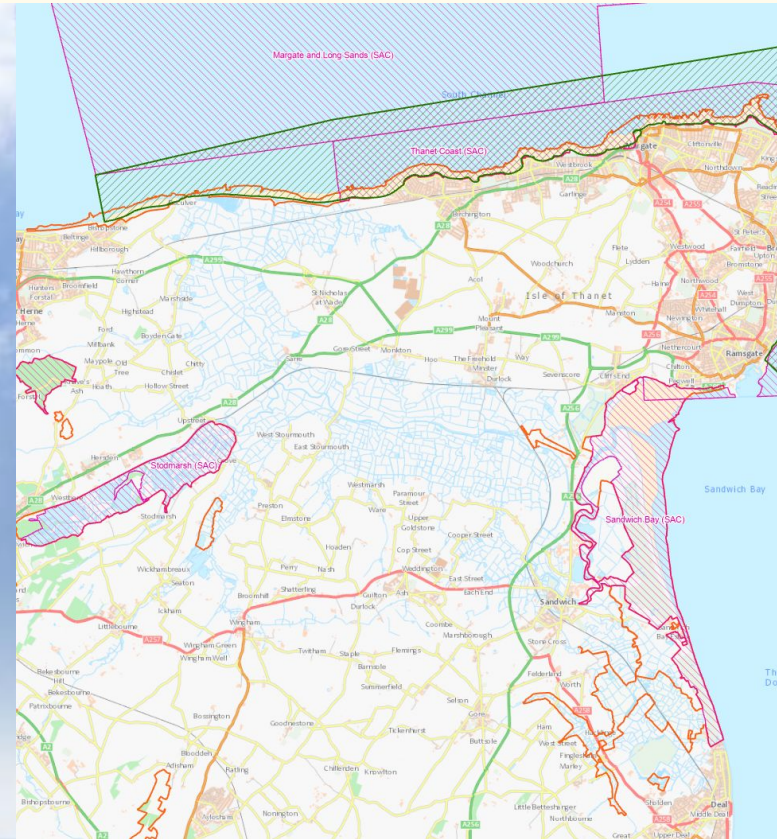
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Sam Causer, Zero Margate



North East Kent Marine Protected Areas

Scientific Advisory Group and Management Group



Managing North East Kent MPAs



- Scientific Advisory and Management meetings restarting
- 5 Year Action Plan
- Outcomes





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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>



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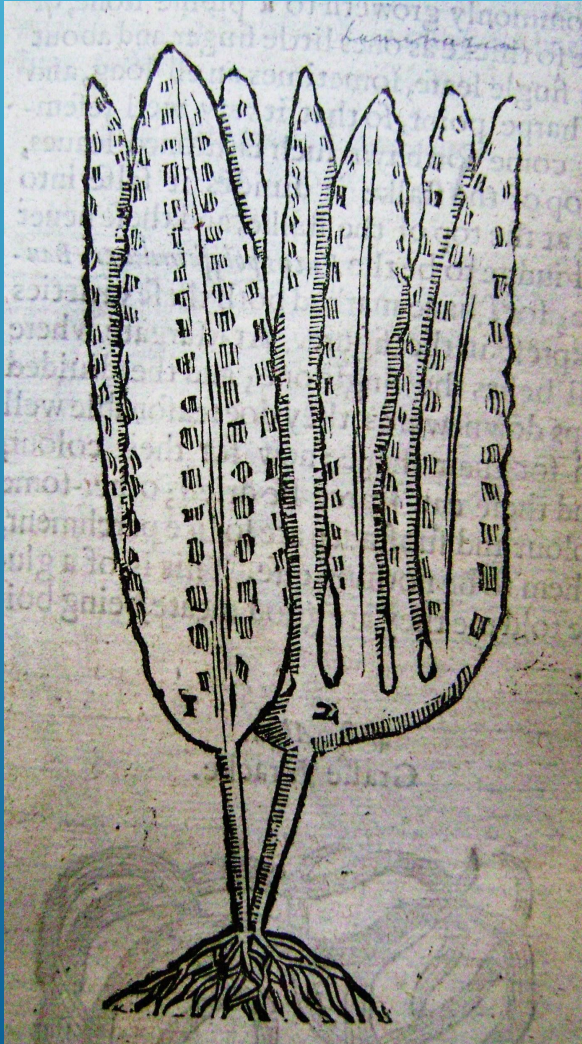


IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Ian Tittley

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Sacharina latissima, Margate

Johnson & Gerard (1633)
The Herbal...

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Laminaria digitata
zone

Botany Bay, April
1967

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Laminaria digitata
zone

Beachy Head,
July 2009

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Beachy Head

September
2023

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



*Laminaria
digitata* zone

Dumpton Gap,
September 2005

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Dumpton Gap
January 2023

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Laminaria digitata
zone

Ramsgate east,
.....
Willie McKnight

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Ramsgate east,
October 2023
Wille McKnight

IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Bladeless
Laminaria digitata

Copt Point,
Folkestone
January 2023

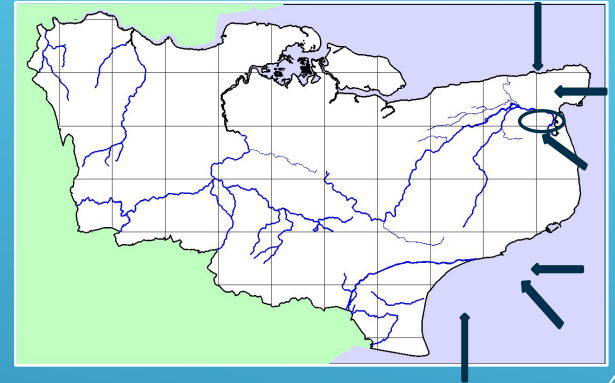
IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



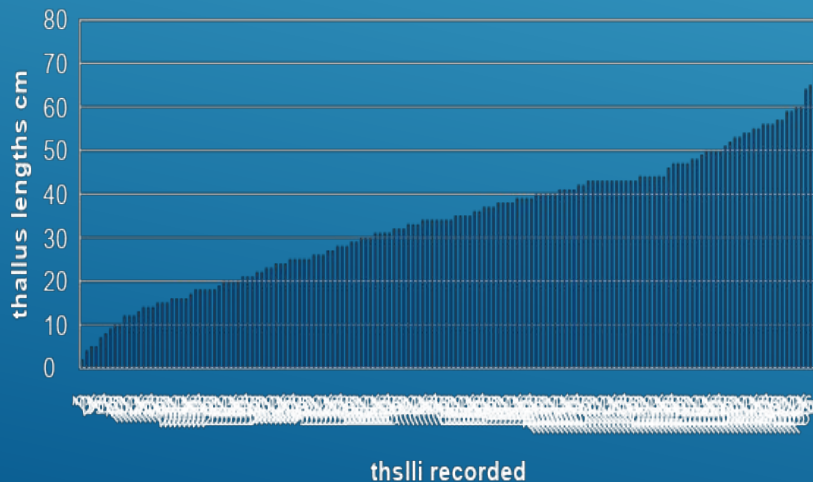
*Laminaria
digitata* zone

Walpole Bay,
January 2023

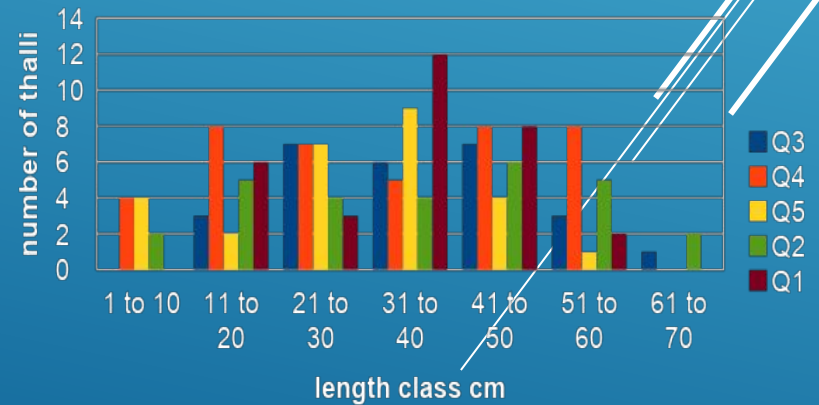
IS OUR KELP DISAPPEARING ?



Walpole Bay oarweed Q1-5, thallus lengths



Walpole Bay oarweed Q1-5, number of thalli in length classes



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Head for higher ground! *climate change discussions*

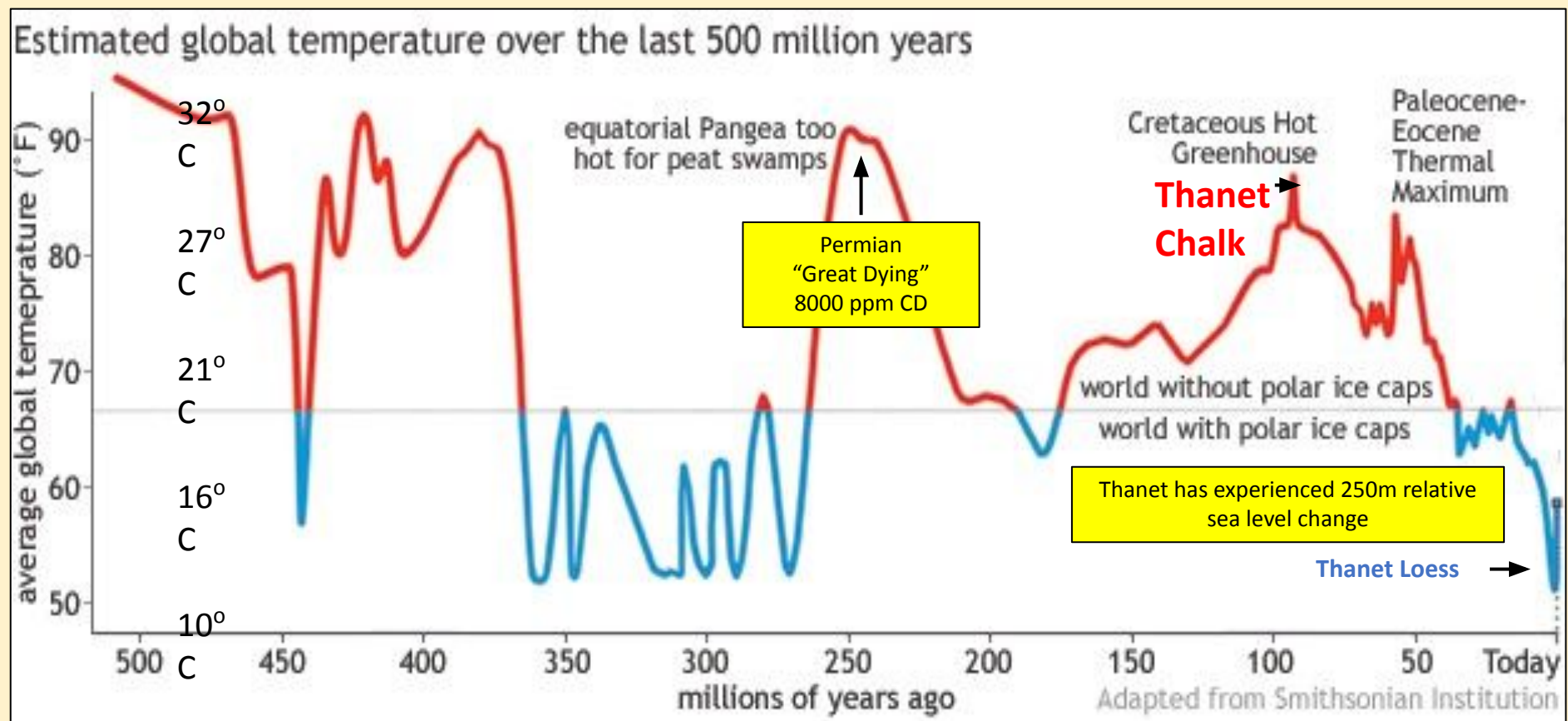
Sea level change in Thanet

Richard & Tina Hubbard

Thanet Coastal Warden Annual Gathering

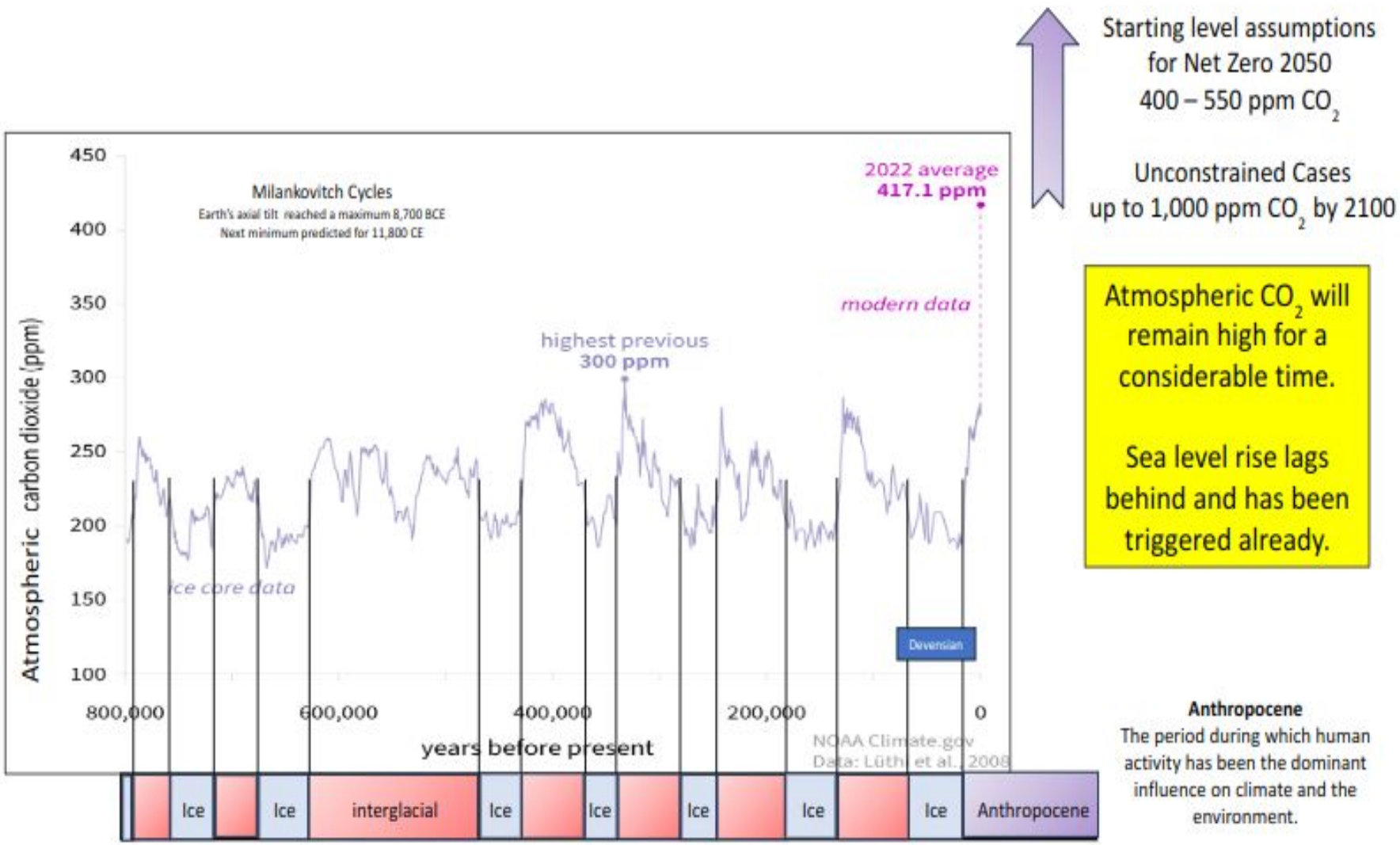
Droit House, 16th November, 2023

Through geological time - polar icecaps are the exception, not the rule



Preliminary results from a Smithsonian Institution project led by Scott Wing and Paul Huber, showing Earth's average surface temperature over the past 500 million years. For most of the time, global temperatures appear to have been too warm (red portions of line) for persistent polar ice caps. The most recent 50 million years are an exception. Image adapted from Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History.

Human GHG emissions have now overridden natural Ice Age processes



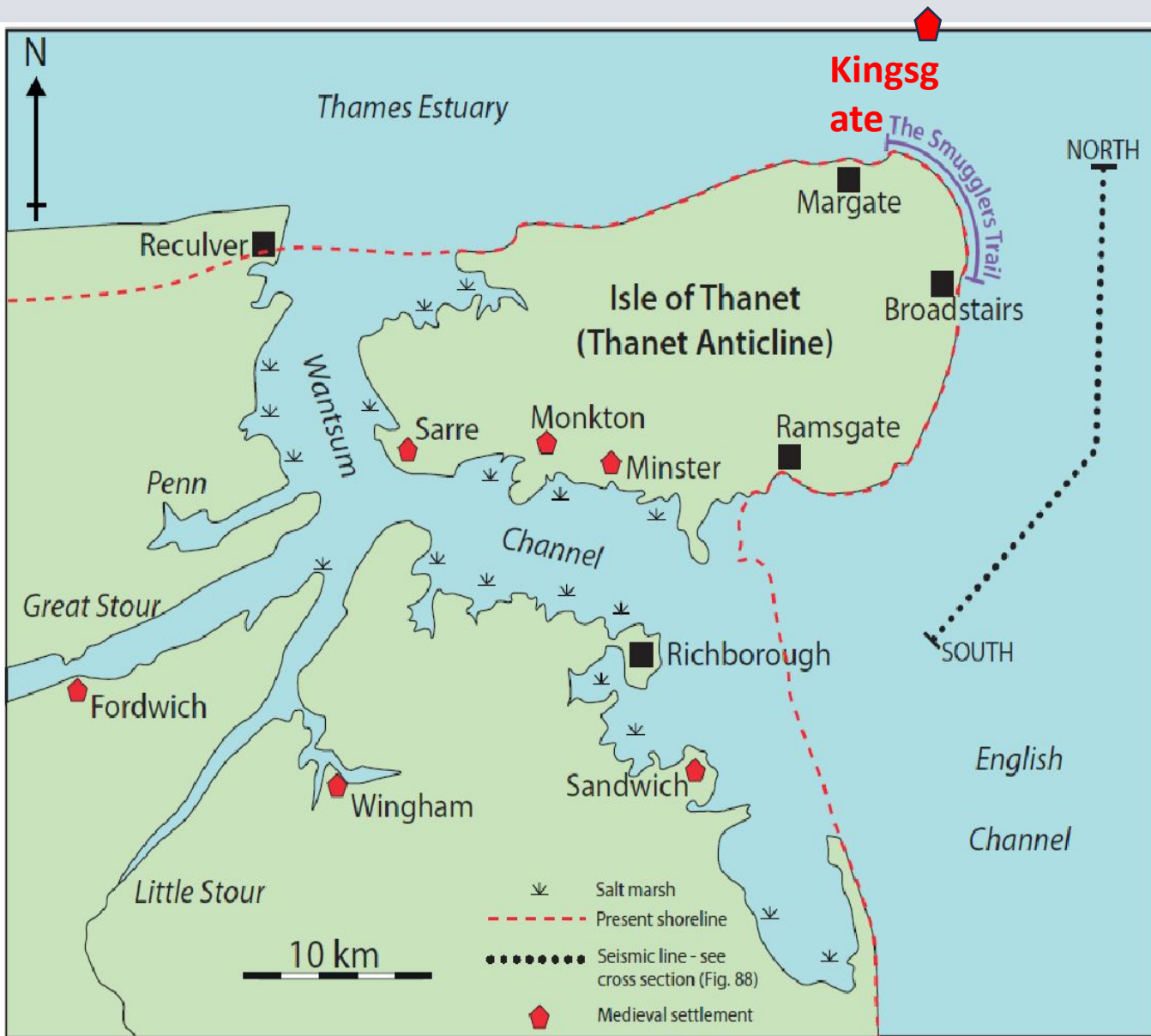


On average globally **1m** of sea level rise will move shorelines about **100 m** inland.
Obviously not the case against 20 m high chalk cliffs

Prediction: Sea level will have risen by 1m in 2100

What will happen in Thanet?

Kingsgate Bay 1927
BGS



*Sketch map in
Roman times*

2 m sea level rise
will recreate the
Isle of Thanet

2013 Tidal surge 1.5m
flooded Sandwich.
Water was 1m deep in
the Salutation Gardens.
Faversham was also
flooded.



enjoy our Beaches & Bays



HW Ramsgate 14 November – little wind and a fairly flat sea





Margate sea defences will be breached & Old Town will flood.

Storm Spring (King) Tides start the flooding process.



Where is this?

Walpole Bay Pool at HW
- this will be the picture
at LW when sea level
has risen by 2m



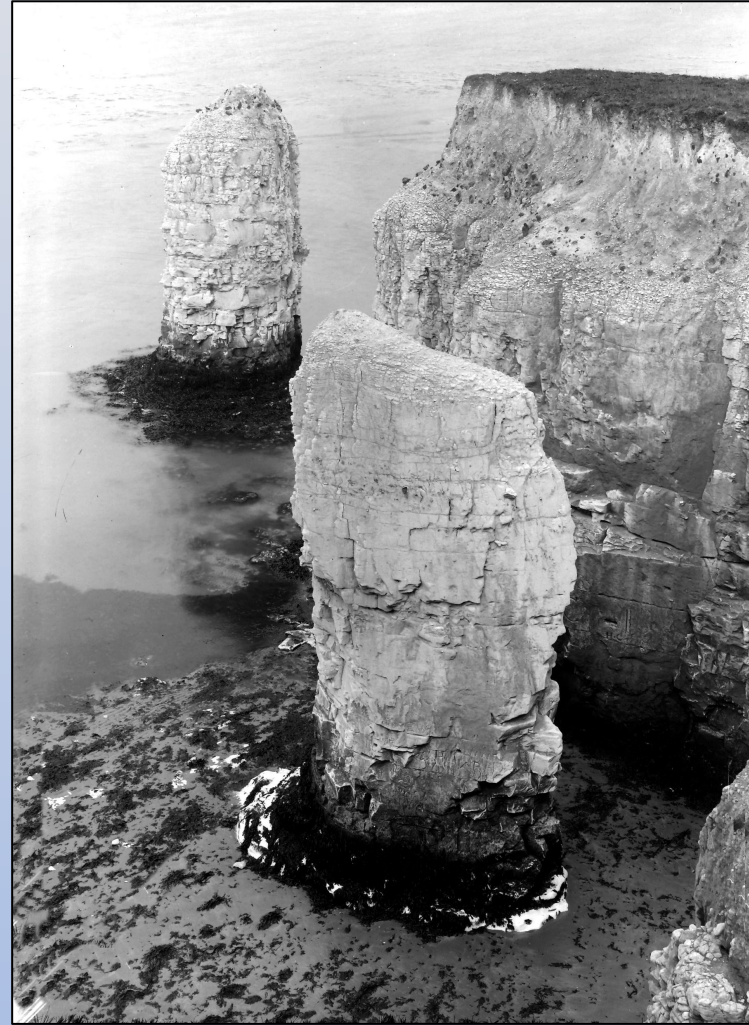
Foreness Point and Palm Bay

A naturally
crenulated coastline
left preserved above
a sea wall.

The sea wall will be
swamped by a 2m
sea level rise
requiring Southern
Water to re-plumb
the pumping station.

Thanet will revert to having a naturally crenulated chalk coastline
with sea caves and sea stacks

1927 Birchington
(the 3 mile wall to Reculver
was built c1954?)



Pocket Bays

- Botany Bay Point and Whiteness Point are vulnerable to increased rates of coastal erosion.
- The King Charles III Coastal Path will be moved to landward around Arx Ruohim.
- The Captain Digby will become unsafe.
- Hackemdown Point sea wall defences will be severely tested by a 2 m sea level rise. Kingsgate Castle may (once more) become unsafe.



Joss Bay

The dunes currently forming in the centre of pocket bays will protect against a 2m sea level rise, but not a 10m rise.





2021 Joss Bay - storm removed
2m of sand from dune

Good news: Vegetated dunes are forming today
providing *some* protection for the cliffs

Whiteness Point





Artwork from Ramsgate promenade wall - Vattenfall project

In Summary

- Wantsum Channel – flooded
- Road and rail access - severely restricted
- Coastal towns – at risk of flooding
- Chalk cliffs – accelerated erosion with subsequent threat to clifftop buildings
- Beaches - narrower where sea defences remain in place
- Marine life -?

What urgent planning is needed in Thanet?

- Transportation links need higher ground
- Coastal towns – better (higher) sea walls?
- Ports – adapted

Sea level rise will happen!

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birdwise.org.uk | @BirdWiseEK



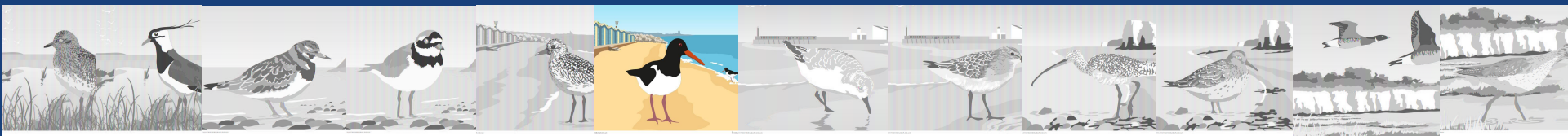
Bird Wise EAST KENT

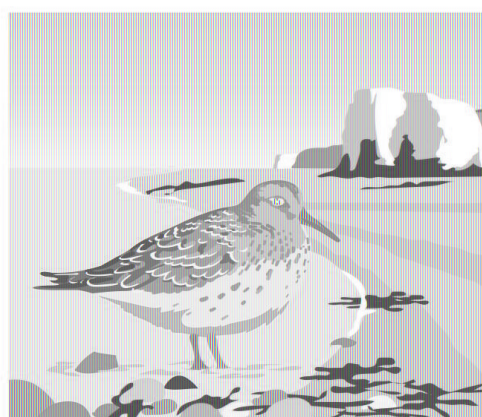
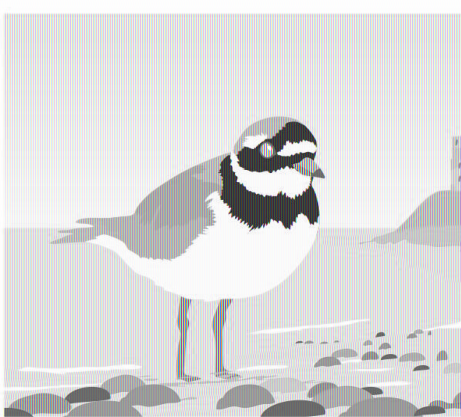
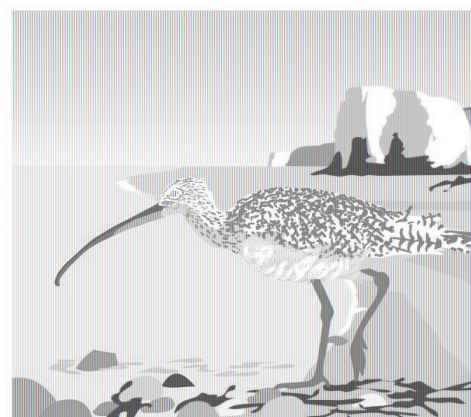
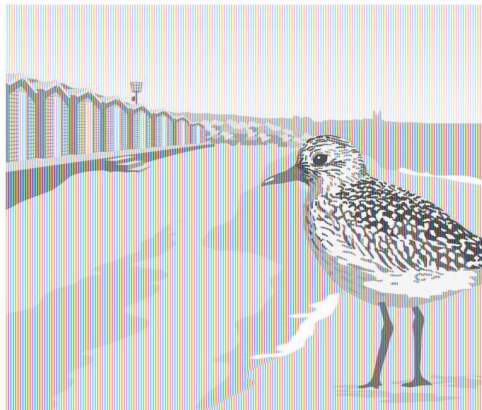
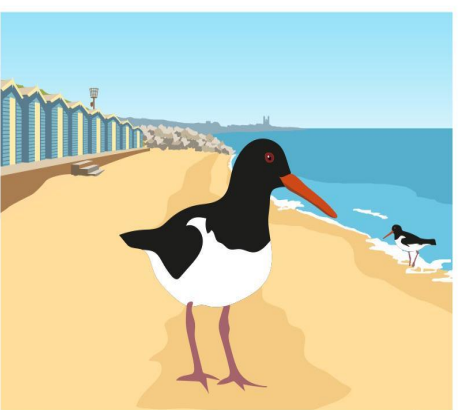
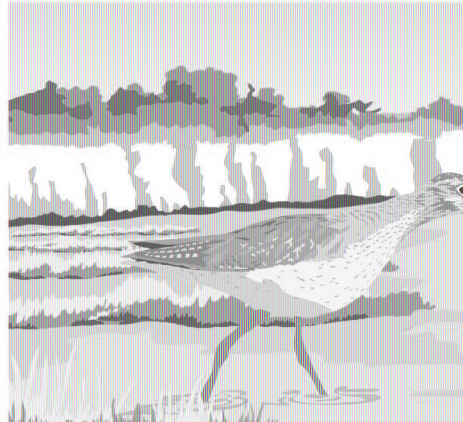
Greg Bessant - Engagement Officer

Michael Lee - Project Lead

Jasmine Beveridge - Engagement Officer

Wising up to Bird Disturbance







EASTKENT.BIRDWISE.ORG.UK

KNOW YOUR TURNSTONE

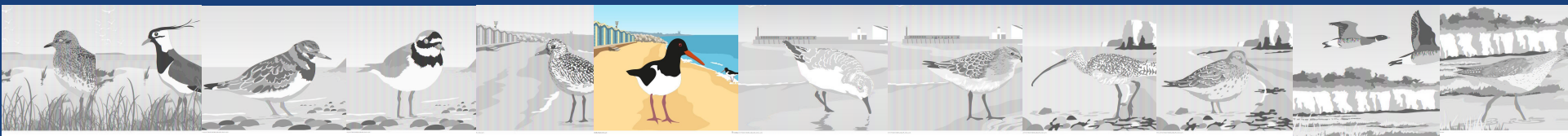
MOTTLED BROWN
BACK & HEAD

MEDIUM SIZED BILL

BLACK BIB

WHITE FRONT

ORANGE LEGS



63M



KNOW YOUR GOLDEN PLOVER

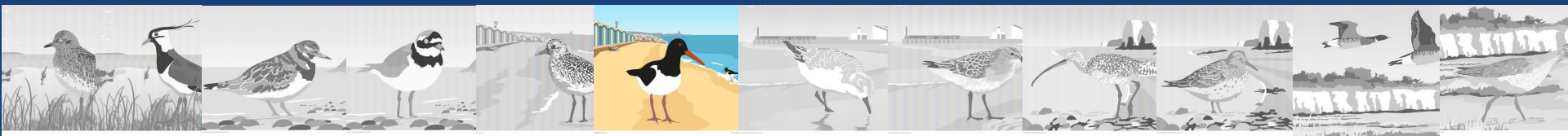
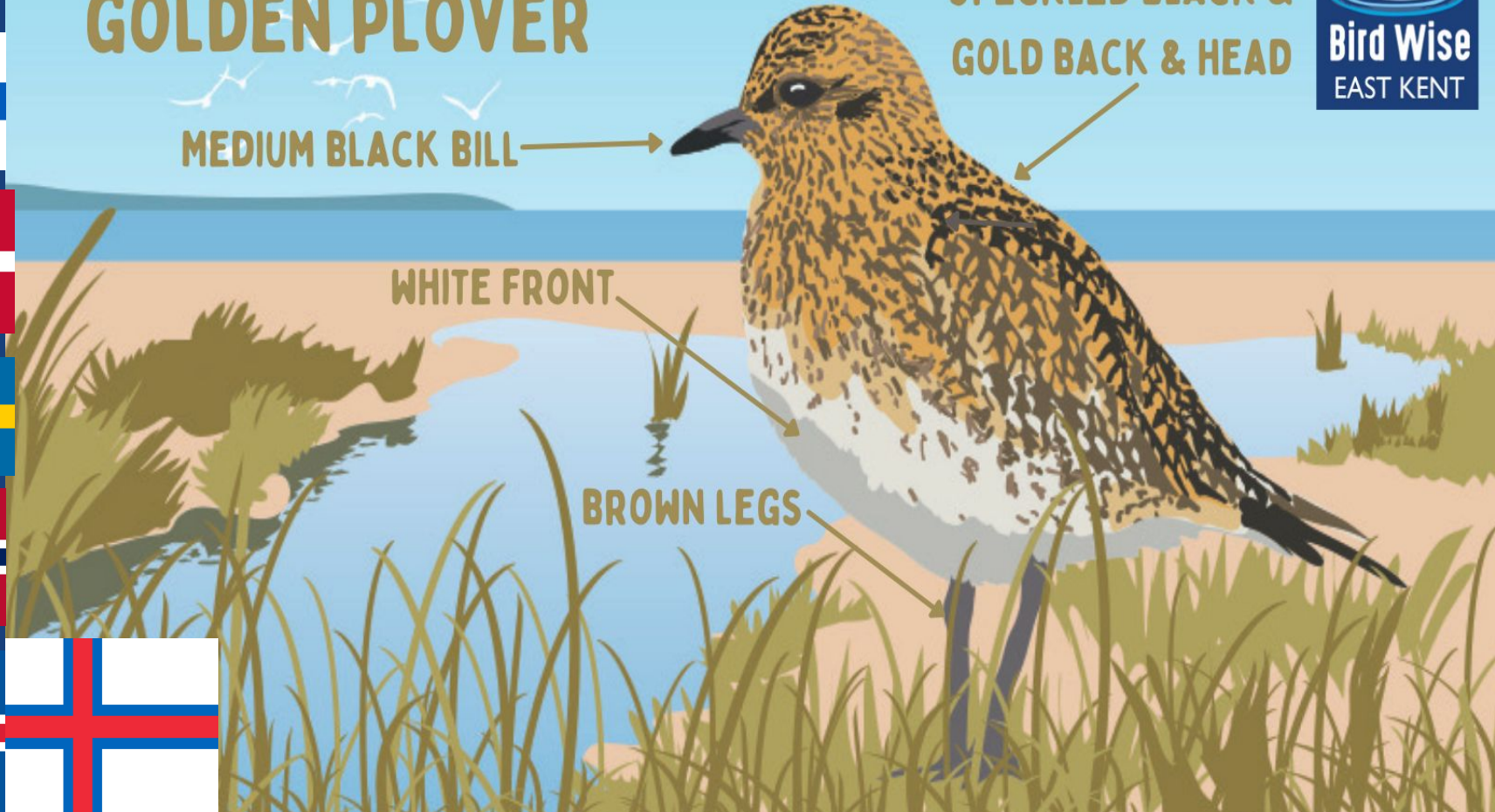
EASTKENT.BIRDWISE.ORG.UK

SPECKLED BLACK &
GOLD BACK & HEAD

MEDIUM BLACK BILL

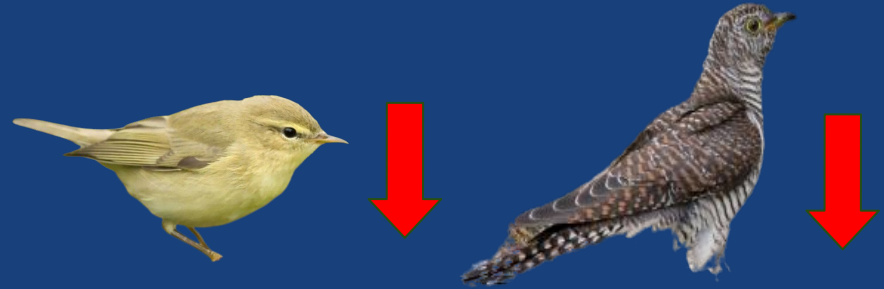
WHITE FRONT

BROWN LEGS



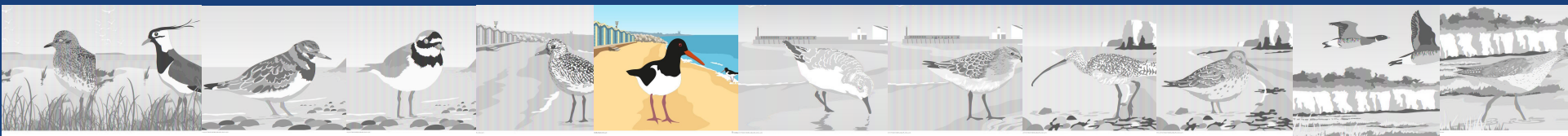
Decreasing species due to Climate Change

- Fall of 73 million birds in Britain since 1970
- More rainfall in UK with higher temperatures may help $\frac{1}{3}$ of species, but the others are likely to be affected by climate change



- Some species find it hard to adapt to climate change such as the Willow Warbler and the Cuckoo as their internal clocks for migration can't adapt quickly enough to the unpredictable seasonal change

- Puffin population decline in Britain and Ireland of around 89% is projected for 2050
- Sea birds and upland bird species are found to be more vulnerable



Species that are going to increase through climate change



Cetti's Warbler



Grey Heron



Black Winged Stilts



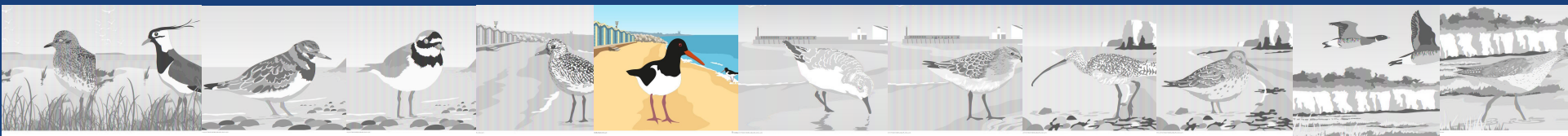
Eurasian Bee-eaters



Coot



Moorhen



Similar Species increase



Cattle egret

- Small numbers breeding in the UK, increasing numbers in Mainland Europe
- Around 20 breeding pairs and over 100 overwinter in the UK



Little Egret

- 2 breeding pairs 30 years ago in Poole Harbour
- Over 1000 breeding pairs and over 12,000 overwinter in the UK



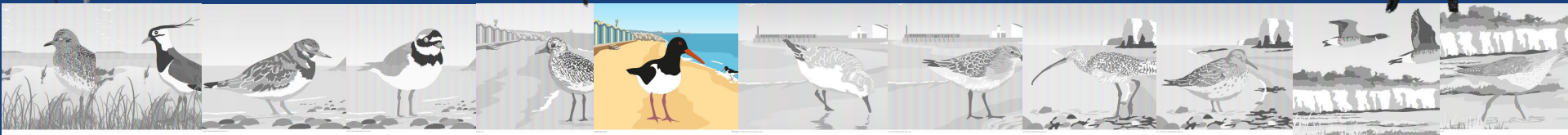
Great White Egret

- More common as Winter migrants but have bred in the UK
- Around 25 breeding pairs and over 80 overwinter in the UK



Spoonbill

- Bred in Norfolk in 2023 for the first time in 400 years
- Around 30 breeding pairs and over 120 overwinter in the UK





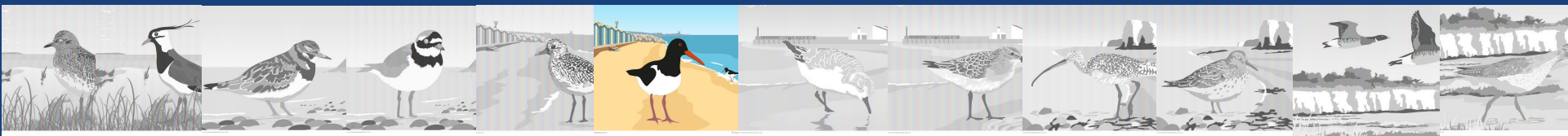
GIVING BIRDS ROOM TO
ROOST
REST
RECUPERATE



birdwise.org.uk | @BirdWiseEK



Any questions?



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