Thanet Coast Project - NEKMPA

Coastal Wardens 2023 Annual Forum

6pm, Thursday 16 November - Margate Visitor Info Centre

Part TWO











Thanet

Coast Project

Agenda

See Part ONE

6.30pm Welcome

6:35 Thanet Coast Project & Coastal Wardens 2023

6:45 Short Sharp Shore: updates/presentations - pt1

PART TWO

Short Sharp Shore: updates/presentations-pt2 (Pages 4-67)

8.10 Climate Change - Thanet

(Pages 69-86)

(Pages 87-96)

8:30 Feedback comments

- Networking, nibbles & drinks

9-9.15 **Depart**



Short Presentations

SEE PART ONE

1. Natural England update - NEKMPA MG-AG/Coastbusters

Becca Turley, Natural England

2.King Charles III England Coast Path - short film

Laura Whitfield, Natural England Access Team

3.Is our Kelp disappearing?

lan Tittley, NEKSCAG/Kent Field Club/SeasideMuseum

4.Sea Level Change in Thanet

Richard & Tina Hubbard

5. Coastal Bird changes

Greg Bessant, Bird Wise East Kent

PART TWO:

6.Save Minster Marshes

(Pages 4 to 24)

Nik Mitchell, Wildlife Conservation in Thanet

7. Pegwell Bay NNR updates: The Good & the Bad (Pages 25 to 42)

Nina Jones, Kent Wildlife Trust

North East Kent 8.Zero Margate Update and display panels

(Pages 43 to 67)

Sam Causer, Zero Margate





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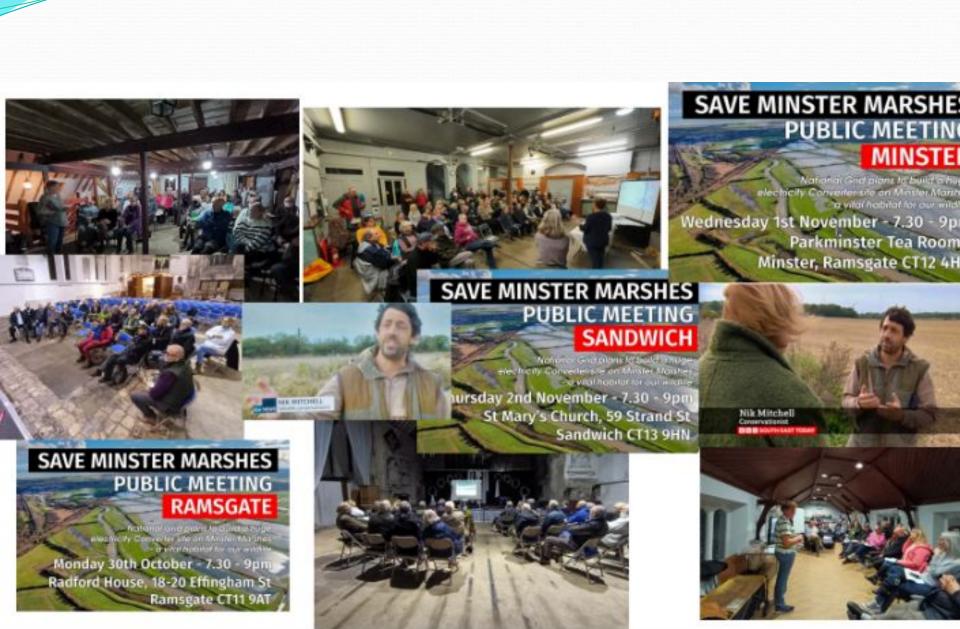


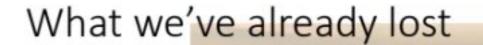














Biodiversity Loss and habitat destruction





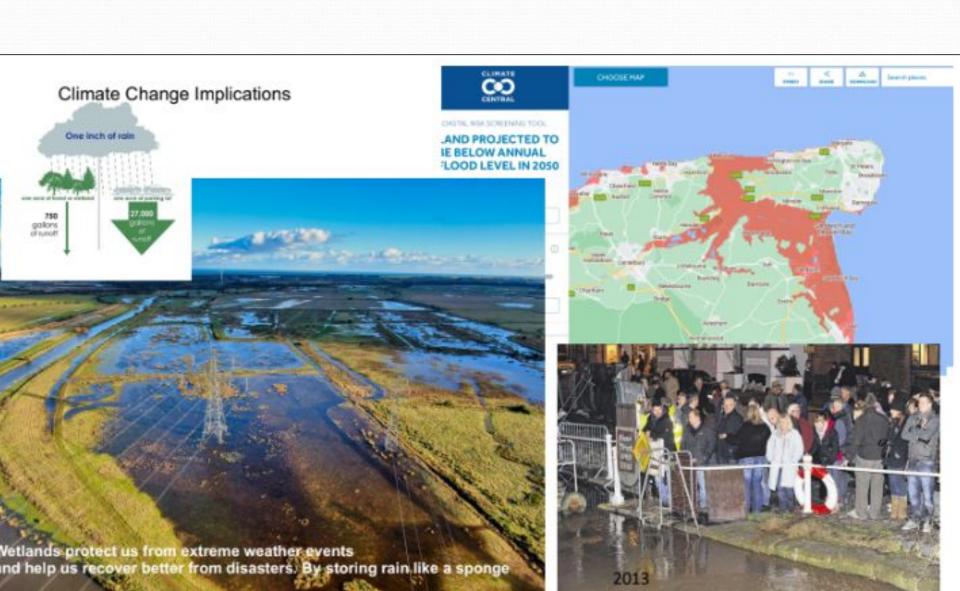
BP BP



Aesthetic and Recreational Value





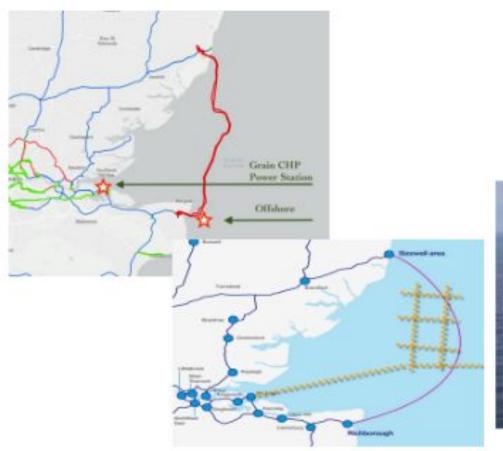


Cumulative impact





There are alternative sites





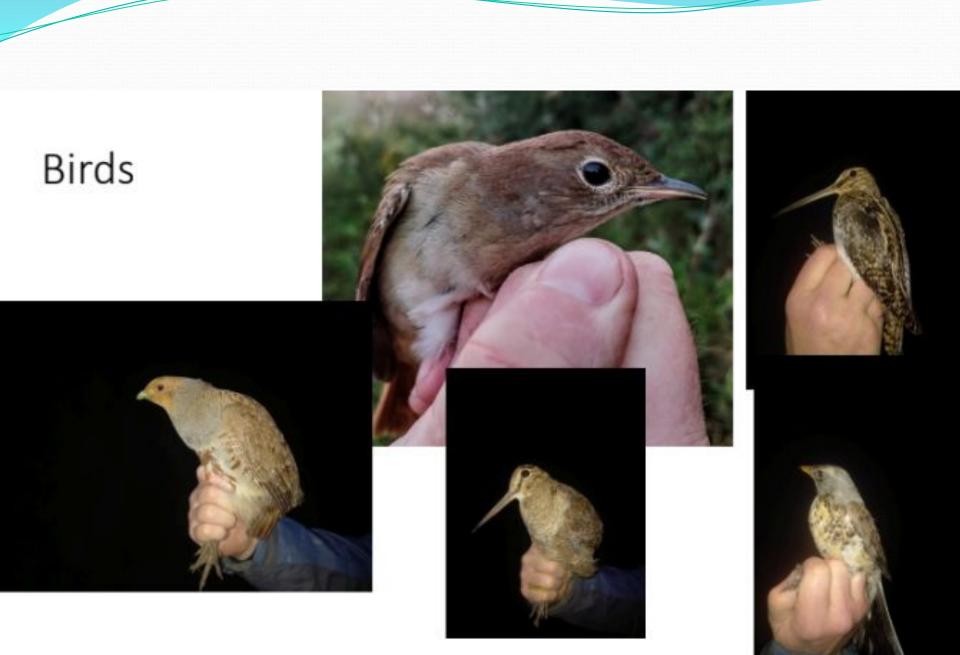


Some of the wildlife



Bats



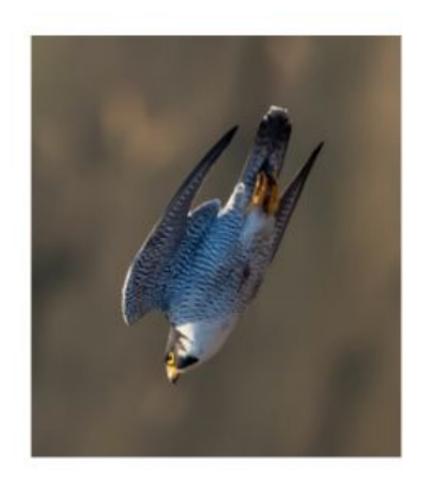


Ramsgate gets its name from Raven

Its earliest reference is in the Kent Hundred Rolls of 1274-1275AD as 'Ramisgate' or 'Remmesgate' from Anglo-Saxon "Hræfn's geat", or "raven's cliff gap", later to be rendered 'Ramesgate' from 1357AD.



Peregrine, the worlds fastest



Turtle dove UKs fastest declining 80% since 1980



Best Song bird

Nightingale

they have declined by over 90% in the last few decades, nightingale are incredible songbirds of the 5000 odd songbirds in the world nightingale have the most astonishingly rich repertoire, able to **produce over 1000 different sounds**, compared with just 340 by skylarks and about 100 by blackbirds, it's a bird deeply linked into uk culture



Watervole Fastest Declining mammal, losing 95% of its range over the last hundred years





Thank you



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Updates From Pegwell Bay NNR: The Good and the Bad



Pegwell and Sandwich Bay National Nature Reserve

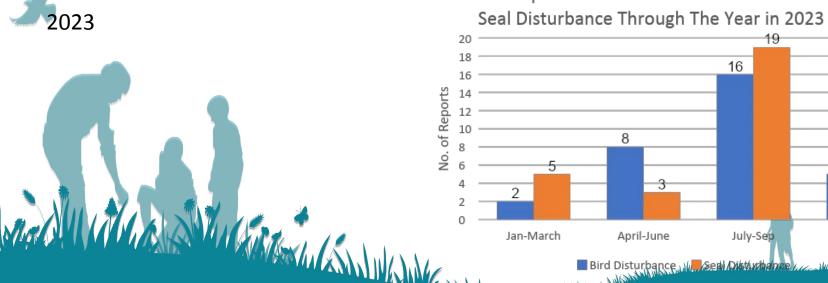
615 hectares mudflats, saltmarsh, sand dune, saltmarsh, chalk cliff

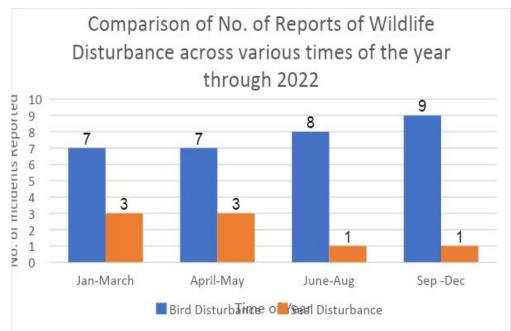
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)
National Nature Reserve (NNR)
Natura 2000
Ramsar
Site of Special Scientific Interest
(SSSI)
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
Special Protection Areas (SPA)
Country Park
County Geological Site



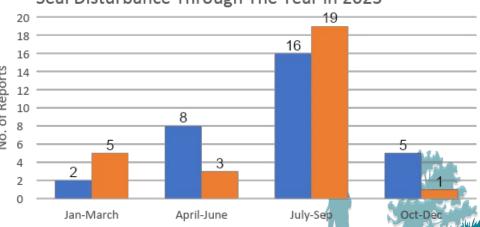
Disturbance Records Time of Year

- Seal disturbance
- **Bird Disturbance**
- Collated over the 4 quarterlies
- Increase in disturbance incidents concerning seals and birds in Summer



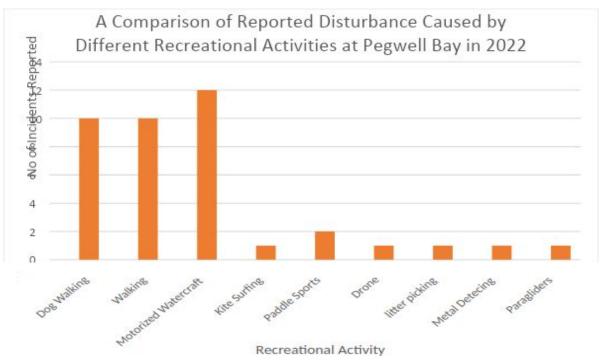


A Comparison of the No. of Incidents of Bird and

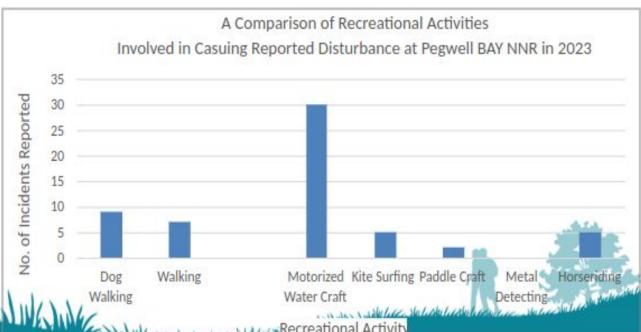


Causes

- Dog Walkers
- Walkers
- Motorized Watercraft



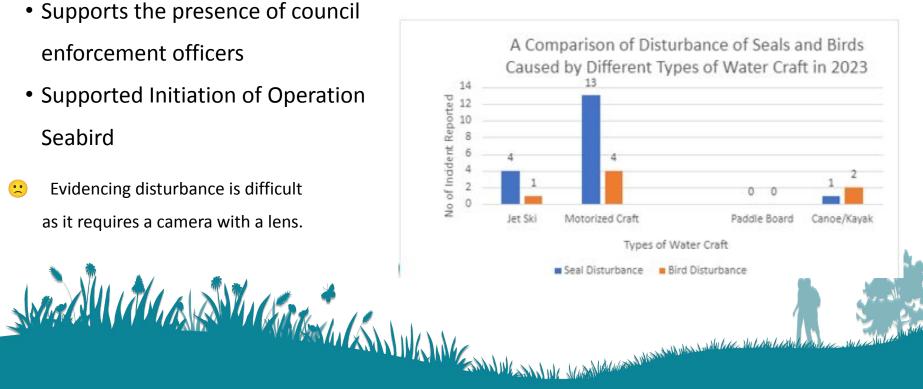




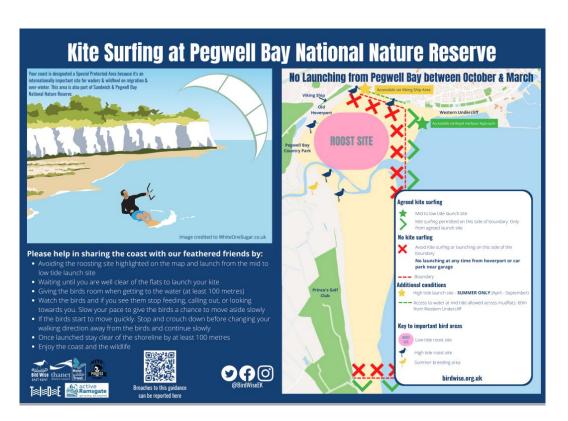
Disturbance from Watercraft

- Useful for raising awareness amongst local councils and relevant authorities
- Supports the presence of council enforcement officers
- Supported Initiation of Operation Seabird
- Evidencing disturbance is difficult as it requires a camera with a lens.





Kite Surfing



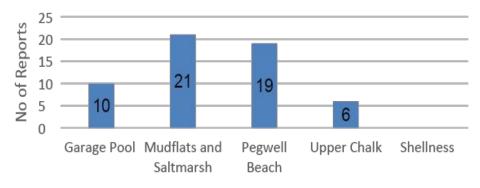




Dog Walking



A Comparison of Locations at Which Breaking of a Dog PSPO Was Observed in 2023



Location within the NNR



of Reports

No.

A Comparison of the Number of Reports of Disobedience to Dog PSPO's Across Different Parts of Pegwell and Sandwich Bay



Operation Seabird

- 1st NE Kent Operation
- Several Weekends
 During Summer
 Holidays
- Jet Ski Banned from local waters











Pegwell Bay has sheltered waters that attract both grey and common seals throughout the year.

From where you are standing right now, you might be able to spot seals resting on the banks of the Stour. If you look closely, you might even be able to spot some pups nestled amongst them.

Seals are easily disturbed by the presence of humans. Even a seemingly small disturbance – such as getting too close to a seal – can:

- Force them to flee, resulting in stress, reducing energy and causing possible injuries
- Lead to the abandonment of dependent pups
- · Result in the death of pups and adults
- · Reduce vital resting time

Please help us look after this reserve





No drone flying No public access There is no public access beyond this point – please do not go further than this sign.



New Signage

- A change of stance to highlight location of safe viewing point.
- General protocol to avoid
 highlighting haul out spots has
 failed to offer seals protection
 with more people accessing the
 water in order to view the
 rumored seals.
- More visitors now using the coast path to view seals, from locations where they can cause no harm.

New Resources

- Leaflets
- Downloadable Posters
- New Webpages
- New update inserts

What is seal disturbance?

Seals can be disturbed if people or dogs get too close, cause too much noise or startle them. Disturbance can happen from the land, sea and air.

A seal is aware of your presence if it is looking at you, whether on land or in the water. This means its' flight or fight response has already been triggered. If a seal is panicked enough by a potential threat both pups and adults may try to flee, usually to the water. Causing seals to flee can result in:

- · injuries such as cuts
- · ripped out claws
- · sand graze on flippers.
- · A stampede leading to smaller individuals may be crushed.
- a surge of the stress hormone cortisol which is bad for their long-term health.

These disturbances all use up vital energy reserves. Disturbance impacts can be long term and affect a seal's chance of survival, even months later. Many young seals don't reach their second birthday, so lessening our impacts on them is key to their future survival. Luckily there are many ways we can avoid disturbing seals.



Advice for paddlers

seals often show more signs of isturbance due to the presence of paddlers than motorised craft. This is pecause you can approach silently and without warning, so if you see a seal, please:

· Paddle slowly and steadily

Keep parallel to the shore when passing seals.

DO HOL Speak OF Make a Holse.

faintain a constant speed and lirection, do not stop.

 Do not to get close to seals, paddlers should try to keep a distance of 100m.

If there are multiple paddlers they should bunch together within 300m to appear less threatening.

ot take a seal selfie.

ldlifetrust.org.uk

LEARN MORE

Pupping Season
In Kent, grey seals pup over winter and

is likely the pup will die.

stay underwater for around 12 minutes, so she should be visible within 30. She will not

return to feed her pup if she sees people or there is a strong

What to do if you see a seal in distress

01825 765546

harbour seals pup in early summer.

If disturbed a pregnant seal may be unable to store enough fat to feed her pup or a seal that has recently given birth may abandon her young. In both instances it

If a white-coated or small-moulted pup is spotted, be aware that its mother may be nearby in the sea with a sightline to her pup. She could

Find out more about how to watch seals safely and report disturbance by scanning the QR code





How to watch seals safely webpage

- **Recognising Disturbance**
- **Report Seal Disturbance**
- **Download Posters**



Save our seals!



The UK is home to over a third of the world's grey seal population. A globally rare species resident in the UK, grey seals are the equivalent of an African elephant. What's more, harbour seals are in alarming decline.







Seal behaviour

Seals can be curious animals, but are also easily frightened. and they are at their most vulnerable when on land. Getting out of the water takes a lot of energy, and it is important for their survival that they can rest.

For seals, being vigilant due to the presence of people has a metabolic cost, reducing energy and increasing stress levels. Seals only spend 20% of their lives on land, so seeing them out of the sea is a privilege. Seals can be picky about the sites they use, which is already limited due to development and the presence of people visiting the coast.

SEAL DISTURBANCE CAN KILL

Seals only come onto land to breed, rest and digest their food. Flushing them back into the water reduces their ability to gain energy from their food and uses energy to return to the sea.

Repeated disturbance can seriously affect a seal's energy, and a seal may have many encounters with several people over one day. When seals are flushed into the sea, they may be injured from stampeding, gashing their bellies on sharp rocks, tearing skin on sand or ripping out

DID YOU KNOW?

It is unusual to encounter nore than 10 seals in the sea hey may have already seen you and, as a result, been flushed out

What does disturbance look like? Seals may appear in control of encounters and they may be

very curious about you but avoid staying in their company for too long as you may distract them from their feeding. digesting, sleeping or traveling routine.



Happy seal

Signs of a happy seal include sleeping and not looking in your direction.

Worried seal

If a seal raises its head and repeatedly looks at you, you're too close and you have disturbed it. back away slowly and quietly, out of sight.



Disturbed seal

LEARN MORE

Find out more about how to watch seals safely and report disturbance by scanning the QR code



kentwildlifetrust.org.uk

Support for Campaigns

e.g. EFRA Report

Government falling short on protecting marine mammals

31 October 2023



The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee has today published the Government's response to its report, Protecting Marine Mammals in the UK and Abroad.



House of Commons

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee

Protecting Marine Mammals in the UK and Abroad

Sixth Report of Session 2022–23

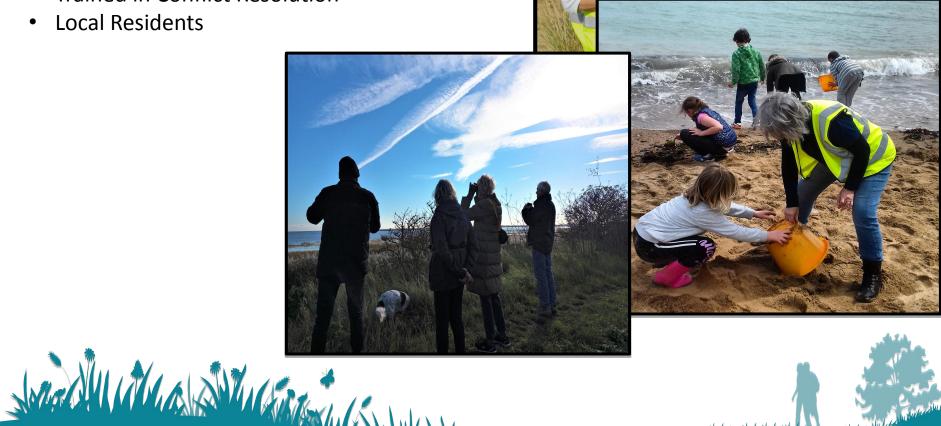
Report, together with formal minutes relating to the report

Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 20 June 2023



Wilder Coast Volunteer Team **Continues**

- Eyes of the Bay
- **Report of Disturbance Incidents**
- Trained in Conflict Resolution
- **Local Residents**





WISE Accreditation Scheme

www.wisescheme.org



- The UK national training scheme for minimising disturbance to marine wildlife
- Deliver training/accreditation to operators of registered passenger and charter vessels who wish to view marine wildlife responsibly;
 - Deliver training/accreditation to professional practitioners involved in coastal/inter-tidal adventure activities



Future Objectives

- Aim to plan Operation Seabird events ahead of time for busy summer days e.g. bank holidays
- Support from council enforcement officers and PCSO's to lead on engagement regarding incidents of major seal disturbance
- Develop means of collating data on how the public view Pegwell Bay NNR.
- Seal watching area turned into a viewing point
- Continue to reach out to community groups,
 particularly new families moving to the area



Russ Miles

Collaboration is The Key





Thanet Coast Project











giving nature a home



Thank you for listening



kentwildlifetrust.org.uk



@kentwildlife



Nina.jones@kentwildlife.org.uk

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8.**Zero Margate Update** and display panels **Sam Causer,** Zero Margate











MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE









Design Exchange Partnerships









MARGATE COASTAL PARK - EAST

MARGATE COASTAL PARK - CENTRAL

MARGATE COASTAL PARK - WEST

Afternoon Tea 2 - 3pm

Walpole Bay Shelter 5th Avenue



Coastal Wander 12 - 2pm

Three miles from The Sunken Gardens to Walpole Bay



Join ZeroMargate for discussion, wander and picnic, exploring

Climate Change

in Margate on Saturday 20th May 2023

Morning Coffee 11am - Midday

Free, Open to All

The Sunken Gardens Royal Esplanade Westbrook



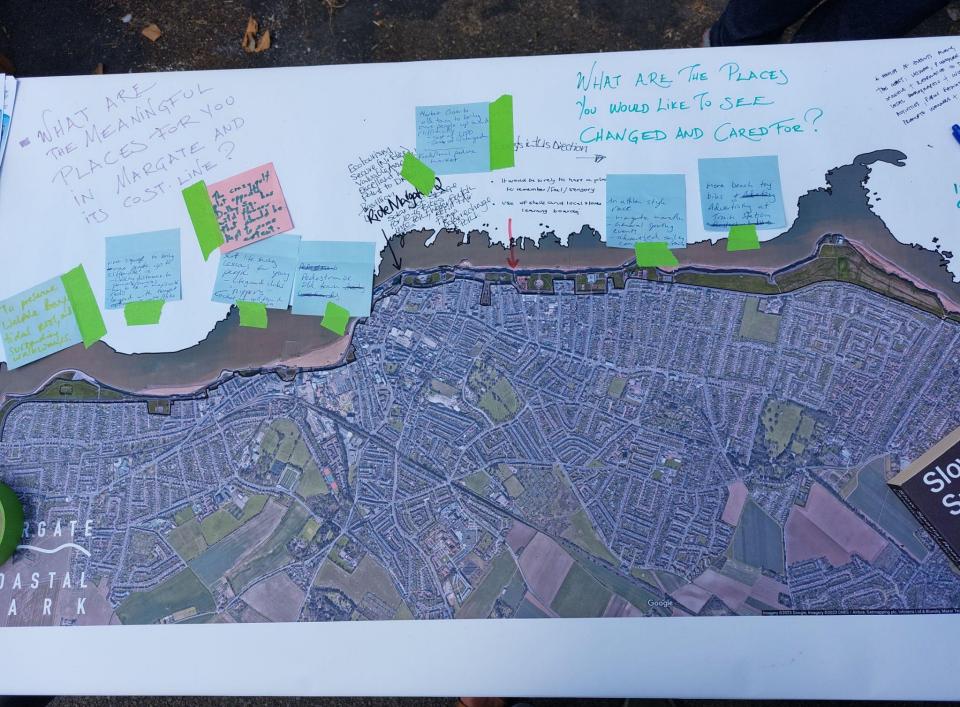






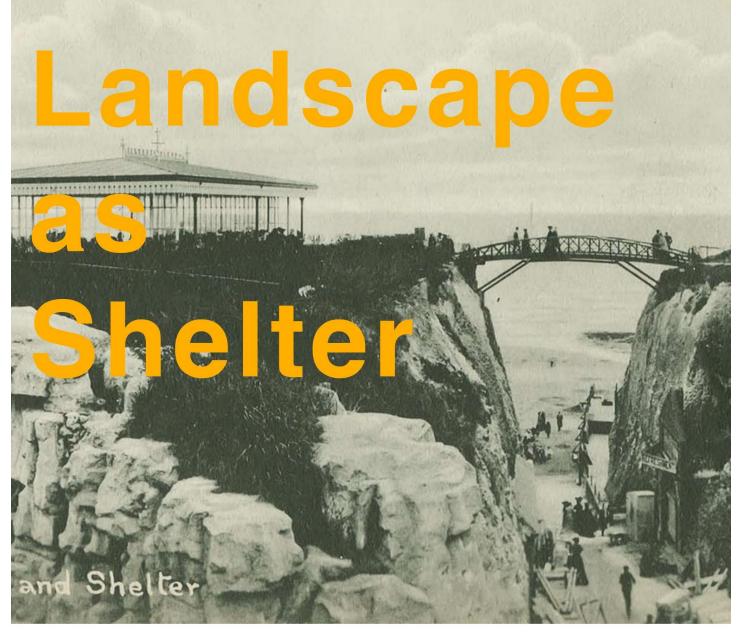












































































THE DAMAGED SEA-WALL; ST. MILDRED'S BAY, WESTGATE-ON-SEA.



THE DAMAGED SEA-WALL PROMENADE, ST. MILDRED'S BAY, WESTGATE-ON-SEA

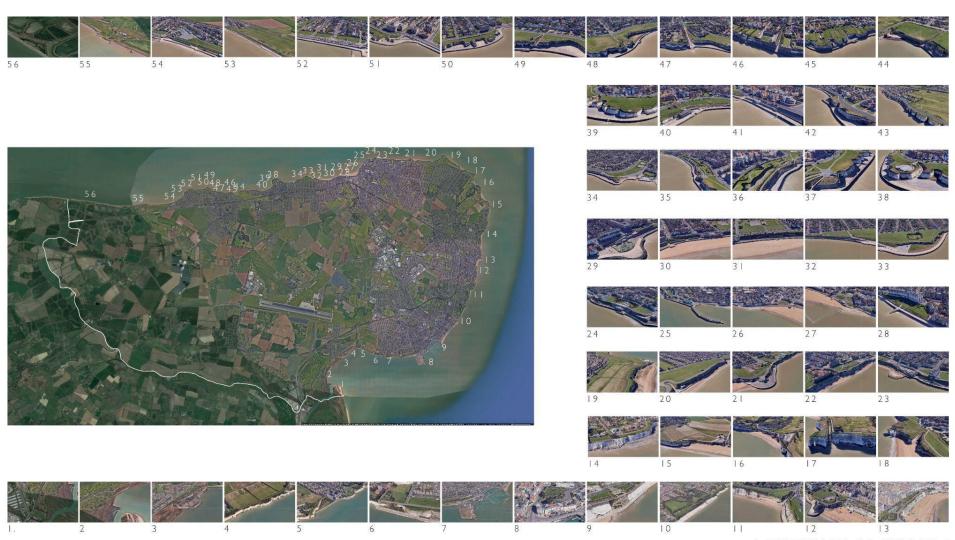
THE GREAT GALE: HAVOC AT WESTGATE-ON-SEA AND RAMSGATE.











LANDSCAPE AS SHELTER



I - STOUR ESTUARY

The River Stour Estuary

The nevigible River Stour flows into Pegvell Bay depositing slit into the essuary. The tical send bank becomes menthand, industry & nature reserve. A direct line can be drawn from sea to building from well to dry, from north-east to south-west: 3) Sea 2) Tidal Marsh; 3) Rood-plant (Pilipriya) Felds (1) Car Parké) industrial Building.



2 - PEGWELL BAY

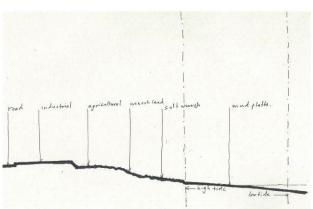
Pegwell Bay Nature Reserve

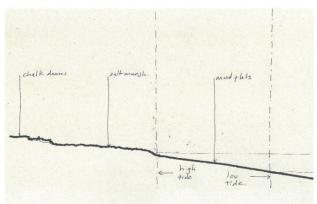
A stopping point for migrating birds: The tidal sandbank becomes marshland, a Nature Reserve managed by the Kent Wildlife Trust High-land kalls egainly. Again a line can be drawn from wet to dry from sea to agriculture, through liyers of water management and height above scelere.

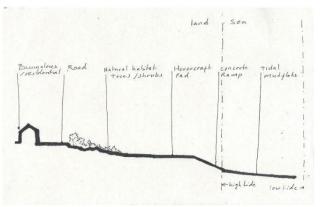


3 - PEGWELL BAY

Former Hovercraft Port







LANDSCAPE AS SHELTER





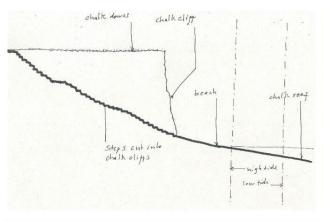
18 - BOTANY BAY

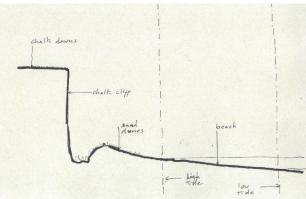
Steps down an Historic Gap, with Toilets and a Snack Shop Sand builds up with Plants Taking Hold

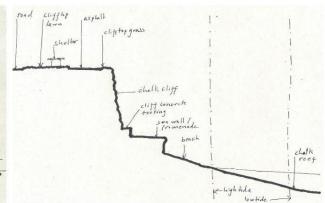
19 - BOTANY BAY DUNES

20 - PALM BAY

A Shelter on the Headland in a Sea of Cut Grass







LANDSCAPE AS SHELTER



21 - WALPOLE BAY

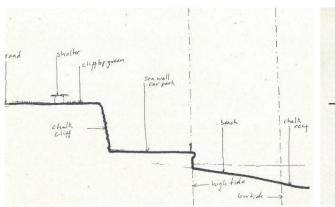
Concrete Defence around Chalk Promontory and Gap

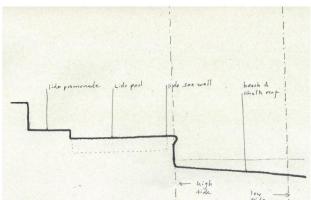


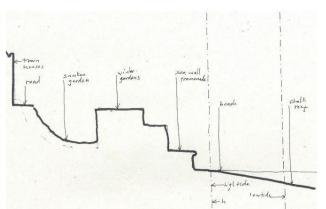
23 - CLIFTONVILLE LIDO Layers of Development of Spa History



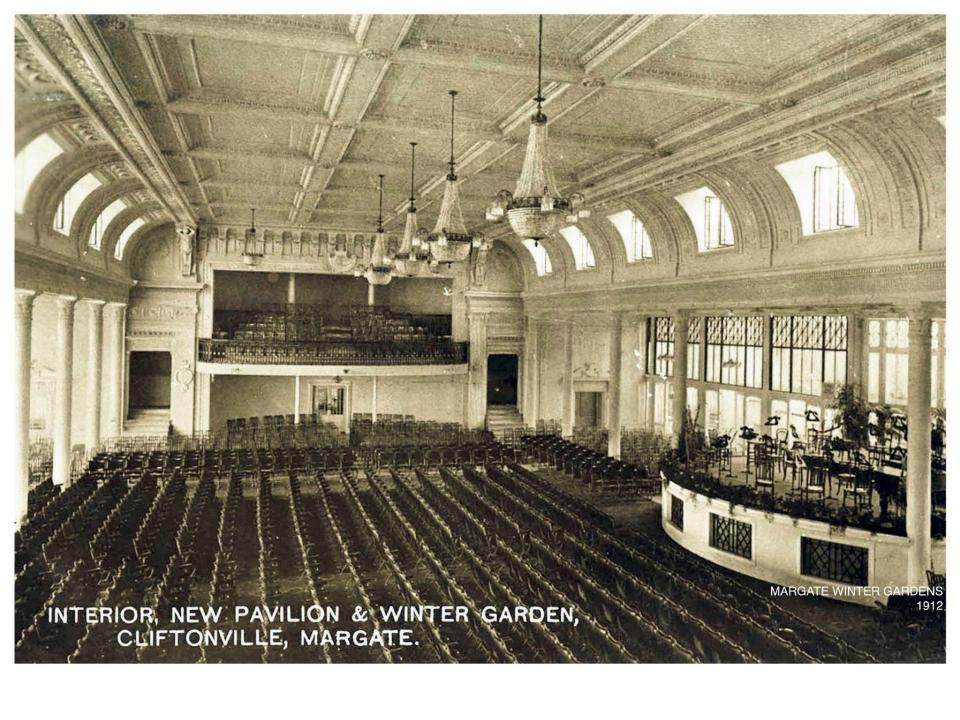
24 - MARGATE WINTER GARDENS
An Early c20th Concert Hall Cut into the Cliff







LANDSCAPE AS SHELTER









End of short presentations! Now, pp72-89 the

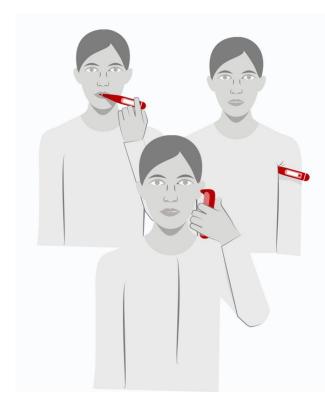
MAIN PRESENTATION



Climate Change

DR HANNAH SCOTT

What temperature increase means you have a fever?



Body Temperature

37C (98.6F) normal body temperature

38C (100.4F) or above, high temperature/fever

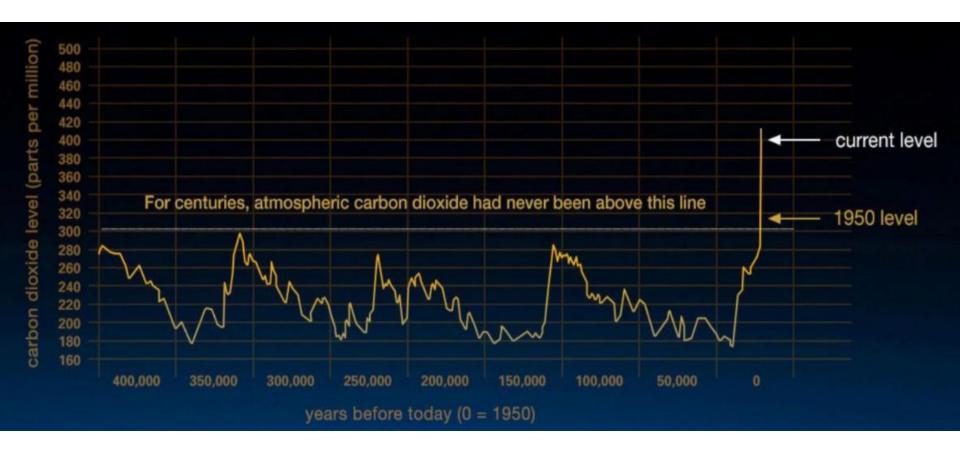
Source: NHS

World temperature has increased by 1.2°C since the industrial revolution.

BBC NEWS

The world has a fever

CO2 levels



How has this happened?

Balanced CO, cycle

Humans and animals eat the plants

for energy.

Humans burn the

trees for

heat and

and use

the wood

for shelter.

Unbalanced cycle causing climate change

Fossil fuels are stored CO2 produced millions of years ago.

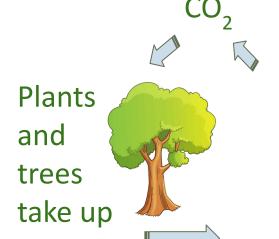
Humans started to

dig this up and burn

it for energy.

Massive increase in

CO₂



Where does CO2 come from?

Burning Natural Gas:

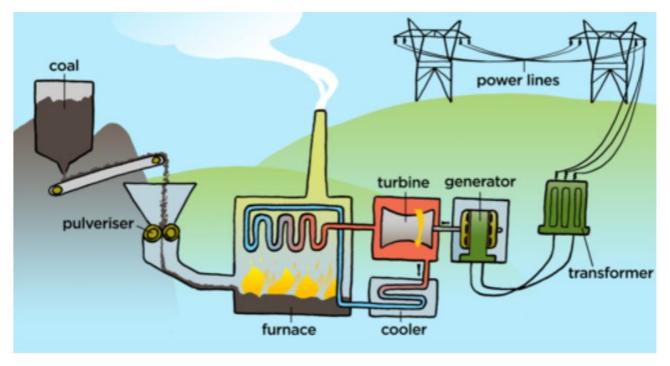
When heating the air or water in our homes.

When cooking on a gas stove.

Burning petrol/diesel (from oil) in cars/vans



Production of electricity using fossil fuels



We need to stop using fossil fuels and instead create electricity using wind or solar.

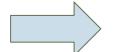
Methane and land clearance

Balanced GHG cycle

Low levels of meat and dairy consumption







Unbalanced cycle causing climate change

High levels of meat and dairy consumption: increased methane production.

Increased land clearance to for products, cattle and to produce animal feed





Over consumption of stuff in general is also driving climate change

What are the likely impacts of climate change?





the south east, by 2080
- summers are likely to be

Climate Projections (UKCP) for

Based on the Met Office's UK

 winters are likely to be warmer by around 3°C to 4° C

hotter by around 5°C to 6°C

- summer rainfall is likely to decrease by 30% to 50%
- winter rainfall is likely to increase by 20% to 30%
- sea level rise is likely to increase by 0.8m.

- Heat waves and droughts
- Extreme storms and flash flooding
- Food system shortages
- Ecosystem disruption

KCC Risk and impact

assessment

Link <u>here</u>

| RISK | RATING | RECOMMENDATION |
|--|--------|--------------------|
| Heat leading to increased mortality. | High | Research priority |
| Overheating homes and public buildings causing productivity and health issues. | High | Research priority |
| Overheating of public spaces affecting health. | High | Research priority |
| Water scarcity and droughts affecting access to water. | High | Research priority |
| Increase in flood risk impacting people's homes, businesses, health and social care facilities and access. | High | More action needed |
| Increased rates of coastal change particularly impacting vulnerable communities. | Medium | Research priority |
| Declining air quality affecting health. | Medium | Research priority |

Climate change is a public health emergency

2020 news

Australia: 28 people were killed, over 2,000 homes were lost. An estimated 1 billion animals were lost and one third of the entire koala population perished.



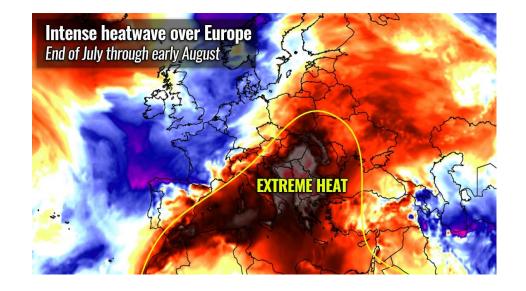
2021 news

Two months' worth of rain in just two days leading to extreme flooding and approximately 200 deaths



Greece - extreme heat wave.

Fires in the country consumed five times as much land as they do in an average year.

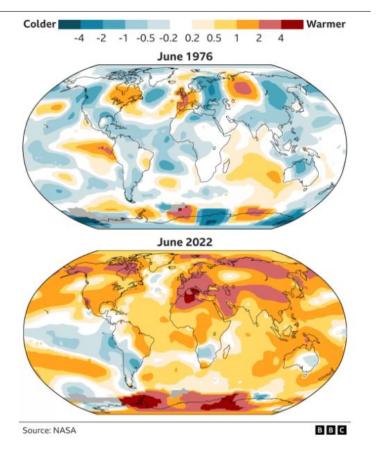


Heatwave of 2022

40.3°C in the UK

Plus a global increase in temperature





2022 was the warmest year since records began in 1884

2023

March - second warmest March on record

June - hottest June on record

Vast wildfires in Canada and parts

Mediterranean including Greece, Italy and Spain.



July saw the hottest three-week period ever recorded; the three hottest days on record; and the highest-ever ocean temperatures for this time of year.

World Meteorological Organisation: "Exceptional heat and rain, wildfires and floods mark summer of extremes"

UN secretary general

The era of global warming has ended and "the era of global boiling has arrived"

"Climate change is here. It is terrifying. And it is just the beginning,"

"It is still possible to limit global temperature rise to 1.5C [above pre-industrial levels], and avoid the very worst of climate change. But only with dramatic, immediate climate action."

Full speech here.



The answer is straightforward

SMOKING \rightarrow companies promoted as health giving \rightarrow correct information \rightarrow knowledge

CFCs → whole in ozone layer → stop using CFCs

Fossil fuels \rightarrow CO2 \rightarrow global heatwaves, fires, flash flood and death \rightarrow ?

Stop using fossil fuels →renewable industrial revolution

Thanet District Council action

- 2030 target
- Wider target



Thanet District Council

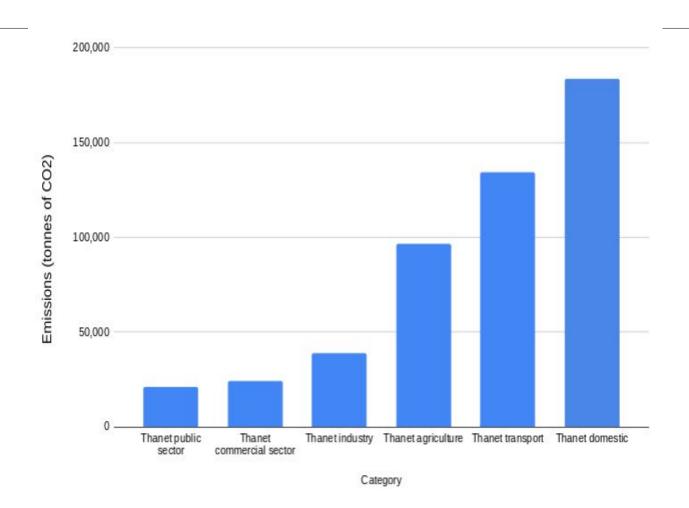
NET ZERO STRATEGY

2023

thanet.gov.uk/climate-emergency

FEBRUARY 202:

Thanet wide emissions



Six actions that will significantly reduce your carbon footprint



Link to <u>Take</u>
the jump
campaign





'Feedback':



1a) Best bits

'Feedback':

11 responses

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

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

Being on the beach

seashore safaris

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

Seashore Safaris! 🦀 And meeting new volunteers 😊

Being able to share information

Seashore Safaris

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

Just getting out into nature

taking notice of what's going on at the beach

'Feedback':

1b) Do better?

9 responses

Improve reporting system. See coastal signage continue to be clearer

Training that is not on a week day

Refresher meetings

refresher training on access to forms.

More group training sessions and opportunities to network

The feedback form

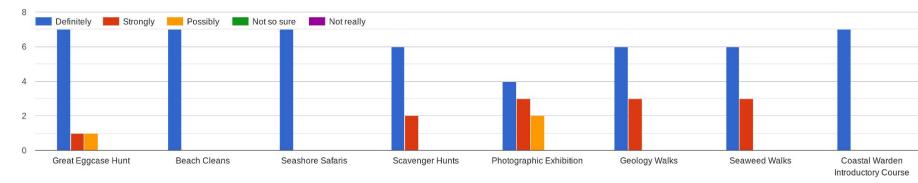
Improve notice of information eg forthcoming events or call out for volunteers . This would give volunteers more time to plan and possibly increase their availability etc Short notice impedes any planning.

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

have a better survey form

'Feedback':

2a) Public Events



2b) New Events

7 responses

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

School visits / engagament

making a video for presentations to schools and community

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

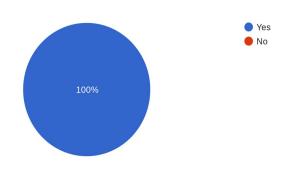
Adult rockpooling

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

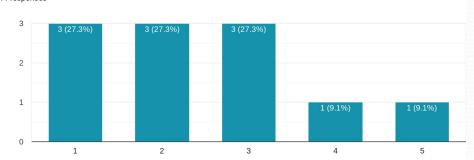
a walk for all wardens to join

'Feedback':





3b) Community help!



3c) Comments

5 responses

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

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

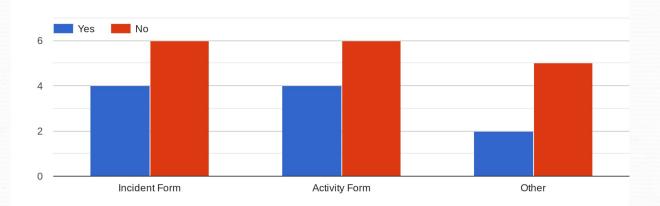
Events will need to be limited to resource available... need to be realistic

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

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

4a) Survey Forms

'Feedback':



4b) Form Comments

7 responses

Less complex. Better layout.

make less complicated

Activity form process not as easy as it used to be

The activity form is very cumbersome needs simplifying

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

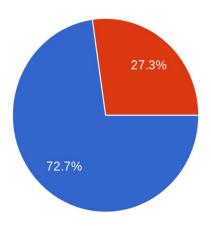
Simple activity forms and instructions, the system needs to be able to be used on mobile phone.

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

'Feedback':

5a) Anniversary Group

11 responses





5b) Coastal Wardens 2024

6 responses

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

Training skills.

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

Refresher training

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

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

2024:

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

'Feedback':

6) Your Skills

4 responses

•••

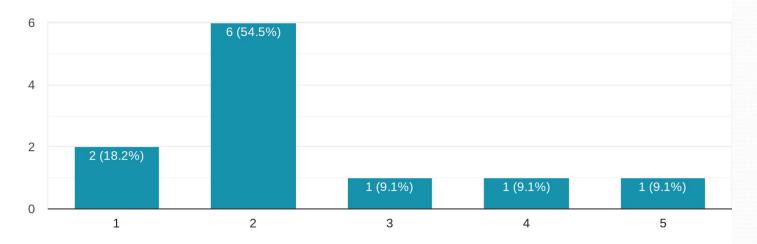
do not think so apart from knowledge gained on seashore events.

Creative /art background

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

7) Satisfaction:

11 responses



Volunteering

The Thanet Coast Project events would not have been able to take place this year without your time and enthusiasm to support it!

THANK YOU

for helping and being the 'eyes & ears' of the coast & helping with with surveys, monitoring, training or kindly donating your time to help run many public & community events



'HUGE THANKS'
to all the speakers
this evening
(& to the helpers!)

Thanet Coast Project - NEKMPA

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

NETWORKING TIME with drinks & nibbles ...









