



Coastal Events

The Thanet Coast Project runs events all year round – from exhibitions to summer events such as 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 can also help at other school or group educational events are subject to a DBS check and should attend a volunteer briefing session. 16 to 24 year olds can gain volunteering certificates for helping at events.

Ways to help

Find out the many ways that you can take small actions to help - to look after the important wildlife and habitats of the Thanet Coast, from representing organisations and local people with an interest in the coast to simple actions or online donations: thanetcoast.org.uk/help

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 the website: 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, from educational activities, writing articles, practical tasks to surveys or producing new educational material.

Alternatively, you may like to help support our work through online donations or business sponsorship such as 1% for the planet. To take part in any of the volunteer activities contact us through our website where you can register your interest to be a volunteer at:

Web: thanetcoast.org.uk

Facebook: @nekmpa1

Insta: @thanetcoastproject



working with people
for coastal wildlife

The Thanet Coast Project's volunteer activities are run with support from Thanet Council, Natural England and donations from the general public.



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 Marine Protected Area.
-  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 Whitstable to Pegwell and Sandwich 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?

We can help you plan your own volunteer group beach clean - with online advice to help you set up at: thanetcoast.org.uk/beach-cleans/

You can also join a beach clean - these take place regularly at Pegwell Bay, Cliffsend and in Birchington, helping to make the most sensitive spots for Thanet's coastal wildlife clean and safe.

Alternatively, we can suggest that you join a volunteer day with one of the numerous coastal groups around Thanet as many run litter picks, or help with environmental improvements around the coast.



Warden Scheme

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

Volunteers adopt a stretch of coast to look after, and take part in an informal training programme. This includes an introduction to the NE Kent marine Protected Area and this coastal stewardship scheme with the opportunity to learn lots more about our marine and bird life and the natural environment.

Training Sessions include::

- Introduction to being a Coastal Warden
- Shorelife Identification.

Optional Activities include:

- Coastal Bird Identification
- Shoresearch
- Geology
- Seaweeds, &
- many more – you decide!

Wardens can get involved on surveys in their patch, and can decide to get involved as little or as much as they like!

