



Kent's Coastal Week

Saturday 26 October - 3 November

CHANGING Coast

IS THIS YEARS THEME

Welcome to

Kent's Coastal Week 2013

This pdf version of the booklet contains all the information you will need to take part. A printed version will be available from Kent County Council, for your copy, contact 03000 417171

Come and join in!



You can pick up a leaflet at your nearest Visitor Information Centre, or call 03000 417171





Saturday 26 October - 3 November

The Kent coast is a dynamic place and has changed shape and character over time due to the interaction of nature and humans. Kent's Coastal Week 2013 has a host of events run by coastal enthusiasts and experts to help discover these fascinating changes and see what our Kent coast could look like in the future.

Until the end of the last ice age it would have been possible to walk from Dover to Calais across a massive area of chalk. It is thought that a series of huge floods then pushed this chalk to one side, separating England from France. When this happened, the features we know as the Dover Strait and the White Cliffs of Dover were formed.

The shape of our coastline has been changing ever since and will continue to do so for years to come. The Wantsum Channel which once made Thanet an island, has now dried up joining it to the rest of Kent and the Dungeness Peninsula has developed

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over just a few hundred years where shingle washed up from the west to the east, has caused the shape of the peninsula to change.

The North Kent Marshes and Thames estuary are dynamic areas, formed by changing saltmarsh and mudflats. The shape of this coastline has changed dramatically over the centuries.

During the last 2000 years, our human activities have interacted with all these natural processes and we have built structures such as seawalls and ports helping to shape the coastline we see today. In 2012, the world's largest offshore wind farm, situated 20km off the Thanet coast started to supply energy to the UK. This wind farm known as London Array includes 175 turbines, each up to 90 meters high.

All events are organised by local groups, coordinated by Kent County Council. The events are free unless otherwise stated.

The wind farm is part of our reaction to climate change and this phenomenon will have a big impact on the future of the Kent coast. We are now in a position to make choices about the type of coastline future generations will experience and "Changing Coast" will ask why our diverse Kent coastline looks like it does today and how we can shape it for the future.



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WHAT WILL THE FUTURE HOLD?



Climate change is likely to bring opportunities as well as challenges for the Kent coast. So far, the project has identified three key themes:

More extreme weather

As the climate gets warmer, many scientists expect more extreme weather events. We need to be better prepared for:

- periods of heavy rains and droughts
- cold snaps or heatwaves
- storms, possibly with high tides and storm surges



Warmer, wetter winters

Winters are expected to get warmer too. Winter rainfall is likely to increase by 20% by the 2050s and 24-27% by the 2080s. The nature of our rainfall may also change. Recent Met Office research suggests that more of our rain is now falling in heavy downpours, bringing more risk of surface water flooding.

- winter rainfall is likely to increase by 20% by the 2050s and 24-27% by the 2080s
- winters are expected to become warmer, with average daily minimum temperatures rising to 5-6°C by 2080



Rising sea levels

The Kent coast is continually changing because of erosion, deposition and rising sea levels. The South of Britain has been slowly sinking for thousands of years, because Scotland is still bouncing up from the last Ice Age. But the effects of climate change will increase this further:

- by 2100 mean sea level is expected to be 39- 49 cm higher than it was in 1990



More like the Mediterranean?

By the end of the century, this area might feel like the South of France or Northern Spain:

- average annual temperatures are projected to increase by 3.5 - 4°C by the 2080s
- summer rainfall could be 20-25% lower by the 2080s
- more frequent summer droughts are likely
- heat-related health risks may rise
- the hottest day of summer could be 10°C hotter by 2080



More tourist and regeneration opportunities

Warmer, drier summers are likely to be good for tourism, bringing a longer summer season and more reliable summer weather. We want to think about how more local tourism can be encouraged, while protecting the environment and keeping carbon emissions down.



Increased water stress

Water stress is likely to be an increasing issue for residents and businesses, particularly with new developments and increased visitors. This will have implications for biodiversity, gardens and green spaces, as well as water consumption.



Changing shape of the coast

New sea defences will protect coastal towns from flooding for many years, these schemes are adapted for future sea level rise. But other features of the coast may change, as coastal erosion, increased sea levels and storms become more frequent in the future.





The Coastal Communities 2150 project supports Kent's Coastal week 2013

For coastal communities around the world, climate change over the next century will lead to new localised risks and opportunities as natural processes accelerate and traditional weather patterns become less reliable. Coastal Communities 2150 (CC2150) is a project developed to address these potential changes through engaging communities or sectors at long-term risk and supporting locally developed responses.

Communities on the Kent coast are vulnerable to potential environmental changes due to their unique socio-economic profiles and environmental situations. The impacts of climate and coastal change are already being felt by residents around our coastline and this project aims to help communities maximise any potential opportunities and minimise any risks associated with these effects.



**WRITING
COMPETITION**

Enter the Coastal Week writing competition and win a family boat trip to see the London Array offshore wind farm.

London Array

If you are aged between 12 and 18 years old, write up to 200 words on **"What the future of the Kent coast means to me"** and you could win a trip for up to eight people to the offshore wind farm site to see the turbines close up. Your entry will be judged by a special panel of coastal experts.

Competition closes Friday 14 November 2013

Take up to eight people on the trip, which has to take place by the end of May 2014.

Further details at: kent.gov.uk/coastalweek



Saturday 26 October - 3 November

EVENT LISTINGS

Changing Coast at Margate

Sunday 27 October 10am – 3pm

The Piazza, alongside The Parade at Margate seafront, near The Droit House Visitor Information Centre (CT9 1JD).

Come along to the launch event for Kent's Coastal Week 2013 to find out how the Kent coast has taken shape, how we plan for the future and the recent transformation of Margate, including the Margate Flood and Coast Protection Scheme. Meet staff from the London Array offshore wind farm, Environment Agency (with displays on the 1953 flood), Southern Water and the Coastal Communities 2150 project.



Stalls, activities and information will be available on the theme of "Changing Coast".



Thanet Coast Project will be there offering face painting, the opportunity to make a climate change fridge magnet and other arts and crafts activities. Tudor House will be open from 11am – 4pm and Margate Museum will also be open from 11am – 2.30pm. Turner Contemporary gallery is just five minutes' walk away and is free entry. Cafes are located adjacent to the event marquee.

The event is free and there is something for everyone to enjoy. The marquee is a short walk from Margate train station and public car parks are available around the town.

More information: Kent County Council

"Changing Coast at Margate" will take place the same weekend as the Margate Beach Cross event, with quad bikes races taking place at the other end of the Main Sands from 10.30am. Watch the riders take to the sand dunes from across Britain and Europe and cheer them on.

A trip down memory lane – historic photo exhibition

Sunday 27 October 10am-5pm, the Drum Room, Droit House Visitor Information Centre

Drop in at anytime to view an exhibition of historic images of the Thanet coast. You can also see **Changing Coast at Margate** event taking place nearby the same day.

More information: Thanet Coast Project

Storytelling Walk - "Changes to the Coast"

Wacky coastal adventures exploring the changes to the coast. Led by the excellent and inspiring scandalmongers storytellers. Fun for 4-11years and family groups

Sunday 27 October 1.30pm (1h30)
The Piazza, Margate Parade, CT9 1JD -

Wednesday 30 October 2.00pm (1h30)
Meet at the Obelisk, opposite Belgian Bar, Ramsgate Main Sands CT11 8LX

Friday 1 November 2.00pm (1h30)
4-11yrs. Meet at the Harbour Office, Viking Bay, Broadstairs CT10 1NB

Please book with Thanet Coast Project



Blue Town Heritage Centre

Blue Town Sheppey - local history walk on the Isle of Sheppey

Saturday 26 October 11am. Meet your guide at Blue Town Heritage Centre, 69 High St, Sheerness ME12 1RW

Walk along the coastline from Blue Town High Street to Minster Cliffs and discover historical Sheppey. The walk will take about 1h30.

Criterion Music Hall - Film show - Beowulf & Grendel

Saturday 26 October 2pm
The film show is free – certificate 15. Entrance to the centre is £1 Blue Town Heritage Centre, 69 High St, Sheerness ME12 1RW

A chance to see the 2005 feature film based upon the epic Anglo Saxon poem of monsters and heroes. The poem is considered to be the start of English literature. Research by Prof Paul Wilkinson (covered recently on BBC's Inside Out programme) indicates that The Isle of Sheppey is where the Legend of Beowulf was set. The venue is one of the few authentic Music Halls in the country.

More information: Blue Town Heritage Centre

Managing coastal flood risk on Romney Marsh

Saturday 26 October 10am – 3pm Meet at the sea wall, Dymchurch. Look out for the events trailer.

The Environment Agency have carried out recent improvements to the seawall at Dymchurch at a cost of over £60 million, providing a reduction in flood risk to 2,471 properties. Further work is being carried out to protect 14,500 homes across Romney Marsh for a 100 year period.

Drop in and find out more about this fascinating work - maps and photos will be available.

More information: The Environment Agency

The Changing Coastlines of Whitstable - a 50 million year journey - with Timescapes and Chiz Cartoons

Saturday 26 October 11am – 3pm drop in anytime – suitable for families and all ages. The Castle Studio at Whitstable Castle, Tower Hill, Whitstable, Kent, CT5 2BW.

Come along and test out your drawing skills at the cartoon workshop with cartoonist Dave Chisholm. He will be working with Timescapes and Mapping Kent on Eocene crocodiles and mangroves, Ice Age mammoths and Neanderthal Man, bronze age metalworkers, and medieval salt-makers and fishermen. Come and see how he creates them into cartoon characters. A leaflet that illustrates the changing coastlines and environment of Whitstable will be produced for Coastal Week and be available on the day.

More information: Whitstable Castle



shoreisaloadofrubbish.com – coastal week events

These events will be the culmination of a year long project Urban Beach - exploring the constantly changing landscape of the North Kent coastline of Herne Bay and Whitstable. Free event, but donations welcome.

The People's Beach - Decorate a pebble - Free drop-in workshop

Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 October
Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 November
All workshops will run from 10am to 4 pm

Come and decorate Plaster of Paris Pebble for an exciting community art installation, entitled The People's Beach. All ages welcome.

Part of East Kent Open House, call into Studio 5 at Beach Creative, Beach Street Herne Bay CT6 5PT

Beach Litter becomes Art - family workshops

Monday 28 October 2pm - 3.30pm and Wednesday 30 October 10.30am - 12noon and Friday 1 November 10.30-12noon. Call into Studio 5 at Beach Creative, Beach Street Herne Bay CT6 5PT

Discover the environmental and visual impact marine litter has on our beaches and take part in a session creating art from locally found beach litter.

Booking for Beach Litter only: Shore is a load of Rubbish!

White Cliffs Countryside Partnership – Coastal Week programme

No booking required but donations appreciated.

The ever changing Warren needs you – talk and exhibition

Saturday 26 October 11.00am (1h30) Little Switzerland café, Wear Bay Road, The Warren, Folkestone CT19 6PS

Kirk Alexander will cover the history and wildlife of this special coast between Dover and Folkestone on how it has evolved and continues to change to this day. Find out how you can help protect and enhance one of Britain's most important wildlife sites.

Have a go at volunteering

Saturday 26 October 12noon – 4pm Little Switzerland camp site, off Wear Bay Road, Folkestone CT19 6PS

Come and experience the conservation work carried out by volunteers at Folkestone Warren, including step building, grass cutting and tree felling with traditional hand tools.

A walk through the ever changing Warren

Saturday 26th October 2pm Little Switzerland campsite, Wear Bay Road, The Warren, Folkestone CT19 6PS

A gentle five mile (three hour) walk through the dramatic landscape of the Folkestone Warren, part of the world famous white cliffs. Feel free to bring your old photos and stories about The Warren.

Ice Ages, Earthquakes and Megaflood - how Dover Strait was formed

Sunday 27 October 1.30pm St. Martin's Battery car park, South Military Road, Western Heights, Dover

Join Melanie Wrigley for a two mile guided walk (up to two hours) around the Western Heights - spectacular views across the white cliffs of Dover, over the sea of the Dover Strait and then to the White Cliffs of France. If you have binoculars bring them along. Discover our distant past, including animals of the Ice Age and the megaflood that created the English Channel.

History of Samphire Hoe

Wednesday 30 October 2pm. Site management office, Samphire Hoe, CT17 9FL (pay and display car park). The Hoe is sign-posted off the A20 from Dover to Folkestone.

Learn all about this newest piece of England on a one mile guided walk about how it was created by the Channel Tunnel workings and how it has been populated by nature. (Dogs on leads welcome).



A Spooky Halloween walk at Samphire Hoe

Friday 1 November 3.30pm. Site management office, Samphire Hoe, CT17 9FL (pay and display car park). The Hoe is sign-posted off the A20 from Dover to Folkestone.

Dig out your fancy dress costume and come and discover the story of how the newest piece of England came to life, with strange tales from the beach dwellers and see the amazing Samphire Hoe sea monster. The story is told over a one mile walk, so dress warmly and bring a torch. Dogs on leads welcome.

Echoes from the sky - Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership

Sunday 3 November 2pm. Meet at Lade car park on Coast Drive (half way between the Pilot Pub and Romney Sands). Three mile walk (including shingle) – 2h30.



See the sound mirrors close up - an early warning system against enemy aircraft built in the 1920's and 1930's. Exclusive access over the bridge onto the island to hear the story and see how the area is now taking shape as a nature reserve.

More information: White Cliffs Countryside partnership

Tides of Change – events onboard Light Vessel 21

All events are run in partnership with Medway Swale Estuary Partnership

These events are aboard a lightship (LV21) moored off Gillingham Pier - Pier Approach Road, ME7 1RX. Free parking is available on the pier. Please wear suitable flat, non-slip shoes and note that access is limited with steep staircases throughout the vessel.

Tides of Change exhibition

Monday 28 October – Saturday 2 November 11am - 4pm. Come aboard and discover artwork by local, national and international artists which includes everything from sound and film to sculptural installations and text works.

During Coastal Week, the following art workshops and performances will also take place, please look at the LV21 website for details:

Create recycled sculptures

Turn environmental junk and found objects into sculptural masterpieces and memory boxes – all materials provided.



The Sirens of Cetham invade LV21

These strange creatures of the sea in human form will immerse their audience in the mythical Siren's World through enchanting dance performance on and around LV21.

Make your own cigar box surf guitar

Saturday 2 November 12noon - 4.00pm

As featured on BBC2's Handmade Revolution. Come and make your own estuary inspired cigar box surf guitar with

Malcolm Wright. All materials provided. Special Coastal Week price £17.50 (usual price £27.50)

To book contact LV21 (For the exhibition only, just call in)

Kent Wildlife Trust – family events for coastal week

Discover how climate change is altering the type of seashore wildlife you can find on the Kent coast.

Suitable for families with children aged 5-12years.

Alien invaders

Tuesday 29 October 10am – 4pm Reculver Visitor Centre, Reculver Lane, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 6SS

Arts and crafts activities, followed by a rock pooling session. Drop in for some fishy fun. Have a go at some art and craft activities, discover the different shells you can find along our shores and find out which ones are alien invaders. Warm waterproof clothing and wellies or walking boots is advised if joining the rock pool activity.

Deep Sea Art Attack

Wednesday 30 October 10am – 1pm Romney Marsh Visitor Centre, Dymchurch Road, New Romney, Kent, TN28 8AY

Drop in for a morning full of fun art and craft activities with an underwater theme. Become a shell detective and discover which shells are new to our shores.



More information: Kent Wildlife Trust

Family events at Sheppey Mill, Eastchurch, Isle of Sheppey

Wednesday 30 11.00 – 3pm Drop in events. Postcode ME12 4AA

Children's workshops with Sheppey Matters - From Fork to Plate:

Children can find out about where fruit and vegetables come from and learn how it grows, how to prepare it for cooking and eating and maybe discover some new fruit and

vegetables they may have never tried or seen before. Join our community gardener to harvest some local produce and our chef to cook up a treat.

Work This Way event – Get involved and discover how to make fuel from cooking oil and beautiful objects from waste materials. Ideal for parents and children of all ages.

More information: Sustainable Sheppey

Managing coastal flood risk on the Isle of Sheppey

Friday 1 November 10am – 3pm

Come and find out how the Environment Agency manages coastal flood risk on the island and what their plans are for the future. Details of sea defences, flood maps and flood defence maps and photos will be available to view.

Meet at Sheerness sea front – look out for the events trailer.

More information: Environment Agency

Discover Sandwich – guided walk

Saturday 2 November 11 am. Meet at Sandwich town bridge, CT13 9EA

Only two miles from the sea, the picturesque medieval town of Sandwich is not quite a seaside resort, but it would have been a very different place 400 years ago when it once was a thriving coastal town with a busy harbour.



On this walk you will explore the changing geography and history of the town and find out how this once prosperous port lost its sea and retreated inland, changing the character of Sandwich forever. Discovering Britain, run by the Royal Geographical Society, publishes self-guided walks around Britain that explore our diverse landscapes.

Two miles, approximately. 2h.00.

More information: Discovering Britain

Contact details for events

Blue Town Heritage Centre
bluetownheritagecentre.com
 01795 662981
j.hurkett@btconnect.com

Chiz Cartoons
chizcartoons.com

Coastal Communities 2150 (CC2150)
kentcoastalcommunities2150.org.uk
cc2150@kent.gov.uk

Discovering Britain
discoveringbritain.org
discoveringbritain@rgs.org

Environment Agency
environment-agency.gov.uk

Kent County Council
kent.gov.uk/flooding
coastalkent.net
 01622 221266
kent.coasts@kent.gov.uk

Kent Wildlife Trust
kentwildlifetrust.org.uk
 General 01622 662012
 Reculver event 01227 740676
info@kentwildlife.org.uk

Light Vessel 21
lv21.co.uk
thecaptain@lv21.co.uk

London Array
londonarray.com

Mapping Kent
mappingkent.co.uk

Medway Swale Estuary Partnership
msep.org.uk
 01634 337713 (Wed – Fri)
msep@medway.gov.uk

Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership
rmcp.co.uk
 01797 367934
mail@rmcp.co.uk

Shore' is a load of Rubbish!
shoreisalaodofrubbish.com
 Karen Simpson 07525 832875
karentribe@hotmail.com
facebook.com/ShoreisaLoadofRubbish

Southern Water
southernwater.co.uk

Sustainable Sheppey
swale.gov.uk/sustainable-sheppey-3/
 01795 583547
enquiries@sheppeyhlc.org.uk

Thanet Coast Project
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 01843 577409
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Timescapes
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About our sponsors and "Changing Coast"

London Array DONG Energy, E.ON and Masdar officially opened the world's largest offshore wind farm on the 4 July 2013. The inauguration took place at Turner Contemporary in Margate. London Array is located around 20km off the Kent coast and the operations and maintenance base is at the Port of Ramsgate. The 630MW offshore wind farm first started generating power in October 2012. The 175th turbine was bought online in March 2013. In sponsoring Kent's Coastal Week 2013, London Array are continuing to celebrate the completion and full operation of the site, which could supply around 500,000 UK homes with electricity each year. In the coming years, London Array will reduce carbon emissions by 925,000 tonnes each year, helping to tackle the effects of climate change and global warming.



Southern Water With predicted heavier rainfall, stormier weather and other factors to contend with, water companies have an important role to play to ensure a healthy marine and coastal environment. Southern Water works to ensure the high standards in our bathing waters and is making plans to cope with the increased threat of droughts and flooding to ensure there are sufficient water supplies to go round and to reduce the risk of sewer flooding.



Representatives from each of these organisations will be on hand to meet you at "Changing Coast at Margate" on Sunday 27 October.

This leaflet is available in alternative formats and languages. Please call 0300 3335540 for details.
 Text relay:
 18001 0300 333 5540

