

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2016

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, UK, European Geoparks Network

Year of inscription - 2007/ Year of the last revalidation - 2015



Opening Ceremony of the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: The Geopark staff (1 person) is employed by Torbay Council with sole responsibility of managing the Geopark and with a further remit to support the UK Global Geopark Forum, UNESCO UK and the EGN AC. Geopark partners incorporate the Geopark remit into the roles of their staff. Additionally a geologist is available on a day to day basis through our partner Torquay Museum.

Number of Visitors: The English Riviera received 4.6 million visitors during 2016 but it is impossible to tell how many specifically came to visit the Geopark. However, visitor figures of our partners with ticket control in place for 2016 are:

Kents Cavern - 70, 000 and Torquay Museum 20,000

Number of Geopark events: 100

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: 169 school classes had educational visits to or attended workshops at to the Geopark partner sites.

Number of Geopark press release 12

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2016

- Coordinated and hosted the 7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks (GGN2016) plus all side meetings of UGG Council, GGN ExB, GGN General Assembly, GGN AC, APGN AC and CC, EGN AC and CC etc

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- Melanie Border selected as member of UGG Council
- Melanie Border voted in as member of GGN ExB
- Melanie Border attended EGN AC meetings
- Nick Powe and Melanie Border attended EGN CC
- Melanie Border Chairs UK Committee for UNESCO Global Geoparks
- GGN evaluation mission carried out by Nick Powe

Management and Financial status

- Regular monthly management meetings have been held. Financial status currently stable and secure

Geoconservation

- Kents Cavern Conservation Plan written and published
- Public Space Protection Order introduced at Hopes Nose Site of Special Scientific Interest to deal with antisocial behaviour

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Increase in Geopark outdoor adventure activities led by Reach Outdoors
- Increase in GeoPark Adventure events including Duathlon, Triathlon Taster, Triathlon, GeoSwim, Geopark Sportive (Cycling), Riviera Rock Run

New Education programmes on geoconservation, sustainable development and disaster risk reduction

- No new programmes, existing programmes continued including the Geopark featuring in the Collins National Curriculum text book for Geographical Enquiry

Strategic Partnership

- Hosting the conference helped to strengthen existing strategic partnerships thereby ensuring the Geopark was embedded in the most recently produced local strategic documents eg the English Riviera Destination Management Plan, the English Riviera Marketing Plan

Promotional activities

- GGN2016 received national and international press coverage specifically in Portuguese and Japanese media.
- GGN2016 twitter trended number one in the UK during the opening ceremony
- Two large conference supplements in Herald Express (local paper)
- GGN2016 and English Riviera UGG facebook sites actively updated the year
- Geopark featured in the 2016 English Riviera Holiday Guide

4. Contacts:

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Geologist: See section 2 above