

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2020

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

Geopark name, country, regional Network: English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, UK, European Geoparks Network)

Year of inscription / Year of the last revalidation: 2007 / 2019



[Geopark In Focus](#) – Seven Episodes via Youtube and Podcast Hosted by Prof Iain Stewart

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 1 person (fulltime including the geoscientist) plus 4 part time (Senior Project Officer, Marketing and Communications Officer (to end Oct) replaced by Social Media Officer (Nov onwards), Marketing Apprentice (Apprenticeship ended Sept 2020). Geopark Transformation Project Manager. Additionally all ERUGGp partners incorporate the Geopark remit into the roles of their staff.

Number of visitors: Due to the impacts of Covid 19 the figure for staying and day visitors to the English Riviera is estimated to have decreased by around 50% from 4.5 million in 2019 to 2.2 million in 2020. This approximate 50% reduction is also reflected in the following visitor figures for our partners with ticket control in place were: Kents Cavern: 33,000, Torquay Museum: 7816, Torre Abbey: 5635

Number of Geopark events: Over 1000 caves tours at Kents Cavern, 650 people took part in Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust events, Torre Abbey ran an online Young Artisans exhibition which displayed the work of 30 children, Torquay Museum ran 9 events.

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: Breakdown between the Geopark Partners: Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust ~ 140 visits. Kents Cavern 2,500 school children and students. Torquay Museum ~ 60 children had educational visits but there were 2000 online interactions. Torre Abbey ~ 50 children

Number of Geopark press release: 14

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2020

- The ERUGGp focused its efforts on the implementation of the Covid Transformation Plan to (i) create new online education tools, (ii) support the local communities to reconnect with our partner and associate organisations, especially those more vulnerable individuals who have been shielding in isolation due to their higher risk factors, (iii) Coordinate and communicate to the wider community our partner plans as restrictions changed, (iv) Help tourism partners to reengage with the local community, to encourage shorter, safer and more sustainable journeys in the first instance before encouraging visitors from further afield

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Melanie Border was an active member of the GGN ExB, participated in all and presented during some of EGN and GGN digital meetings/forums, attended the UKCUGGp digital meetings, attended the UGGp Council meeting as an observer and presented during the Lesvos intensive course.
- Nick Powe participated in all EGN, GGN and UKCUGGp digital meetings/forums.

Management and Financial Status

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

Geoconservation

- Throughout 2020 the Geopark worked closely with partners to ensure the ERUGGp was strongly, accurately and appropriately represented in the revised Torbay Heritage Strategy being developed for 2021-2026. The Geopark assisted Natural England to ensure the required condition assessments of the Sites of Scientific Interest across partner sites were completed. ERUGGp provided recommendations to Torbay Council planning department.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- As part of their commitment to tackle climate change Geopark Partner Torbay Council has appointed a permanent Climate Change Officer, Jacqui Warren. Jacqui will work closely with the Geopark to support local businesses and the community to become carbon neutral by 2030. A Carbon Neutral Interim Action Plan will be developed and approved during Spring 2021

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

- The main activity was the creation of the Geopark In Focus series. These seven interviews in both film and podcast were produced focusing on a wider range of topics that explain why

the English Riviera is a UGGp

Strategic partnership

- Two new partners joined the Geopark Associate Partner Scheme namely Offshore Shellfish a responsibly farmed seafood company and Shoalstone Outdoor Seawater Pool.

Promotional activities

- During 2020 ERUGGp has very much focused activity online through social media accounts

4. CONTACTS

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