

GGN/EGN - Geopark Annual Report 2019

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, UK, European Geopark Network

Year of inscription - 2007 / Year of the last revalidation – 2019



ERUGGp Revalidation July 2019

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: 1 person (fulltime including the geoscientist) plus three part time (Senior Project Officer, Marketing and Communications Officer, Marketing Apprentice). Additionally all ERUGGp partners incorporate the Geopark remit into the roles of their staff

Number of visitors: The English Riviera received 4.5 million visitors during 2019. Visitor figures for our partners with ticket control in place were: Kents Cavern: 73,000, Torquay Museum: 19,781, Torre Abbey: 20,916

Number of Geopark events: 163 events run by management body partners and associate partners

Number of school classes realize Geopark educational programmes: Total: 14,230 children. Breakdown between the Geopark Partners: Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust ~ 2160 students on day visits and 360 on residential courses. Kents Cavern over 10,000 school children and students (5,000 UK, 3,000 France and 2,000 from other EU, Asia Pacific and South American countries). Torquay Museum ~ 520 children. Brixham Heritage Museum ~ 120 children. Torre Abbey ~ 1070 children

Number of Geopark press release: 14

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2019

- The ERUGGp launched its new Geopark Associate Partner scheme and successfully signed up 14 local organisations and businesses.

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and participation

- Melanie Border was an active member of the UGGp Council and attended the 4th UGGp Council meeting in Lombok UGGp, participated in monthly GGN ExB meetings, the Evaluator Training session (Swabian Alb- March 2019) and undertook a revalidation mission.
- Nick Powe attendance at the Evaluator Training session (Swabian Alb- March 2019), the 44thEGN CC in Sierra Norte UGGp and undertook a revalidation mission

Management and Financial Status

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

Geoconservation

- An audit of all ERUGGp geosites was carried out and a full Condition Assessment and management recommendations report compiled.
- Partnership work and a formal *Public space protection order* is working successfully to reduce anti-social behavior issues at Hopes Nose site of special scientific interest.

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Geopark Associate Partner Sea Kayak Torbay was selected as the winner of; *Adventure Tour Company of the Year in England*, as part of the national Travel and Hospitality Awards.
- Kents Cavern - Winner of Winners at the English Riviera Tourism Awards 2019

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

- South Devon College formally incorporated the Geopark and responsible tourism into the following five courses: Outdoor Activity Leadership Level 2, Adventure Sports Level 3, Outdoor Activity Leadership Level 3 Apprenticeship, FdSc Adventure Leadership and BSc (Hons) Coaching (Outdoor Leadership).

Strategic partnership

- Partnership work to embed the Geopark designation into the new Torbay Community and Corporate Plan, the document is now out for full consultation. Geopark successfully embedded within the work of the Torbay Together Partnership.

Promotional activities

- Geopark Festival 2019, all year round events and pop-up information stands run by volunteers
- English Riviera UGGp facebook and twitter sites actively updated all year (495 posts, Total reach across Facebook and Twitter 2.8m, 339.8k impressions, 1.1k retweets / shares, 3.1k likes)
- Geopark featured in the 2019 English Riviera Holiday Guide
- Large welcome sign erected in key location on Torquay seafront (see image above)

4. CONTACTS Chairman: Nick Powe NickPowe@kents-cavern.co.uk

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