

The Shingle Issue

Spring and Summer 2017
Newsletter of the Dungeness National Nature Reserve



No 17

THE SHINGLE ISSUE

WELCOME to the *Shingle Issue*, the newsletter for the Dungeness National Nature Reserve. **Read on to find out more about some of the exciting projects from Dungeness to Greatstone.**

New road, signs and gates for Dungeness

EDF Energy bought the Dungeness Estate in 2016, which covers the iconic landscape of the fishing boats, houses, lighthouses and light railway which is also a National Nature Reserve.

As part of a process of managing the landscape, new signs are being installed and a new, more high profile entrance to the estate is being sited. This involves new gates and road speed signs to re-emphasise the messages that it is a private estate, to respect the residents' privacy, the workplace and the rules.

At the end of 2016, EDF Energy paid for a new surfacing of the estate road as well.

The energy company owns and operates Dungeness B nuclear power station adjacent to the estate and is the biggest employer in the area boosting the local economy by over £40 million each year.

Forming part of the Dungeness National Nature Reserve (NNR) and Dungeness, Romney Marsh and Rye Bay Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), the estate is also of international importance forming part of the Dungeness Special Area of Conservation (SAC) as well as the Special Protection Area (SPA) because of its bird interest.

Ian Stewart, Station Director at Dungeness B said: "It is important to us this unique area is protected. As a responsible landowner, EDF Energy works closely with the local community to ensure the Dungeness Estate is preserved and remains well looked after."

A dedicated email address has been set up for anyone with questions about the estate dungenessbcommunity@edf-energy.com

The Dungeness B Visitor Centre is open from Monday – Friday 9am – 4pm, tel 01797 343728.



Planning a photo or film shoot at Dungeness? Please read this first

The Dungeness Point is a private estate and is part of the wider Dungeness National Nature Reserve. It is very popular with tourists, birdwatchers, anglers and of course photographers, owing to its unique landscape.

To learn more about getting permission for any filming, photography or student project through any social media, please look initially at the booking website, which will help with any queries or questions you may have www.dungenessestate.co.uk.

There is also a 24 hour telephone help desk at BNP Paribas 0844 7369654 and an email via info@dungenessestate.co.uk.

Or you can try the Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership on 01797 367934 and ask for an informal chat with Owen Leyshon.



To get permission from the Dungeness Estate for any fashion, filming or student project, the process involves paper work and an assessment of the proposed shoot before access and a permit is granted. All booked shoots, filming and student projects will be supervised Dungeness by RMCP. Any groups on the estate without the necessary permit, will be asked to leave immediately.

Breach of privacy, damage to private property, intrusion and disruption to residents across the Dungeness Estate is a frequent problem with photography shoots as well as causing damage to the

wider National Nature Reserve.

To avoid disappointment, please plan and prepare any proposed project before approaching Dungeness Estate.



Pictured, left to right, are Bob Castle, Sky and Logan Hunter and Lee Malbon.

Cubs and Beavers build new nestboxes

Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership, in conjunction with EDF Energy, 1st Saltwood Cubs and 1st Lydd Cubs and Beavers, put together 25 nestboxes over two days at the visitor centre which have now been placed in the Long Pits, Dungeness, in late winter 2017 as part of National Nestbox Week.

The wood was kindly donated by Workplace Solutions.

EDF donates tools to RMCP volunteers

EDF Energy has kindly donated a new batch of hand tools to the Romney Marsh

Countryside Partnership (RMCP) for work days and tasks with volunteers for the 2017 season.

The RMCP works across Dungeness NNR and the wider Romney Marsh. The tools include loppers, rakes, bowsaws, secateurs and forks. Owen Leyshon said: "This is a generous donation which is gratefully received and having some new tools for the works we need to carry out with volunteers is fantastic. This donation by EDF Energy is much appreciated."

If you wish to volunteer on Dungeness, contact Owen Leyshon, RMCP, on 01797 367934 or owenleyshon@rmcp.co.uk

Pictured: RMCP receiving tools from EDF Energy's Alison Prentice.



Litter pickers have beach cleaning all wrapped up!



Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership, in partnership with Shepway District Council and Veolia, has been supporting a number of residents who frequently clear rubbish from along the tideline at Littlestone, along Greatstone beach, Lade to

Lydd-on-Sea and then down the coast to Dungeness.

The amount of rubbish removed by volunteers each month is phenomenal. We provide the litter pickers, sacks and gloves. The more people who can help out while they are on the beach

walking their dog or enjoying the coast and dunes – the cleaner our environment will be.

For more details contact the Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership on 01797 367934 or mail@rmcp.co.uk

Help needed to keep Sea Buckthorn in check at Greatstone Dunes

Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership, with assistance from volunteers and residents, has been digging up the Sea Buckthorn regrowth in key areas in Greatstone Dunes which are owned by Shepway District Council.

Keep an eye out for the task dates in 2017, when we will need a hand to retain the open landscape of the

dunes, which botanically is improving in recent years after all the hard work and investment by the landowner Shepway District Council, Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership and Natural England.

Contact Jan Macnicol, RMCP on 01797 367934 or jan.macnicol@dover.gov.uk



Guided walk dates 2017

Friday 9th June 6.30pm

WILDFLOWERS OF DUNGENESS NNR

A chance for a gentle evening stroll around the Point to have a look at an assortment of flowering plants which makes Dungeness so special and unique. **LEADER:** Owen Leyshon, Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership (01797 367934 or 07770 670316). **MEET:** Old Lighthouse car park, Dungeness Road, NNR - sat nav - TN29 9NB (TR 089 169). **DISTANCE:** 2 miles (2.5 hours).

Sunday 30 July 2pm

THE WILDLIFE OF DUNGENESS NNR

A gentle stroll to discover and enjoy the unique shingle wildlife on this fascinating National Nature Reserve, from the flowers, to the insects and the birds. **LEADER:** Owen Leyshon, Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership 01797 367934 or 07770 670316. **MEET:** Car park, Old Lighthouse, Dungeness NNR, sat nav TN29 9NB (TR 089 169). **DISTANCE:** 2 miles (2 hours).

Don't forget the 21st national beachclean!

Sunday 17th September
10am

NATIONAL BEACHCLEAN – DUNGENESS POINT

Come along and help record the rubbish as part of the national scheme, then bag it and remove it from the beach. We are into our 21st year of completing the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) Beachwatch and the section we will do will take a few hours – cakes



and biscuits will tempt you! We will provide the gloves, the litterpickers, the essential clipboards and pencils!

LEADER: Owen Leyshon, Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership on 01797 367934 or 07770 670316.

MEET: At the red and white barrier between the Old Lighthouse and the power station fenceline at TN29 9NB (TR 089 169) at Dungeness Point (NNR).

How to get in touch with us



Day to day issues Romney Marsh Countryside

Partnership assists in the managing of the Dungeness National Nature Reserve (NNR) from Dungeness to Greatstone. To report any 4x4 vehicles, motorbikes, flytipping, information on volunteering, management work, rubbish or wildlife news. Contact RMCP on 01797 367934 or email mail@rmcp.co.uk or [website www.rmcp.co.uk](http://www.rmcp.co.uk) or www.dungeness-nnr.co.uk

Filming, photography and student projects on Dungeness Estate

Contact BNP Paribas on 24hr Helpdesk 0844 7369654 or email info@dungenessestate.co.uk or www.dungenessestate.co.uk



EDF Energy Visitor Centre

To contact EDF Energy over any Dungeness issues or to visit the Visitor Centre, please contact Alison Prentice on 01797 343728 or Alison.Prentice@edf-energy.com



Natural England

To carry out any work which impacts on the Dungeness NNR and the SSSI, you will need to gain permission and paperwork from Natural England. Please call Jo Dear on 0300 604776



Dungeness RSPB

The Dungeness RSPB has a Visitor Centre and large reserve which covers many of the

gravel pits between Dungeness and Lydd. It has also acquired Lade Pits and the Sound Mirrors at Greatstone. Contact Craig Edwards or Louise Kelly to report any incidents or for further information call 01797 320588.



Dungeness Bird Observatory

The Dungeness Bird Observatory (DBO) is a charity based at 11, RNSS Cottages where you can stay in self catering accommodation. The DBO has been studying and monitoring the wildlife of Dungeness since the 1950s. Contact David Walker, warden, on 01797 320309 or look at the daily wildlife blog updates via www.dungenessbirdobs.org.uk

The Shingle Issue is produced with the support of:



Folkestone
Hythe & Romney Marsh
Shepway District Council



The Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership is managed by the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership with funding from Shepway District Council, Natural England, Kent County Council and EDF Energy.

EDF Energy has generously sponsored the design and production of this newsletter.