

GGN - Geopark Annual Report 2017

1. GEOPARK IDENTITY

English Riviera UNESCO Global Geopark, UK, European Geopark Network

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



Geopark Triathlon 2017

2. GEOPARK FIGURES

Number of Geopark staffs: The Geopark staff (1 person including the geoscientist) 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

Number of Visitors: The English Riviera received 4.6 million visitors during 2017 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 2017 are:

Kents Cavern - 75,588, Torquay Museum – 18,171, Torre Abbey – 25,266

Number of Geopark events: 100 events run by management body partners

Number school classes realize Geopark educational programmes Total: 13600 children. Breakdown between the Geopark Partners: Torbay Coast and Countryside Trust ~ 2300 children across various sites. 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 ~ 500 children. Brixham Heritage Museum ~ 300. Torre Abbey ~ 500 children

Number of Geopark press release: 2

3. GEOPARK ACTIVITIES

Major achievements in 2017

- Future sustainability of Geoplay Park maintenance secured

- Legacy learning pack, film and supporting materials from Earth Echoes (7th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks) published

Contribution towards GGN - Networking and Participation

- Melanie Border attendance at UGG Council, 5th APGN Symposium, GGN ExB meetings, 39th and 40th EGN CC meetings, 14th EGN Conference
- Nick Powe attendance at 39th and 40th EGN CC meeting, 14th EGN Conference, UK Committee for UNESCO Global Geoparks annual meeting and attended the Karst and Cave Management workshop in Zhangjiajie UGGp in Dec 2017
- Ongoing conference advice and support provided to Adamello Brenta host of 8th International Conference on UNESCO Global Geoparks
- Hosted visit of and partnership agreement signed with Tianzhushan UGGp

Management and Financial status

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

Geoconservation

- Kents Cavern prehistoric caves developed and published a comprehensive conservation plan
- Natural England Geology training day

Sustainable tourism (Geotourism)

- Beneath our feet - dancing in the caves at Kents Cavern?
- British Sign Language tours developed for Kents Cavern?

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

- New Geopark Associate Partner level development
- Strengthening relationships with Torbay Development Agency and Torbay Culture Board

Promotional activities

- Geopark Festival 2017, events and pop-up information stands run by volunteers
- English Riviera UGG facebook and twitter sites actively updated all year
- Geopark featured in the 2017 English Riviera Holiday Guide
- Commissioning of a second major gateway sign approved

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