



The White Cliffs Countryside Partnership's

GREEN GANG

FAMILY ACTIVITIES—EASTER 2016



WELCOME to the
Easter edition of the

Green Gang magazine produced by the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership. The Green Gang is a special programme of fun events for children and their families that has been running for over 20 years. Learn more about local wildlife and countryside. Most of the events are free, and you don't have to be a member. A donation is appreciated to help cover the running costs of the Green Gang.

POND DIPPING

Pond dipping can be great fun as there are many different types of animals that live in or around ponds. Some creatures live their whole life in a pond, like leeches, fresh water shrimps and snails. Other creatures live part of their life-cycles beneath the water before emerging as a different creature. Frogs, toads and newts



spend the first part of their lives in ponds as tadpoles. They quickly grow into adults and crawl out of the pond to live on land only returning to the pond to breed. Dragonflies and damselflies also live part of their life cycle underwater.

The adults lay eggs in the summer on the plant life. These hatch into nymphs, which are ferocious carnivores eating larvae and tadpoles. By late spring and through the summer, they crawl up a plant stalk, where they burst out of the nymph shell into an amazingly beautiful adult dragonfly that lives for about three weeks. Why not find out more about pond life by joining in a pond dipping event on the 29 March at Bushy Ruff.



CARING FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE



'Caring for the Countryside' events are practical conservation days where local people carry out practical work to improve the sites for wildlife and people. The leader explains about the work and how to use the tools. Why not come along and give it a go? You can even count these events towards one of your Junior Ranger days. You don't have to stay all day - even just for an hour or two. Children (under 18) must be accompanied at all times by a parent or responsible adult. We provide gloves and tools, but please wear old clothes (and waterproof clothing if it's forecasts rain) and boots that protect your toes and have good grip, and bring a cold drink and packed lunch if you want to stay all day. Contact us on 01304 241806 for more details.



EASTER EGG FUN!

Come and enjoy some Easter events with a difference! Have an afternoon of Wacky Easter egg rolling at Samphire Hoe on the Bank Holiday Monday using rubber eggs! Or follow the rabbit trail as part of the orienteering course at Whinless Down on Wednesday 30 March with mini Easter egg prizes for all who enter, or have a go at Egg rolling on the Folkestone Downs on 25 March.



HOW TO DECORATE AN EGG

Why not make your own decorated Easter egg and bring it along to the Easter Egg Rolling on Friday 25 March.

You will need a hard boiled egg (boiled for twenty minutes), so you will need an adult to help you with this. You will then need to

cool the egg down, so put it in some cold water until it is cool to touch and then put it in the fridge. Once it is cold you will be able to decorate it. You can use food dyes to colour the whole egg, as well as using watercolour paints or glitter to colour them. You can then add ribbon, stickers or sequins to decorate them.

To dye the egg using food colouring: Half fill a cup with boiling water and then add one tablespoon of food colouring and two teaspoons of vinegar. Gently put the egg into the cup and leave it there until you get the colour you want. Carefully remove the egg and then leave to dry. You can create patterns on the egg by using crayons before putting the egg into the water. The waxiness of the crayon will stop the egg shell from changing colour so you will be left with a pattern of what you have drawn.

Please note that you will not be able to eat the egg afterwards.



CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED

Please note that children under 18 must be accompanied at all times by a parent or guardian. It is the responsibility of the adult to make sure that their children are safe and well behaved, not the responsibility of the leader of the event. Many events take time to set up beforehand, so please don't let unruly behaviour spoil the event for everyone else. **Please wear sturdy footwear, water-proof clothing if rain is forecast, and bring water to drink.**

Tuesday 1 March to Saturday 2 May 11.00am to 3.00pm daily
EXHIBITION: SAMPHIRE HOE PAINTING WITH LIGHT

"During the years I have worked at Samphire Hoe I have seen and heard many amazing sights and beautiful stories. Using a digital tablet I create pictures inspired by these experiences. To me I am 'Painting with light' as these artworks are created with it. This exhibition shows some of these works." Steve Walker Ranger at Samphire Hoe since 2008. **VENUE:** Samphire Hoe Education Centre. Samphire Hoe is sign-posted off the A20 from Dover to Folkestone (CT17 9FL) (pay and display parking).

Good Friday 25 March 10.00am

CARING FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE: SAMPHIRE HOE

A programme of easy to do half day conservation tasks (10am to 1pm) take part at Samphire Hoe. These give a chance to find out what volunteering is all about. The work could include path clearing, scrub clearing, other vegetation management or working on the livestock fencing. **LEADER:** Steve Walker, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 225649). **MEET:** Samphire Hoe, near Dover CT17 9FL (off A20 going from Dover to Folkestone) (TR 294 391).

Good Friday 25 March 10.00am

EASTER CROSSES WALK, DOVER

From Maison Dieu join the procession through the town to St. James' church ruin (suitable for wheel/pushchairs); there follows a steep climb up to St. Mary's in the Castle, including 87 steps. En route we stop to sing, pray and for short bible readings to commemorate Christ's death over 2,000 years ago. Walkers will then make their own way back. Donations appreciated. **LEADER:** Monica Pope, Churches Together (01304 202643). **MEET:** Town Council office, Biggin Street, Dover (TR 316 417). **DISTANCE:** 1 mile (1.5 hours). **GRADE:** 4

Good Friday 25 March 10.30am

PROCESSION OF CROSSES, FOLKESTONE

Easter celebration in the precinct followed at 11.30am by the annual procession of crosses walking from Folkestone town centre to Holywell Hill for a 30 minute service. Please wear suitable footwear. Please check leader for confirmation of event. **LEADER:** Churches Together in Folkestone (ctfolkestone@outlook.com). **MEET:** Outside Debenhams, Folkestone town centre. **DISTANCE:** 3.5 miles (1.25 hours for walk). **GRADE:** 4 (steep hill). Dogs on leads.

Good Friday 25 March to Sunday 10 April 11.00am to 3.00pm

EASTER EGG HUNT, SOUTH FORELAND LIGHTHOUSE

Come and take part in our annual Easter hunt. Gather the clues, solve the puzzles and take home a Cadbury's chocolate prize. **CHARGE:** £3 per trail sheet. Normal admission charges apply if parking at White Cliffs Visitor Centre. **LEADER:** National Trust (01304 853281). **MEET:** South Foreland Lighthouse, The Front, St. Margaret's Bay, Dover CT15 6HP (TR 359 433). No parking at the site, 1 mile walk from the village of St. Margaret's or 2 miles from the White Cliffs Visitor Centre (CT16 1HJ).

Good Friday 25 March 2.00pm

EGG ROLLING ON FOLKESTONE DOWNS (Green Gang)

Come and join the traditional Easter egg rolling competition on Sugarloaf Hill on Folkestone Downs. Please bring your own decorated hard-boiled egg (see front page). Prizes will be given for the best decorated egg. We will then go for a short walk before the grand egg rolling competition with prizes for the egg that rolls the furthest. Then we go for a short walk to learn a little about the wildlife of Folkestone Downs and enjoy the views over Folkestone. **CHARGE:** £2 per child (to cover materials and prizes). **LEADER:** Kirk Alexander, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 241806 or 07885 599182). **MEET:** Kissing gate, end of Holywell Avenue, off Canterbury Road (A260), Folkestone (TR 224 377). **DISTANCE:** 1 mile (2 hours). **GRADE:** 4 (steep hill).

Easter Sunday 27 March 11.00am to 3.00pm

EASTER TRAIL AT BROCKHILL COUNTRY PARK

Come along to the park, follow the trail clues, solve the puzzle and be rewarded with an Easter egg when you return, your entry will be put into a hat for a chance to win the Giant egg. Turn up anytime between 11am and 3pm. Suitable outdoor clothing and footwear to be worn. **CHARGE:** £2.50 per trail sheet. **LEADER:** Kent Country Parks (03000 333 5146). **MEET:** Brockhill Country Park, Saltwood, Hythe, CT21 4HL.

Easter Sunday 27 March 1.00pm

SURVIVING THE WILD – LEARN BUSHCRAFT BASICS (Please book)

An afternoon of geocaching going from the River Dour to High Meadow, Tower Hamlets. Learn how to source water, prepare a campfire, tie knots and much more! Look out for the Wacky Wagon! Please wear suitable footwear. **Suitable for 13-18 year olds.** Booking required (Iona, for Up on the Downs - 01304 872157). Free. **LEADER:** Pete Evans, Skills Horizon for Dover Town Council. **MEET:** Beaconsfield Road (near the bridge over the River Dour), Dover. **DURATION:** 4 hours. **GRADE:** 3

Bank Holiday Monday 28 March 10.00am or 2.00pm

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA! (Please book)

Come along in the morning or afternoon for 2 hours of geocaching, Easter adventures and fire skills up at High Meadow. Please wear sturdy shoes and warm clothes. To book your place please contact 01304 872157. Free.

LEADER: Pete Evans, Skills Horizon for Up on the Downs with Dover Town Council. **MEET:** High Meadow, Noah's Ark Road, Dover (look out for the Wacky Wagon!). **DURATION:** 2 hours. Dogs on leads.

Bank Holiday Monday 28 March 11.00am

EASTER AMBLE AT DUNGENESS

Join a friendly guide and walk off that Easter lunch! Stroll through all that spring has to offer from blooming buds to singing songbirds. Bring the whole family for an Easter egg hunt along the way too (£1 per activity sheet). **CHARGE:** Adult £6, Child £3. 20% discount for RSPB members and Wildlife Explorers.

LEADER: RSPB (01797 320588). **MEET:** RSPB Dungeness, Boulderwall Farm, Dungeness Road Lydd TN29 9PN. **DURATION:** 2 hours. **GRADE:** 2

Bank Holiday Monday 28 March 2.00pm

SAMPHIRE HOE WACKY EASTER EGG ROLLING (Green Gang)

Samphire Hoe wacky egg rolling competition, come along and join the crazy fun. Rubber eggs supplied! Suggested donation of £2 appreciated.

LEADER: Paul Holt, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 225649).

MEET: Site Management Office, Samphire Hoe (pay and display car park). The Hoe is signposted off the A20 from Dover to Folkestone, CT17 9FL (TR 294 391). **DISTANCE:** 1 mile (1 hour). **GRADE:** 2. Dogs on leads.

Tuesday 29 March 1.00pm

SURVIVING THE WILD – LEARN BUSHCRAFT BASICS (Please book)

Please see 27 March for details.

Tuesday 29 March 2.00pm

POND-DIPPING AT BUSHY RUFF (Green Gang)

Have fun pond-dipping at Bushy Ruff, part of Kearsney Abbey Gardens, and learn about the fascinating wildlife and ecology of water. Please bring a pond net if you have one. Please wear old clothes and sturdy footwear and bring a towel and water to drink. Suggested donation of £2 appreciated. **LEADER:** Nature Table for White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01795 535504). **MEET:** Outside the café, Kearsney Abbey Gardens, Kearsney, near Dover (TR 287 438). **DISTANCE:** 0.5 miles (2 hours). **GRADE:** 2. No dogs.

Wednesday 30 March 10.00am

CARING FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE: FOLKESTONE DOWNS

We will be path clearing to open the landscape, with lovely views of the town.

LEADER: Alfie Gay, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (07734 777380).

MEET: Far end of Holywell Avenue (by kissing gate), Folkestone (TR 224 277).

Wednesday 30 March 2.00pm

WATERSHIP DOWN ON WHINLESS DOWN (Green Gang)

Come and find the names of the characters from the book 'Watership Down' relating to the plants that can be found at Whinless Down attached to the orienteering posts. A small chocolate egg prize to those who complete the quiz as they go round. Please wear suitable footwear and clothing. Suggested donation of £2 per child appreciated. **LEADER:** Paul Sampson, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 241806 or 07773 619121). **MEET:** Elms Vale Recreation Ground car park, Elms Vale Road, off Folkestone Road, Dover CT17 9NN (TR 299 414). **DISTANCE:** 1 mile (1-1.5 hours). **GRADE:** 3. Dogs on leads.

Thursday 31 March 10.00am

CARING FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE: FOLKESTONE WARREN

This spring we will be working to improve the steps and footpaths around Folkestone Warren in the nationally rare chalk grassland habitat. **LEADER:** Jan MacNicol, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (07880 706993). **MEET:** Gate next to the Bowls Club, Wear Bay Road, Folkestone (TR 240 367).

Thursday 31 March 11.00am

WILD FAMILIES IN SPRING (Please book)

Packed full of activities, our Wild Families Day gives you a chance to get up close and personal with nature here at Dungeness. From pond dipping to scavenger hunting, den building and bug hunting, there is plenty to keep you busy throughout the day! Please wear sensible clothing and bring a packed lunch with you. Booking required. **CHARGE:** Child £8. Accompanying adults £1. 20% discount for Wildlife Explorers. **LEADER:** RSPB (01797 320588). **MEET:** RSPB Dungeness, Boulderwall Farm, Dungeness Road Lydd TN29 9PN. **DURATION:** 4 hours. **GRADE:** 2

Friday 1 April 2.00pm

BUMBLEBEE WALK

A walk around Folkestone Warren to see and identify all bumblebee species we see. Information will be given on bumblebee ecology, lifecycle, conservation and identification. **Walk suitable for all ages above 10 years.** The walk will be at a slow and steady pace. Please wear suitable outdoor clothing. If weather conditions are poor we will travel to Samphire Hoe Shelter where a one hour talk will be given on bumblebees. Donations welcome. **LEADER:** Dr Nikki Gammans, Bumblebee Conservation Trust for White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 241806). **MEET:** Gate next to the Bowls Club, Wear Bay Road, Folkestone (TR 240 367). **DISTANCE:** 1 mile (1.5 hours). **GRADE:** 3. Dogs on leads.



Friday 1 April 2.00pm

FUN WITH ROMNEY RAINBOW SHEEP (Please book)

Join us for a fun-filled day. There will be themed crafts, trails and storytelling with Romney Rainbow Sheep. **CHARGE:** £4. For further details or to book tickets call 01797 369487 or 01622 662012). **LEADER:** Kent Wildlife Trust (01797 369487). **MEET:** Romney Marsh Visitor Centre, Dymchurch Road, New Romney, TN28 8AY (TR 078 261). **DURATION:** 2 hours.

Sunday 3 April 2.00pm

THE GEOLOGY OF FOLKESTONE WARREN

& FOSSIL FORAY (Green Gang)

This short walk will provide an introduction to the local geology and the fossils that can be found and explain why the landscape around East Wear Bay looks as it does. The walk is expected to last about 1½ hours and will be visiting the beach, so old clothes and sturdy footwear is required. Suggested donation of £2 appreciated. **LEADER:** Geoff Downer, GeoConservation Kent and Kent Geologists' Group for White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 241806). **MEET:** Outside restaurant (Harbour), Wear Bay Road, Folkestone (TR 239 364). **DISTANCE:** 1 mile (1.5 hours). **GRADE:** 5 (rocky beach).



Monday 4 April 2.00pm

NATTY NATURE AT ROMNEY WARREN

Come along and join in a gentle walk around the Romney Marsh Visitor Centre and find out about nature and wildlife and how you can help, then make a Nature Crown to take home (weather permitting). Donations gratefully received. **LEADER:** Julie Thomsett, Kent Wildlife Trust (01797 369487). **MEET:** Romney Marsh Visitor Centre, Dymchurch Road, New Romney, TN28 8AY (TR 078 261). **DURATION:** 1.5 hours. Dogs on leads.

Tuesday 5 April 12.30am (Please book)

DEN BUILDING & SURVIVAL SKILLS, WHINLESS DOWN (Green Gang)

Join us for an afternoon of den building at the base of Whinless Down nature reserve. Build a shelter largely of natural materials cut by the volunteers in the morning; learn how to build and light a small campfire. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult throughout the event. Please bring your own drinks and packed lunch, appropriate weather clothing and sturdy footwear. Suggested donation of £5 per person appreciated. Booking essential as there are limited spaces (01304 241806). **LEADER:** Paul Sampson, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 241806 or 07773 619121). **MEET:** Elms Vale recreation ground car park, Elms Vale Road, Dover, CT17 9NN (TR 299 414). **DISTANCE:** 1 mile (2.5 hours). **GRADE:** 3 (muddy).



Tuesday 5 April 11.00am

WILD FAMILIES IN SPRING (Please book)

Please see 31 March for more details.

Wednesday 6 April 2.00pm

ANGLO SAXONS WORKSHOP (Please book)

Discover what life was like in Anglo Saxon times and how we learn from our past, learn the art of cord winding, write a secret message in runes and see real Anglo Saxon artefacts. Ages 7-12 (all children must be accompanied by an adult). Free. Booking essential on 01303 257946 or email kay.whitehead@folkestonetc.gov.uk. **LEADER:** Folkestone Town Council and Kent County Council. **MEET:** Folkestone Library, 2 Grace Hill, Folkestone. **DURATION:** 1 hour

Thursday 7 April 10.00am

CARING FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE: FOLKESTONE WARREN

This spring we will be continuing with the work to improve the steps and footpaths around Folkestone Warren in the nationally rare chalk grassland habitat. **LEADER:** Jan MacNicol, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (07880 706993). **MEET:** Gate next to the Bowls Club, Wear Bay Road, Folkestone (TR 240 367).



Thursday 7 April 10.30am to 3.00pm

MEDIAEVAL THEMED ACTIVITIES AT DOVER MUSEUM

Celebrate St. George's Day (23rd April) with a host of craft activities with a Mediaeval theme. Drop in anytime between 10.30am and 3.00pm. Entry to Dover Museum is FREE on Family Days. There is no extra charge for the activities. **LEADER:** Dover Museum (01304 201066). **MEET:** Dover Museum, Market Square, Dover.

Friday 8 April 9.30am

ROCKING ROCKPOOLING AT LOWER LEAS

Come along and explore the amazing chalk reef and rocky shore of the Lower Leas Coastal Park. Wellies or sturdy footwear required (you may get wet), steps down to beach, shingle, uneven and slippery rocks. Funded by Shepway District Council. Information from Jon Goodman 01303 853552 or email jon.goodman@shepway.gov.uk. **LEADER:** Kent Wildlife Trust. **MEET:** Warden's Hut, Lower Leas Coastal Park, Folkestone, CT20 2JP.

Friday 8 April 10.00am

CARING FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE: SAMPHIRE HOE

Please see 25 March for details.



Friday 8 April 2.00pm

FUN WITH ROMNEY RAINBOW SHEEP

Please see 1 April for details.

Saturday 9 April 2.00pm (Please book)

BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLIES (Art in the Shelter)

Some of the most stunning examples of 'Painting with light' are stain glass windows. We shall create our own amazing back-lit pictures using nothing more than tissue paper, glue and card. It will be messy so please wear suitable clothing. Suggested donation of £5 per person appreciated. **LEADER:** Steve Walker, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 225649). **MEET:** Samphire Hoe education shelter, Samphire Hoe (pay and display car park). The Hoe is signposted off the A20 from Dover to Folkestone, CT17 9FL. **DURATION:** 2 hours. No dogs.



Saturday 9 April 11.00am – 3.00pm

FOSSIL HUNT AT BETTESHANGER (Please book)

For a hands-on practical experience of an ancient kind, Geoconservation Kent is running a fascinating Fossil Hunt at Betteshanger. Visitors will search for and select rocks likely to contain fossil material from the Kent Carboniferous Coal Measures and expose them for examination and collection. Tools, safety equipment and instruction will be provided. It will be rough and rocky, expect to get dirty! Children must be accompanied by an adult and adequate footwear and weather appropriate clothing is required. Booking required (for one hour sessions) via website www.betteshangercountrypark.co.uk/news/. **LEADER:** Andy Temple, Geoconservation Kent. **CHARGE:** Entry to park £2, fossil event £1. **MEET:** Betteshanger Country Park, A258, Sholden, CT14 0BF Deal.

Sunday 24 April 10.00am

DUNGENESS NNR: BEACH CLEAN AT DUNGENESS POINT

Although there has been much effort over the winter by volunteers, residents and the part time litter warden at Dungeness, this will be a sweep around the Point to the Lifeboat Station/Pilot pub direction to fill sacks of rubbish along the tide-line. Please come along and help out – more hands will make light work. **LEADER:** Owen Leyshon, Romney Marsh Countryside Partnership (01797 367934 or 07770 670316). **MEET:** New Lighthouse (the black and white stripy one), by the boardwalk, Dungeness - although we will move off North past the fishing boats pretty quickly and on towards the Dungeness Lifeboat station.



Tuesday 3 May to Thursday 30 June 11.00am - 3.00pm daily

EXHIBITION: GRASSLAND SUPERSTARS

East Kent has the most amazing chalk grassland with up to 40 different plants in a square metre. This exhibition focuses on some of those Superstar plants with great stories to tell. For information please call 01304 225649. **VENUE:** Samphire Hoe Education Shelter. Samphire Hoe is signposted off the A20 from Dover to Folkestone (CT17 9FL) (pay and display parking).

Saturday 7 May 11.00am (Please book)

MAKE A GIANT FLOWER (Art in the Shelter)

We shall make a giant plant with many different paper flowers and make some flowers to take home. Please wear old clothes as it might be messy. Suggested donation of £5 per person appreciated. **LEADER:** Steve Walker, White Cliffs Countryside Partnership (01304 225649). **MEET:** Site Management Office, Samphire Hoe (pay and display car park). The Hoe is signposted off the A20 from Dover to Folkestone, CT17 9FL. **DURATION:** 2 hours. No dogs.



THE GRADING SYSTEM:

To help you choose a suitable walk:

- Grade 1 Very easy walk generally on pavements.
- Grade 2 Easy walk in the countryside with gentle hills. No stiles.
- Grade 3 Typical country walk with some steeper hills or stiles.
- Grade 4 More difficult walking with steep hills or likely to be muddy paths
- Grade 5 Difficult walks e.g. rocky shores or night walks.



Junior Ranger events



Suitable for wheelchairs or prams.

WELCOME TO

Brontë Lake of Dover,
Edward Martin of New
Romney, Clement, Maggie
& Albert Dodman of
Dymchurch, Maynard
Simmons of Folkestone
and Dylan Kirby of Dover.



BECOME A JUNIOR RANGER!

To find Junior Ranger events look out for the ladybird logo.

The Junior Ranger events take a closer look at wildlife and ecology. Make notes in your nature notebook to earn special Junior Ranger badges and certificates. It costs £3 to join the Junior Ranger scheme and you start as a Trainee Ranger and receive your badge and notebook. By attending the events you progress through the levels from Junior Ranger (5 events) to Peregrine (40 events). For an application form contact Sue Bradford on (01304) 241806.



FANTASTIC FOSSILS

What is a fossil? Fossils are the remains of plants and animals (often in a changed form) or traces of them, such as a burrow in the sand, which has been preserved in rock. To find out more come along to our event on Sunday 3 April in the Folkestone Warren. Did you know the beach at Folkestone Warren is one of the best places in south-east England to find fossils. There is also a fossil event on Saturday 9 April at Betteshanger.



COMPETITION TIME!

Complete our wordsearch by finding and circling the 8 freshwater related words below in our grid:

FROG TOAD TADPOLE SNAIL
SHRIMP FISH LEECH NEWT

A	F	E	M	O	B	E	E	G
M	E	B	P	R	D	A	O	T
D	O	L	G	M	L	G	C	O
G	S	W	O	N	I	S	P	A
H	H	A	R	P	N	R	L	D
S	S	Z	F	A	D	C	H	O
N	I	T	I	L	I	A	N	S
E	F	W	M	N	T	N	T	Q
H	L	E	E	C	H	A	Z	U
E	T	N	R	T	E	J	H	B

Send your entry, with your name and address to WCCP, C/o Dover District Council, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, CT16 3PJ by Friday 29 April. The first 3 correct entries out of the hat will receive a guide to the freshwater life of ponds and streams.

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

GG Easter 16

COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to Ross Stevens of New Romney, Clark Latty of New Romney and Bethany Baker of Deal. They all found the 8 autumn words in the bird food wordsearch competition in the February Green Gang. They each received a guide to garden birds. **Well Done!**

This Green Gang magazine has been produced by the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership with the financial assistance of:



We hope to produce a Green Gang programme for the Spring 2016 school holidays. For more information, please contact WCCP on 01304 241806 or look on our website at www.whitecliffscountryside.org.uk or email us at mail@whitecliffscountryside.org.uk if you would like to be sent future magazines by email.

SAMPHIRE HOE EDUCATION SHELTER

If you haven't already done so, why not come down to the new Education Shelter at Samphire Hoe. The new Education Shelter offers a flexible indoor space for general visitors and education visits. Heating is provided by two wood burning stoves. There are regular exhibitions and events during which you can meet the volunteer rangers and discover more about Samphire Hoe and the surrounding areas.

Educational outdoor learning events are available. There are four main themes and a variety of activities to choose from including rockpooling, invertebrate surveys, rock and fossil investigations and weather measuring with a key message about water efficiency and how vital this precious resource is for all life on Earth. also include the offer of a warm indoor space to shelter from the weather. The education room is available for hire. Please contact: 01304 225649 or paul.holt@whitecliffscountryside.org.uk.



MAKE A BEE HOME

There are over 200 different types of bees in Britain and some like to live in holes in the ground. You can help the bees by making a home for them. All you



will need is a terracotta flowerpot with one main hole in the bottom and something flat and solid to make a plate to put it on. Choose a spot in a sunny area of your garden and dig a small hole, big enough to bury your pot level with the hole at the top. Place the plate at the bottom of the hole to keep the pot dry. Collect some dried material, like moss, shredded paper and put it inside the pot. Place the pot on top of the plate carefully turning the pot upside down so that the small hole is facing upwards. Put back the soil around the upturned pot and then place some small stones around the edge of the opening. Keep an eye on it and in a few days you should see some bees

investigating their new home!
Let us know what you see!
Come along to the bee walk on the Friday 1 April to learn more about bumblebees.

