

# BROADSTAIRS

## TOWN TEAM

Broadstairs Town Team  
The story so far 2012-2018



**Hello.**

**Thank you for picking up our booklet,  
we hope you find it interesting.**

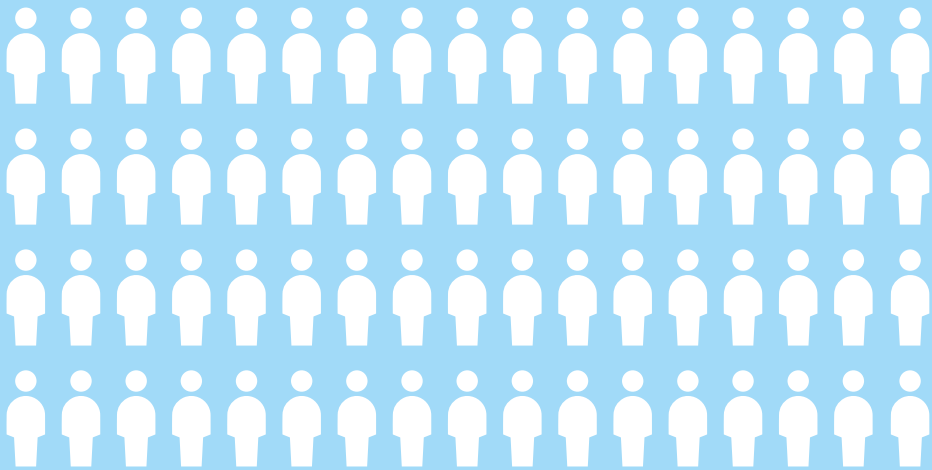
We are Broadstairs Town Team. An ever-growing group of volunteers who work together for the good of our town.

We love Broadstairs. And we know that everyone that lives here does too. Visitors often say they fall in love with our town the moment they arrive.

But nowhere is perfect. And that's why we're always thinking of (and looking for) new ideas to make a positive difference, to help our local community and to address some of the issues and challenges our town faces.

# Strength in numbers

## Since 2012



10,000+

hours donated by volunteers on Town Team projects to date



48

Town Team discrete completed projects in and around Broadstairs



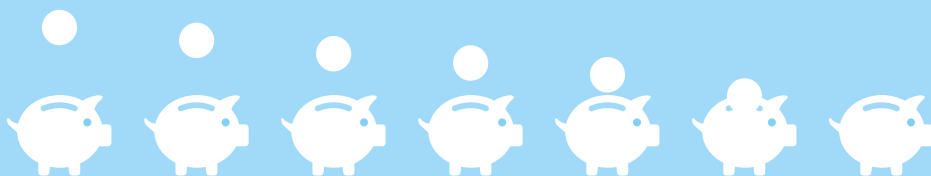
30

projects completed in partnership with other local organisations



10

awards received for community good work



# £300,000+

crowdfunded and raised via local businesses,  
funders and sponsors for community projects



# 2,000

likes for our Facebook page



# 3,000+

bags of rubbish collected from  
beaches and in Broadstairs



# 6,000+

plants including 4000  
crocuses planted in and around  
Broadstairs & St. Peter's



# 4,100

Twitter followers

# Building a community

## Broadstairs Town Shed

The volunteer-led Broadstairs Town Shed is a fantastic space for older people (50+) to get together and work on practical projects for themselves and the wider community in Thanet.

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Joining the Shed allows members to share and learn new skills, increases community involvement and engagement and can help tackle loneliness and isolation.



**Below** Shedders enjoying their wonderful space





Above and left Learning and sharing skills



# Beautifying our town

## Gardens Team



Our gardens team is made up of more than 40 regular volunteers, aged between 12 & 87.

- We maintain and plant up 5 sites around the town with over 2,000 hours and 5,000 plants and bulbs, all donated to make Broadstairs more beautiful.

- We recently started work on the Embankment by The Library and are planning a wildlife friendly garden.



**Main image** Volunteers working on Crampton Tower Bank

**Above** Volunteers make Town Team what it is

# Keeping things tidy

## Litterpicks & brush-ups

Our litterpicks have attracted more than 500 volunteers of all ages and abilities since we started. We collect on average 20-30 bags per session and have also participated in 4 National litter initiatives to date.

Our 'brush ups' include work on Viking Bay and the Turner and Dickens mosaics, which volunteers lovingly cleaned and then restored. We also designed, co-funded and produced a new leaflet for Thanet's 'T&D' (Turner and Dickens) walk'.

Liaising and working with other local groups and volunteers of all ages is at the heart of all Town Team projects'.



**Above** The youngest team members who worked on the Dickens Mosaic project



**Left** Volunteers being briefed for BBC Radio Kent's 'One Good Deed' event.



# Repairing our heritage

## Harbour and Seafront Group



**Left and below** Work underway on the 'zigzag' steps. EKC students getting involved.



Formed in 2015, and comprising, fishermen, sailors, local businesses and individuals, the group's focus is Broadstairs' iconic Viking Bay. Work has included:

- Lobbying and then liaising with Thanet District Council for excess sand removal to ease maritime access to the harbour.
- Fundraising for and then commissioning re-painting of the zigzag steps down to Viking Bay.
- Obtaining Coastal Communities funding for a structural survey of the long-neglected Old Lookout (aka Old Wonky/Harbour Master's house).





- Fundraising through public appeal for materials for the urgent repair and decoration, (by volunteers, and in conjunction with carpentry students from East Kent college) of this wonderful, Grade II listed building. Work to date has included the infamous mine, The Scotsman, new staircases and the RNLI boards.

The Harbour and Seafront Group's success means they plan to form a separate Charity, whose primary focus will be securing the Lookout's long-term future.



**Main image** Work in progress on The Boat House aka 'Old Wonky

**Above** Restoration of the Old Mine almost complete

# Creating a sense of arrival

## The Station Crew



The Station Crew was formed to address urgent repair issues at Broadstairs Station and to improve the 'arrival' experience. The team worked with Southeastern and Network Rail, and as a result, we have seen CCTV installed, the ticket office repaired, guttering problems resolved and drainage issues investigated.



**Main image** Volunteers make The Station Crew what it is





Over the last 2 years we have :

- Successfully raised funds to audit current signage and install new wayfinding signs on both sides of the station for visitors
- Funded and installed a community noticeboard within the ticket office
- Made flower troughs and planters at the Town Shed and installed them at the front of the station thanks to generous sponsorship from local businesses
- Established teams that meet monthly (and weekly April - Sept) to litterpick in and around the station and maintain flower displays
- In partnership with South Eastern and the Town Council, are replacing the overgrown weed filled flower bed at the station entrance to create a new, welcoming lavender bank



**Above** New signage installed at Broadstairs station helps visitors with wayfinding and to discover more about our town

# Building Partnerships

## Local businesses, supporters and community organisations

Academy FM	South Eastern Trains
Ageless Thanet	Surfers Against Sewage
BBC Radio Kent	St. Peter's Village Tours
Beavers, Cub, Scout and Brownie packs	Thanet District Council
Broadstairs Folk Week	Thanet Lions
Broadstairs Lit	Thanet Over 50's Forum
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Chamber of Commerce	Thanet Volunteer Bureau
Broadstairs and St. Peter's Town Council	The Broadie
Broadstairs Tourism & Leisure Association	The Broadstairs Society
Coastal Communities Team	The Garden Gate
Crampton Tower Museum	The Victorians
Destination Management plan	The Yarrow Hotel
Dickens House Museum	Thorley Taverns
East Kent College	Turner Contemporary
Folk Week	Visit Thanet: 30 Articles in the local press, online and on TV and Radio
Friends of Birchington Shelter group	
Isle Magazine	
Isle of Thanet News	
Kent County Council	
Kent Messenger Group	
Kent Time Credits	
Language Schools	
Margate and Ramsgate Town Teams	
Network Rail	
Other local litterpick groups	
Riding School for the Disabled	
4 local Rotary clubs	
Schools and FE. colleges including EKC	
Social Enterprise Kent	



# What's next?

With the support of the amazing volunteers who enable us to do projects in and for our town, we'll be able to carry on with all our core projects for the next 5 years. There's always room for new ideas and volunteers too!

Some thoughts we're working on, for which we'd love your input, skills ideas & co-funding:

- Heritage
- Re-use, recycling and reducing waste
- Memorial Recreation Ground commemoration project

We'd love to hear from you  
[info@broadstairstownteam.org.uk](mailto:info@broadstairstownteam.org.uk)



**Thank you** to everyone that has formed part of Broadstairs Town Team volunteer groups in even a small way, and helped us make Broadstairs even nicer over the last 6 years. We look forward to working together to make our town even nicer in the future too. Thank you too, to the talented and generous donation of skills and time from designer Andy Spencer and to Andy Johnson for kindly allowing us to use his image on the front cover. How lucky we are to have such talent locally.