Become a Sea Gooseberry Guardian

We want you! If you love your community, if you’re chatty, if you know secrets about your area, or if you just enjoy getting involved, then we’d love you to join *Beacons*. We’re looking for 13 people – one to work in each of the wards of Folkestone, Hythe & Romney Marsh – to be a Sea Gooseberry Guardian. You do not have to live in the ward, but you should have a strong connection to the community there as it’s where we’ll ask you to carry out your work.

*Beacons* is an outdoor performance planned for December 2021 by Folkestone artist Alison Neighbour supported by Creative Folkestone and SparkedEcho. It is about the connections within our ecosystem and our dependence on each other (people, places, and creatures). It will involve a treasure hunt across the whole borough, leading to a magical sound and light performance on Sunny Sands beach on the winter solstice.

The heroes of our story are Sea Gooseberries, creatures found in every ocean of the world who may be the ancestors of every other living creature, including us humans. The other heroes are you - members of our community and our local and global eco system!

Sea Gooseberry Guardians will engage with local groups, businesses, places and individuals to create excitement about *Beacons* and gather stories. Each Guardian will be involved in finding hosts for the Sea Gooseberries in the run up to the treasure hunt.

The role starts in April and will finish in November. It’s part time and flexible so you can fit around other commitments, requiring around 14 hours per month. Between April and November, you will be asked to make connections with people and businesses in your ward, talking to people about the themes of the project and encouraging them to take part.

Each month, there will be a meeting with the project team and the other Guardians, to shape the project as it evolves, including feeding back on plans for the performance. We’ll provide you with resources and support, you just need enthusiasm and local knowledge!

Subject to future funding, there will be an additional fee for a more intensive period of work during December that will involve taking care of the Sea Gooseberries (and their finders) in your ward during the treasure hunt, and continuing to build excitement about the performance on 21st December.

In exchange for your help to engage local communities in this project we are offering Sea Gooseberry Guardians a payment of £1000 in thanks for your time and efforts.

To apply, please send a short email about why you’re interested in the project, the ward you’d like to work with and your connection to the ward to nicodunsbee@creativefolkestone.org.uk by 5pm on Thursday 4th March 2021. Please email if you have any questions.

If you prefer, you can send us an audio or video file instead of writing. CVs aren’t necessary – all we need is your local knowledge and interest!

More information about the project can be found here:

[https://www.beaconsproject.uk](https://www.beaconsproject.uk/)

[Promotional film](https://youtu.be/Wc9cJZEOpcQ)

[Alison Neighbour’s website](http://alisonneighbourdesign.com/work-in-progress/beacons/)

Wards of Folkestone, Hythe & Romney Marsh:

Broadmead, Cheriton, East Folkestone, Folkestone Central, Folkestone Harbour, Hythe Rural, Hythe, New Romney, North Downs East, North Downs West, Romney Marsh, Sandgate and West Folkestone, Walland and Denge