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MILES PEOPLE DREAMS SILKS

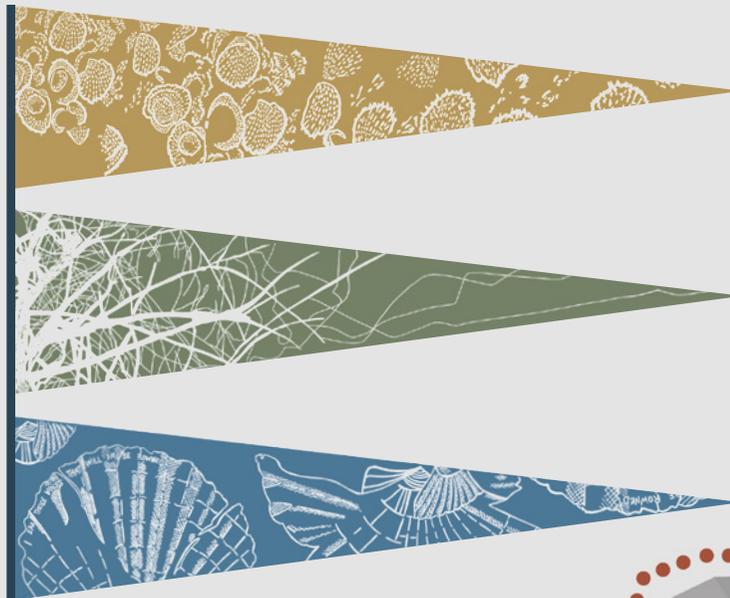
START



BEACH OF DREAMS

A collaborative 500-mile walk from Lowestoft to Tilbury

26th June - 1st August 2021



FINISH



KINETIKA
DESIGN THAT MOVES

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

#BeachofDreamsUK



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INTERACTIVITY

This document is interactive, so click on the section titles on the left to take you to that page.

You can also click on buttons such as the social media links above, and clicking on URLs will take you to the relevant

OVERVIEW

Beach of Dreams is an epic journey to discover the hidden gems of the East Coast of England, inviting collaboration from communities and artists along the way in Suffolk, Essex, Southend, and Thurrock.

Kinetika's Artistic Director, Ali Pretty, and Guardian journalist Kevin Rushby are walking the entire route, joined by artists, writers, scientists, and local residents. Together, guided by strong environmental themes and the challenges of our current time, they will consider the question "How can we creatively reimagine our future?"

Get involved, share a location, and share your dream!

Everyone is invited to choose a mile to walk, submit an image of the landscape, a drawing and a few words about your connection to it and your dream for its future. All words and photos sent in will contribute to a new digital story map of the coastal path, reflecting and recording the narrative of the walk as it unfolds.

Images submitted by 9th April 2021 will be used as inspiration for the design of 500 silk

pennants illustrating the beautiful coastal landscape and its challenges. These

pennants will be hand painted using natural dyes by the Kinetika Design Studio and form spectacular installations during the event.

Join the walk along the stretch you have chosen, and you can carry the pennant inspired by your own photo!

An installation of all 500 pennants will mark the beginning of the walk on 26th/27th June, at sunrise on the beach at Lowestoft, during First Light Summer Solstice. The route follows the coast, taking in stunning scenery, wild landscapes and seaside towns. Further installations and events take place along the way including Harwich Festival on 10th July and the finale at Tilbury Fort on 1st August.

Beach of Dreams is conceived as a national project that will unfold over two years along the UK coastline starting in summer 2021 and culminating in 2023, running in parallel with Year of The Coast.



SHUTTERSTOCK

“

This is a time of emergencies and crises and humans always think more clearly when walking. It is when walking that lost treasures are spotted, and their value and meaning understood. Walking brings contact with people and time to talk.

The range and scope of people that will be drawn into Beach of Dreams is immense: scientists and artists, old and young, expert and amateur, all manner of people will make contact, fostering new ideas, opinions and partnerships.

In this context, and in these times, Beach of Dreams feels like the right thing to do. It is a walk that will bring vitality and colour to thousands of people, forging new connections and relationships that will develop hope and inspiration when most needed.

Kevin Rushby, Writer

WHY 'BEACH OF DREAMS?'

Beach of Dreams builds on the success of Kinetika's Silk River which worked with ten communities along the Thames and linked them and their artistic response through a continuous ten-day 142mile journey on foot. Kevin Rushby joined us and wrote a daily blog. On the day that we walked from Tilbury to East Tilbury, he encountered the glittering foreshore on the Thames Estuary and named it *The Beach of Broken Dreams*.



“Three years ago, near Tilbury, I experienced something profound. In the bleakest setting, on a grey flat day, with a muddy tide sucking on a scraggy shoreline, I came across a beach filled with marvels and treasure. It was the place where London had dumped its Blitz debris on top of a Victorian tip which was itself on top of a Georgian dump, and so on back to the Romans. I was totally unprepared for it. No one had warned me. I’d strayed from the path and was watching my feet when I began to zigzag between the strange objects that were sticking out from the shingle and sand.

Gently extracting a complete 19th century glass bottle from under a broken WWII wireless set and a vicious thistle, I reflected that you just never know where joy and salvation are coming from. Beauty and hope can crop up in the unlikeliest of places.

Now in this time of restriction and stasis, at a time when the countryside has offered itself up for rediscovery, I feel like I want to walk, and walk far, finding more beaches like that one near Tilbury. It feels like an opportunity that needs to be grasped.

The beach is always the place where human life is exposed, with all its frailties, ambitions and dreams. Voyages begin and end here. Clothes are removed to expose the hard-won six-pack, or the beer belly. Novels are started and finally finished. Children and dogs have fun, but sometimes, tragically, drown. On beaches we find sublime panoramas, but also all the rubbish that we had thrown away and hoped never to see again. With a brutal disregard for human sensitivities, the sands bear witness to our mistakes: the dead dolphin in a broken fishing net, the empty container with the skull and crossbones sticker, and the stricken

seabirds marinated in crude oil - all things I have encountered on the British coast. And somewhere high up in the dunes among the rare orchids and butterflies, there is often a wavy line of dried seaweed, like a hastily scribbled message from the sea, warning us of even higher tides to come. **Kevin Rushby**

On this first iteration of Beach of Dreams, walking 500 miles down the East Coast, as we emerge blinking into sunlight from a winter of COVID restrictions and enter into a post Brexit Britain, we hope to discover the gems that lie along our fragmented foreshore and have time and space to reflect, draw breath and imagine how we go forward from here.

Kevin's Silk River blog page:
<http://www.silkriver.co.uk/uk-walk-blog/>

KEY DATES

APRIL

9th

Deadline for Design A Mile

JUNE

26th

First Light Summer Solstice, Lowestoft

JUNE

27th

JULY

10th

Harwich Festival

JULY

26th

AUGUST

1st

T100 Dreaming

JULY

31st

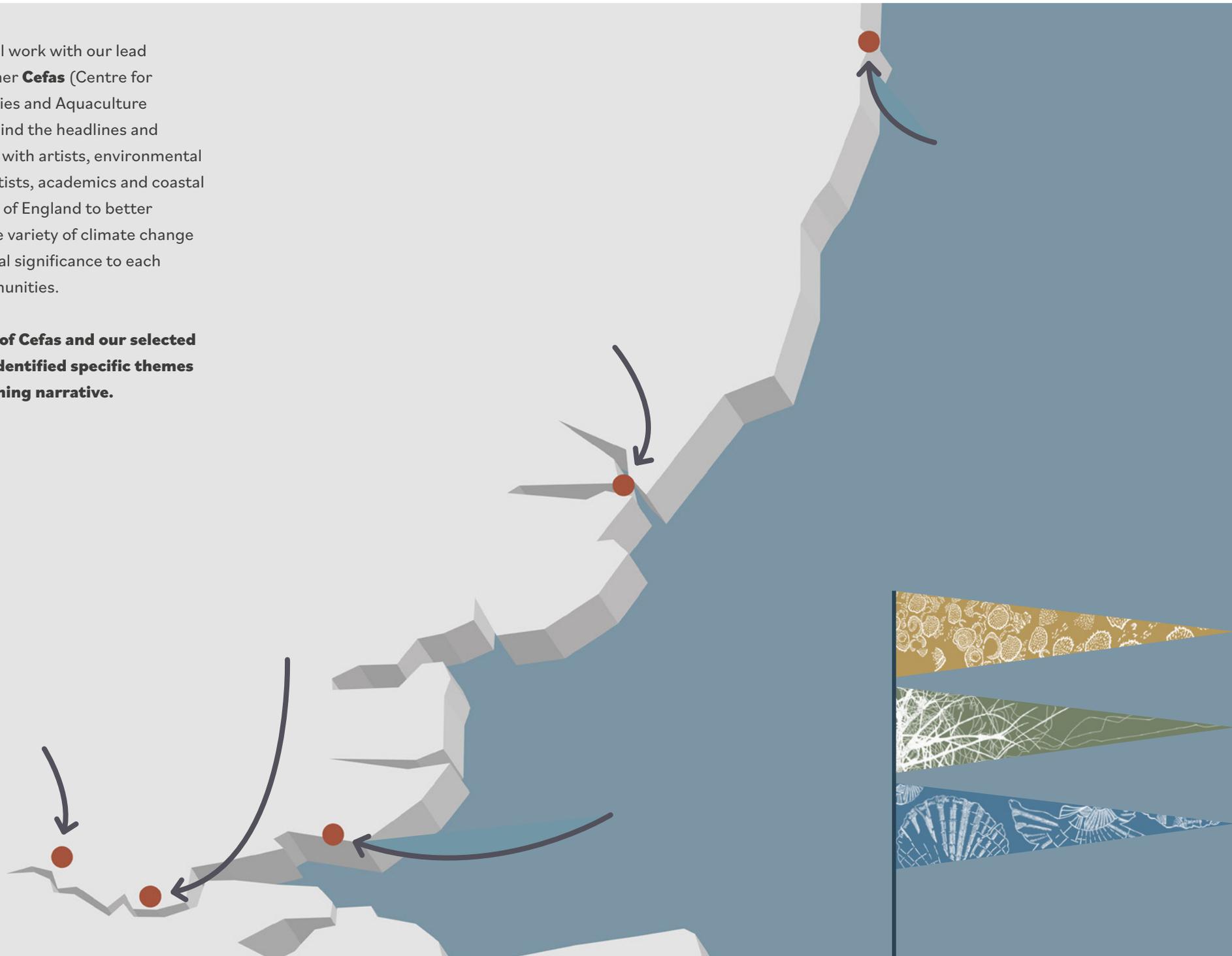
AUGUST

1st

Finale weekend at Grays and Tilbury

Beach of Dreams will work with our lead environmental partner **Cefas** (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science) to look behind the headlines and slogans and to work with artists, environmental organisations, scientists, academics and coastal communities in East of England to better understand the wide variety of climate change issues that are of vital significance to each of our partner communities.

With the guidance of Cefas and our selected partners we have identified specific themes within the overarching narrative.



BEACH OF DREAMS



Southend pier



Tilbury

MARK MASSEY

MARK MASSEY



BEACH OF DREAMS

A collaborative 500-mile walk from Lowestoft to Tilbury
26th June - 1st August 2021

500 500 500 500
MILES PEOPLE DREAMS SILKS

GET INVOLVED



Graffiti wall, Thurrock



Orford Ness

We have mapped a 500 - mile coastal route from Lowestoft to Tilbury and we are seeking 500 people to become champions of our precious landscape for future generations.

1

SELECT MILE

Choose one mile of the walk near to you, or one that you have a deep connection with, then reserve it online. Find the walk map on our website to find your one-mile marker, then click the marker to reveal a booking link:

beachofdreams.co.uk



2

TAKE TWO PHOTOS

Walk your mile and take two photographs to show the area: one wide shot and one detail shot. The wide shot should show a view that gives context of where you are.

The close up photo will be used as inspiration for a silk pennant made by Kinetika Design Studio, unique to that one mile stretch. Images for silks should be submitted before 9th April



(see page 9) and photos sent in will be added to your map pin.

Need some inspiration?

Look at the ground beneath your feet and at the landscape and seascape you are walking in. What can you see? Sea, coast, sand, pebbles, rocks, shells, flora and fauna, meeting of land and sea, dunes, boats, seaside furniture, facades, seating, coastal structures,

piers, posts, graffiti, sheds, huts, buoys, ropes, floats, nets, baskets, birds.

Take a close-up photograph

What intrigues you? What do you see? Patterns, textures, markings, colours, shapes, lines, light and dark, shadows, reflections, distortions, movement, scattering, overlapping, harmony and discord, erosion and decay.



3

WRITE THREE SHORT PARAGRAPHS ABOUT YOUR SELECTED MILE

In 300 words or fewer, describe:

- What drew you to this particular square foot of the beach/land? Describe what you see.
- What connects you to this mile, who do you share it with? What are your memories?
- What are your dreams for this place? Imagine what would you like it to be for your great, great, great grandchildren in circa 2100.
- Give your writing a title.
- Submit your words (see page 9), and they will be added to your map pin.

Shells at Shoeburyness

I had wanted to walk to the end of the bar at Shoeburyness ever since I'd set foot on East Beach about three years ago. We'd checked the tide on this chilly November morning and followed rivulets of receding water as it lured us as far as we dare go. Surprisingly the sun emerged and pierced through the limpet covered concrete pillars reflecting on the wet shiny cracked mud, revealing clusters of cockle shells, embedded in soggy sand, washed up on top of each other, cracked, broken, fragmented.

Since working in Thurrock, I've walked many times, the miles that stretch and wind down river from Purfleet-on-Thames to this point at the mouth of the estuary, where the Thames meets the North Sea. I've met and

made dear friends along the way, as we have drawn, written, printed and painted our response to this dramatic, changing landscape. Individuals come and go, we are a transient community, connected by this place.

I imagine these shells, now nestled together, will be washed apart as the next tide comes in, fragmenting further. Each day they are rearranged by the elements, and will gradually be broken down into tiny particles that one day will transform into grains of sand on the beach for excited children to scoop them up in their little hands tossing them back out to sea in delight.

That is, if the beach is still there.

Ali Pretty

4

(OPTIONAL) CREATE A LINE DRAWING FROM SHAPES IN YOUR CLOSE-UP PHOTO

- Print out your photograph
- Using a pencil make a tracing of the lines, patterns, textures, marks, that you see.
- Go over it in a thick marker pen, abstracting, simplifying, exaggerating the pattern.
- Photograph or scan your drawing.
- Submit your design by 9th April (see p9) and it will be used as inspiration for the special silk pennant being created to represent your mile.



Zoom sessions led by the artists and artistic director Ali Pretty will be available to demonstrate this process. Meeting links will be shared with everyone who has selected a mile of the walk, and registered their details via the website.

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26th June - 1st August 2021

5

SUBMIT YOUR WORK

Everyone taking part will be emailed a link to an online form where all images and words should be submitted. Please use this method if you can, so we can keep track of the entries more easily.

A reminder of what to send:

- Two colour photos – one of your mile, one close-up.
- Three short paragraphs. Your description of place. Your memories. Your dreams.
- (Optional) Your finished black and white line drawing.

6

OVER TO US

- We will transfer them onto the map on the Beach of Dreams webpage (beachofdreams.co.uk).
- We will transform your design onto silk, choosing a shade of colour suggested by your photo.

7

WALK WITH US

We invite you to carry your dream – as a silk pennant, walking with us on your mile during the festival.



SHUTTERSTOCK

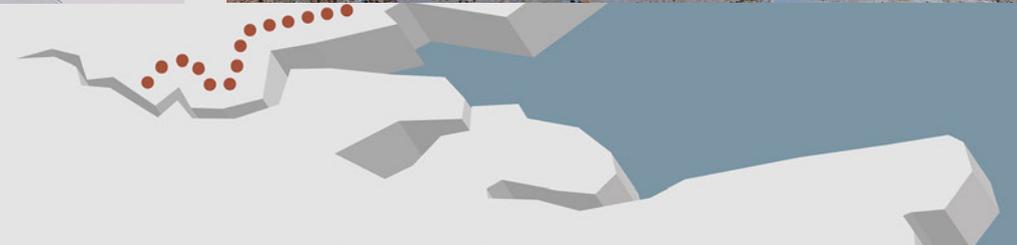
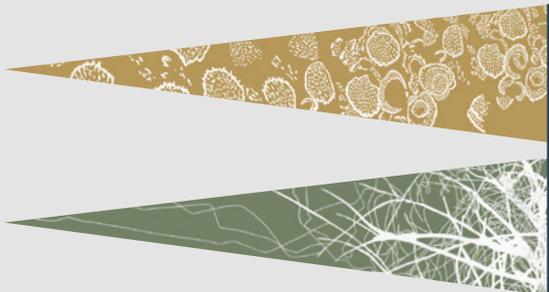


Wallasea Island

MARK MASSEY

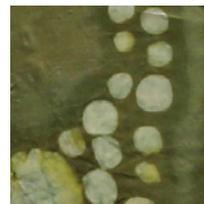
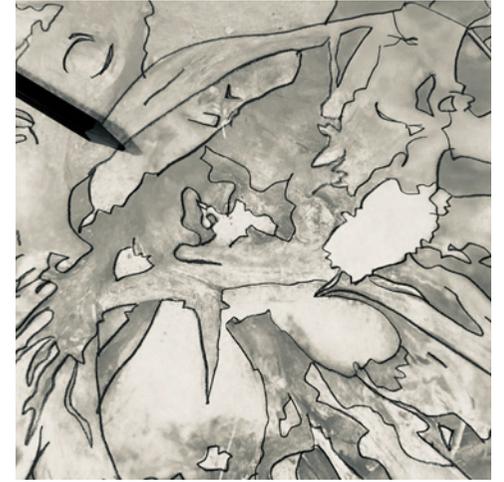


Leigh-on-Sea



INSPIRATION

A few examples of natural shapes and textures that can inspire your designs - these are the kinds of things to look out for on your initial walk - as well as some examples of how they can translate into patterns for your pennant. Plus a selection of the natural dyes that Kinetika have been experimenting with for the silk flags.

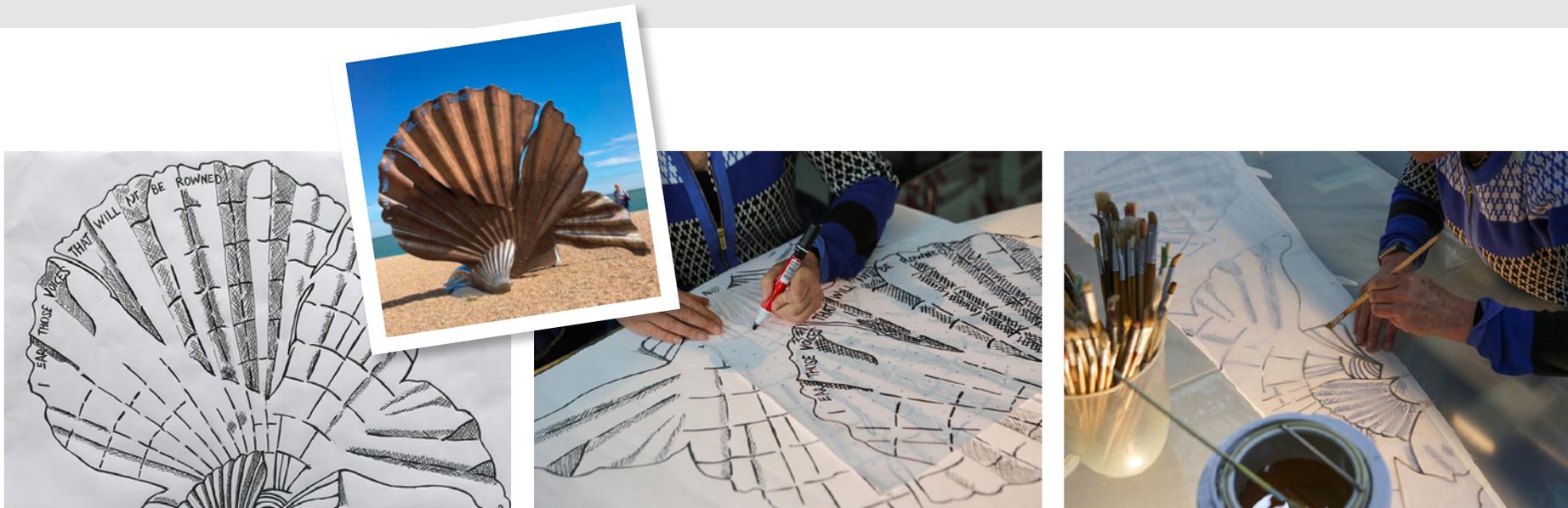


INSPIRATION

STEP-BY-STEPS SHOWING HOW TWO FLAGS WENT FROM PHOTO TO FLAG...



Ali Pretty's photograph of her original inspiration at Covehithe Beach, Suffolk; two stages of the line drawing in progress; and the wax pattern being applied to the silk.



The drawing that Kinetika made, based on Elizabeth Lynch's original photograph of Maggi Hambling's Aldeburgh Scallop (inset); transforming the drawing into a pattern on the flag, and finally waxing the silk.

BEACH OF DREAMS

A collaborative 500-mile walk from Lowestoft to Tilbury
26th June - 1st August 2021

Mersea Island

SCHEDULE

The walk itself is broken down into 35 stages.
Use this guide to find out which day includes your mile.

Saturday 26th and
Sunday 27th June

First Light Lowestoft
Summer Solstice



WALK 1: Sunday 27th June

**Lowestoft Euroscope to
Southwold Lighthouse**

16 miles

We'll be setting off from Lowestoft in the early morning and walking to Southwold mostly by the Suffolk Coastal Path.



WALK 2: Monday 28th June

**Southwold Lighthouse to
Halesworth Town Park**

10 miles

A walk by the River Blyth - first its estuary, to the village of Blythburgh, and then the inland river all the way to Halesworth.

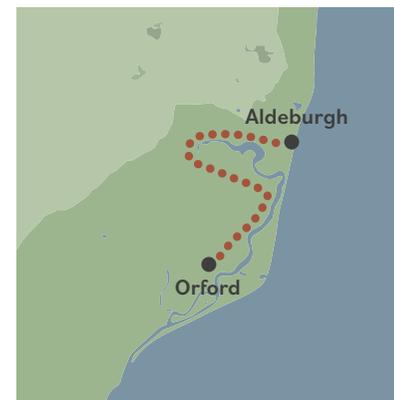


WALK 3: Tuesday 29th June

**Halesworth Town Park
to Aldeburgh Moot Hall**

21 miles

Quiet paths and lanes through rural Suffolk, then through Walberswick Nature Reserve, Dunwich, Minsmere and Thorpeness. Plus Sizewell!



WALK 4: Wednesday 30th June

**Aldeburgh Moot Hall
to Orford Ferry**

16 miles

A day close to the Alde estuary, first inland to the famous Snape Maltings, then through Iken and the sea wall by the Sudbourne Marshes.



WALK 5: Thursday 1st July

**Orford Ness local walk
4 miles**

A short walk around one of the most remarkable nature reserves in England, Orford Ness. Access only by ferry from Orford; entrance fee payable.

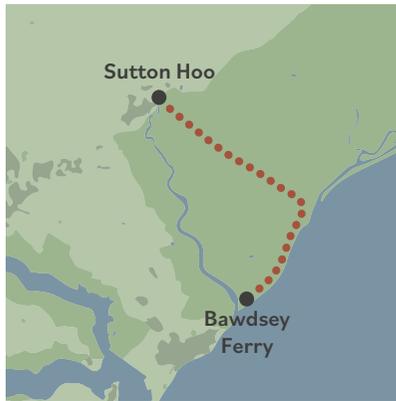


WALK 6: Friday 2nd July

Orford Ferry to Sutton Hoo

17 miles

We walk inland through Chillesford before the river Deben takes us to the estuary town of Woodbridge. From here, it's not far to the Anglo-Saxon burial site of Sutton Hoo.



WALK 7: Saturday 3rd July

Sutton Hoo to Bawdsey Ferry

17 miles

We cross typical Suffolk heathland to the ancient village of Boyton. We rejoin the coast soon after, following firstly the Ore estuary, before our final destination of Bawdsey Ferry.



WALK 8: Sunday 4th July

Felixstowe Ferry to Ipswich Marina

19 miles

A seaside walk into Felixstowe, and then we are never far from the tidal River Orwell as it makes its way to the county town of Ipswich.



WALK 9: Monday 5th July

Ipswich Marina to Shotley Ferry

12 miles

We stay on the Stour & Orwell walk, this time following the right bank of the Orwell with occasional diversions into the surrounding countryside.



WALK 10: Tuesday 6th July

Shotley Ferry to Dedham War Memorial

17 miles

The Suffolk bank of the tidal River Stour takes us to Cattawade, where we join the Stour Valley Path past Flatford Mill and cross the boundary to the Essex village of Dedham.



WALK 11: Wednesday 7th July

Dedham War Memorial to Wrabness House For Essex

11 miles

A day on the Essex Way, Britain's oldest county trail. We pass through Manningtree and Mistley, and are never far from the banks of the Stour.



WALK 12: Thursday 8th July

Wrabness House For Essex to Harwich Ha'Penny Pier

7 miles

We take the final UK miles of cross-European Trail E2 to the ferry terminal at Parkeston Quay and then enter the Georgian old town of Harwich. **Friday 9th July is a rest day.**

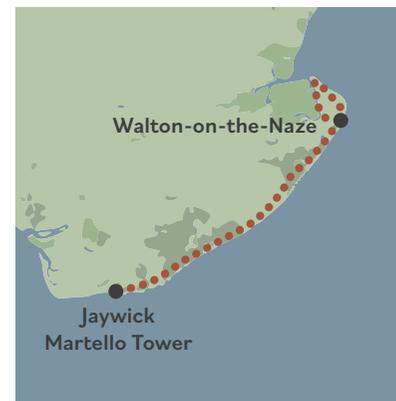


WALK 13: Saturday 10th July

Harwich Ha'Penny Pier to Walton-on-the-Naze

19 miles

We're back by the North Sea coast through Dovercourt before venturing inland near Great Oakley, then Hamford Water provides wonderful estuary walking.



WALK 14: Sunday 11th July

Walton-on-the-Naze to Jaywick Martello Tower

15 miles

A circuit of the Naze Peninsula to start with. Then, back in Walton, we take the prom through the popular seaside towns of Frinton and Clacton.



WALK 15: Monday 12th July

Jaywick Martello Tower to Brightlingsea Ferry

16 miles

There's coastal marshland on the way to Point Clear and St Osyth. From here we go inland for a little while before returning to the coast at Brightlingsea.



WALK 16: Tuesday 13th July

**Mersea Island
circular walk**
13 miles

A circuit of the most gastronomic island in Essex – we pass saltmarsh grazing, oyster beds, brewery and a vineyard! Access from Brightlingsea Ferry or Cudmore Grove on the island.



WALK 17: Wednesday 14th July

**Brightlingsea Ferry
to Peldon Church**
15 miles

The Colne and one of its creeks take us to Wivenhoe, where we cross the river by ferry to Fingringhoe. From here we walk inland to the small village of Peldon.



WALK 18: Thursday 15th July

**Peldon Church
to Tollesbury Marina**
19 miles

We circuit the Abberton Reservoir before returning to the coast at Salcott and the desolate Old Hall Marshes. For bird-watchers, a day in paradise.



WALK 19: Friday 16th July

**Tollesbury Marina
to Maldon Hythe**
17 miles

Around the Tollesbury Wick Marshes to start with, passing the remains of the most unlikely branch line in Essex. Then we turn west to follow the tidal Blackwater estuary.



WALK 20: Saturday 17th July

**Maldon Hythe
to Bradwell Waterside**
20 miles

Today we're on the southern shore of the Blackwater estuary, passing the site of the Battle of Maldon and walking through Maylandsea and Ramsey Island.



WALK 21: Sunday 18th July

**Bradwell Waterside to
Burnham-on-Crouch Quay**
17 miles

One of the most remarkable coastal walks in England. Seventeen miles without habitation, save for the religious community beside the 7th century St Peter's Chapel.



WALK 22: Monday 19th July

**Wallasea Island
circular walk**
11 miles

Discover Wallasea Island, the largest man-made wetland in the UK, created by the RSPB with sea-wall breaches and soil from the Crossrail project. By ferry from Burnham-on-Crouch.



WALK 23: Tuesday 20th July

**Burnham-on-Crouch Quay to
South Woodham Ferrers Quay**
17 miles

We take the north side of the Crouch estuary, through Althorne Marina and North Fambridge, with a brief inland diversion to the old rail line at Stow Maries.



WALK 24: Wednesday 21st July

**Hullbridge Quay
to Paglesham Jetty**
16 miles

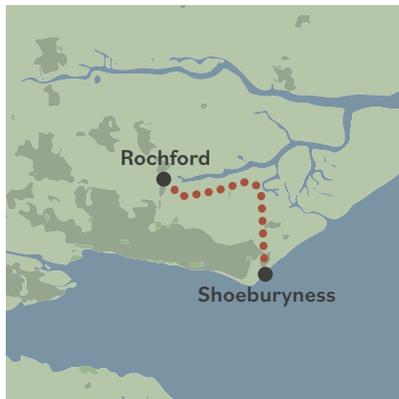
Inland at first, to avoid sea-wall breaches. We regain the tidal River Crouch at South Fambridge and stay on its sea wall until we reach the Paglesham peninsula.



WALK 25: Thursday 22nd July

**Paglesham Jetty to
Rochford (The Square)**
12 miles

The Roach Valley Way takes us by its namesake river to Rochford. From here we complete a loop into the Cherry Orchard Country Park and back to Rochford.



WALK 26: Friday 23rd July

Rochford (The Square) to Shoeburyness Boom

14 miles

After a short inland start, we circumnavigate Barling Marsh on the southern side of the Roach estuary. Turning south, we skirt Gt Wakering before reaching the open sea.



WALK 27: Saturday 24th July

Shoeburyness Boom to Benfleet Station

17 miles

Straight along the coast, on the prom at Southend and past the seafood stalls at Leigh. Thames-side marshes take us to Benfleet where we then loop around Hadleigh Park.



WALK 28: Sunday 25th July

Canvey Island circular walk

14 miles

From Benfleet station. Explore the many faces of Canvey - residential, holiday and industrial, with nature reclaiming the island's western side.



WALK 29: Monday 26th July

Benfleet Station to Thurrock Thameside Nature Park

15 miles

We join the Thames Estuary Path today, with a side trip to the Wat Tyler Country Park too. Afterwards, we walk through Corringham and Stanford-le-Hope.



WALK 30: Tuesday 27th July

Thurrock Thameside Nature Park to Langdon Hills

14 miles

There's an early visit to East Tilbury before we walk through Horndon-on-the-Hill. We end with a part circuit of the Langdon Hills, the highest ground of Beach of Dreams.

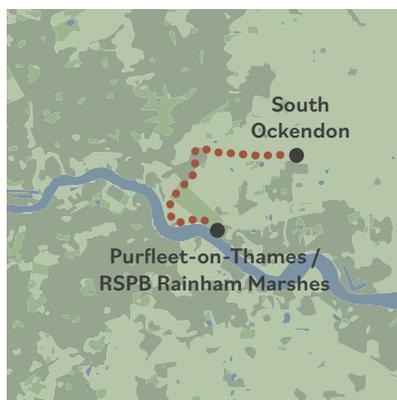


WALK 31: Wednesday 28th July

Langdon Hills to South Ockendon Village Green

13 miles

We travel through the former Dunton Plotlands before heading across to the Mardyke, staying beside it through what was fenland until the 1960s.

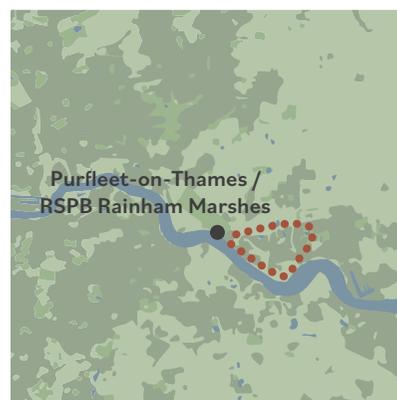


WALK 32: Thursday 29th July

South Ockendon Village Green to Purfleet-on-Thames

13 miles

Visiting rewilded lands in Belhus before crossing the London boundary at Hornchurch Country Park. From here, we follow the London Loop through Rainham and beside the Thames.

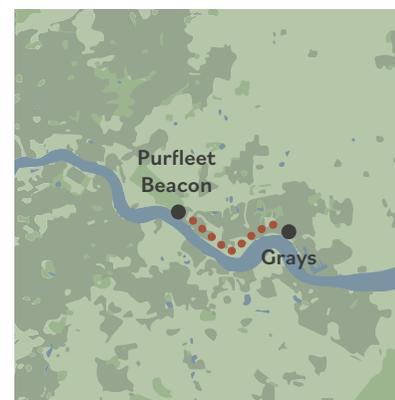


WALK 33: Friday 30th July

Purfleet-on-Thames to Purfleet Beacon

11 miles

Almost a circular walk. The Mardyke is our companion at Davy Down. We then take three of the Chafford Gorges before passing the Kinetika studios on our return to Purfleet.



WALK 34: Saturday 31st July

Purfleet Beacon to Grays Library

5 miles

Beside the Thames almost the whole way. There's plenty of industry, but wilder patches too, as we cross under the QEII Bridge on our way to Grays.



WALK 35: Sunday 1st August

Grays Library to Tilbury Cruise Terminal

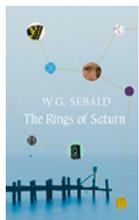
9 miles

On the final day we set out through Chadwell St Mary before paths and tracks take us through West Tilbury to Coalhouse Fort. A Thames-side finish past Tilbury Fort.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Writers that have inspired us and who have written about the East Coast



The Rings of Saturn

W.G. Sebald

What begins as the record of W. G. Sebald's own

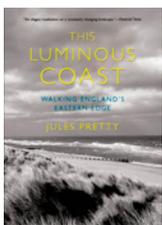
journey on foot through coastal East Anglia, from Lowestoft to Bungay, becomes the conductor of evocations of people and cultures past and present. From Chateaubriand, Thomas Browne, Swinburne and Conrad, to fishing fleets, skulls and silkworms, the result is an intricately patterned and haunting book on the transience of all things human.

hundred miles by boat). It is a coast and a culture that is about to be lost - not yet, perhaps, but soon - to rising tides and industrial sprawl. This Luminous Coast takes the reader with him on his journey over land and water; over sea walls of dried grass, beside stretched fields of golden crops, alongside white sails gliding across the intricate lacework of invisible creeks and estuaries, under vast skies that are home to curlews and redshanks and the outpourings of skylarks.

taking in the atmosphere of the landscape and the abiding relationship to the sea. At the end of the journey we appreciated more than ever that the Essex shoreline is especially memorable for its obstinate refusal to conform to conventional notions of what is beautiful or picturesque. This landscape is singularly rich in history, and full of layered meanings and visual pleasures to those who give it the time and attention it deserves.

to radical University development, and social working estates in East Tilbury and Silver End. Essex was significant in the Plotlands movement, seeing individual land ownership develop into controlled New Towns, and can claim to be the birthplace of British Modernism with 1917 designs for cottages on the outskirts of Braintree. With a rich cultural history including musicians Depeche Mode, Alison Moyet and Dr. Feelgood, and a home for artists Henri Chopin and Grayson Perry, this book demonstrates Essex as a hotbed of radical activity, open to all possibilities.

personal tour, from the seaside piers to the empty marshes and the New Town tower blocks, revealing a landscape and a story like no other. Alongside Essex Man and TOWIE, there's the Essex that nurtured the first Puritan settlers in America, welcomed refugees from Europe, fugitives from the underworld and bombed-out East Enders. Where dreamers and makers, punk poets, anarchist sects and inventors all found inspiration.



This Luminous Coast

Jules Pretty

Over the course of a year, Jules Pretty walked

along the shoreline of East Anglia in south eastern England, eventually exploring four hundred miles on foot (and another

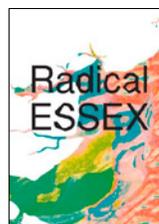


350 Miles: An Essex Journey

Ken

Worpole with photographs by Jason Orton

The book offers a strikingly original portrait of the Essex Coastline. Ken Worpole explains - 'We walked, cycled and occasionally drove much of the 350miles of Essex coastline



Radical Essex

Published by Focal Point
Radical ESSEX seeks to tell another story,

exploring the less-known innovations and creativity of this English county. It examines living practices from Christian communities, retreats for Tolstoyan princes and the first practices of naturism in England,

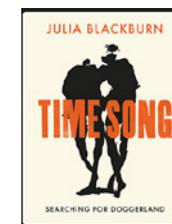


Excellent Essex

Gillian Darley

It's time we talked about Essex. It's the county everyone's heard

of; the place few of us know. Gillian Darley takes us on a vivid,



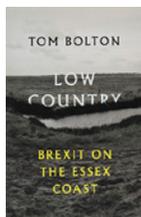
Time Song: Searching for Doggerland

Julia Blackburn

Julia Blackburn

has always collected things that hold stories about the past, especially the very distant past: mammoth bones, little shells that happen to be two million years old, a flint shaped as a weapon long ago. Time Song brings many such

stories together as it tells of the creation, the existence and the loss of a country now called Doggerland, a huge and fertile area that once connected the entire east coast of England with mainland Europe, until it was finally submerged by rising sea levels around 5000 BC.



**Low Country -
Brexit on the
Essex Coast**

Tom Bolton

In Low Country, Tom Bolton

records his probing, hallucinatory journeys along crumbling sea-walls and through retail parks, past abandoned military forts and plotlands. He uncovers an ancient battlefield upstream from a decommissioned nuclear power station, visits England's most deprived community and treks the remote and beautiful Dengie peninsula in search of forgotten stories. In the treacherous mudflats and coastal resorts of England's eastern edge, an alternative vision begins to emerge shaken by Brexit and the rise of new, populist politics in Britain and America.



Old Ways

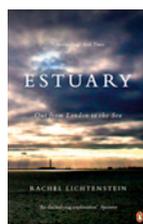
Robert Macfarlane

“Half a mile offshore, walking on silver water,

we crossed a path that extended gracefully and without apparent end to our north and south.

It was a shallow tidal channel and the water it held caught and pooled the sun, such that its route existed principally as flux; a phenomenon of light and currents. Its bright line curved away from us: an ogee whose origins we could not explain

and whose invitation to follow we could not disobey, so we walked it northwards, along that glowing track made neither of water nor of land, which led us further and still further out to sea. This is the Broomway, allegedly ‘the deadliest’ path in Britain and certainly the un-earthliest path I have ever walked.”



**Estuary, Out
from London
to the Sea**

Rachel Lichtenstein

Out at the eastern

edge of England, between land and ocean, you will find beautiful, haunted salt marshes, coastal shallows and wide-open skies: the Thames Estuary. The estuary is an ancient gateway to England, a passage for numberless travellers in and out of London. And for generations, the people of Kent and Essex have lived and worked on the Estuary, learning its waters, losing loved ones to its depths. Their heritage is a proud but never an easy one. In the face of a world changing around them, they endure.



Landfill

Tim Dee

In Landfill, Tim Dee argues that rubbish tips sustain life and

offer an alternative view of how we should treat any species who dares to live so closely among humans. About the book, Tim Dee says: ‘I have been a lifelong birdwatcher but more recently I have found myself spending time watching people watching birds. Gulls in Britain are no longer seagulls and I’ve been fascinated in the last decade by the various

ways that these birds have come ashore and come closer to us. In some ways, they seem to have become more like us than any other bird. We might now evolve together.’



**Walking in
Essex, Cicerone
Guide**

Peter Aylmer

Peter Aylmer has mapped

our 500-mile route for Beach of Dreams and has written several other walking guides. Check out his website <https://www.trailman.co.uk/>



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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Together for Our Planet

Beach of Dreams 2021 coincides with Together for our Planet - the UK's year of climate action.

"We cannot afford to wait to act against the threat of climate change. We must work together to protect our planet and people and ensure a greener, more resilient future for us all.

The UK will host the UN Climate Change

Conference COP26 with our partners Italy in November 2021 to bring together world leaders to commit to urgent global climate action.

But each of us has a part to play. That's why, in the run up to the summit, we'll be working closely

with businesses, civil society groups, schools and people across the UK as part of our conversation on tackling climate change. Many people from all over the UK are already doing their bit on climate change, from the engineers working on the offshore

wind farms now powering our homes and businesses, to local initiatives encouraging children and parents to walk to school. We want to celebrate them and inspire more to join them."

<https://together-for-our-planet.ukcop26.org/>



How can we be good ancestors?

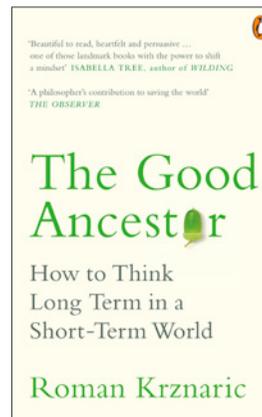
We have been inspired by **The Good Ancestor** by Roman Krznaric.

We live in the age of the tyranny of the now, driven by 24/7 news, the latest tweet, and the buy-now button. With such frenetic short-termism at the root of contemporary crises - from the threats of climate change to the lack of planning for a global pandemic - the call for

long-term thinking grows every day. But what is it, has it ever worked, and can we even do it?

In *The Good Ancestor*, philosopher Roman Krznaric delves into history and the human mind to show that we can. From the

pyramids to the NHS, humankind has always had the innate ability to plan for posterity and take action that will resonate for decades, centuries, even millennia to come. If we want to be good ancestors and be remembered well by the generations who follow us, now is



the time to recover and enrich this imaginative skill.

The Good Ancestor reveals six profound

ways in which we can all learn to think long, exploring uniquely human talents like 'cathedral thinking' that expand our time horizons and sharpen our foresight. Drawing on radical innovations from around the world, Krznaric celebrates the time rebels who are reinventing

democracy, culture and economics so that we all have the chance to become good ancestors and create a better tomorrow.

More resources can be found here: <https://www.romankrznaric.com/good-ancestor/resources>



EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Educational resources on Climate Change for schools and community participation. Many resources and opportunities to take part in this global movement are emerging. Here are a few we have identified.

Foundational Climate Change Curriculum for Educators 2020

An amazing and very comprehensive resource from WWF (World Wildlife Fund) and Tag (Take Action Global)

https://www.wwf.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-10/Curriculum_Climate_Action_Project%202020.pdf



Writing to a Planet in Crisis



Do you feel overwhelmed and unable to respond to the many crises we face? Do you sense that change and a better future is possible, but

don't know where to turn or what to do? The simple act of writing a letter can help us see the world in a new way. Letters to the Earth

invites you to write your Letter. Join the story of thousands worldwide who are finding their voice in the midst of crisis.



<https://www.letterstotheearth.com/resources>



Creative Earth

Creative Earth is an art competition for people aged 16 and under from across the UK, run by the UN COP26 Climate Change Conference in collaboration with WWF.

to live in. Whether it's green forests and garden cities, clear skies and wind turbines or oceans teeming with life - we want you to paint, draw or design a piece of art that

shows how you'd like our planet to look in the future.

More info at:
<https://together-for-our-planet.ukcop26.org/creative-earth/>

The future belongs to you. What do you want it to look like? Together for Our Planet campaign is inviting young people to get creative and show global leaders the world they want



Join this movement: The Great Science Share for Schools

GSSfS is a timely campaign to engage whole school communities in raising the profile and engagement of young people in primary and secondary school science. With the status of school science lower than other core subjects, the campaign has shown to lead to more time for science learning in school and at home so that young people

can ask, investigate and communicate their own scientific questions with new audiences. GSSfS stands apart by valuing children's scientific curiosity and communication

- placing it front and centre of this fast-growing campaign.

More info at:
<https://www.greatscienceshare.org/>



The Creative Team

Artistic Director: Ali Pretty

Ali is the founding member and artistic director of Kinetika. Since 2012 Ali's practice has been to develop transformational walking arts projects with diverse communities these bring people together by walking, talking and painting large-scale silk creations. Ali has led walking projects in Wiltshire, Isle of Wight, Lincolnshire, Essex and Thurrock, where she has developed an annual walking, talking and making festival Thurrock 100 This pioneering place-making model has been replicated internationally in various forms in Ethiopia, Chile and India. Her most ambitious project is Silk River, commissioned by the British Council as part of the UK/India year of Culture in 2017. Ali will work with a team of artists to curate and produce 500 individually designed silk pennants, the first of an evolving national artwork. Kinetika works on hand-woven [Murshidabad silk](#).

“Beach of Dreams offers the opportunity to extend my practice by learning how to use natural dyes challenging the aesthetic of my own silk work.

Producing 500 individual silk pennants, to carry the dreams of 500 participants for 500 miles will push the boundaries of the walking, talking and making model that I've been developing for the last 8 years, which has at its heart the voice of the local community.”

Writer: Kevin Rushby

Kevin is Guardian Travel's 'Explorer' and a contributor to the Saturday Review. He is the author of four acclaimed travel books, including Hunting Pirate Heaven, an investigation of 17th century pirate utopias in the Indian Ocean. His most recent book is Paradise, an historical account of human searching for perfection over the centuries. Kevin collaborated with Ali on Silk River, writing a daily blog of the entire journey. This

summer he will walk with Ali for 35 days and record the journey on a daily basis capturing the narrative as it unfolds.

Visual Artist: Nabil Ali

Nabil has developed a working methodology using plant matter as the primary process material, allowing him to explore the environment to produce Art. He grows and collects his materials forming an intimate relationship with the creative process to understand the boundaries of the materials used. For Beach of Dreams Nabil will create an evolving installation – The Sea People.

“From the weeds of the sea that covers the eastern coast of Essex, wrapped around spiral shells, fish bones and old weathered wood which tell the hidden stories of the depths of the North Sea, natural materials are scattered across the stony beaches waiting to be found and

made into abstract forms of Sea People, with their distant voices heard in the blowing tidal winds that travel along the crashing waves.”

Produced by Kinetika:

Donna Plakhtienko,
Matt Lloyd, Katie Beadle,
Edwina Rigby

Production Manager:

Alex Lingford

Digital and Media

Production:

Rosa Productions

Artists (Silk Pennants):

Ali Pretty, Lisa Meehan,
Jacci Todd, Margaret Hall,
Lesley Robinson,
Sarah Doyle, Sara Hayes,
Kara Thompson,
Shannon Topliss,
Genevieve Rudd,
Sally Chinae, Hazel Huber

Route Planner:

Peter Aylmer

Scientific Advisor: Cefas

Rob Jones, Romor Designs

Film: Fotis Begklis

Photography:

Mike Johnston

Design: Mark Massey



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PARTNERS



Inspirational London



RADICAL WALKS
PROGRAMME

BEACH OF DREAMS WILL BE
LAUNCHED AT KINETIKA'S HOME
BASE, HIGH HOUSE PRODUCTION
PARK, PURFLEET-ON-THAMES ON
13TH JUNE, AS PART OF ESTUARY 2021
ASSOCIATED PROGRAMME

