

NEW ROMNEY'S REVELATIONS

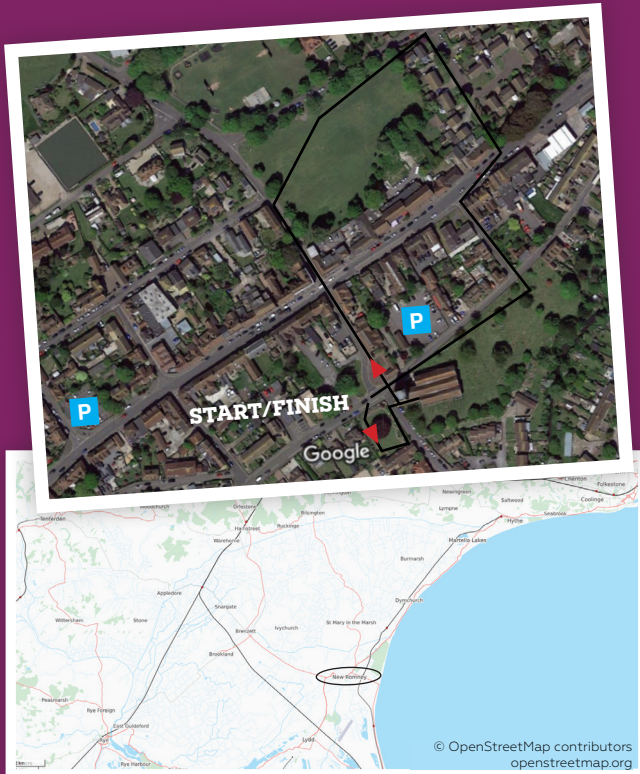


ROMNEY MARSH
— THE FIFTH CONTINENT —

Doorstep Discoveries

NEW ROMNEY'S REVELATIONS

- Hard surfaces ✓
- Views ✓
- Nature and Wildlife ✓
- Refreshments ✓
- History ✓
- Buggy Friendly ✓
- Family friendly ✓
- Interactive ✓



DESCRIPTION: This is an interactive walk around the delightful New Romney to reveal exactly what's on our doorstep! A family quiz trail searching for hidden clues to find out about New Romney's hidden past and the huge variety of wildlife, art and local history it has to offer.

THINGS TO TAKE OR KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: Paper, pen, glue stick or double sided tape, tape measure, camera and binoculars if you have them. Opening times of the Old School House Museum newromneyoldschool.co.uk. You may also want to visit the Romney Marsh Visitor Centre which has fascinating displays about the local area, nature trails and refreshments available with free parking. Visit kentwildlifetrust.org.uk for more information.

LENGTH OF WALK: 0.5 miles with optional extensions.

TERRAIN: Flat and hard surfaces.

PARKING: Plenty of parking along Church Road and in Church Road car park (pay and display TN28 8AR)

POSTCODE TO THE START OF THE WALK: TN28 8AS
Grid Reference: TR06502475

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: Nearest bus routes Stagecoach route 11 between Ashford/Lydd. Stagecoach 102 between Dover and Lydd. Fancy a journey with a difference? Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway station located 15 minutes walk away from the start point. Visit rhdr.org.uk for more information.

MAPS TO USE: OS Explorer map: 125 Romney Marsh, Rye and Winchelsea.

REFRESHMENTS: Available throughout the town at shops cafes and various pubs.

TOILETS: Public toilets can be found within the Church Road car park.

START/FINISH: St Nicholas Church, New Romney
(TN28 8AS)

INTERESTING FACT

Welcome to New Romney, a historical town full of hidden secrets! Did you know that before a great storm in 1287, New Romney was a busy port with ships coming in and out bringing huge amounts of cargo through the town! The storm nearly destroyed New Romney, moved the course of the River Rother 9 miles away and deposited huge amounts of shingle in the town. This changed the town forever, but still some clues can be found to reveal this massive secret...

1 Stand outside the entrance of the church looking towards the large doors. Behind you is a small garden called The Old School community garden. Find the entrance via a small metal gate and step inside to explore!

INTERESTING FACT

The beautiful Old School building was last used as a school in 1960s but unfortunately became too small and a bigger school was built on the other side of town. The Old School fell into disrepair but has now been restored to provide a community space and is occasionally open to view some of New Romney's important and rare artefacts hidden inside! Go to newromneyoldschool.co.uk to find out opening times.



Can you find a large heavy metal object hidden in the flower beds? What is it and what was it used for?

Draw it here.....

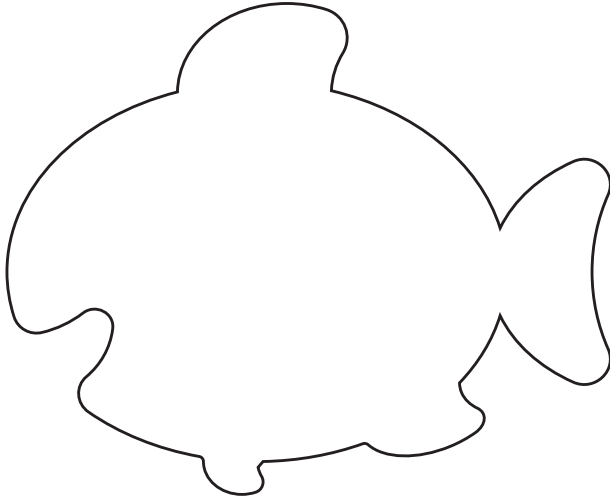
A large, empty white rectangular box with a thin purple border, intended for drawing a heavy metal object.

Can you find a mosaic of a white bird? What is it called? Which is your favourite mosaic?

Two horizontal lines, one above the other, for writing the name of the mosaic and the favourite one.



Using this fish template and some glue, use any natural pieces materials around you to make your own 'mosaic' (eg. small leaves for fish scales).



INTERESTING FACT



Marvellous mosaics! Mosaics are often pictures or works of art made up of smaller pieces of tiles or glass stuck together on a surface. Some of the oldest mosaics in the world are thought to be over 5000 years old!!!!



Why not take a photo of your masterpiece and share it on our Facebook page, @KentWildlife



2

Return to the outside of the church.



Can you find the entrance to St Nicholas Church? Notice anything strange about the levels of it?

INTERESTING FACT

The great storm of 1827 dumped huge amounts of shingle and silt around the town. A lot of it wasn't cleared up, just levelled out therefore many doorways around the town such as the ones into the church, had to have steps dug down through the silt to get inside them!





Can you find what's in this photograph?

Can you imagine the size and importance of the key?



3 Enter St Nicholas Church and have a good look around.

INTERESTING FACT

Welcome to St Nicholas church, built in 1140s and made from Caen stone with inspiration drawn from Canterbury cathedral. It was originally built on the harbour side before the storm and there were even anchoring hooks on the church walls to tie up your boat!



Oldest Graffiti?!

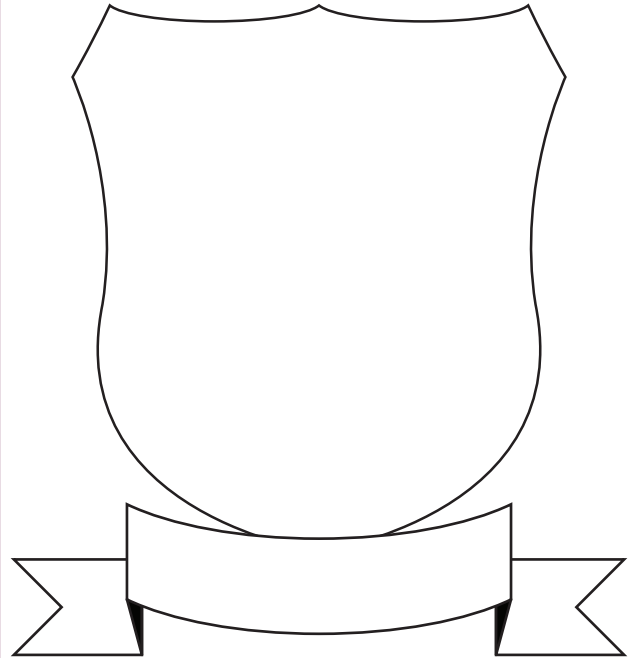
Taking care, can you find and take a photo of some stone graffiti on some of the columns? This graffiti could be over 800 years old!



Take a closer look at the stone columns. Are they all round? What shapes are they?



Looking at the many family coat of arms displayed around the church, on ceilings and floors, can you design your own coat of arms?



4 Exit the church and walk up the steps or ramp to the road. Opposite on the other side of the road you will see a long stone wall which is the side of a building which used to be an old abattoir.



Can you find the shell or fossil imprint in the wall?

Using your senses, what does the fossil feel like?

This is possibly an imprint of a fossil called an ammonite!



5 Return back to the crossroads and turn right up Church Approach, going towards the centre of New Romney.



Keep an eye out for the artwork on a wall on the opposite side of the road.

What animal features in both pictures?

6 Continue up the path on Church Approach towards the main road and carefully cross the main road (you may need to use the crossing) and then continue walking along Ashford Road towards St Martins Field.



Can you find the gargoyles on the side of the old Priory? How many gargoyles can you see?

Can you copy the face of your favourite gargoyle?

INTERESTING FACT

A gargoyle or 'grotesque' is usually a human or animal face carved in stone on the side of an old building and the mouths were often used to divert rainwater away from the buildings to prevent water damage. On some religious or historical buildings gargoyles were often used to symbolise beliefs or history and sometimes evil spirits!



7

Walk over to the centre of St Martins field to find the 'Human Sundial'.



Without using your watch, can you use the human sun dial to tell the time?

Stand on the month you are in. Hint: the months are roman numerals. Have a look at the table to find the right place to stand.

VII	VI	July	June
VIII	V	August	May
IX	IV	September	April
X	III	October	March
XI	II	November	February
XII	I	December	January

Your shadow will then point to the time on the smaller square tiles! Hint: this is in roman numerals once again... for extra help use the table below. You will see that there are even 2 sets of times to allow for daylight saving when the clocks change!

roman numerals	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII
o'clock	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

INTERESTING FACT

Sundials are an amazing, electricity free way of telling the time using the position of the sun! The oldest sun dial known is from Ancient Egypt made over 3500 years ago!

8

Walk over to the nearest bench towards the edge of the road.



Whose birthday does the bench commemorate?



Have extra time and fancy discovering more?

This is a point where you can visit the park! Just return back to this point to continue your quiz trail.



9

With your back to the bench, look around St Martins field to spot a large tree.



Hug a tree to tell its age!

There are some beautiful and really old trees around the edge of St Martins Field!

Can you calculate the circumference of a tree by measuring your arm span and then seeing how many hugs it takes to go all the way around the tree?



Type of tree → Number of hugs → Arm span (in cms) → Arm span x number of hugs → Divide by 2.5 → Equals the age of tree!

INTERESTING FACT

There are many ways to calculate the age of a tree. The most accurate is simply by counting a tree's annual growth rings inside when it is cut down. But we don't want to cut down every tree that we want to calculate the age of! So here we have chosen a simple method using averages. The average tree increases its circumference (distance all of the way round the tree trunk) an average of 2.5cm per year!

For more information and more accurate methods type 'calculating the age of a tree from its circumference' into your search engine.

10 Returning to face the bench from question 8, turn right and follow the line of trees along the edge of the field. Stop before you get to the last tree and have to change direction.

INTERESTING FACT

Did you know that St Martins Church, the oldest church of New Romney, was built where you are now standing on St Martins Field? However, many years ago the town was unable to afford the upkeep of 2 churches and unfortunately St Martins had fallen into such disrepair that it was eventually demolished in 1550.



Stick art!

Using natural materials such as leaves and sticks, can you create a piece of art which makes you think of New Romney.

Hint: it could be the church, or the swings, how you feel or perhaps The Great Storm which dramatically changed New Romney.



11

Continue your walk to leave St Martins Field by walking to the tarmac path which runs behind (north) the line of trees. Turn right along it to continue along Fairfield Road.



Can you spot this sign.

Can you fill in the missing word?

This is a

_____ watch area.

THIS IS A



AREA

12

Turn right and walk down Mabledon Close. Before the road swings round to the left, look out for the tree lined alleyway straight ahead which leads you back to the main road.



INTERESTING FACT

A lot of love for Lime trees! These trees either side of the alleyway are called lime trees (tilia). Not the green citrus fruit type of lime, but a group of broadleaf trees which are native to Britain and which are amazing for wildlife. Certain moths and their caterpillars depend on the leaves of the lime tree and the lime tree flowers provide a valuable nectar source for a whole host of insects. The more mature lime trees have lots of fantastic old hollows with pockets of dead wood which create the perfect habitat for a whole variety of plants and animals.



Have a close look at the lime trees lining this alleyway. What can you find living or growing on them.

Why not take a photo of your findings and share it on our Facebook page, @KentWildlife



Can you tell the time using a dandelion clock?

The seed head of a dandelion is known as a 'clock' because in the past children blew at the fluffy seed heads to tell the time! The number of puffs it would take to disperse all of the seeds would be the time!



13

Continue through the alleyway to reach the main road.

Have extra time and fancy discovering more?

This is a point where you can take a detour to visit Romney Marsh Visitor Centre which has fascinating displays, nature trails and refreshments. You can turn left at this point and continue along the main road for 1 mile (20-30 minute walk). Just return back to this point to continue your quiz trail.

14

At the main road turn right and walk until you reach the library.



Looking over the road, what colour is this door?

How many other things of this colour can you spot in the street?

Looking at the mural on the side of the library, what object is in the bottle?

INTERESTING FACT

The murals around New Romney is part of a project lead by The IMOS Foundation which was set up by local artist, writer and entrepreneur Briony Kapoor. The murals, which are scattered across the whole town of New Romney have been created by local, national and some international artists about the local area 'A Celebration of Romney Marsh.'. All about local people, landscapes, wildlife, literature, history, events. For more information visit imosfoundation.org/imos-murals

15

Cross over the road and head down Tritton Lane. At the end of the lane you will see a small wooden gate which leads into the churchyard. Go through the gate and turn right.

What is the most colourful thing you have seen on your walk?

Using your real of pretend magnifying glass, have a close look at the long wall on your right hand side. How many things can you see growing on the wall?



Brick and stone walls may be manmade structures, but they can still support a whole of plants and creatures... some rare!



Can you write an acrostic poem about your walk around New Romney?

N - _____

E - _____

W - _____

R - _____

O - _____

M - _____

N - _____

E - _____

Y - _____

INTERESTING FACT

An acrostic poem is a poem which uses the first letter of each sentence to spell out a word or name!
For example:

N- Never ending views

E- Excellent Wildlife

W- Etc Etc

Can you be the next poet of the Fifth Continent?!
Send it to us via our Facebook page, @KentWildlife

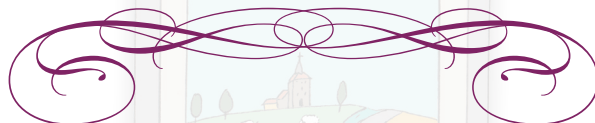
16

Continue walking along inside the churchyard with the wildlife wall on your right hand side. You will eventually end back at the entrance of the church and back at the beginning of the walk.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Certificate of Completion



This acknowledges that

has successfully completed the
Doorstep Discoveries -
New Romney's Revelations walk

discoveries

DATE _____



ANSWERS

1.2 | xxx

2.1 | x

HAVE YOU DONE THE DOORSTEP DISCOVERY THROUGH DYMCHURCH, IVYCHURCH, LYDD AND THE MILITARY CANAL YET?

If you enjoyed this walk then get your next copies and go exploring!



**REMEMBER TO UPLOAD YOUR PHOTOS
TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, AND KEEP
UPDATED FOR THE NEXT
DOORSTEP DISCOVERY.**

