

# THANK YOU

## to our Funders



Stronger Kent Communities  
A leading provider of support for the voluntary sector in Kent



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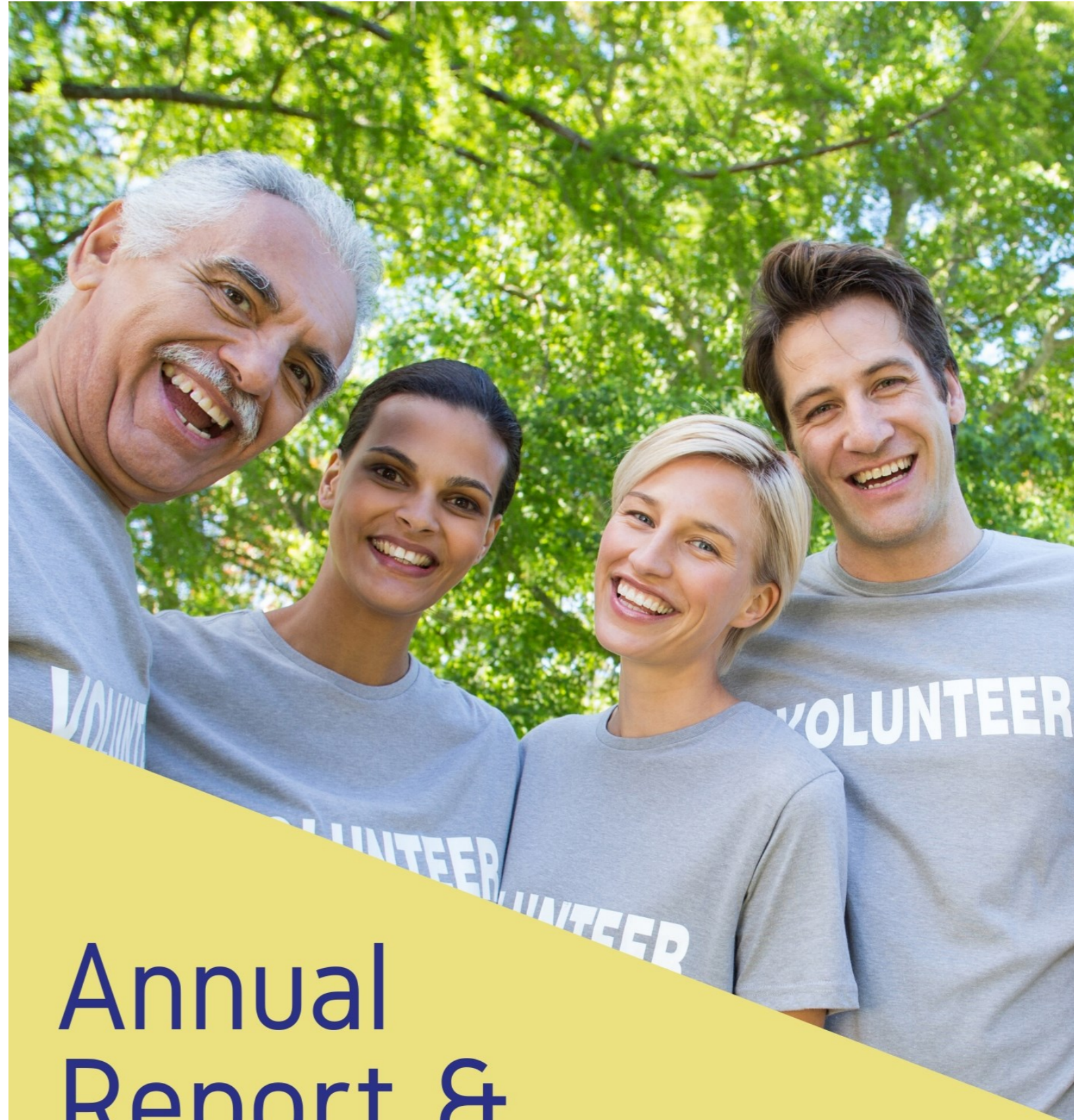
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Charity No: 1111800

Company Limited by Guarantee: 5392093



# Annual Report & Accounts

## 2018-2019 (Year 1)



**Kent Coast Volunteering**  
Connecting Communities In  
Dover, Thanet, Folkestone & Hythe



# WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Kent Coast Volunteering was formed as a result of an exciting merger in 2018 between three long standing Volunteer Centres situated along the East Kent Coast. Our services now cover the whole of the East Kent coastal area, from Margate to Dungeness, and we operate from three hubs: Thanet (the head office); Dover and Folkestone.

The merger was conceived in response to an increasingly challenging operational environment and is intended to enable us to strengthen and increase the already significant impact that we have, by taking advantage of economies of scale, pooling skills, and sharing ideas and innovations more easily across the three hubs.

The merger has called on both staff and volunteers to respond to new ways of working; meeting head on a variety of challenges. It is in no small way thanks to the herculean efforts of everyone involved that within just one year Kent Coast Volunteering is a recognised and respected organisation.

**Our Vision**  
Our vision is a future where Kent's coastal communities improve their quality of life – through the power of volunteering and social action.

**Our Mission**  
Our mission is to connect communities across Kent through volunteering and community-led projects;

supporting volunteers and volunteer involving organisations to meet needs and improve quality of life.

**We do this by.....**

- Being the 'go to' place for all volunteering matters in and around the Kent coast.
- Recruiting and placing volunteers where and when they are needed.
- Providing essential services that promote independent living.
- Supporting volunteer-involving organisations in strengthening their offer and infrastructure.
- Delivering community-based projects that contribute to all aspects of health and wellbeing.
- Working across all sectors to ensure that people are signposted to appropriate services.
- Promoting collaboration across all sectors for a joined-up approach to resolving community issues.

The work that we do is powered by an inspiring and professional staff team and the work that they do is made possible by the extraordinary dedication and tireless commitment of over 300 volunteers.

Over the last year 131 Volunteer drivers carried out

journeys, taking people to important medical appointments across Kent and London, or to attend regular day centre support services and over the gardens of over 442 less physically able people have been maintained by our volunteer Gardening Taskforce.

Across our new geographical area, our NCVO accredited Good Neighbours services have facilitated and supported over 145 Befriending Matches across between Volunteer Befrienders and isolated, lonely older people.

As Chairman and CEO it has been our privilege to lead the organisation and we both look forward to a future of sustained growth.

**Thank You**



**ELIZABETH SOMERS-JAMES**  
CHAIRMAN



**KERRY SMITH**  
CEO

# OUR PURPOSE AND OUR IMPACT



**709** Volunteer Organisations registered with  
**519** Opportunities listed on KCVs Simply Connect Platform



**193** ESV volunteers from  
**16** Employers volunteered for  
**1,200** Hours to support  
**89** VIOs across Dover, Thanet & Folkestone



**353** DBS requests processed  
**84** Organisations used our DBS service




**252** Volunteer Involving Organisations and  
**347** individuals attended the  
**4** SKC conferences coordinated by KCV



**442** Gardens maintained by a Taskforce of  
**16** Supported volunteers



**23,898** Journeys to and from essential medical and social appointments were carried out by  
**131** Volunteer drivers across Dover, Thanet & Folkestone



**528** Volunteer supported sessions at Paddlesworth Shed benefitted  
**71** Participants who attended



**145** Befriending matches across our GNS Service  
**153** Telephone befriending matches amounting to