

## Bookcase Bench

Hampton, Herne Bay

BENCH 1



### Margot Laureau

Built on the idea of creating a library, and telling history with books, the drawings are inspired by facts about Herne Bay mixed with fantasy illustrations that add poetry and humour.

I want people to know how the town developed during the last few hundred years. Made of wood, the bench is the shape of multiple piles of books. It is my recreation of a library. The bench was built on the idea of creating an installation where people sit and notice all the little details.

This bench is dedicated to Herne Bay's treasures.



Margot Laureau

## Sea-life Bench

Nuns' Huts, Western Esplanade Herne Bay

BENCH 2



### Nick Stewart

Driftwood oak, found along the north Kent coast, was used to build the framework for this bench. The top piece of the backrest was once a cleat on a wooden barge. It is visibly worn by mooring ropes from its years of service.

The two heavy pieces of 'Greenheart' which form the seat were recovered from a waterway in local woodland during conservation work. All joints are hand-cut mortice and tenons, secured with oak pegs to provide a rigid, long-lasting structure. Exposure to the weather will eventually impart a silvery-grey finish to the wood.

Nick Stewart



## Amy Johnson Bench

Pier entrance, Herne Bay

BENCH 3



### Jane Priston

This project appealed to me as a personal challenge and a complete change in scale and medium. As a ceramic artist my work is delicate and fragile. I was drawn to the idea of creating something large and strong. Having never worked with wood, I turned to Stephen Whiting of Firwood Fencing. Steve, an experienced fencer, had never built a plane. Undeterred, we embraced the challenge and succeeded. Our beautiful biplane delights everybody from budding pilots and wing walkers, to those who read the words I carved about the woman who inspires me to "believe nothing to be impossible".

Jane Priston

www.planejane.co.uk  
www.firwoodfencing.co.uk



## Flocking Bench

The Downs, Herne Bay

BENCH 4



### Catherine Francis-Yeats

I thought about the population of the shoreline and how consistently present the sea birds are so they became my subject. The idea of using the word 'Flocking', relates both to tourists in summer and the sea birds searching for food.

Benches are a place to rest but also to experience the often-fleeting highlights of the seashore. I wanted something to interact with these fleeting moments and provide a new way of observing what was already present by playing with the cast light. The curved shape was to reflect the nearby industrial shapes and encourage conversation while increasing visibility of the shoreline.



Catherine Francis-Yeats

## The Groyne Wood Bench

Bishopstone Glen, Herne Bay

BENCH 5



### Rob Turner

My bench is about the things seen on a dog walk from Bishopstone Glen to Reculver Towers and back. It celebrates local themes, landmarks and highlights the natural history of the area. It uses personal motifs to represent things seen on many dog walks along this stretch of coast line. The suggestion by Canterbury City Council to make the bench using 'groyne timber' used for the sea defences, adds another layer of local relevance and interest. This type of very hard wood did influence the way the bench was made, because of the sizes it is prepared in and the tools needed to work with it.



Rob Turner

## Love seat

Reculver Towers, Herne Bay

BENCH 6



### Jason Onion

This bench is in memory of a family friend, story teller and bird enthusiast, Bert Addley of Herne Bay. It is also dedicated to the many customers, couples and friends – including Bert – who enjoyed the original Macari's Ice Cream parlour 1931 to 2008.

It was designed and created by Jason Charles Onion, an original member of the Macari family. The bench is made from reclaimed hardwood that was once part of the original Victorian sea defences.



Jason Onion

## Coastal Park

Make the most of your coast



At the end of 2013 Herne Bay won £50,000 from the ITV and Big Lottery Peoples' Millions initiative and, together with additional funding from Canterbury City Council, the money was used to improve the Herne Bay Coastal Park. Improvements include new branded signage, improved accessibility, upgraded inclusive picnic areas and a community mural project.

As part of the project, six artists were commissioned to design and create six unique benches. The artists were asked to design and build a bench that is durable, unique and imaginative and celebrates an aspect or characteristic of Herne Bay. The benches form a trail from Hampton to Reculver.

Herne Bay Coastal Park is a Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Field and stretches from Hampton to Reculver. It is three miles of explorable coastline for everyone to enjoy - whether it's families, photographers, anglers, nature lovers or walkers.



LOTTERY FUNDED



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hernebaycoastalpark.org



## Coastal Park Herne Bay



