



PRESS RELEASE

Date: April 2009

For Immediate Release

Dorset Coastal Cottages supports another Jurassic Coast Trust project at Durlston Country Park

Dorset Coastal Cottages¹ has become a Jurassic Coast Trust² Project Sponsor, providing funding to support the operation of a seabird camera at Durlston Country Park. The camera sends live images from the cliff edge Guillemot colony to the Visitor Centre, which can also be viewed on the Durlston website.

The Trust supports a range of projects including; providing educational material, conservation, running workshops for people with special needs and organising beach cleans, as well as accessing larger funds for local community-based organisations and has already helped raise more than £150,000 to restore Durlston Castle and improve the Country Park⁴.

In addition to the larger grants, the Jurassic Coast Trust's support for Durlston through their *Project Sponsors* has enabled a number of smaller projects to go ahead such as packs for schools and other educational material.

Dorset Coastal Cottages have already raised in excess of £1,000 for the Jurassic Coast Trust's projects, by offering their customers the opportunity to make a voluntary donation, which Dorset Coastal Cottages then increase to match the required funds for the chosen project.

Owner Charles Smith says, *"Our clients have voted with their purses to support the Jurassic Coast. We chose the guillemot webcam project at Durlston because our clients often tell us about their happy times on holiday there. The views are stunning and it's a wonderful place for children to see wildlife and appreciate the beauty of nature."*

The chairman of the Jurassic Coast Trust, James Weld says *"The guillemot webcam is the latest addition to a growing number of educational tools the Trust supports, and this facility means live viewing of the largest colony in the area of about 400 birds."*

James Weld continues *"The Trust now has more than 19 Project Sponsors, which range from very small, to large local businesses, and if you are not one of these we hope you will consider joining the Jurassic Coast Trust to support such a worthwhile project as this."*

There are many ways in which you can help the work and activities of the Jurassic Coast Trust in its endeavour to help visitors and local communities maintain, educate and enjoy the World Heritage Site. Funds are raised through different levels of support and membership; either as an Individual or Family Friend, Local Business, Project, or Corporate Sponsor, or even as a volunteer. The Trust relies on your donations and assistance to help with the many projects they support.

For more information on how you can support the Trust or become a member please contact Executive Officer Nikki Greenleaf on 01460 242780 or visit www.jurassiccoasttrust.org

To watch live images of Durlston's Guillemots, visit www.durlston.co.uk and click on 'Webcam'.

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Notes to Editor:

1. Note 1: Dorset Coastal Cottages is a self-catering holiday cottage company owned and managed by Charles and Jennie Smith. They have over 150 self-catering properties on their books. For further information please contact Heloise D'Souza or Alicen Dines, Watershed PR Tel 01308 420785. Email heloise@watershedpr.co.uk or alicen@watershedpr.co.uk
2. Note 2: The Jurassic Coast Trust (formerly The World Heritage Coast Trust) was established in 2002, Registered Charity Number 1101134. The Trust provides support for a diverse range of education, conservation, science and arts projects, which help local people and visitors to enjoy and understand the geological history and beauty of the site. For more information about the Trust visit www.jurassiccoasttrust.org
3. Note 3: 185 million years of geological history forms England's first natural UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Jurassic Coast of Dorset and East Devon, which covers 95 miles of stunning coastline from Old Harry Rocks at Studland in the East to Orcombe Point in Exmouth in the West, was given this prestigious status in 2001. For further information about the Jurassic Coast visit www.jurassiccoast.com
4. Note 4: Durlston Country Park is located near Swanage at the eastern gateway to the World Heritage Jurassic Coast, set in 280 acres of countryside. It is a National Nature Reserve managed by Dorset County Council and also has a unique legacy of the Victorian age - Durlston Castle, which was built in 1891 by local stone merchant George Burt. For more information visit www.durlston.co.uk