

Wild Cornwall

Cornwall
Wildlife Trust



ISSUE 135 SPRING 2018

Boiling seas

Fish in a frenzy

A future for wildlife in Cornwall

Our new CE looks ahead

Wildlife Celebration

FREE ENTRY to
Caerhays gardens

Clues in the grass

Woven nests reveal
a tiny rodent

Including pull-out
diary of events

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location map & contact details:
[https://beachrangers.com/
community/your-shore-network/](https://beachrangers.com/community/your-shore-network/)



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Image: © Steve Marshall 2010

Cornwall Wildlife Trust

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Rowena Millar

We begin the first issue of 2018 by thanking Trevor Edwards for his hugely successful 37 years with Cornwall Wildlife Trust. The Trust owes a massive debt of gratitude to Trevor, who was

our Director from 1987 to 2017. Our Vice-president of Council Dr Nick Tregenza gave a heartfelt tribute and overview of Trevor's achievements at the Trust's AGM and Discovery Day in November. An extract from this tribute can be found on page 7.

We also heartily welcome the Trust's new CEO, Carolyn Cadman. With a wealth of experience in marine and landscape leadership and policy roles, Carolyn brings with her a fresh and vibrant approach to the Trust's work and its visions for the future. On page 7, she gives her personal perspective on how the Trust plans to meet the challenges ahead, working towards a better future for Cornwall's wildlife and wild places.

With spring in the air, we have a host of inspiring wildlife projects and activities to read about, including exciting news about marine life, from bottlenose dolphins to mega-shoals bringing huge tuna to our coasts. Find out why these are such thrilling times to be out in wild Cornwall. You never know what you might discover.

Do join in if you haven't taken the plunge already, whether you prefer monitoring wildlife, giving practical help outdoors, or coming along to beautiful Open Gardens (back page) as well as the magnificent gardens and beach at Caerhays Estate, who are hosting our Wildlife Celebration on May 20th this year. We will have birds, bats and beasts, wildlife walks, rockpool rambles and advice from the best of Cornwall's wildlife experts.

We are lucky to have special guests this year - Gillian Burke from Springwatch, and the student animation team behind PocketPals, an interactive wildlife app. A free entry form for readers of this magazine can be found on page 22. Hope to see you there.

Rowena Millar, Editor

in this issue



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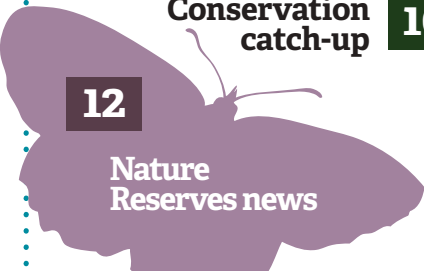
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Harvest mouse on cow parsley
Cover photo © David Chapman

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Seas alive!



Matt Slater
Marine Awareness
Officer

Never in recent memory have our seas been so alive with shoals of small bait fish. These mega-shoals and their impressive predators have been seen all around Cornwall during summer and autumn – sights you would only expect

to see on Blue Planet II, writes Matt Slater.

I first witnessed these massive shoals up the Percuil creek on the Fal estuary. One hot, quiet July evening on a flooding tide, the sea changed colour and began to 'boil'. With mask and snorkel I saw millions of small, shiny fish swimming into the curved bay. At the surface, the water was broken by larger fish – bass and mackerel – which were charging into the dense shoal.

Huge shoals of small, midwater fish such as sardines, sprats and herrings are now a common feature of our local seas. And with these bait fish come bigger predators. Reports to Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Seaquest Southwest project show an increase in sightings of feeding frenzies around our coast, involving common dolphins, porpoises, gannets, and even porbeagle sharks.

A huge fish

There was shock when a 2-metre long Atlantic bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) washed ashore at Cawsands in 2014. Since then, for the past three summers, sightings of large numbers of bluefin tuna feeding off our coasts have flooded in. People ask, "Is this due to global warming?" Sea temperatures are rising but surprisingly, these fish have

always been seasonal visitors to the cold waters of the British Isles. In fact, in the 1920s there was even a sport fishery for this species in the North Sea. But before 2014 they had been virtually absent in Cornish waters for over 50 years.

Prized for sushi, bluefin tuna are one of the most valuable seafoods and have been hunted mercilessly. Stocks reached record lows in the 1970s. International conservation efforts, including a 50% cut in overall quotas for the Atlantic bluefin tuna in 2009, and a crackdown on its illegal and unreported fishing, has likely helped the population to partially recover in the eastern Atlantic. Worryingly, the quota has been increased again close to pre-2009 levels, so the future of this valuable species is far from certain.

Climate change may have more of a part to play in why we are seeing more small, pelagic (open ocean) fish. Cornwall is on a crossroads where the warm Gulf Stream mixes with cooler northern waters. The recent strong influx of southern species such as sardine and anchovy provides an abundant food source for predators such as bluefin tuna.



DAVID HALE

One of the last recorded landings of a bluefin tuna in Cornwall was by Percy 'Powder' Thurburn at Frenchman's Creek in 1910. Photo courtesy of David Hale



Underwater photographer Henley Spiers was incredibly lucky to witness a tuna feeding frenzy at first hand underwater, and is one of the first people ever to experience this in our waters



...Seas alive

Tom Horton, the Trust's Seaquest Southwest volunteer coordinator in 2014, has been studying bluefin tuna off the British Isles for the past four years. Together with academics from the University of Exeter and the Centre for Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), Tom and the team hope to electronically tag bluefin tuna in Cornish waters in 2018, to understand more about their movements, spawning behaviour and the threats they face.

Some good news

The return of large numbers of pelagic fish is important to our fishing industry as well as for wildlife, and fisheries such as the sardine ring net fishery are doing

very well. It is a local fishery and relatively small, but at present there are no limitations on the amount of fish they can take. More research is needed to ensure we fish sustainably, but there appears to be no immediate danger. If you like seafood, Cornish sardines are on the Cornwall Good Seafood Guide recommended list. Find out more at www.cornwallgoodseafoodguide.org.uk.

Bluefin tuna cannot be targeted by local fishermen as the UK currently holds no quota. It's nice that they're holidaying here in Cornwall! Let's hope that these incredible sights become even more commonplace. It's an exciting time to be a marine biologist in Cornwall.

Get in touch



To report marine wildlife sightings, please visit www.orks.org.uk

To contact the team working on bluefin tuna at the University of Exeter, please contact

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Tom Horton at t.horton@exeter.ac.uk.

Get involved

Join us on a sea watch with Seaquest South West: www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/seaquest

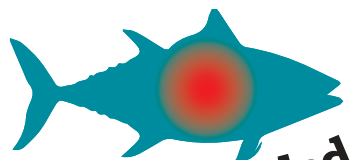
Get underwater and record marine life with Seasearch Cornwall. Find out more at www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/seasearch.

Bluefin

62 miles
per hour



Bluefin tuna can **travel as fast as 62 miles per hour** and never stop swimming, as they rely on ram ventilation to keep their blood oxygenated.



warm blooded

Bluefin tuna are effectively warm-blooded, having efficient heat exchange systems in their gills and muscles, allowing them to increase their internal temperature and function effectively in cold water.

facts

40 years



3.5 metres

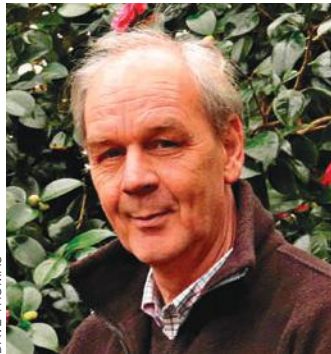


680kg

Bluefin tuna can live for up to 40 years and are the largest of the tuna family, growing to 3.5 metres in length and weighing up to 680kg – nearly three-quarters of a tonne.

The species spends much of its time **travelling vast distances** around the ocean, largely following its food.

In gratitude to Trevor Edwards on his retirement



DAVE THOMAS

Trevor Edwards first worked for Cornwall Wildlife Trust in 1980 and was our Conservation Officer, Director and CEO for two-thirds of the Trust's entire existence.

Trevor secured grants, brought people in and began the consultancy work that developed into Cornwall Environmental Consultants (CEC). Despite recessions and major funding difficulties, he enabled the Trust to develop numerous valuable projects and hugely expand and develop its staff teams, volunteers and membership.

Trevor has said repeatedly that he felt deeply privileged to work with such a great staff and feels justifiably satisfied that the Trust has made a real difference in many ways.

Trevor's clear thinking, depth of knowledge, and good judgment have won him immense respect. He hands over the Trust in very good shape. But that is not the end of his legacy. Trevor has been working on forward-looking issues, and he feels that Cornwall now has an increasingly positive view of environmental issues, embodied in its environmental growth strategy. If we can play an effective part in bringing that to fruition it will be of huge benefit to the environment, and Cornwall will be leading rather than following.



Nick Tregenza,
Vice-President of Council,
Cornwall Wildlife Trust

From our new Chief Executive

I am delighted to have landed my 'dream job' as the new Chief Executive of Cornwall Wildlife Trust.

It has been a real privilege to meet the passionate and dedicated staff, trustees, members, volunteers and partners who all want a better future for Cornwall's natural environment. And with Cornwall's amazing coasts, countryside and culture, my aim is for us to become the most vibrant Wildlife Trust in the country!

I would like to build on all that the Trust has achieved since it was set up in 1962 – in particular, ensuring that new and exciting volunteering opportunities are available for people of all ages and from all backgrounds.

We will continue to work with our partners to create bigger, better and more interconnected wildlife-rich areas as part of our contribution to Cornwall's ambition for environmental growth.

Our biggest opportunity is securing a positive future for Cornwall's natural environment. Protection needs to be embedded firmly in policies and legislation, as Stephanie Hilbourne, CE

of The Wildlife Trusts, points out on page 37.

Some key challenges:

- **Farm subsidies will alter following Brexit and government policy changes. We expect more focus on providing space for nature, clean water, carbon storage and healthy soils. We are working with others, here in Cornwall and nationally, to influence policy decisions in support of Cornwall's wildlife and wild places.**
- **2017 saw an unusually high number of dolphin strandings. We (with our partners) are gathering data to help determine why and inform effective interventions.**
- **We will begin vaccinating badgers on our nature reserves this summer as a partner in the Zoological Society of London's research project in West Cornwall. We seek evidence that will persuade landowners to choose vaccination in preference to culling as the primary method of controlling bovine tuberculosis in badgers.**

We are also exploring how the environment contributes to health and wellbeing, how new housing

developments can be designed to encourage wildlife, and how to connect children and young people with nature. We want to continue working with those who have the biggest impact on the everyday management of Cornwall's living landscapes and living seas – farmers, landowners and the fishing industry.

Finally, join us at our Wildlife Celebration day at Caerhays gardens on May 20th to celebrate the wildlife and wild places of Cornwall (see page 22). See you there!

Carolyn Cadman,
CE, Cornwall
Wildlife Trust



The harvest mouse

nature's tiny treasure



Liz Cox
Upstream Thinking
Ecologist

Europe's smallest rodent can be found in rural Cornwall. Liz Cox reports.

In 2017 harvest mice were discovered at three new sites, through the Trust's Upstream Thinking farm wildlife surveys. Andrew and Debbie Collinson, landowners near Mabe, were absolutely delighted to learn that their land was home to this minuscule and most secretive of mice.

Once a very common sight around cereal fields, particularly at harvest time, harvest mice are now more likely to be found in field edges, tussocky grassland or reedbeds. Loss of habitat and intensification of farming have played a role in this decline, which is why the Trust's land advisory work is so important. On sites where we have found nests, the landowners are now not only aware that they have harvest mice but also happy to work with us and follow our advice on how best to manage these areas for them.

The harvest mouse is truly tiny, weighing only 6–8g, the same as a 20p piece, and measuring 5–7cm nose to tail. Even its scientific name, *Micromys minutus*, means 'tiny small mouse'. It can climb among grass and plant stems without bending them. The remarkable prehensile tail is used for balance and wrapping around stems whilst climbing, or as an emergency brake to stop a fall.

Harvest mice usually breed from May to October, building nests 30–60cm off the ground, amongst the stems of tussock-forming grasses like cock's-foot. The female spends three days nest building, shredding grass by pulling it through her teeth, before intricately weaving a tennis-ball-sized nest supported by living stems of grass. Harvest mice often have three litters of three to eight babies a year, born blind and naked, weighing only 0.6g and looking like pink raisins. Their mother gradually supplements her milk with chewed up, regurgitated seeds. From 11 days old the now fully furred babies venture out of the nest, becoming independent at around 15 days.

In the winter, as vegetation dies back, harvest mice come down to the ground, building smaller nests at ground level in places like the base of vegetation tussocks, crevices or old vole runs. Harvest mice don't hibernate as such but will sleep for long periods of time foraging only in milder weather.

People often picture harvest mice munching on an ear of corn, but they are actually omnivores. As well as seeds, their diet includes shoots, blackberries and insects like aphids and blackfly. They have many predators, from owls and weasels to domestic cats; even toads have been known to take newborn harvest mice! Despite these perils, we can give nature's tiny treasures a fighting chance by protecting their habitat and hidden homes.

MAIN IMAGE. Harvest mouse on an umbellifer in summer. **1.** A harvest mouse nest in reeds. **2.** A harvest mouse nest in the hand. **3.** Harvest mouse on corn, using its prehensile tail. **4.** Harvest mouse gathering teasel seeds for food.



MARATHA COWELL



LIZ COX



DAVID CHAPMAN



CHARLES THODY

9 things

you can do to help harvest mice:

- 1. Keep rough, tussocky grass or field edges.**
Harvest mice need robust tussocks of grass that are at least 3 or 4 years old to build their nests in, so allowing areas like this to develop is vital.
- 2. Do not cut all your tussocky areas at once**
Cutting all your tussocky areas at the same time would leave nowhere for harvest mice to nest. Instead, rotate your management, cutting a different quarter each year.
This ensures suitable nesting habitat is always available, whilst preventing scrub from taking over.
- 3. Send in your records.**
Harvest mice are under-recorded, and you can help build a better picture of their distribution by telling us about any nests, cat kills or sightings using the Online Recording Kernow and Scilly website, www.ORKS.org.uk.
For help with identification, contact our Wildlife Information Service on **(01872) 302254**.
- 4. Spread the word.**
Many people don't know they have harvest mice, so please check your land, and pass these tips on to your neighbours to help keep a safe habitat for these mammals.

Mammal Appeal news

Our 'Protecting Cornwall's Mammals' Appeal raised a fantastic **£10,396**. Thanks to your generous donations:

Beaver monitoring and data gathering continues, as the pair build Cornwall's first beaver lodge in over 500 years.

Badger surveys have been carried out on all our nature reserves in the two North Cornwall cull zones. The data has been processed by ERCCIS (Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly), with badger territories mapped and population sizes estimated, ready to vaccinate badgers later this year (subject to additional funding).

Dormouse boxes are on order, and wider nest box surveys will be carried out this year.

Hedgehog hotspots in Cornwall are being assessed using ERCCIS data, with Trust staff and our partners working together on a Cornwall Hedgehog Action Plan through Operation Hedgehog. Hedgehog events for the public will be held, so we can all do our bit to help.

Bat work over the winter has involved clearing new woodland rides for flight corridors and habitat links, and restoring broadleaved woodland to provide more insects for food and bat homes.

Mammal-themed family events will be held through 2018, and we have produced brand new mammal factsheets as part of our Wildlife Watch work. See www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/downloads.

Our Conservation Manager Tom Shelley is contributing to Cornwall Council's planning strategy, to include vital measures for mammals such as hedgehog holes in the fences of new housing estates. You can find more details about this important work at: www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/protectingcornwallsmammals.

£10,396 raised

Conservation catch-up

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Cheryl Marriott
Head of Conservation

Our Head of Conservation, Cheryl Marriott, brings us up to date with the Trust's news from our Living Landscape and Living Seas projects. For news on marine strandings and bottlenose dolphins, see pages 15 and 30.

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Great news: our Beaver project was featured in BBC Wildlife Magazine. It's the first beaver reintroduction to provide 'before and after' scientific data, which will provide valuable evidence to inform policy, and demonstrate how working collaboratively with farmers can benefit our landscape and waterways.

Cornwall Beaver Project in BBC Wildlife Magazine

The Cornwall Beaver Project was featured in *BBC Wildlife magazine* in February. Gillian Burke, who filmed the project for Autumnwatch in 2017, wrote the article, in which Chris Jones, the farmer at the centre of the Woodland Valley Farm trial, and partner with Cornwall Wildlife Trust and Exeter University, provides an honest insight into the reality of living with these semi-aquatic animals. See www.cornwallwildlifetrust.com/beaverproject.



ReFILL campaign promoted in Cornwall

All local marine groups are now selling refillable water bottles thanks to YSBR funding, and working with their communities to reduce the use of single-use plastic bottles by promoting the ReFILL campaign, and providing places where people can refill their own bottles. Visit their Facebook page, 'Refill Cornwall'.



Cornwall helps shape national Marine Strategy

Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Marine team has fed into a national Marine Strategy launched by The Wildlife Trusts. The strategy identifies the key challenges we feel the Government must address before the UK leaves the European Union.

Read more under 'Living Seas' on our website.

Three Bays Wildlife Group launched

The Three Bays Wildlife Group was launched towards the end of 2017, joining the 14 other local marine groups in the Your Shore Network supported by the Trust's Your Shore Beach Rangers (YSBR) Project. This new group will cover the 'Three Bays' between Caerhays and Charlestown. Look out for the fantastic events organised by the Your Shore Network during 2018 at <https://beachrangers.com/events>.

CORNWALL COUNCIL HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SERVICE



Penwith Landscape Partnership secures National Lottery grant

In December we received the fantastic news that we have secured £2,529,100 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to host the First and Last – Our Living Working Landscape programme. Thanks to money raised by National Lottery players, the partnership has a significant opportunity to conserve, protect and enhance Penwith's ancient farming landscape and field systems, its archaeology and natural environment for future generations. <http://www.penwithlandscape.com>.



CORNWALL WILDLIFE TRUST

Farmers soiling their undies competition

The Trust's Upstream Thinking team is working with farmers to improve soil health on farms around Drift Reservoir near Penzance. A fun competition has been launched to raise awareness and see which farm has the healthiest soil. Cotton underpants have been buried on various farms and whichever pair has the most holes when it is dug up a few months later is the winner!



GYLLYBEACHCAFE

Gylly Beach Café signs up for sustainable seafood

The award-winning Gylly cafe in Falmouth is the latest business to sign up to the Cornwall Good Seafood Guide. This brings the total number of Cornwall Good Seafood Guide business supporters to 70! Please help spread the word and encourage visitors and locals alike to make the best choice and eat local Cornish fish that's fished in a sustainable way. Just ask your favourite restaurant or fishmonger if they know about our seafood guide.



CORNWALL SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Award-winning Looe Bathing Waters Project

The Trust hosts the Looe Bathing Waters Project on behalf of all the organisations that belong to the Looe Bathing Water Quality Partnership. We were thrilled to accept the Highly Commended award in the Community Resilience category of the Cornwall Sustainability Awards. www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/eastlooeproject.

Environmental growth for business

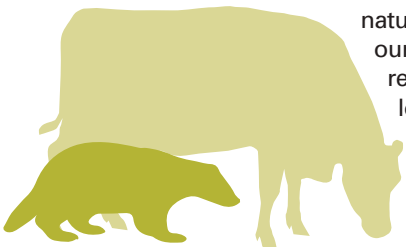
The Trust is a delivery partner in a University of Exeter-hosted project, Environmental Growth for Business. The project will enable us to work with businesses of all kinds to help them improve their environmental performance; from creating and maintaining wildlife habitats to energy generation and use, waste and recycling.

Perranporth Catchment Project

The Trust will be working with Farmers in the Perranporth area during 2018 as part of a South West Water scheme of work in and around the town. We will be working with farmers to improve the stream water quality that feeds into Perranporth's bathing water.

Badger vaccination in north Cornwall

Plans to begin vaccinating badgers on our north Cornwall nature reserves are progressing well. Tom Shelley, our Conservation Manager, has surveyed the sites in readiness for ordering vaccine and organising the logistics. The work is subject to successful fundraising. For information on the project see www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/living-landscapes and click on 'Badgers and Bovine TB', where we have outlined three ways to raise the profile of badger vaccination.



Nature reserves news

Nowodhow an gwithvaow natur



Seán O'Hea



Nick Marriott



Peter Kent

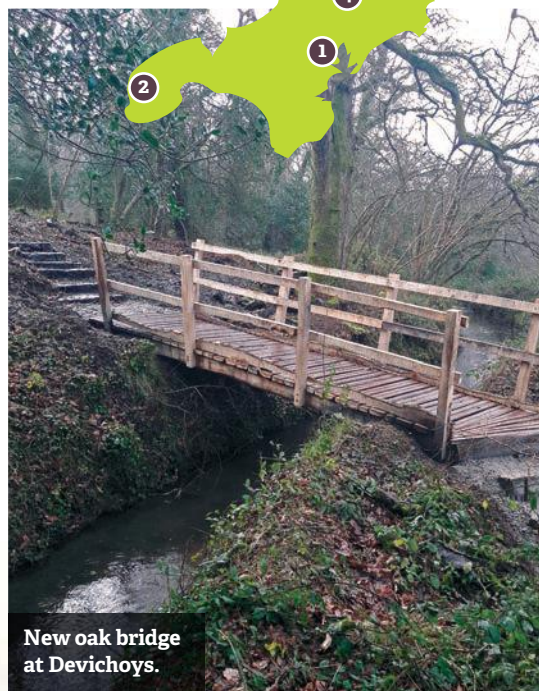
Our Reserve Managers Seán O'Hea, Nick Marriott and Peter Kent bring us up to date on what's happening in the Trust's 57 nature reserves.

Devichoys Wood – a legacy for moths and butterflies ¹

A lot of work has taken place recently at Devichoys Wood Nature Reserve near Penryn, thanks to a generous legacy from John Barrington Cooke and his family. The money was donated to the Trust in memory of John and it was decided that it would be used at Devichoys Wood, where John spent a lot of time moth trapping.

The work has been targeted at improving the woodland habitat for moths and butterflies by opening up ancient rides and linking woodland with riverside meadows. This has created greater structural diversity and connectivity for birds, bats and insects, with an added bonus: a new waymarked trail for visitors. The extra loop of the Devichoys Wood footpath takes you across the leat via a new bridge and into Perran Meadows. New gates, steps and signs are being installed and the tracks and footpaths have all been upgraded.

This legacy has provided long-term sustainable support for our woodland management, as we have used some of the fund to invest in forestry equipment to help extract timber from our small woodlands. The new equipment, along with a partnership with a Community Wood Fuel Project, means that we can continue with small-scale woodland habitat management for years to come.



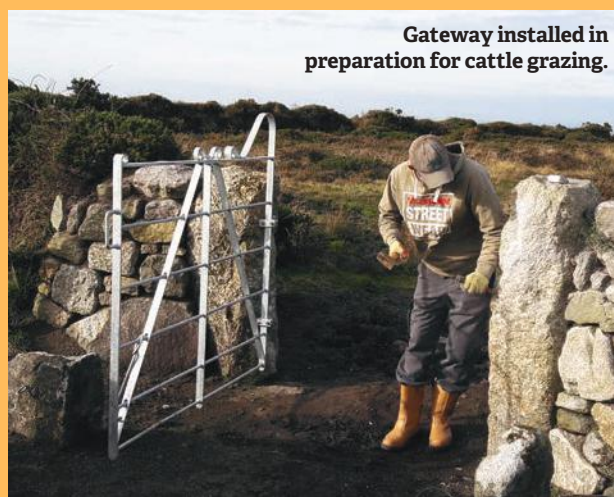
New oak bridge at Devichoys.

NICK MARRIOTT

Bartinney – bigger, better and more joined up ²

Bartinney Nature Reserve in Penwith has recently received some post-winter attention. Hay cuts have been taken, ponds dug, dilapidated wooden stiles replaced with granite stiles, Cornish hedges rebuilt, metal Penwith-style bridle gates installed and cattle grazing reintroduced. A management milestone has been achieved: installing pedestrian and site management access through a hedge, linking together Bartinney and Caer Brân Nature Reserves for the first time.

Taking a hay cut from the acid grassland and then 'aftermath grazing' with cattle will produce a bumper crop of flowers this summer, providing pollen for the rare tormentil mining bee and its cleptoparasite (food stealer), the tormentil nomad bee. If visiting the site this spring, be sure to look out for cuckoos amongst the grassland, feeding on large, hairy caterpillars.



Gateway installed in preparation for cattle grazing.

NICK MARRIOTT



Make way for wildflowers at Greena Moor ³

At the end of November the East Cornwall Reserves Team spent a day with Plantlife at Greena Moor Nature Reserve at Week St Mary, near Bude. We focused our efforts on clearing bracken from an area where upright vetch (*Vicia orobus*) has been recorded. It is hoped that reducing the biomass on this north-facing slope will improve floral diversity and give the upright vetch a better chance to thrive.

Over the coming months we will continue to work with Plantlife on new projects which have developed as part of their recent purchase of neighbouring land, extending the reserve by another 19 hectares.

Once part of a larger area of mire and moor, Greena Moor has one of the last swathes of Culm grassland in north Cornwall and is also home to Cornwall's Coronation Meadow – a great place to visit in the summer months.



Habitat restoration at Helman Tor ⁴

This spring we are planning a major habitat restoration project at Helman Tor Nature Reserve in mid-Cornwall. At the time of writing we are waiting for final confirmation from Natural England, who we hope will fund the work through an ambitious new Countryside Stewardship agreement. The project will build upon work carried out in recent years to maintain the key wildlife habitats we already have there, such as heathland and fen wetlands where the rare marsh fritillary butterfly lives.



View from Helman Tor over Breney Common, showing how scrub woodland has isolated areas of open habitat.

SEAN O'HEA

We plan to clear areas of willow scrub woodland, which has grown across the site, preventing the marsh fritillary from moving between areas of suitable habitat. Many other types of wildlife will benefit from the work, such as the rare fern pillwort, which needs light and thin soils to grow. We will carry out archaeological, ecological and hydrological appraisals to finalise the details in the first half of 2018 before, starting work on the ground this coming autumn.

JOE COSTLEY

Clearing bracken with Plantlife at Greena Moor.

Your spring sightings

Spring is an inspiring time to discover what's around you, and you can help wildlife whilst doing so. You can now report your sightings direct from the great outdoors, as Laura Fox and Nic Harrison-White of our Wildlife Information Service explain.

Everyone has their own idea of what signifies the first day of spring. Did you make a note of the first wild daffodil or butterfly you saw, or the first chiffchaff you heard singing? If so, we want to know. Recording is one of the easiest ways to help wildlife. By collecting together every bluebell record or slow-worm sighting, we can build a picture of how Cornwall's wildlife is faring, and work out how best to conserve it.

The information we gather is put to a multitude of good uses, from informing local or national organisations about how best to save a species to helping landowners write management plans to encourage wildlife on their land. Every record contributes to the bigger picture, helping us better understand changes in habitats and species distribution locally and globally.

Do you listen out for the song of the chiffchaff each spring?

Spring recording ideas

- **First swallow of the year; swifts or house martins nesting.** Even house sparrows are important.
- **Wildflowers at your local nature reserve, from bluebells to orchids.**
- **Hedgehogs and other mammals visiting your garden – even rabbits and squirrels.**
- **Flowers coming up on the headlands. Have you seen spring squill, for instance?**

If you think it's interesting, so will we. It is now even easier to let us know about your sightings, especially if you have a smartphone. Our recording website, Online Recording Kernow and Scilly (ORKS), has proved a popular place for people to share their sightings and photos.



Nic Harrison-White



Laura Fox

New app for Cornish wildlife while you're out and about

We are launching a new Cornish wildlife app for ORKS, so you can record your wildlife sightings on the go. It lets you:

- add records and photos while out in the wild. Your phone's GPS capabilities will pinpoint your location, and can be adjusted if your sighting is some distance away.
- review, manage and edit records you've already submitted via the app.

You can do all this even if you have no signal or data, as you can choose to upload your changes once you get back home and connect to wifi.

The new app is available to download for free via the Google Play or App Store. Why not get outside and give it a try?

The Wildlife Information Service is here to help you with your wildlife questions, from identifying species to

A circular graphic with a blue border. At the top, it says "Tell us what you see!". Below that, it says "Your wildlife sightings provide vital information for research and conservation". In the center, the ORKS logo is displayed, with "ORKS" in large, stylized letters. Below the logo, it says "Online Recording Kernow and Scilly" and "www.ORKS.org.uk". At the bottom, it says "DOWNLOAD THE ORKS APP". To the right of the circle, there is an illustration of a smartphone and a tablet.

encouraging wildlife in your garden. If you have anything you would like to ask us, we are only a phone call or email away: (01872) 273939, option 3 or www.ercis.org.uk/WIS.

The **worst** marine strandings for 15 years



Emma Miller
Fundraising Officer

Dolphins and porpoises are some of our most majestic and awe-inspiring marine mammals, and we are lucky enough to see them regularly around our Cornish coasts. Tragically, we see them far too often washed ashore, stranded on our beaches.

2017 was a devastating year for our dolphins and porpoises. A total of 249 cetaceans were recorded as marine strandings along the Cornish coastline. This figure is alarmingly high: the highest recorded since 2003, when 255 dolphins and porpoises were stranded.

Furthermore, scientists estimate that only 5–10% of these animals dying at sea ever get washed ashore, meaning last year the total off Cornwall could be closer to a loss of between 2,490 and 4,980 individual animals. These beautiful marine mammals really do deserve better and Cornwall Wildlife Trust wants to stop this happening.

Our Marine Strandings Network records stranded dolphins and porpoises and provides us with vital information to help determine causes of death and identify threats to their survival. Based on research to date, among the key local threats is accidental entanglement in fishing nets, known as bycatch, which can be recognised from specific injuries such as encircling marks, cuts to the fins and mouth, and broken beaks. This can be from the larger offshore pelagic trawl vessels, and we know bycatch also happens in local inshore nets. But there are other causes of death such as pollution, starvation and even deadly bullying by bigger animals which results in broken bones, bruising and serious cuts called 'rake' marks.

In order to take action, we must establish whether there is a specific fisheries problem or other factors causing the unusually high numbers of stranded dolphins this past year. Only by analysing our data, together with fisheries and other environmental data will we know enough.

With the funds we are raising through our recently launched Marine Strandings Appeal, we can endeavour to gather this strong supporting evidence, which will allow us to take effective action.

Some of these threats we can't do anything about, but there are simple solutions to others, such as bycatch mitigation in the form of 'pingers', which are acoustic deterrent devices on fishing nets. We also want to influence policy decisions to better protect these magnificent creatures.

0345 201 2626

Marine Strandings hotline

Cornwall Wildlife Trust runs **Cornwall's Marine Strandings Network**, which has a team of over **100 dedicated volunteers** and mans a **24-hour, 7-days-a-week** hotline taking calls from people when they find a stranded animal on the coast. We then send trained volunteers to record every animal we possibly can, gathering crucial information to help determine why these animals died. We have been unable to process the vast amount of data collected this year! The workload is overwhelming.

Donate

If you would like to contribute to this project, every donation brings us closer to saving these majestic creatures and your support would be greatly appreciated.

You can **help by texting STRA18 £3, £5 or £10 to 70070 now**, to donate to Cornwall Wildlife Trust and make a difference today. Donations can also be made via www.justgiving.com/cornwallwildlifetrust.

“ Marine mammal strandings can have natural causes but, increasingly, human activity is behind these tragic events. The Marine Strandings Network is a well-organised and highly effective project that is not only shedding light on the problem, but giving us the means to do something about it. ”



Gillian Burke, BBC Springwatch Presenter and Marine Strandings Network Volunteer



ANNABEELLE LOWE

A tragic stranding of a common dolphin at Holywell Bay.

Deeper into nature

News from our specialist groups

If you want to wade a little deeper into nature, why not join one of the many specialist wildlife groups that Cornwall has to offer.

Contact details for many, including all those affiliated to the Trust, are on the inside front cover of this magazine. Selected events are in the diary on the centre pages. Here, four groups give an insight into what they do, with some fantastic images from the Photo Group.

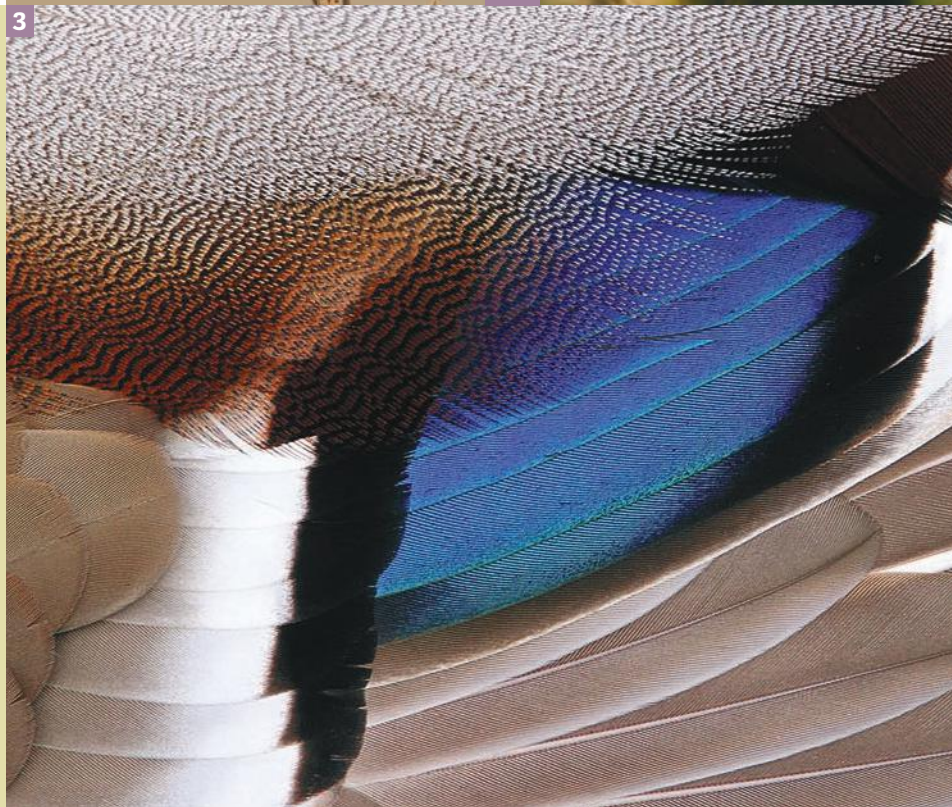


Photography Group Annual competition

In December we held our annual competition. As usual, entries were collected and collated by one of our members, Nigel Climpson, to whom we owe a big thank you. This year the competition was judged by another member (and another Nigel), Nigel Carter, who spent a lot of time looking through the 100-or-so images and provided a thorough analysis of their strengths and weaknesses, including some very useful technical information. We are grateful to Nigel for undertaking this role on our behalf.

In keeping with a long-standing tradition, published below are the names and titles of the top three placings in each category: Composition & Form; Birds; Fauna (other) and Flora. It is really nice to see so many new names in the honours list this year, as well as a few old ones!

David Chapman, Volunteer



Composition and form

- 1st** Mallard Feathers by **Pamela Robertson**
- 2nd** Ripples Over the Sand by **Joanna Clegg**
- 3rd** Starling Roost by **Delia Trathen**

Birds

- 3** **1st** Male Stonechat by **Janie Rowe** **1**
- 2nd** Northern Flickers by **Adrian Langdon**
- 3rd** Kingfisher After the Dive by **Adrian Langdon**

Cornwall's Living Churchyards

The Wheal Buzzy Project is an initiative to support declining and endangered bee species across AONB areas in West Cornwall. One of the churchyards targeted is Perranuthnoe, and church members from there have written the report below.

Our own Living Churchyard

We are now just beginning our third year of managing our closed churchyard and are looking forward to a meeting to learn how to encourage the single nesting, or solitary, mining bee.

We started in early 2016 when we asked Robert Moor to come along to our church at Perranuthnoe to talk about the Living Churchyards Project. We needed advice on how to encourage wildlife and wildflowers at the same time as keeping the area looking good for visitors and giving good access to graves.

We learned that we should keep paths neatly cut around and through the area but leave grasses and flowers

to grow, so long as we raked up and removed everything after cutting in the autumn. This we did on the autumn harvest weekend, following the Council's annual visit to cut the

Springtime in the churchyard at Perranuthnoe.



ROBERT MOOR

whole area. Many people from the community came along with their rakes and barrows. The second summer brought more butterflies, and birds including swallows swooping through the various grasses. White-tailed bumble bees have nested, encouraged by the flowers. We are able to walk the paths looking for and identifying the many different grasses and wildflowers, including 'star of Bethlehem', which was seen for the first time this year. We have seats in different areas, including a Celtic prayer circle where visitors can come, walk around and sit awhile, enjoying this beautiful place.

Dilys and Dave Ellis Volunteers

For Living Churchyards information, call **Robert Moor** (01872) 272929.

4



Fauna (other)

- 1st** Stranded Portuguese Man o' War by **Joanna Clegg** **4**
- 2nd** Dew-covered Broad-bodied Chaser by **Adrian Davey**
- 3rd** Brown Hare by **Adrian Langdon**

Flora

- 1st** Bloody Cranesbill by **Karin Saunders** **2**
- 2nd** Musk Mallow by **Karin Saunders**
- 3rd** Weeping Widow Mushroom (in habitat) by **John Evans-Jones**

Deeper into nature

News from our specialist groups

Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust Seal Squad: join our ID hub team today

You will already know about Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust (CSGRT) and Sue Sayer. But did you know that this amazing woman has been doing seal photo ID since 2000? Driven by her enthusiasm and tenacity, CSGRT is a network of amazing and dedicated volunteers sharing her passion. Recently our international reputation for photo ID was represented at the Society for Marine Mammalogy Conference in Canada and was recognised in an award for exceptional contributions by Cornwall Mammal Group. Our long dataset helps understand more than ever about what individual seals do. Our pioneering evidence about how they associate with each other, how they use different sites (sometimes thousands of km apart) and where they are having pups is critical to informing conservation efforts with partners.

Marion Beaulieu, CSGRT Amazement and Discovery Ranger

CSGRT needs your help in this important work

If you are interested in making a positive contribution towards protecting our iconic grey seals, have some time on your hands and reasonable IT skills, we would love you to join one of our seal ID hubs. Each seal team member can do one or more of the following: photographing seals; preparing photo albums in PowerPoint; matching ID catalogue to album photos in PowerPoint; analysing data in Excel; and writing reports in Word. Once trained, most of these tasks can be done remotely from home via a broadband connection.

This project has received funding of £19,300 by players of People's Postcode Lottery. To join in, email marion@cornwallsealgroup.co.uk.

S89	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total
Jan						2	2			3	1	1	1	2	1	14
Feb									2		1	1	2		1	5
Mar					1								2		2	5
Apr				1							1					2
May	1			1												2
Jun																0
Jul					1	2	1		1							5
Aug					2	1	1								3	7
Sep					1	1	1			2		1			3	9
Oct					3	1				1		2	1		2	12
Nov	1		1		1	1	2	6	3		2	4	1	2	1	27
Dec			1				2		1		5	1	3	1		14
Total	2	0	2	2	9	8	9	6	7	6	10	13	7	3	18	126

Calendar of 'Wings' identifications



WC Mainland
 WC Offshore
 WC West/Penwith
 Skommer

Cornwall Mammal Group Celebrating, tracking and learning about mammals

Another busy autumn for Cornwall Mammal Group (CMG) started with a visit to Woodland Farm in October to visit the Cornwall Beaver Project and to hold our AGM. We had an excellent turnout and a chance to recognise the work of Sue Sayer and the Cornwall Seal Group with a CMG award. In November we moved to Lanhydrock for a presentation by Devon vet Stephen Powles on his studies of his local otters – amazing videos and inspirational work. December kicked off with our Christmas mammal quiz at Zelah – 40 'mammalophiles' scratching their heads and trying to answer Pete Cooper's challenging and entertaining questions. In between this we have also managed to coordinate a little light survey work and produce our twice-yearly newsletter.

Coming up in 2018: we are currently planning our long-anticipated hedgehog workshop, to understand more about hedgehogs in the Duchy. We will also be organising another dormouse event to bring local dormouse workers up to speed on the situation in the South West. Angie Nash will be organising a tracking and trailing workshop in the spring and there will be a scattering of short-notice survey/monitoring events. Later in the year we are also planning a photography workshop to help members with recording – check out the website for details: www.cornwallmammalgroup.org.

Dave Groves, Volunteer



Sue Sayer of Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust (centre) receiving CMG's Certificate of Recognition from CMG Chair Dave Groves and Vice-Chair Kate Hills at the AGM in October.

MARION BEAULIEU

Wildlife Watch



Joanna Arvor

The Wildlife Watch team have been having a wild time, truly enjoying all that nature can bring and in spite of the weather over the winter too! From seashore foraging, campfire cooking, nature walks and going wild about hedgehogs to bird feeding, planting vegetables and beach art and crafts. So grab your wellies and come and join in the fun – it's a great way to spend time in nature as a family.

Have you seen the Wildlife Watch website? Check it out on www.wildlifewatch.org.uk for activity sheets, information and fun facts. There is so much to learn and to get involved with.

Wildlife Watch

goes Wild



To book a place on our events, email Jo at wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk, but be quick, as we book up fast. You don't need to be a Trust member, but if you are, you get this fascinating Wildlife Watch pack with stickers, a guide book, posters and loads of wild and weird nature facts.

Wildlife Watch needs YOU!

Our volunteers are awesome, and we couldn't do what we do without them. They run all our events with a big smile and look great in their shiny new kit too. To become a volunteer you'll need to enjoy nature and have a willingness to share your passion with children and young people. You can be a Leader or an Assistant or both, and you'll have training and regular support all the way. Above all, the aim is for everyone to have fun in our wild and beautiful Cornwall. Just contact Jo to find out more: wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk or on (01872) 273939.

Joanna Arvor, Family Events and Volunteer Coordinator



EMMA MILLER



JENNY LAWRIE



SEAN GEE

(left to right): Wild about hedgehogs. Wildlife Watch leaders show off their new kit while campfire cooking. Forage and feast.



Your Local Group

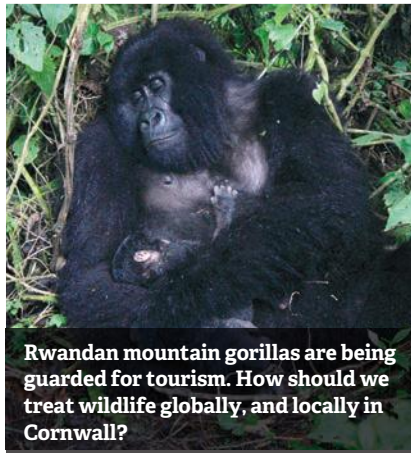
Agas Bagas Leel

Our Local Groups support wildlife in a number of ways. Whether you like illustrated talks, discovering wildlife outdoors, practical conservation tasks or simply meeting like-minded people, you are heartily invited to support your local wildlife volunteers by getting in touch and going along to an event near you.

Bude

The autumn programme started with a fascinating talk by Jen Bousfield on the hazel dormouse and her study of these small, nocturnal and arboreal creatures that she first discovered in 1995 in her garden. Jen has undergone a lot of training and field work in order to obtain a licence to become a monitor for the National Scheme. Dormice are a rare and protected species and are not related to mice. Their need for a rich, varied and balanced food source and habitat makes them an indicator species: dormice in your garden show that the natural balance is being maintained.

'Can conservation work in the wild?' was the theme of our next speaker. Richard Peirce is a wildlife conservationist, author and producer who feels that the baseline for true conservation is changing the mindset of humanity so that animals come



Rwandan mountain gorillas are being guarded for tourism. How should we treat wildlife globally, and locally in Cornwall?

RICHARD PEIRCE

first, and not the amount of money that can be made from them. He used Rwandan mountain gorillas and sharks to illustrate his point. The gorillas make millions of dollars for the Rwandan government as a tourist attraction and are therefore protected by limited access and armed guards,

while sharks are being hunted to extinction for their fins, which creates an ecological imbalance in our oceans.

Continuing on a similar theme, a warm welcome was given to Sgt Paul Freestone and PC Martin Beck from the Devon and Cornwall Wildlife Crimes Group, who came to talk about the variety of problems they face when dealing with crimes involving protected flora and fauna. This small but dedicated team rely heavily on the public to make them aware of illegal activities and can be involved in anything from the illegal importation of protected species to local deer poaching.

See the diary on the centre pages for upcoming events.

Ursula Edwards,
Volunteer

Friends of Kilminorth Woods

Looking after Kilminorth Woods involves a never-ending series of practical tasks to maintain access, and woodland management to benefit species like butterflies and dormice. In the autumn and early winter, members used traditional tools to remove a fallen tree which was blocking the riverside walk, and assisted our CORMAC ranger Jenny Heskett with installation of new signposts. Checking the 70 plus dormouse boxes is a monthly task.

Disappointingly, no dormice used the boxes in 2017, the first blank year since the scheme started in 2012. In October, the group's 'fungi foray' was joined by members of the Cornwall Fungus Recording Group, led by Pauline Penna. Over 30 species of fungi were found, including many that were relatively familiar, like King Alfred's cakes, common earthball and sulphur tuft. The most exciting find was made by Cheryl Wiseman. This was *Xylaria crozonensis*, a rare species first identified nearly 20 years ago on the Crozon peninsula in Finistère, Brittany, and found for the first time in England in 2012 by Pauline near Wadebridge. Since then there have been other finds, but

only in Brittany and Cornwall. This was the first find in the Looe area. *Xylaria crozonensis* takes the form of small, black buttons, mostly on sessile oak. Another unusual member of the same family, *Xylaria cinerea*, characteristic of oakwoods in maritime regions, was also found.

Derek Spooner, Volunteer



CHRISTINE SPOONER



A common seal photographed upstream on the River Camel.

ADRIAN LANGDON

Camel

Most of us who live in Cornwall will be familiar with the Atlantic grey seals that frequent our coasts, but not necessarily so familiar with common seals. But in 2017 we had two incidences of these animals high upstream in the River Camel. The first was seen in January, hauled out on a mudbank about a mile upstream from Wadebridge, and the second in December was about 12 miles inland at Dunmere weir. The latter was carrying some injuries but was very alert and swimming well and after a couple of days, was seen heading downstream back towards the sea.

Five or six hawfinches frequented the yew trees in the old part of Egloshayle cemetery over the New Year period



ADRIAN LANGDON

Britain's largest finch has been attracting the attention of local birdwatchers.

and they attracted a lot of attention from local birdwatchers.

Most of the river valleys around the area have been flooded this winter and have thus been supporting large numbers of both wildfowl and waders. Local birding highlights, besides the hawfinches, have been a marsh marrier, a long-eared owl, short-eared owls, ruff, Cetti's warblers and numerous overwintering blackcaps and chiffchaffs. There are also a few wintering black redstart around the town area of Wadebridge.

Camel committee

a day in the life... of a Wild Penwith volunteer

Tuesday, 10.00am, forecast wet and windy, we're out on the open moor! Get togged up and go, that's what we do.

A bit of scything bracken and bramble (Ross Poldark may join us later), coppicing willow, Cornish hedge repairs, burn the gorse, pull ragwort or Himalayan balsam. Perhaps we'll put up a fence or clear a pond for a change.

Wow! A reconstructed round house, an ancient well, Cornish tin mining buddles, an iron age village, 2,000 year old Cornish hedges – treasures tucked away from public view for us to explore. The team are keen, banter incisive – what was that? A cuckoo,

chough, seal, dolphin, deer, fox, adder, butterfly, dragonfly. Special, eh!

Setting to work: it's amazing what a small, enthusiastic, team can achieve – it looked impossible to start with, but we clear a whole field. A shout is heard – "tea" – no mention of biscuits. Has David forgotten them?

Stopping to look around we see: the Scillies, the Brisons, Watch Croft, Carn Galver, Sancreed Beacon, Bosvenning, Carnyorth Common. Fabulous ancient landscapes. Back to work.

"Lunch" – sandwiches again – perhaps the farmer's Land Rover will arrive with roast pork in the back, or home-made sausages, or pork

chops. Not today – we're inside the farmhouse. What a spread, then a cream tea (jam first of course, we are in Cornwall) from within a volunteer's backpack! We're stuffed – no work this afternoon. "My productivity targets are suffering," says David!

We get on, 'til 3pm. What a glorious day, with friends around me. The weather forecast was wrong again – sunshine, blue sky, turquoise seas. Just another perfect day with Wild Penwith Volunteers.

Julian Little, Volunteer

Upstream Thinking Volunteers: Wild Penwith (Tuesdays)

We are a friendly, well-equipped, remote-location group supporting local farmers, working towards cleaner water and improved homes for wildlife in the Penzance to St Just area. If you would like to join in, learn new skills, get some fresh air and exercise, make new contacts, find some new interests or improve a CV – all while helping your local wildlife – please contact David May: david.may@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk; mobile: 07920 816020, office: (01872) 302274.

CORNWALL WILDLIFE TRUST



A trusty group of Wild Penwith volunteers doing hedge repair work with Julian (far left) and David May (centre).

Wildlife Celebration 2018

Sunday 20th May 2018
from 10.30pm till 4pm

Caerhays gardens, Gorran,
St Austell, PL26 6LY

FREE
entry form

Wildlife up
close &
personal

Wildlife
walks and
rockpool
rambles

Birds, bats
and beasts

Join us
for a
wild day
out

special
guests



Gillian Burke
from Springwatch

PocketPals
Interactive
wildlife app



Wildlife Celebration
for one or two adults plus children

free entry

Sunday 20th May 2018, Caerhays gardens, Gorran, St Austell PL26 6LY

Please fill out this free entry form and bring with you for free entry* to Wildlife Celebration

Email info@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk for more information. Parking and toilets for wheelchair users

Name:		
Address:		
Cornwall Wildlife Trust member? (please circle) Yes / No		
Postcode:	Telephone:	
Email:		
How many adults are being admitted with this form? (please circle): 1 or 2		

*Members and supporters of Cornwall Wildlife Trust have free entry to Caerhays gardens with this form for one or two adults plus children. Photocopies of this form are not accepted. Please see www.caerhays.co.uk for usual tickets prices for the public.

Cornwall Wildlife Trust and Caerhays Estate would love to let you know what we are up to. If you would like to sign up to our eNewsletter, please tick: Cornwall Wildlife Trust Caerhays Estate .

Any personal information given to us is protected under the UK Data Protection Act and will only be used for the purpose of membership administration and fundraising for Cornwall Wildlife Trust and promotion of Caerhays Estate.



**Cornwall
Wildlife Trust**

Kindly supported by:



Nature notices



Take care of nature in your will

Once you have taken care of family and friends, we hope that you will consider a gift in your will to Cornwall Wildlife Trust. It's easier than you may think to update your will, or create one. And if you are arranging a funeral – a gift in kind of donations in lieu of flowers offer a lasting protection to a treasured Cornish place and memory.

Please call Marie on (01872) 302249 for a chat.

SOS – have your Say on Our Seas

This summer will hopefully see the government launch its third and final public consultation in creating more Cornish Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs). This is an unprecedented opportunity to designate a further set of new protected areas at sea and we need your support to make sure this happens. Sign up to our Friends of MCZ newsletters at www.wildlifetrusts.org/mczs for news and action updates.

Find us online

The Trust now has over 30,000 followers on social media!



Improve your ID and recording skills

The Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS) workshops were popular and well received last year. Look in the centre pages for the 2018 summer programme.

Explore the shore this summer

Each year, The Wildlife Trusts celebrate National Marine Week, which runs from 28th July to 12th August this year.

Cornwall Wildlife Trust will be running a series of events to help you discover the wonders of our Cornish coast. Check out www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/whatson.

Wildlife finds of the arthropod kind

2017 was the best year in a century for the marsh fritillary butterfly on Breney Common Nature Reserve. More rare bees were found on our West Penwith nature reserves, and the large and handsomely striped wasp spider (*Argiope bruennichi*) was spotted at the Trust's HQ for the first time.

New Marine Conservation Groups

There are four new local marine groups, three of them CWT Local Groups. Thanks to Nat and the Your Shore Beach Rangers project for making this happen.

Find your nearest on a map at <https://beachrangers.com/community/your-shore-network/>

Special school packs for teachers

30 Days Wild – school packs for teachers free wildlife packs to give away

Be part of something big and wild with the UK's nature challenge through June. Last year Cornwall Wildlife Trust won the 'most engaged Trust' across all 47 Wildlife Trusts! Do a 'random act of wildness' every day. Keep 16th–17th June free for our Big Wild Weekend. We have School free packs to give away – sign up at www.wildlifetrusts.org/30DaysWild. Let's win it for wild Cornwall again!

Mid-April
2018 to
mid-August
2018

APRIL Mis Ebryl

Friday 13

Looe Island Guided Walk

Looe, 2.00pm to 6.00pm.

Booking is essential

Boat ride to the island where you join the warden for an escorted walk. During the 3-hour visit we'll help you spot the wildlife. Learn about the Trust's work & challenges of island life. After the walk there's the option of a slide show in Jetty Cottage. £25. Contact/booking: www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/islandwalks.

Saturday 14

Blooming Bluebells and other Signs of Spring

Nr Truro, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

With spring in your step explore a wonderful valley looking at signs of renewal as you go. Leader: Chloe. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Saturday 14

Spring Birds

Saltash, 10.00am to 1.00pm

Meet at the Cecil Arms by St Stephens Church PL12 4AR (SX417583).

Discover the wide variety of spring birds on Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve. Bring binoculars, camera. Friend members free, £2 non-members. Leader: Peter Kent. Contact: Mary (01752) 843852 Organised by FoFCNR.

Sunday 15

Rockpool Expedition

Nr Truro, 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Booking is essential

Expedition for adventurous rockpool detectives. A mile-long walk to a sheltered cove to discover rockpools. Age 6+. No facilities nearby; steep hills & rocky terrain. Bring drinks & snacks. Leader: Heather Buttivant. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Sponsored by South West Water.

WW

Sunday 15

Open Garden – Burncoose Garden and House

Gwennap, Redruth, 11.00pm to 4.00pm
On the A393 between Lanner & Ponsanooth.

Magnificent woodland garden: rhododendrons, magnolias, azaleas & camellias, behind Burncoose Nurseries. Access to whole 30 acres & recently refurbished Burncoose House. Refreshments; dogs on leads. See www.burncoosehouse.co.uk. £5. U16s free. Rough-surfaced level paths. Contact: Open Gardens Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWWT.

WW

Sunday 22

Open Garden – Pedn Billy

Helford Passage, 2.00pm to 5.00pm
Bar Road, Helford Passage, TR11 5LF.

Wildflower areas, specimen trees, terraced borders, azaleas, magnolias, rhododendrons, camellias, ancient woodland with paths to Port Navas Creek & R Helford to private beach. Refreshments & toilet. Well-behaved dogs on leads. £5. U16s free. Partial easy access. Contact: Open Garden Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWWT.

Tuesday 24

'Fish People'

Nr Par, 7.30pm to 10.00pm

Meet at Trenythron Manor, Tywardreath, Par PL24 2TS (SX101541).

Fundraising event by Sue Sayer of Cornwall Seal Group. Bring money for donation & drinks. Leader/contact: Claire Hoddinott (01726) 833061 or friendsofthefowey@gmail.com. Organised by FFE.

Friday 27

Bat Ecology, Identification and Recording

Nr Truro. **Booking is essential**
Meet at CWT HQ, Allet.

Biological recording workshop to develop ID skills. General bat ecology & echolocation. Try out different detectors/recorders & ID software on the reserve. Bring notepad, pen & torch. Cost: £35 for most, £72 for commercial/government. Leader: Steve Marshall. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by ERCCIS.

COPY DATE for the next diary is Friday 20th April 2018.

Wild Cornwall no. 136 will be published on 27th July 2018.

EVERYONE is welcome to attend ALL events except where specified (eg as unsuitable for young children). Events are free unless specified, but donations are appreciated. Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear to all outdoor events. If bad weather is forecast, call event organisers to check that weather-dependent activities are still running.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR PARENTS:

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all events, and must remain that person's responsibility at all times. Sorry, no dogs at Cornwall Wildlife Trust Wildlife Watch events.

Further details of events and activities are available on our website:

www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/whatson

Five Acres, Allet, Truro, TR4 9DJ Tel. (01872) 273939

APRIL Mis Ebryl

Saturday 28

Reptile and Amphibian Surveying

Nr Truro. **Booking is essential**
Meet at CWT HQ, Allet.

CRAG workshop on survey techniques & ID of reptiles & amphibians. From beginners to CPD for professionals. Bring notepad, pen & camera. Cost: £25 for most, £50 for commercial/government. Leaders: Paul Diamond & Helen Fearnley. Contact us re disabled access. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by ERCCIS.

Saturday 28

Looe Island Guided Walk

2.30pm to 6.30pm

See Friday 13 April for details.

Saturday 28

Has Spring Sprung?

Holywell Bay, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential. Meet at NT car park TR8 5DD (SW766587), parking charges apply.

Explore Penhale Point overlooking Holywell Bay at the perfect time for spring flowers. Meet CWT's organic cows. Rough ground. No dogs. Leader: Jon Cripps. Booking: CWT reception (01872) 273939. Leader/contact: jon.cripps@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by CWT/Perran Sands Holiday Park.

Sunday 29

Bluebell Storytelling Walk

Flushing, nr Penryn, 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking is essential

Join the woodland fairy for a spring storytelling walk in the woods, learn more about the carpets of beautiful bluebells too. Bring drinks & snacks. Leader: Gill Dobson. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 29

Open Garden – Higher Trededen

Nr Pelynt, 2.00pm to 5.00pm
Meet at Peakswater PL13 2QE.

Eight-acre garden in quiet valley. Cottage garden, arboretum (planted 2006), with specimen trees, meadow with large pond, boardwalk through marshland, abundant wildlife. £5 adults. Disabled access is limited. Contact: Open Garden Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWT.

MAY Mis Me

Wednesday 2

Woodland Birds

Near Bodmin. **Booking is essential**
Meet at Cabilla & Redrice Woods.

Biological recording workshop to develop ID skills. Breeding birds in ancient woodland: free birdsong CD. Bring notepad, binoculars, pen & camera. Cost: £35 for most, £72 for commercial/government. Leader: Martin Rule. Contact us re disabled access. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by ERCCIS.

Wednesday 2 (& first Wed of each month)

CSGRT meeting

Redruth, 7.30pm to 10.00pm
Meet at Inn for All Seasons (SW701434).

Seal updates & highlights.
Contact: sue@cornwallsealgroup.co.uk.

Saturday 5

Spring Vegetable Growing and Companion Gardening

St Austell, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers & Tamasin Pemberton to learn about organic vegetables to plant. Decorate plant pots to take home too. £1.50 to cover costs. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk with www.perennial-harvest.co.uk.

Saturday 5

Dawn Chorus Walk

Looe, 5.00am to 8.00am
Booking is essential. Meet at Millpool gate to Kilminorth Woods (SX246537).

Enjoy the dawn chorus and learn to identify birds from their song. Followed by option of breakfast in local café. Bring binoculars. Leader: Derek Spooner. Contact: Christine Spooner (01503) 265590; kilminorth@btinternet.com. Organised by FoKW.

Sunday 6

Wild About Hedgehogs

Nr Bodmin, 11.00am to 1.00pm
Booking is essential

Learn all about our prickly friends and how we can encourage them into our gardens. Leader: Emma Miller. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk with Operation Hedgehog.

Sunday 6

Wildlife Ramble

Constantine, 10.00am to 1.00pm
Meet at junction Fore Street & Well Lane under noticeboard (SW731291).

Guided walk through Bosahan Woods. £4. HMCG members; U18s free. Contact: Sue Scott (01326) 340961; coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk. Organised by Helford MCG.

Friday 11

Photography

Constantine, nr Falmouth, 10.00am to 3.00pm
Meet at car park, junction of Vicarage Terrace & Bowling Green Rd, centre of Constantine Village TR11 5AW (SW731291).

Photographing wildflowers, lichens, mosses, birds in Bosahan Woods. Muddy & uneven. Bring camera equipment, drink, lunch. £2 donation to CWT. Phone if bad weather forecast. Leaders/contacts: Karin Saunders 07790 613786; kar1n@madasafish.com & Becky Curtis 07746 083422; curtis_becky@hotmail.com. Organised by CWT Photographic Group.

Saturday 12

Reptiles in the Wild

Nr Helston. **Booking is essential**

Look for snakes & lizards on a walk around a nature reserve, play games & learn about these shy, scaly creatures as you go. Leaders: Jenny & Chloe. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Saturday 12

History of Looe Island Guided Walk

Looe, 2.00pm to 5.30pm. **Booking is essential**

Join local historian Mark Camp for a boat ride to and escorted walk around Looe Island Nature Reserve. During the 3-hour walk (and optional slide show) you'll learn of the island's intriguing history. Fantastic views & wildlife spotting. £25 Contact: www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/islandwalks.

Please send details of events (these MUST be submitted on the new form available from Trust HQ) to:

Diary Editor, **Mark Dungey**, 10 Rame Croft, Rame Cross, Penryn, TR10 9NB;

Tel. (01209) 860970

Email: diaryeditor.cwt@gmail.com

Key to symbols:



Bats



Birds



Butterflies and moths



CWT Wildlife Watch event for accompanied children



Evening get-together



Family event, organised with children in mind



Full or partial disabled access



Film or illustrated talk



Marine



Open garden or wild plants



Photography



Reptiles and amphibians



Sponsored by South West Water



Walk



Workshop/training

Abbreviations:

CRAG

Cornwall Reptile & Amphibian Group

CSGRT

Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust

CWT

Cornwall Wildlife Trust

ERCCIS

Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly

FFE

Friends of the Fowey Estuary

FoCFCNR

Friends of Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve

FoKW

Friends of Kilminorth Woods

MCS

Marine Conservation Society

MCG

Marine Conservation Group

NT

National Trust

Saturday 12

Red Moor Spring Walk

South of Bodmin, 9.30am to 12.00 noon
Meet at grass triangle, Tredinnick Pits, Bodmin PL30 5AP (SX076622).

Walk around northern end of Red Moor, looking for resident and returning migrant birds & other wildlife. Mostly level, but usually wet underfoot. Bring binoculars & wellies. Leader/contact: Phil McVey (01208) 873300; littleboslymon@aol.com. Organised by CWT Restormel Group.

Sunday 13

Looe Island Guided Walk

2.00pm to 6.00pm

See Friday 13 April for details.

Sunday 13

Spring Woodland Walk

Camborne, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Explore a beautiful woodland with birds, minibeasts, bluebells & ancient trees, collecting treasures to take home. Leader: Cathy Turtle. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 13

Bluebell Walk

Looe, 10.30am to 1.00pm.

Meet at Millpool gate to Kilminorth Woods (SX246537).

Guided walk among the spring flowers of Kilminorth Woods. Contact: Christine Spooner (01503) 265590; kilminorth@btinternet.com. Organised by FoKW.

Sunday 13

Conservation Cruise

Helford, 3.30pm to 5.30pm

Booking is essential.

Meet at Ferryboat Inn Jetty, TR11 5LB (SW764269).

Annual conservation cruise down the Helford, with local experts. Displays & children's activities. Binoculars useful. £12 adults, £6 children. Contact: Sue Scott (01326) 340961; coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk. Organised by Helford MCG.

Sunday 13 May

Open Garden – The Old Rectory, St Juliot

Nr Boscastle, 2.00pm to 5.00pm

From Boscastle take road to Bude. Follow signs to The Old Rectory B&B. If using sat nav use PL35 0BT, continue down road & follow signs for The Old Rectory B&B.

Three-acre south-facing woodland garden: magnificent rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, long herbaceous borders, Victorian walled kitchen garden – fruit, veg, hens & runner ducks. Fields with rare breed pigs, Jacob sheep. Solar panels, biomass boiler. Refreshments & toilet. Well-behaved dogs on lead. Disabled access limited to the lower part of garden. <http://www.stjuliot.com>. £5. U16s free. Contact: Open Garden Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWT.

Saturday 19

Snake Patrol

Nr Penhale, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Fantastic adventure in search of reptiles. Bring sturdy walking shoes, long trousers & long-sleeved tops. Leader: Jon Cripps. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Saturday 19

Discover Rockpooling

West Looe, 2.00pm to 4.00pm

Booking is essential

Learn how to find & protect crabs, fish & other rockpool creatures. Bring wellies or sturdy beach shoes, bucket. No nets please. Leader: Heather Buttivant. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Sponsored by South West Water.

Sunday 20

Wildlife Celebration 2018

Nr St Austell, 10.30am to 4.00pm
Caerhays gardens, Gorran, PL26 6LY.

Caerhays are opening their gardens & beach to CWT's Wildlife Celebration. Birds, bats, beasts, wildlife walks, rockpool rambles, wildlife advice. Special guests Gillian Burke from Springwatch & Pocketpals wildlife app animation team. See FREE ENTRY form, page 22. Tea rooms & Caerhays restaurant. Disabled parking & toilets. Contact: (01872) 273939; info@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 20

Seaquest Sunday

Bude, 11.00am to 1.00pm. **Booking is essential**

Join Your Shore Beach Rangers and the Seaquest team to spot dolphins, seals & birds. Then learn about Cornish marine life with games & craft. Leaders: Natalie Gibb & Jen Sanderford. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 20

Looe Island Trip

Looe, 9.00am prompt to 1.30pm-ish.

Booking is essential. Meet at RNLi Slipway East Looe. PL13 1HL. Nearest car park PL13 2AF (SX254536).

Guided visit by boat to Looe Island to see seals, birds, butterflies & meadows and discover its history. Pack a picnic or take a late lunch in Looe. Bring money. Cost TBC. Leader/contact: Claire Hoddinott (01726) 833061; friendsofthefowey@gmail.com. Organised by FFE.

Sunday 20

Reptile Survey

Nr Penhale, 10.00am to 1.00pm

Booking is essential

Find out how to survey for our native lizards & snakes. Bring walking shoes/boots, long trousers, long-sleeved tops. Leaders: Jon Cripps & Mark Nicholson Contact: CWT Reception (01872) 273939; reception@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by CWT & CRAG.

Sunday 20

Luxulyan Valley Nature Walk

Luxulyan Village, 10.00am to 2.00pm
Meet at Black Hill free car park near Treffry Viaduct down from Luxulyan Village (SW069572).

Walk through beautiful hidden valley, carpeted in bluebells & other woodland wildflowers amongst granite boulders. Bring binoculars, wildflower guide book & lunch. Collection taken. Children welcome with parents. Leader/contact: Joan Farmer (01726) 852603; joan@gardenroom.plus.com. Organised by CWT Restormel Group & Friends of Luxulyan Valley.

Monday 28

Solitary Bees

Penryn campus. **Booking is essential**

Biological recording workshop to develop ID skills. Long-horned Bee *Eucera longicornis* & other solitary bees in Cornwall. Classroom session/presentation & field trip. Bring notepad, pen & camera. Cost: £35 for most, £72 for commercial/government. Leader: Paddy Saunders. Contact us re disabled access. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by The Kernow Ecology Long-horned Bee Project, ERCCIS and EcoSoc.

Monday 28

Birds of Looe Island Guided Walk

2.45pm to 6.15pm.

Booking is essential

Join local birder Derek Spooner for a boat ride to & escorted walk around Looe Island Nature Reserve. During the 3-hour walk (and optional slide show) you'll encounter a range of birds and learn about how they are monitored. Enjoy spotting other wildlife & great views. £25. Booking: www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/islandwalks.

Tuesday 29

Bags of Fun

Penzance, 11.00am to 1.00pm

Booking is essential

We'll join Your Shore Beach Rangers for bags of fun this half term. Explore the beach to look for treasures; decorate a reusable cotton bag to take them home in. £2/bag. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Tuesday 29

Wild Foods Walk

Helford Village, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Meet at Helford Village car park. Guided wild food walk to identify culinary & medical uses of edible spring plants. Learn how to forage safely. £4. U18s & HMCG members free. Leader: Caroline Davey from Fat Hen. Contact: Sue Scott (01326) 340961; coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk. Organised by Helford MCG.

MAY Mis Me

Wednesday 30



Seashore Forage and Feast

Nr Polzeath, 11.30am to 1.30pm

Booking is essential

Join a wild food expert on a foraging walk along the coast, where you will learn about edible and poisonous wild plants. Help prepare lunch cooked over an open fire on the beach. Leader: Stuart Woodman www.woodmanswildfood.com. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Sponsored by John Bray Cornish Holidays.

Thursday 31



Spring Beaver Watch

Nr Truro, 8.00pm to 10.00pm

Booking is essential

Join Tom our Conservation Manager, for the first of two visits this year to see the amazing work of two beavers who were introduced back to Cornwall in June 2017. Learn about their nocturnal lives as you explore the habitat they now call home. We can't guarantee a sighting but you may just be lucky. Strictly age 6+. Leader: Tom Shelley. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Thursday 31



Polzeath Marine Discovery Day

11.00am to 2.00pm

Polzeath Beach/Polzeath Marine Centre, Dunders Hill, Polzeath PL27 6TA

Wildlife Watch are joining Polzeath MCG, NT and other marine organisations for a wonderful day of rockpool rambles, arts, crafts, sand sculptures and much more. See www.polzeathmarineconservation.com for more information. Contact: 07779 896650; polzeathmc@gmail.com. Polzeath MCG.

JUNE Mis Metheven

Saturday 2



Rockpool Safari

Nr Falmouth, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Booking is essential

Join the Falmouth Wildlife Watch crew for a fun-filled rockpool ramble. Leaders: Jenny & Chloe. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Sponsored by South West Water.

Sunday 3



Seashore Forage and Feast

Falmouth, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Booking is essential

Join wild food expert Stuart Woodman www.woodmanswildfood.com on a coastal foraging walk and learn about edible & poisonous plants. Help prepare lunch over an open fire on the beach. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Sponsored by John Bray Cornish Holidays.

JUNE Mis Metheven

Sunday 3



Open Garden – Little Park Farm

Malpas, Truro, 2.00pm to 5.00pm

From Trafalgar roundabout follow rd to Malpas, past cricket ground to Sunny Corner by river edge. Turn left into lane signed 'Little Park'. Drive 500 yards up hill, first right, TR1 1SX.

South-facing hillside garden with stunning views over the Malpas Passage & downriver. Semi-formal gardens, large conservatory, stone-flagged terrace, large pond. Wildflower meadows, mown paths to shrubbery & woodland walks. Fragment of 18th century parkland with fine specimen trees. £5. U16s free. Some level areas with parking close to house. Contact: Open Garden Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWT.

Saturday 9



Seaweeds and the Sea

Nr St Agnes, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Explore the beach for seaweeds, find out about them, then learn how to press them. Make seaweed art and a sun print. Age 7+. Leader: Liz Barker. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 10



Pond Dipping

Truro, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Do some pond dipping. Who are the 'top dogs' in the pond? Learn ID skills. Bring wellies. Leader: Liz Barker. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Tuesday 12



Looe Island Guided Walk

See Tuesday 13 May for details.

Saturday 16



Encouraging Pollinators in your Garden

St Austell, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Learn how to encourage bees & butterflies. £1.50 to cover costs. Leader: Tamasin Pemberton. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk with www.perennial-harvest.co.uk.

Saturday 16



Rockpool Safari

Lizard, 1.00pm to 3.00pm.

Booking is essential

Find out about the secret lives of marine creatures. Bring wellies or sturdy beach shoes & bucket. No nets please. Leader: Heather Buttivant. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Saturday 16

Sunset Paddleboard

Nr Falmouth, 5.00 to 8.00pm

Park at Bosveal NT car park.

Join the Your Shore Beach Rangers for a sunset paddle board session & beach BBQ. Cost £20, £10 for U24s, subsidised by YSBR. No U11s, U18s accompanied. Bring wetsuit, wetsuit boots or old trainers. All SUP equipment provided. Booking: Jenn 07973 28775.

Sunday 17



Treetastic Native Trees

Nr Bodmin, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Become a tree detective and enjoy some bark rubbings & other activities too. Strictly age 6+. Leader: Catriona Burt. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 17



Open Garden – Lethytep

Nr Lanreath, 11.00am to 4.30pm

At East Taphouse follow the B3359 towards Pelynt, Looe & Polperro. After 3.3 miles take right turn marked Penadlake. PL13 2PG.

52-acre wildlife haven in sheltered valley. Wildflower meadows, large ponds, path through meadow, a woods to wetland area: orchids, dragonflies & butterflies. Refreshments & toilet. Sorry no dogs. £5. U16s free. Reasonably level access to many parts along winding paths. Contact: Open Garden Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWT.

Sunday 17



Wildflowers

Saltash, 10.00am to 1.00pm

Meet at Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve, between St Stephens Church & Cecil Arms PL12 4AR (SX417583).

Discover wildflowers on the reserve. Bring binoculars, camera. Free for Friends members; £2 non-members. Leader: Ian Bennallick. Contact: Mary Langworth (01752) 843852. Organised by FoCFCNR.

Friday 22



Photography

St Just-in-Penwith, nr Land's End, 3.00pm to 9.30pm.

Meet at lay-by near Nanjulian Farm; TR19 7NU (SW362293). Take minor road down north side of Land's End airfield.

We will photograph arable flowers at Boscregan Farm, longhorn cattle, wildflowers, maybe choughs & sunset on the coast. Terrain can be difficult & wet; no facilities. £2 donation. Phone if bad weather forecast. Leader/contact: David Chapman (01736) 850287. Organised by CWT Photographic Group.

Friday 22



Seagrass Summer Solstice

Penzance, 4.30pm to 6.30pm

Booking is essential

An afterschool adventure: using bathyscopes, learn about beautiful sea grass beds. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk with the Your Shore Beach Rangers.

Saturday 23 and Sunday 24

Dragonfly Weekend

Near Truro. *CWT HQ, Allet & Red River Valley LNR. Booking is essential*

Biological recording workshop to develop ID skills. Day 1 (Allet): larvae/exuviae. Day 2 (Red River) adult dragonflies. Free of charge, courtesy of the Alexandra Records Fund: <http://ercis.org.uk/AlexandraRecordersFund>. Bring notepad, binoculars & camera. Not open to commercial/government organisations. Leader: Steve Jones. Contact us re disabled access. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by ERCCIS.

Sunday 24

Summer Bughunting

Camborne, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

What minibests are out on the longest day of the year? Magnifying glasses & notebooks in hand, let's go! Leader: Demelza. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 24

Open Garden – 'Arundell'

Nr Crantock, 2.00pm to 5.00pm.
Meet at 'Arundell', West Pentire, Crantock TR8 5SE

A garden where no garden should be! On NT headland between two fantastic beaches. 1 acre around original farm cottage. Cottage garden, Mediterranean courtyard, rockery, shrubbery, pond & stream, herbaceous borders, gravel garden, small pinetum area, spectacular exotic garden. Best garden in Newquay in Bloom. £5 adult. Limited disabled access. Contact: (01637) 831 916. Organised by CWT.

Saturday 30

Brilliant Bees

Devoran, 2.30pm to 4.30pm
Booking is essential

Learn about these amazing pollinators and make a bee house to take home. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk with Restranguet Creek Society.

Saturday 30

Honeycomb Reef Expedition

Bude.
Booking is essential

We'll join the Your Shore Beach Rangers to explore amazing honeycomb worm reefs. Who also calls these reefs home? Leaders: Nat Gibb & Jen Sanderford. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

COPY DATE for the next diary is Friday 20th April 2018.

Wild Cornwall no. 136 will be published on 27th July 2018.

Sunday 1

Wonderful Wild Flowers

Nr Saltash, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

Discover all about wildflowers in a beautiful setting. Decorate pots; plant some seeds to take home. £1/child. Leader: Nat Mitchell. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Friday 6

Woodland Moth Trapping

Looe, 9.00pm to 11.00pm
Meet at Millpool Gate to Kilminorth Woods, West Looe. (SX246537)

Identify, with expert help, the wide variety of moths attracted to a moth trap. Bring torch, camera; magnifying lens useful. Donations welcome. Leader: John Nicholls, Leon Truscott. Contact: Christine Spooner (01503) 265590; kilminorth@btinternet.com. Organised by FoKW.

Saturday 7

Wildlife Gardening

St Austell, 10.00am to 12.00pm
Booking is essential

We join Tamasin Pemberton to identify what wildlife lives in your garden. £1.50 to cover costs. Contact: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by CWT Wildlife Watch & www.perennial-harvest.co.uk.

Sunday 8

Beautiful Butterflies

Falmouth, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

Explore the meadows to try to find some of these precious pollinators – catch some if you can! Leader: Amber Nichols. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 8

Open Garden – Meadowside

Redruth, 2.00pm to 5.00pm
Meet at Meadowside, Trevarth, Redruth, Cornwall TR16 6AE.

A 6-acre smallholding with large vegetable garden, wildflower meadow with many southern marsh orchids, two large polytunnels, orchard, fruit cage, walled garden with herbaceous and shrub borders, south-facing gravel garden. Sheep, pigs, hens, turkeys & bee hives. Managed with wildlife in mind. Refreshments. Good disabled access but toilet not suitable for wheelchair access. Well-behaved dogs on leads. £5. U16s free. Contact: Open Garden Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWT.

Sunday 8

Visit to Lethyep Gardens

Nr Lanreath, 10.00am to 4.00pm
Booking is essential. Meet at 'Lethyep', Penadlake PL13 2PG (SX175588).

52 acres of wildlife gardens, meadows, woodland & lakes, opportunity to walk through the gardens & indulge in a cream tea. Donations to the Hambly's chosen charity. Leader/contact: Peter Edwards (01726) 833141; peterj.e@virgin.net. Organised by FFE.

Wednesday 11

Photography

Rame Head, 10.00am to 3.00pm
Meet in Penlee Battery reserve car park PL10 1LB (SX436491; directions on CWT website).

We will photograph arable flowers & butterflies on Penlee Battery Nature Reserve. Terrain can be difficult; no facilities. Bring food & camera equipment. £2 donation. Phone if bad weather forecast. Leader/contact: David Chapman (01736) 850287. Organised by CWT Photographic Group.

Thursday 12

Butterflies

Rame Peninsula.
Booking is essential. Meet at Penlee Battery Nature Reserve.

Biological recording workshop to develop ID skills. A variety of butterfly species, including Marbled White. Bring notepad, pen, binoculars & camera. Cost: £35 for most, £72 for commercial/government. Leader: Dave Thomas. Contact us re disabled access. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by ERCCIS.

Thursday 12

Looe Island Guided Walk

See Tuesday 13 April for details.

Saturday 14

Rockpool Expedition and Picnic

Nr Mawgan Porth, Newquay
11.30am to 2.00pm. *Booking is essential*

An adventure: nature walk through a beautiful valley to a remote cove to discover rockpool secrets. 6 yrs +. 1km in each direction. Bring sturdy footwear, bucket & picnic. No nets please. Leader: Heather Buttivant. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Sponsored by South West Water.

Sunday 15

Dune Nature Detectives

Nr Penhale, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

Become an explorer following a trail to see what creatures live on a special nature reserve. Leader: Cathy Turtle. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 15

Seaweed Search

Prisk Cove, Mawnan Smith,
12.00 noon to 2.30pm.
Meet at Mawnan Church, Old Church Road, Mawnan TR11 5HY (SW788272).

Part of MCS's project searching for 14 species of seaweed following the recording transect set up in 2017. Leaders: Angie Gall & Sue Scott. Contact: Sue Scott (01326) 340961; coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk. Organised by Helford MCG.

JULY Mis Gortheren

Wednesday 18

Grasses, Sedges and Rushes

Near Hayle. **Booking is essential**
Meet at Gwithian Green.

Biological recording workshop to develop ID skills. Structures & diagnostic features of varieties in Cornwall. Bring notepad, pen & camera. Cost: £35 for most, £72 for commercial/government. Leader: Derek Green. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by ERCCIS.

Saturday 21

Churchtown Farm Discovery Day

Nr Saltash, 10.00am to 4.00pm
Meet at Wearde Road entrance, Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve PL12 4AS.

Activities throughout the day include table top arts & crafts, minibeast hunts. Leaders: Bob Austin (01752) 844666 or Nat Mitchell. Contact: Natalie Mitchell natalie.mitchell@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by FoCFCNR with CWT Wildlife Watch.

Saturday 21

Butterfly Walk

Seaton Valley, 10.30am to 1.00pm
Booking is essential.
Meet at pay & display car park, Country Park entrance, Seaton (SX303544).

Looking for butterflies, moths & other bugs. Leaders: John Nicholls, Leon Truscott. Contact: Christine Spooner (01503) 265590; kilminorth@btinternet.com. Organised by FoKVV.

Sunday 22

Summer Forest School

Nr Bodmin, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

Join Badger Forest School looking for signs of summer. Den building, fire lighting & exploring. Bring drinks & snacks. Leader: Ysella Woods. Contact: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 22

Open Garden – Trevoole Farm

Praze-an-Beeble, 2.00pm to 5.00pm
On B3303 Camborne to Helston, on sight of large minehouse & chimneys, take lane on left (TR14 ORN).

Granite-lined flower borders, farmhouse courtyard, shade & bog garden, rose walk, chickens, herb garden, patchwork & vegetable gardens, wildlife pond, orchard, greenhouse & shepherd's hut garden. Level gravel paths. Refreshments & toilet. Well-behaved dogs on leads. £5. U16s free. Contact: Open Garden Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWT.

Thursday 26

Looe Island Guided Walk

See Tuesday 13 May for details.

28 July - 12 August

National Marine Week

See www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/whatson for a full list of beach and marine events.

Friday 27

Bat Walk

Nr Bude, 8.00pm to 10.30pm
Booking is essential. Meet at NT Office, Stow Barton, Kilkhampton EX23 9JW (SS212113).

Introductory talk about bats over a cup of coffee or juice at Stow Barton & walk through Coombe Valley with bat detectors. Children with adult supervision encouraged. Bring torches. £3. Leaders: Rob Robinson & Sarah Stevens. Contact: (01288) 321326 binsrob@aol.com. Organised by CWT Bude Group with NT & Cornwall Bat Group.

Saturday 28

Glowing Glow Worms

Nr Penhale, 10.00pm to 11.30pm
Booking is essential

Late night walk to search for glowing beetles. Strictly age 6+. Bring a torch. Leader: Jon Cripps. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Sunday 29

Wildlife Treasure Hunt

Nr Constantine, Falmouth, 10.30am to 12.30pm. **Booking is essential**

Join volunteers from Helford MCG on a low input organic farm with meadows, woodland, pond & remains of an iron age round, all leading down to the banks of the Helford. Prizes for winning teams & best wildlife finds. Why not bring a picnic? Leader: Sue Scott. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk.

Tuesday 31

Paddle for Plastic

Lizard Peninsula, 2.00pm to 5.00pm
Booking essential

Kayak adventure with Lizard Adventures & CWT Marine Officer Matt Slater, exploring secluded coves & recovering hard to reach plastic from around the Lizard Peninsula, to be recycled by Fathoms Free. Cornwall residents only. No under 8s; U16s accompanied. £35 (discounted rate). Booking: 07845 204040. Sponsored by South West Water.

AUGUST Mis Est

Saturday 4

Strandline Treasures and Sand Sculpture Competition

Nr Polzeath, 1.00pm to 3.00pm
Booking is essential

Decorate sand sculptures with your beach finds. Prizes to be won. Leader: Megan Rush. Contact: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Sponsored by John Bray Cornish Holidays.

Saturday 4

Butterflies and Moths

Saltash, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Meet at Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve, between St Stephens Church & Cecil Arms PL12 4AR (SX 417583).

Finding butterflies & moths on the reserve. Bring binoculars, camera. Friends free, £2 non-members. Leader: Gary Lewis. Contact: Mary Langworth (01752) 843852. Organised by FoCFCNR.

AUGUST Mis Est

Sunday 5

Summer Vegetable Planting and Growing

St Austell, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

Learn about organic vegetables. Decorate pots & plant seeds to take home. £1.50. Leader: Tamasin Pemberton. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk with www.perennial-harvest.co.uk.

Tuesday 7

Marine Litter Masterpieces

Marazion, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Meet on beach in front of Follyfield car park, TR17 0EG.

Beach clean with a difference, creating masterpieces with the colourful plastics you discover. Contact: matt.slater@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk. Organised by CWT. Sponsored by South West Water.

Sunday 5

Open Garden – Trenarth

Nr Falmouth, 2.00pm to 5.00pm
Located at High Cross, Constantine TR11 5JN.

4 acre garden around 17th century farmhouse; panoramic views. 16th century courtyard, listed walls, gravel & palm area, yew rooms, vegetable garden, orchard & woodland. Water & bog features, lesser horseshoe bat roost. Quirky, child friendly garden, with children's trail. Ancient green lane walk to pond & through woods. Refreshments & toilet. Well-behaved dogs on leads. £5. U16s free. Not suitable for wheelchairs. Contact: Open Garden Coordinator (01872) 273939. Organised by CWT.

Monday 6

Learn to Snorkel in a Rockpool

Bude, 3.00pm to 5.00pm. **Booking is essential**

Snorkelling in a safe environment. Strictly age 6+. Bring wetsuit, boots & snorkel (some snorkels can be provided). Leaders: Natalie Gibb & Jen Sanderford. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk with Your Shore Beach Rangers.

Friday 10

Summer Garden Wildlife

Nr Camborne, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

Explore a stunning country garden: birds, bees, flowers & pond inhabitants. Lots to see & do. Leader: Daena Rose. Contact/organiser: CWT Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk with Wildwood Eco Garden.

Friday 10

Rockpool Ramble

Fowey, 10.45am to 12.45pm.
Meet at Readymoney Beach. PL23 1DG for nearest car park (SX117512).

Fun for all. U18s accompanied. Beach Café open. Bring money for car park. Free to FFE members, £1.50 non-members. Contact: Claire Hoddinott (01726) 833061; friendsofthefowey@gmail.com. Organised by FFE.

Bottlenose bulletin



Ruth Williams

Our Marine Conservation Manager Ruth Williams now has the answers to some big questions about the bottlenose dolphins we see around Cornwall's coast.

Bottlenose dolphins are well known as the intelligent and charismatic stars of the sea. They danced through waves in the opening sequence of the fabulous Blue Planet II on television recently, and here in Cornwall we are lucky enough to see them regularly around our coast. However, over recent years we have been concerned that there is no specific protection offered to these animals and we actually know very little about how bottlenose dolphins use our seas.

Cornwall Wildlife Trust launched its Bottlenose Dolphin Appeal in 2015 to raise awareness and much-needed funds, and the progress and research that has been undertaken since then has been fantastic.

In 2016, the Southwest Bottlenose Dolphin Consortium was established – a collaborative partnership coordinated by Cornwall Wildlife Trust. The partnership includes a range of conservation groups, universities, businesses and individuals who agreed to share their data and expertise to learn more about our local dolphins. Bottlenose dolphins often have distinct markings and notches in their dorsal fins and these can be used to identify individual animals, enabling us to answer some specific questions, including:

- **Is there a distinct inshore group of bottlenose dolphins in the South West?**
- **How far do these coastal animals range?**
- **How many dolphins are in the inshore population?**

Definitive proof:
we have a resident
inshore group
of bottlenose
dolphins

Close-up of a bottlenose dolphin photographed off Newquay.

The Consortium worked with Rebecca Dudley, MRes at the University of Plymouth, to collate all sightings and photographic data from a large number of collaborators, and create a photo ID catalogue. From this, Rebecca was able to assess the social structure, residency and distribution of bottlenose dolphins in south-west England.



Bottlenose dolphin near the Cornish coast.

ADRIAN LANGDON

So, to a trumpet fanfare, we can now definitively say that we have an inshore group of approximately 28 bottlenose dolphins who are resident in our coastal waters (less than 50m deep). This is a very distinct social group, not mixing at all with other animals from further offshore. These resident animals are seen throughout the year, all around the south-west coast, ranging from the north Cornish coast to Bournemouth.

This research has provided incredibly exciting proof that we do indeed have a small resident population of bottlenose dolphins in Cornwall, and we know how many there are, too. This is vital information if we are to better protect our dolphins from the many threats they face. Further work is needed, but this is a huge step forward and proves what can be achieved by working together and the strength in sharing data. The future of these iconic animals is in our hands and we need to make sure the few we currently have in south-west waters are given the protection not just to survive, but to thrive.

Ruth Williams,
Marine Conservation Manager

A summary factsheet of this research can be found at www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/living-seas/bottlenose-dolphin-project

A full list of collaborators and how to send in sightings or photos can be found at www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/living-seas/bottlenose-dolphin-project

ANNABELLE LOWE

Thank you...

Meur rhas dhis



Emma Miller

Fundraising and volunteering for your local Wildlife Trust offer tangible benefits in terms of physical health, emotional wellbeing, social inclusion and just downright simple fun.

Everyone's a winner, as your fundraising efforts, donations, grant awards and volunteering make a real impact, providing the backbone to the Trust's work helping wildlife and wild places. On behalf of everyone at the Trust, thank you for your incredible support.

Emma Miller, Fundraising Officer

Co-op Local Community Fund

Thank you to all the brilliant Co-op members who voted for Wildlife Watch through the 'Co-op Local Community Fund', raising £2,671.38.



**raised
£2,671**

This will help us to engage and educate more children across Cornwall through our exciting wildlife-themed events.



ROSE SUMMERS

**donated
£2,448**

South West Water provides equipment for volunteers

South West Water has made the generous donation of £2,448 towards equipment for our Upstream Thinking Project volunteers. This has allowed us to purchase much-needed tools and wet weather gear, enabling our dedicated team to continue their essential practical conservation work.

Tesco Bags of Help

**raised
£3,730**

Your votes have again enabled us to secure significant funding through the Tesco Bags of Help scheme. Thank you! The £3,730 raised will be used by our Marine Strandings Network in response to the tragedy described on page 15. Work will include training volunteers to record, tag, and take dolphins and porpoises to post-mortem to gather evidence.

John Bray sponsors happy school holiday memories

Holiday specialist John Bray has kindly sponsored several fantastic 'Wildlife Watch' family events this year: a Seashore Forage and Feast, Strandline Treasures and Marine Litter Masterpieces this summer and an Extreme Rockpooling event in October. These will be very popular, so please book well in advance.

**Wildlife
Watch**

Race for Wildlife

A huge thank you to Mounts Bay Harriers for organising the biggest Race for Wildlife yet, raising £370. Over 330 runners enjoyed the challenging 7.5 miles through stunning countryside west of Penzance. Thank you also to Espresso Cornwall for keeping all the runners and spectators refreshed and for the extra donation.



**raised
£370**

M&S Power for Wildlife – thank you for voting!

We secured a massive 2,099 votes, winning us a grant of £12,000 from the M&S Energy Fund. This will allow us to fit solar PV at our headquarters in Allet and help reduce our carbon footprint. By reducing our operating costs we will free up extra funds for our key wildlife conservation work.

**grant
£12,000**

If you feel inspired to fundraise for Cornwall Wildlife Trust, please contact me on (01872) 302266. To join our committed volunteers, please call (01872) 273939.

Helping wildlife – a winning business strategy



Antonia Mullaly

Visitors coming to Cornwall each year may appreciate the beautiful beaches and rugged countryside, but might not realise the hard work and effort that goes into sustaining this often fragile environment.

In order to recognise the companies that excel, the Trust sponsors the 'Wildlife Friendly Tourism Business Award' trophy at the annual Cornwall Tourism Awards. Entrants must demonstrate proven commitment to best practice in protecting and enhancing Cornwall's wildlife. Our conservation team visit all the locations and undertake detailed site visits. This year, we were delighted to see so many of our Business Supporters entering – doubtless inspired to take part after seeing the many positive effects that winning can have.

Perran Sands Holiday Park, part of the Bourne Leisure Group, won Gold as the best wildlife-friendly tourism business. A self-catering holiday park based near Hayle, it sits in the stunning Penhale Dunes – the largest sand dune system in Cornwall – which is designated both a Special Area of Conservation and a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

As the local environment is such an important part of the business, Perran Sands has invested in a variety of positive strategies, including a new Countryside Stewardship scheme that runs for five years. This will fund habitat management work such as scrub removal, fencing to enable grazing, and mowing. The park helps to fund Penhale Dune Ranger Jon Cripps, from Cornwall Wildlife Trust. He looks after this precious habitat on behalf of a management group made up of interested parties including major landowners.

Jon explains, "I work with Perran Sands to help encourage people to explore the dunes and experience the wealth of wildlife that lives there. For example, we have developed an orienteering trail. People can follow a map and compass and explore, collecting nature stamps as they go." Visitors can also download an innovative 'Dune Detectives' app for the site and take part in fun family activities.

June Donnery, General Manager at the park, has initiated a whole host of developments to protect and enhance their premises for wildlife. She comments, "Our beach, ocean and sand dunes are at the heart of the business; without them the product we offer would be diminished. This would impact directly on return visits and advocacy, which contribute a great deal towards our profitability. For example, the team work tirelessly to litter pick. Attention to detail means the



strandline habitat is left undamaged and prevents plastic from entering the ocean. Holidaymakers see the team leading by example and this helps to change their behaviour. We have also created a new pond that is already home to diving beetles and dragonflies, which we use for pond dipping activities."

In addition, June's application for the award highlighted their sustainable credentials. Oils and fats are collected and recycled, low energy use is promoted throughout the site and water is conserved.

Taken together with many other impressive ideas, Perran Sands proves that tourism can go hand in hand with nature, which is probably one of the reasons why an impressive 50% of people staying at the park are repeat visitors.

Winning formula

Want to be in with a chance of winning next year?
Try some of these ideas and be inspired to develop new ones.



Dig a pond



Create a **Cornish hedge** with **native plants** rather than a fence



Control invasive species



Help to **record wildlife** and share the results with us



Reduce plastic use and **recycle** as much as possible



Put up a mixture of **bird and bat boxes**



Choose **'A' rated** appliances and ensure boilers are efficient



Install **low flow showers, taps and toilet flush** systems



Invest in **electric vehicles**



Educate your visitors about the wildlife on site and **support local community projects**

Welcome!

Cornwall thrives on the energy and enthusiasm of its business community and we are thrilled to welcome a fantastic selection of new joiners to our Business Scheme. From the worlds of food and retail to agriculture and art, they have all committed to protecting a fantastic place to live and work. If you are interested in joining them or upgrading your membership, please get in touch.



Proud to support
Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Wildlife Guardians

Southern England Farms

Business Members

Arts and media

Natalie Toms

Food and drink

Trevaskis Farm

Retail

Fin Lines

Accommodation providers

Mullion Cove Hotel

The Cornwall Hotel

Visitor attractions

King Edward Mine Museum



Please contact me, **Antonia Mullaly**, Acting Business Support Manager, on **(01872) 302264** or **antonia.mullaly@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk** if you are interested in taking out a membership, sponsorship options or fundraising.

1. Regular beach cleans are essential. 2. Perran Sands wins Gold at the Cornwall Tourism Awards. 3. Horses help to graze the dunes. 4. June Donnery, Perran Sands and Jon Cripps, Dune Ranger launch the Dune Detective app.



Over the past 11 years we have donated more than **£124,000** to the Cornwall Wildlife Trust!

Help us to make a BIG change by shopping at welovefrugi.com or call **01326 572828** to request a catalogue.

Every year we donate 1% of our turnover to charities including the Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Marine Conservation Programme.



Proud to support Cornwall Wildlife Trust



Wild About Nature?

Join the Cornwall Wildlife Trust now and discover the incredible natural world, right on your doorstep

You will receive three editions of *Wild Cornwall* magazine, and be part of Cornwall's leading local wildlife charity working to protect Cornwall's wildlife and wild places.

Join online at cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/join or call the membership team on **(01872) 273939**.

We have 57 nature reserves that we manage and develop across Cornwall. Your membership helps to protect our unique biodiversity and Cornish native species.

Membership rates:

Minimum subscription rates:	Monthly *(Direct Debit only)	Annual
Single	£2.50	£30
Joint	£2.75	£33
**Concessionary single	£1.50	£18
**Concessionary joint	£1.75	£21
Student	£1.50	£18
Family (includes Fox Club membership for up to 4 children)	£4.00	£48

**Retired/unemployed. *Forms available online.

Name(s): Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms		
Address:		
	Postcode:	
Date of Birth:	Telephone:	
Email:		
Children's details (for family membership)		
Name:		
Name:		
Name:		
Name:		

I am happy to be contacted by Cornwall Wildlife Trust about our conservation work, membership, fundraising and other activities by:

- tick for all methods
 post
 phone
 email
 e-newsletters
 text

Registered charity number 214929. Registered charity name Cornwall Trust for Nature Conservation Ltd

GIFT AID: I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008. Data Protection Act. Any personal information given to us is protected under the UK Data Protection Act 1998 and will only be used for the purpose of membership administration and fundraising for Cornwall Wildlife Trust and we will never sell or swap your details.

Nuts about squirrels?

Find out where to see
them on page 12

A photograph of a red squirrel in mid-leap against a dark background. The squirrel is facing right, with its body angled upwards. It has a bushy tail and is holding a nut in its mouth. Its front paws are extended forward, and its hind legs are tucked under its body.

How to repair a sand dune

(With Christmas
trees, obviously)

The magic of linescapes

See your garden in
a whole new way

**“I like mud, and being
close to trees.”**

*The Spectator's Isabel Hardman on
the healing power of nature*

Wildlife Trusts call for a farming rethink

New report proposes a better way to spend public money on agriculture after the UK leaves the EU

Leaving the EU is a rare chance to reverse the fortunes of the wildlife, soil, water and habitats which post-war agricultural policy has depleted.

That's the message in a new report by The Wildlife Trusts on the future of farming and land management in England. *What Next for Farming?* suggests that once the UK leaves the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, payments to farmers should be linked to a wide range of benefits, for people and wildlife.

"At the moment, farmers can sell the food they grow through the market. But they can't sell a whole range of benefits or services that society needs," says Ellie Brodie, Senior Policy Manager at The Wildlife Trusts.

"Our report proposes three public funds. The money would be allocated through local environment plans designed to achieve nature's recovery. These plans would be allocated through local nature recovery plans - identifying

environmental needs using local data and consultation with local people. Linking farmers together and targeting investment where it is most needed will restore habitats and join them up."

The report suggests the current UK agriculture budget of £3bn could fund the new system. We currently spend £144bn on health, £87bn on education and £37bn on defence.

A study of the River Aire catchment shows how this idea could work. A Yorkshire Wildlife Trust report concludes that for a

similar cost to today's system, public benefits would massively increase. For the first time, all good quality habitat in the area would be well managed and expanded. £14m would be invested in natural flood management over 10 years.

■ More on wildlifetrusts.org/farming

Westminster seems to agree!

Environment Secretary Michael Gove has also announced that the Government intends to change the current approach to farm payments. Whilst we welcome the proposals, one big risk remains. Vast areas of farmland currently receive 'basic payments', which require positive management of wildlife habitats, such as hedgerows. When these payments end, new regulations will be required to replace them.

MATTHEW ROBERTS



Restoring peat uplands would be more profitable than degrading them

“ For a similar cost to today's system, public benefits would massively increase ”

Eight things farmers should be paid to provide



1 More, bigger and better natural habitats

Using ecological mapping to co-ordinate farmers' land management



2 Thriving wildlife

Pioneering farmers have shown that you can farm profitably and restore wildlife



3 Abundant pollinators

These insects are a vital link in our food chain. Joint action can bring them back



4 Healthy soils

Farmers should be paid for conserving and improving soil



5 Clean water

Reducing fertiliser pollution and run-off will clean rivers and lower water bills



6 Clean air and climate change mitigation

Restoring dried-out peatlands locks up atmospheric carbon



7 Flood Risk Management

Changing livestock and land use on hills slows down water runoff, reducing floods

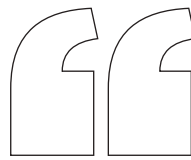


8 Healthy people

Better access to the countryside means better physical and mental health



The report shows how we can meet the needs of both nature and farming



Our biggest challenge yet

Latest UK-wide news and issues: wildlifetrusts.org/news



Your membership of your Wildlife Trust is making great things happen near you for wildlife and people. Thank you. Together, The Wildlife Trusts have a voice influencing each of the four elected parliaments in

the UK. Our input is informed by our work in real places, with real people, real local authorities, farmers and businesses. We have a deep and broad understanding of what helps wildlife on land and at sea, and of the immense benefits for people and communities of being closer to nature.

We've been on the case for over 100 years. From 1912, we sought to stop the draining of the East Anglian Fens. We were pivotal in securing the 1949 Act that brought in statutory conservation. We were a central voice when the 1981 and 2000 Acts were passed, tightening protection for key wildlife sites. Subsequently, we led the charge for Marine Acts to protect our seas.

Now we face our biggest challenge: securing state backing for nature's recovery. Protected wildlife sites are vital, but a healthier fabric is required if wildlife is to become abundant again. In the last issue, we called for an Environment Act. Now there may be political movement towards it.

In her first speech about the environment, the Prime Minister reflected our ambition for nature's recovery. Maybe Government is beginning to see how much wildlife means to society. The speech recognised nature's vital role in our mental health, and the scourge of plastic pollution. There were fantastic words and ambitions that raise the spirits.

But in the end, actions speak louder than words. The fact that we depend on the natural world remains too far from the centre of government policy. There needs to be legislation to ensure real and lasting change. Unless governments show more leadership, wildlife will continue to decline and with it our health, as even more people become isolated from nature.

Stephanie Hilborne OBE

Chief Executive of The Wildlife Trusts
@stephilborne

Wherever you are in the UK, your Wildlife Trust is standing up for wildlife and wild places in your area and bringing people closer to nature. Contact us on enquiry@wildlifetrusts.org or 01636 677711. To join your Wildlife Trust, visit wildlifetrusts.org/joinus. Natural World, The Kiln, Waterside, Mather Road, Newark, Notts NG24 1WT.
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Essex barn owls bounce back

The owls declined due to loss of hunting habitat and nest sites

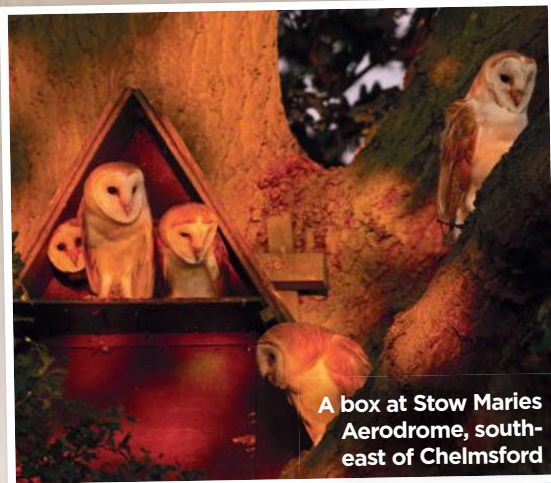
Sustained effort by volunteers and landowners proves to be the right formula for success

Barn owls in Essex are returning to many of their former haunts, thanks to a multi-partner project led by Essex Wildlife Trust.

Now in its fifth year, the Essex Barn Owl Project is run by two Trust staff, 50 volunteers and 160 landowners. The volunteers advise landowners, build nest boxes, and monitor their use. The landowners provide suitable hunting and breeding sites. Businesses and corporate sponsors have also generously donated materials.

The project launched to help reverse the dramatic decline of barn owls across the country. Five years on, more than 260 nest boxes have been installed and 164 chicks have been ringed. Boxes have also been successfully occupied by the likes of tawny owls, stock doves and mallard ducks.

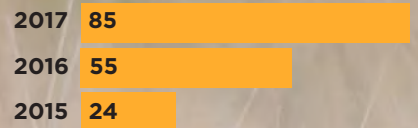
“We are thrilled with the numbers of barn owl chicks that have been ringed,” said Emma Ormond, Living Landscapes Co-ordinator. “Thank you to all the volunteers, landowners and businesses who make the project such a success. With their help we are starting to provide vital information that will help beloved barn owls on a national scale.”



A box at Stow Maries Aerodrome, south-east of Chelmsford

Project facts

Chicks ringed



Adults ringed



Boxes occupied



ANDY ROUSE/2020VISION

RUSSELL SAVORY

Idyllic: the beaver release site at Knapdale

UK beavers are getting established

After the Scottish Government's 2016 announcement that European beavers would be a protected species, three new animals have been added to the original group released in Knapdale Forest, Argyll. The aim is to improve the population's genetic diversity. Other Wildlife Trust beaver projects in Kent, Scotland, Devon and Wales are also gaining support.



SCOTTISH WILDLIFE TRUST

Prince Harry visits Brockholes



The Prince chats with marshmallow roasters

HRH Prince Harry has been to Lancashire Wildlife Trust's flagship nature reserve to support a project encouraging young people to get into the wild. He visited Viking Wood at Brockholes to meet staff



Harry sees nature as a valuable aid to good mental health

and participants taking part in dead-hedging, bushcraft and mindfulness.

"Prince Harry is on a mission for mental health issues to be destigmatised," said Lancashire Wildlife Trust CEO Anne Selby. "The the biggest prize is to normalise this sort of approach so it becomes part of the system nationally."

The project, MyPlace, is pioneering nature as a holistic therapy, building on research that contact with nature improves mental and physical health. The dynamic partnership between Lancashire Wildlife Trust and the Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust is funded by the European Social Fund and National Lottery.

Long-range secrets of Alderney's gulls

Long-term research by Alderney Wildlife Trust has revealed the extraordinary lives of gulls. A lesser black-backed gull ringed as a chick was spotted in Castellon, Spain and later in Switzerland. And a herring gull ringed in 1991 is still alive at 27.



Herring gulls can live to be 27 or more



Come into my parlour: *Sitticus floricola*

Spiders endorse Living Landscape

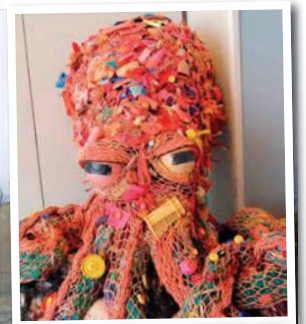
A survey in the Cheshire Wildlife Trust's Delamere Living Landscape has revealed two rare spiders: the *Sitticus floricola* jumping spider (found at two sites) and the money spider *Glyphesis cottonae* (four sites). Both species live on wet moss.

NI's marine litter contest

Children across Northern Ireland are turning washed-up plastic into art. The resulting competition, organised by Ulster Wildlife and the Northern Ireland Science Festival, is raising awareness of the growing menace of marine plastic, and its impact on sea life.

Primary and secondary school pupils collected the rubbish from their local beach. The winning pieces were displayed at Bangor Carnegie Library in February, and at events around the coast. In June they'll be at the Trust's Living Seas Art Exhibition in Downpatrick.

The raw material is, unfortunately, widely available



An example of marine litter art

“Nature makes

Isabel Hardman is familiar on our screens and airwaves as one of the UK’s top political journalists.

As a political journalist on radio and TV, and assistant editor of *The Spectator*, Isabel Hardman knows how to survive in the shark pool. What sets her apart from most other hard-nosed hacks is a passion for wildflowers, and being completely open about suffering from depression. Recently she made two Radio 4 programmes about nature’s ability to improve mental health. Lucy McRobert from The Wildlife Trusts met Isabel on Walney Island in Cumbria, to talk about nature, health and her love of botany.

Where did your love for wildflowers come from?

As a kid I learnt the different garden plants. It was only this year that I got really into botany. I was on sick leave. I have post-traumatic stress disorder, and the symptoms are depression and anxiety, and lots of flashbacks.

Focusing on nature makes you attend to the now, rather than what has happened or might happen. It helps take me away from the flashbacks, as well as the depression and the anxiety. It doesn’t solve it, but it makes it a bit better.

How exactly does that work?

When I was very sick, I started to go for lots of walks and write down and photograph every wildflower that I found. I didn’t know as many as I

“ I didn’t even know a fly orchid existed! The next day I found one ”



Lucy McRobert is Communications Manager for The Wildlife Trusts, championing Random Acts of Wildness for all!

LEANNE BOLGER

it a bit better”

She also uses her love of nature to recover from mental illness. Lucy McRobert finds out more

thought, so I started to learn more. It wasn't a cure, but I just felt a little bit better about the world.

Then someone posted a picture of a fly orchid and I didn't even know they existed! The next day I went to the reserve and found it, and the greater butterfly orchid, and twayblade, and all these beautiful flowers. I was still really sick and I had lots of bad thoughts as I was walking around, but it was much better than spending my day lying in bed. It became a way of treating myself. If you're trying to find a

fly orchid, which is so tiny, you can't focus on the mad stuff, because you're having to keep looking the whole time.

How have you found the online nature social networks?

The natural history network online is so good. The amount of abuse you get as a woman working in politics is awful. I'm quite a thick-skinned person, but the cumulative affect does wear you

down. When I sign in to my nature Twitter account, there's people sharing pictures of mushrooms I've never seen before. Last year, I tweeted asking if anyone had any tips for spotting wildflowers in a bit of Sussex, and my inbox was flooded with messages from lovely botany people who I'd never even met before.

You started #wildflowerhour on Twitter on Sunday nights. Why?

I noticed on Sunday evenings that people shared photos of the



Isabel near home at Walney Island, Cumbria

different wildflowers they had seen, so I decided to try and focus it in an hour. I wanted everyone to join in and just make the internet lovely. When I got ill, I wasn't really involved in it. I came back a year later and it was trending every Sunday night! I thought, 'How has this happened?' It was set up on a whim!

People say it makes their Sunday lovely, or it's helped them with their mental health problems. It's encouraged them to explore nature reserves that they've never been to before. Lots of people are nervous about joining in, but there is so much enthusiasm that they feel really welcome really quickly.

You do a 15-minute nature fix every day. How do you find the time?

It's about saying 'no' to stuff and prioritising my 15 minutes in nature. I'd love to do everything I get offered, but I'd rather be mentally well and those 15 minutes outside are just more important. Even in

Isabel has loved the outdoors her whole life. "I like mud, and being close to trees."

“**There's a plant that's evolved to make bees have sex with it!**”

Westminster, there's always a random member of the daisy family flowering somewhere, like sow thistle in a pavement crack.

How have your friends reacted to your wildflower obsession?

I really struggle with people who don't have hobbies. I don't understand how you can make your life that intentionally boring! There's so much to learn about. Who doesn't think it's interesting that there's a plant that's evolved to make bees have sex with it? Most of my friends are never going to climb around looking for a dune helleborine, but

they can see how much it means to me. It's a really satisfying pursuit, and you're surrounded by beauty the whole time.

Why are some people not so enthusiastic about nature?

I think the biggest problem is that we're really disconnected from it. Some people think you have to go 30 miles in a car to see nature, but we don't even notice nature at our feet. Once in Glasgow, I was in a car park and I noticed a scrubby patch of land with birch trees, and I could see some shapes that looked like broad-leaved helleborines. So I crept into the undergrowth – getting some pretty weird looks – and there were hundreds of these beautiful plants growing under people's noses.

People think that when they've finished school that's it for learning, that curiosity isn't something to cultivate. There's a fear of curiosity and a fear of nature; people seem to be scared of going outdoors and





Climbing Haystacks above Buttermere, Lake District, October 2017



With a lipstick palm at the Andromeda Botanic Gardens in Barbados, Feb 2017



Examining a marsh thistle at the Pen Ponds, Richmond Park, June 2017

Get your daily dose of nature



Do something wild every day in June, and feel better

This June, we're asking you to make room for nature by taking part in *30 Days Wild*. Now in its fourth year, our month-long campaign attracts thousands of people, all of them doing something wild every day for 30 days.

Whether you decide to walk barefoot in the park, feed the birds or make elderflower cordial, there is now evidence that these Random Acts of Wildness can boost your wellbeing. A study by the University of Derby found that *30 Days Wild* participants felt happier, healthier and more connected to nature – and that continued to improve even after the campaign ended.

Sign up on our website, and we'll send you a free pack to help you go wild throughout June, including ideas and ways to get involved with friends, neighbours and on social media.

What are you waiting for?

Sign up, find out how to take part and get your FREE pack on wildlifetrusts.org/30DaysWild



“ People seem to be scared of letting their kids roam around ”

letting their kids roam around. There's such a tiny perimeter for children where they can play on their own. But you can't be scared of a child falling over in a wood. It's just a grazed knee. People say, 'Don't climb a tree'. I spent my childhood climbing trees! Yeah, I fell out of a few of them. But I also learned not to climb right out onto the twigs.

Why do you think we're becoming disconnected?

We chase things that we think will make us happy, rather than the things we know will make us happy. When someone's old and looks back, they think of family; but the things we get het-up about on a daily basis are nothing like that.

It's the same for nature. I think we all know that when we go outside in nature we feel better. But now we just download an app and make things a bit more complicated for ourselves. I

think this is a millennial thing, too – we think we have to have things that are organised and personalised for us, rather than going out and discovering things for ourselves. People aren't very good at being bored!

When I was young, my mum would send me into the garden. I'd think, 'What should I do now?' and it's that gap between asking the question and no one answering that your imagination starts, and you actually have your childhood.

How do you think nature and mental health are connected?

Loving nature and being involved in nature gives people a way of talking about mental health, in a way that they might not have been able to before. People have wanted to share their stories with me online about their own mental health problems. It was someone online who gave me the idea for a 15-minute nature fix. It helps to build something we've lost, too – community. We're all so lonely nowadays. That shared passion for nature helps you to find your kindred spirits, and that's where real friendships happen.

📸 Share your photos of wild plants every Sunday at 8pm using [#wildflowerhour](https://twitter.com/wildflowerhour)

Join the **linear**

Where there are people, there are lines: fences, walls, lawns, hedges. To wildlife, these lines can

We love lines, yet we have come to let them govern us. Think about our landscapes and you cannot escape the impact of the lines we have built. Hedges, ditches, dykes, walls, canals, railways, roads and power lines all mark out the space we share with wildlife. Some of the lines are wildlife corridors and habitats of the highest order. Others destroy and fragment.

When I started researching my latest book, *Linescapes*, I was sure it

“ Our gardens can fit into a living landscape ”

would be simple. There would be an easy segregation of lines into good and bad. But very quickly it became apparent that there were hedges that were living up to none of their

potential and roads along which wildlife flourished. For example, in Lincolnshire, a volunteer search for wildflowers led to the designation of 159 new Local Wildlife Sites on verges along 155 miles of road.

To fix our fragmented land requires a massive change at the highest levels; we need to address environmental, agricultural and transport policy to connect our landscapes for wildlife. Taking an active, landscape-scale approach



Hugh Warwick is an ecologist, author and hedgehog lover. His latest book is *Linescapes*.

PAUL HARRIS/202VISION

BIRDS
use trees as stepping stones

HEDGEHOGS
Use gaps in fences to forage

BEES
Move from flower to flower

How many lines could your garden have connecting it to other green places?



revolution

be barriers or highways. It just depends how you look at them, says Hugh Warwick

to conservation and working with partners across the board can bring about huge changes: we can truly have living landscapes once again.

And we can take action ourselves. Look to the patches you can influence; for many of us that is our gardens. The best way to fit them into a living landscape is by making connections, at different levels. The most obvious is to supply nectar rich plants to attract insects – which in turn feed birds, bats and amphibians.

Remember the lines that link need not be straightforward, they can be pearls along a necklace.

Make sure you have spaces wild enough in your garden to let insects thrive. Of course, there is far more out there than just things that fly, and we need to make provision for them as well. And that is where a little engineering can be very useful – a hole in the fence, just 13cm square, to let the terrestrial beasts join the fun. This is the essence of the Hedgehog

Street campaign. It's hugely important, as a foraging hedgehog can cover more than a mile per night.

Making lines work for us and for wildlife is a great way to start redressing some of the damage we have inadvertently caused. Why not begin with your garden or workplace, looking at how you can open up highways or create stop-off points for your local plants and animals? And if you can get your neighbours involved, better still.



How you can help

Plug your garden into the linescape

We tend to think our gardens stop at the fence, but wildlife doesn't.

Log piles

Encourage invertebrates to colonise in the damp, dark corners

Ponds

Attract highly mobile dragonflies and draw in frogs, newts and toads to spawn

Hedgehog holes

Give our prickly friends the right to roam through your garden

Messy corners

Long grasses and wildflowers give insects a home, attracting bats

Window boxes

Even if you don't have a garden, a vibrant window box is a great wildlife habitat

The dune system
at Lancashire's
Formby Point

Scenery. Habitat. Flood defence.

There's more to sand dunes than you might think. Kate Owen of Lancashire Wildlife Trust takes us for a gallop through their main virtues

DAVID CHAPMAN

With their swaying marram grass and golden sand, dunes may not look like the most diverse of habitats. But they teem with life, lots of it found nowhere else: internationally rare flowers such as Isle of Man cabbage, natterjack toads and wall brown butterflies.

Part of the reason sand dunes contain so much life is their range of unique habitats. The mobile dunes are dominated by marram grass but there is also plenty of bare sand. This gives solitary bees a place to dig burrows, and butterflies and moths a chance to bask. It is an ideal place for rare sand lizards to lay their eggs.

As you move inland, dunes become less mobile and marram grass loses its grip. In the spring and summer hundreds of bright wildflowers

appear, attracting some of the UK's rarest moths and butterflies. The larvae of some feed exclusively on dune plants. Migratory birds also use patches of scrub for a quick rest. If you hear a noise like two stones being rubbed together, it's probably a stonechat, one of many birds that breed in the dunes.

Between the dunes are the slacks, a wetland habitat, where the sand has been eroded down to the water table. Frogs, natterjack toads and newts lay their eggs in the shallow

pools. Damp-loving plants dominate the flora. If the progression of the dunes inland isn't halted by human development, the system culminates in heath or woodland.

Dunes have a vital role to play in coastal defence. When pounded by stormy waves they release sand, taking the power out of the water and protecting homes and towns behind. The dunes can then naturally repair themselves. This protection comes without a hefty price tag, unlike expensive man-made coastal defences with limited lifespans.

The UK's 56,000ha of coastal sand dunes have been identified as a priority for conservation. They face big challenges, including human development, erosion, non-native species and rising sea levels. The best way to manage dunes against these

“ They protect homes from the power of storms ”

34 dune sites to be restored

The Wildlife Trusts are lead partners in a huge project to restore 34 sand dunes across England and Wales by 2023, thanks to a £4.1m grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. We will be helped by Natural England, Natural Resources Wales, The National Trust and Plantlife.



Kate Owen is Community Engagement Officer for Fylde Sand Dunes Project, Lancs WT

threats varies. In some places, they need stabilising and time to rebuild; in others, they need to become more movable and resilient.

Lancashire Wildlife Trust is a partner on the Fylde Sand Dunes Project, funded by the Environment Agency. Over 80% of the dunes have



Old Christmas trees collect wind-blown sand, regrowing a dune naturally

been lost here. Using windtrap fencing, marram plug plants and recycled Christmas trees we have increased the width of the dunes by up to 30m in five years. We're lucky that the coastline is still accumulating here, allowing us to work with natural processes to expand the dunes.

We must conserve this unique habitat, not just to protect its amazing wildlife, but ourselves as well. Climate change is raising sea levels and leading to bigger, more frequent storms, so these natural coastal defences are a vital asset.

Next time you're at the seaside, have another look at the dunes – a shifting, mysterious habitat we would do well to look after.

■ Find out more about dunes on wildlifetrusts.org/sanddunes

Dune dwellers



Natterjack toad

'Boom and bust' breeding makes them vulnerable to habitat loss



Brittle caps

Feeds on the decaying roots of marram grass



Sea holly

Metre-long roots make it superbly adapted for growing in loose sand



Yellow broomrape

A parasite with no chlorophyll of its own, it steals from the roots of other plants to survive in dunes



Stonechat

Perches atop bushes, with a call like stones being knocked together

DAVID CHAPMAN

DAVID CHAPMAN

DAVID CHAPMAN

GEOFF SIMPSON

AMY LEWIS

Top places to see Red squirrels

One of our most endearing creatures, red squirrels are now extremely rare, but you can still enjoy watching them in parts of the UK



MARK HAMBLIN/2020VISION

There is something so special about seeing your first red squirrel, nimbly darting through the treetops, or nibbling seeds off pine cones before tossing aside the core like an apple. These rare and beautiful mammals can only be found in small pockets of the UK, but here are our top recommendations for where to spot them across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Our top tip: watch the forecast first. Much like us, red squirrels don't like wet and windy days, so pick a day when the sun is shining.

1 Brownsea Island Dorset Wildlife Trust

Start your adventure with a 20-minute boat trip from Poole to Brownsea Island, where the feeders at The Villa Wildlife Centre are often visited by red squirrels.

Map ref: SZ 028 878

2 Bouldner Forest Hants and Isle of Wight WT

The pine trees of this former naval training base are now home to red squirrels. Explore the coastal footpath from the Bouldner viewpoint, scanning the treetops.

Where is it?

Bouldner Forest Centre, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight PO41 0AB

Map ref: SZ 366 898

3 Treborth Botanic Garden Bangor University

Red squirrels have been seen here since 1976. Search for them in the native woodland and orchards, or visit the special collections in the six glasshouses.

Where is it?

Treborth Botanic Garden, Bangor University, Gwynedd LL57 2RQ

Map ref: SH 555711



A Scottish red squirrel drinks at a woodland pool. They really are this cute

Share your experiences
 Tweet us your best red squirrel photos from your day out
 @wildlifetrusts
 #LoveWildlife

**4 Freshfield Dune Heath
 Lancashire Wildlife Trust**

The largest lowland heath in the county! In addition to red squirrels, keep a look out for common lizards.

Where is it?

Freshfield Dune Heath, Formby, Merseyside L37 7BB.

Map ref: SD 298 081

**5 Smardale Gill
 Cumbria Wildlife Trust**

Keep an eye out for squirrels as you stroll along 3.7 miles of disused railway, with a viaduct giving superb views of the rolling countryside.

Where is it?

Smardale Gill NNR, Kirkby Stephen CA17 4HG

Map ref: NY 727 070

6 Hauxley Wildlife Discovery Centre, N'umberland WT

You can see the red squirrels at Hauxley as soon as you pull into the car park. One intrepid squirrel was recently seen swimming across the lake!

Where is it?

Druridge Bay, Low Hauxley, Northumberland, NE65 OJR

Map ref: NU 285 023

**7 Kielder Castle Forest Park
 Forestry Commission**

Mammal-watch in comfort from the squirrel hide just off the Duke's Trail. The castle has a squirrel exhibition, too.

Where is it?

Kielder Castle Forest Park Centre, Kielder, Hexham NE48 1ER

Map ref: NY 632 934

**8 Stenhouse Wood
 Scottish Wildlife Trust**

Spot red squirrels all year round in this secluded ancient woodland. Tear your eyes away from the trees for a beautiful view across the glen.

Where is it? Shinnel Glen, Tynron, North Dumfriesshire DG3 4LD

Map ref: NX 797 931

**9 Spey Bay
 Scottish Wildlife Trust**

A 2.5 mile circular walk winds through a mosaic of coastline, grassland and woodland, where red squirrels can be seen in the trees.

Where is it? Elgin, Moray IV32 7NW

Map ref: NJ 325 657

**10 Straidkilly
 Ulster Wildlife**

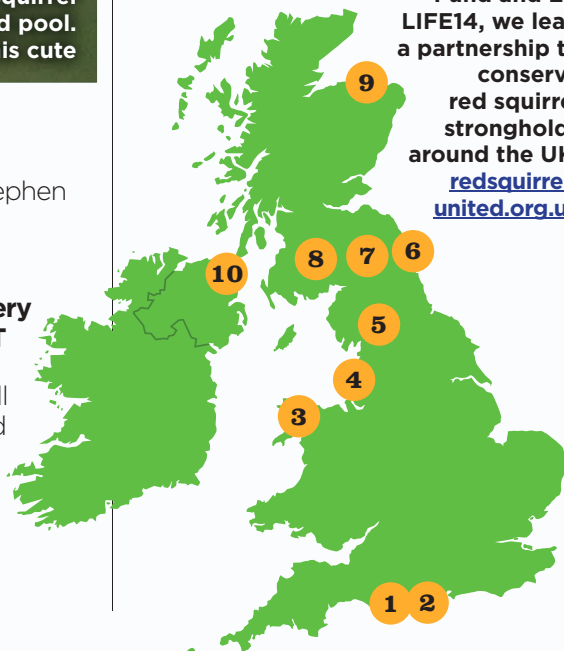
A wonderfully peaceful reserve with stunning views of the Antrim coast. Explore the woodland walk for the best chance of seeing a red squirrel.

Where is it?

Straidkilly Road, Carnlough, Antrim BT44 0LQ

Map ref: NW 457 721

Funded by Heritage Lottery Fund and EU LIFE14, we lead a partnership to conserve red squirrel strongholds around the UK: redsquirrels.united.org.uk



30
DAYS
WILD
1st - 30th June



Sign up online
to receive your
free
pack

Can you do
something

wild

every day for

30 days?

Join the UK's month-long nature challenge! Make time for nature, explore wild places near you and share your love of wildlife with the world this June.

#30DaysWild

wildlifetrusts.org/30DaysWild





Twice as good for wildlife

We recommend you buy your bird food from **Vine House Farm** as you will be helping **The Wildlife Trusts** to protect local wildlife

Vine House Farm donate up to 5% of every sale to your local Wildlife Trust

Our 5 best buys for birds inside!



Open Gardens 2018

Join us, as some of Cornwall's most beautiful gardens open their gates for wildlife.

APRIL

SUNDAY 15TH, 11am to 4pm
Burncoose Garden and House
Gwennap, Redruth TR16 6BJ

SUNDAY 22ND, 2pm to 5pm
Pedn Billy, Bar Road,
Helford Passage TR11 5LF

SUNDAY 29TH, 2pm to 5pm
Higher Trededen,
Peakswater, nr Pelynt PL13 2Q

MAY

SUNDAY 13TH, 2pm to 5pm
The Old Rectory, St Juliot,
nr Boscastle PL35 0BT

JUNE

SUNDAY 3RD, 2pm to 5pm
Little Park, Malpas,
Truro TR1 1SX

SUNDAY 17TH, 10am to 4pm
Lethytep, Penadlake,
Lanreath PL13 2PG

SUNDAY 24TH, 1pm to 5pm
Arundell, West Pentire,
Crantock TR8 5SE

JULY

SUNDAY 8TH, 2pm to 5pm
Meadowside, Trevarth,
Redruth TR16 6AE

JULY

SUNDAY 22ND, 2pm to 5pm
Trevoole, Praze-An-Beeble,
Camborne TR14 0RN

AUGUST

SUNDAY 5TH, 2pm to 5pm
Trenarth, High Cross,
Constantine TR11 5JN

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY 2ND, 2pm to 5pm
South Bosent, Dobwalls,
nr Liskeard PL14 4LX

SUNDAY 16TH, 2pm to 5pm
Marsh Villa Garden, Par,
St Austell PL24 2LU

Entrance **£5**

For more information
including garden descriptions,
directions and access please see
the centre pages and

cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/opengardens

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