

Cornwall
Wildlife Trust



Wild Cornwall

ISSUE 136 SUMMER 2018

Reflections on badgers and TB

There's more to
Brock than TB

Dung

Why we should
care about it

Delicious but destructive

Invasion of the
Pacific oyster

Discovery Day

Don't miss it!

Including
pull-out
Diary of
Events

welcome



Carolyn Cadman

After six months in post, I have been consistently impressed by the work of our volunteers and the contributions they make. 'A day in the life of a volunteer', on page 32, illustrates how one of our volunteers is involved in chemical surveys of streams, monitoring grey seals and is now training to be a British Divers Marine Life Rescue medic.

Ranging from organising our Open Gardens programme, to inspiring a younger generation by leading Wildlife Watch Beach Cleans, or getting wild in the Cornish countryside with some hands-on land management at our many Nature Reserves – we have a truly remarkable group of people working alongside our staff at Cornwall Wildlife Trust. Research is accumulating about the health and wellbeing benefits gained from volunteering, and even more so, from volunteering outdoors and for wildlife. It's more than just a rosy glow to your cheeks, with longer-term physical and mental health benefits to be had.

At Cornwall Wildlife Trust we also have a backbone of volunteers who set the Trust's strategy and challenge our performance, supporting staff to ensure we do the best we can. Experts in their field – providing guidance as we lead the way in conservation, in Cornwall.

So I'd like to say thank you. And remind myself that it can be the little actions that make a difference as well as the larger coordinated efforts. I am working on improving wildlife in my garden over the summer, and hope that wherever you are, you are enjoying being that little bit closer to nature. For the sake of your health, as well as for our wildlife and wild places.

Carolyn Cadman,
CE, Cornwall Wildlife Trust

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and Rowena Millar:
rowena@naturalword.co.uk

Events for the diary should be sent on the latest template, available from the Trust offices at Allet, to Mark Dungey:
diaryeditor.cwt@gmail.com

Badger
Cover photo © David Chapman

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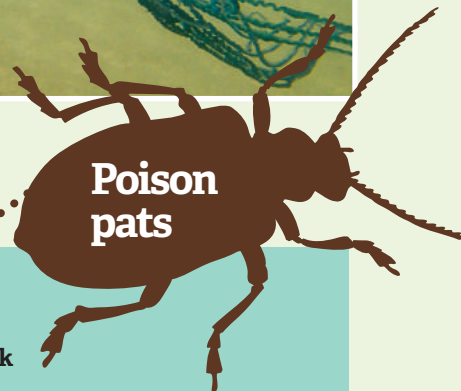
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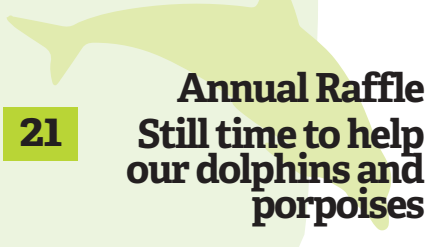
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Natural World

UK news from The Wildlife Trusts

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Focus on badgers



The badger has been in Britain for at least 250,000 years. Can we find a way to celebrate rather than persecute this native species, while also tackling TB in cattle?



Cheryl Marriott

In this special four-page article, our Head of Conservation Cheryl Marriott takes a step back from the controversial debates to realise there is much more to badgers than news stories would suggest ... and there's a glimmer of hope about disengaging badgers from the tangled issue of bovine TB.

Why do badgers have a striped face?

I only learnt the answer to this recently whilst reading the New Naturalist book *Badger* by Timothy Roper, as it quickly dawned on me that I knew little about badger ecology and behaviour. Most of my work on badgers has been about them coming into conflict with human interests: badgers occupying sites destined for built development, badgers digging up lawns and of course, badgers and the transmission of bovine TB. Most of the column inches featuring badgers cover the same contentious topics, so perhaps we should rekindle our interest in the natural history of these remarkable carnivores.



DAVID LIDSTONE

Badgers have a fascinating life history. Whilst they live in distinct territorial groups, mating with members of neighbouring groups is a common occurrence.

The badger species we have in Britain is the Eurasian badger *Meles meles*. Badgers belong to the Mustelid family so are a close relative of stoats, weasels, polecats, martens, wolverines and otters. All mustelids share a long, sinuous body-shape. In the case of badgers, this means they are perfectly adapted to live in burrow systems. Eurasian badgers are probably descended from martens in south-east Asia that left the forests 20 million years ago and sought shelter in underground burrows. Today, Eurasian badgers are found in an impressive variety of

habitats, from Ireland across to Russia. A similar species, the Asian badger, is found across the remainder of the continent from eastern Russia as far west as the Pacific Ocean.

Britain and Ireland have amongst the highest badger densities in Europe, probably due to a mix of the right climatic conditions and their protected status. Interestingly, Sweden also has a high density of badgers, but no one seems to know why. Populations are thought to be generally stable across most of the range, but the geographic range seems to be shrinking from the south and extending northwards in response to climate change.

Badgers share many characteristics with other mammal species; their nocturnal habit for instance, which means they are far more reliant on their senses of smell and hearing than their vision. Burrowing is not uncommon in other mammals, and like most burrow-dwellers, badgers have short, muscular limbs, strong claws and small ears and eyes. In other ways, though, badgers are unusual amongst the mustelids. Badgers are large and fairly cumbersome in comparison to stoats, weasels and martens. Stoats and weasels need to be fast and agile in order to catch their prey all year round; this speed also allows them to escape from predators. By contrast, the main food of badgers is the earthworm, and badgers have no natural predators, so there is no need to be built for speed. When threatened, badgers will generally stand and fight rather than escape, relying on their muscular bulk and their bite. This has the added advantage that they can afford to lay down a large amount of fat to get them through the winter when food is scarce.

There has been a huge amount of research into badger setts in recent years. Their scale and complexity took everyone by surprise. Setts are extended over time by successive generations, even though they may not actually require more living space. One particular sett that was excavated by researchers was estimated to have over 150 entrances and nearly 900m of tunnels. Setts provide a safe place for sleeping and breeding, and for spending many winter hours in torpor, where the metabolic rate is slowed to conserve energy.



Focus on badgers

An understanding of badger social groups and their territorial nature is essential when trying to tackle some of the human-badger conflicts; particularly the management of bovine TB in badger populations. In Britain badgers live in groups usually containing between two and eight adults. These groups occupy distinct territories, and whilst both males and females will mate with individuals from neighbouring groups (to prevent inbreeding), dispersal from one group to another is relatively rare.

One of the reasons we are planning to vaccinate badgers on our nature reserves as a means to control bovine TB in badgers is because it doesn't disrupt badger social groups in the same way that lethal control does. If badgers are removed from a territory, the space is less well defended and becomes available to neighbouring groups. Movement of badgers and contact between individuals from different social groups increases, as does transmission of bovine TB between the remaining badgers. All the evidence suggests that badger vaccination against bovine TB could be a viable option. This is not yet reflected in the Government's TB Eradication Strategy unfortunately, although it is being reviewed, with the results announced in September. At the time of writing we are still hopeful that the Zoological

Society of London's proposals for badger vaccination research in West Cornwall will go ahead; this will provide the evidence we need to determine what effect vaccination of badgers has on TB incidence in the badger population.

Badger vaccination won't fix the problem of bovine TB on its own, but it could take badgers out of the equation.

If vaccination starts to be used instead of culling we could all then enjoy having badgers in our countryside, without them being under a cloud. There is no doubt that badgers are an adaptable species and have recovered from past persecution, but might we now be pushing them too far?

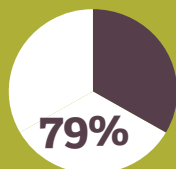
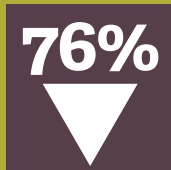
Going back to badger biology, and why they have the distinctive striped face: the theory is that they are not fast enough to run away from their enemies, but neither are they big enough to be left well alone, like bears for example. What badgers do have, though, is an impressively strong bite. Researchers believe that animals with a 'secret weapon' of some kind often have distinctive markings to advertise the fact. I will never look at the Cornwall Wildlife Trust logo in quite the same way!

Badger vaccination

the science

There is growing evidence to suggest that badger vaccination will have a beneficial effect on TB in cattle. There is a lot of misinformation circulating, so here are some of the key facts so that you can spread the word.

- Vaccination of badgers reduces the rate of new infections*** in badgers by 76%. Vaccination will not guarantee protection from infection in all individual badgers (this is also true for the human BCG vaccine against TB, which has been used successfully since the 1940s).
- Vaccinating at least one-third of adults in a badger social group reduces new infections*** in unvaccinated badger cubs by 79%. This is sometimes known as 'herd immunity'.
- Each individual badger only needs to be vaccinated once.** Vaccination is carried out once per year at each sett for four years. Repeat vaccination is to increase coverage by vaccinating new cubs and adults that might have joined the group over the year.



*measured using diagnostic tests

- The vaccination has no positive or negative effect on badgers that already have TB.** Badgers typically live for three to five years, so over a four-year period, vaccination should reduce new cases of TB in badgers whilst infected animals will gradually die off.
- Although the vaccine is live, it is safe and does not lead to shedding of BCG by vaccinated animals; neither does it disrupt badger social groups.** Radio tagging studies have also shown that vaccination does not lead to changes in badgers' ranging behaviour or 'perturbation'.
- During four years of badger vaccination across a 288km² area in Pembrokeshire, TB incidence in roadkill badgers declined year on year.** The sample size was small, but promisingly, incidence dropped from 19% in year one to 10% in year two, 6.5% in year three and 4% in year four.
- We don't know for sure, but we would expect reduced TB in the badger population to have a knock-on beneficial effect on TB in cattle.** If badger vaccination is carried out in more areas, the effects of TB in cattle can be better understood.
- An oral vaccine for badgers is currently in development.** This will make vaccinating badgers easier – as and when it is available, programmes can switch to this method.

TB incidence in roadkill badgers

YEAR ONE

19%



YEAR TWO

10%



YEAR THREE

6.5%



YEAR FOUR

4%

TOM MARSHALL



ANDY ROBERTSON



LEFT: No one should be writing off vaccination as a method for controlling TB in badgers; we do not yet know to what extent it could reduce TB incidence in cattle

RIGHT: An oral badger vaccine against TB is in development and will make the whole process much simpler



A Cornish fact

'Brogh' is the Cornish word for badger, and 'broghes' is the plural. This is a variation of one of the few Celtic words borrowed into English as 'brock'.

find out more...

An understanding of badger behaviour is vital in our efforts to control bovine TB. Badger vaccination by cage trapping does not disrupt social groups in the same way lethal control does.

about the science of badger vaccination here:
www.tbhub.co.uk/wildlife/badger-vaccination

about what the Trust is doing; please visit:
www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/living-landscapes/badgers-and-bovine-tb

Nature reserves news

Nowodhow an gwithvaow natur



Seán O'Hea



Nick Marriott



Peter Kent



Natalie Mitchell

Our Reserves Managers and East Cornwall Reserves Officer Natalie Mitchell describe their work to ensure that our nature reserves are ever-more wildlife friendly. Recently this has involved seasonal clearing, grazing, coppicing ... and a remarkable new machine for tackling steep and difficult terrain.

Mid-Cornwall

Making a mess for wildlife ¹

We have been eagerly awaiting the summer months to see the emerging results of further wetland habitat restoration work at Breney Common and Red Moor – parts of Helman Tor Nature Reserve. We have worked in partnership with the charity Plantlife to improve habitats for wildlife including rare plants, building on work carried out with the Freshwater Habitats Trust the previous year. On both sites willow scrub has been cleared to let light in, and then sediment removed to create the nutrient-poor, thin soil conditions required by plants such as the rare pillwort. There's no escaping the fact that at the end of winter it was fairly messy – but wildlife often likes a mess! We're expecting more shallow pond and open marshy areas, which should provide all sorts of ecological niches for plants and insects alike – it'll be exciting to watch the wildlife move back in over the coming years.

Cattle on Rosenannon Downs



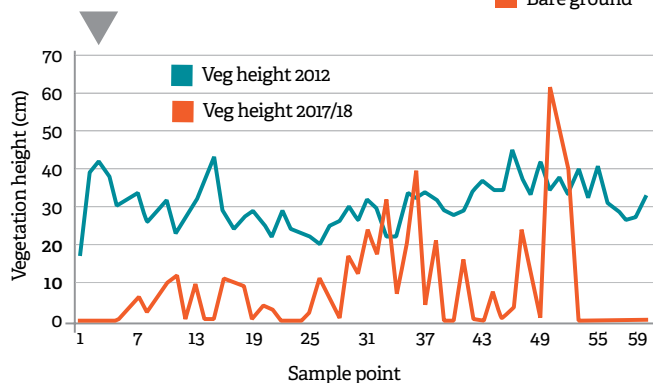
SEÁN O'HEA

Cattle grazing survey results are out ²

This summer marks six years since cattle grazing was re-established on Rosenannon and Tregonetha Downs, two commons owned by the Trust in the parish of St Wenn. This followed many months of planning, consultation and practical work – most significantly, working in partnership with local commons rights holders and Natural England to figure out how it was all going to work. During the consultation we presented the reasons why we and Natural England felt that reinstating cattle grazing, after as much as a 60-year absence, was so crucial for a wildlife-rich future for the Downs. We expected the cattle grazing to provide a more varied vegetation profile – from short turf to scrub (think of a saw blade rather than a ruler, each zig and zag providing vegetation at different growth stages with ideal conditions for different wildlife); more bare ground – great for insects and reptiles which use bare ground to bask on and burrow into; and less dominance of vigorously growing grasses, which shade out more delicate, rarer plants and heathers.

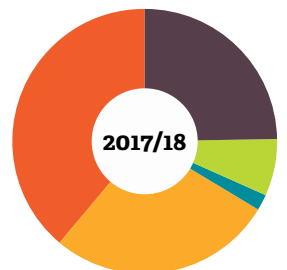
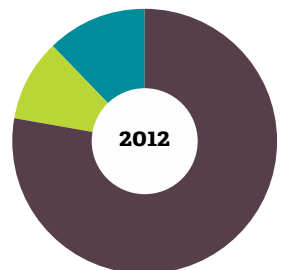
Ever since 2011, the year before grazing began, we have been carrying out survey work to record any changes. This year we've used charts to display a comparison of the vegetation changes over the years since early in the grazing project. The compared results of one survey area (transect) on Rosenannon Downs is shown below, and we believe it demonstrates that the grazing is working. The graph shows the vegetation height in 2012 (blue line) and the height in 2017/18 (orange line), with an increased saw tooth shape. The pie chart shows the changes in what's growing in that transect, which has changed from mostly grass to lots more bare ground and variation. This is satisfying to see. We'll keep on monitoring to check we're getting it right, and to see how the wildlife is responding to these changes.

Rosenannon Downs Transect 4 sward heights 2012 and 2017/18



Rosenannon Downs Plant composition Transect 4

- Purple moor grass
- Heather
- Gorse
- Wild flowers and grasses
- Bare ground





Re-wetting old stream beds in Pendarves Wood

RICH MOORE

East Cornwall

Embracing new technology to aid habitat management ^{3 4}

Access and terrain are often the trickiest elements to overcome when carrying out work on our nature reserves, especially when undertaking larger scale winter work such as scrub management or cutting firebreaks. Steep slopes and waterlogged ground can mean it's not feasible to use conventional tractors and machinery, as they will be too unstable or cause too much damage to the ground.

To overcome this problem, the East Cornwall Reserves Team employed the services of Country Conservation, one of Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Business Supporters, with whom we have built up a successful relationship over the years.



PETER KENT

Country Conservation's remotely operated flail in action on Priddacombe Downs Nature Reserve

This year we asked them to remove scrub from a particularly steep hillside at Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve³ in Saltash using their remotely operated flail. As this machine is set low to the ground it reduces the risk of becoming unbalanced when working on steep terrain. The operator controls the machine via a remote control so they can remain at a safe working distance.

This same machine also proved very successful cutting firebreaks in the more remote location of Priddacombe Downs Nature Reserve⁴ on Bodmin Moor. Largely comprised of mire and wet heath, machinery access is nearly impossible at this reserve and firebreaks are therefore usually cut using brushcutters. As the remote flail runs on caterpillar tracks and is relatively small and light, it reduces the likelihood of it getting stuck in soft ground and it made quick work of what is usually a very labour intensive and time-consuming task.

New, specialised technology such as this enables us to complete work more efficiently and to be more versatile in our habitat management approach.

West Cornwall

Pendarves Wood ⁵ – a natural playground for families

All 15 hectares of Pendarves Wood, near Camborne, have been cleared of rhododendron and laurel thanks to four years of funding from Natural England. To begin with, the freshly felled areas look like a scene from a battlefield, particularly as any standing or fallen deadwood is left in place. By the second summer, however, these sunny and sheltered areas are full of woodland plants and buzzing with insects. By the fourth to fifth summer the previously bare ground is thick with a staggering amount of naturally regenerating tree species, which provide excellent nesting conditions for visiting birds such as willow warbler, blackcap and chiffchaff.

It's not just the rapid return of wildlife that's surprised nature reserves staff, but also the discovery of previously unknown streams, ponds, islands, bridges and beautifully crafted hedge banks which were part of the formal gardens of Pendarves House estate before its demise. The numerous hummocks, hollows, ditches, streams and islands, with dozens of fallen trees criss-crossing them, provide a natural playground for the daring – it's a Marriott family favourite, so put it on your 'to do' list for a visit in 2018.

Coppicing returns to Devichoys Wood ⁶ Nature Reserve

As part of a new 10-year project, Devichoys Wood has had its first coupe coppiced (a periodic cut that allows regrowth). The project aims to deliver a sustainable coppice cycle for part of the woodland, creating varied habitats ranging from flower-rich open ground good for butterflies, invertebrates and small mammals to dense scrub which is great for attracting warblers. The work has been carried out as part of a community wood fuel project by Nick and Tom of Working Woodlands Cornwall, a not-for-profit organisation.



Before and after photos of a typical coppice coupe after two summers of regrowth

TOM KEMP

Tom and Nick work with volunteers to share knowledge and training, providing communities with the opportunity to get involved in managing woodlands. The timber goes to developing local markets hoping to reduce the gap between product and consumer. Wood of insufficient quality for building or crafts will be solar-dried to produce sustainable firewood available for sale locally. Any profits support the woodland conservation work.

Find out more at Working Woodlands Facebook page.

An explosion of jellyfish



Nic Harrison-White



Laura Fox

Nic Harrison-White and Laura Fox of our Wildlife Information Service tell us about a wondrous phenomenon in our seas.

The past few years have been unprecedented in terms of jellyfish sightings. It began in 2014 when we saw swarms of enormous barrel jellyfish (*Rhizostoma pulmo*) drift into our waters. These dustbin-lid-sized beasts look daunting but are completely harmless. 2016 was just as eventful, including a mass stranding of thousands of moon jellyfish (*Aurelia aurita*): small, delicate creatures with a mild sting. And then, just last year, our waters were invaded by Portuguese man-of-war (*Physalia physalis*). Not technically jellyfish but hydrozoans, Portuguese man-of-war are actually a collection of smaller organisms, each with their own specialism, that work together as a unit. These strange creatures are capable of inflicting a dangerous sting, even when stranded on the beach, so take care when they are near. Another jellyfish to be wary of, the mauve stinger (*Pelagia noctiluca*), was also seen in our waters in record numbers in the autumn. This was most unusual, given that this is a cold-water species, whereas many of the other species appearing en masse prefer warmer waters.

Such swarm events are highly unpredictable and we cannot say which species we will see floating our way this summer. If you spot any jellyfish while out and about, please let us know. You can report stranded jellyfish to the Marine Strandings Network on **0345 201 2626**, or submit all other sightings to www.orks.org.uk

Jellyfish begin life as sessile polyps living on the seabed. When conditions are just right they strobilate – a process in which the top surface of the polyp divides by segmentation, creating multiple identical baby jellyfish. In just a few hours, thousands of jellyfish are released and find themselves at the mercy of the ocean currents. They will either perish together or, if conditions are favourable, thrive together, explaining why we experience these mass swarms of a single species.

We have seen so many swarms recently of both warm and cold water species, there seems to be something else happening. It may be that jellyfish numbers are on the rise globally, suggesting that the smaller gelatinous zooplankton they rely on for food is increasing in the oceans. This could be due to a range of factors, from climate change to high nutrient pollution inputs, or just a natural fluctuation.

This explosion of jellyfish is good news for animals that feed on them, such as sea turtles. We have witnessed more of these stunning creatures off our coast, too, as they pursue their prey into our waters.

If you are interested in finding out more about jellyfish in Cornwall, we have a workshop in October. Check the events pages for more information.

The Wildlife Information Service is here to help you with your wildlife questions, from identifying species to encouraging wildlife in your garden. If you have anything you would like to ask us, we are only a phone call or email away.

Barrel jellyfish, the gentle giants



Portuguese man-of-war, a floating hydrozoan colony

This explosion of jellyfish is good news for animals that feed on them, such as sea turtles. We have witnessed more of these stunning creatures off our coast, too, as they pursue their prey into our waters.

for more
information:

The Wildlife Information Service:
erccis.org.uk/WIS

Submit your jellyfish sightings to
Online wildlife Recording for
Kernow & Scilly (ORKS)
www.orks.org.uk



Marine Strandings Network:
www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/strandings

Moon jellyfish (*Aurelia aurita*)

By-the-wind-sailor (*Velella velella*),
a hydroid polyp



CWTF MARINE STRANDINGS NETWORK

Blue jellyfish
(*Cyanea lamarckii*)



Poison pats

Why we should protect dung wildlife



Pete Warman



Stuart Coleman

Peter Warman, Manager, and Stuart Coleman, Farm Adviser, of the Upstream Thinking project bring us down to earth as they discuss an essential but often overlooked substance.

The squelch of cow pat underfoot is a necessary part of a good walk in the Cornish countryside.

Grass pastures form much of the landscape in Cornwall, where the warm, wet climate and steep river valleys often favour grass over arable systems. Cows, sheep and horses leave dung while they graze, which gets broken down naturally and fertilises the soil. Dung provides many other benefits for wildlife and farming, but these are under threat from lasting toxins in some livestock wormers.

Dung is vital if you are a coprophilous (dung-loving) invertebrate.

Fresh droppings are quickly inhabited by a range of specialist insects which rely on dung for their life cycle: laying eggs which hatch into larvae, which feed on this organic matter to grow, before turning into adults. There are over 40 species of dung beetle in the UK which eat and breed in livestock droppings. Some also tunnel below the ground to make dung balls where they lay their eggs.

Coprophilous creatures co-evolved with wild herbivorous mammals, but with less of these around, it is now important that livestock dung provides a food source. As well as being curiously fascinating, dung-diners are themselves on the menu for some of our cherished wildlife including hedgehogs, choughs, and horseshoe bats.



6%

Cattle can produce around **6% of their body weight** in dung every day.



On average, each animal may produce **9 tons** of dung each year.

12



Dung from just **12 cows** could cover a **hectare in a year** if it weren't broken down by dung-loving invertebrates.



Dung wildlife relies on healthy cow pats

Dung life is also important for farm economics

Invertebrate activity in dung helps it to mix with the soil quickly, where it provides nutrients for better grass growth. This also protects livestock by quickly removing dung that contains harmful parasites. The value of dung beetles to UK agriculture was recently estimated at £370 million per year.

Rivers benefit too; dung which is quickly incorporated into soil doesn't get washed into the water where toxic wormers can kill freshwater wildlife too. Dung also encourages earthworm activity; they create tunnels in soil which trap rainwater. Over large areas this reduces the downstream flooding risk.

Anthelmintics are wormers which improve livestock health by controlling a range of intestinal parasites; but when active ingredients end up in dung, some are deadly to beneficial invertebrates. Through projects like Upstream Thinking, Cornwall Wildlife Trust is supporting hundreds of farmers across the county to protect wildlife while also producing good food. One focus of this work is to protect dung life by ensuring livestock worming practices are as wildlife-friendly as possible.

The unintended impacts of some wormers threaten Cornwall's dung insects and wildlife, but there are plenty of practical solutions for farmers and horse owners.



Sheep can produce around **4% of their body weight** in dung every day.



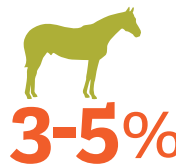
On average, each sheep may produce more than **800kg of dung each year!**

3 practical solutions to healthy dung management

1. Choose wormers which include the most benign active ingredients.
2. Only use wormers when necessary, rather than routine or whole-herd treatments. Conduct faecal egg-counts to show which animals need treating; the cost of this should be recouped in better management of animal health and reduced risk of drug resistance.
3. Use land management practices which reduce the need for chemical wormers. For example, chicory and other beneficial herbs in pastures offer natural worming properties, as well as improving wildlife diversity.

More guidance about responsible use of wormers is available from cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/upstreamthinking

Lots more about the importance of dung beetles can be found on the DUMP website, dungbeetlemap.wordpress.com



Horses can produce about **3-5% of their body weight** in dung every day.



An average 16-hand horse can produce **18kg** of dung a day.

£370 million



Dung beetles are worth **£370 million** to UK Agriculture per year.



Chough eat dung insects

PETE WARMAN ▲
JEREMY BARTLETT ▼



Yellow dung flies (*Scathophaga stercoraria*) on Alexanders



Noon fly (*Mesembrina meridiana*)

JEREMY BARTLETT ▼



Dung beetle (*Aphodius pedellus*)

STUART COLEMAN ▲



Dung beetle larva (*Aphodius sp.*)



Welcome to the Centre for Applied Zoology, Cornwall College Newquay page. Our programme aims to maintain young people's instinctive interest in wildlife. This partly mirrors my own interest in nature as a child – I played in fields and ditches and fell in love with rockpooling, snorkelling and fishing on coastal holidays. But within a year or so at secondary school, I was teased about birdwatching and slipped away from being involved with nature.

And this is not unusual. According to a Natural England study conducted in 2015, children's relationship with the natural environment changes as they mature, with a move away from physical engagement in middle childhood towards socialisation in adolescence. They don't re-engage until early adulthood – if they re-engage at all.

In my case, I found my way back to nature a few years later when environmentalism, perversely, seemed more acceptable amongst my peer group and I wore my One World T-shirt with pride in the sixth form. Roll on 25 years, and a much-needed shot of peer group credibility came to Cornwall, with specialist courses from Cornwall College Newquay in the shape of specialised courses such as FdSc Wildlife Education and Media, a course designed to produce the next generation of conservation-literate educators, journalists, wildlife guides, campaigners and media producers.

Jason Birt, Programme Manager for FdSc Wildlife Education and Media

Our students are therefore involved in a vast range of conservation activities: we are the partner organisation for the Your Shore Beach Rangers project with Cornwall Wildlife Trust, actively training beach rangers through the Beach Rangers Academy, and many students are active in marine conservation groups, principally Newquay Marine Group. Other students work in practical terrestrial and freshwater conservation activities, and Wildlife Watch, becoming inspirational role models for children throughout Cornwall. So we hope this new addition to *Wild Cornwall* rekindles other young peoples' energy, talent and commitment to nature, and gives a taster about what is concerning them today. With forest schools and wild activities popping up all over Cornwall, a new generation need not be shy about birdwatching any more.



Cornwall's herring gulls (*Larus argentatus*)



Common species that are seen on a daily basis are just as important as our unique rare species that are seen around Cornwall's coast. In Newquay you have the opportunity

to see such beautiful wildlife from dolphins to porpoises, from the iconic cornish chough to peregrine falcons. As well as Newquay thriving in biodiversity its location boasts some spectacular views of ocean and surrounding woodland. I want to focus here on a species that is extremely overlooked by humans due to its pervasive behaviour. The truth is that this beautiful iconic species, although thought by most people to be common and annoying the species is in decline throughout the UK.

To read the whole article, go to [\[website address\]](#)

Jade Clayson, FdSc Conservation and Ecology 2nd year student

Protecting Cornwall

Cornwall is facing some massive changes with regards to developments that are going on within the county at the moment. By 2030, the government has stated that they want 57,000 new properties to be built in this county alone, so what effect is that going to have on the environment? Masses of land are being sold off to create new estates to expand towns and villages in Cornwall, and this may include areas of land that are abundant in wildlife, both flora and fauna. Since the loosening of laws in respect to land within greenbelt areas being open to development, patches of land that hold a high diversity of wildlife could be open for planning which can destroy functioning habitats including important pollinating insects and ground nesting bird species such as skylarks.



Cornwall is facing some massive changes with regards to developments that are going on within the county at the moment. By 2030, the government has stated that they want 57,000 new properties to be built in this county alone, so what effect is that going to have on the environment? Masses of land are being sold off to create new estates to expand towns and villages in Cornwall, and this may include areas of land that are abundant in wildlife, both flora and fauna. Since the loosening of laws in respect to land within greenbelt areas being open to development, patches of land that hold a high diversity of wildlife could be open for planning which can destroy functioning habitats including important pollinating insects and ground nesting bird species such as skylarks.

To read the whole article, go to [\[website address\]](#)

Ruth Kent, FdSc Wildlife Education and Media

TOM HIBBERT

Families going *wild* across Cornwall

Wildlife Watch



Joanna Arvor

One of the most exciting aspects of Wildlife Watch is our collaboration with a marvellous range of organisations, local businesses and local groups. We are visiting more sites and covering

a greater part of Cornwall than ever, and families can take part in a fantastic range of activities as a result.

We've been on Bug Hunts at King Edward Mine, Camborne, enjoyed Beach Cleaning & Crafts with West Cornwall Friends of the Earth, Polurrian Hotel and Friends of Polurrian Beach near Mullion, and Gardening & Planting with Perennial Harvest, based in St Austell – just a few examples. A glance at What's On - Wildlife Watch on the website through the year shows us getting wild with organisations including Beach Guardian, Forest Holidays, Your Shore Beach Rangers, Atlantic Divers, Wheal Martyn and the Badger Forest School, Porthowan Eco Park, Cornwall Wildlife Trust Beaver Project, Helford and Polzeath VMCA's (Voluntary Marine Conservation Areas) and Cornish Rock Tors.

And there are more exciting developments coming soon! -We are linking with Generation Wild. This is a student-led volunteering project based at the University of Exeter's Penryn Campus. Generation Wild will introduce children to the environment through free outreach sessions for local schools and children's groups here in Cornwall. Wildlife Watch family events will take place six times a year on Penryn Campus during term time in October, November, December, February, March and May. Thank you to Jenny and Chloe, who pioneered this partnership! What a wonderful opportunity for families in this area, spreading a little Wildlife Watch wildness and happiness!

Joanna Arvor, Family Events and Volunteer Coordinator

TOP TO BOTTOM: Beach art and smiley faces with West Cornwall Friends of the Earth and Polurrian Hotel.

A natural tiara at Wheal Martyn with Badger Forest School.

Campfire cooking in the wild outdoors with Badger Forest School at Wheal Martyn.



NATALIE GIBB



ROB STEVENSON



ROB STEVENSON

“ I've run Badger Forest School sessions both at Cardinham, Bodmin & Wheal Martyn, St Austell. Both sites are brilliant as families can enjoy our sessions, but also visit the woods or museum and make a whole day of it too. Forest School ethos is very child-led and children always love the campfire or fire lighting and den building - regardless of the weather! ”

Ysella,
Wildlife Watch volunteer

Conservation catch-up

Nowedhyans gwithans



Cheryl Marriott
Head of Conservation

Cheryl Marriott reports on the Trust's latest conservation news.

Cornwall's beavers on the BBC

The Trust is a lead partner in the Cornwall Beaver Project. We were delighted to be featured on BBC Countryfile in April, showing presenter Ellie Harrison what the Cornwall beavers have been up to. Following a study tour last November, we have made a short documentary 'Living with Beavers', which features farmers and landowners in Bavaria, Germany, who have learnt to live alongside a large wild population of beavers over the last 50 years. If you missed it, you can watch the BBC clip on our YouTube channel, and we'll keep you posted about when our new beaver documentary is ready on Facebook.



TOM SHELLEY

Progress with strandings research

In the last issue of *Wild Cornwall* we reported a record 250 dead dolphins and porpoises on Cornish beaches. Our Marine Strandings Appeal (see page 21) has already raised over £10,000 to help us tackle this problem. Thank you to everyone who has donated. We are working with an MSc student to analyse all available data to try to find out how the deaths were caused. For the early part of this year the dolphin and porpoise strandings seemed to have returned to normal levels, but we did record a high number of seal strandings, particularly pups that did not survive the winter storms.

Environmental growth for business

The Trust is a partner on the University of Exeter-led project 'Environmental Growth for Business'. As part of the project we have a new business advisor in post for three years: Catherine Pinney will be working with businesses to see where they can improve their environmental performance, from enhancing wildlife habitats and reducing water and non-renewable energy use to looking at new uses for waste. There is a grant scheme connected to the project. If you run a business and would like to get involved, please contact catherine.pinney@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk



European Union
European Regional Development Fund

Consultation on new Marine Conservation Zones

The national consultation on the third tranche of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) has been launched and includes several large offshore sites around Cornwall. We will be campaigning to support the inclusion of the Cornish MCZs this summer.



MATT SLATER

Pesticide amnesty

Our Upstream Thinking team, working with farmers on behalf of South West Water, have been running a 'pesticide amnesty' over the spring. The idea is to remove unused chemicals from farms to reduce the risk of them leaking or being disposed of in a way which could damage habitats. Get in touch with the Upstream Thinking team to find out how you can take part upstreamthinking@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Online Recording Kernow and Scilly (ORKS) App launched

Recording Cornwall's wildlife is easier than ever thanks to a new app developed by the Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS), hosted by the Trust. The ORKS App was launched during National Hedgehog Week in May. You can find out more here: orks.org.uk



Alien invasion on our shores



Matt Slater

Our estuaries and harbours are increasingly being threatened by an alien oyster, writes Marine Awareness Officer Matt Slater.

Originally introduced for aquaculture, the Pacific or Portuguese oyster (*Magallana gigas*) is a fast-growing species that

threatens the very habitats that make our south coast estuaries, bays and harbours so important to marine life.

Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Shoresearch Project has been recording marine life on our shores with the help of a dedicated team of citizen science volunteers for six years now. During this time we have noticed a striking increase in the abundance of many non-native species of algae, seasquirts and crustaceans. The recent massive increase in the presence of invasive Pacific oysters is causing the most concern for several reasons.

Pacific oysters were first introduced to Britain in 1926 and were brought into the UK to be farmed in the 1960s. At that time government scientists stated that this species would be ideal for aquaculture as, although they would grow well here, sea temperatures at that time were not high enough to allow the oysters themselves to reproduce. Since then we have witnessed the effects of climate change and in many parts of the UK, including Cornwall, a wild population of these oysters has now become established.



A Pacific oyster reef at Grid Irons on the shore opposite Fowey docks. It has totally smothered the shore

CLAIRE HODDINOTT, FOWEY ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP/
FOWEY HARBOUR COMMISSIONERS

Unlike the native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) which lives below low water, Pacifics tend to live on the shore and often attach to hard surfaces such as rocky reefs, harbour walls and pontoons. Each adult oyster can release millions of tiny larvae which settle as spat and then rapidly grow. Eventually they are able to take hold on softer intertidal mud flats by growing attached to each other. The oyster reefs created are razor sharp and they result in the loss of estuarine sand and mud flats, a very important and productive habitat, vital as a feeding ground for wading birds and for important commercial fish stocks such as bass and bream.

Surveys carried out by Helford Marine Conservation Group, Falmouth Marine Group and Friends of the Fowey Estuary, as well as Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Shoresearch project, have highlighted that there is already a considerable issue with these invasives in the Fal, Helford, Fowey and Tamar estuaries. Shoresearch surveys have shown that in some areas we are now also finding oysters in coastal sites where you wouldn't expect to see them, such as Mounts Bay, Whitsand Bay and St Ives Bay.

Some people may be thinking, "What is the problem with a plague of delicious edible oysters?" Sadly, the majority of oysters that we find are attached to rocky reefs and it is very hard to remove them without damaging the shells. When you eat oysters it is important to purify them first by storing them in specially designed aquaria, filtered by UV sterilisers. Oysters with damaged shells usually die before being properly sterilised, making commercial collection and sale impossible for those found attached to reefs.

Natural England are understandably extremely concerned about the impact this species could have on our Marine Protected Areas and thanks to European Marine and Fisheries funding, a major partnership project between Natural England, Cornwall Wildlife Trust and Devon ANOB has just started to both monitor the problem and find solutions.

Currently, the only practical approach to limit the numbers and spread of Pacific oysters is to kill them *in situ* by breaking their shells with a hammer. The oysters die instantly and the meat is not wasted, as it is scavenged by crabs and other animals. Other solutions will be researched by National England as part of the project.

Evidence from Kent Wildlife Trust shows that this approach is effective, and Cornwall Wildlife Trust will be looking for lots more volunteers this autumn to help us survey and control oysters all around our coastline.

To get involved, please email shoresearch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

know your oysters

The difference between the Pacific and the native oyster



Pacific oyster (*Magallana gigas*) (formerly *Crassostrea gigas*)

- Sharp frilly edge – sometimes purple/black
- Usually attached to rock on the shore
- Very variable in shape and size
- Growing to 20cm in length.

Native or 'flat' oyster (*Ostrea edulis*)

- More delicate frills – flatter, more circular overall outline
- Uncommon on shore – usually found beneath the low water mark in estuaries.



Specialist Groups



Whatever the weather, help yourself by helping wildlife

There is a growing body of evidence that being in the natural world leads to creativity, relieves stress, sharpens concentration and boosts the immune system. Early this year, Cornwall's specialist wildlife groups were out in all weathers.

Even in cold and rain they reaped rich rewards: a sense of achievement and of course, the sheer joy gained from observing and helping wildlife, despite, or as in the Photographic group's case, because of, the dull conditions.

Dull conditions enabled Karin Saunders to produce this masterpiece on a Photo Group outing

David Chapman of the **Cornwall Wildlife Trust Photographic Group** relates:

"In the winter we had two field trips specifically organised to practise landscape photography, one at Trevoze Head (and Constantine Bay), the other at Cape Cornwall. In both cases we planned to stay for sunset but we didn't see any sun at Trevoze. Dull conditions are not great for landscape photography but it did give us the chance to play with our neutral density filters. These are dark filters which result in a longer exposure and create that 'milky water' effect – see Karin Saunders' image of Trevoze Head; notice also the way in which Karin has composed the picture to use the foreground sea to lead the eye towards the lighthouse."

Visit the Photo Group's latest exhibition in the meetings room at Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Five Acres offices, Allet, or come to a Photo Group meeting at Allet (see events diary, centre pages).

Robert Moor, from the **Cornwall's Living Churchyards project**, also reports a drab start to the year's volunteering, followed by positive news:

"It was a damp, miserable day in February when a noble, hardworking group met together at St Uny, Lelant, to do a rake-up. This closed status churchyard had just received its late annual

cut by the Cornwall Council Team, normally planned for October. During a break in our work, we erected the new interpretation map that local groups and St Ives Council had generously donated. Even at that time, there were snowdrops (*Galanthus nivalis*) carpeting cleared areas. Many thanks to those hardy volunteers who supported us in the rain.

But the greatest news of all is that The Wheal Buzzy Project, to support struggling bee species across AONBs (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty) has received funding from its bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund. Congratulations to our expert Paddy Saunders; the initiative will enthuse several church groups into projects, and encourage schools, with voluntary help, to planting the appropriate flora."



Volunteers admiring the new interpretation board in Lelant

ROBERT MOOR



So what are these two Specialist Groups doing next? David Chapman has a preview of forthcoming Photo Group expeditions:

"In August, Becky Curtis and Karin Saunders have arranged special access to the Natural England HQ on The Lizard, where we will photograph insects, flowers and birds. Dave Thomas is leading a trip to Breney Common in early September, so if you want help with identifying and photographing dragonflies and butterflies that would be a great trip to go on. I am leading a walk at Degibna on Loe Pool in October, looking for fungi in the woodland and doing a bit of bird watching around the edge of the lake. See the diary of events on pages 24–29 for details."

Robert Moor's own local churchyard project at St Clement has, sadly, closed after 15 years, but might restart in the future. Robert is appealing for help throughout the rest of Cornwall:

"Trust members living near churchyard projects are badly needed to guide and support volunteers. Church members tend to be elderly and not the most active workers, however beneficial some gentle exercise might be for them! If you can share knowledge and expertise helping a local project, it will be most worthwhile; not only for those endangered buzzy invertebrates, but for the dwindling Cornish flora too. Contact me on (01872) 272929."

Volunteers needn't confine themselves to the land. Sue Sayer, describing the work of Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust (CSGRT), conveys the sheer joy of volunteering on a boat – first just in summer and now all year round:

"Seven years ...WOW! Time flies when you're having fun in a truly awesome environment. In April 2011, British Divers Marine Life Rescue offered Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust their RIB (rigid inflatable boat) for coastal surveys. Our PIPs (Photo Identification Projects) using boats began with the Carracks to St Agnes (CASPIP) survey."

In July 2011 the Polzeath (POLPIP) survey started and by October, skippers Chris and Annabelle Lowe embarked on our first St Agnes to Polzeath (STAPIP) survey aboard 'Atlantic Diver'. Initially summer surveys, by 2014 they extended all year round. Now we do three quarterly surveys with Sea-Changers and Polzeath Marine Conservation Group, currently funded by outdoor clothing and gear suppliers Patagonia – all with Newquay Sea Safaris.



Inspiring volunteers make these surveys possible

To date we've done 40 CASPIP, 35 POLPIP and 27 STAPIP surveys. We know what this coast looks like and are 'eyes and ears' to detect changes taking place. We record species including cetaceans, sea birds, jellyfish and sunfish as well as seals, alongside human activity, disturbance, entanglement and ghost gear. 2018 saw microplastics and eDNA added to the list. What started as a seal survey has transformed into vital systematic, long-term 'marine life and human impact' research for 115km of Cornwall's north coast, monitoring three Marine Conservation Zones. Data feeds into national and international projects. We are hugely grateful to all our volunteers and to partner organisations Cornwall College, Newquay and Newquay and Polzeath Marine Groups.

Believe us when we say, Cornwall's coast is spectacular in all seasons and conditions!"

To take part in CSGRT, email sue@cornwallsealgroup.co.uk

Whether you've just tried out The Wildlife Trusts' '30 Days Wild' challenge for the first time, or you're an experienced naturalist, there's an opportunity to meet together through the Specialist Groups to help both wildlife and ourselves in meaningful ways. *Read more about how Nature Matters under Discover & Learn on our website.*

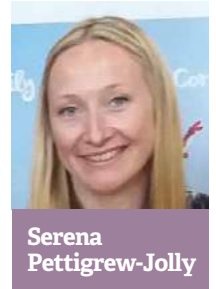


Recording nesting ledges provides vital data

ALL PHOTOS: SUE SAYER

Businesses lend a helping hand

The most popular way for a business to pledge support is through annual membership to our Business Supporter scheme. We currently have over 160 committed business members!



here are some other ideas

Donation of prizes

which we use for our Annual Raffle and other competitions.

RIGHT: Jon Tremain regularly donates stunning wildlife artwork.

BELOW: Hotel Tresanton has donated a luxury short break.



Gifts of specialist equipment

such as wildlife cameras, to help with conservation work.

BELOW: Handykam provides Meerkams for children to explore nature.



Giveaways

RIGHT: HatHats coffee gifts delicious freshly roasted coffee samples for our events.



Employee fundraising

by doing something fun and raising funds, such as a sponsored swim or wearing wellies to work.



Sponsoring our stunning calendar

to cover print costs.



Volunteering

through our Wild Work days to inspire their customers or members of the public about wildlife.



Choosing the Trust to be their Charity of the Year



Hosting nature events

to inspire their customers or members of the public about wildlife.

BELOW: John Bray Cornish Holidays sponsor marine events.



Welcome!

We would like to welcome the following businesses to our Business Supporter scheme.

Wildlife Partners

Avanti Gas

Business Members

Arts and media
Silverlake Design

The Royal Cornwall
Polytechnic



Proud to support
**Cornwall
Wildlife Trust**

Whatever the size of your business, we are always delighted to find ways to work together. To discover more, please contact **Serena Pettigrew-Jolly**, Business Support Manager, on (01872) 302264 or serena.pettigrewjolly@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Annual Raffle

Top prizes include:

A luxury one night stay for two people at **Hotel Tresanton, St Mawes**, including dinner and breakfast

A pair of professional **Opticron Traveller BGA ED 8x32 binoculars**

£500 cash prize!

Special Free Draw

Sell **50 tickets or more**, to be in with a chance to win a **two night stay for two people at 4 star Mullion Cove Hotel** with a Cornish cream tea upon arrival, including dinner in the award winning Atlantic View restaurant.

This year's annual raffle has some great prizes on offer and you could be in with a chance of winning them!

Call our team at **(01872) 273939** to order your booklet or buy online at www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/raffle

£1
per ticket

WILL HAWKES

Still time to **help** our dolphins and porpoises

With your help, we have so far raised over **£11,000** of our **£16,000** appeal target.

Since launching the appeal in January, our supporters have shared their own devastating experiences of discovering these majestic creatures washed up dead on local beaches. If you love dolphins and porpoises as much as we do, please be part of our project. We want to keep more dolphins and porpoises alive and thriving in our seas.



Ruth Williams, the Trust's Marine Conservation Manager, is presenting the research we have carried out to decision-makers and researchers at a national and strategic level, highlighting the fact that 2017 was the worst in 15 years for marine strandings along the Cornish coastline.

Ruth says, "I am hopeful that we will start to get the answers we need to enable us to work proactively to better protect our dolphins and porpoises. Bycatch is still going on in local fisheries and has not gone away. I am pleased that the Institute of Zoology is keeping this issue on the agenda".

We still need to raise just under **£5,000** to carry out our work.

Here's how to donate and make a difference today:



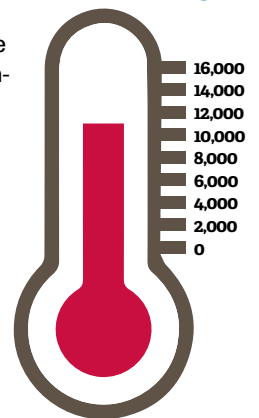
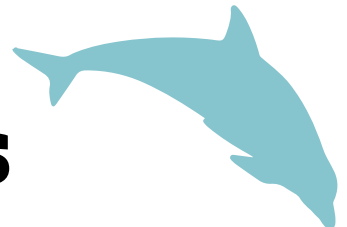
Text **STRA18 £5** or **£10** to **70070**



Donate securely online at www.justgiving.com/cornwallwildlifetrust



Call us on **(01872) 273939** (credit card donations only).



We need just 250 people to donate £20 - can you help us?

Have you seen a stranding? Let us know: call our Marine Strandings Network hotline on **(0345) 2012626**.




Over the past 12 years we have donated £135,000 to the Cornwall Wildlife Trust!

Every year we donate 1% of our turnover to charity through our Little Clothes BIG Change project. We are supporting the Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Living Seas Programme, helping them to protect our seas and coastline.

Help us to continue making BIG changes by shopping at welovefrugi.com or call 01326 572828 to request a catalogue.

Proud to support **Little Clothes BIG CHANGE** and **Cornwall Wildlife Trust** 

Beautiful **organic cotton clothing** for babies, toddlers, children and mums too!

welovefrugi.com


Cornwall Wildlife Trust Business Supporter ZLC is delighted to announce a special offer for Wild Cornwall readers:



£100 DONATION to Cornwall Wildlife Trust per renewable energy system installed **PLUS** **£100 DISCOUNT**

OR Readers can choose to donate the **full £200 to the Trust!**

Use code '**Cornwall Wildlife Trust**' when making initial enquiry. Valid until Oct 2018

zlcenergy.co.uk
01726 390390

Proud to support **Cornwall Wildlife Trust** 

Cornwall Wildlife Trust 

Trustees for Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Do you have the skills and experience to lend your expertise to the leading local conservation charity in Cornwall?

If so, please email us on carolyn.cadman@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk for a confidential discussion.



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All profits are donated to Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Nature notices



Marine Week is back and bigger than ever

Our Marine Conservation team invites you to go out and experience our wonderful marine life. Here in Cornwall we have a wealth of fabulous family events at the start of the school summer holidays. Join us on rockpool rambles, kayak beach cleans, clifftop sea watches, arts and crafts, boat trips and crabbing sessions. See the centre pages of this magazine and our website:

www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/whatson

Open your garden to support Cornish wildlife

We are looking for new gardens to open between April and September 2019. To make things easy for garden owners, all stewarding, signage, car parking, catering and organising is managed by Cornwall Wildlife Trust volunteers. Our only requirement (apart from the garden looking stunning on the day!) is nearby space to park about 50 cars, and access to basic kitchen facilities.

If your garden might be suitable, we would love to hear from you. Email: stephen.howe@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk or phone: (01872) 571925.

Thank you

A big thank you to all who voted for Cornwall Wildlife Trust in the M&S Energy Fund awards in 2017. As regional winners we received £12,000 to have solar panels installed at our offices, reducing both our carbon footprint and our running costs. ZLC, who installed the panels, are Cornwall Wildlife Trust Business Supporters.

Calendar 2019

The Wild Cornwall 2019 calendar is now available for buy. It features magnificent images of Cornwall's flora, fauna and habitats to delight you and your friends all year round. All proceeds support Cornwall's wildlife, with production costs covered by our generous sponsors. Only £6.50 or three for £16. Call our team on (01872) 302233 or visit cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/calendar

Marine book reviews

The amazing photo of Pen-wyn Reef on the manacles featured in our 2019 Wild Cornwall Calendar was taken by renowned underwater photographer Anita Sherwood.

Anita's books, *Dive Weekends in South West England*, in which Cornwall features heavily, and *British Shore Dives*, are recommended by our Marine Awareness Officer Matt Slater. Matt says, "These are practical and inspiring books that any diver will enjoy." See <http://britishshoredives.co.uk>

Exploring Britain's Hidden World: a natural history of seabed habitats is the culmination of 50 years of research by author Keith Hiscock, drawing on 200 years of underwater exploration. This is a fascinating book for anyone with an interest in marine biology, diving or underwater photography. Available from www.wildnaturepress.com



Switch to green and Ecotricity will donate £60

Cornwall Wildlife Trust has partnered with Ecotricity on an exciting new offer. Ecotricity has an excellent reputation and provides electricity generated through wind and solar power. The Trust has recently chosen it as the supplier for our headquarters. Now, gas and electricity customers that switch their supply to Ecotricity will also benefit Cornwall Wildlife Trust as we will receive a one off donation of up to £60! To get a free quote and for more details, please visit www.ecotricity.co.uk/cwt

pull-out

Diary of events

Dydhlyver hwarvosow

August 2018
to
November
2018

Cornwall
Wildlife Trust



AUGUST Mis Est

Wednesday 1 to Friday 3

Seaqwest Sea Watch

Wed: Towan Headland, Newquay

Thur: The Rumps, Polzeath

Fri: Hella Point, nr Porthgwarra

11.00am to 1.00pm

Join dedicated recorders & volunteers at sea watches countywide for the National Whale & Dolphin Watch. For more info including July's sea watches, email seaqwest@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 1

Looe Summer Snorkel

Looe, 4.00pm to 6.00pm

Booking is essential, for ages 9 to 24

Meet below Coastguard Station, Hanafore
Look out for our sail flags. PL13 2DL.

Supervised snorkelling, clambering through gullies & exploring. Hot chocolate afterwards. Kiosk & toilets. Unaccompanied U16s must be signed in by a parent/guardian. Must be confident sea swimmers. Bring wetsuit, snorkel, mask & fins if you have them. Leaders: Jenn Sandiford & Looe MCG. Organised by Your Shore Beach Rangers & Looe MCG. Contact: Jenn Sandiford (079737 28775); jennifer.sandiford@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 1

Beaver Walk for Community Groups

Ladock, nr Truro, 8.00pm to 11.00pm

Booking is essential, age 11+, £10 per person (group discounts available)

Meet at Woodland Valley Farm TR2 4PT (SW907515).

Join farmer Chris Jones & CWT for a guided walk around our fantastic beaver project. U16s accompanied. Wear waterproof footwear, long trousers. Bring binoculars. Leaders: Cheryl Marriott & Tom Shelley. Contact: CWT (01872) 273939; beaverproject@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk
Info/bookings online only at www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/shop

Saturday 4

Strandline Treasures and Sandsculpture Competition

Nr Polzeath, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Booking is essential

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

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).

See how many different butterflies & moths we can find on the reserve. Bring binoculars, camera. Free for Friends members; £2 non-members. Leader: Gary Lewis. Organised by FoCFCNR. Contact: Mary Langworth (01752) 843852.

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 to cover costs. Leader: Tamasin Pemberton. Organised by CWT Wildlife Watch & www.perennial-harvest.co.uk. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 5

Open Garden: Trenarth

Constantine. 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Meet at Trenarth, High Cross TR11 5JN.

4-acre garden around 17th century farmhouse with panoramic views. 1 6th century courtyard, listed garden walls, gravel & palm area, yew rooms, vegetable garden, orchard & woodland area. Abundant wildlife; water & bog features, maternity roost of lesser horseshoe bats. Quirky, child-friendly garden with trail. Ancient green lane walk to pond, on through bluebell woods to Trenarth Bridge. Refreshments & toilet. Well behaved dogs on leads welcome. £5. U16s free. Organised by CWT; cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/opengardens

Sunday 5

Photography Field Trip

The Lizard, 10.00am to 3.00pm

Meet at Lizard NNR, Higher Bochym Rural Workshops, Cury Cross Lanes, Helston TR12 7AZ (SW703201).

Please arrive on time; compound gate will be locked behind us.

Meadow with wildflowers, butterflies, 2 ponds & hide for birds & insects. Bring camera, macro & telephoto lenses, wide angle lens, tripod, reflector, food & drink, portable chair (only 2 in the hide). £2 donation to CWT suggested. Leaders: Karin Saunders & Becky Curtis. Organised by CWT Photographic Group. Contact: Karin 07790 613786; Becky 07746 083422; kar1n@madasafish.com or curtis_becky@hotmail.com

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

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.

Monday 6

Learn to Snorkel in a Rockpool

Bude, 3.00pm to 5.00pm
Booking is essential, strictly 6+ years

Learn about snorkelling in a safe rockpool environment. Bring wetsuit, boots & snorkel (some snorkels can be provided). Leaders: Natalie Gibb & Jen Sanderford. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Tuesday 7

Marine Litter Masterpieces

Marazion, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Meet on beach near Folly Field car park, Marazion TR17 0EG (SW514308).

Beach clean; create masterpieces with the colourful plastics you find. Organised by CWT. Sponsored by South West Water. Leader/contact: Matt Slater (01872) 302251; matt.slater@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 8

Crazy about Crabbing

Mevagissey, 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Meet at Harbourside, Mevagissey (SX015448). Please park in one of the town car parks and walk down to the harbour – it will be very busy.

Learn all about Cornish crustaceans & the Cornwall Good Seafood Guide. Take part in a wildlife-friendly crabbing competition, meet the fishermen & learn about this sustainable fishery. Bring crab-fishing lines, bucket (no hook or drop nets). Organised by Cornwall Good Seafood Guide & Three Bays Wildlife. Leader/contact: Matt Slater (01872) 302251; seafood@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 8, Thursday 9, Friday 10, Sunday 12

Seal Squad XP Roadshow Festival

Pendeen, 11.00am to 4.00pm
Meet at Geevor Tin Mine, on B3306 between Land's End & St Ives TR19 7EW (SW375344).

Discover amazing grey seal facts & learn about their coastal environment at the Xplorer Xhibition. Activities, talks, displays, films and more! Wheelchair access to museum, shop, cafe & some surface buildings. Dogs on leads welcome but not in shop, cafe or underground. Sturdy footwear recommended. Cost included in entrance fee. Organised by Geevor Tin Mine & CSGRT. Contact: Sonja Kuefer (01736) 788662; geevor.sonja@gmail.com

Wednesday 8

Beaver Walk for Individuals/Families

Ladock, nr Truro, 7.45pm to 10.45pm
Booking is essential, age 11+, £10 per person

See Wednesday 1 August for details.

Friday 10

Extreme Rockpooling

Port Isaac, 10.00am to 1.00pm
Booking is essential: Cornish residents only; age 8+ only

Meet at Old Fish Cellar, Port Gaverne, Port Isaac PL29 3SQ (SX002808).
Coastering with Cornish Rock Tors & marine biologist Matt Slater. Discover fantastic wildlife in hard to reach places at low tide. Bring towel, wetsuit. £36 per person, please quote CWT eco coaster for this discounted price. Organised by CWT. Leader/contact: Ben Spicer 07791534884; info@cornishrocktors.com

Friday 10

Summer Garden Wildlife

Nr Camborne, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential

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

Friday 10

Rockpool Ramble

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

Family fun exploring rockpools. U18s accompanied. Café open. Bring money for car park. Free to FoFE members, £1.50 non-members. Organised by FoFE. Leader/contact: Claire Hoddinott (01726) 833061; friendsofthefowey@gmail.com

Sunday 12

Summer Rockpooling

West Looe, 11.00am to 1.00pm
Booking is essential

What will you find in the rockpools this summer? Bring wellies/sturdy beach shoes & bucket. No nets please. Leader: Heather Buttivant. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 12

Rockpool Ramble

Porthleven, 11.30am to 1.30pm
Booking is essential, 'meet at' details on booking, age 6+ only

Join expert Matt Slater for an exciting expedition, exploring pools and gullies at a hard to reach and exposed Cornish shore. Access is challenging. All U18s must be accompanied by an adult. Contact: Matt Slater (01872) 302251; matt.slater@cornwallwildlifetrust.co.uk
Sponsored by South West Water.

Sunday 12

Newquay Summer Snorkel

Newquay, 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking is essential, age 11+ only

Snorkel safari ideal for the young & adventurous: come face-to-face with amazing wildlife. Unaccompanied U16s must be signed in by a parent/guardian. All must be confident sea swimmers. Equipment can be provided but bring wetsuit, snorkel, mask & fins if you have them. Leaders: Jenn Sandiford & Newquay MCG. Organised by Your Shore Beach Rangers & Newquay MCG. Contact: Jenn Sandiford 07973728775; jennifer.sandiford@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 15

Mini Marine Medics

Nr Porthtowan, 11.00am to 1.00pm
Booking is essential

Learn with fun & games how to help if we find a stranded seal, dolphin or even a whale. Leader: Megan Rush. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 15

Guided Tour of Beaver Project

Ladock, nr Truro, 7.45pm to 10.45pm
Booking is essential.
Meet at Woodland Valley Farm TR2 4PT (SW907515).

Walk around a unique reserve to see what the beavers have been building, including dams & the first lodge in Cornwall in over 400 years. Wear clean wellington boots, long trousers. Bring binoculars. £10 in advance. Organised by Bude Group. Contact: Ursula Edwards (01288) 321078; ursulaedwards42@yahoo.com

If you are a Local Group and affiliated to Cornwall Wildlife Trust, you can submit events to be included on our website 'What's On' listing and *Wild Cornwall* magazine's diary.

Email Mark Dungey for an event form and submit a season in advance to be included in the next issue.

diaryeditor.cwt@gmail.com

Key to symbols:

-  CWT Wildlife Watch event for accompanied children
-  Full or partial disabled access
-  Sponsored by South West Water

Abbreviations:

- CSGRT Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust
- CWT Cornwall Wildlife Trust
- ERCCIS Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly
- FoFE Friends of the Fowey Estuary
- FoCFCNR Friends of Churchtown Farm Community Nature Reserve
- MCG Marine Conservation Group
- NNR National Nature Reserve

AUGUST Mis Est

Saturday 18

Build a Bug Hotel

Camborne, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Create safe places for the minibeasts in your garden. £5. Leader: Demelza. Organised by CWT Wildlife Watch with volunteers from King Edward Mine. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Tuesday 21

Fowey Marine Day

Fowey, 10.00am to 4.00pm

Meet at Town Quay PL23 1AT (SX126516).

Find out about amazing marine life of the Cornish coast. An expert from CWT will give talks throughout the day. Arts & crafts for children. Bring cash for car park. Organised by FoFE & CWT. Leader/contact: Claire Hoddinott (01726) 833061; friendsofthefowey@gmail.com

Wednesday 22

Beaver Walk for Individuals/Families

Ladock, nr Truro, 7.15pm to 10.15pm

Booking is essential, age 11+, £10/person

See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Thursday 23

Learn to Snorkel in a Rockpool

Penzance, 10.00am to 12.00noon

Booking is essential, strictly 6+ years

Learn snorkelling in a safe rockpool environment with Your Shore Beach Rangers. Bring wetsuit, boots & snorkel (some snorkels can be provided). Leaders: Natalie Gibb & Jen Sanderford. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Friday 24

Marine Litter Masterpieces

Nr Polzeath, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Booking is essential

Beach art session using canvasses to create masterpieces with your finds. Leader: Megan Rush. Sponsored by John Bray Holidays. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 29

Beaver Walk for Community Groups

Ladock, nr Truro, 7.15pm to 10.15pm

See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Thursday 30

Rockpool Ramble

Prisk Cove, Mawnan Smith, 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Booking is essential

Meet at Mawnan Church, Old Church Road, Mawnan, TR11 5HY (SW788272).

Discover a hidden world of crabs, sea anemones & strange shellfish. Leader: Ruth Williams, CWT. Organised by Helford MCG. Contact: Sue Scott (01326) 340961; coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk

SEPTEMBER Mis Gwynngala

Saturday 1

Bats of the Helford

Mawnan, 7.30pm **Booking is essential**
Meet at Mawnan Church, Old Church Road, Mawnan TR11 5HY (SW788272).

Dr Carol Williams, Bat Conservation Trust, introduces the cast of bats that make this part of Cornwall their home, followed by walk with ultrasound bat detectors. Tea, coffee & cakes. Free for U18s & HMCG members; £4 others. Organised by Helford MCG. Contact: coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk

Saturday 1

Autumn Organic Gardening

Nr Mevagissy, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Learn about organic vegetables to plant for autumn. Decorate pots; plant seeds to take home. £1.50 to cover costs. Leader: Tamasin Pemberton. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 1

Back to School Beach Day

Bude, 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers & Your Shore Beach Rangers to banish back to school blues. Shoreline discovery & beach games. Leader: Jen Sandiford. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 2

Exploring Flower Meadows

Nr St Kew, 2.00pm to 4.00pm

Booking is essential

Meet at PL30 3HG, village green outside Rose Cottage, Tregellist (SX009775).

Explore wetland pastures & traditional herb-rich meadows; study the variety of native wildflowers. Organised by CWT Camel Group. Leader/contact: Trevor Renals (01208) 880893; trevorrenals@gmail.com

Sunday 2

Open Garden: South Bosent

Nr Dobwalls, 2.00pm to 5.00pm

Meet at South Bosent PL14 4LX.

Over 9 acres of land under development, already attracting butterflies. Soft fruit, ponds, new meadow, new borders, magnolias, camellias, rhododendrons. £5. Contact: Adrienne or Bob (01579) 320753; 07710 163402. Organised by CWT Open Gardens; cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/opengardens

Sunday 2

Nature Photography

Breney Common, 10.00am to 3.00pm
Meet at Gunwen Chapel car park nr Breney Common Nature Reserve PL30 5DU (SX053613).

Photographing butterflies, dragonflies & wildflowers. Cancelled if raining. Bring equipment for macro & landscape work, wellies & lunch. £2. Organised by CWT Photography Group. Leader/contact: Dave Thomas davecarp86@hotmail.com

Wednesday 5 & first Wed of each month

CSGRT Meeting

Redruth, 7.30pm to 10.00pm

Meet at the Inn for All Seasons (SW701434).

Updates & seal highlights. Food can be ordered from 6.30pm. Leader/contact: Sue Sayer: sue@cornwallsealgroup.co.uk

Wednesday 5

Beaver Walk for Individuals/Families

Ladock, nr Truro, 7.00pm to 10.00pm

Booking is essential, age 11+, £10 per person

See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Saturday 8

History of Looe Island Guided Walk

Looe, 2.15pm to 5.45pm

Booking is essential

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

Saturday 8

Mud Monsters

Bude, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Enjoy mud & bugs in collaboration with Bude-based Happy Acorns – outdoor learning – wear your wellies. Leader: Tracy Gates. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 8

Brilliant Bees – Bee and Flower Identification

Camborne, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Honey bee hives & wild bees; identify the bee-friendly flowers planted for them. Enjoy bee-related arts & crafts in a rural garden. £3. Leader: Daena Rose. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 9

Bird Ringing and Arts & Crafts

Truro, 9.30am to 11.30am. **Booking is essential**

Bird ringing demo & bird-related arts & crafts. Leaders: Mark Grantham & Wildlife Watch volunteers. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 12

Ferns

Nr Truro, 10.00am to 4.30pm

Booking is essential. Meet at CVWT offices, Allet.

One of a series of ERCCIS biological recording workshops. Learn how to identify & name the ferns found in Cornwall. £35 for most, £72 for commercial/government. Contact us re disabled access. Leader: Derek Green. Organised by ERCCIS. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 12

Beaver Walk for Community Groups

Ladock, nr Truro, 6.45pm to 9.45pm
See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Saturday 15

Moth Trapping and Bat Detecting

Nr St Kew, 9.00pm to 11.00pm
Booking is essential
Meet at village green outside Rose Cottage, Tregellist PL30 3HG (SX 009775).

Study, identify & photograph the wide variety of moths attracted to a light trap; detect & identify the bats that hunt them. Bring a torch. Organised by CWT Camel Group. Leader/contact: Trevor Renals (01208) 880893; trevorrenals@gmail.com

Sunday 16

Open Garden: Marsh Villa Garden

Par, 2.00pm to 5.00pm. Meet at Marsh Villa, St Andrews Road PL24 2LU.

Magical 3-acre water & woodland garden in a former tidal creek. Extensive herbaceous borders & mixed beds, amongst a charming network of waterways that drain the Tidesmill marsh levels. Meandering paths from one 'room' to the next, to a large natural pond, formal enclosed garden, woodland areas & comfortable corners with seats. 16 acres left as wild habitat. £5, U16s free. Organised by CWT: cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/opengardens

Monday 17

The Geology of the Coast from Wanson Mouth to Sandymouth

Nr Bude, 7.30pm to 9.00pm
Meet at Stratton Primary School, New Road, Stratton EX23 9AP.

Journey through time on the geological history of North Cornwall, followed by a photographic 'armchair walk' along the beach from Wanson Mouth to Sandymouth to guide you through the folds, faults & sedimentary structures of the 320 million year old Carboniferous Bude Formation. £3 to include tea/coffee. Leader: Jane Anderson. Organised by CWT Bude Group. Contact: Chair CWT Bude Group (01288) 352726; cwtbude@yahoo.co.uk

Wednesday 19

Beaver Walk for Individuals/Families

Ladock, nr Truro, 6.30pm to 9.30pm
Booking is essential, age 11+, £10 per person
See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Sunday 23

Looe Island Guided Walk

2.30pm to 6.30pm. **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 island's wildlife. Learn about CWT's work & the challenges of island life. After the walk there's the option of a slide show in Jetty Cottage. £25. Contact: www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/islandwalks

Sunday 23

Crafty Woodland Wander

Truro, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential
Explore this small woodland reserve, then get creative, drawing on your surroundings for inspiration. Leader: Sammy Brisdon. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 23

Discovering Minibeasts

Tregellist, St Kew, 2.00pm to 4.00pm
Booking is essential
Meet at PL30 3HG, village green outside Rose Cottage, Tregellist (SX 009775).

Find out about the amazing tiny creatures that live in ponds, fields & woods and how important they are to the countryside. Organised by CWT Camel Group. Leader/contact: Trevor Renals (01208) 880893; trevorrenals@gmail.com

Wednesday 26

Mosses and Liverworts

Mount, Bodmin, 10.00am to 4.30pm
Booking is essential
One of a series of ERCCIS biological recording workshops. Cornwall has amazing bryophyte flora including worldwide rarities. For all interested in identifying bryophytes, either for their own interest or professional work. Advice on equipment, techniques & where to get ongoing support. £35 for most, £72 for commercial/government. Leader: Roy Jeffery. Contact us re disabled access. Organised by ERCCIS. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 26

Beaver Walk for Community Groups

Ladock, nr Truro, 6.15pm to 9.15pm
See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Saturday 29

Rocking Rockpools

St Austell, 12.30pm to 2.30pm
Booking is essential, strictly age 6+
Enjoy a walk along a coastal path learning about the geology as you go – then arrive at a sandy bay to explore what creatures call these rocks home. Leader: Catriona Burt. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 29

Foraging

Saltash, 2.00pm to 4.30pm approx.
Meet at Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve, between St Stephens Church & Cecil Arms PL12 4AR (SX 417583).

Andy will walk through the reserve looking at edible plants and then cook some soup he made earlier. A fun afternoon suitable for families. Bring mug & spoon, binoculars, camera. Free for members of the Friends; £2 non-members. Leader: Andy Pearson. Organised by FoCFCNR. Contact: Mary Langworth (01752) 843852.

Saturday 29 and Sunday 30

Sponges of the UK, Seasearch Specialist Course

Nr Truro, 9.30am to 5.00pm
Meet at CWT, Five Acres, Allet TR4 9DJ.
2-day course for divers, to identify & understand marine sponge species. Includes optional shore dive on Sunday for qualified divers. Bring packed lunch, diving kit if diving. £60/person. Leader: Dr Jennifer Jones. Contact: Matt Slater (01872) 302251; seasearch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 30

Snorkel Safari and BBQ

Nr Mawnan Smith, 11:00am to 2:00pm
Booking is essential, snorkelling places limited. Meet at Durgan Beach, Helford River (SW773272).

End of summer beach barbecue with option to snorkel with CWT marine experts on a guided tour of the Helford eelgrass beds. Snorkellers must bring own wetsuit, snorkel, mask & fins. Barbecue £5. Organised by Helford MCG. Contact: Sue Scott (01326) 340961; coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk

OCTOBER Mis Hedra

Wednesday 3

Beaver Walk for Individuals/Families

Ladock, nr Truro, 6.00pm to 9.00pm.
Booking is essential, age 11+, £10 per person
See Wednesday 1 August for details.

Saturday 6

Gardening Club – Composting for all

Truro, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential
Join Wildlife Watch volunteers & Tamasin Pemberton from Perennial Harvest for the first of our new and regular Gardening Club sessions – make & use compost, sow greens & sweetpeas in the polytunnel, plant broad beans in the veg patch. Learn how wildlife helps us in the garden. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 6

Hedgehogs and Herbs

Camborne, 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Booking is essential
Hedgehog-related & herb-planting activities. Explore an eco-garden setting to find suitable hedgehog shelters. Learn to identify herbs & taste some too. £1.50. Leader: Daena Rose. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

For further details on events and activities

Click on: cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on

Sunday 7

Fungus Foray

Tregellist, St Kew, 2.00pm to 4.00pm

Booking is essential

Meet at village green outside Rose Cottage, Tregellist PL30 3HG (SX009775).

Explore the amazing world of fungi and study the wide variety of colours, shapes & sizes they come in. Organised by CWT Camel Group. Leader/contact: Trevor Renals (01208) 880893; trevorrenals@gmail.com

Sunday 7

Looe Island Guided Walk

2.00pm to 6.00pm

See Sunday 23 September for details.

Tuesday 9

Jellyfish and Similar Species

Falmouth, 10.00am to 4.30pm

Booking is essential

Meet at Falmouth Marine School.

One of a series of ERCCIS biological recording workshops. Learn how to identify jellyfish & hydrozoans from the ocean and rare & important tiny stalked jellyfish species found in rockpools. £35 for most, £72 for commercial/government. Leader: Heather Buttivant. Contact us re disabled access. Organised by ERCCIS. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 10

Beaver Walk for Community Groups

Ladock, nr Truro, 5.30pm to 8.30pm.

See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Saturday 13

Geology

Saltash, 11.00am to 1.30pm

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

Learn about the geology of the reserve and other things of interest. Bring cameras, binoculars. Free for members of the Friends; £2 non-members. Leader: Gus Horsley. Organised by FoCFCNR. Contact: Mary Langworth (01752) 843852.

Saturday 13

All at Seal

Gweek, 7.30pm

Meet at Gweek Village Hall, TR12 6UG.

Sue Sayer presents photo & video highlights of the boat-based seal surveys carried out by CSGRT. U18s & HMCG members free. £4 for others. Organised by Helford MCG. Contact: Sue Scott (01326) 340961; coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk

Saturday 13

Pond Dippy

Bodmin, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Booking is essential

See what pond life gets up to as winter approaches. Leader: Ruth Corbett. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 13

Migratory Madness

Falmouth, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch & Generation Wild volunteers to learn about autumn birds & our seasonal visitors to Cornwall. Bring suitable footwear. Leader: Chloe. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 14

Fungus Foray

Tregellist, St Kew, 2.00pm to 4.00pm

See Sunday 7 October for further details.

Sunday 14

Free Riverfly Training Day

Launceston, 10.00am to 4.30pm

Booking is essential

Meet at Kensey Vale Bowls Club, Riverside, Launceston PL15 8DH.

The Angler's Riverfly Monitoring Initiative (ARMI) helps rivers to be monitored more widely and at greater frequency than is possible by the Environment Agency alone. Volunteers take kick samples from the river bed each month, recording the presence & abundance of invertebrate groups which are good indicators of water quality. This free workshop aims to introduce new volunteers to this scheme. Bring wellies, waders if you have them & lunch/drink. Leader: Iain Barker. Organised by CWT & The Riverfly Partnership. Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246; laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 14

Marine Arts and Crafts

Padstow, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers & www.beachguardian.com for a marine-themed arts & crafts session. Enjoy a beach clean and then get creative in the warmth. Leader: Rob Stevenson. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Monday 15

Friends of Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve AGM

Saltash, 7.30pm to 10.00pm

Meet at Room 2, The Wesley Methodist Church, Callington Road, Saltash, PL12 6AN.

Speaker & refreshments. Organised by FoCFCNR. Leader/contact: Bob Austin (01752) 846274.

Monday 15

Up the Creek ... and Beyond

Bude, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Meet at Stratton Primary School, New Road, Stratton, Bude, EX23 9AP.

The Lone Kayaker, Rupert Kirkwood, presents the multitude of wildlife he has seen & photographed during 15 years paddling around the coast of SW England. £3 to include tea/coffee. Organised by Bude Group. Contact: Chair CWT Bude Group (01288) 352726 cwtbude@yahoo.co.uk

Wednesday 17

Beaver Walk for Community Groups

Ladock, nr Truro, 5.30pm to 8.30pm.

See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Saturday 20

Leaf Detectives and Leaf Art

Bodmin, 10.00 to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch Volunteers on a woodland adventure; make your own leafy masterpieces to take home.

Leader: Natalie Mitchell.

Contact: (01872) 273939;

wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Monday 22

Slugs and Snails

Newquay College, 10.00am to 4.30pm

Booking is essential

One of a series of ERCCIS biological recording workshops. Cornwall's mild, damp climate is ideal for slug & snail species. Learn how recognise BAP species as well as indicators of specific habitat types. £35 for most; £72 for commercial/government. Contact us re disabled access. Leader: Keith Alexander. Organised by ERCCIS.

Contact: Laura Fox (01872) 302246;

laura.fox@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Tuesday 23

Bug Hunting Adventure with Campfire Fun

Penwith, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Walk & bug-hunting adventure into the trees and down to a coppice willow woodland for campfire fun. Learn how to make a fire and toast marshmallows too!

Organised by Wildlife Watch with The Treebies School of Nature.

Leader: Lisa Guy.

Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939;

wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Wednesday 24

Beaver Walk for Individuals/Families

Ladock, nr Truro, 5.15pm to 8.15pm

Booking is essential, age 11+, £10 per person

See Wednesday 1 August for further details.

Thursday 25

Autumnal Rockpool Ramble Sand Sculpture Competition

Polzeath, 11.30am to 1.30pm

Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch & Polzeath MCG volunteers to explore rockpools in autumn. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

OCTOBER Mis Hedra

Thursday 25

Autumn Beaver Watch

Nr Truro, 5.15pm to 8.15pm

Booking is essential, strictly age 6+

Join Tom Shelley, our Conservation Manager, to see the amazing work of two beavers. Learn about their nocturnal lives as you explore their habitat. We can't guarantee a sighting but you may be lucky. Contact: Wildlife Watch (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 27

Explore the Shore

Bude, 12.30pm to 2.30pm

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers & Your Shore Beach Rangers for a rockpool ramble & shoreline discovery session. Leader: Nat Gibb. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 27

Extreme Rockpooling

Nr Port Isaac, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Booking is essential, strictly age 8+

Join CWT Wildlife Watch Volunteers & Cornish Rock Tors www.cornishrocktors.com to learn about wildlife along our rocky shorelines, combining the thrill of coastal traversing with marine biology. Bring well-fitting wetsuit & boots. £10 per person. Leader: Ben Spicer. Sponsored by John Bray Cornish Holidays. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Tuesday 30

Fungus Photography and Bird Watching

Helston, 10.00am to 2.00pm

Meet at car park for Degibna, National Trust; parking is to right of chapel TR12 7PR (SW653250).

Approx. 3km walk looking for fungi to photograph & watching for birds on Loe Pool. Some steep hills & mud. No facilities on site. If bad weather forecast, phone David Chapman the day before to check trip is going ahead. Bring packed lunch, tripod, macro lens, wide angle lens, camera, binoculars, outdoor clothing & walking boots. £2 donation. Organised by CWT Photographic Group. Leader/contact: David Chapman (01736) 850287.

NOVEMBER Mis Du

Saturday 3

Gardening Club: Bulbmania

Truro, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers & Tamasin from Perennial Harvest for our regular gardening club. Plant edible bulbs & wildlife-attracting flower bulbs ready for spring. Help make overwintering bug houses too. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

NOVEMBER Mis Du

Saturday 3

Forest School Fun

Nr Bodmin, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch Volunteers & Badger Forest School www.badgerforestschool.co.uk to learn how to help wildlife prepare for winter. Campfire, den building & exploring all the way. Leader: Ysella Wood. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 10

Reserve Clean

Saltash, 1.00pm to 3.00pm

Meet at Churchtown Farm Nature Reserve, Wearde Road Entrance PL12 4AS (SX423583).

Help give the reserve a clean up. Refreshments. Leader: Jackie Austin. Organised by FoCFCNR. Contact Mary Langworth (01752) 843852.

Saturday 10

British Divers Marine Life Rescue Work in Cornwall

Gweek, 7.30pm

Meet at Gweek Village Hall, TR12 6UG

Welfare development & field support officer Dan Jarvis explains how this nationwide marine animal rescue charity operates in Cornwall with a special focus on the Lizard Peninsula, Helford River & surrounding area. U18s & HMCG members free. £4 for others. Organised by Helford MCG. Contact: Sue Scott (01326) 340961; coordinator@helfordvmca.co.uk

Saturday 10

Wonders of the Night Sky

Falmouth, 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Booking is essential

An event of astronomical proportions – learn all about the night sky with a tour of our galaxy. Leaders: Chloe & Generation Wild. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 10

Twilight Walk

Saltash, 4.30pm to 6.30pm

Booking is essential, strictly age 6+

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers & Natalie our reserve ranger to explore the hedges & fields of a working farm & learn all about nocturnal creatures that may appear in the twilight. Will the bats come out to play? Leader: Natalie Mitchell. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 11

Winter Tideline Arts and Crafts

Nr Mullion, 2.00pm to 4.00pm

Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers, Polurrian Hotel, Friends of Pollurian Beach & West Cornwall Friends of the Earth for a fun winter tideline ramble followed by marine-themed arts & crafts back in the warmth of the hotel. Wrap up warm; it could be chilly. Leader: Abbie Brooks. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 17

Cornwall Wildlife Trust Discovery Day & AGM

The Eden Project, St Austell, PL24 2SG
11:00am- 3:00pm

Booking is essential

Guest speaker to be confirmed.

Sunday 18

Tree Tastic Tree Planting

Porthtowan, 11.00pm to 1.00pm

Booking is essential

Visit a wonderful Eco Park for tree planting and related arts & crafts. Café open from midday serving delicious Reggae Roast. Leader: Ruth Corbett. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Monday 19

The Water Vole Project

Bude, 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Meet at Stratton Primary School, New Road, Stratton, Bude, EX23 9AP.

History of the devastating decline of the water vole in the area and details of the project to reintroduce the water vole, with releases & follow-up surveys. £3 to include tea/coffee. Leader: Teagan Hill. Organised by Bude Group. Contact: Chair CWT Bude Group (01288) 352726; cwtbude@yahoo.co.uk

Saturday 24

Christmas Pyrography Gifts and Cards

Nr Truro, 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Booking is essential, strictly age 8+

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers to design wooden tree decorations using our pyrography equipment. Make Christmas cards using materials from our nature reserve. £2 per child. Leader: Rachael Findlay. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Sunday 25

Eco Crafts and Christmas Market

Porthtowan, Truro 11.00am to 1.00pm

Booking is essential

Join Wildlife Watch volunteers & www.beachguardian.co.uk at an Eco Park's Christmas market for festive fun. Get creative making Christmas gifts & decorations to take home from recycled plastics & materials. Café open. Leader: Rob Stevenson. Contact: (01872) 273939; wildlifewatch@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

For further details on events and activities

Click on:
cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/whats-on



Your Local Groups

Agas Bagas Leel

Our evolving Local Groups

Cornwall's local wildlife groups offer all sorts of opportunities for getting together to discover and help wildlife in your patch. Contact Cornwall Wildlife Trust to find your nearest group.

As well as outdoor events, the Bude Group runs a well-attended indoor talks programme. Volunteer **Ursula Edwards** reports:

Bude Group

Our first meeting of the season started with a full house to greet Adrian Langdon, who came to talk about his travels through Yellowstone National Park and the Grand Teton. Adrian is a knowledgeable speaker, superlative photographer and naturalist who kept the audience enthralled and amused throughout. His photos covered all aspects of wildlife, from the magnificent but dangerous bison to golden and bald headed eagles, and because he had been at different times of the year the full spectrum of wildlife had been captured against magnificent scenic backdrops.

Our next topic was closer to home as Nick Dixon came to share his expert knowledge of the peregrine falcons at St Michael's Church in Exeter. Nick has been monitoring these urban falcons for nearly 22 years and it is the longest running survey in the country. He took us through the history, physiology and life cycle of these powerful raptors and also their little quirks, such as the current resident female who has an unreasonable hatred of buzzards and will pursue and kill any who come within her range.

The last talk of the season was by Simon Wiltshire, a Biodiversity Advisor in the aggregates business. He told us about the wildlife that coexists alongside men and machinery in working quarries, what is done to protect that wildlife, and the enormous amount of work that is put into reclaiming and renovating disused quarries and surrounding fields for the benefit of flora and fauna. Since 2015 over 62,000 trees have been planted by Aggregate Industries, 15% of the bittern population live in quarries restored across all UK companies, and wildflower meadows and heathlands have been created. Simon acknowledged the enormous help he receives from local groups in creating and maintaining habitats for wildlife.

Contact: cwtbude@yahoo.co.uk



In the catchment of the River Camel, the Local Group has actively championed wildlife and wild places in neighbourhood planning, while still going out to watch and monitor wildlife:

Camel Group

At long last we've seen the publication of the Wadebridge area Neighbourhood Development Plan, to which we had input so many ideas and suggestions.

It has been available to view at the local library and the Town Hall and we now await the referendum to see how others view it. We are aware there is a lot of demand for better public services before hundreds of houses are built in the area but that wasn't our brief, we merely looked at the ecological and environmental factors affecting the wildlife and natural resources in the area. We called for green corridors and wildlife friendly areas along with the inclusion of nesting facilities in new builds for species such as swifts, sparrows and martins.

As spring took off we saw the wildfowl and waders leave us, to be replaced by the warblers and hirundines which breed here during the summer months. There was an incredible group of 17 cattle egrets feeding in at Walmsley sanctuary in mid-April and up on Bodmin Moor the ravens were already feeding young in their huge nests amongst the granite tors.

On the coast the local pod of bottlenose dolphins has been seen in the mouth of the Camel estuary and off Pentire and the Rumps. These dolphins have also been seen passing up and down the North coast from St Ives and Newquay headlands. Always a fantastic sight and one that immediately makes one's day much brighter!

Contact: **Brian Wright: (01208) 814138.**

In **Penwith**, a dedicated team are involved in hands-on practical conservation, as beautifully described by Julian Little in our Spring 2018 issue.

Contact **David May**:
david.may@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

The **Restormel Group** offers exciting wildlife-watching boat trips plus friendly get-togethers to share wildlife images and raise funds.

Contact **Dave Thomas**: davecarp86@hotmail.com

In the Launceston area, a cluster of parishes have come together to experience and monitor wildlife together, with friendly informal training, under the acronym 'LAPWG'. Volunteer Vice-Chair **Jen Bousfield** has their news:

Launceston Area Wildlife Group (LAPWG)

We enjoyed two sunny and dry (if a little cold) late winter walks; at new year we were up on the moor around Bowthick and then down through the Kensey Valley in February. At our AGM in March we walked a different route down to Crackington Haven, an area we must revisit in summer, and we look forward to some great photos and results from our marsh fritillary survey day in June. This has been organised in partnership with Butterfly Conservation's 'All the Moor Butterflies' project and we hope to find even more colonies along the Withybrook on Bodmin Moor.

Our application for a grant from a local trust through the Cornwall Community Foundation was approved, so we have just purchased some new equipment: two Echo Meter Touch2 bat detectors for mobile phones and tablets. Local expert Tony Atkinson and the Cornwall Bat Group are advising, so we should have these ready and in use before the summer, which is really exciting and should liven up a few evenings!

See <http://launcestonparishwildlife.org.uk> for events, news and information.



LAPWG members above Crackington Haven.

Various 'Friends' groups have sprung up in the woods, valleys and estuaries of Cornwall, including the Your Shore network of Local Marine Groups. Derek Spooner of the Friends of Kilminorth Woods, Looe, is a regular *Wild Cornwall* contributor:

Friends of Kilminorth Woods

While early 2018 saw members concerned with routine tasks – getting nest boxes ready for the new season, litter-picking, repairing paths – it was also a time for looking out from the confines of our home patch to the wider conservation scene in Cornwall.

In January we held a minibus trip to Rough Tor to see the starling murmurations. In Kilminorth Woods starlings are now rarely seen, but these birds descend on the plantations below Rough Tor in vast numbers each winter. It is one of Cornwall's most amazing natural spectacles and despite the cold we were not disappointed.



The group listening to Simon Humphreys.

CHRISTINE SPOONER

In February our AGM brought a visit by Cornwall Wildlife Trust's Head of Conservation, Cheryl Marriott, who delivered a fascinating talk on the beaver introductions at Ladock. Such was the interest generated in these extraordinary animals that we have already booked a group visit to Ladock in July.

In April we travelled to Stara Woods in the Lynher valley which, thanks to the generosity of Anne Hughes, is managed as a community woodland. Our guide was Simon Humphreys from the Friends of Stara Woods, and his expertise on forestry and ecology gave us many insights into the problems of managing conservation in ancient woodlands alongside recreation and public access. Stara Woods in the spring is an enchanting place, with wood anemones galore, sparkling cascades and abundant birdsong. Watching a pair of dippers by the ancient clapper bridge was a bonus, as we rounded off our visit with a picnic. Learning how another Cornish volunteer conservation group operates, and sharing experiences, was an inspiring way to start a busy summer.

Contact: kilminorth@btinternet.com

a day in the life... of a volunteer

Rob Wells takes us with him on a richly varied and rewarding day devoted to Cornwall's wildlife.

Good morning world, it's a brand new day. Dry and clear outside.



Rob checking water quality in a local stream

First some chores, then I can get out to survey Mevagissey stream. With our Your Shore group 'Three Bays Wildlife' I have organised a group to monitor local streams as part of the Westcountry Rivers Trust's citizen science project. Healthy streams mean healthy wildlife and contribute to cleaner beaches. I do a visual and chemical survey and all looks well.

Now down to the harbour to look for 'Backwards S', the lazy seal (not there – good!) and great black-backed gulls ringed on Looe Island (none today), check for any strandings (no dead gulls today) and look for 'ghost gear'. The Cornwall Seal Group Research Trust is in its fourth year of monitoring lost and discarded fishing gear as it takes such a toll on our seals, birds and other marine life. Today I photographed some lengths of rope out of reach in the outer harbour.

Next, on to a seal survey along the coast path. I have been surveying St Austell Bay for several years now, monitoring and photographing our Atlantic grey seals. Each has unique fur patterns and members of the Seal Group share photographs and information to build up the stories of their lives and movements. Seals that I have photographed in St Austell Bay have also been photographed at Portland Bill in Dorset, South Devon, The Isles of Scilly, all around Cornwall, Brittany and Pembrokeshire. Not much luck today, but I do get some reasonable pictures of one seal bottling (floating vertically in the water). A second is busy searching for food.

I collect, photograph and remove rope, a damaged buoy and a tangle of monofilament line/net in a small bay. There is a stream there, so I get out my equipment and survey, test and photograph it.



Clearing detritus from beaches is an important way to help wildlife

On the way home I detour inland at Portmellon to visit my trailcam on the stream there. I exchange the camera card for a new one and wonder what has been by to trigger it since I was there a week ago.



After lunch, I sit down to report the two stream surveys online and send off details and photos of the ghost gear and the seal survey.

The trailcam has recorded pheasants, squirrels and false triggers showing just the stream. This happens when a bird flies quickly past or the wind blows foliage. Never mind, I have already recorded badger, fox, otter, roe deer, squirrel, rat, pheasant, wood pigeon, mallard and blackbird there this year.

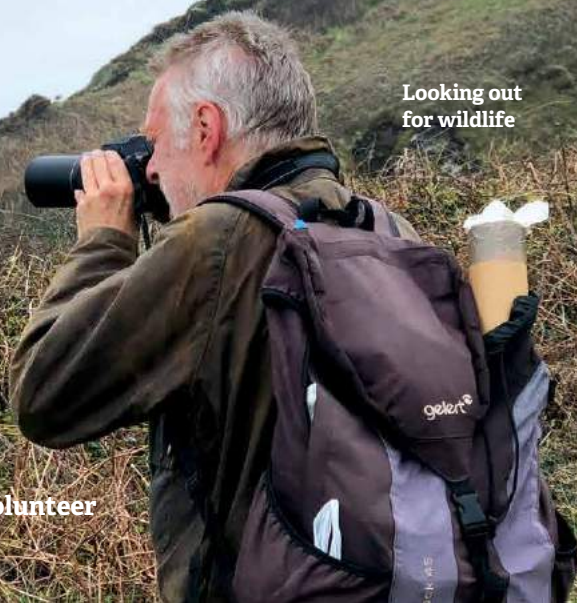
Tomorrow I have a Three Bays Wildlife meeting, then I'll pop over to Roseland to do a seal survey there. The seals are dispersing after hanging around to moult, so seal surveying will decrease but soon, dormice will come out of hibernation. With the Friends of Fowey Estuary Your Shore Group I have 60 dormouse nest boxes to check regularly using my dormouse licence.

On Saturday I shall train to become a British Divers Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR) medic. I already get called out to help occasionally, so I might as well get trained to do the job more fully.

We are so lucky to live in such a wonderful county with fabulous wildlife and a splendid team at Cornwall Wildlife Trust to help and guide us. I shall have no problem getting to sleep tonight!

“The joy of being retired is that you can do what you want to ... and put off until tomorrow anything you do not fancy.”

Rob Wells, Volunteer



Looking out for wildlife

October is Will for Wildlife month

**For the whole of October,
Cornish solicitors are offering
you the chance to arrange your
Will at no cost to you.**

Once you've taken care of your loved ones, we hope that you will consider leaving a gift to us in your Will.

Proceeds from legacies have been used for all manner of essential wildlife conservation work, from education projects to vital habitat restoration.

**Solicitors kindly offering
their services for free in October are:**

Penzance - DB Law

Contact Justyn Thomas on (01736) 364261

Truro - Carlyon & Son

Contact Katrina Granville on (01872) 278641

McClure Solicitors

Contact Hayley Bayfield on Freephone 0800 852 1999
Available for home visits throughout Cornwall

Redruth - Grylls & Paige

Contact Mark Heywood on (01209) 215261

Newquay - Greenways Solicitors

Contact Jane Flaherty on (01637) 872251

Camborne - Walters and Barbary

Contact Sarah Painter on (01209) 712454

Please contact one of the participating solicitors to book your appointment, mentioning that you are a supporter of our work (you do not need to be a member), to qualify for this great offer.

Book early

There are a limited number of free Wills available!

If you would like to speak with somebody at Cornwall Wildlife Trust for more information, please call Emma Miller on: **(01872) 273939**

emma.miller@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/willforwildlife

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ISSUE 136 SUMMER 2018

Ocean giants

Find out
where to see
them on
page 48



Presenter Liz Bonnin

On why we should
all Stay Wild, p44

“My first nightjar”

Out after dark with the
BBC’s Frank Gardner, p46

Tales from a river canoe

Matt Gaw paddled 13
rivers. His story, p40

Campaign begins for Nature's recovery

We all need the future to be more wild as an urgent priority. Please help us build momentum for a Nature Recovery Network

As we stand on the brink of the biggest ever shake-up of environmental rules, The Wildlife Trusts are calling for politicians to introduce new laws to build a wilder, better Britain.

Central to this would be a requirement for Local Authorities to produce local Nature Recovery Maps, showing where the remaining wildlife is and how it can be reconnected and expanded. These maps, produced with wide local consultation, would join up to form a national Nature Recovery Network. For the first time our landscapes would be farmed and developed in an integrated way that benefits people and wildlife.

The campaign for a Network kicked off with a presentation at Westminster in May. 48 MPs heard The Wildlife Trusts explain the need to rebuild nature after decades of destructive practices.

"We know from research across the globe that a healthy, wildlife-rich natural world is essential for our

wellbeing and prosperity," said Nigel Doar, Director of Strategy at The Wildlife Trusts. "Nature needs to recover - for the sake of wild plants and animals, and for everything it brings us: better health, climate control, flood management, enjoyment, employment and more."

The Westminster Government recently consulted on future English planning policies and public payments to farmers. As part of their campaign for a Nature Recovery Network, The Wildlife Trusts lobbied strongly for the planning system to protect Local Wildlife Sites, and for government payments to farmers that help them create and look after places for wildlife.

“ Nature needs to recover - for everything it brings us ”



NIK POLLARD

Our vision for the future

1 Nature is normal

Children have trees to climb, fields to explore and ponds to investigate.

2 Green developments

All housing and other development creates a net gain for wildlife.

3 Wilder cities

Green roofs, green walls, pocket parks and trees are common.

4 Buzzing countryside

Farmland is crisscrossed by colourful habitat for wild pollinators.

5 Long-term fisheries

All fishing is sustainable and jobs are secure.

6 Recovering seas

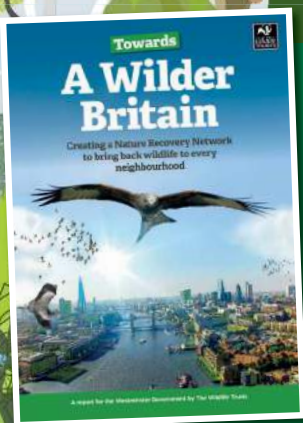
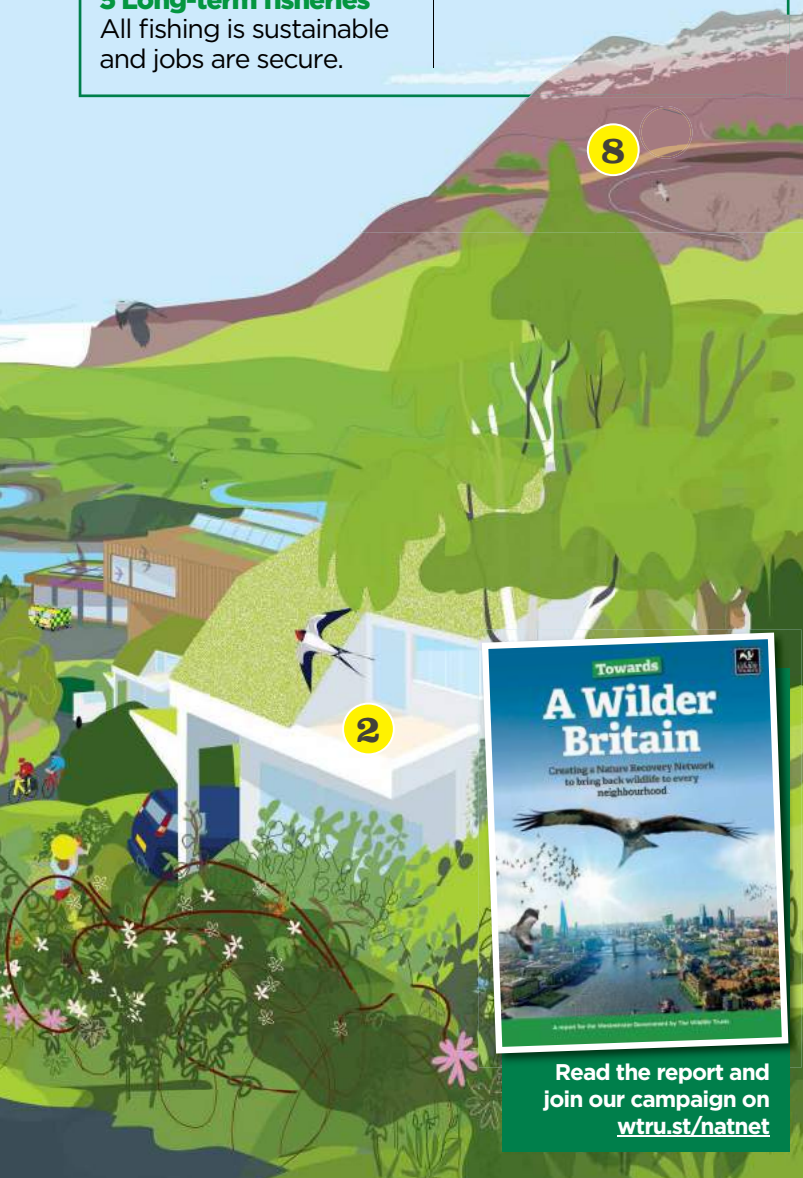
Sightings of whales and other sea creatures are increasing.

7 Fertile soils

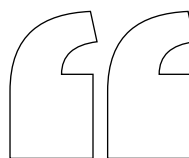
Nutrients are staying locked in soils rather than eroding and blowing away.

8 Restored uplands

Instead of just close-grazed grasslands, the trees and peat bogs are back, reducing flooding and locking up CO₂ from the air.



Read the report and join our campaign on wtru.st/natnet



Fight for a green future

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



Imagine being a swift with the freedom of racing through the skies and screaming those wonderful screeches. How different the patchwork of our towns, cities and countryside would look from the air!

You'd search for places with abundant insects to eat and safe places to nest. It wouldn't be easy finding food because in recent years insects have declined so dramatically. There are not many invertebrates left in our parks and arable fields, but lucky swifts may find a Local Wildlife Site. Here there may be up to 800 different species compared to less than 100 in a typical playing field. In Local Wildlife Sites soils are healthy, plants can flourish and biodiversity, including insects, can thrive.

Protecting, managing and expanding the network of Local Wildlife Sites is central to the work of The Wildlife Trusts who regularly advise local authorities, farmers and developers to this end. The recent Agriculture Command Paper, published by the Westminster Government, supports greater investment in wildlife in England, and Trusts are campaigning across the UK to ensure that such investment happens, not least in Local Wildlife Sites.

However, government budgets for farming will be squeezed, and there is growing pressure to remove perceived barriers to infrastructure and built development, like Local Wildlife Sites. To ensure the voice of wildlife is heard over the cacophony of Brexit, we've been campaigning under the banner of #ActSwiftly. It's vital that all governments hear from as many people as possible about the need to make the right decisions about new farming and planning policy.

We're determined that the future should be about nature's recovery. Your support for your Trust is helping protect wildlife for the future. Thank you from the swifts.

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. **Editor** Rupert Paul **Layout editor** Dan Hilliard **Communications Manager** Lucy McRobert. **Cover:** Basking shark feeding off the Isle of Coll, by Alex Mustard/2020Vision. **f** [@wildlifetrusts](https://twitter.com/wildlifetrusts) **f** facebook.com/wildlifetrusts

17-19 August Rutland Water nature reserve

Visit Birdfair

The birders' Glastonbury is 30 this year. Come along in August and join the celebrations



Not only can you buy binoculars at Birdfair. You can use them to see ospreys

This year, the British Birdwatching Fair celebrates 30 years as the world's biggest wildlife festival. Why not experience this amazing event for yourself?

Birdfair, as it is affectionately known, is hosted by Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust at Rutland Water, Oakham, on 17th-19th August, in partnership with the RSPB.

With hundreds of stands and stalls you can chat to your favourite wildlife charities; compare wildlife holidays; try the latest optics; sample local food; and admire wildlife art and photography.

The BTO bird ringing display is always popular, and new for 2018 is

a 'Wild Zone' for young people and families. Wildlife celebrities star in debates, events and game shows, and there are lectures on all aspects



The presentations are always popular: this is Bird Photographer of the Year

of nature and conservation. On Sunday 19th, The Wildlife Trusts will perform their hugely popular family pantomime, supported by your favourite wildlife celebrities.

Last year's Birdfair raised £330,000 to help conserve native birds on the French Polynesian island of Rapa Iti. This year Birdfair will support the creation of Argentina's largest national park, providing a refuge for nearly a million flamingos and shorebirds.

■ **Wildlife Trust members get 10% off on Sunday 19th. This offer applies whether you book in advance or pay on the gate! More info and tickets: birdfair.org.uk**

EMYR EVANS

ERIC RENNON

Sheffield's new nature report

Did you know that Sheffield's city boundaries are drawn around the old county of Hallamshire? The ground-breaking *Sheffield State of Nature* report reveals that a third of the area is now designated for its wildlife value and habitat quality is improving. Sheffield's once heavily polluted rivers are recovering, with 26 out of 31 fish species doing well. Otters have also returned to the River Don. Despite this, over 100 Local Wildlife Sites still need better management.

■ **Download the report at wildsheffield.com/stateofnature**



Cornfield annuals on a derelict housing plot in the city

PAUL HOBSON

25,000 stand up for

An incredible 25,000 of you responded in just two weeks this spring when the Government proposed to take all reference to Local Wildlife Sites out of the National Planning Policy Framework.

This change would have removed all protection for England's 42,000 Local Wildlife Sites. These are quiet, often unnoticed places where wildlife thrives - meadows, woodlands, city oases. Although they tend to fall under the radar they are a critical part of our wildlife



A Nature Recovery Network (p36) would give the water vole a chance

Water voles still declining, says new research

The water vole is still heading for extinction. That's the stark conclusion of research led by The Wildlife Trusts. Analysing data collected over ten years has revealed that the water vole's distribution has declined by 30% since 2006 in England and Wales.

It has now vanished from 94% of places where it once was. This would be even worse without The Wildlife Trusts and others carrying out river restoration and reintroductions across the UK. The causes are well known: habitat loss, water pollution, built development and predation by the North American mink. Ellie Brodie, Senior Policy Manager for The Wildlife Trusts, says: "We're working hard to bring them back, but much more is needed if we're going to stop this creature disappearing altogether. We need commitment to a Nature Recovery Network."

“It has now vanished from 94% of its former haunts”

TERRY WHITTAKER



Good enough to eat – if you're a worm

RUPERT PAUL, NIAL BENVIE

Root for worms!

The Wildlife Trusts have launched their wildlife gardening campaign with the RHS. This year, we're encouraging everyone to go wild for worms, nature's engineers, by helping them in your garden: try making a compost heap for starters! More on wildaboutgardens.org.uk



Happy: Grace (and buttercups) at Teifi Marshes reserve

GINA GAVIGAN

Nature: good for you

Following *30 Days Wild* this June, researchers at the University of Derby have proved that seeing beauty in the natural world leads to improved wellbeing and happiness. The three-year study involved thousands of participants, and demonstrated the positive impact of wildlife on our health.

Local Wildlife Sites

resource. Designated Local Wildlife Sites cover 3% of Wales and Northern Ireland, 5% of England and 1.7% of the Isle of Man. They are recognised and protected in planning policy – the process is one of their only protections – but nevertheless some are still lost each year. Because of your action, Housing Minister Dominic Raab has agreed to revisit the wording (in England). Thank you! But these special spaces are far from secure – we may need your help again soon to save our Local Wildlife Sites.



Support from Labour's Hilary Benn...



...and Rebecca Pow of the Conservatives

NICKI DYAS

Fancy a paddle?

Britain drips with water, observes Matt Gaw, who has canoed on rivers all over Britain. But he wonders whether we have lost our connection with our watery past

Although the river is straight, almost canalised, in the morning light it is beautiful. Sun scalds the surface, the ripples reflecting gold pencil lines onto the bank. Two buzzards lope into the air, circling and mewing. There are teal, the wobbling gas flame of kingfisher and, from over the fields, lapwing.

This Suffolk river, the Lark, bubbles through chalk at its source near

Bradfield Combust before travelling slowly through the Brecks to reach the flatlands of the Fens. A couple of miles downstream it meets The Great Ouse, whose name so neatly captures its sluggish demeanour. It is part of a network of 42,700 watery miles that spread like blue veins under the nation's skin.

Britain drips with water: rivers, streams, bogs, marshes, lakes, canals,

ditches and ponds. Nearly all have been shaped by humans in some way, bent to our purpose and needs.

The path rivers take depends on the lie of the land and the underlying geology. Water wells up from springs, or gathers as rain, snowmelt, mist and dew, before streaming downhill.

In the uplands, the water cheese-wires into the earth, forming



Matt Gaw is a writer and journalist who works with Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Who wouldn't want to be here? Suffolk's River Stour is greatly changed, but it's still beautiful

v-shaped valleys, or follows paths gouged by long-gone glaciers. Later the streams converge to create a river, which meanders through the landscape. The flow forms shingle bars and sparkling braids, chuckling over riffles as it pulses towards the sea over clay, sand, gravel and rock – shaping the land as it goes, cutting, carrying and depositing silt.

Few rivers in England and Wales

“ Water gathers as rain, dew or snowmelt ”

still possess fully-functioning natural processes. Over the centuries, as development and agriculture

advanced, rivers were modified. Water was impounded for mills, abstracted for farming, drinking and industry. The channels were straightened and deepened for transport and drainage. The relationship between the water and the floodplains fractured.

It's hard to imagine how the Lark used to look. In prehistoric times it was part of a delta, a wild landscape

of sluggish rivers, meres and reed swamp fanning out over the land. Ribbons of grey silt called 'rhodons' can still be seen from the air, cutting across the arable expanse: a ghost river tracking across the black earth.

While the decline of industry and more effective regulations have improved water quality, pollutants still make their way into our rivers. Topsoil washed by heavy rain from fields brings phosphates, nitrates, herbicides and pesticides. Sewage and wastewater bring microplastics and pharmaceuticals.

In 2016, 16 British waterways were tested for neonicotinoids, a powerful insecticide. The Waveney in Suffolk was the most contaminated, the acute harm level exceeded for a whole month. The River Tame at Denton, Greater Manchester has the worst microplastic pollution in the world, with levels even greater than South Korea and Hong Kong.

It is easy to feel gloomy. I have canoed all across the UK, and for every stretch of bucolic beauty there is also abuse and neglect. But there is also hope. There are catchment-scale partnerships now in every part

“The Tame has the world’s worst microplastic pollution”

of the country and The Wildlife Trusts are part of 96% of them – advising, supporting and directly managing nearly 12,000 miles of waterway. Plans typically focus on reducing pollution and restoring a

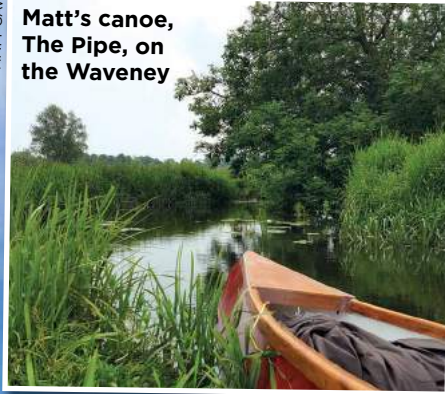
more natural state: re-instating meanders, allowing woody debris to be left and removing barriers to migrating fish. The otter, pushed to the brink by a toxic cocktail of pesticides and persecution, has now returned to every county in England.

Nevertheless, many of our freshwater bodies are not faring well against targets set by the the EU Water Framework Directive. Less than a fifth of England’s rivers and lakes are in a good enough condition to support species that should be present.

Part of this is due to the sheer extent of the issues: it is a landscape-scale problem. I wonder too if there is a disconnect between people and rivers. Our relationship with the water that shaped life, language and culture has changed dramatically over the years. Although the move away from industry may have resulted in fewer pollutants – no coal dust, no heavy metals or slicks of sewage – it also means our interaction with rivers has declined. Flows that were once worshipped and sacred, full of votive

MATT GAW

Matt’s canoe, The Pipe, on the Waveney



The River Itchen, with blunt-fruited water-starwort below the surface and Itchen Stoke Mill above





Sunset stillness on the river Lark, in Suffolk, in January 2017

offerings and holy meanings have been slowly forgotten, neglected.

Part of The Wildlife Trusts' efforts aim to increase awareness and understanding of rivers and wetlands amongst the public and landowners. But we also need a political solution.

"We can really benefit our rivers if we can reshape land management policy and agri-environment schemes after we leave the EU," says Ali Morse, Water and Catchment Officer for The Wildlife Trusts. "It's a vital opportunity to create a really important role for rivers and wetlands in future."

“Restoring rivers will deliver multiple benefits in the future”

This means ensuring there is public money for public good – that Government will fund projects that bring benefits for all. And this is something rivers are well placed to do. Not only are these waterways valuable for biodiversity, a network of wild corridors across the land; they are also vital for naturally managing flood risk. Wetland habitats, such as peatland, are also crucial for carbon storage. That means restoring them will deliver multiple benefits in the future.

It's a lot to think about. I turn my canoe around, and paddle slowly back upstream, towards where the river – with its restored riffles and shingle bars – gurgles and sings again. A place where the Lark, once more, lives up to its name.

River wildlife

Otter



Increasingly common in river valleys following the 1984 ban on organochlorine pesticides

Pike

Stealthy ambush predator, best seen from a bridge or canoe. JK Rowling borrowed its species name *Lucius* to name Draco Malfoy's father in the Harry Potter books



Kingfisher

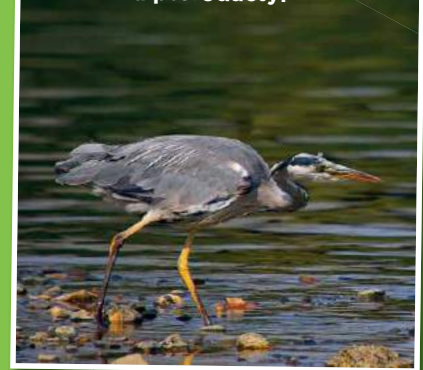
Commoner than you might think. Once you hear its squeaky-hinge call and glimpse the darting flash of blue you'll get your eye in

Beautiful demoiselle

This aptly-named damselfly frequents fast-flowing rivers in the south west between May and August. This is a male; the female has iridescent brown wings

Grey heron

The nearest thing on a river to a pterodactyl



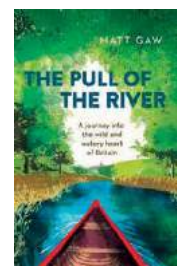
Water crowfoot

Beautiful plant of chalk streams, often forming huge clusters of waving feathery fronds. The fried egg-coloured, buttercup-shaped flowers emerge into the sunshine



If you liked this article...

You might enjoy Matt's book, which chronicles his canoeing travels along many of Britain's rivers



Stay wild

Nature is good for you - so make the most of your local green space this summer, says Liz Bonnin

This June, The Wildlife Trusts asked everyone to notice nature everywhere, every day. Hundreds of thousands of you took part in 30 Days Wild, carrying out literally millions of Random Acts of Wildness.

So why not stay wild? Nothing restores you like spending time in nature - the breeze in your face, the fragrance of grasses and flowers warmed by the summer sun, the soft buzz of insects and trills of birdsong.

We know nature makes us feel good. But now, there is mounting evidence that it can improve your energy levels and mood, lessen hypertension, respiratory tract and cardiovascular illnesses, and reduce anxiety and depression.

Over the past three years, The Wildlife Trusts have also proved that taking part in 30 Days Wild improves health, happiness, and the desire to protect nature. It starts with the beauty of nature, connecting us more deeply to the natural world. As our appreciation increases, so does our happiness. This, in turn, encourages people to do more to help wildlife and take action for nature. The impacts don't just last

a few days. They might even last a whole year.

So this summer, treat your body and mind as often as you can. Go for a long walk, pick the blackberries in the hedgerows, take off your shoes and feel the grass underfoot, and breathe. There are pockets of green everywhere, even in our busiest cities. I live in London and love to cycle around Richmond Park in search of its red deer, or enjoy the majestic oaks.

Many of the UK's wilder places have a special place in my heart too: the breathtaking mountains

“ You can benefit from our natural world ”

and lakes in Scotland's Cairngorms National Park; the magical Lundy Island in the Bristol Channel with its colourful puffins and playful seals; the impossibly beautiful coast of Pembrokeshire (and the chance to clamber over rocks and jump into crystal clear waters).

One of my favourite experiences is to listen to the echolocation calls of bats at dusk. It's already quite lovely to watch them darting back and forth in the stillness of the evening as they pick off their prey, but with a bat detector, an entirely different and thrilling scene reveals itself. The bats vocalise with incessant high frequency squeaks and clicks that allow them to manoeuvre at lightning speed without crashing into each other, locating the insects with sublime precision.

It's never been more important to protect our wild places, so that the health of our planet's ecosystems, and ultimately our health, is safeguarded. Each individual can



Liz Bonnin is a biochemist, wild animal biologist and science and wildlife presenter

Families all over the UK are going to stay wild this June, no matter where they live. Will you?

make a real difference; it's only through individual actions that we can bring about the change our natural world needs to thrive.

No matter where you live, you can benefit from our natural world and play a big part in protecting it. The people around you can too, so share your wild experiences with friends and families. Stay wild, stay connected to nature, and have a wonderful summer!



Liz on Rathlin island, famous for its puffins, off the Northern Irish coast



Five ways to stay wild this summer

1 Take part in a wildlife survey, monitoring some of our most beautiful wildlife, such as water voles, butterflies or barn owls

2 Cut down on plastic. Say no to plastic straws, bags, wrapping and bottles. Instead, invest in reusable alternatives

3 Go on a wild adventure with friends and family. Use the long evenings to explore a nature reserve near you

4 Enjoy a day at the beach looking out for rockpool creatures, dolphins offshore or majestic seabirds

5 Look for nature on your doorstep: wildflowers on verges, butterflies in woodland glades, bees at window boxes

My first Nightjar

For the BBC's Security Correspondent Frank Gardner, finding a nightjar in Britain last year was a thrilling experience





It's warm. Unusually warm, even for a summer night in July. Above the peat bogs, heathland and pine copses of Thursley Common a full moon has risen, casting a ghostly glow over this delightful Surrey nature reserve just off the A3.

The last of the day visitors have returned to their cars and by 9.30pm I have the place to myself, leaving me alone to pursue a lifelong ambition: to see a nightjar in the wild in Britain. These curious, nocturnal, highly camouflaged birds have long fascinated me and historically, they have attracted legends. One of these is that they feed from the teats of sleeping goats, earning them the old English nickname of 'goatsucker'.

They also have an unmistakable signature call, known as a 'churring', a strange, low vibrating sound that I'm



Frank Gardner is on Instagram at [frankgardner_nature](https://www.instagram.com/frankgardner_nature). His latest novel, *Ultimatum*, is out now.

20 species of dragonfly as well as lizards, newts and the occasional rarity like last year's pectoral sandpiper that was eventually driven off by a swooping Merlin.

On local advice, I turn right, still wheeling over the boardwalk and heading for a clump of Scots pines. This seems like a good time to check what I'm supposed to be listening out for. I take out my phone, open up my Collins Bird Guide

app and type in 'European nightjar' (as opposed to the related Nubian, Egyptian and Red-necked species that occur on the Continent). I click on the audio button and up comes the churring. I memorise it and switch off the phone.

And it continues. From somewhere, out there in the darkness, the churring has started up. Yes! I'm in luck. As quietly as possible, I make my way by moonlight towards the pine trees. The noise is loud now; it seems to reverberate all around me, electrifying the night-time atmosphere. I keep very still and scan the night sky where the pine branches lie against the deep purple sky and the silver moon. Suddenly there is a clapping sound followed by the swish of beating wings. There, silhouetted just yards from where I am, a pair of nightjar rears up into the air, chasing moths with their sharp, pointed wings, before vanishing off into the night.

And yet the churring continues. I scan the branches and then I see it, halfway up a tree, perfectly silhouetted against the summer moon. I raise my camera for a chance shot but immediately it's up and off. Yet I'm overwhelmed by a sense of triumph: I have seen my first British nightjar!

“ I keep very still and scan the night sky ”

told can still be heard on summer nights like this across the heathlands of Britain.

The wooden planks of the boardwalk creak and groan as I trundle across it in my wheelchair. Thursley Common is a National Nature Reserve comprising 325 hectares of peat bog and woodland with winding trails and nearly a mile of raised boardwalk to take you over the otherwise impassible marshes. By day I have had great views of stonechats here, perching on isolated branches. The reserve harbours over

Experience it for yourself

The Wildlife Trusts manage many heathland nature reserves that are home to the haunting nightjar: Chobham Common and Wisley and Ockham Commons and Chatley Heath (Surrey); Higher Hyde Heath (Dorset); Roydon Common and Grimston Warren (Norfolk); Strawberry Hill

Heath (Notts); Cors Bodgynydd (N Wales); and Greenham Common & Snelsmore Common (Berks).

Arrive before dusk on a warm, dry evening in June or July and find a spot with open skies. Keep your ears open: you'll hear the wing clapping and churring before you see them!

Many Wildlife Trusts run nightjar events and have wheelchair accessible nature reserves.

■ Find out more: <https://wtru.st/access>



DAVID TRILING/2020VISION

Top places to see ocean giants

If you want to see really big animals in the UK, you need to look in the sea. As it happens, there are dozens of great spots. Here's a selection



JOSEPH PENDER

From playful dolphins to the enormous basking shark, our ocean giants offer a rare glimpse into an unseen world. Seals, porpoises, whales, sharks and dolphins can be spotted from our shores, so here are some of our top places to find them.

Choose a calm day, with a flat sea and a bit of cloud cover. Bring binoculars, find a high vantage point and make yourself comfortable - patience is essential! Carefully scan the sea for movement, looking for splashes, a fin cutting through the water, or feeding flocks of seabirds.

1 Alderney West Coast and Burhou Islands Alderney Wildlife Trust

Internationally important Ramsar site great for grey seals, and common and bottlenose dolphins. Maybe even an ocean sunfish!

Where is it? Look from Fort Tourgis nature reserve.

Map reference: ST 531 798

2 Isles of Scilly Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust

Start scanning as you sail to the islands, then look for fins and splashes from the many headlands

or boat trips. Common dolphins, sunfish and basking sharks, plus occasional whales and rarer dolphins.

Where is it? 28 miles off Land's End.

Map ref: SV 911 095

3 Towan Headland Cornwall Wildlife Trust

Good for harbour porpoises, common dolphins and resident bottlenose dolphins. Also minke and even humpback whales. There are regular Sequest seawatches, and wildlife boat trips from the harbour.

Address: Towan Headland, Newquay, TR7 1HN. **Map ref:** SW 800 627.

Share your experiences

Tweet us your best ocean giant photos from your day out
@wildlifetrusts
#LoveWildlife

What's out there

Grey seal



Like a curious, laid-back, well-fed dog – only much bigger – up to 2.5m long!

Risso's dolphin



Up to four metres long, criss-crossed with tell-tale white scars

Basking shark



The world's second biggest fish: an awesome sight. Fin shape identifies individuals

Bottlenose dolphin



Big, strong and usually seen in small groups. Grows up to 4m

What common dolphins lack in size they make up for with dazzling swimming and aerial skill

4 Cardigan Bay Marine Wildlife Centre Wildlife Trust for S&W Wales

Join the Wildlife Trust team on the harbour wall to spot the resident bottlenose dolphins, harbour porpoises and grey seals. Or join a Dolphin Survey Boat Trip.

Address: Glanmor Terrace, New Quay SA45 9PS. **Map ref:** SN 389 598

5 Isle of Man Manx Wildlife Trust

See basking sharks between Peel and the Calf of Man. Risso's dolphins are also regular summer visitors.

Where is it? SW side of the island.
Map ref: SC 242 844

6 North Antrim Coast Ulster Wildlife

The waters between Malin Head, Donegal, and Rathlin Island are some of the best for spotting basking sharks, with feeding and breaching a regular sight in summer. Shark-watching boat trips run from Portstewart Harbour.

Post code: BT55 7AD
Map ref: NV 996 982

7 Spey Bay Wildlife Reserve Scottish Wildlife Trust

Bottlenose dolphins all year round, some up to four metres long! Plus seals, otters and ospreys in summer.

Where is it? Nr Elgin, Moray, IV32 7PJ **Map ref:** NJ 325 657

8 Cullernose Point Northumberland Wildlife Trust

Harbour porpoises, grey seals and bottlenose dolphins all regularly seen. In summer, white-beaked dolphins sometimes venture close, or even humpback whales!

Where is it? Nr Craster, NE66 3TJ
Map ref: NU 261 187

9 Flamborough Head Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

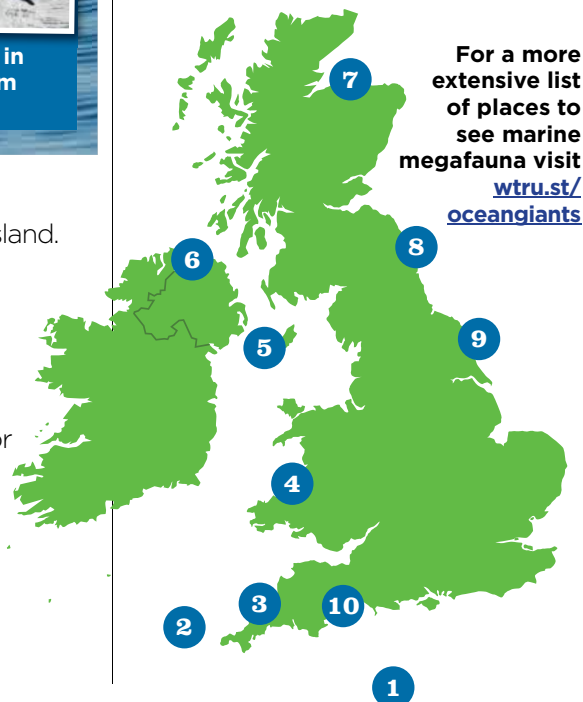
See minke whales in mid to late summer as they follow mackerel and herring inshore. These magnificent mammals can grow to 10m. You can even go on a sea safari from Whitby!

Address: North Marine Road, East Riding of Yorkshire, YO15 1BJ
Map ref: TA 239 720

10 Lyme Bay Devon Wildlife Trust

So important for cetaceans, like white-beaked dolphins, we are campaigning for a Marine Conservation Zone here. Also harbour porpoises and common dolphins often spotted from Berry Head.

Post code: TQ5 9AP
Map ref: SX 940 561



For a more extensive list of places to see marine megafauna visit wtru.st/oceangiants



my legacy

— MY WILD LIFE —

Lucie, Constantine, Cornwall

Lucie has been a nature lover since childhood and enjoys encouraging wildlife to thrive in her garden. She knows her local Wildlife Trust will continue to work hard to protect wildlife for future generations where she lives.

Love wildlife? Leave a gift in your Will to your Wildlife Trust or to The Wildlife Trusts movement as a whole.

wildlifetrusts.org/legacy

© Alastair Sopp





“ The warden's Hedge Warbler imitation was hysterical! ”
Flora, age 7

Wildlife Celebration 2018



“ What a fantastic animal, I'm looking forward to seeing them in the wild on the Beaver Walk. ”
Catherine



“ Great to hear kids and adults so exhilarated at seeing so much more than just fish in the pond-dipping. ”
Ian, Cornwall Wildlife Trust River Fishing Team

Living with Nature Discovery Day 2018

Incorporating Cornwall Wildlife Trust's
Annual General Meeting

Saturday 17th November 2018

The Eden Project
St Austell, PL24 2SG
11:00am - 3:00pm

with
day pass
to the
Eden Project
included!

programme

10.00am – 10.30am
**Annual General Meeting of
Cornwall Wildlife Trust 2018**

11:00am to 3:00pm
Discovery Day

Everyone is welcome to join us for the rest of the day at Eden for **Discovery Day** after the AGM. 2018's theme is **Living with Nature**, with nature experts touching on various aspects of our Living Landscapes, Living Seas and Inspiring People projects in Cornwall. We will be also be screening short films, and ending the day with a guest inspirational speaker.

Discovery Day includes a free day pass to the Eden Project, an educational charity working to connect people with each other and the living world through a host of striking contemporary gardens, displays and experiences. As well as the infamous biomes, the Outdoors Gardens has a **Wild Cornwall** area of Cornish landscape demonstrating the wealth of Cornwall's landscapes, habitats and wildlife

Please cut off and return

Discovery Day 2018 Booking Form

Fill in the form below or book online at:

www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/shop

email info@cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk or call (01872) 273939

Return this booking form with your cheque made payable to Cornwall Wildlife Trust no later than **Friday 9th November 2018**, to **Carolyn O'Hagan**, Cornwall Wildlife Trust, Five Acres, Truro, Cornwall TR4 9DJ.

places at £15.00 = £ Steak pasty or vegetarian pasty:

I enclose a cheque for £ payable to **Cornwall Wildlife Trust** * Please note that no tickets are issued but you will be signed in on the day

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email: Tel:

Are you a Cornwall Wildlife Trust member? Yes No Cornwall Wildlife Trust would love to keep you up to speed with our wildlife news and events. Please tick this box if you'd like to receive our email updates:

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