

The Seahorse Trust

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NATURE

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2016



Welcome to the autumn 2016 newsletter

Welcome to the autumn 2016 edition of our newsletter and thank you to all of you for your amazing support this summer; without you we could not have achieved so much and over the summer it has been so busy.

This spring and summer was yet another manically busy period for the trust and below is just a small snapshot of what we have done and achieved. There is much more information on our [Facebook page](#) and on our [website](#) and if you have any enquiries then please get in touch on [INFORMATION](#)

PLEASE ENJOY THE NEWSLETTER AND THERE ARE MANY WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR WORK, PLEASE READ ON

Our [Stop the Curio Trade Campaign](#) has been very busy this summer and we have had great successes, so please read more below. We were also approached by the [John Tsagaris Clinic](#) in Chelsea London, which is an acupuncture and herbal clinic that has made a stand against using animals, especially seahorses in their treatments (more below)

The [Postcode lottery](#) has also kindly funded our project to write an industry standard, Seahorse Survey Course that will taught to volunteers for a small fee to make sure information gathered when looking for seahorses can directly help their conservation.

As you can see below we have also been very busy filming with Miranda from Inside Out South and being interviewed on the Simon Mayo Drivetime show for BBC Radio 2.

The seahorse pictures below were taken by volunteer Chris and trust director Neil and show some Spiny seahorses that were found on an undisclosed site when Chris was doing a leisure dive. Chris is licensed to search for seahorses but really was not expecting to see them on this site. It was good news to see them and gives hope.



Don't forget to adopt a seahorse or become a member, it makes a great present. Check out our website for details. www.theseahorsetrust.org

The Seahorse Trust on social media

We now have a Twitter account and you can follow us on [@seahorsecharity](https://twitter.com/seahorsecharity) or follow us on [The Seahorse Trust](https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust/), although we have started small we hope to have Twitter followers around the world, so that they can follow the work of the trust in our quest to conserve and preserve seahorses around the world. Please follow us and retweet to all your followers.

We also have a very active Facebook page with well over 1,560 members, you can find us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust/> or just search [The Seahorse Trust](https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust/)

As well as our social media links we also have a great website with lots of information and pictures of seahorses and our work with them and the natural world.

Inside Out South

Inside Out South asked The Seahorse Trust to appear on their programme to give an update on the situation at Studland Bay in Dorset which the trust has been studying since 2008 under license from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO).

Presenter Miranda Krestovnikoff interviewed the team including volunteer Kim (in the blue T-shirt below) and went in the water and she was astonished to see the state of the seabed since her last trip several years earlier, which has now deteriorated so badly that Seahorses have not been seen at South Beach in Studland Bay since 2015 due to the destruction of the seagrass meadow on the site, which could have been avoided.



The team having a pre filming briefing and Miranda with volunteer Kim

Simon Mayo's BBC 2 drive time radio show

The Seahorse Trust was invited onto Simon Mayo's drive time programme on Radio 2 in May to talk about seahorses following on from a question by listeners

10 million listeners tuned in to hear Trust Director Neil and Simon chat about these incredible animals; although the interview was only supposed to be 5 minutes long it kept going for over 10 minutes as he was fascinated by Seahorses and the work of The Seahorse Trust.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b07bkc2y#play>

If you want to do a fund raising event why not choose us as your charity? Whether you do a cycle ride, a concert, wild swim or climb a mountain you can help the trust by nominating us as your charity, contact us on [INFORMATION](#) to find out more.

Open water swim

The annual Studland Bay Seahorse Swim took place again this year and trust volunteer Tim kindly represented us at the event which as usual was heavily attended with some of the categories selling out prior to the race day.

EDOWSC have been amazing to us over the years and each year they raise £300 towards our work and research at Studland Bay

Why not join them next year and help raise funds for our conservation work by swimming for the seahorses. Find out more at:

<http://www.edowsc.org/ed/archives/category/seahorse-swim>



John Tsagaris Clinic

What an amazing breakthrough, we were approached by the John Tsagaris Clinic in Chelsea London which is a herbal and acupuncture centre that have decided to make a stand.

They have committed to not using seahorses or other species in their treatments and have decided to support the work of The Seahorse Trust by putting a whole page about our work on their website which can be found at <http://www.johntsagaris.co.uk/>

John and his amazing team believe in the sustainability of the natural world and only use natural products in all their treatments.

Thank you to John, Fiona and the team for their stance on this, the more the better.

Cliff Towler (artist)

Cliff Towler who is an exceptional marine artist, has painted a range of seahorse pictures with 10% of pictures sold through the trust FB page being donated to our work.

Cliff is based in Dorset, home to our study at Studland Bay and he is inspired by the beautiful natural world around him.

Please support us and Cliff's work by buying a painting through our FB page which can be found at:

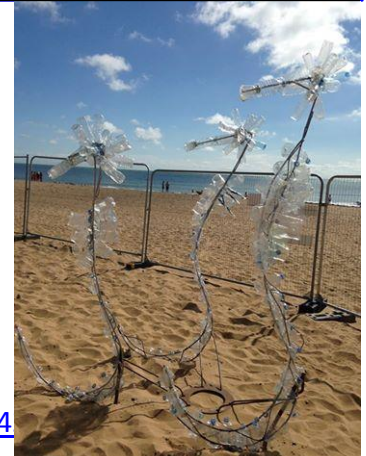
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/106564446031865/>



Osmosis event

The Osmosis event took place at Ramsgate main sands in August and volunteer Jane encouraged everyone to make sculptures from the rubbish found in the area. As the picture shows Jane and the team made some great seahorse sculptures and this gave them the chance to talk about seahorses, the trust and the problems facing marine life with the overwhelming amount of plastic debris in the sea.

Check out their FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/167326034>



SEAHORSE FACT: All the species of seahorse are perfectly adapted to their environment and this is why often several species can live in the same area. The adaptations are subtle but different enough to make them specialised.

BNA Talk

SHT Executive Director Neil was invited to talk at the British Naturalist Associations annual general meeting in Barnstaple.

Neil is a Fellow of the BNA which he received for his distinction and expertise in Natural history and was really pleased and honoured to be asked to do a talk for the BNA, to learn more please click here [INFORMATION BNA](#)



Marine Conservation Zones

The third tranche of marine Conservation Zones are now being decided on and The Seahorse Trust has contributed all of its data for Studland Bay since we started work there in 2008 to be considered to make this site fully protected as a MCZ. Since we have worked on the project seahorse numbers have dropped from 40 known individuals down to zero and the state of the seagrass has got worse. Our colleagues at NOC at the Southampton University have confirmed the fragmentation of the seagrass which is leading to a breakdown of the ecosystem.

Seahorse scarf

Sparrows Green scarves have produced a stunning seahorse Scarf for sale to help raise funds for The Seahorse Trust. Designer Kate Palmer kindly approached the trust to try and help us to raise awareness and to raise funds and as can be seen they are beautiful scarves. To buy one please go to <http://www.sparrowsgreenstudio.com/>



Facebook

The Seahorse Trust Face book page is growing from strength to strength We now have over 1,560 followers on the site. People from all over the world are following our work and it is a fantastic Interactive site with input from everyone Click on the logo to the right to directly to the site and if you haven't. Already then sign up and join the fastest growing network of seahorse lovers in the world.



Wildwood Trust

Thank you so much to [Wildwood Trust](#) who kindly host our office free of charge at their centre near Ottery St Mary in Devon. [Wildwood Escot](#) have a number of native British and European species such as Wild Cat, Lynx, Red Squirrel, Boar, Beaver and soon to arrive Wolves. They are a progressive charity that supports Rewilding projects throughout the UK and are involved in bringing back former native species to our countryside, such as Red squirrel and Beavers and hopefully in the future Lynx. Click on the logo to go to their site



SEAHORSE FACT: Seahorses bodies are made up of hundreds of triangular plates which are then covered in a thin layer of skin, covered in mucous.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- [Hi Flying Lens](#) CEO Daniel Ball donated a laptop to do our work and presentations on as they were updating their computer equipment. This is going to be invaluable when we go out into the field or do talks.
- One of our newest younger members called Ollie sent us a great drawing (on the right) of a seahorse in the sea. (Thanks Ollie)
- The Seahorse Trust is used as a focal point by so many individuals and organisations to focus their conservation efforts and a massive thank you to them all.
- Kim from [The Acupuncture Clinic](#) in Torbay has kindly set up a page about The Seahorse Trust on his web page and has a donate button on there towards our work, great work and thanks Kim.
- Our friends at ABQ Biopark in New Mexico have produced two postcards that you can print out and send everywhere to get the message out there about not using shells, seahorses or other marine curios. Check out our FB page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/106564446031865/>

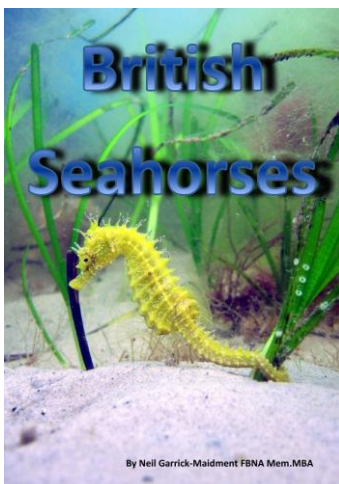


WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NATURE

PLEASE SEND US YOUR UP TO DATE E-MAIL AND HELP US SAVE FUNDS AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT BY SENDING YOU OUR LATEST NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL.

Sadly there is not enough room to list and name everyone who helps us, so apologies if we have not mentioned you; however we do want to mention our fantastic patrons for their continued support and our amazing trustees for guiding us in the right direction and a massive thanks to our amazing ever growing team of volunteers.

There is also our [Facebook](#) page, [Twitter](#) account and [News page](#) on the [trusts website](#) to get even more information.



British Seahorse booklet

As part of our ongoing educational work we have produced a booklet on British Seahorses and their way of life. It is a look into the secretive world of seahorses, especially British ones and we hope you will enjoy it.

To buy a copy, please go to our home page

<http://www.theseahorsetrust.org>

100% of the profits from this booklet go to The Seahorse Trust and as it is a donation please don't forget the gift aid it. It was designed in-house and the printing costs were kindly donated by Marty Maidment.

We would like to offer a huge thank you to her for doing this.

SEAHORSE FACT: Hanging onto seafans, the Pygmy Seahorse looks just like the Seafan and matches the colour and even the shape, making them very difficult to see

In keeping with our ethos of working in partnership with nature we have set up a joint adopt a seahorse scheme with the [Marine Conservation Society](#) where a percentage of the donation comes to the work of The Seahorse Trust.

To find out more follow this link or click below

[Adopt a seahorse](#)

We also run our own [Adopt a Seahorse](#) project and you can choose from 10 seahorses that have been found in the British Seahorse Survey.

Adopt a Seahorse

Just click here

Thank you to everyone

We would like to publically thank everyone who is involved in the trust for their amazing input, without you we could not do so much. There are so many people involved from our Patrons, Trustees, members, adopters, to the lady who monitors the illegal trade (we have to keep her name secret for obvious reasons), to Beccy and Jonny who monitor the Facebook page to the huge team of volunteer divers who go week after week to gather much needed data at Studland, Gavin who maintains the website to all the hundreds of others who follow us on Twitter and Facebook and all those behind the scenes who do so much in fund raising and awareness; getting the message out there.

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL



FUND RAISING

The Seahorse Trust is a registered charity (**number 1086027**) and is totally reliant on donations and sponsorship grants to achieve its work. If you want to help raise funds for us there are so many ways you can do this and below are just a few of the methods. Thank you to everyone in advance for their amazing support.

- Adoptions** Why not adopt one of the seahorses found on the British Seahorse Survey, details can be found on our website on the [support us page](#)
- Membership** Become a [member](#) of the trust and get regular newsletters and updates on our News and Facebook pages; you can now sign up to receive tweets.
- Everyclick** Use Everyclick as your search engine and generate funds for the trust every time you search for anything on the internet.
- Virgin Giving** When donating money or running an event be sure your donations are safe by using [Virgin Giving](#) or one of the other secure sites listed on our website.
- Fund raising events** Setting up and running your own event, whether it is a cycle ride, balloon jump or knitting the longest scarf in the world is a fun way to raise funds.
- Gift Aid** Importantly don't forget to gift aid your donation. If you are a UK tax payer we can claim 25p for every £1 you donate (see our site for details on the [Support Us](#) Page)

Thank you and have a great autumn

www.theseahorsetrust.org

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