

The Seahorse Trust

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NATURE

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2017



Welcome to the autumn 2017 newsletter

Welcome to the autumn 2017 edition of our newsletter and thank you to all of you for your amazing support in 2017; without you we could not have achieved so much and it has been so busy as usual.

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](#)

Etsy petition and Amazon ban

A few years ago we had great success in persuading E-bay to ban the sale of seahorses through their site and recently our illegal team volunteer Teresa managed to get Amazon to do the same which is fantastic news. Sadly the same cannot be said of Etsy who are refusing to do the same even though seahorses are legally protected and highly endangered. Despite constant e-mailing and communications all they keep saying is they are reviewing it and yet E-bay and Amazon got onto it and within weeks we had a positive answer.

Ironically Etsy pride themselves in having such a green eco-friendly headquarters pity this does not extend to seahorses.

https://www.change.org/p/etsy-stop-the-sale-of-real-seahorses-on-etsy?recruiter=65770802&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=share_petition

Please sign the petition above and share it with as many people as possible. At the time of writing it was over 20,200 signatures.

Thank you to Agent K and Teresa for all their hard work on the Illegal Trade team.

Stop the Marine Curio Trade

A major part of the work of the trust is campaigning to stop the marine curio trade. We have had great successes with the likes of E-bay and Amazon and in getting a shop in Devon prosecuted but there is so much more to do.

Please donate to our GoFundMe campaign to help fund us to stop this horrific trade. <https://www.gofundme.com/zvdk85w>

Seahorses in Oyster cages

Seahorses turn up in the strangest of places and one was found in the oyster cages of a project in Portsmouth to reintroduce native oysters back into British waters

Click on the picture to go to the project



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

Seahorse Survey Course

Have you ever wondered what makes seahorse tick, how does it survive in the wild or how do you go about setting up a survey to find one of nature's most elusive creatures. Well this course has been designed for you.

Based on our extensive experience in surveying for seahorses and advising others around the world on how to survey for them we have designed and written this 2 day (or 8 sessions) course funded by the players of the Peoples Postcode Lottery through the Postcode Local Trust.

The first course ran in early September and the next one is in November (please contact Beccy on seahorsesurveycourse@aol.co.uk for details and to book a place on the course.

This is the first course of its kind designed for anyone from scientists to keen amateurs and we will be expanding it out and around the country as we train more instructors



Save Our Seahorses

We work very closely with many organisations around the world, including our sister organisation Save Our Seahorses based in Dublin, Ireland. **(Click on logo)** who are looking at the trade in seahorses and how to solve the problem of possible extinction in 25 to 30 years through Conservation Through Cultivation (CTC).



The Seahorse Trust on social media

We 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 1,878 members, you can find us at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/theseahorsetrust/> or just search [The Seahorse Trust](#)

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.

Beauty Kitchen

Beauty Kitchen have been amazing supporters of our work and throughout this year they have been brilliant. The funds they donate from the sale of their Seahorse Plankton range sold through Holland and Barrett helps to fund our work in curios, education, advisory, Marine Conservation Zones and so much more.

They have their brand new #SaveStan Skincare Treasures which will be available at Holland & Barrett from mid-October and contains details on how you can adopt a Seahorse for 4 months totally free and until the 26th of September the Seahorse Plankton range is buy one get one free.

Check out their website at <http://www.beautykitchen.co.uk/ethical>



Curio Trade

We did a soft launch of our [Stop the Curio Trade Campaign](#) in 2016 as a result of our major success with persuading E-bay to ban the sale of seahorses on its online site.

The Illegal trade team led by Agent K and Teresa have now got Amazon to follow suit and we aim to get all online sales platforms to follow suit, closing this avenue to seahorse traders. Please help them by making a donation to the link above and report any sightings you come across to us.



Hope the Seahorse

A small juvenile Spiny Seahorse called Hope was found at South Beach in Studland Bay this year gave just a small glimmer of hope (hence the name) that seahorses might one day return to what was one of the most important sites for Spiny Seahorses in the UK.

Hope is the first seahorse to be recorded at the site since 2015 and although she was seen only a couple of times and was obviously on the move looking for a mate she was a welcome sign.

Through the work of The Seahorse Trust and its many partners including Dr Ken Collins of NOC at Southampton University we have been monitoring this site and the seahorses under license since 2008.

In that time we have seen numbers drop from 40 known individuals to zero despite the trust getting them legally protected nationally in 2008. Hope is the first sign that all might not be lost and our volunteer divers will keep the search going.



SEAHORSE FACT: Most seas and oceans have seahorses in them and some species live in quite cold temperatures even up in Nova Scotia, Canada.

Annual Seahorse Swim at Studland

Thank you to everyone who took part in and organised the annual seahorse swim at Studland Bay organised by the EDOWSC and thank you to Beccy for representing the trust (even though she was heavily pregnant with Isla, now our newest volunteer). The swim raised an amazing £500 this year and the money is being spent on our work to help get the site protected.

EDOWSC can be found at <http://www.dorsetseaswim.club/the-seahorse-swim-2017/>

Spanish Seahorse Survey

Trust volunteer Gaye Rosier went back to Spain this year to survey the area she used to monitor on a daily basis and very sadly the number of seahorses there have dropped to 1 or 2, due to habitat loss.

We don't know why this has happened yet but longer term monitoring by Gaye and her team and hopefully Juan and the Asociación Hippocampus will tell us more.

Juan's site is at <http://www.asociacionhippocampus.com/>



Joint Adoption with MCS

We work closely with so many organisations and one we are developing an ever closer link with the Marine Conservation Society who have set up a joint adoption scheme with us. This year the joint scheme has raised almost £780 which benefits both charities and helps to fund our conservation work.

Please check out the joint adoption scheme on

http://www.mcsuk.org/shop/index.php?route=product/product&path=65&product_id=98



Facebook

The Seahorse Trust Facebook page is growing from strength to strength. We now have over 1,878 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 go 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 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 now 6 beautiful wolves from Sweden. 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 are a true fish and have all the fishy bits but they sit upright in the sea and have a prehensile tail. Their bent down head gives them a horse like appearance, hence the name.

Sponsors and shops

We are incredibly lucky to have a lot of people share in our ethos and want to contribute funds to help us continue our work in the preservation of seahorses. Below is a list of just some of the individuals and/or businesses that have offered to donate a percentage of their profits to our work or just make a donation occasionally. We would like to thank them so much for their generosity, without them we could not do so much, sorry if we have missed anyone.

- Wildflower favours <https://wildflower-favours.co.uk/shop/wedding-favours/seahorse-trust-charity-seed-packet-wedding-favour/>
- Sarah Marshall <https://message-in-a-bottle.co.uk/>
- Live algae <https://www.livealgae.co.uk/>
- Nicholas Pain sculpture http://nicolaspain.co.uk/spiny_seahorse.htm
- Patti Boness crafts
- Carla Taylor crafts
- Sparrows Green Scarfs <https://www.sparrowsgreenstudio.com/products/seahorse-trust-scarf/>
- BLUE REEF Aquarium Group <https://www.blureefaquarium.co.uk/newquay/>
- Wildlife World <http://www.wildlifeworld.co.uk/>

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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 very rapidly 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 Seahorses

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, specially 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: The seahorse tail cannot curl backwards as is often depicted in art because it is made up of interlocking plates that only go in a few directions.

Why not become a [Member](#) of The Seahorse Trust and support our work. Click on the link below or here and sign up today. With your help we can do so much.

Become a member

Just click here

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

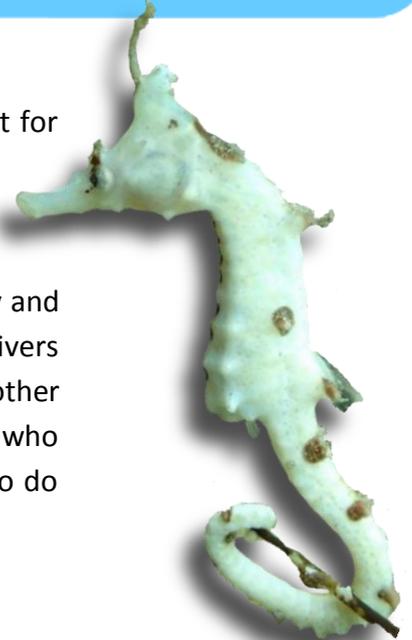
Just click here

Thank you to everyone

We would like to publically thank everyone who is involved in the trust for their amazing input, without you all we could not do so much.

There are so many people involved from our Patrons, Trustees, members, adopters, to the ladies who monitor the illegal trade (we have to keep their names secret for obvious reasons), Beccy, Jonny and Dave who monitor the Facebook page to the huge team of volunteer divers who go week after week to gather much needed data at Studland and other sites, 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.thesehorsetrust.org

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