

The Wildlife Trusts Annual Review 2009–2010



Protecting **Wildlife** for the Future



CLARENCE HOUSE

I am delighted to have been asked to provide this foreword and to celebrate The Wildlife Trusts' outstanding achievements in 2010 – the International Year of Biodiversity. The Wildlife Trusts have long played an important role in protecting and enhancing the U.K.'s biodiversity throughout their 2,250 nature reserves, home to thousands of species of plants and animals. The Trusts' continued efforts to restore large areas of land through their Living Landscape schemes are vital in a time of ever more pressing environmental issues.

A changing climate and increasing demands on our resources mean that our wildlife and countryside are under increasing threat. The challenge for all involved is to cope with these immediate demands without compromising Nature's recovery and, with that, our long-term economic stability. This is why The Wildlife Trusts' Living Landscape approach is so important. It is a vision for our wildlife and natural heritage which recognizes that involving local communities is the key to safeguarding the future of our wildlife. The scale of The Wildlife Trusts' aspiration is impressive and I very much look forward to seeing how these schemes progress over the coming years.

There are already promising signs that some of the schemes that are currently under way are going to be hugely successful. Earlier this year I visited the Clean Becks Campaign, a partnership regeneration project involving the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust and other local organizations in Middlesbrough. The project has achieved remarkable things and is a superb example of how, when a community works together with Nature, everyone benefits. There are also countless other projects around the U.K. through which Wildlife Trusts are helping to restore wildlife habitats, re-connect wildlife sites and create healthy, wildlife-rich landscapes in which local communities can take pride.

I would also just like to mention the great strides that have been made in marine conservation thanks to The Wildlife Trusts. They have, amongst other achievements, been at the forefront in the implementation of the new Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009). The UK is fortunate to have a diverse and fascinating coastline and marine environment, and I am delighted that due to the new legislation, organizations such as The Wildlife Trusts are now able to play a greater role in their protection.

It is testimony to the work of the Trusts that the U.K. Government is now launching its White Paper on the Natural Environment. I hope that The Wildlife Trusts and their members will play a leading role in developing this paper and will ensure that it maps out a bright and sustainable future for our wildlife and wild places.

I would like to finish by offering my particular thanks to the 35,000 volunteers who dedicate their time and expertise to The Wildlife Trusts in so many different ways, and to the 800,000 members whose support enables the Trusts to carry out their work protecting and restoring the U.K.'s wildlife. Everyone who plays a part in protecting our natural heritage, both for its own sake and for that of future generations, deserves our warmest thanks.

The Wildlife Trusts

This Review looks at the achievements of The Wildlife Trusts during 2009–10, restoring wildlife-rich landscapes, campaigning for marine wildlife and bringing millions of people into contact with nature across the UK. An electronic version of this report is available at wildlifetrusts.org/annualreview



The ospreys at Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust's Cors Dyfi nature reserve attracted 30,000 visitors

Who are The Wildlife Trusts?

By the 1960s, in response to the widespread devastation of our natural habitats, Wildlife Trusts had been formed across the length and breadth of the UK. Founded by people taking action to protect their local wildlife, Trusts rescued ancient woodlands, wildflower meadows, moors, lakes, islands, estuaries and beaches in an urgent drive to save our natural heritage for future generations.



Part of our work is helping people understand the natural world

Today there are 47 individual Wildlife Trusts covering the whole of the UK and the Isle of Man and Alderney and we are the UK's largest voluntary organisation dedicated to protecting all species and habitats. Collectively we have more than 800,000 members including 150,000 members of our junior branch Wildlife Watch. We manage more than 2,250 nature reserves and every year we advise thousands of landowners and organisations on how to manage their land for wildlife. We run marine conservation projects around the UK, collecting vital data on the

state of our seas and celebrating our amazing marine wildlife. Every year we work with thousands of schools and our nature reserves and visitor centres receive millions of visitors.

The Wildlife Trusts stand up for nature and our work ensures that a wide range of policies and decisions reflect the importance of our natural environment, helping to make a difference for wildlife both locally and nationally.

Our united vision of A Living Landscape and Living Seas provides the backdrop for our nature conservation work. Across the UK, Wildlife Trusts are operating beyond the boundaries of our own nature reserves, working together with businesses, local communities and thousands of landowners to restore and reconnect large areas of habitat in both rural and urban areas. This benefits wildlife and people alike and helps to safeguard the ecosystems that we depend on for natural services like clean air and water.

All 47 Wildlife Trusts are members of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (registered charity number 207238).

All statistics relate to The Wildlife Trusts' activity from April 2009 to March 2010. The work in this Review broadly covers March 09 – May 10.



Four-spotted chaser dragonfly

2,299

nature reserves managed

90,936

hectares of land managed

806,574
members

154,020
junior members

36,017
volunteers

5,316
landowners advised

17,175
events organised

317,936
people engaged through events

787

Members of
Parliaments
and Assemblies
engaged

150

coastal and
marine reserves

156,379
people engaged
in school visits

6,486,170
visitors to reserves

Chair & CEO Address

When we look back at 2009 it will stand out as a landmark year for nature conservation in the UK, and for The Wildlife Trusts. Our work restoring nature on land and campaigning for its protection at sea continues to go from strength to strength. We helped secure a Marine Act, initiated the call for a White Paper on nature, acquired new nature reserves across the UK and helped millions of people to discover and enjoy their local wildlife.



in the county meant that otters were now recorded as present in every English county, eleven years after our Otters and Rivers Project kick-started large-scale efforts to restore river habitats for this endangered species. In September 2009 Hilary Benn announced a review of England's wildlife networks, chaired by Sir John Lawton (also Chair of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust), and in the lead-up to the General Election in May 2010 we also secured a commitment from the main political parties to a White Paper on nature.

History in the making

Our 98-year history is full of achievements, but the passage of the Marine and Coastal Access Act in November 2009 and the promise of a network of Marine Protected Areas, meant this was the year that marine conservation truly began in the UK. And The Wildlife Trusts have been involved every step of the way; from gathering petition signatures and collecting evidence, to advising government and securing cross-party support for the legislation – our ten years of campaigning helped to ensure the Marine Act will work for wildlife and we are delighted to see it finally passed and in the statute books.

Reasons to be cheerful

Despite doom and gloom on the economic front there were many reasons to be cheerful. News from Sussex Wildlife Trust that otters were back

Putting wildlife back on the map

The Wildlife Trusts have been developing our Living Landscape work, putting forward the case for large-scale restoration and recreation of natural habitats and working with thousands of landowners and businesses to translate this into work on the ground. In 2009–10 we also secured 17 new nature reserves, from extending and linking existing reserves in the Norfolk Broads to the purchase of Catherton Common, a huge 527ha swathe of heather-clad moorland in the Shropshire Hills. Thanks to the Scottish Beaver Trial, beavers returned to the wild in the UK for the first time in over 400 years, record numbers of green-winged orchids were recorded at a Dorset Wildlife Trust reserve and Wales' second pair of returning osprey bred on a Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust reserve, thrilling tens of thousands of visitors.



Common dolphins off the coast of south Wales

Inspiring people, enriching lives

Our face-to-face work is a constant reminder of the power of nature to inspire awe and wonder, whether it is enjoying an eye-to-eye encounter with a damselfly or the untamed vistas of our largest reserves. Our education and outreach staff engaged over 400,000 people and over six million people visited our nature reserves and centres, showing that The Wildlife Trusts are providing people with access to nature on a huge scale.

Working together

Each Wildlife Trust is an independent, locally-owned charity but, working together, we can draw great strength from our increasing collective influence. A giant petition postcard was signed by all 47 Wildlife Trusts and taken to Copenhagen for the Climate Change Summit in December 2009 whilst staff and volunteers from around the UK descended on London to take part in marches for climate change awareness and the Marine Act.

Challenges ahead

Despite our successes there is still much work to be done to reverse long-term declines of nature and over the next year we may have to contend with proposals for a badger cull and a new high speed rail development (which would destroy two Trust reserves and affect many more wildlife sites). Work is just beginning on implementation of the Marine Act and Trusts are already working with stakeholders across the country to identify potential Marine Protected Areas.

We know how much people value nature in their lives and throughout next year we will be mobilising public support for nature conservation on land and at sea.

Michael Allen
Chairman
The Wildlife Trusts

Stephanie Hilborne OBE
Chief Executive
The Wildlife Trusts



Wildlife Trust volunteers meet Gordon Brown



HRH Prince of Wales visits a Tees Valley Wildlife Trust partnership project



2009 marked the return of otters to every English county and completed their spread across the UK



Huw Irranca-Davies MP visits the Pumlumon Living Landscape scheme in Wales



Tony Juniper was awarded the Rothschild medal for his contribution to conservation



At The Wave climate change march

Around the UK

This map shows The Wildlife Trusts' work across the UK, providing an impression of the scale and distribution of our work. The smaller dots are our 2,299 nature reserves – wildlife havens where nature can thrive. The green patches are our large-area Living Landscape schemes and the starfish icons show areas of our Living Seas work.



Living Seas
The Wildlife Trusts are involved with marine conservation projects around the country, from managing reserves to organising family events and marine wildlife surveys.



Living Landscapes
The Wildlife Trusts have over 110 large area Living Landscape conservation schemes, where Trusts are working in partnership with businesses, local landowners and communities.



Nature Reserves
There are 2,299 Wildlife Trust nature reserves across the UK of all shapes, sizes and habitats, from floodplain meadows to rolling moorland, ancient woodland to beaches and sand dunes.



National Marine Week saw hundreds of events take place around the UK to celebrate our seas and marine wildlife

A Living Landscape

Imagine the sights and sounds of nature are part of your everyday life – wherever you live. Imagine children are free to roam through rich landscapes with endless wildlife treasures to discover and places that are full of flowers and alive with birdsong. This is our vision of A Living Landscape and we're working to make it happen across the UK.



A heath fritillary at Kent Wildlife Trust's Blean Woods reserve. In a large-scale Living Landscape scheme KWT are reconnecting woodland habitats to help this endangered butterfly expand its range

Restore, Recreate, Reconnect

A Living Landscape is a recovery plan for nature, championed by The Wildlife Trusts since 2006, to help create a resilient and healthy environment rich in wildlife and provide ecological security for people. Every Trust is working within its local communities, urban and rural, to inspire people about the future of their area: their own Living Landscape.



The Centenary Riverside Urban Wetland Nature Park was opened at the centre of Rotherham's flood defences

Restoring natural processes

Working with nature is a really important part of creating A Living Landscape. Wetlands are a particularly good example of where restoring and recreating habitats can help to reduce flood risk and improve water quality. In many parts of the UK, Wildlife Trusts are working with landowners, water companies and the statutory agencies to use the 'natural services' provided by wetlands to benefit wildlife and people. For example Devon Wildlife Trust are working with South West Water to help farmers improve water quality and restore culm grassland habitats.



Managing culm grassland helps to clean water as well as enhancing biodiversity

Review of wildlife sites and networks

An independent panel was established in October 2009, chaired by Sir John Lawton (also Chair of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust), to review England's wildlife sites and networks. The Wildlife Trusts' work to promote A Living Landscape, to policy and decision makers, played a role in stimulating this review and we were also part of the panel. The panel's report will be a milestone in our understanding of the status of important wildlife areas, and will set the context for nature's recovery in the UK.



Spoonbills at Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Cley Marshes nature reserve

Our reserves – nature's cathedrals

Trusts continue to acquire new nature reserves, strengthening and extending our UK-wide network of wildlife-rich land. In 2009–10 Shropshire Wildlife Trust acquired Catherton Common – a 527ha heather moorland in the Shropshire Hills. Staffordshire Wildlife Trust took on management of Highgate Common – a 135ha heathland. Sheffield Wildlife Trust planned and built a new urban park at Centenary Riverside in Rotherham and Norfolk Wildlife Trust ran a successful appeal to buy land at Upton Broad and extend their Living Landscape in the Norfolk Broads.

The return of the otter and the beaver

This year it was announced that otters are now present in every county in England, and beavers (with the help of Scottish Wildlife Trust and partners) are back in Scotland. These two charismatic, and iconic, species have either been totally absent from, or absent from large parts of, the UK for many years. This is a conservation success story, and one in which The Wildlife Trusts have played a key role.

Cleaver Heath – a Cheshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve

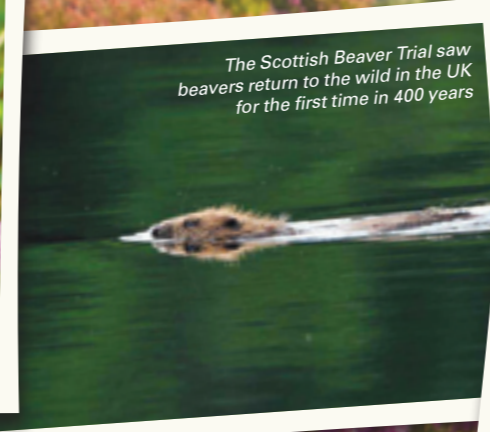
The ospreys at Cors Dyfi attracted 30,000 visitors to the Montgomeryshire WT nature reserve



A successful BBOWT fundraising campaign saved the flower-rich meadows of Leaches Farm for future generations



Somerset WT celebrated 25 years since the large blue butterfly was reintroduced to the UK at Green Down nature reserve



The Scottish Beaver Trial saw beavers return to the wild in the UK for the first time in 400 years



Cheshire WT launches the Gowy Washlands Living Landscape scheme



Volunteers help the Life on the Verge project to monitor wildflowers on road verges in Lincolnshire and Rutland

Living Seas

This is The Wildlife Trusts' vision for the future of the UK's seas – where marine wildlife thrives, from the depths of the ocean to the coastal shallows. Where marine habitats recover from past decline, ocean processes help to slow climate change and where people are inspired by marine wildlife and value the sea.



A scallop, complete with multiple eyes

Select, Protect, Connect

Following the announcement of the Marine and Coastal Access Act in November 2009 we launched our Living Seas vision at an event at Westminster in January 2010. This was attended by 53 MPs who pledged to support The Wildlife Trusts' vision for the future of our seas and we launched a report outlining the challenges ahead.



Campaigning for the Marine Act at Westminster

Marine and Coastal Access Act

In November 2009, ten years of campaigning by The Wildlife Trusts and other organisations was rewarded as the Marine and Coastal Access Act was passed. The Act offers the UK's marine wildlife protection through the creation of a network of protected areas and a more joined-up approach to how the sea is used and managed. In the lead up to the Act becoming law The Wildlife Trusts work on the Marine Bill (which preceded the Act) was mentioned in both the House of Commons and Lords. The Act covers England and Wales. Elsewhere in the UK the Scottish Wildlife Trust were pivotal in securing a Marine Act for Scotland and Ulster Wildlife Trust have campaigned for protection of marine wildlife in Northern Ireland.

Marine Protected Areas

A key part of the Act is the Government's commitment to establish an ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in UK waters by 2012. Wildlife Trusts around the UK are already involved with MPA projects looking at the implementation of the Act, helping with surveys to collect data and co-ordinating groups of different sea-users to ensure that everyone can be involved.

Taking Action for Marine Wildlife

Wildlife Trusts up and down the country are actively involved with protecting marine wildlife. Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust has monitored harbour seals in the Solent. The seals were tagged with tracking devices to enable the Trust to find out more about their behaviour. Dorset Wildlife Trust installed an underwater snorkel trail at its Fine Foundation Marine Wildlife Centre in Kimmeridge Bay complete with cuttlefish 'nestboxes'. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust recreated underwater habitats in swimming pools for schoolchildren to don snorkels and explore. In south Wales the Sea Trust completed 37 crossings of the Irish Sea surveying marine wildlife. 960 individual animals were recorded in 220 sightings including common dolphin and minke whale.



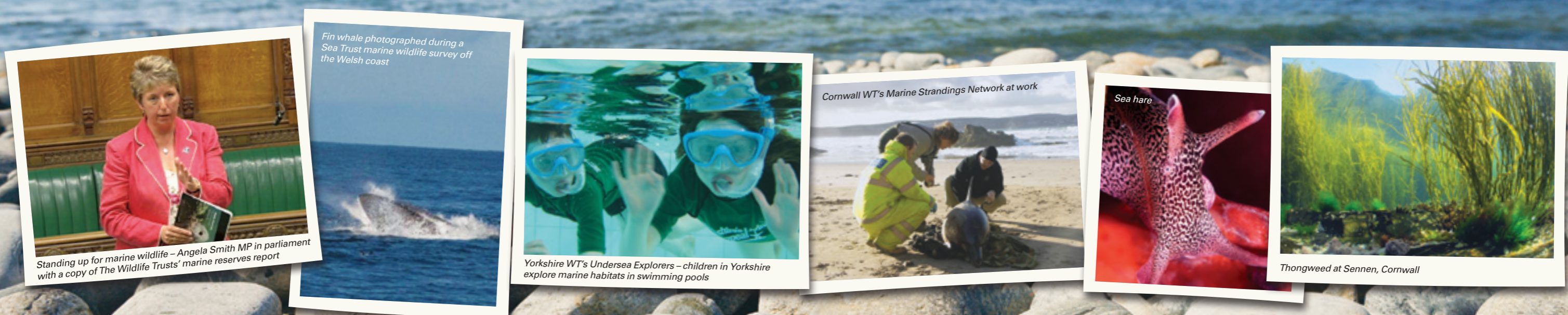
Black faced blenny – winner of The Wildlife Trusts' category in the 2009 British Society of Underwater Photographer's annual competition

Raising awareness

Raising awareness for marine conservation is an important part of our work. In August 2009 we ran National Marine Week with hundreds of events taking place around the UK – from rockpool rambles to underwater nature trails. Art and photography are great awareness-raising tools and we were involved with competitions run by both the British Society of Underwater Photographers (BSOUP) and the Society of Wildlife Artists bringing our marine environment to life in front of a wider audience.

The Severn Estuary – Energy at any Price?

Tidal power was high on the agenda this year and in March 2010 we published our report 'Energy At Any Price?' looking at the different options for harnessing the tidal power of the Severn Estuary. Wildlife Trusts around the Severn joined forces to protest against a tidal barrage, arguing instead for less-damaging technologies to be considered and for the impact on the Estuary's ecosystem to be minimal. Download the report at wildlifetrusts.org/severnestuary



Standing up for marine wildlife – Angela Smith MP in parliament with a copy of The Wildlife Trusts' marine reserves report

Fin whale photographed during a Sea Trust marine wildlife survey off the Welsh coast

Yorkshire WT's Undersea Explorers – children in Yorkshire explore marine habitats in swimming pools

Cornwall WT's Marine Strandings Network at work

Sea hare

Thongweed at Sennen, Cornwall

Inspiring People

From back gardens to nature reserves, our natural environment is there for everyone to enjoy. The Wildlife Trusts are passionate about inspiring people with nature, offering a range of opportunities and advice from planting a wildflower window box to volunteering to local walks and talks and outdoor learning programmes for schools.

Inspiration, Education, Taking Action

The Wildlife Trusts strongly believe that people of all ages and backgrounds should have the chance to enjoy and learn more about the natural world. This enjoyment and learning can take many forms – for some it is practical conservation work, for others enjoying a guided walk on a spectacular nature reserve on a crisp morning, or perhaps it is that first encounter with nature that a child has dipping their feet into a rock pool. The Wildlife Trusts offer all these experiences and more to everyone interested in the natural environment.



Notts Wildlife Trust's Attenborough visitor centre – one of 120 Trust centres around the UK

People taking action for their environment

In 2009–10, over six million visitors experienced nature first hand with us, taking advantage of a network of visitor centres and more than 2,250 nature reserves situated in all corners of the UK. From pocket-sized urban parks which offer green space for rest and relaxation, to breathtaking coastal reserves visited by both locals and tourists alike, these natural treasures inspire all who visit them from the expert visitor to the interested amateur. For those that are seeking information and to increase their knowledge, perhaps to share with their family or just to enhance their visit, our knowledgeable and friendly visitor centre staff

are on hand to inspire and inform. And in 2009–10 the Wildlife Trust ran 17,175 events – walks, talks, family events, training courses – giving thousands of people a chance to discover more about their local wildlife and how they can help to protect it.

Helping people back into work

Learning and gaining new skills has not been limited to visitors – and The Wildlife Trusts have been proud to be involved in the Department of Work and Pension's Future Jobs Fund, which has seen more than 15 Trusts offering opportunities to people who have been claiming Jobseeker's Allowance for more than six months. Offering a range of vacancies in areas such as Marketing & Media, Conservation, Volunteering and Education & Play, many of those employed under the scheme benefit from paid work experience and the real chance of working in the sector in the future.

Media partners

The Wildlife Trusts continue to work closely with media partners such as the BBC to bring wildlife into homes up and down the country, on television and on radio, helping millions of people to discover the wildlife on their doorstep.

Active involvement

There has never been a better time to get out and experience the natural environment. Research demonstrates the health benefits that it gives,



Harry Green (Worcestershire Wildlife Trust) and the BBC Autumnwatch team search for noble chafer beetles at Tiddesley Wood nature reserve

and many Wildlife Trusts continue to work closely with local health care providers to offer these benefits to patients and carers. Many choose to become volunteers and join the 36,000 already offering their skills and experience to the Trusts, both indoors and out – and for which we are incredibly grateful. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our movement and in July 2009 The Wildlife Trusts were invited to take 50 volunteers from around the Trusts to a reception at 10 Downing Street where Gordon Brown thanked them for their contribution to improving their local environments.



Volunteers with the Isle of Scilly WT



We work with thousands of schools each year



Future Jobs Fund employees help to lay a new boardwalk at a Durham Wildlife Trust nature reserve



Dorset WT volunteers clean up Worbarrow Beach



Young volunteers with the Sheffield Wildlife Trust



Outside number 10 – Wildlife Trust volunteers from around the UK at 10 Downing Street to meet the Prime Minister

Herts & Middlesex WT's 'Connecting People with the Stort Valley' project brings local communities closer to nature

Financial & Organisational Overview

The Wildlife Trusts

Patron
HRH The Prince of Wales

President
Prof Aubrey Manning OBE FRSE

Vice Presidents
Sir David Attenborough OM CH CVO CBE FRS
Prof J Chris Baines
Nick Baker
Simon King OBE
Prof David Macdonald CBE DSc FRSE
Bill Oddie OBE
Chris Packham
Julian Pettifer OBE
Prof Sir Robert Worcester KBE DL

Chair
Michael Allen

Chief Executive
Stephanie Hilborne OBE

Sponsors and Supporters

The Wildlife Trusts enjoy many thousands of partnerships with business and industry across the UK. Here we are delighted to acknowledge the companies who supported The Wildlife Trusts as a whole during 2009–10, including:

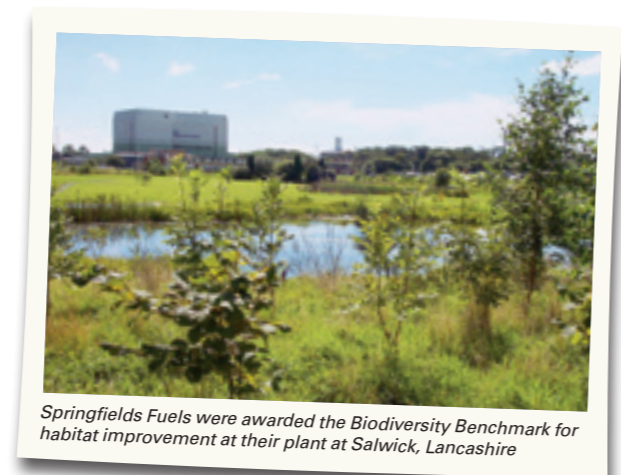
Companies
Vine House Farm
Aggregate Industries
GSK (Ribena)
Clifford Chance LLP
Sarasin and Partners
PKF
Bentley Jennison
Weston's

Agencies and Charitable Trusts

Big Lottery Fund
Biffaward
Heritage Lottery Fund
Defra
Environment Agency
Natural England
The Countryside Council for Wales
SITA Trust
Veolia Environment Trust
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Tubney Charitable Trust
Rees Jeffreys Road Fund

Biodiversity Benchmark

The Wildlife Trusts' Biodiversity Benchmark is the first award for business designed to recognise and reward continual biodiversity improvement. It was set up by The Wildlife Trusts in 2006 to help business and other organisations in their work to enhance biodiversity. In 2009–10 the award was achieved by Tarmac North Yorkshire, Stancliffe Stone, British Energy, E.on and Aggregate Industries. The following companies retained the award: Tarmac Northumberland, Marshalls Maltby, British Airways, British Airports Authority, Center Parcs and Springfields Fuels. For more information go to: www.wildlifetrusts.org/biodiversitybenchmark



Help us achieve even more for wildlife

Join your local Wildlife Trust . . .

By becoming a member of your local Wildlife Trust you are joining a growing movement of people taking action for their local wildlife and wild places. Find out more www.wildlifetrusts.org/yourlocaltrust

Please remember wildlife in your will . . .

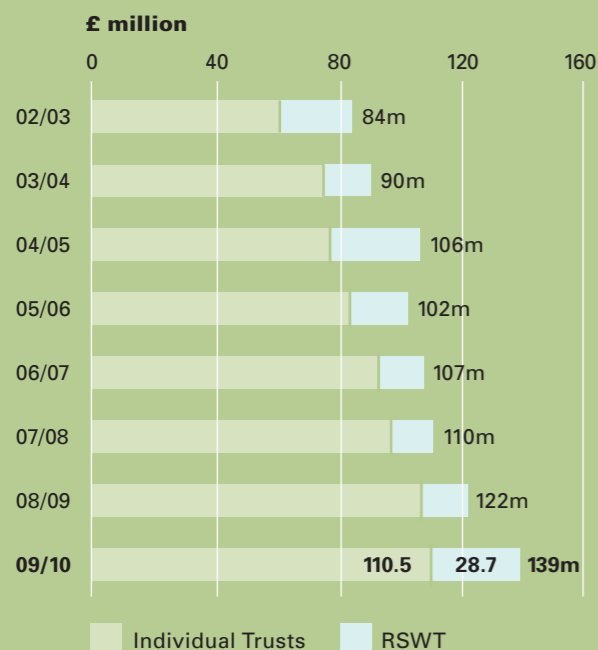
Please consider leaving a gift in your will to your local Wildlife Trust, and help us to protect wildlife for years to come. For more information visit www.wildlifetrusts.org, call us on 01636 677 711 or email legacy@wildlifetrusts.org

Make wildlife your business . . .

Join an increasing number of businesses who are becoming corporate members of their local Wildlife Trusts or achieving The Wildlife Trusts' Biodiversity Benchmark for land management. To find out more go to wildlifetrusts.org

The Wildlife Trusts' Income Analysis

Total income of The Wildlife Trusts increased by 14% to £139 million in 2009–10, mainly due to increased Lottery income at RSWT (Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts) which is redistributed as grants under the Local Food grant scheme. Collectively the income of individual Wildlife Trusts grew by 3.4% in 2009–10 to £111 million.



* Figures exclude inter-trust grants and contributions

The Wildlife Trusts' Highlights 2009-10

Alderney

Puffin Cam brought the private lives of puffins to our computer screens thanks to a partnership between Alderney Wildlife Trust, Airtel-Vodafone, States of Alderney, and South East Grid for Learning.
alderneywildlife.org

Avon

Took on a new nature reserve at Portbury Wharf. Thanks to a unique agreement with the developers, the adjacent Port Marine Housing Development funds reserve management and maintenance.
avonwildlifetrust.org.uk

Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Northamptonshire & Peterborough

The 'Dukes vs. Blues' project helped deepen understanding of the needs of three rare butterfly species and the grassland management they need to survive.
wildlifecbnp.org

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire

Opened College Lake Visitor and Education Centre in Bucks and won a WREN grant for chalk grassland conservation on 13 reserves in the Chilterns.
bbowt.org.uk



Birmingham & Black Country

Launched the three-year Black Country Living Landscape Community Involvement Programme, linking people and communities with local wildlife sites and green spaces.
bbcwildlife.org.uk

Brecknock

Celebrated its 45th birthday in June with a Party on the Promenade in Brecon. The event was opened by the Mayor of Brecon, Ieuan Williams.
brecknockwildlifetrust.org.uk

Cheshire

Launched the Goway & Mersey Washlands Living Landscape project aiming to restore over 450ha of floodplain grazing marsh and other wetland habitats.
cheshirewildlifetrust.co.uk

Cornwall

Cornwall Wildlife Trust toured the county with an art exhibition - 'Inspired and Wild: Celebrating Cornwall's Art and Wildlife' - raising vital funds for the Trust.
cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk

Cumbria

Was given Gosling Sike Farm, near Carlisle, by a member. The organic farm received over 1000 visits from school children this year.
cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk

Derbyshire

Secured £600,000 to purchase 190 acres on the outskirts of Derby and create the largest nature reserve in Derbyshire outside the Peak District National Park.
derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

Devon

Awarded over £1m from South West Water for the Working Wetlands project, improving water quality reaching reservoirs by supporting headwater management.
devonwildlifetrust.org

Dorset

A pair of rare roseate terns bred on Brownsea Island - the first record of roseate terns breeding anywhere in Poole Harbour and the first in Dorset for over 20 years.
dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk

Durham

Staff absailed down the Baltic art gallery in Gateshead to set up HD infra-red cameras to film the nesting kittiwakes. The footage was streamed live into the gallery.
durhamwt.co.uk



Essex

Negotiated the pie crust lease of Mucking Landfill Site, the largest Landfill Site in Essex, with the aim to restore it as the 263ha Thameside Nature Park.
essexwt.org.uk

Gloucestershire

Took on a new nature reserve at Arle Grove - 12 acres of species-rich ancient woodland near Cheltenham, donated to the Trust.
gloucestershirewildlifetrust.co.uk

Gwent

A new Gwent orchards project received a boost with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.
gwentwildlife.org



Hampshire & Isle of Wight

Launched the New Forest Non-Native Plants Project, a partnership project to stop the spread of invasive plants along rivers and in wetland habitats.
hwt.org.uk

Herefordshire

New funding extended the LEMUR project until 2011, providing a further 18 bursary placements and helping people get into paid conservation work.
wildlifetrust.org.uk/hereford

Herts & Middlesex

The Connecting People with the Stort Valley Project helped disadvantaged communities in Harlow and Bishop's Stortford to discover their local wildlife.
hertswildlifetrust.org.uk

Isles of Scilly

Dive surveys rediscovered a rare sponge off the coast of the islands in June, and in October two sponge species thought to be new to the UK were also found.
ios-wildlifetrust.org.uk

Kent

Hundreds of birdwatchers flocked to Oare Marshes nature reserve in September following a sighting of a tufted puffin - never seen before in the UK.
kentwildlifetrust.org.uk

Lancashire

Began work on the £10m Brockholes project, an old quarry next to the M6 which the Trust is transforming into a flagship nature reserve.
lancswt.org.uk

Leicestershire & Rutland

Acquired two new areas of floodplain grassland in the Soar Valley to extend and enhance the Cossington Meadows and Wanlip Meadows nature reserves.
lrwt.org.uk

Lincolnshire

73 volunteers helped the Life on the Verge project to survey approx 344km of limestone grassland roadside verges in South Lincolnshire and Rutland.
lincstrust.org.uk

London

Launched a new community project to create sparrow-friendly areas on housing estates in London, involving residents, schools and community groups.
wildlondon.org.uk

Manx

Work began on the Trust's newest land at Goshen, purchased the previous year. Volunteers removed fence lines and reinstated ditches.
manxwt.org.uk

Montgomeryshire

Launched the Dyfi Osprey Project which attracted 30,000 visitors in 2009. Live images of the birds will be beamed into the visitor centre at Cors Dyfi reserve.
montwt.co.uk

Norfolk

Several new land acquisitions will extend and link nature reserves at Grimston Warren and Thursford Wood, and in NWT's Bure Valley and Wissey Living Landscapes.
norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk

Northumberland

Received £81,200 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) towards funding of the development of the Coal and Coast Project.
nwt.org.uk

North Wales

Heritage Lottery Funding helped to support the 'Dormice Forever Project'. The project will help conserve and benefit hazel dormice populations across North Wales.
wildlifetrust.org.uk/northwales

Nottinghamshire

Reported a record number of bittern sightings at Attenborough nature reserve last winter after extreme cold weather forced them to seek refuge there.
nottinghamshirewildlife.org

Radnorshire

A Welsh clearwing moth was discovered at Radnorshire Wildlife Trust's Gilfach Farm reserve. The discovery of such a rare moth was of national significance.
radnorshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

Scottish

The Scottish Beaver Trial saw beavers return to the wild in the UK for the first time for 400 years, as part of a five-year trial at Knapdale Forest.
swt.org.uk



Sheffield

The Centenary Riverside Urban Wetland Nature Park was opened in Rotherham. It won the 2010 Waterways Renaissance Award for Flood Risk Management.
wildsheffield.com



Shropshire

Catherston Common, (the largest Wildlife Trust reserve in the West Midlands) was purchased after a successful fund-raising campaign.
shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk

Somerset

Celebrated the 25th anniversary of the re-introduction of the large blue butterfly to Green Down reserve, following its extinction in the UK in 1979.
somesetwildlife.org

South & West Wales

Has been running a Garden Wildlife Survey in Cardiff, aiming to discover the hidden biodiversity treasures that live in the city.
welshwildlife.org

Staffordshire

Took ownership of Highgate Common, a 95ha heathland site and home to 130 species of bees, wasps and ants.
staffs-wildlife.org.uk

Suffolk

The Suffolk Community Barn Owl Project saw an increase in barn owl numbers, with 236 pairs using the 1,000 boxes erected and monitored by the Project.
suffolkwildlifetrust.org



Surrey

Over 7000 people attended the Springwatch festival at Shalford Park in Guildford, held in partnership with Guildford Borough Council and BBC Breathing Places.
surreywildlifetrust.co.uk

Sussex

A Green Health project delivered a programme of over 200 walks and developed a volunteering group for more than 20 adults with mental health problems.
sussexwt.org.uk

Tees Valley

The Tees Valley Pondscape Project is working to readdress the loss of ponds and their associated wildlife by surveying biodiversity and creating new ponds.
teeswildlife.org

Ulster

Secured funding for a major wetland restoration and flood alleviation project at its Bog Meadows Nature Reserve in Belfast.
ulsterwildlifetrust.org

Warwickshire

Launched the Sowe Valley Project which aims to engage and enthuse people in the east side of Coventry to enjoy and enhance their local green spaces.
warwickshire-wildlife-trust.org.uk



Wiltshire

Launched 'There is Space Here!', a three-year project which aims to reconnect residents in military service communities with their local nature.
wiltshirewildlife.org

Worcestershire

Saved the wildflower rich Piddle Brook Meadows with funding from Severn Waste Services and a successful fundraising campaign.
worcswildlifetrust.co.uk

Yorkshire

Formed the Yorkshire Peat Partnership which aims to substantially increase the amount of peatland restoration activity in the Yorkshire uplands.
ywt.org.uk



Above: Together with partners Scottish Wildlife Trust launched the Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels project to undertake the first nationally co-ordinated attempt to save Scotland's red squirrels (Photo: Bruno D'Amicis)

Photography: Cover, Schoolchildren hunting for minibeasts during a Cheshire Wildlife Trust event, Tom Marshall. p1 Osprey, Fritz Polking/FLPA p2 WT staff in the field, Emyr Evans p3 Four-spotted chaser, Peter Entwistle/FLPA p4-5 Otter, Terry Longley/seeing.org.uk; Common dolphins, Richard Crossen/Sea Trust p6-7 Ragged Robin, Paul Lane; Butterfish, Cathy Lewis; Coombe Hill nature reserve, Zsuzsanna Bird p8-9 Heath fritillary, Jim Higham p10-11 Centenary Riverside, Sheffield WT; Culm grassland, Devon WT; Spoonbills at Cley Marshes, Roger Tidman/FLPA; Birdwatchers at Cors Dyfi, Emyr Evans; Large blue, Keith Warmington/warmies.co.uk; Leaches Farm, Andy Fairbairn; Beaver, Laurie Campbell; Goway meadows, Tom Marshall; Life on the Verge volunteers, Matthew Roberts p12-13 Scallop, Charles Erb p14-15 Black faced blenny, Arthur Kingdon; Angela Smith MP, copyright UK Parliament; Fin whale, Sea Trust/seatrust.org.uk; Undersea Explorers, Kat Sanders; Marine Strandings Network, Jan Loveridge; Sea Hare, Robert Bailey; Thongweed at Sennen, Paul Naylor/marinephoto.co.uk p16-17 Bluebell walk, emmabradshawphotography.com p18-19 Attenborough, Amy Lewis; Stort Valley angling event, Herts & Middlesex WT; Pupil from Brookside School, Tom Marshall; Laying a boardwalk, Durham WT; Volunteers with Sheffield WT, Mark Harvey/ID8; Worbarrow beach clean, Nicky Hoar; Autumnwatch at Tiddesley Wood, Wendy Carter Trust Highlights, Back cover (flap), Heather, Andrew Walmsley

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