

The Seahorse Trust

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NATURE



Winter 2022/2023

NEWSLETTER

Thank you to everyone who has joined, supported, adopted, become a member, or helped [The Seahorse Trust](#) out this year. You are the backbone of this organization and without you, we cannot exist or achieve so much for seahorses and the natural world.

Please enjoy this newsletter, and if you want to send us your feedback, send us seahorse sightings or support the Trust, through our [adoption and membership scheme](#), or just make a [donation](#) to our work, then please email us at theseahorsetrust@gmail.com

Like so many charities we have been hit badly by the cost-of-living crisis so any support you can give us would be incredible.



This autumn has seen the launch of [SEAHORSE MAN](#) on Netflix. This groundbreaking, award-winning documentary shows the behind-the-scenes investigations by marine biologist Kealan Doyle that he conducted into the illegal [traditional medicine trade \(TCM\)](#).

Originally aired in 2015 this documentary, narrated by the late John Hurt and [Seahorse Trust](#) founder Neil

Garrick-Maidment, follows Kealan as he journeys around China, trying to understand more about this all-consuming trade.

Through his behind-the-scenes investigations, he soon realizes that it is considerably worse than the official figures show and there are in excess of 150 million seahorses fished for the medicine trade each year. However, that figure is dropping rapidly as more locations are completely depleted of seahorses; time is running out to save seahorses in the wild. **We have to act NOW!!!!**.

Here at the trust, we have investigated the [curio and medicine trade](#) for many years and we have two amazing volunteers, Teresa and Kim who, without their tireless work, we would never have made such progress. Between us and crucially you, we managed to get Amazon, Facebook, Twitter, and so many others to ban the sale of seahorses alive or dead through their sites.

Some occasionally get through, so if you see any seahorses for sale on any of the online platforms report them to us, and please also report them to the platforms themselves.

Time is running out for the seahorses in the wild and if you need more confirmation of this either look at [SEAHORSE MAN](#) on NETFLIX or have a look at our [Stop the Curio campaign video](#) on YouTube, just click [HERE](#) to go to it

[STUDLANDS OCEAN MEADOWS](#) is a film put together by Sue Western for the [Planet Purbeck festival](#) and is being used by the [Studland Bay Marine Partnership](#) to show the public how amazing and fragile Studland's seagrass meadows are.

It explores the use of the bay by humans and how they interact with nature, especially seahorses and the seagrass meadow.

As part of the conservation measures for this unique bay a partnership between many organizations like the [National Trust](#), [The Seahorse Trust](#), [Boatfolk](#), [Southampton University](#), [RYA](#) and [Planet Purbeck](#) to name just a few, has been set up, called the [Studland Bay Marine Partnership](#). The [SBMP](#) is working together to install [ecomoorings](#) and to study, and preserve this amazing site for future generations.



[Chantelle](#) from [Teeny Tiny Creatures](#) on Cbeebies filmed at Studland Bay during the year and with help from local [Seahorse Trust](#) volunteers, Gabriel and Joss revealed the seahorses of the bay and all the special creatures that live there.

This program then featured in [Cbeebies proms](#) whose theme this year was Ocean Adventure.

Click on the image to go to [Cbeebies proms](#).

Studland Bay Marine Partnership

[The Studland Bay Marine Partnership](#) has been working hard over the summer, putting together a moorings plan and 10-year strategy on how to protect and enhance Studland Bay, to protect the seahorses and seagrass. The moorings plan and strategy are now complete and Sara from [Dorset Coastal Forum](#) has been leading on gauging public opinion on the plans and ideas for the bay. Thanks Sara.

[Boatfolk](#), the [National Trust](#) and ourselves have now put in an application to install the rest of the 100 Ecomoorings onto the site and we are awaiting the outcome of that.

[Southampton University](#) has been conducting research in the [Marine Conservation Zone \(MCZ\)](#) using autonomous aquatic vehicles



Things are going really well on the project and by working collectively as a partnership we hope to set an example for other sites around the country.

Southampton boat show



[Boatfolk](#) invited The [Seahorse Trust](#) to the [International Boat Show](#) at Southampton to do a talk on seahorses, ecomoorings and the [Studland Bay Marine Partnership](#).

We so pleased to say that they received the show's award for the being the most [environmental in the show](#). Well done, Boatfolk.



None of the ecomoorings project would have been possible

without [Boatfolk marina and boating services](#). This amazing forward-thinking company and their incredible staff have made the installation of the Ecomoorings a reality. They believed in our project and backed us in every way and we owe them a massive debt of gratitude for all their hard work.

THANK YOU.

Powered by
boatfolk



GoFundMe Appeal Ecomoorings

With our many partners in the project we hope to set up a not-for-profit company to oversee all the work with the Ecomoorings to increase the number and conserve this amazing bay for all. With this in mind we have set up a [GoFundMe](#) appeal to raise £100,000.

This will allow us to set up the not-for-profit company, employ staff to run it and crucially to buy and install more [Ecomoorings](#).

The not-for-profit will be overseen by a board made up of interested parties and those with expertise to make this

project happen. Please help us make this a reality by donating, please click the photo to go the site.

Memorial Ecomoorings

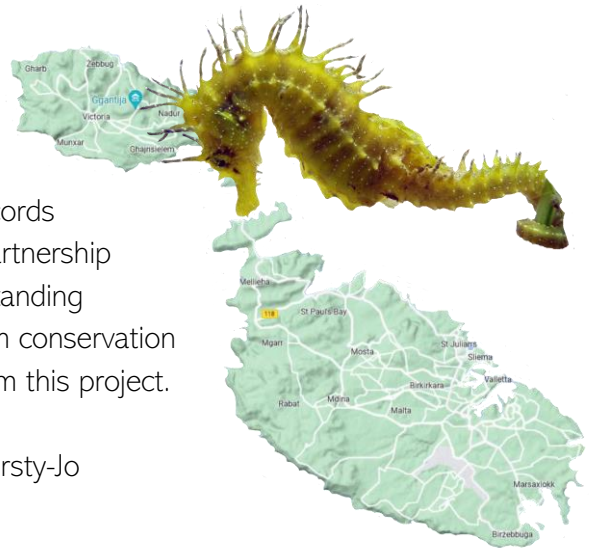
If you or a loved one love the sea, seahorses and nature, what better way of being remembered than by having an Ecomoorings installed in your memory? We have started to do this at Studland Bay. Why not join the growing number of Ecomoorings that make a difference and remember someone special?

Please contact us on theseahorsetrust@gmail.com to find out more details.

Malta Research Project

The [Malta Research Project](#) run by Kirsty-Jo Muddiman on behalf of The Seahorse Trust is going forward rapidly and KJ is starting to receive quite a number of seahorse records and building the database. The work Kirsty-Jo is doing in partnership with [Malta Nature Trust](#) will go towards our greater understanding of the species in the Maltese archipelago and help to inform conservation objectives in the islands. KJ hopes to achieve a Masters from this project.

If you want to know more about our [project](#) please email Kirsty-Jo on maltaseahorseproject@gmail.com



Seahorse Alliance

Only by working collectively together can we hope to make a difference and crucially understand the problems facing the natural world, especially seahorses.

The Seahorse Trust is part of the Seahorse Alliance which includes [Save our Seahorses](#), [Asociación Hippocampus](#), Ireland, the Balearic Islands amongst others including our [Malta project](#),

It is a loose group of interested parties but already we are making a difference, collectively.

Blue Reef Aquariums

The Newquay, Bristol, Hastings, Tynemouth and Portsmouth Blue Reef aquariums, kindly host our money spinners where visitors to the aquariums can support our work through donations. Over the year they have raised over £1,000 towards the research and conservation projects that we undertake. A massive thank you to General Manager Steve and all the Managers and teams in each of the aquariums and especially their guests who kindly make donations.



CICK ON THE LOGO TO GO TO THEIR WEBSITE

In brief.....

- Conservation is about working together and one of our conservation partners is [Wildflower Favours](#). In partnership with [Fire Lily Studios](#), they have put together an amazing video on Saving pollinators by planting wildflower seeds, (Click on the image to see the video)





- How do you keep your toes warm and save seahorses? Why not buy a pair of bamboo socks from [Bare Kind](#). These amazing bamboo socks have great designs of seahorses on them and Bare Kind kindly donate 10% to the work of The Seahorse Trust (Click on the image to go to their site)

- Did you know we have a fantastic [Sponsors Shops](#) page on our website, with offers and products from so many organisations that help fund our work. Without them we could not do what we do, so whether you want beauty products from [Beauty Kitchen](#), or a Christmas tippie, from [Salcombe Brewery](#), [Maritime](#), [Sea Arch](#) or [Greenwich](#) gins, art from our arts shops, to clothes from [Brian Davies SCUBA](#) or jewelry from [Aquamarine](#) or [Honu](#). They all have it and know that you are helping to conserve and preserve seahorses at the same time. Check out the [Sponsors Shop](#) page as there is so much more on there, too many to list here.

- Don't forget your 4 legged friends with seahorse related gifts from [Harbour Hounds](#).

- If you have any empty Ferrero Roche boxes, we could use them please. We are often sent dead seahorses that have been washed up on the beach and we store them in the boxes so that when we are asked for details or DNA from seahorses, we can then send them off to be tested.



- Here at the trust, we have two online courses, Seahorse [Survey](#) and [Ecological](#) about seahorses that would make a great for present for Christmas for the budding marine biologist or just anyone with an interest in seahorses. Just go to our website, using this link <https://www.theseahorsetrust.org/>

- As a partner of [10% for the Ocean](#) we really were grateful for their kind donation in the Autumn of £1,000 as part of their ongoing commitment to our work.

- Sea Adora run by Magi and her incredible team has raised funds for our work this year through their shop in Exmouth, Devon. Why not pay them a visit or go online to their FB page <https://www.facebook.com/seaadoraexmouth>

- We have been helping a lot of A Level and graduate level students this year and even helped whole classes of primary school age students. We are so pleased to help future generations.

- Chris has been helped by volunteer Chloe, his daughter this year. Chloe has been Chris's eyes and ears on their survey work when he has looked for seahorses under our license from the MMO. Chris hopes to solve a few gaps in our knowledge about seahorses during the winter and aims to start his PhD as well.

- We have featured in lots of magazines, online and in newspapers this year and seem to be the go-to charity for people wanting to know more about seahorses, especially here in the UK.



- The October half term was a busy one at Studland Beach and Sarah from National Trust organized with us and Southampton University and others some events on the beach which were attended by well over 5 to 6 hundred people. Thanks, Sarah, for inviting us and setting this up.



Seahorses Environmental Communications

For all press and media enquiries please contact Amy at Seahorse Environmental Communications on info@seahorseenvironmental.co.uk

Check out their website at <https://seahorseenvironmental.co.uk/clients-and-experience>

 <p>find us on Facebook</p>	 <p>amazonsmile You shop. Amazon gives.</p>
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Adopt a Seahorse or become a member

Why not adopt a seahorse or become a member of [The Seahorse Trust](http://www.theseahorsetrust.org) and join the fastest growing and biggest seahorse charity in the world to make a difference to our planet?

Find out more at:- <https://www.theseahorsetrust.org/support-us/>

Your privacy

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Please check out our Privacy Statement on our website at <https://www.theseahorsetrust.org/>

We could not have done this without the support of these amazing supporters (and so many others) and importantly- you. THANK YOU

