

I'w ryddhau AR UNWAITH -

For IMMEDIATE publication –



Give our Seas a Chance! Rhowch gyfle i'n Moroedd!



Photo: Wildlife Trusts Wales.

Rick Park, Wildlife Trusts Wales Living Seas Lead with Betty Williams MP at the launch of the Living Seas Vision on 19th January at the House of Commons.



Photo: North Wales Wildlife Trust.

Bottlenose Dolphins in the waters of North Wales.

Wildlife Trusts Wales has launched Living Seas, its vision for the UK's marine environment – where wildlife thrives from the depths of the ocean to the coastal shallows; where rocky reefs are bursting with brightly coloured fish, corals and sponges, and dolphins and seals dart among the waves – at an event in the House of Commons.

Mae Ymddiriedolaethau Natur Cymru wedi lawnsio Moroedd Byw, ein gweledigaeth am yr amgylchedd forol – lle mae bywyd gwylt yn ffynnu o ddyfroedd dyfn y mor i ddyfroedd bas yr arfordir; lle mae creigresi wedi eu amgylchynu gydag pysgod lliwgar, cwrel a spyngau, a mae dolffiniaid a morloi yn gwibio rhwng y tonnau – mewn digwyddiad yn Nhŷ'r Cyffredin.

The launch follows the passing, in November, of the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA), for which The Wildlife Trusts campaigned for nearly a decade. The challenge for the next five years is to ensure the Act is effectively implemented – that urgent action is taken to turn the UK's over-fished, over-exploited, and currently under-protected waters back into a thriving marine environment. The Wildlife Trusts have a clear vision for how this should happen, and a plan for achieving it within 20 years, a single generation.

The Wildlife Trusts are achieving great things across the UK, working at the local level to understand, protect and raise awareness of our marine wildlife and habitats, from seagrass meadows to dolphins and seals. Here at North Wales Wildlife Trust we are proud to promote the fantastic life that surrounds our coasts and the need to protect it through our Marine Awareness project.

Professor Aubrey Manning, BBC television presenter and president of The Wildlife Trusts, launched the Living Seas vision¹. He said: *“The Living Seas vision is very direct in its aims. It sets out a clear plan of how we, The Wildlife Trusts, and our partners and supporters, can help achieve them. The opportunities that the Marine and Coastal Access Act has opened up need to be seized on immediately. We can no longer continue to treat the oceans as limitless. In particular, we need an effective and well-managed network of Marine Protected Areas by 2012.”*

“We may not get another opportunity to make Living Seas a reality. The future of our oceans hangs in the balance, and we want to tip it in the right direction for wildlife, and for the people – all of us – who depend upon it.”

Rick Park, Chief Executive for Gwent Wildlife Trust and Wildlife Trusts Wales objective lead for Living Seas said: *“Wildlife Trusts Wales is excited about the launch of our Living Seas vision and the opportunities to achieve this vision the Marine Act will afford us in Wales. However we recognise the need for action by the Welsh Assembly Government in the implementation of the Marine Act and the need to avoid complacency.”*

Nia Hâf Jones, Community Marine Awareness Officer for North Wales Wildlife Trust’s Marine Awareness Project said *“It is an exciting time for us here in North Wales to celebrate the fantastic marine life we have surrounding our doorstep and this is our chance to protect it for our future generations. We are very pleased to see the support that Betty Williams MP gave Living Seas at its launch on the 19th January at the House of Commons”*

- The Living Seas vision report is available to download from The Wildlife Trusts’ website www.wildlifetrusts.org

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Nodiadau i Olygyddion/Notes to Editors

- **Ymddiriedolaeth Natur Gogledd Cymru** www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk

Ein gweledigaeth yw amgylchedd cyfoethocach o ran byd natur i bawb. Y ni yw'r brif elusen yng ngogledd Cymru sy'n gwbl ymroddedig i gadwraeth pob cynefin a phob rhywogaeth. Gydag aelodaeth o fwy na 5,000 o bobl, rydym yn ymgyrchu dros amddiffyn bywyd gwylt a buddsoddi yn y dyfodol drwy helpu pobl o bob oedran i werthfawrogi a deall bywyd gwylt yn well. Rydym yn edrych ar ôl 33 o warchodfeydd natur sy'n cynnwys dros 700 hectar. Am ragor o wybodaeth ynghylch Ymddiriedolaeth Natur Gogledd Cymru ffoniwch 01248 351541 neu e-bostiwch nwwt@wildlifetrustswales.org.

- **North Wales Wildlife Trust** www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk

Our vision is 'an environment richer in wildlife for everyone'. We are the leading charity in North Wales dedicated exclusively to conserving all our habitats and species, with a membership of more than 5,000 people We campaign for the protection of wildlife and invest in the future by helping people of all ages to gain a greater appreciation and understanding of wildlife. We care for 33 nature reserves spanning over 700 hectares. For further information about North Wales Wildlife Trust please phone 01248 351541 or e-mail nwwt@wildlifetrustswales.org

- **Yr Ymddiriedolaeth Natur** www.wildlifetrusts.org

Ceir 47 Ymddiriedolaeth Natur ar hyd a lled y DU, Ynysoedd Manaw ac Alderney. Rydym yn gweithio dros amgylchedd sy'n cynnig cyfoeth o fywyd gwylt i bawb. Gyda 791,000 aelod, y ni yw'r sefydliad gwirfoddol mwyaf yn y DU sy'n ymroddedig i gadwraeth yr amrywiaeth llawn o gynefinoedd a rhywogaethau yn y DU, boed yng nghefn gwlad, y ddinas neu'r môr. Mae 134,000 o'n haelodau'n perthyn i'r adran Iau, sef y Clwb Gwylt. Rydym yn rheoli 2,200 o warchodfeydd natur sydd yn ymestyn dros fwy nag 80,000 hectar; rydym yn sefyll dros natur; rydym yn ysbrydoli pobl ynghylch y byd naturiol ac rydym yn meithrin byw cynaliadwy.

- **The Wildlife Trusts** www.wildlifetrusts.org

There are 47 local Wildlife Trusts across the whole of the UK, the Isle of Man and Alderney. We are working for an environment rich in wildlife for everyone. With 791,000 members, we are the largest UK voluntary organisation dedicated to conserving the full range of the UK's habitats and species, whether they be in the countryside, in cities or at sea. 134,000 of our members belong to our junior branch, Wildlife Watch. We manage 2,200 nature reserves covering more than 80,000 hectares; we stand up for wildlife; we inspire people about the natural world and we foster sustainable living.

- **Living Seas**

The Wildlife Trusts have been campaigning for many years for comprehensive legislation to achieve better protection for marine wildlife and the effective management of our seas. For more information, click here [Living Seas](#).