JULY/AUGUST 2026

National Marine Week from 26th July-10th August 2026. This is an annual celebration dedicated to the UK's wonderful marine habitats and species. Organised by The Wildlife Trusts and supported by numerous local organisations, the week aims to raise awareness about the beauty and importance of our seas. Through educational activities, beach events, and conservation campaigns, National Marine Week inspires everyone to learn more about marine life and the vital role oceans play in our everyday lives.

As tide times vary around our coasts, National Marine Week is 15 days long to make sure everyone can take advantage of the best tides and experience marine life at Wildlife Trust events.

Here are a few for a day out in the North West.

Marvellous Minibeasts & Incredible Insects (on the coast)

Location: North Promenade car park, South Promenade, Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, FY8 2LZ

29 July 2026 - 10:30am - 12:00pm FREE EVENT – BUT YOU NEED TO BOOK
www.lancswt.org.uk/events/2026-07-29-marvellous-minibeasts-incredible-insects-coast Go here to book for this event.

Coastal explorer - Knott End

Location: Knott End Car Park , Wayside Knott End on Sea Poulton-Le-Fylde Fy6 0EA, Knott End , Lancashire , Fy6 0EA

5 August 2026 - 10:00am - 12:00Pm FREE EVENT – BUT YOU NEED TO BOOK
Phone 07542 028 241 or Email rglascott@lancswt.org.uk

Coastal explorer - Rossall Tower

Location: Rossall Point Observation Tower, The Esplanade, Fleetwood, Lancashire, FY7 8PG

7 August 2026 - 1:00pm - 3:00pm FREE EVENT – BUT YOU NEED TO BOOK
Phone 07542 028 241 or Email rglascott@lancswt.org.uk

If you are going on holiday why not join in a beach clean or just pick up any litter you find on the beach and put it in the nearest bin or look for mini beasts in the rock pools.

Here are some animals you might find around the UK – look out for them on your holiday travels



GREY SEALS are the largest resident seal species in the UK, they have a distinctive sloping "hook-nosed" profile, parallel nostrils, and a coat patterned with darker blotches on a grey background, which can be used to identify individuals



DOLPHINS– if you are sailing across a stretch of water on a ferry or a boat look out for Dolphins, they might follow the boat leaping and swimming along side it.



It may be harder to see a PUFFIN, they live in burrows in the ground, they have only one chick called a puffling. It's best to see puffins on an arranged excursion, the National Trust have these.



OTTERS - Whether you a glimpse of water-webbed whiskers, a lithe body playing, or the tip of a ruddering tail, the sight of a shy otter is one of the most rewarding wildlife experiences in the UK.



STARFISH help maintain a delicate balance in coastal ecosystems through eating mussels and barnacles. The Common starfish are easy to spot in UK seas. They can be found in rockpools. They have five arms, usually orange in colour, and have many small pale spines. They are often found washed up on the shore after rough seas.



GREEN SEA URCHIN This small, round sea urchin is green in colour and can be found on rocky shores around the UK.

Whatever you are doing this summer have a safe and wonderful time. Why not share your holiday wildlife photos with us – send them to stalbanofferton@gmail.com and I'll put them in the September Eco News.

Info from www.wildlifetrust.org , www.awarenessdays.com , www.mcsuk.org