

INTO THE

WORKING TO PROTECT OUR OCEAN

ISSUE 14 | MAY / JUNE 2025

OCEAN WITH
DAVID ATTENBOROUGH

THE BOTTOM
LINE

PATAGONIA AZUL
PROVINCIAL PARK

BLUE

Cover Photo:

Spotted Eagle Rays
Swimming in Shallow
Water

*Single Fin Photo,
Ocean Image Bank*

WELCOME

This month's edition of Into the Blue brings a significant opportunity to make a difference to the future of our ocean.

On 6 May, Blue Marine was a supporting partner in hosting the World Premiere of OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH at the Royal Festival Hall.

To elevate the message of this important film, we launched #TheBottomLine, a campaign that calls for a ban on destructive bottom trawling in the UK's marine protected areas (MPAs). We are calling on members of the public to email Steve Reed, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, to urge him to bring bottom trawling in British MPAs to an end.

[Take action for the ocean](#) in this issue of Into the Blue.

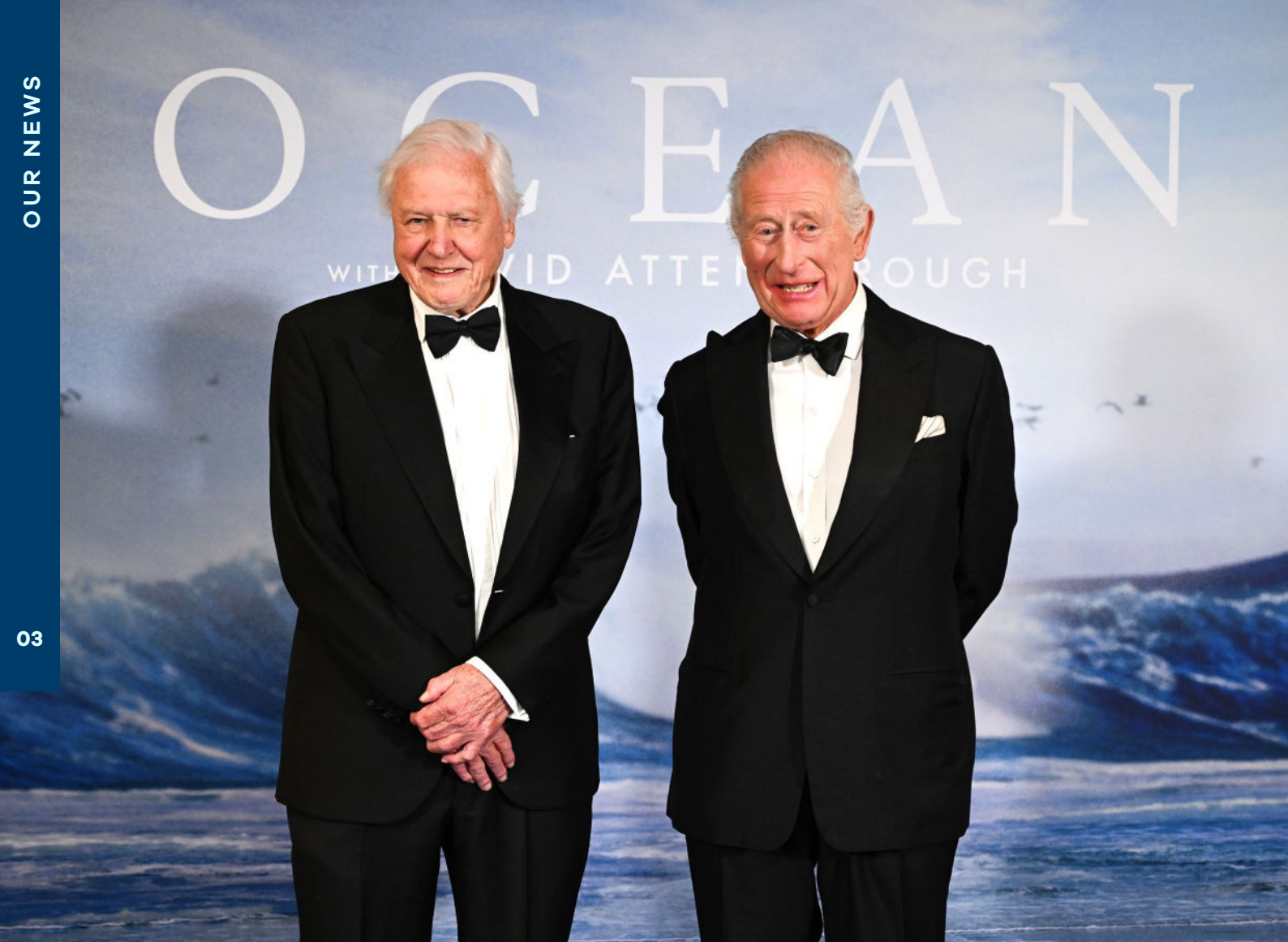
Don't forget to follow Blue Marine on [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for the latest news.

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM

FOLLOW US ON LINKEDIN

Striped marlin in pursuit of a large school mackerel, Pacific Ocean Mexico

Photo: Henley Spiers



OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH world premiere

On 6 May at the Royal Festival Hall in London, Blue Marine, with the generous support of People's Postcode Lottery and UBS hosted two world premiere screenings of OCEAN WITH DAVID ATTENBOROUGH.

Attended by His Majesty King Charles, Sir David Attenborough, and a host of celebrities including Blue Marine ambassadors Cara Delevingne and Theo James, the event also brought together decision-makers, philanthropists and NGO leaders.

Their presence helped to amplify the powerful message behind the film: that it is time to galvanise action for ocean protection and support the call to ban bottom trawling in the UK's marine protected areas.

WATCH THE FILM

King Charles
and David
Attenborough

Photo: Altitude,
Stuart C. Wilson





JOIN OUR OCEAN EDUCATION NETWORK

The Future Generations' screening

Photo: Altitude, Kate Green

Blue Marine Staff

Photo: Altitude, Kate Green

Poppy Delevingne and Cara Delevingne

Photo: Altitude, Stuart C. Wilson

Hosted by our Blue Education unit and attended by the Prince of Wales, the Future Generations' screening welcomed over 600 school children from 45 schools across the UK to educate and inspire a future generation of ocean stewards.



If you would like to join our OCEAN Education Network, please email victoria@blumarinefoundation.com

An end to bottom trawling: The Bottom Line

You can help create a lasting legacy for UK waters by joining Blue Marine, Oceana UK and Only One in asking Environment Secretary Steve Reed to close the UK's marine protected (MPAs) areas to bottom trawling.

A poll commissioned by Blue Marine earlier this year found that 77 per cent of UK adults are concerned about the loss of marine life caused by bottom trawling, while only 26 per cent believe the UK government is doing enough to meet its international commitments on ocean protection.

Based on a sample of 2,000 adults, the study found that three in four adults (75 per cent) support a ban on trawling in MPAs, and 62 per cent say a politician's stance on ocean protection affects how they vote. Strikingly, 63 per cent have no idea that the destructive practice of trawling is still allowed in MPAs.

Clare Brook, CEO of Blue Marine, said:

'For too long, industrial bottom trawling has happened out of sight and out of mind. David Attenborough's magnificent film OCEAN has lifted the lid on a destructive and wasteful practice that has no place in protected areas.'

Watch footage never seen before that reveals the catastrophic impact of bottom trawling [here](#).

[TAKE ACTION](#) to ban bottom trawling in our marine protected areas.

TAKE ACTION

WATCH THE
OFFICIAL CLIP

The Bottom Line

Photo: Howard Wood/ COAST

TORN SEABEDS, BROKEN OCEANS

END BOTTOM TRAWLING IN UK MARINE PROTECTED AREAS.



Image credit: Howard Wood/COAST

Vast new marine park in the South Atlantic Ocean

06

Argentina has announced the creation of Patagonia Azul Provincial Park, a vast marine sanctuary in the country's southern province of Chubut. It is Chubut's first marine provincial park, and spans 729,000 acres.

Chubut's remarkable Atlantic coastline is home to whales, sea lions and more than 50 species of seabirds. The creation of the park draws a protective blue line around more than 60 islands and islets, kelp forests and rugged coastal habitats.

The park is connected by a scenic byway from the Cabo Dos Bahías Protected Natural Area south to Bahía Bustamante, which links key attractions via four public gateways.

Visitors can explore bays and beaches, camp, and boat to uninhabited islands for wildlife watching with tour operators. Key species include Humpback and Sei whales, sea lions, Magellanic penguins, giant petrels and imperial cormorants.

"This is a resounding win for marine conservation," says Sofia Heinonen, Executive Director of Rewilding Argentina, the conservation group whose efforts have driven the park's creation.

Read more [here](#).

READ FULL STORY

Humpback whale in Patagonia Azul

Photo: Maike Friedrich, Rewilding Argentina

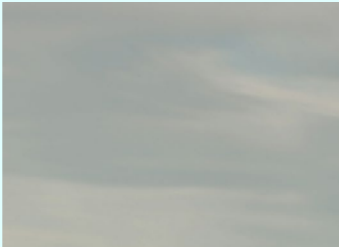
Kelp algae in Patagonia Azul

Photo: Oceano Martina



*“This is a
resounding
win for marine
conservation”*

SOFIA HEINONEN,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF REWILDING
ARGENTINA



PARQUE PROVINCIAL
PATAGONIA AZUL



CHUBUT · ARGENTINA

Southern giant
petrel

Photo: Kevin
Zaouali

South American
fur seal

Photo: Maike
Friedrich,
Rewilding
Argentina

Coast and islands

Photo: Maike
Friedrich,
Rewilding
Argentina

Patagonia Azul
Provincial Park
Poster

© FFyF Argentina

[READ FULL REPORT](#)

Climate-Smart marine protected areas: a new report

Blue Climate has released an innovative new report titled, 'Navigating Change: the Role of Climate-Smart MPAs in Achieving 30x30'. Marine protected areas (MPAs) are crucial in helping marine ecosystems adapt to some of the key impacts of climate change, such as acidification, sea level rise and shifts in species distribution. Climate-smart MPAs are ocean regions designed to preserve

biodiversity and climate-resilient ecosystems by implementing strategies such as flexible boundaries to accommodate shifting species distributions and increase connectivity in changing ocean conditions. Climate-smart MPAs are essential for effective ocean protection, enhancing the 30x30 target by maximising climate mitigation and adaptation benefits.

Read the full report through the link [here](#).

Climate Smart MPAs

Photo: Hutch

Seagrass workshop in the Maldives

Maldives Resilient Reefs and Blue Marine hosted a workshop for 23 Maldives resorts to discuss seagrass conservation. Building on the success of our 2019 campaign #ProtectMaldivesSeagrass, we are developing a new project to increase awareness of the importance of seagrass in the Maldives, particularly for the tourism industry. The project aims to support resorts across the country to conserve their seagrass meadows and make seagrasses an asset for tourism businesses.

We want to support resorts to become #SeagrassIndustryLeaders, translating pledges into effective conservation that benefits the Maldives.

We want to support resorts to become #SeagrassIndustryLeaders

The workshop began the codesign of the project with the resorts, ensuring the scheme considers key barriers and designs solutions that support the resorts, to make it as effective as possible.

Maldives seagrass

Photo: Andy Ball

Seahorse

Photo: Vivienne Evans



Volunteer with us – and give an oyster a bath

Blue Marine is restoring thousands of oysters across the Solent on the south coast of England.

An estimated 85 per cent of global oyster reef habitats have been lost, making them among the most imperilled marine habitats in the world. Blue Marine is creating a model for restoration of this key habitat by relaying thousands of oysters into the Solent.

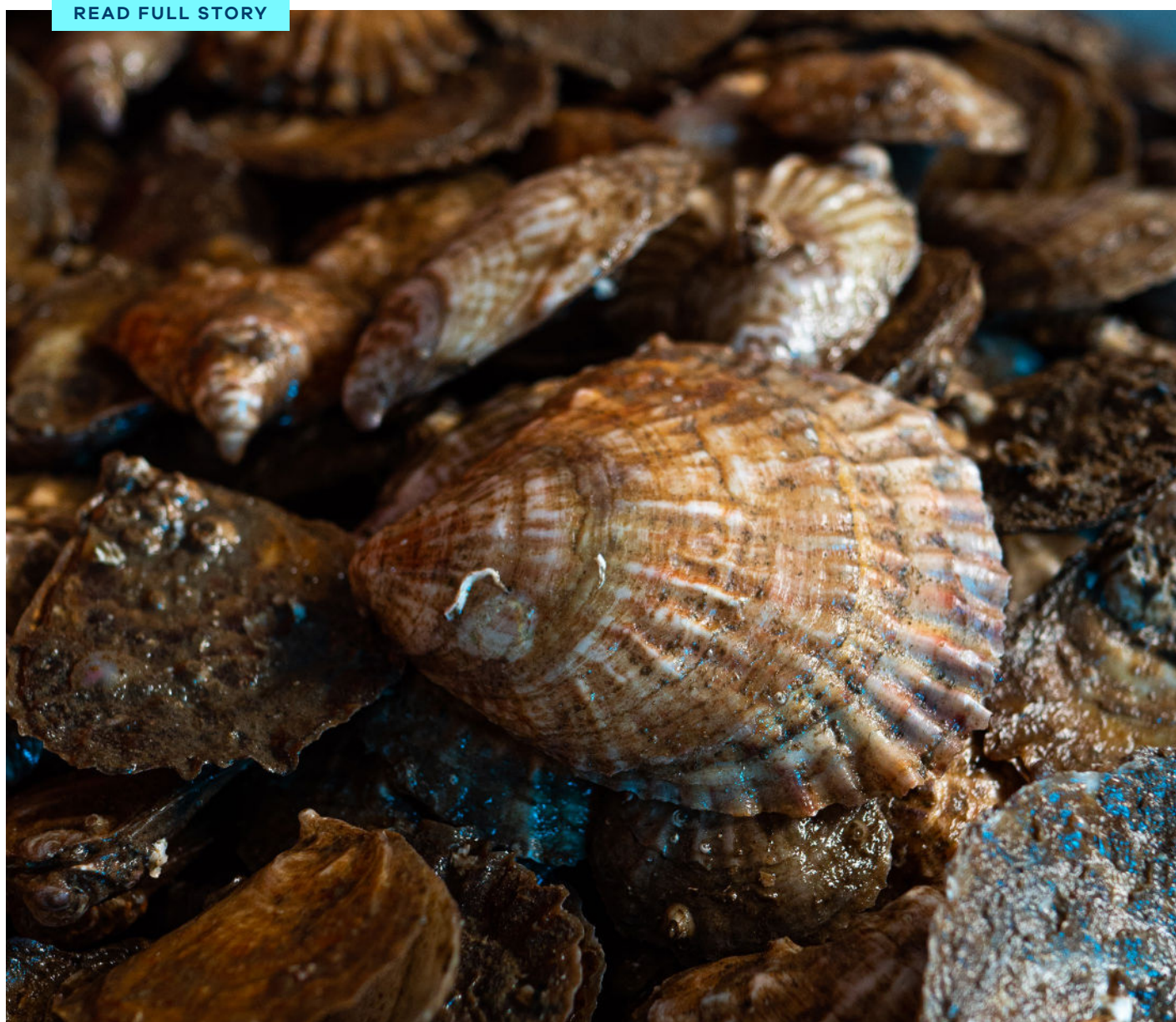
To promote natural recruitment and re-establish native oyster reefs, Blue Marine's Solent team is reseeded protected seabed sites with adult oysters.

Some 140 volunteers recently joined us over three days for oyster biosecurity with the Solent Seascape Project. During the volunteer days we scrubbed the oysters to remove any dirt and other animals – giving them a bath to ensure they were extra clean before they were placed on our newly extended reef in the Solent.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered on our Oyster biosecurity days. To be notified for the next one, follow us on social media or sign up on the Solent Seascape Project website!

Read the full story [here](#).

READ FULL STORY





Meet the team

Each month we like to introduce you to a member of the Blue Marine team. This month we'd like you to meet **Victoria Turner** our Education Lead.

Q If you were a marine animal, what would you be?

A A dolphin. Perhaps this is a bit of a clichéd choice but, as curious, sociable and charismatic creatures gliding through the ocean with such speed and grace, I know I'd have a lot of fun being one of them.

Q Where is your favourite place?

A A secluded rocky ledge under my little house on Paxos, where I learnt to swim as a child. It's where I first saw dolphins, *caretta caretta* turtles, a monk seal, moray eels, starfish and caught my first Scorpios fish aged 6. I still love to snorkel for hours beyond the ledge into the deepest waters I've ever seen (the margins of the Hellenic trench) in the Ionian Sea. It is my happy place to this day.

Q What's one fact you wish everyone knew about the ocean?

A The reason why the ocean looks blue: it's a very common question from young children and it's tricky to explain to them! One simple explanation for them is: the sea looks blue because when sunlight hits the sea the water absorbs all the colours of the rainbow but reflects the shorter blue wavelengths back into our eyes.





THANK YOU
*for your
support!*

To learn more about ocean conservation at Blue Marine please contact:

Alea Laidlaw
Information Officer
alea@bluemarinefoundation.com

To stay up to date with the latest news and events follow Blue Marine on social media.

[@bluemarinefoundation](https://www.instagram.com/bluemarinefoundation)



Dive in
Photo: Paola
Oraranza, Unsplash

