



BLUE MARINE
FOUNDATION

INTO THE

WORKING TO PROTECT OUR OCEANS

ISSUE 07 | JUN/JUL 2024

| SEAS THE DAY

| GLIMMERS OF HOPE

| MOZAMBIQUE

BLUE

Cover Photo:
Fight for a new life
Francesca Page

WELCOME

Welcome to the new edition of Into the Blue.

The UK now has a new government, one that will be in power during these pivotal years as we approach the 2030 deadline for multiple marine conservation targets. This presents a fresh opportunity to promote environmental policies that protect and restore the UK's marine life and coastal communities.

We expect the new government to fulfil the promises they made before the election: To take decisive action in key areas such as banning bottom trawling in marine protected areas. We also hope a Labour government will act to end overfishing in UK waters and commit to reforming the social inequality in UK fishing. With your continued support, we will hold our new government to these tasks.



Mother's Love
Photo: Jenny Sotck

SEAS THE DAY



[FIND OUT MORE](#)

Check out our Seas the Day landing page

[READ MORE](#)

Read about the March here

Restore Nature march

Photo: Marina Windsor

A Labour government has taken the majority and now leads the country in what will be one of the most critical periods for the environment.

This government, likely to see out the “Ocean Decade”, will have to deliver international commitments to protect 30% of sea (and land) by 2030.

Progress since this commitment has been made – but there is still some way to go. Bottom trawling is still allowed in 31 of 34 domestic offshore marine protected areas, fishing catch limits still exceed scientific advice by over 50% and over two thirds of the UK’s fishing quotas are controlled by just 25 companies.

We are asking for THREE priorities of this incoming government:

1. To ban bottom trawling in ALL UK marine protected areas
2. To keeping fishing quotas in line with scientific advice
3. To commit to reforming inequity in UK fishing

Find out about Seas the Day [here](#).
Read about the March [here](#).



Finance Awards

Blue Marine is delighted to have been recognised with a wave of awards for our commitment to good financial management, lean financial operations and modern financial practices.

In September 2023, we won the headline **Transformation Project of the Year** award from ERP Today, with our entry sponsored by implementation partner City Dynamics. An unprecedented nine out of twelve judges voting in our favour, against competition from the likes of Formula 1, Sky TV and the Ministry of Defence. This award was given to 'highlight the profound social and environmental impact of Blue Marine's ERP transformation.'

The team won the **Outstanding Contribution to the Earth** award at the Digital Revolution Awards in May 2024, with our entry sponsored by Microsoft. This award 'celebrates

individuals and businesses disrupting the status quo and harnessing the power of cloud technology to tackle the global climate emergency'.

The Finance team was also shortlisted for further awards in June 2024 at the ACCA sponsored Digital Finance Function Awards, being finalists in the SME category for **Finance Team of the Year**, Director Lynne Smith for **Finance Leader of the Year** and Head of Finance Dave Hutton for **Rising Hero in Finance**. We're delighted to congratulate Dave on being the overall winner in his category. We celebrate these nominations as demonstrations of the outstanding calibre of all our people at Blue Marine, not only those recognised as experts in their fields on the national and global stage but also our tireless and efficient support team.

To read more about the finance transformation journey, please see the [customer story published by Microsoft](#).

It is so important for our funders to know Blue Marine has such a strong finance team at its heart.



READ MORE

[Read about the award categories](#)

READ MORE

[Read about the awards](#)



GLIMMERS

of hope for Sussex kelp recovery

Three years after the Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority closed 300 km² of Sussex seas to trawling, signs of seabed recovery are continuing.

Majestic kelp beds once stretched along more than 40 km of the Sussex coast. Tragically, by the start of the 21st Century, over 96 per cent had disappeared. Despite having survived huge storms for centuries, the kelp didn't return after the storm of 1987, with increased trawling effort and sedimentation transforming the seabed and making it impossible for kelp to regain a foothold – or holdfast.

Blue Marine was a key partner in the Help Our Kelp campaign that galvanised public support for the Nearshore Trawling Bylaw introduced in 2021. Sir David Attenborough welcomed the protection as “a vital win in the fight against the biodiversity and climate crises”, and the Sussex Kelp Recovery Project (SKRP), which grew out of the Help Our Kelp campaign, is proving him right.

Signs of recovery are slowly but clearly emerging, captured in the Sussex Kelp Recovery Project Progress and Impact Report 2023. Divers have reported mussel beds, some the size of football pitches,;



fishers have reported increased diversity of fish species in their catches and research indicates raises in Black Sea Bream and lobster populations. A short film, Glimmers of Hope, captures the beauty, diversity and abundance of life that is starting to return to Sussex waters.

“This large-scale protection of over 300 km of seabed is a vital win in the fight against the biodiversity and climate crises.” Sir David Attenborough, in response to the Sussex Nearshore Trawling Bylaw

You can learn more about Sussex Kelp [here](#).

Watch Our Sea Forest on BBC iPlayer [here](#).

READ MORE

WATCH THE FILM

Grey seal and kelp

Photo: Mark Kirkland

Kelp in current

Photo: Big Wave Productions

Catshark swimming by kelp

Photo: Andy Jackson



“This large-scale protection of over 300km of seabed is a vital win in the fight against the biodiversity and climate crises.”

SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH, IN RESPONSE TO THE SUSSEX NEARSHORE TRAWLING BYLAW

Yudmila Chunguane

Marine Biologist, Love The Oceans

We are pleased to introduce Yudmila Luís Chunguane, who works at Love The Oceans, our partner NGO in Mozambique. Yudmila spent time with the Blue team at 'Our Oceans Conference' in Greece and in our London office. Here she describes her experiences:

"I'm Yudmila Luís Chunguane, a 26 year old, Mozambican Marine Biologist at Love The Oceans (LTO). I hold a BsC in Marine Aquatic and Coastal Biology and I am completing my Msc in Conservation Biology and Ecology at Eduardo Mondlane University.

Since I joined LTO in March 2023 through Biofund's Mozambique Conservation Leadership Program I have been involved in various marine research and community outreach projects, including BRUV surveys, coral reef assessments, fisheries management and ocean literacy programs.

Attending the Our Ocean Conference in Greece was a significant milestone in my career development. It provided invaluable networking opportunities and allowed me to showcase LTO's

work, further fuelling my passion for conservation. Meeting other LTO's partners allowed me to understand how that element works.

Attending media training at Sommerset House equipped me with essential communication skills to effectively convey our conservation message. Participating in 'Into the Blue' was a truly wonderful experience and it was inspiring to hear all about Blue's work.

Visiting the Oyster and mussel aquaculture projects in Solent and the Isle of Skye provided practical insights directly applicable to our work in Mozambique. Exploring iconic landmarks and experiencing different cultures in the UK enhanced my personal development. It gave me a deeper appreciation for the diverse background of LTO's volunteers and interns, and boosted my confidence in independent travel- which is a crucial skill for the career.

Overall, this trip contributed significantly to my professional and personal growth, and I am grateful to BMF for their support. I look forward to applying the knowledge and experiences gained to further our conservation efforts in Mozambique."

Attending the Our Ocean Conference in Greece was a significant milestone in my career development.

YUDMILA LUÍS CHUNGUANE



Conducting fieldwork in Mozambique

Photo: Mario Guilamba

Yudmila Chunguane

Photo: Mario Guilamba



Wallien Wetsuit

Blue Marine is excited to partner with WALLIEN, for a second wetsuit collaboration this year. Following the successful launch of the first Blue Marine wetsuit, we're hopeful Wallien's global community of athletes and ambassadors will continue to support the collaboration, knowing that funds raised will help protect and restore the wonders of the ocean and life within it, when wearing their Blue Marine's wetsuit.

Check out the Blue Marine springsuit [here](#).

FIND OUT MORE



Ocean Saver

Blue Marine has partnered with OceanSaver® who are on a mission to save ocean life from the plastic pollution and harmful chemicals in household cleaning products.

Ocean Saver will be supporting Blue Marine's work in restoring vital marine habitats in the Solent, which are home to our native shellfish, cuttlefish, sea horses, sharks, and dolphins.

Join over 200,000 people who have said "pollocks to plastic" and become an OceanSaver today with an exclusive 20% off on your first order using the code: **blue20**.

FIND OUT MORE

From the Blue

The opening of Chris Levine's 7.83 Hertz in collaboration with Convex Seascape Survey was made all the more noteworthy with this special dedication to the installation by Blue Marine's Ambassador Nico Kos.

7.83 Hertz is the deepest frequency of Schumann Resonance - also dubbed the earth's "heartbeat". First measured in the early 1960s, the very low-frequency waves oscillate between greater and lower energy - a frequency that might be likened to the benthos.

About Nico Kos Earle

Arts writer and curator Nico has dedicated most of her career to highlighting our connection to nature through art, repeatedly marrying art and ecology in group exhibitions that engage the viewer emotionally with complex environmental themes, in particular ocean conservation.

FIND OUT MORE

7.83 Hertz poem

Everything flows towards the one source
After this life cycle, what remains is drawn
Through the tides of time, and eventually
Comes to rest in the deep undersea.

This is the midway - soft, sedimentary
Flickering with potential - where everything
That was, is absolved into what could be.
As if the water saw itself reflected

In the night sky, and imagined
A carpet full of Brittle Stars, pulsing
Like blipverts, and rocked gently
In a lullaby to the benthic beats

The sea offers us every possibility
To float inside a dream - if only
We can learn to let it be.
The ocean dreams when it sleeps.

A POEM FOR CHRIS LEVINE BY NICO KOS EARLE

Vivienne Westwood

The University of Brighton announced Vivienne Westwood's exhibition, Wave Sculpture. Vivienne Westwood created this impactful sculpture as part of the Wave Walk in New York a few years ago. The ocean wave sculpture is a four-foot assemblage of waste that pollutes the ocean, including plastic cups, smashed beer cans, torn fishing nets, nylon rope, and cigarette lighters, serving as an impactful reminder of the environmental challenges we face.

The Wave Sculpture is on loan from the Blue Marine. Vivienne Westwood's designs are characterised by her rebellious spirit and her commitment to social and environmental issues. She has used her influential platform to advocate for numerous causes, including climate change, human rights, and the protection of the world's oceans. Her work not only redefines fashion but also serves as a call to action for greater ecological awareness and responsibility.

READ FULL ARTICLE



Wave sculpture by Vivienne Westwood

Photo: University of Brighton



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THANK YOU

for your
support!

To learn more about marine
conservation at Blue Marine
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news and events follow the
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The hypnotist

Photo: Francesca
Page

