

Media Release from Alderney Wildlife Trust

Date: 30th January 2025

Join our Beach Clean this Saturday!

Storm Herminia was relatively kind to Alderney compared to other areas across the British Isles. However, it has deposited a significant amount of marine litter onto Longis Bay. Thanks to resident Cleo Thomas for alerting us, we have organised an impromptu beach clean-up.

During the afternoon on Saturday 1st February, the Alderney Wildlife Trust's conservation team will lead a Marine Conservation Society (MCS) volunteer event to help clear the area. In addition to cleaning our coastline, Beach watch volunteers will record every item found along a 100m stretch of beach—from lolly sticks and lost toys to plastic debris. This data is crucial, as it helps the MCS trace litter back to its source and campaign for meaningful change.

The Alderney Wildlife Trust organises a minimum of eight MCS beach cleans annually, with all collected data fed back to the organisation. These events empower both residents and visitors to take action for wildlife and nature while keeping our island's beaches clean and welcoming.

If you would like to take part, please join us at 2pm on Saturday. All PPE, litter pickers, and collection bags will be provided. During the clean-up, volunteers are asked to report their findings to the event lead, which may include microplastics, bottles, marine rope, fishing lines, or even hazardous chemical containers.

This work is vital to keeping marine litter out of the ocean, protecting a wide range of species—including seabirds, fish, seals, and dolphins—as well as the habitats they depend on.

Ends

Background

About the Alderney Wildlife Trust

The Alderney Wildlife Trust is one of the 46 Wildlife Trusts working across the British Isles. We are the youngest of the Wildlife Trust, forming over 20 years ago and since then the AWT has received

incredible support from a dedicated team of wildlife enthusiasts, what we like to think of as the 'TeamWilder'. This team isn't just limited to residents and AWT members, it includes people from all walks of life who have an interest in our island's wildlife, as well as supporters and organisations from around the world. We work with the local community to engage them with their natural environment in order to protect Alderney's wildlife for the future.

Our mission is to study, protect and champion Alderney's wildlife. We wish to see a thriving natural island where wildlife and natural habitats play a valued role in addressing our island's future and the climate and ecological emergencies that face us.

Alderney is a very special place and by helping the work of the Alderney Wildlife Trust you can make a difference. After all, if you love where you live, you'll want to look after it - Dr. George McGavin, Patron AWT

Notes to Media

For further information, please contact: Abigail de Castella, Team Wilder Community Lead teamwilder@alderneywildlife.org