



Otter News No. 139, February 2023

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Otters And Beavers

There has been a lot in the media recently about beaver kits which appear to have been killed by an otter. The impression given is that this is an awful event by a savage predator killing two innocent young beavers with headlines like “Killer otter at Loch Lomond blamed for deaths of two baby beavers weeks after release”.

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/killer-otter-loch-lomond-blamed-29234210>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-64666850>



Eurasian otters ©Fred Heyburn

Beavers and otters have co-existed for thousands of years and otters will also use beaver dams when there is thick ice in winter. Otters are carnivores and will take the opportunity to have an easy meal. This is nature and no-one cries “foul” when a lion takes a young wildebeest or a sea eagle takes an otter cub. We have to learn to accept nature for what it is even when sometimes the “cute” ends up being taken by a predator.

So let’s put this latest incident at Loch Lomond into perspective by looking at the facts. Is the otter really the biggest threat to beavers in Scotland, or

does the blame lie closer to home – with people and their agendas.

Beavers were completely exterminated in the 16th century by hunting and so a reintroduction programme began

in Scotland in 2009 using animals caught in Norway. Although certain members of the fishing lobby argue that otters have also been reintroduced this is not the case. Some otters were translocated from different parts of the UK to boost numbers which had become extremely low, but this is not a reintroduction and all of our otters are native.

The beavers released during the Scottish reintroduction went into set areas where they are “controlled”. The beavers in Loch Lomond had been translocated from Tayside to Loch Lomond because they were regarded as being a “nuisance”, and they were potentially at risk of being killed by humans under licence.

NatureScot (formerly Scottish Nature Heritage) state that there has been a rapid expansion in the beaver population and claim that this is a conservation success. On 1 May 2019, beavers, their dams and lodges were given legal protection making it illegal to kill or disturb the animals. However, since this protection came into force over 200 beavers have been killed and nearly 90 dams removed under licence! And yet, an otter kills two beavers and becomes the “devil”!!

NatureScot state that beaver numbers need “control” and this includes lethal methods. This is supported by the National Farmers Union and the landowners group, Scottish Land and Estates, who raised £100,000 for their legal fight against the challenge to the cull.

These people might take notice of the Clinton Devon Estates who have a number of beaver families living on the Lower Otter Catchment. Last summer when many farmers were bemoaning the lack of water on their land and a drought was officially announced in that area, the Estate could demonstrate the benefit of beavers in



maintaining water levels for their farming interests.

The rewilding charity Trees for Life, also clearly have a strong concern for woodland conservation. And yet they are seeking a judicial review in court arguing that NatureScot is breaking the law by not investigating alternative mitigation methods before issuing lethal control licences for beavers.

It is well known that beavers are beneficial to the environment. When Paul and Grace visited beaver sites in eastern Europe they saw first-hand that their activities of building dams create wonderful wetland areas which are used by otters and other wetland species. They also help in regulating water flow and thus reduce the impact of flooding into human populated areas. It is when man interferes and upsets the balance that problems arise.



BeaverPhoto by Niklas Hamann on Unsplash

More Exaggerated Claims of “Killer Otters”

We are also used to various reports of otters taking koi carp from ponds – of course otters are native and koi carp are not. It is also the responsibility of the owner of these fish, and any other livestock for that matter, to protect them from predators.



Pond fish
Photo by Alejandro Aro on Unsplash

But recently there was an absolutely incredible story in the media with headlines like “**Village under siege from ‘terrifying’ otter which has killed and maimed dozens of koi**” and “**Terrifying’ otter is encircling the village and has already killed and injured dozens of koi**”.

The reports were even better: “**AN OTTER that has killed and injured dozens of koi is encircling villagers and putting them in danger. 27-year-old Oliver George lost six carp worth \$5,000. They included Big Bertha, a 27-year-old woman whose body was thrown across the garden. We discovered Big Bertha on the lawn, face partially chewed off. It’s terrifying, Oliver said. Some of these fish weigh a ton, so I can’t help but believe it’s a giant otter.**”

<https://techtotrenz.com/entertainment/terrifying-otter-is-encircling-the-village-and-has-already-killed-and-injured-dozens-of-koi-2413163.html>

<https://www.the-sun.com/news/7496560/otter-terrorises-village-killing-carp-koi-fish/>

This all took place in Somerset and therefore it is very unlikely to be a “giant otter” but to be fair the otter illustrating the piece is our Eurasian otter. And we have to be very sorry for the 27 year old woman, Big Bertha, who suffered such an unfortunate end.

We cannot deny that otters will take fish from ponds, especially when so much of their natural prey has severely depleted. There was a programme called “Our troubled rivers” recently on the BBC with Paul Whitehouse, the comedian who is also a keen fisherman. He visited various sites looking at the amount of sewage and effluent flowing into the rivers and the effect this is having on fish stocks,

And there was more negative news on water quality in the River Cam in Cambridge with evidence of high phosphorus levels particularly near outflows from sewage treatment works. The phosphorus comes from many sources including human waste, agricultural run-off and various household products such as detergents. Apparently the water companies are not required to remove this unless given a specific permit from the Environment Agency and this is not the case on the Cam.



The high phosphorous levels cause a build-up of algae which reduce the amount of oxygen in the water which obviously affects all aquatic life forms including fish. Now there's almost nothing alive in the river.

If these issues are having such an effect on the fish, is it any wonder that otters have to turn to other sources for their food.

<https://inews.co.uk/news/environment/cambridge-river-cam-smothered-algae-phosphorus-pollution-2154348>

News from The Sanctuary

Last week we were enjoying some relatively mild spring weather but this week we are back to the snow and temperatures of -7C at night!

Last month we received a new cub from Sarah Neill in Cumbria. He had been found in the Eden Valley and so was naturally called Eden (right – photo Kendal College). He is a fiery little chap which is great to see and keeps himself under his bedding whenever we are around. He is now eating whole fish and showing all the right behaviour.



Our other otters are all content in their warm sleeping boxes venturing out only to get their fish or play around when they are sure the coast is clear.



Baird and Marina (left) are now very strong otters and we are preparing for their release at the beginning of April.

Dòbhran (right) has the use of the extended enclosure and the larger pool which he enjoys – although of course in private!



Bealltinn (left) is her usual self but still enjoys a short time sunbathing when the weather allows.



Our croft visitor is still coming from time to time and this morning we found fresh footprints and spraint in the snow by the steps up to the office. We can see that it is going up to Bealltainn's enclosure at the top of the croft and it had a good roll in the snow!



If you would like to support our cubs in the Sanctuary you can send a cheque marked "Hospital" on the back or make a donation online at www.ottershop.co.uk



Please support IOSF and help to ensure that important conservation and awareness work continues.

UK taxpayers:

Increase the value
of your gift to IOSF:
giftaid it

Bird Flu Protocol

Following our article in last month's e-update, we have heard that bird flu has also been found in seals, otters, foxes and sea lions.

It is obviously very important that everyone is careful when near dead birds or other wildlife and so here is the latest advice we have:

Birds

As of 15 February 2023 the government has issued the following:

You should use the following service to report dead wild birds if you find:

- 1 or more dead bird of prey, gull, swan, goose or duck in the same place
- 5 or more dead wild birds of any other species in the same place

You will need to give the following information

- where you found the dead wild birds
- what type of dead birds you found
- how many dead birds you found
- your name



- your telephone number, so we can phone you for more information about the location of the dead birds if we need to
- your email address, so we can send you the results if the birds are tested for bird flu

Report at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/report-dead-wild-birds#:~:text=If%20you%20want%20to%20submit,to%20report%20dead%20wild%20birds>

Otters

The Scottish Rural College (SRUC) have given the following advice:

Dead otters should also be reported to the dead bird number 03459 33 55 77 or online at [Report dead wild birds - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) and you will be transferred to NatureScot. They will triage the case and only accept it for testing if there has been a case of avian flu within 3 km. Some cases will be rejected. Others will be collected and sampled for avian flu only. There may well be no further examination regardless of the result depending on where they go.

PLEASE TAKE CARE THAT WE DO NOT RISK FURTHER TRANSMISSION OF THIS DANGEROUS VIRUS

Update from Cambodia

Nick Marx from Phnom Tamao Wildlife Rescue recently sent us an update on their otters. They have received two more smooth coated otters which were being kept in a tiny enclosure in a gated community in Phnom Penh. It is so sad when you hear about these animals being kept as pets and in such inappropriate conditions – **they belong in the wild.**

Angkor Zoo and Aquarium is a new private zoo which has been built to high standards in Siem Reap and some of the animals, including otters, at Phnom Tamao which cannot be released, have been transferred there.

Three smooth coated otters released at Angkor seem to be keeping themselves out of trouble, for the time being. They do not always return for food, occasionally skipping a few days, which always worries Sarin and Rith, the two keepers who monitor all the released animals there. They are meticulous in their care, scouring the countryside in search of any that go missing just to make sure that they are OK. In December, the female otter was looking decidedly round and her nipples were pronounced.



Photo: Wildlife Alliance

At the beginning of February our observations were proved correct when we first saw five otter pups accompanying the adults to feed on the fish we continue to provide for them. The otters we released into Angkor were all born at Phnom Tamao Wildlife Rescue Centre, which demonstrates that these animals can be released back into the wild, so long as they are imaginatively cared for in captivity and responsibly released when the time comes, with consideration given to the candidates selected for release, the safety of the release site and the implementation of responsible release protocols.

Great news and well done to all at Phnom Tamao

A Mediterranean Otter

In Cap de Creus, Costa Brava, to the north of Barcelona there have been new revelations with what



seems to be the first images of a Eurasian otter coming out of the Mediterranean Sea!

A research project that is being carried out by Departament d'Acció Climàtica of the Catalan Government and the Barcelona Zoo Foundation, with support of Damm Brewing Company, has found camera trap footage of a Eurasian otter emerging from the Med. There have been other, sporadic observations of otters in the Med but this is the first "official" footage from field workers.



During this project, they have established that at least 10 otters live in the area but up until now they have never been filmed going in or coming out of the sea. The particular individual in the images is believed to be a male from one of the first groups identified within the area. The project will continue using more tracking methods to understand more about these Mediterranean otters.

In Catalonia, the otters have begun to recover in many of the waterways of the region, where they had disappeared in the second half of the 20th century, as in so many parts of Europe. The reduction of pollutants, and direct persecution have helped the populations recover, and in 2002, there was a conservation plan in place to increase protection of otters and their habitats, and this too has aided the recovery.

It is fantastic to hear of this otter, and the signs of their recovery and a special thank you to Zoo de Barcelona, and Jordi Ruiz-Olmo for extra information on this!

You can see the video using the link below!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OZ1U3KvclY8&feature=youtu.be>

Otters in The Himalayas

Nepal

Our friend, Purna Man Shrestha of the Wildlife Research and Education Network, recently sent us an update on his otter survey of the Myagdi river and Thuli Bheri River. He told us:

"The survey of otters in Myagdi river and its two tributaries, Mudi and Darr rivers was successfully completed with signs of otter presence in both rivers. The survey was conducted in February 2023, a research project funded by IOSF.

I also did a reconnaissance survey of otters in Thuli Bheri river and interacted with local people. During the surveyed period I showed them a picture of sympatric animals as well as the otter. They described the otter perfectly and confirmed their presence in the Bheri." Now it's time to gather scientific evidence for its presence in Thulo bheri river."

Thank you Purna

Bhutan

We have recently been given some amazing footage of Eurasian otters in Bhutan from Arjun Nepal, which was passed to him by his friend Lagay Tshering. Lagay is actually a birder and currently studying Pallas Fish Eagle. During his data collection he happened to capture the otter through his camera. The footage was taken in the Mongar district, in Gyalposhing, in the eastern part of the country.

It is amazing to see this, particularly given the rarity of the species in certain parts of its range, and particularly in Asia. Hopefully with Lagay's latest video and data we can find more information in Bhutan, and further afield on



the Eurasian otter.

We will be sharing the video on our social media platforms so check it there.

Anniversaries

As you know we are celebrating 30 years of IOSF and working to protect the world's otters – more of this later. But there are other groups also celebrating anniversaries.

Iraqi Green Climate Organisation Celebrate at 10



The Iraqi Green Climate Organisation (IGCO) is also celebrating 10 years and we were delighted to be invited to their celebrations on Tuesday 7 March. Obviously we couldn't attend in person but we were able to meet with members of the Organisation and invitees to the celebration by Zoom.

Although obviously we focus on otters, IGCO share similar aims to ourselves – research, education and training, reducing conflicts between wildlife and people, including illegal trade and hunting, and rescue and rehabilitation.

We have worked with Omar Al-Sheikhly and his colleagues for many years and he has published various papers in the IOSF OTTER Journal. Indeed Omar is the IOSF regional co-ordinator for the Middle East.

One of the most positive aspects of their recent work involved Dijla, the albino otter cub. She was found in nets by a fisherman and being an albino he could have earned a lot of money by selling her either as a pet or for her fur. Instead it was arranged for her to go to Baghdad Zoo where she is being cared for. Unfortunately because of the rarity of an albino she can never be released as she would be at too much risk.

Many congratulations to all at IGCO for their 10 years of work and we look forward to working together more in the future.

Mull Otter Group Is 10 Years Old



Just over 10 years ago an otter ran out in front of a car being driven by Jane Stevens on the Isle of Mull.... The otter was not injured but it started a chain of events that lasts until this day. Jane was concerned about the numbers of otters having a near miss or being killed on Mull's roads and contacted Nic Davies of the Tobermory Otter Fund for help. Nic was involved at the time with a very approachable otter named Elvis who developed celebrity status and was concerned of the possible consequences. Together they hatched a plan to form a group to look into these and other aspects of otter welfare on Mull.

An open public meeting was held at Jane's and Nigel Burch who has been recording otter deaths in the area since 1981 was contacted to give a talk. The meeting generated a lot of interest and so it was agreed to form the Mull Otter Group (MOG). Further meetings were held, a committee was formed, a constitution was adopted and a mission statement produced.

So what does MOG do?

The mortality study continues and this enabled permissions to be granted by the council for the installation of road signs and wildlife warning reflectors to help reduce road deaths.

We are also looking at possible reasons/ causes as to why otters die on the Island

Where possible dead otters are collected and sent for examination which enables more detailed research to be carried out on many aspects of otter ecology.



Work parties to clear culverts so that otters can use them if they wish to do so and beach cleans take place which benefits all wildlife.

Education on otter and other wildlife issues takes place in the form of open days, walks, school visits, public talks and leaflet production. We assist students studying otter ecology.

We work with other partners such as Mull and Iona Rangers, Nature Scott, Mull and Iona Community Trust and Police Scotland to reduce human disturbance to otters and other wildlife, whilst encouraging responsible wildlife watching.

We also work with IOSF and SSPCA when otters are found injured or abandoned, getting them to expert care as soon as possible.

We hope that otter which started the ball rolling led a long life. It certainly changed a number of Mull people's lives and hopefully saved some of its own kind.

30 FOR 30

As part of the celebrations for MOG, our Education Officer, Ben Yoxon, was invited to speak at their Annual General Meeting on 5 March. He was delighted to be able to meet up with many friends of IOSF and share their meeting with them.

While on the island, Ben and Callum (photo below) worked on their **30 for 30 challenge** – to climb 30 Munros during the year. A Munro is a Scottish mountain that is over 3,000 ft (914.4m). In total, there are 282 Munros in Scotland, ranging from Ben Hope in the north to Ben Lomond (most southerly Munro), which rises from the iconic Loch Lomond.

Here they are at the top of Ben More on the Isle of Mull with Brian the otter who is accompanying them on their escapades.

You can follow their progress on our social media platforms, and the challenge campaign page (<https://www.justgiving.com/page/callum-and-ben-iosf30for30>), throughout the year!

So now we want to encourage everyone to join Ben and Callum by doing 30 of something to raise funds for the otters or just to raise awareness.

- You could run or walk 30km
- Or if you don't want to be so energetic why not bake 30 cakes for sale or to give to family, friends or just donate to people who need help.
- You could always arrange with a group of 30 friends to have a picnic, barbecue, etc.
- Take a photo of you with your cuddly otter in 30 different locations.
- You can even raise awareness by making 30 posts on social media.



No doubt you will have many other ideas.

All proceeds will go into helping IOSF with otter conservation projects around the world, including education, rehabilitation and research, so please donate what you can, we really appreciate all support!

Together, let's make IOSF's 30th year a great one!





As part of IOSF's 30 for 30 campaign, the High School group led by Struan, have been planning how they can get involved.

After a lot of thinking, they have decided to do 30 beach cleans in 2023! They wanted to help raise money for other Team Otter clubs around the world while having a major positive impact on the natural

world that they live in!

After launching only a week ago – the kids have already done two beach cleans, one in Broadford and one in Harrapool, the neighbouring village – and they are already planning a third!

You can help by donating to their fundraiser -

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/team-otter-broadford-1676536990827?fbclid=IwAR36UkDmhbw-x3tVD4gLegTEOk54qden9oP7GuQtITlv2cwavBr9jmiANBI>

or doing your own beach clean, in your own area!



This is in addition to their normal Team Otter activities so well done all of you for your positive actions.

For more information on Team Otter, check out our website (www.loveotters.org) or Facebook. If you are interested in forming your own Team Otter Club contact Ben@otter.org

World Otter Day

Our favourite day of the year is only 3 months away!

World Otter Day is fast approaching and the number of events across the world is increasing quickly. We are delighted, once again, by your enthusiasm and the various different things that are taking place!

You can see all the events so far at the **World Otter Day** map here -

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1zB14UOhRHDVeJ0OtNhKgCV45xE3nL5o&usp=sharing> – and there are more to come!

If you're planning an event, please remember to let us know, and add it to our map and help in any way.

Webinar

Once again, we are pleased to announce the **World Otter Day** webinar for the third year running.

The webinar will take place on Wednesday 31st May and there will be two sessions with different speakers in each. The sessions will take place at the following times:

Morning Session - 09.00 - 11.30am (UK Time)

Evening Session - 17.00 - 19.30pm (UK Time)

As with the previous years, we have a variety of different speakers, from different nations and working on various

IOSF WORLD OTTER DAY
WEBINAR
PRESENTATIONS

MORNING	EVENING
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SIVASOTHI N. - OTTERS IN SINGAPORE• OMKAR PATIL - OTTERS OF WESTERN MAHARASHTRA, INDIA - बुजव्या पाणमाजरांचे अद्भुत जग OTTER SPECIES & HABITATS AWARENESS PROGRAMME• CHAMINDA JAYASEKARA - THE IMPORTANCE OF WETLANDS: A SRI LANKAN STORY• ROSS LAWFORD AND CHARLOTTE NEARY - OTTERS IN EDINBURGH• SPEAKER TO BE CONFIRMED - OTTER RECOVERY IN THE NETHERLANDS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CLAUDIO CHEHEBAR/LALI FASOLA - SOUTHERN RIVER OTTERS IN ARGENTINA• FAOUZ KILANI - OTTERS IN TUNISIA• MANUEL SANTIAGO - OTTERS IN COSTA RICA• ANGELA DOROFF - SEA OTTERS IN ALASKA• TOUCAN RESCUE RANCH - OTTER AMBASSADOR PROJECT - WORKING ON WETLAND CONSERVATION

©Nick Card



otter species. You can see the speakers, and their topics, in the poster on the right.

Grants

IOSF is offering **World Otter Day** grants again this year. These small grants are aimed at contributing to events in education, research or whatever you think is suitable for your event.

You can find more information on the grants and how to apply here -

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfs_H1vRoec2_a0BkaQAzH00a-OpxdYNICFAoj1-7-Ysya8Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

Raffle

We have some fantastic prizes waiting for you in our **World Otter Day** Raffle this year, including an IOSF Otter Watching Day, one night b&b and evening meal for two at the Kinloch Lodge Hotel, plus vouchers from two popular outlets, and more.

Tickets are £5 each and you will find all information on our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/IOSFWorldOtterDayRaffle>



Otter Shop Product of the Month

www.ottershop.co.uk

It's almost Mother's Day and you can find some great gift ideas at the Otter Shop, including our exclusive e-card for you to download.

There's jewellery, soft toys, great cushion covers, artwork, Otter Adoptions and more.

<https://ottershop.co.uk/search?q=mother>



Thank You...

your continued, generous support is what helps to keep us going – putting otters first.

And to our Corporate Sponsors: Andrew Poplett Enterprises Ltd, Nurtured by Nature, holidaycottages.co.uk.

We can't do it without you.

Events

IOSF's Paul Yoxon will be presenting his talk "Otter Ecology and Conservation" to:

- Lochbroom Field Club on Wednesday 5th April 2023 at the MacPhail Centre in Ullapool, Highland Scotland – time to be confirmed. Check our Events page <https://www.otter.org/Public/Events.aspx>
- Assynt Field Club <https://www.assyntwildlife.org.uk/event/otters-ecology-and-conservation-with-dr-paul-yoxon/>

This will take place at Stoer Village Hall, Stoer, Highland Scotland on Thursday 6th April 2023 at 7.30pm. Adults £3 and refreshments are available after the talk. If you are in the area, why not pop along and enjoy this otterly interesting event.

- World Otter Day 31st May 2023 https://www.otter.org/Public/Events_OurCurrentEvent.aspx



CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP - WHETHER YOU OWN A BUSINESS OR ARE EMPLOYED, does the company have a green policy/ support conservation? Then perhaps the company would like to consider becoming a Corporate Member with IOSF and supporting our work with otters.

You can find out more information on our website http://otter.org/Public/HelpUs_CorporateSponsorship.aspx

Photo of The Month

“An Otter’s Awakening” by Brydon Thomason (Shetland Nature est. 2006, renowned wildlife photographer and guide).



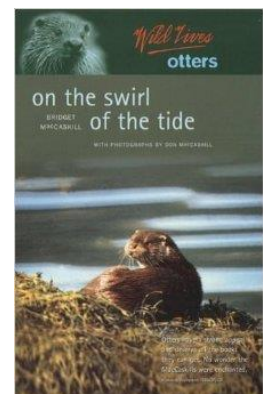
Many of you will know of Brydon and his amazing wildlife photographic work. This dramatic shot captures the moment an otter wakes from its slumber, rolling on to its back and stretching. We get a fascinating look at the otter’s paws, its glorious fur and those essential incisors.

If you would like to submit a photo for our Photo of the Month please send it to Ben@otter.org together with the credit for the photographer.

Bridget MacCaskill

We were really sorry to hear of the death of Bridget MacCaskill, who was a long-time supporter and friend of IOSF and all things to do with otters.

With her husband, Don, they carried out a long-term study of the otters on Loch Sunart on the west coast of Scotland and the book “On the Swirl of the Tide” illustrated with Don’s beautiful photos recounts their experiences, including one encounter with seven otters. Bridget’s writing was superb as she created the image in the mind of her reader – *“Then the great game resumed...It was follow-my-leader, catch-me-if-you-can, pounce, got you, roll over, kick, break away, and start all over again. It was a great romp, tumbling over the glistening seaweed, sure-footed over bare dry rock, scurrying through the secret heather tunnels at the top of the point, squeaking at the tops of their voices. Seven otters all together at the same moment – a dominant dog, his two bitches, a sub-adult cub and three young ones! Two humble otter watchers nearby almost wept with the joy of it and knew they were never likely to see exactly the same*



again...This had been something special.”

That passage says it all about Bridget – she was full of the joy of wildlife. In fact she loved all wildlife and at her home in Strathyre she took great pleasure watching and feeding the birds in her garden and also the red squirrels. Once when we visited her we had our cup of tea in the kitchen watching the antics of the squirrels on the “assault course” she had set up outside the window.

This photo below, was taken when we met up at her house (Bridget second from right) to collect two cubs from Cumbria. It was taken on 17 December 2012 - quite a coincidence as she died just one day short of ten years later at the grand age of 100.



We are so grateful to have been able to meet Bridget on several occasions and to count her as a friend. She will be sadly missed by her family, by us and by the whole otter and wildlife community.

Paul and Grace

News in Brief

Cheeky bird

Predators such as eagles are known for their exceptional predatory instincts. Their exceptional eyesight and tremendous talons enable them to carry out the highly skilled and intricate task of catching a fish. However, sometimes it is just down to opportunity and cheekiness.



In the video (below), this bald eagle took advantage of a North American river otter’s hard work by startling it and stealing its fish!

<https://www.whiskeyriff.com/2023/02/11/bald-eagle-snatches-fish-from-hungry-otter/>

Korean otters

In previous newsletters we have mentioned the Eurasian otters around Seoul, South Korea’s capital. It was believed that there could have been up to 15 individuals in the Han River and tributaries. Now, genetic work has confirmed this and that their presence means an increased health in waterways in the region. Furthermore, these results have encouraged them to look at ways to conserve this habitat and therefore the longevity of otter populations across the area.

<https://www.koreabiomed.com/news/articleView.html?idxno=20524>

When Paul and Grace visited South Korea in 2007, the otter was being used as a symbol of peace particularly between North and South Korea. They visited the Demilitarised Zone (DMZ) which lies between the two countries and as it has no public access wildlife remains largely undisturbed. The National Institute of Ecology installed remote cameras which obtained footage of endangered cranes, musk deer, bears, mountain goats, and otters moving along the river between the two countries. Hopefully not only will the otters in Korea thrive but peace between the two nations will continue.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/new-images-offer-rare-glimpse-of-the-dmz-between-north-and-south-korea-where-wild-animals-find-peace-and-flourish/ar-AA17XFEp>



All photos are © to the name/s as indicated, otherwise ©IOSF

Become an IOSF Life Supporter

Our supporters are always valued by us as a crucial source of support for the work that we are doing, and those of you that become life supporters are highly appreciated.

For a one-off payment of £350 you can become a Life Supporter and give your long-term commitment to help secure a better future for otters in the UK and around the world.

We will send you a certificate showing your life supporter status and you will continue to receive full updates in our newsletters, on all of the work that we are doing.
<https://www.ottershop.co.uk/become-a-life-supporter-c2x9466694>

A LEGACY IS A GREAT WAY OF GIVING TO SOMETHING CLOSE TO YOUR HEART and every gift makes a difference. After your family, have you ever thought of leaving something in your will to charity? Please consider remembering the International Otter Survival Fund in your will and help our work, protecting otters, to continue.

Including a legacy in your will ensures that your wishes are carried out, so it is important to discuss this with your solicitor. You can stipulate a specific restriction for its use, but remember that without restriction your legacy can be directed to where it is required most urgently.

Should you choose to provide a legacy for the International Otter Survival Fund in your will, we thank you and appreciate your support in this way.

This link http://otter.org/Public/HelpUs_Legacy.aspx will take you to our dedicated web page concerning making a Legacy.

You can follow us on:



Give a Little Extra Help

YOU can raise **FREE** donations when you shop online...

It's simple and costs no more than what you spend:



<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/iosf>



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/iosfund>



<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/international-otter-survival-fund/>

OR, scan and add our charity code 62575



Donate – one-off or regular



donr

Text OTTER 10 to 70085 to donate £10 (or change the amount to however much you wish to give).

Find out more: <https://www.donr.com/iosf>



<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/donate?cid=630>



JustGiving

<https://donate.justgiving.com/donation-amount?uri=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXBpLmp1c3RnaXZpbmcuY29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlvbnMvZiMjIjIjODlyZyESNGZkZjhlMGM4YWYyZMDQzODYyYzU=>



Vehicle Disposal – yes, even your old vehicle can earn great donations whether it's scrap or auction (fees apply)



<https://giveacar.co.uk/charities/international-otter-survival-fund/>



<https://www.charitycar.co.uk/international-otter-survival-fund>

Annual Adoption Renewal Rates

UK and EEC Countries:

Adult: £24.00 per year
Child: £13.00 per year
Family: £34.00 per year

All other countries:

Adult: £30.00 per year
Child: £15.00 per year
Family: £40.00 per year

Life Membership (all countries): £350.00

Have you enjoyed reading this? Then please SHARE and spread the word.



If you are reading this for the first time and would like to receive all IOSF mailings, click [here](#) to sign up. Please be assured that we will never pass on your details to any other party and you will only ever receive emails from us.

Discover Ways You Can Help

There are many ways in which you can raise money and awareness to help the otters in our **Fundraising Pack** or find out what some of our supporters have done over the years in the online **newsletters**.

International Otter Survival Fund
7 Black Park
Broadford
Isle of Skye IV49 9DE
Scotland

Email: enquiries@otter.org
Tel/Fax: ++(0)1471 822487



Charity Number SC003875

Join our IOSF mailing list. Click on this link:
<http://tinyurl.com/p3lrsmx>

www.otter.org

The International Otter Survival Fund
Working to Save the World's Otters

