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Charity No: 1167746

# **THE GREAT OTTER TROT AUGUST 2025 - EVENT PACK**





## Welcome to The Great Otter Trot!

Firstly, thank you so much for signing up and choosing to support the UK Wild Otter Trust. We've been busy behind the scenes, creating the first Great Otter Trot. We wanted to create an event to raise awareness about otters and other native wildlife, conservation and the natural environment we're lucky to call home. Combining this with raising money for the vital work we do at UKWOT.

**During August walk, run or bike 50 miles or your chosen distance and raise money for rescued otters!**

This pack contains all the information you'll need, but if you have questions or want to contact us, you can find our details at the end.

Thank you for your support.

-Team UKWOT







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## About the event

**"Walk 50 miles in a month for otters! Join The Great Otter Trot in August and help protect our otter population while enjoying the beauty of the UK's natural landscapes."**

The Great Otter Trot is a nationwide walking challenge running throughout August. Designed to raise vital funds and awareness for otter conservation, the campaign invites individuals, families, and communities to walk 50 miles or their chosen distance over the course of the month.

**At the end of the event, everyone who has raised £30 or more will receive a certificate. To claim your certificate email [communications@ukwot.org](mailto:communications@ukwot.org) soon with proof of your JustGiving fundraiser.**



# HOW THE MONEY YOU RAISE WILL HELP

To rescue, rehabilitate and release one otter cub back into the wild, it costs around £3500. With around 30 cubs coming through our centre's doors every year costs are high. Everyone at UKWOT are volunteers, so all the money you raise will go straight to the otters.

**Here are some key costs to help you choose your fundraising goal:**

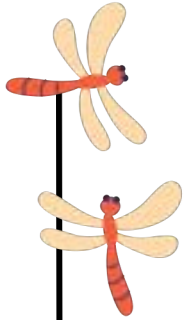


Food for the otters is one of the highest costs for our small charity. It costs around £10 a day to feed one otter cub.

It costs around £30 to purchase milk powder that feeds small cubs for a month.



It costs around £50 to deploy our otter ambulance to an otter in need of rescue in Devon.



# THE 2025 GREAT OTTER TROT

## What to spot whilst you trot!

As you take part in the Great Otter Trot, keep your eyes peeled – you're not just stretching your legs and raising money for a great cause, you're stepping out into the world of British wildlife! This leaflet is your handy guide to some of the fascinating species you might spot along the way, from farting dragonflies and fluttering butterflies, to shy deer, chattering birds and (if you're very lucky) even an elusive otter! But even if the animals themselves stay hidden, nature always leaves clues. Look out for footprints in the mud, nibbled plants, feathers, or even scat (that's the polite world for poo!). Each is a sign that something wild has passed through. Happy spotting!

### **OUT IN THE COUNTRYSIDE**

- Rabbits
- Hare
- Stoat
- Weasel
- Roe deer
- Muntjac deer
- Red deer
- Water vole
- Wood mouse
- Fox
- Badger
- Great spotted woodpecker
- House sparrows
- Dunnock
- Robin
- Blue tit
- Great tit
- Starling
- Magpie
- Jackdaw
- Crow
- Meadow pipit
- Swallows
- House Martin
- Swift
- Mallards
- Geese , Canada of greylag
- Mute swans
- Dipper
- Kingfisher



UK **WILD OTTER TRUST**





## **COASTAL**

- Turnstones
- Herring gull
- Black headed gulls
- Black backed gulls (greater or lesser ..look at leg colour )
- Razorbill
- Gannets
- Kittiwake
- Guillemot
- Fulmar
- Cormorant
- Oystercatcher
- Curlew
- Waders (Dunlin, Redshank, etc )



## **PONDS OR RIVERS**

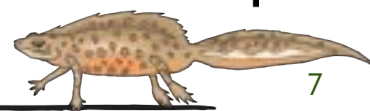
- Dragonflies
- Damselflies
- Frogs
- Toads
- Newts
- Water boatmen
- Back swimmers

***There may be lots of insects to look out for too.....***

- Bees
- Wasps
- Flies

***Taking part in Scotland? Keep an eye out for these too....***

- Pine marten
- Red squirrel
- Wildcats
- Capercaillies
- Beavers







## LETS TALK SCAT!

One of the best ways to discover which animals have been in an area—especially those that are shy or nocturnal—is by spotting scat, or animal droppings. Scat can reveal a lot about an animal, including its species, diet, and even how recently it was there. For example, fox scat often contains fur or feathers, while deer droppings are small, round pellets. Badger droppings are usually left in shallow pits known as latrines. Learning to identify scat not only helps you track wildlife more effectively but also offers a fascinating glimpse into the hidden lives of Britain's mammals.



**OTTER**



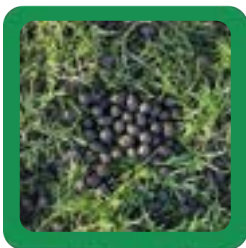
**HEDGEHOG**



**BADGER**



**BAT**



**RABBIT**



**DEER**







## ANIMAL TRACKS

Animal footprints are a great way to discover which creatures are living nearby, even if you don't see them in person. As you explore Britain's woodlands, fields, and riversides, keep an eye on soft mud, sand, or snow where tracks are often left behind. Each footprint tells a story—whether it's a fox on the hunt, a deer passing through, or a badger foraging at night. Learning to recognise these signs can help you spot and identify the hidden wildlife all around you.



**OTTER**



**BADGER**



**PINE MARTEN**



**WATER VOLE**



**DEER**



**WADING BIRD**

# SPECIES SPOTTED

The 2025 Great Otter Trot is not just a fun and active way to support conservation—it's also a great opportunity to connect with nature and record the incredible wildlife you encounter along the way. As participants explore riverside paths, woodlands, and wetlands, we encourage everyone to note down any species they spot, from birds and insects to plants and mammals. Your sightings can help build a better picture of local biodiversity and contribute valuable data to conservation efforts. So keep your eyes open and your notepad (or app) handy—every observation counts!

<i><b>SPECIES SPOTTED</b></i>	<i><b>HOW MANY?</b></i>
e.g. otter	



# Sponsorship Form



My Name:

My Address:

If you are a UK tax payer and you tick the Gift Aid box on this sheet, the Inland Revenue will give us an **extra 25% on top of your donation**. It doesn't cost you a penny to do\*  
*giftaid it* (For full details please see the bottom of the page).

FULL NAME (Please print)	FULL ADDRESS & POSTCODE (So we can claim Gift Aid. Please print)	AMOUNT (£)	DATE	GIFT AID? (Please tick)

\* If I have ticked the box headed 'Gift Aid', I confirm that I am a UK Income or Capital Gains taxpayer. I have read this statement and want the charity or Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) named above to reclaim tax on the donation detailed below, given on the date shown. I understand that I must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the tax year at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and CASCs I donate to, will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I have given.

**Paying in your sponsorship money**  
Once you have collected your sponsorship money, you can pay in it via bank transfer, PayPal or a cheque. Please send an email to [communications@ukwot.org](mailto:communications@ukwot.org) for full details.

FULL NAME (Please print)	FULL ADDRESS & POSTCODE (So we can claim Gift Aid. Please print)	AMOUNT (£)	DATE	GIFT AID? (Please tick)

**Total Raised:**



# SETTING UP YOUR JUSTGIVING ACCOUNT

Easily raise money for UKWOT during you walk using JustGiving. You can also add donations that you've received in person. It's simple to set up an account and get started, we've included a how to guide below.

1. Visit [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com) and click on 'start fundraising'.
2. Choose 'yes, I'm fundraising for a charity'.
3. Log in if you already have an account (& skip the next step) or sign up for a free account.
4. To sign up enter your name, email and create a password. Then click sign up.
5. Search for 'UK Wild Otter Trust' as the cause you'd like to support.
6. Select whether you're fundraising in memory of someone.
7. Select 'taking part in an event'. Search for 'The Great Otter Trot' and click next.
8. Choose how much you'd like to raise for UKWOT.
9. Personalise your page. You can also do this later.
10. Add a cover photo or video. You can also do this later.
11. To finish, check all the details and click 'launch my page'.

## ADDING AN OFFLINE DONATION

In this pack we have included a sponsorship form, so that you can collect in person donations. They can easily be added to your page, so that they add to your total.

1. On your page, click 'manage my page', then click on 'donations'.
2. Click on 'manage offline donations', then click on 'add offline donation' and add the donators name and amount.

The offline donations you received can then be paid to the charity after your fundraiser has finished. You can send them via bank transfer, PayPal or cheque. Make sure to send the gift aid information from your sponsorship form so that UKWOT can claim gift aid.





## Using social media to share your fundraiser and your otter trot journey

Use the hashtag **#TheGreatOtterTrot** so we can see your posts! Make sure to tag us as well!

Share your fundraiser with family and friends.

Share the photos and videos you take on your otter trot journey.

Find us on social media -



@ukwildottertrust



@wildottertrust



UK Wild Otter Trust







# Leave only footprints and trotting responsibly



During The Great Otter Trot please remember to trot responsibly. To ensure that you have an enjoyable time and the natural environment is protected, it is important to follow relevant legislation. In England and Wales, the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and in Scotland, the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 should be followed. The countryside code is also important to follow.

The Eurasian otter is a European protected species, protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. It is also protected under the UK Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as are holts, resting areas, routes and tracks.

Whilst you are on your journey, if you come across an otter or Pine Marten that you think is in need of help please contact us ASAP - Dave Webb 07866462820/01769 580621 or Colin Seddon 07759809667. If you find other wildlife in need of help please contact your local wildlife hospital/rescue.

!! Remember to leave only footprints !!





## Important points to remember



- Take care around water and avoid banks which could be weak or covered in vegetation preventing you seeing the edge. You will also avoid plants which can cause skin irritation.
- Dress for the weather, including using sun cream.
- Take water and snacks.
- Check yourself/dog for ticks as they love the warm humid weather living in long grass.
- Watch wildlife from a distance and don't disturb them.
- If you find otter spraint, don't touch or remove it. Spraint is important for otter communication.
- If you are lucky enough to spot an otter or their tracks/spraint, please don't share their location with others. (This is to help protect them).
- Ethical wildlife photography is important - when taking photos of wildlife, keep at a respectful distance, don't use the flash and keep yourself safe.
- Follow signage to keep yourself, others and your dogs safe.

!! Remember to leave only footprints !!





## **Contacts at UKWOT**

### **General enquires:**

info@ukwot.org / 07770324770

### **Communications/Media/Collaborations:**

communications@ukwot.org / 07716649463

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please contact UKWOT ASAP:**

Dave Webb 07866462820 / 01769 580621

Colin Seddon 07759809667



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