



The Weird Fish Lady - Gloria Barnett, MA, BSc,
Science and Environmental Speaker, Education Consultant, Climate
Curriculum Specialist, Author and real-life 'Adventurer'

Hi Everyone,
I hope you are well, and happy ... wherever this
newsletter finds you around the globe!
Why not take a few minutes, find somewhere comfortable
and catch up with all the news.

Contents in this issue of the newsletter are:

Read: amazing 'Did You Know Facts' - this time about Spiny Lobsters

View: the original video and my story of meeting a Spiny Lobster

Hear about what's happening in the world of the Weird Fish Lady.

Headteachers and teachers take a look
at what's available for your school and classrooms.

Read: about FREE 'Resources for Teachers'

Read: the latest positive 'UK Environmental News'

Everyone can still **visit** the website - to shop for
books for children and adults.

Go to : www.barnettauthor.co.uk

Let's start with some facts and an original film.

Did You Know?

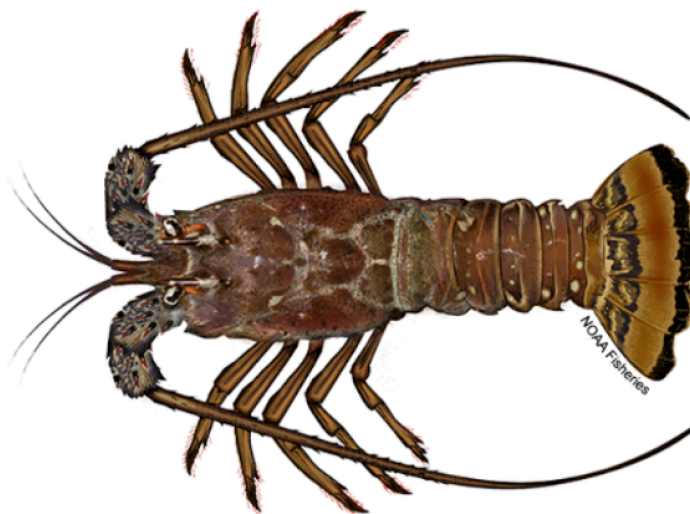
TODAY'S FABULOUS FACTS!

Spiny Lobsters

Beneath warm tropical waves, spiny lobsters spend their days tucked into rocky crevices and coral caves, their armored bodies bristling with sharp spines and their long antennae stretching out in front of them, waiting to fight anything that comes too close. Unlike their clawed northern cousins, they rely on clever defences — waving their thick antennae at predators, squeaking an underwater rasping sound to startle attackers, and, if all else fails, snapping their powerful tails to rocket backward in a split-second escape. At night, they emerge to forage for snails, clams, and sea urchins, often sharing shelter in surprisingly social groups. But perhaps their most astonishing behavior happens during migration: when seasons shift or storms churn the sea, spiny lobsters move to the protection of deeper water. The lobsters form long, nose-to-tail marching lines across the ocean floor, each one touching the tail of the lobster ahead. These underwater parades can stretch for dozens — even hundreds — of lobsters, guided by an internal compass that may sense Earth's magnetic field. With built-in armor, teamwork, and epic seasonal journeys, spiny lobsters are far more than just a seafood favorite — they're some of the ocean's most remarkable creatures.

Caribbean Spiny Lobster

Panulirus argus



Also Known As

Crawfish, Rock lobster, Bug, Florida lobster,
Langosta espinosa

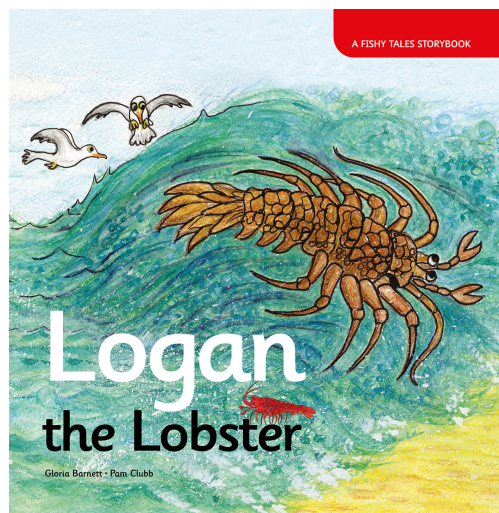
The star of our film today is a spiny lobster that I filmed in Tortola, one of the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean. The Spiny lobster was minding his own business, having a snooze under the coral reefs when I came along with my camera. The camera is quite large - inside a waterproof case - so the lobster was faced with a strange box shape being pushed towards him, and behind the camera was a big black blob! Me! I have not done a narration over the natural sounds on this film. So, listen and you will hear a) the sound of bubbles as I breathe out through my scuba kit, and b) the scrapping sound as the lobster pushes against the camera case trying to push me away. I didn't stay long, as the creature was feeling threatened by me and I didn't want to stress it. Once again a film which shows the amazing behaviour of a sea creature.

(Film credit: Gloria Barnett - The Weird Fish Lady)

Lobster Film - Video link

<https://youtu.be/NP9x5NdJsRo>

One of my Fishy Tales Storybooks features the character 'Logan' - who is a spiny lobster. Read his adventures. See books to buy - at the bottom of the newsletter



The World of the Weird Fish Lady

Environmental Event

With my “Weird Fish Lady” hat firmly on, I recently had the pleasure of giving a talk at the Sandgate (Kent) BIG GREEN Fair — a wonderful event bringing together environmental ideas and initiatives from across the area.

It was a fantastic day, and huge congratulations to the organisers who worked so hard to make it such a success. The atmosphere was inspiring, and I thoroughly enjoyed chatting with so many people about conservation, storytelling, and the natural world.

And of course, once people spotted the books on the stall, the excitement levels soared! It was a joy to see so many happy children — and adults — heading home with their new books, ready to settle down to read them that very evening.

Radio 'Waves'

The Weird Fish Lady has also been invited onto Radio Kent twice recently — first to chat about the exciting BIG GREEN FAIR, and then back again to speak with presenter Stephen Brown at 9:15pm on Tuesday 30 June.

On his evening show, Stephen regularly invites listeners to send in questions and challenges himself to find someone who can answer them. This time, he came to the Weird Fish Lady — because someone had asked:

“Do fish know they are wet?”

I loved answering that one!

The answer, of course, is no — fish don't know they're wet because they have no experience of any other environment. Their world is constant and entirely aquatic, so the concept of being “wet” simply doesn't exist for them.

It was also a wonderful opportunity to share just how extraordinary fish really are. I talked about some of their remarkable adaptations, including the lateral line — the faint line you can see along the sides of some fish, which allows them to detect vibrations in the water and sense when food or danger is nearby.

It was a real pleasure chatting with Stephen — and I learned something too! At that time of day, the broadcast wasn't just going out across Kent, but also to Radio Surrey, Radio Sussex, Radio Essex and Radio Berkshire.

Wow — the Weird Fish Lady speaking to the whole South East, not just one county!

Great stuff — and many thanks for the invitation, Stephen!

Global Events

I'm still presenting talks — both across the UK and around the world — thanks to the amazing world of Zoom, which began for many of us during the Covid lockdowns.

What started as a necessity has opened up incredible opportunities, allowing me to connect with audiences everywhere and share the importance of caring for our oceans.

Just last week, I had the pleasure of zooming to Cumbria in the UK and speaking to a wonderful audience there.

Many thanks to Kevin and Wendy for the kind invitation — it was a fantastic evening!

If you want a speaker for your event - then contact me at gloria@barnettauthor.co.uk - I'm always happy to zoom to your part of the world!

Hey folks - perhaps you'll let me know where on the globe you're reading this newsletter - I'd love to share that with everyone. Or just email me for a chat and let's see if you need me for an presentation event in your hometown.

And now — it's time to swap hats!

I'll hang up my Weird Fish Lady hat for a moment and put on my professional Educational Consultant hat... ahhh, that's better.

Now I'm ready to share what I've been working on for the global school community.

FREE Teacher's Resources

This newsletter is shared with parents, grandparents, teachers, and readers of my books around the world.

Please help to spread the word by sharing this information with the teachers you know or with your local schools. Your support truly makes a difference.

Downloadable resources now available from the website:

'Ocean Adventures Resources for Teachers'

A comprehensive, whole-school resource with materials available for every year group across your primary school is now available from the website shop. We know how busy teachers are — so what if a science consultant prepared your lesson plans for you? This ready-to-use resource provides everything you need, with no additional preparation required.

All the planning is done for you, saving valuable time and supporting busy teachers in delivering high-quality science lessons with confidence.

- **SIX Ocean Adventures Teacher's Resource Years 1–6** — one comprehensive pack for each year group in your primary school. The scheme is designed as a **WHOLE SCHOOL** programme - so speak to your Headteacher about purchasing a Whole School Licence and benefit from schools' prices for this curriculum programme. Available through the website.
- A **BIG BOX of books** is available at special school bulk-buy prices to accompany the 'Ocean Adventures' resources (available to UK only). All books are available globally through [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

Teacher's Resources
Years 1–6 | UK Curriculum | Downloadable Resources

The collage features several items from the Ocean Adventures Teacher's Resource series:

- Ocean Adventures Teacher Resource Year One UK Curriculum**: Cover showing a shark and coral.
- OCEAN ADVENTURES Teacher Resource YEAR TWO - UK CURRICULUM**: Cover showing a whale and a submarine.
- OCEAN ADVENTURES Teacher Resource YEAR SIX - UK CURRICULUM**: Cover showing a globe and various sea creatures.
- OCEAN ADVENTURES Teacher Resource YEAR FOUR - UK CURRICULUM**: Cover showing a coral reef and a pufferfish.
- Ocean Adventures Film Guide**: A booklet titled "Did You Know?" featuring a penguin and a whale.
- Ocean Adventures Curriculum**: A central sheet titled "Dive In: Introduction to the Ocean's Oceans" with sections for "Habitat and Life", "Exploration", and "Human Impact". It includes a timeline from 1872 to 1992 and a map of the world's oceans.

A gold badge in the bottom left corner reads "CURRICULUM ALIGNED" with a Union Jack flag. The bottom right corner features the text "Gloria Barnett The Weird Fish Lady" and the website "www.barnettauthor.co.uk".

Now, for teachers who use the Lucy Morgan Adventure Stories as their Class Readers ... firstly, thank you for buying these books and giving young people the opportunity to read these award-winning books ...



BUT ... Don't Just Buy the Books...

If you're a teacher using the *Lucy Morgan Adventures* as classroom readers — that's wonderful!

But don't stop there.

Get the FREE Teacher Resource too!

The *Lucy Morgan's Adventures Series – Primary Teacher Resource* is fully downloadable for use anywhere in the world.

- It is packed with:
 - Engaging literacy activities
 - Thought-provoking discussion prompts
 - Environmental learning ideas
 - Ready-to-use classroom materials

It's designed especially for teachers of ages 8–11+ and brings the stories to life in meaningful, curriculum-supporting ways.

Why just read the adventure... when you can teach with it?

And yes — the Teacher's resource is completely **FREE!**

Tag a teacher. Share with your school. Spread the word.

GUIDE TO THE LUCY MORGAN ADVENTURE STORIES

A Primary Classroom Resource.



Gloria Barnett – Weird Fish Lady

All these Teacher's Resources can be sourced from
www.barnettauthor.co.uk

Gloria Barnett, MA, BSc
Science & Environmental Education Consultant
Primary Curriculum Specialist (Y1–6)
Award-Winning Author

Partnering with schools and Multi-Academy Trusts to translate sustainability vision into
coherent, curriculum-aligned practice.

Choose a comprehensive whole-school resource.

Leave the preparation to an expert and gain access to original films, high-quality teaching
materials, and essential environmental knowledge designed to support confident, impactful
classroom delivery.

Environmental News

Instead of telling you about how well China is doing all the time - in this edition of the newsletter, I'm going to look at just the good news about the UK environment.

Renewables generated 53.1% of the UK's electricity in the first quarter of 2026

Wind power is rising 30% year by year

This marks continued progress toward the UK's net zero targets.

Solar Power Surges to Record Levels

The UK passed a major milestone in March 2026, reaching more than 2 million solar installations nationwide for the first time.

- 27,000 new installations were completed in March alone — the highest monthly total since 2012
- Total solar capacity rose 11.7% in a year, adding 2.3 GW of clean electricity
- Solar generation exceeded 15 GW at one point in April, a new record

This growth is helping reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels and protect households from volatile gas prices.

Largest-Ever Funding for Threatened Species

In April 2026, the government announced £90 million for species recovery in England, the largest investment of its kind.

- £60 million will go directly to the Species Recovery Programme
- An additional £30 million is dedicated to recovery on the national forest estate
- The funding supports habitat restoration, captive breeding, and species reintroductions across birds, mammals, insects, and marine life.
-

£29 Million from Water Company Fines Reinvested in Nature

Money from water company fines is being reinvested into environmental restoration

- Over 100 projects funded
- 450 km of rivers improved
- 650 acres of habitat restored
- 100,000 trees planted

This approach redirects penalties into local ecological recovery.

Peatlands Get Major Protection Boost

New funding announced in late June 2026 supports peatland restoration as part of the government's wider £85 million Peat Programme (2026–2030))

Healthy peatlands:

- Store carbon
- Reduce flood risk
- Improve water quality
- Support biodiversity

Restoring them is one of the most cost-effective natural climate solutions.

Grid Infrastructure Expands for Low-Carbon Energy

The Hinkley Connection Project reached a milestone in June 2026, energising 44 km of new transmission lines.

Once completed, the project will help deliver low-carbon electricity to six million homes and businesses. This strengthens the grid to handle growing renewable and nuclear generation.

Now - Here are the latest marine conservation good news updates from the UK (2026):

UK's Largest-Ever Seagrass Restoration (July 2026)

On 8 July 2026, the Ocean Conservation Trust launched the UK's largest-ever seagrass restoration project in Cornwall as part of a £1.8 million marine recovery programme (oceanconservationtrust.org)

Seagrass meadows:

- Store carbon ("blue carbon")
- Provide nursery habitat for fish
- Improve water quality
- Reduce coastal erosion

This is a major step in restoring lost underwater meadows around UK coasts.

15 Million Oysters for North Sea Rewilding

A major rewilding project is set to restore around 15 million native oysters in a new North Sea bed covering over 100 hectares

The project could:

- Sequester up to 76 tonnes of CO₂ per year
- Improve water clarity
- Boost fish populations
- Act as a template for oyster restoration across the UK and Europe

Oyster reefs were once widespread in UK waters but are now functionally extinct in many areas.

Stronger Fisheries Sustainability Planning (2026)

In February 2026, the UK opened consultations on four new Fisheries Management Plans aimed at securing the long-term sustainability of UK fish stocks

Separately, government reporting shows that 73% of assessed Scottish commercial stocks were sustainably fished in 2023, reflecting ongoing progress in stock management

Catch limits for 2026 have also undergone formal sustainability assessment

Seabird Recovery Success

The Marine Conservation Society reported positive ocean news in May 2026, including a puffin population count more than 8,000 higher than in 2024, credited to monitoring and conservation efforts

Volunteers have also taken part in "Source to Sea" litter surveys to stop inland waste reaching the ocean

Marine Protected Areas Strengthened

The UK Marine Strategy received its 2026 update outlining the next six-year plan toward achieving Good Environmental Status in UK seas

Additionally, Marine Protected Area conservation advice packages were updated in March 2026, including new draft site coverage

The UK also passed the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Act 2026, implementing the global High Seas Treaty into UK law

(Info comes from renewable.uk, gov.uk, nationalgrid.com, oceanconservationtrust.org and zsl.org.)

News About the Books



Exciting News!

I'm thrilled to announce:

For every book ordered through my website 'Buy from the author' I will continue to plant a tree! 🌱 Together, let's nurture a love for reading while giving back to our planet.

Join me in making a difference—one book at a time!

★ Get involved today! Order a book! ★

Gloria Barnett
Author of children's
fiction and non-fiction



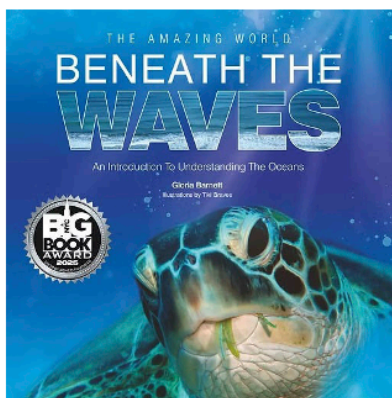
Award-Winning Author



**The Lucy Morgan Adventure Series
for 8-13+**

... not just adventures - the Lucy Morgan stories also inspire young readers to care for the environment.

50 Facts Series



www.barnettauthor.co.uk

Award
winning
books!



**The Fishy Tales Storybooks
for ages 3 - 6**



**Get SPECIAL Offers from
the website.**

Want to buy ocean -themed books? There are books suitable for any age group:

Fiction:

For ages: 3-6 -

[The Fishy Tale Storybooks](#)

Logan the Lobster

Prickle the Puffer Fish

Ravi the Ray

For ages 8-13+ -

[The Lucy Morgan Adventure Stories](#)

Eye of the Turtle

The Secrets of the Shallows

The Hidden Cave

Non-Fiction

[The 50 Facts Series](#)

For ages: 6 - 13+ - [50 Fabulous Facts about Ocean Animals](#)

For ages 8 - 13+ - [50 Incredible Facts about Oceans](#)

For ages: 10-18+. - [50 Essential Facts about Climate Change](#)

[The BIG Book:](#)

For Ages: 10 - 110 - [The Amazing World Beneath the Waves.](#)

All books available from : <https://barnettauthor.co.uk>

All opinions and grammatical errors are those of the author.

Gloria Barnett - Author