

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Monty Halls to help protect Galapagos

Popular TV presenter and explorer Monty Halls has been appointed as President of the Galapagos Conservation Trust to help raise awareness of the issues that the famous archipelago faces.

A familiar face on British television over the past decade, Halls has presented a number of successful series including the BBC's *Great Barrier Reef* and most recently *The Fisherman's Apprentice*. He first visited the Galapagos Islands whilst filming for Channel 5's *Great Ocean Adventures* in 2005 and has been fascinated by them ever since.

"The Galapagos Islands are incredible for so many reasons: their historical association with Charles Darwin, their designation as one of UNESCO's first World Heritage Sites, and of course the impressive diversity of wildlife that you find there."

The Galapagos Conservation Trust is a London-based charity that supports research and education projects on the Islands whilst raising awareness in the UK. Some of the projects that they have recently funded include the tracking of pregnant whale sharks and hatchling giant tortoises, and the captive rearing of one of the rarest birds in the world; the mangrove finch. Halls hopes that his new position as President will help to bring the Islands the attention and protection they deserve.

"These are magical and mystical islands that must be preserved for future generations to enjoy. The Galapagos Conservation Trust does amazing work, so I'm really looking forward to getting more involved."

Halls will also be the keynote speaker at the Trust's annual Galapagos Day event on 01 October at the Royal Geographical Society. For more information, visit [galapagosconservation.org.uk](http://galapagosconservation.org.uk).

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### Notes to editors:

- **Monty Halls** is an expedition leader, travel writer, marine biologist, documentary broadcaster, former marine and leadership trainer. His first television appearance was on Channel 4's *Superhuman* in 2004. He has since featured in a number of BBC and Channel 5 documentaries. For more information, visit his website: <http://www.montyhalls.co.uk/>
- The **Galapagos Conservation Trust (GCT)** is the only UK charity to focus exclusively on the conservation and sustainability of the Galapagos Islands. Established in 1995 at the Royal Society, GCT raises funding and awareness for projects in Galapagos which focus on science, education and culture. To find out more, visit their website: <http://galapagosconservation.org.uk/>

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