

# Wyre Wildlife Wonders:

Did you know that Wyre is, or was home to examples of:

1. The oldest non-colonial animal in the world.  
**Quahog** (Icelandic Cyprine) *Arctica islandica*  
“One living off Iceland was 507 years old”.

[www.museum.wales](http://www.museum.wales)

The shells of these clams can be found off Rossall.



2. A member of the family of “the oldest living organism on earth”.  
One of the family growing in the arctic is estimated to be 8600 years old. Map Lichen can be found growing near Brock.

[www.bootroutes.com](http://www.bootroutes.com)

**Map Lichen**

*Rhizocarpon geographicum*



3. An example of the world’s biggest living thing.  
**Honey Fungus** *Armillaria solidipes*  
“One in America measures 3.4 miles (5.5 km) across”.

[www.earthsky.org](http://www.earthsky.org)

Some can be seen growing at Stanah.



4. Examples of “the world’s longest migrating bird-flight”.  
[www.livescience.com](http://www.livescience.com)

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa lapponica*

They can be seen at Fluke Hall.



5. Off the coast can be seen  
**Basking Sharks** *Cetorhinus maximus*  
“the second largest shark in the world”.

The Shark Trust.



6. The remains of **Horace The Elk**.

[www.theharris.org.uk](http://www.theharris.org.uk)

Found in Poulton. Lived 13,500 years ago.

