



### **Why did you join the Newquay Marine Group?**

It must have been about 9 or 10 years ago that I first heard about the group and I think it was through friends that made me interested in joining. I'm really keen on marine life and the commitment of the group to looking after the world we live in is fantastic.

### **What do you love about the marine environment?**

I love the diversity and the range of animals that we get all around our coastline. Over the last few years, particularly in Newquay, we've had more and more exciting sightings ranging from harbour porpoise and dolphins to humpback whales and fin whales.

### **What work do you do with the group?**

I help with spotting each month and I do my best to help with different activities that take place, like Newquay Fish Festival. I attend the monthly meetings by zoom or when we could have met up in person each month and contribute to discussions about the things that we can do.

### **What hobbies do you do outside the group?**

A lot of sea-watching to be honest, I love looking around our environment around our coastline and looking for dolphins.

### **What is your favourite species you have seen in Newquay or Cornwall?**

There's so many! I do particularly love Bottle Nose dolphins, we have an in-shore pod which swim around our Cornish coast but when they come around Newquay, they're fantastic to watch.

### **What do you think Newquay Marine Group has done for Newquay over the years?**

It's encouraged people to care for the environment, like organising beach cleans like Newquay Beach Care does. They went around doing surveys and meeting up with people who are in different businesses to try and stop people from using plastics in their shops, such as fish & chips shops and fast-food takeaway shops. Newquay Marine Group has also done lots of cleaning up and re-decorating the Harbour Heights. They've gone on boats going around the Cornish coast looking for plastics by dragging a sieve across the bay, and it's picked up tiny microplastics - it's quite shocking to think what we've got in the water. Newquay Marine Group has also got the fish symbol outside drains to help people identify the things that should go down the drains and not to throw any rubbish down there.

### **What would you say to someone wanting to join the Newquay Marine Group?**

I say go for it! I say it's a very friendly group, everyone is welcoming, there's a diverse range of ages that join and it's important to get involved and look after our environment!