



How long have you lived in Newquay for?

20 years

When did you hear about the Newquay Marine Group?

When I saw a Facebook call out to help shift a shopping trolley buried in the sand on a town beach.

What made you decide to join?

Everyone seemed as determined as I am to protect our wildlife, that and they're all a bunch of nutcases like me!

I became more involved years later when I left teaching and had more time. It gave me a positive focus during lockdown. I enjoy the pub meetings and getting to know lots of like-minded people.

What work have you done with the Newquay Marine Group?

I've been involved with the beach cleans and helped them run their stall during their events. I've also taken part in several projects such as repairing Fistral Dunes and getting children with poor access to the sea on a boat, so that they can learn, and experience the marine wildlife we have on our shores. I've also tagged along to their surveys, Seaquest Sundays and rockpool rambles!

The group has made me aware of several opportunities such as river surveys in collaboration with the South West River Trust, marine mammal medic training, and helping install educational signs at crabbing spots!

What work do you do outside of the group?

I have spent most of my career as a teacher in special schools. I now work with adults with a learning disability in Newquay.

What impact do you think the group has had on Newquay?

Sets a positive example of how to care for the environment and its wildlife which many appreciate. We know this as both locals and tourists tell us so during our activities.

For me it has made me more environmentally aware, as I can't walk past a piece of litter without picking it up and can see other people doing it!

I think by having so many different activities to get involved in, it helps make people aware there are plenty of little steps that can be taken to make the world a better place

What would you say to someone wanting to join the group?

Do it! You'll learn lots, get to do lots of fun stuff and make new friends.