



A coble going fishing from Cullercoats Harbour

NIFCA CEO Mike Hardy writes - it was very pleasing that the North of the Tyne Fisheries Local Action Group (FLAG) application, led by NIFCA together with Northumberland County Council, proved successful and Officers from the Authority are now continuing the good work already done on this important project. Further information can be found in our Newsletter Special Edition in May and which you can find on our website or get a copy from the office.

Other important work which is currently ongoing includes the DEFRA Marine Review, which is looking at the work of all of DEFRA's arms-length bodies, including IFCA's who are partly funded by DEFRA (with the majority of our funding coming

from Northumberland County Council and North Tyneside Council).

IFCA's are also continuing to develop increased joint working with the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), which will have benefits for the management framework in which marine users have to operate.

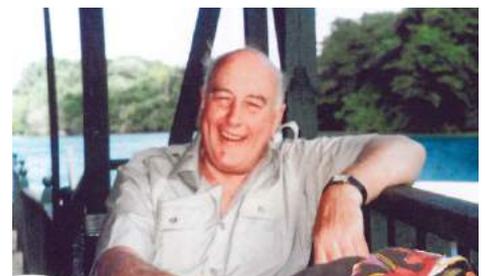
I am also very pleased to be able to confirm that our next quarterly meeting on Monday 25th July 2016 at 2pm will be held at the Bamburgh Pavilion when interested members of the public are very welcome to attend.

Finally, it is my sad duty to confirm the passing on 30th April of Sir Derek Bradbeer, who was Clerk to the NIFCA predecessor body, the Northumberland

Sea Fisheries Committee, for many years.

I will always be grateful to him for his kindness and helpfulness in handing over to me at the SFC upon his retirement.

Sir Derek led a very full life, including a successful career as a solicitor in the North East and our sympathies go to his family following their loss.



John Derek Richardson Bradbeer, 1931—2016

INCLUDED in the latest Edition of NIFCA News

NIFCA Officers join Northumberland Wildlife Trust in the Druridge Bay Beach Clean	Page 2
A day in the life of an Operational IFCO	Page 2
Happy First Birthday Amble Harbour Village	Page 3
The Marine Antiquities Scheme	Page 4
Northumberland Marine pSPA	Page 4
Upcoming Events	Page 4
Environmental IFCO Works With CEFAS on Their Survey Vessel Endeavour	Page 5

NIFCA Officers join Northumberland Wildlife Trust in the Druridge Bay Beach Clean



Officers at Beach clean



Rubbish collected from Druridge Bay



Officers and Volunteers

On Friday 4th March, NIFCO's Jon Green, Ricky Willis and Vicky Rae joined other organisations and volunteers to help Northumberland Wildlife Trust's Druridge Bay beach clean. The beach clean was part of a nationwide initiative as a special conservation event to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

Our officers met with the other 39 volunteers at 10:00 in the car park

outside the Drift café to begin litter picking and were awarded at lunch time with free hot drinks from the café (who also gave a donation to the Northumberland Wildlife Trust). After lunch our officers started removing the larger, heavier rubbish items from the entire beach with the use of the NIFCA Landrover and trailer.

In total 135 bags of rubbish, weighing approximately 455kg were collected,

in addition to 20 lobster pots cleared from the beach, battered beyond their usefulness.

A number of NIFCA tags were recovered from the lobster pots and have since been reunited with their owners.

A day in the life of an Operational IFCO

I awake at 05:00 on a crisp spring morn. The dawn chorus alerts me to the day ahead. "The fishing industry never sleeps" I say to myself, so why should I? After a freshly ground coffee, I'm good to go and I hop into my car and head for the Royal Quays. It's a prompt start on the Patrol Vessel 'St Aidan' today and I arrive at 07:30. The engineer has already started the engines and the skipper is raring to go, we slip the vessel from her moorings and head out to sea.

The radar shows a hub of activity between Cresswell and Amble so along with colleagues, we don our dry suits and ready the RIB for launch. After a quick brief we are on the water and leave the mother ship behind. We

proceed to carry out routine inspections on 6 NIFCA permitted vessels, including measuring shellfish, checking the legality of bait and the correct marking of fishing apparatus.

After we recover the RIB it's time for a hot mug of soup to warm the cockles. Then we steam back to our berth at the Royal Quays for refuelling and a scrub down of the boat. Then for me it's up to the office for essential paperwork and data collation.

My day finishes at 5pm and I go home contented in the thought that together with the rest of the IFCA team we're doing what we can to protect the fishery for present and future



Operations and Enforcement IFCO Michael Docherty

generations.

And tomorrow will bring another round of duties...

Michael Docherty

Happy First Birthday Amble Harbour Village!



On Easter Saturday, Deputy Chief Officer Jon Green and Environmental IFCO Vicky Rae joined Amble Harbour in their 1st birthday celebrations. NIFCA manned a stall displaying a diverse range of fish species that had all been caught locally by a North Shields trawler. It gave the general public the opportunity to test their knowledge of fish identification, with most people amazed at the wide variety of species found off our local coastline. Furthermore, that most of these species were edible, supporting the Seafood Centre's ethos for changing public perceptions of diversifying their mealtime fish choices.

The Marine Antiquities Scheme...

NIFCA has been very pleased to give support to the Maritime Antiquities Scheme which aims to put in place a reporting system to capture the discovery of historical and archaeological remains from the marine environment, so that a database of finds can be developed.

Whilst there are no statutory designations of archaeological sites off the

coastline of Northumberland or North Tyneside, our coastline and shallow waters are very rich in archaeological remains.

Under the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, all wreck material which is recovered or brought within UK waters must be reported to the Receiver of Wrecks. This can be of relevance to fishermen of course.

The National Marine Antiquities Scheme is designed to act as a supplementary scheme to that required by the Merchant Shipping Act and will utilise the experience of Wessex Archaeology, who implemented a pilot protocol for the fishing industry in 2011-2013 in Sussex. A new pilot is due to begin in 2016. Further details can be found on the Wessex Archaeology website at www.wessexarch.co.uk

Northumberland Marine pSPA

Northumberland IFCA responded to the Natural England consultation on a potential Special Protected Area in Northumberland Marine. Special Protected Areas or SPAs are designed to provide protection to rare or vulnerable bird species which are listed in Annex I

of the EU Birds Directive (79) and/ or conserve the habitats of regularly migratory, essential for their life cycle (breeding, overwintering or foraging grounds). Achieving co-existence of this site with fishing activity will be extremely important. This proposed site

is intended to extend the protection for breeding tern species to include their foraging grounds and maintenance behaviour of auk species on the existing Northumberland Coast, Farne Islands and Coquet Island SPA sites.

Upcoming Events...

In the lead up to summer, the Northumberland events calendar is beginning to grow. Here are a couple of the events to watch out for in the next few months:

Amble Puffin Festival:

28th May - 4th June 2016

This takes place around the Amble town square, the harbour and Amble village and will hold stalls of local food products and crafts. NIFCA will again have a stall at the festival on Monday 30th May with information about the work we do.

St Mary's Island Festival:

30th May - 31st May 2016

The St Mary's Island Festival will be held by the Island wardens over 2 days. It is open for all to attend and will give an insight into the local wildlife and the operations of the Island and lighthouse. NIFCA will be attending for its second year on Tuesday 31st May with a stall offering information about our work in the district.

NIFCA Stakeholder Workshop:

9th July 2016

The NIFCA Stakeholder Workshop will be held at the Amble Seafood Centre on Saturday 9th July. This event is open to the public and attendees can expect to see presentations on the work NIFCA do in the district and the MPAs in the area, question and answer sessions and educational stalls including a fish ID stand. Opening hours for this event will be from 10am - 4pm.

Environmental IFCO Works With CEFAS on Their Survey Vessel Endeavour



In April, Environmental IFCO Vicky Rae was very pleased to have the opportunity to spend a week aboard the CEFAS research vessel Endeavour to assist with their survey project gathering data in the Coquet to St Mary's Island Marine Conservation Zone off the Coast of Northumberland. During the period of the survey from 22nd to 28th April, surveying was conducted continuously for 24 hours a day between 2 survey teams made up of staff from CEFAS, Natural England, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and NIFCA. An underwater camera was used to map and classify seabed habitats and a day grab was deployed to extract seabed check samples to depths between 10 and 35cm.

All samples taken will be analysed for their species content and a report produced by CEFAS which NIFCA looks forward to receiving.

This survey trip provided an excellent opportunity to Vicky Rae to gain additional working experience in sea-going conditions and at the same time provide assistance to CEFAS, a very good example of team and collaborative working.



CONTACT US:

01670 797 676 | nifca@nifca.gov.uk | www.nifca.gov.uk | 8 Ennerdale Road, Blyth, NE24 4RT



Northumberland IFCA

@N_IFCA