



Environmental documentary 'Plastic Britain'

This feature length documentary has been completed, after four years filming, and its World Premiere is this evening (Sunday 8 November 2020) at the 27th SunCine Environmental Film Festival in Barcelona. During the Festival (4-12 Nov) the film entries will be viewable only in Spain. Awards will be presented once the festival concludes. The entry 'Plastic Britain' is a production by Outpost Pictures (<http://www.outpost-pictures.com/>) from the English south coast.

The two film makers Poppy Chandler and Mike Wafer came to visit us at the Dove Marine Laboratory (Newcastle University at Cullercoats) in early October 2018 to record an interview and film a fulmar necropsy thanks to the work of our beached bird group. Poppy said that our work '... is a big part of the seabird section in the film'.

The film has been nominated for the prestigious 'Golden Sun - Best Documentary' award and its trailer can be seen here: <https://youtu.be/H6Id1y0vvqI> It is hoped that the film will be shown in the UK in the future.

A Blue Recovery - event by University of Exeter

On Tuesday 10 November 2020 1-2 pm there is a free online event organised by Exeter University. This is 'A Blue Recovery' and features a panel discussion (there is a panel of seven) on how we can improve the health of our marine ecosystems. Some information from the website states:

'During this discussion we'll look at some of the ways we can achieve this. Considering issues like marine protected areas, plastic pollution and ocean acidification, sustainable fisheries, and habitat restoration. As well as focusing on conserving biodiversity, we'll also look at the impact of marine degradation on human health and communities around the world.'

You may register for a place through this link

<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/news/events/details/index.php?event=10706>

Susanne Kühn, seabird researcher with Wageningen Marine Research

Researcher Susanne Kühn began working with Dr Jan A van Franeker in the Netherlands in 2011 and has progressed well. On 30 October 2020 an official ceremony was held so that Suse may defend her findings in front of a panel of well-respected researchers from a range of countries. I am pleased to say she was successful in her defence and awarded a doctorate – and became Dr Susanne Kühn. I have met Suse on many occasions in the Netherlands and she has provided special training for me on the stomach contents analysis of the fulmar. The conferment of her PhD is extremely warranted and she is wished well as her research progresses. As Jan retires in 2021, Suse will continue his fantastic work with Wageningen Marine Research – supporting our fulmar and seabird studies in northeast England as we assist with the international fulmar project in monitoring the health of the North Sea.

To view Dr Susanne Kühn's PhD thesis ('Message in a belly - Plastic pathways in fulmars') and the PhD defence ceremony – please follow this link ... <https://www.wur.nl/en/Research-Results/Research-Institutes/marine-research/show-marine/PhD-thesis-defence-Susanne-Kuhn.htm>

In conclusion Please continue to return your survey reports. Sending thanks to everybody for your continuing involvement and best wishes as we negotiate the continuing coronavirus pandemic.

Kind regards, Dan Turner (Group coordinator). Email dan.m.turner@btinternet.com