

To: Northeast England volunteers  
Southeast England volunteers  
Southeast Scotland volunteers

Daniel M Turner  
North Shields  
Sunday 07 Nov 2010

Cc: Jan Andries van Franeker, Martin Heubeck, Eric Meek,  
Jane Delany, Keith Fairclough, and other interested parties

Dear All,

Welcome to our latest regional newsletter for the beached bird surveys (BBS) and the 'Save the North Sea' (SNS) Fulmar project.

Thank you once again for all your time and support. Here is a brief summary of contents:

**Newsletter 19**            BBS and SNS Fulmar projects – in northeast England

1. Greetings and overview	page 1
2. Northeast England, BBS summary report Nov 2009 to Aug 2010	page 2
3. Other Interesting shore finds, Nov 2009 to Aug 2010	page 5
4. Further News from the Northeast England coastline	page 8
5. Fulmar project – NEE 2009 specimens	page 10
6. Northeast England Fulmar (NEE-2009-001) dissected in Norway	page 11
7. International news and plastics	page 11
8. Fulmar workshop, Texel, March 2010	page 12
9. Some surveyors live bird sightings, Nov 2009 – Aug 2010	page 13
10. Photo section.	page 14
11. Southeast England, BBS summary report for 2009	page 18
12. Southeast Scotland, BBS report for Nov 2009 – Aug 2010	page 19

If you think anything important is missing from this newsletter, notice any errors or have ideas for future content then please get in touch.

Overall in northeast England we collected eight intact Fulmars during 2009 and have four more in storage from 2010.

Please continue to return your monthly survey forms (including 'nil returns' even when no corpses are found during a monthly survey) and if you have un-submitted reports for recent months please forward them for future inclusion in later more complete reports.

Sending good wishes to you all and hoping you will enjoy the coming winter and continue to support our projects.

Thanks again and best wishes,

Dan Turner

**Newsletter 19**  
**Northeast and southeast England and southeast Scotland**  
 Beached bird and 'Save the North Sea' Fulmar project surveys  
**Northeast England, BBS summary report Nov 2009 to Aug 2010**

<u>Area</u>	<u>Key</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Key</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Key</u>
County Cleveland	Cle	South Northumberland	SN	Tyne and Wear (South)	T&W (S)
County Durham	Du	Mid Northumberland	MN	Tyne and Wear (North)	T&W (N)
		North Northumberland	NN		

Northeast England Surveyors during this period

Chris Beneke (CB), Martin A Blick (MAB), Linda K Charlton (LKC), Ray Chilton (RC), Peter Collins (PC), Gavin Dudley (GRD), Jonathan Everett (JE), Maurice Hepple (MHe), Anita Herbert (AHe), Steve Holliday (STH), Malcolm Hutcheson (MHu), Gordon Hyslop (GH), George McVitie (GMcV), George D R Moody (GDRM), Daniel M Turner (DMT), Michael Yianni (MY).

There will be a few more records to add for this period at a later stage – all such records will be included in the full 2009 / 2010 papers when published.

Gull corpse summary, Nov 2009 to Aug 2010, northeast England beach surveys

Species	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Total
Black-headed		1	12	1	1	1	2	1	2 juv		21
Common		2	8				1	1			12
Herring	1	2	1	2	1		3	4	2	1	17
Great Black-backed	2	1	3	1	1				1		9
Lesser Black-backed											0
Kittiwake			3			1	1	6		2	13
Large gull sp.				2							2
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>74</b>

Tern corpse summary, Nov 2009 to Aug 2010, northeast England beach surveys

Species	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Total
Sandwich							3	1			4
Common								2	2		4
Arctic							3	1			4
'Commic'							1			1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>

Auk corpse summary, Nov 2009 to Aug 2010, northeast England beach surveys

Species	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Total
Guillemot	6	1	8	6	1		2	2	2	3	31
Razorbill			1				1		2		4
Puffin					1			1			2
Little Auk			1								1
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>38</b>

The January 2010 results (next page) show the impact of two hard spells of snowy and icy weather from just before Christmas 2009, with much snow and ice continuing into the first and second weeks of January. The second spell was the weekend of 30-31 January – when we had about 10 – 15 cm of snow in Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and county Durham, mostly near the coast, this lay for only a few days.

Month	Nov 2009								Dec 2009							
	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot
	NN	MN	SN	N	S				NN	MN	SN	N	S			
Kilometre	19.0	4.7	7.8	3.3	2.8	4.5	2.0	<b>44.1</b>	19.0	4.2	7.8	3.3	2.8	1.8	6.5	<b>45.4</b>
Fulmar									1							<b>1</b>
Gannet							2	<b>2</b>								
Eider	1							<b>1</b>	2							<b>2</b>
Wigeon		1						<b>1</b>								
Waders														2		<b>2</b>
Gulls	1		2					<b>3</b>							6	<b>6</b>
Auks	2	4						<b>6</b>	1							<b>1</b>
Starling															1	<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>13</b>
Complete	4	5	2	-	-	-	2	<b>13</b>	4	-	-	-	-	-	7	<b>11</b>
Oiled	0	4	0	-	-	-	0	<b>4</b>	0	-	-	-	-	-	0	<b>0</b>

Month	Jan 2010								Feb 2010							
	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot
	NN	MN	SN	N	S				NN	MN	SN	N	S			
Kilometres	19.0	3.8	7.8	3.3	0.8	4.3	8.25	<b>47.2</b>	19.0	2.1	7.8	3.3	0.8	2.5	8.5	<b>44.0</b>
Mute Swan	4							<b>4</b>	1		1					<b>2</b>
Greylag			1					<b>1</b>								
Pheasant							2	<b>2</b>								
B-n Grebe							1	<b>1</b>								
Fulmar		2	1	1			5	<b>9</b>	1							<b>1</b>
Gannet	1							<b>1</b>								
Cormorant									2							<b>2</b>
Shag	4			1			1	<b>6</b>	8		1					<b>9</b>
Little Egret							1	<b>1</b>								
Kestrel							1	<b>1</b>								
Eider Duck	2							<b>2</b>	3							<b>3</b>
Red legged Partridge														1		<b>1</b>
R-t Diver	1							<b>1</b>	2							<b>2</b>
G N Diver												1				<b>1</b>
Oyster-catcher							1	<b>1</b>								
Golden Plover			1					<b>1</b>			1					<b>1</b>
Lapwing			5					<b>5</b>								
Woodcock			3				6	<b>9</b>								
Redshank		1					3	<b>4</b>								
Turnstone			1					<b>1</b>								
Wader sp.											1					<b>1</b>
Gulls	3	2	6				17	<b>28</b>	1	1	1	1			2	<b>6</b>
Auks	8	1					2	<b>11</b>	3	3						<b>6</b>
Feral Pigeon											1					<b>1</b>
Carrion Crow	1							<b>1</b>								
Redwing							1	<b>1</b>								
Skylark			1					<b>1</b>								
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>36</b>
Complete	24	2	5	1	-	-	11	<b>43</b>	21	2	3	1	-	-	3	<b>30</b>
Oiled	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	<b>0</b>	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	<b>0</b>

Month	Mar 2010								Apr 2010							
	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot
	NN	MN	SN	N	S				NN	MN	SN	N	S			
Kilometres	14.0	3.8	7.8	3.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	<b>29.7</b>	19.0	1.2	7.8	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	<b>31.3</b>
Slav Grebe	1							<b>1</b>								
Fulmar	1							<b>1</b>								
Cormorant											1					<b>1</b>
Shag									1		1					<b>2</b>
Waterfowl sp		1						<b>1</b>								
Eider Duck	1							<b>1</b>	2							<b>2</b>
Woodcock		1						<b>1</b>								
Gulls			3					<b>3</b>		2						<b>2</b>
Auks	1		1					<b>2</b>								
Feral Pigeon										1						<b>1</b>
Carrion Crow												1				<b>1</b>
<b>Total corpse</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	-	-	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	-	-	-	<b>9</b>
Complete	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	<b>2</b>	3	1	2	1	-	-	-	<b>7</b>
Oiled	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

Month	May 2010								June 2010							
	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot
	NN	MN	S N	N	S				NN	MN	SN	N	S			
Kilometres	19.0	1.2	7.8	3.3	0.8	2.5	3.0	<b>36.6</b>	19.0	1.9	7.8	3.3	0.8	4.5	4.0	<b>41.3</b>
Fulmar															1	<b>1</b>
Gannet	1		1			1	1	<b>4</b>	5			1				<b>6</b>
Cormorant									1							<b>1</b>
Eider Duck			1					<b>1</b>								
Oystercatcher							1	<b>1</b>								
Golden Plover			1					<b>1</b>								
Gulls			1	1			5	<b>7</b>	2	3		1			6	<b>12</b>
Terns	6			1				<b>7</b>	1		3					<b>4</b>
Auks	1		1	1				<b>3</b>	1	1	1					<b>3</b>
Feral Pigeon			2					<b>2</b>			3					<b>3</b>
<b>Total corpse</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>30</b>
Complete	8	-	1	0	-	1	6	<b>16</b>	10	2	1	1	-	-	5	<b>19</b>
Oiled	0	-	0	1	-	0	0	<b>1</b>	1	0	0	0	-	-	0	<b>1</b>

Month	July 2010								Aug 2010							
	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot	Northumberland			T & W		Du	Cle	Tot
	NN	MN	SN	N	S				NN	MN	SN	N	S			
Kilometres	19.0	1.2	7.8	3.3	0.0	2.5	3.0	<b>36.8</b>	19.0	2.7	7.8	3.3	0.8	2.5	2.0	<b>38.1</b>
Gannet							1	<b>1</b>								
Cormorant	1							<b>1</b>								
Shag	1							<b>1</b>								
Honey Buzzard										1						<b>1</b>
Eider Duck	1							<b>1</b>								
Rb Merganser	1							<b>1</b>								
Great Skua							1	<b>1</b>								
Gulls		2					3	<b>5</b>				1	1		1	<b>3</b>
Terns			1				1	<b>2</b>		1						<b>1</b>
Auks		1	1				2	<b>4</b>			2				1	<b>3</b>
Feral Pigeon											1					<b>1</b>
<b>Total corpse</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	-	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>
Complete	4	1	1	-	-	-	8	<b>14</b>	-	1	2	1	0	-	0	<b>4</b>
Oiled	0	0	0	-	-	-	0	<b>0</b>	-	0	0	0	-	-	-	<b>0</b>



Other interesting shore finds (dead unless specified) during the northeast England Beached Bird Surveys: November 2009 to August 2010

Species	Date	Where found	Observer	Comments
Garfish	07.11.09	Alnmouth	Maurice Hepple	'It is the first one I have seen in Northumberland. I think it is more a southern Britain speciality in summer along with Mackerel. About 50 cm long.'
Wood Mouse (alive)	08.11.09	Blyth South Beach	STH & MHe	On the edge of the Marram grass near Meggie's Burn
Ray's Bream	10.11.09	North Blyth	Ray Chilton	Approx 45 cm long. Fresh, eyes missing, gills still bright red.
Codling	10.11.09	Cambois beach to North Blyth	Ray Chilton	Approx 27 cm long. Found in weed, middle section of beach. Poor condition. Complete, but pieces missing.
Ray's Bream	20.11.09	Seaham to Ryhope	GMcVitie	Head gone, but body, tail and fins distinctive.
Probable Salmon	20.11.09	Seaham to Ryhope	GMcVitie	Head and front part of body gone.
Animal remains	22.11.09	Easington Colliery to Hawthorn Dene	Chris Beneke	Only partial skeleton and small amount of tissue surrounding skeleton remained. Partial skeleton consisted of rib cage and hind legs to the knee joint. Approx 44 cm in length, 12 cm in width at widest point. Unable to determine what species of animal due to very poor condition of corpse.
Turnstone	03.12.09	Hartlepool North Sands	M.A. Blick	Wings and skeleton
Ray's Bream	05.12.09	Cocklawburn, near Berwick	Max Manning	A newspaper cutting (from the 'Berwick Advertiser' newspaper) about the find was provided by Malcolm Hutcheson.
Cod	17.12.09	Cambois beach to North Blyth	Ray Chilton	Not fresh, some flesh missing. In dunes near North Blyth, 50 cm.
Starfish species, rabbit skull, grey seal rear end.	19.12.09	Blyth South Beach	Maurice Hepple	Photos were provided by Maurice – included Common Starfish, Red Cushion Star and Common Sun Star, Sea Urchin sp.
Ray's Bream	20.12.09	Whitburn to Roker Pier	Peter Collins	At the Roker (southern) end of the beach.
Grey Seal	23.12.09	Lindisfarne	GDR Moody	Young seal, fairly fresh, head missing.
Oystercatcher	30.12.09	Saltburn	M.A. Blick	Dead for about one month.
Grey Seal	31.12.09	Lindisfarne	GDR Moody	Young seal, fresh, head missing. 'Unusual to find two baby seals each with head missing!'
Two Ray's Bream and one Squid	11.01.10	Blyth South Beach	Maurice Hepple	Photos provided by Maurice of one of the Ray's Bream and the Squid. Notes from Maurice: 'Fresh on shoreline 2 separate Ray's Bream (one being fed upon by a Great Black-backed Gull the other by a pair of Carrion Crows) Also a single Squid some 60 cm long.'
Ray's Bream	11.01.10	Cambois beach to North Blyth	Ray Chilton	Reasonable condition. Eyes and some flesh missing. 40 cm.
Woodcock	11.01.10	Blyth South Beach	M. Hepple	Two right wings only.
Lapwing	11.01.10	Blyth South Beach	M. Hepple	One complete specimen (recently dead) and one right wing only.
Turnstone	11.01.10	Blyth South Beach	Maurice Hepple	Both wings, lower body and legs. A couple of days dead.
Skylark	11.01.10	Blyth South Beach	Maurice Hepple	Right wing only.

Sunfish	Jan 2010	Seaham beach	Per. Peter Collins	Photo in the 'Sunderland Echo' of a sunfish at Seaham beach recently (15 Jan).
Codling	14.01.10	North Blyth	R Chilton	Partly eaten, not fresh. 30 cm.
Ray's Bream	14.01.10	North Blyth	R Chilton	Very fresh, one eye missing, still some colour on fins. 40 cm.
Blue Velvet Swimming Crab	17.01.10	Easington Colliery to Hawthorn Dene	Chris Beneke	A fresh specimen, particularly large (66 mm carapace length). Photos taken by Chris, identified by Dr Jane Delany.
Woodcock	18.01.10	Seaburn	P. Collins	Remains.
Ray's Bream x2	18.01.10	Blyth South Beach	M. Hepple	Two fresh specimens.
Ray's Bream x 8	19.01.10	Roker beach	P. Collins	Four fresh specimens washed up at Roker tonight. At least four older specimens at Sandhaven (South Shields).
Ray's Bream x 2	19.01.10	Sandhaven, South Shields	P. Collins	Two specimens.
Eider	19.01.10	Whitburn	P. Collins	Dead specimen.
Ray's Bream	23.01.10	Long Sands, Tynemouth	DMT / LKC	Slightly scavenged. Photographed.
Common Cuttlefish bone	23.01.10	Long Sands, Tynemouth	DMT / LKC	One small specimen collected.
Seal sp.	Approx 24.01.10	Seaton Sluice	Passer by	Headless on beach. Reported to DMT on 07.02.10.
Porpoise	24.01.10	Druridge Bay	P. Collins	Fresh specimen at southern shore end of Hadston Country Park.
Ray's Bream	24.01.10	Blyth South beach	DMT / LKC	Tip of nose to tip of tail: 55cm.
Fulmar	24.01.10	Blyth South beach	DMT / LKC	Remains. From wing and leg measurements it was a probable male.
Ray's Bream	24.01.10	Cheswick beach	Malcolm Hu.	Dead around five days.
Sperm Whale	25.01.10	Beadnell Bay, North Northumberland	Reported in the local news	Beached and died on the shore. More complete details will be in Newsletter 19.
Ray's Bream	25.01.10	Whitley Bay	DMT	51.5 cm from tip of mouth to tail tip.
Ray's Bream	27.01.10	North Blyth	Ray Chilton	Fresh, some flesh missing on back. 40 cm.
Ray's Bream	27.01.10	North Blyth	Ray Chilton	Still alive in surf. 40 cm.
Spider Crab	27.01.10	North Blyth	Ray Chilton	Quite fresh, complete. Shell 10 cm, nippers 45 cm when spread.
Young Grey seals	Jan 2010	Lindisfarne	GDR Moody	Four to five young Grey seals found headless on shore.
John Dory	Jan 2010	Lindisfarne	GDR Moody	Five found in a period of a few days during mid month.
Seal sp.	01.02.10	Hartlepool North Sands	M.A. Blick	About one to two years old. Headless.
Shag	03.02.10	Cheswick Black Rocks, NU037477,	Malcolm Hutchison	BTO: 1444547. Dead 10+ days. Green ring 'SIA' on right leg. MHu informed the BTO. Ringed as juvenile, Isle of May, 16 July 2009, CEH.
Shag	03.02.10	Lindisfarne	GDR Moody	BTO: 1444209, Blue 'NIU'. Ringed as juvenile, Isle of May, 17 June 2009, CEH.
Mute Swan	07.02.10	Blyth South Beach	DMT / LKC	Very thin, headless adult. Ringed BTO ZZ4465, ring collected, photos and measurements taken. Ringed: 04-Aug-2005, Backworth, Tyne and Wear, nestling from a brood of seven, ringed by Coleman & Coleman.
Shag	08.02.10	Lindisfarne	GDR Moody	BTO: 1407129, Red 'SZD'. Ringed as juvenile, Farne Islands, 21 June 2009.

Grey Seal	08.02.10	Lindisfarne	GDR Moody	Young seal entangled in fishing net. George freed the seal and photographed it when caught in the net.
Shag	09.02.10	Whitburn	Peter Collins	Red 'PTA' ring. The specimen was in a bit of a poor state and the leg with the metal ring was missing (possibly naturally?) when found on the shore. Ringed as chick, Inchmickery in the Firth of Forth, 10 June 2009.
Mute Swan	12.02.10	Sandstell Point, Spittal.	Malcolm Hutcheson	Immature. Dead 20+ days. No oil or rings. Grid Ref: NU005523
Feral Pigeon	12.02.10	Sandstell Point, Spittal.	Malcolm Hutcheson	Dead 15+ days. Headless (Peregrine kill?). No oil or rings.
Rabbit	14.02.10	Druridge Bay	MS / LKC / DMT	Measurements and photos taken.
Shag	March 2010	Black Law, Holy Island, N/land	GDR Moody	BTO metal ring 1398837. Ringed Isle of May, nestling, 03 July 2006, brood size 2.
Lumpsuckers	23.03.10	Whitley Bay beach	DMT	Three found: 33cm; 28 cm with red belly; remains.
Hare / rabbit	27.03.10	Druridge Bay	DMT / LKC	Measurements and photos taken.
Several Lumpsuckers	15.04.10	Whitburn Steel	Peter Collins	Also loads of plastic litter washed up.
Lumpsuckers	23.04.10	Whitley Bay beach	DMT	Three found: c30 cm; 25 cm and 31 cm.
Brown Rat	25.04.10	Druridge Bay	DMT	Tail 18 cm, body 25 cm. Photos.
Lumpsucker	25.04.10	Druridge Bay	DMT	Head only
Lumpsucker	27.04.10	North Blyth	Ray Chilton	30 cm, in pool at Alcan.
Sandwich Tern	18.05.10	Holy Island	GDR Moody	Ringed adult. Ring given to Natural England.
Otter	20.05.10	Marsden, Jack Rock	Peter Collins	Otter swimming off Jack Rock.
Razorbill	28.05.10	Jack Rock, Marsden	Peter Collins	Had hold of a Razorbill, which eventually got away. Hunted for some time catching a largish fish. Made its way back to Jack Rock.
Rabbit	30.05.10	Druridge Bay	DMT / LKC	Remains of two.
Gannet	31.05.10	Cheswick Black Rocks, North Northumberland	Malcolm Hutcheson	Adult, dead 14 days. 'This bird had suffered a lingering death as its lower mandible had pierced a five feet (1.5 m) length of knotted one inch nylon rope. The force of contact made the bill distorted and it could neither free itself nor obviously feed. Horrible.'
Arctic Tern	May '10	Holy Island	GDR Moody	Two birds (25 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> ) killed by a Sparrowhawk.
Kittiwake	20.06.10	Whitley Bay	DMT / LKC	Adult with BTO ring: ER71242 <b>Reported to BTO on 19.07.10</b>
Kittiwake	22.07.10	Roker beach	Peter Collins	Fresh dead bird – collected and passed frozen to DMT.
Honey Buzzard	06.08.10	Embleton Bay, N/land	DMT	Small male. Complete apart from missing tail and legs. Originally found 24 July. Collected.
Lions Mane Jellyfish	18.08.10	Blyth South Beach	Maurice Happle	On a 200 metre stretch there were 66 of these stranded jellyfish.
Eel species.	22.08.10	Whitley Bay beach	L K Charlton	Photos taken. Probably Conger Eel – photos viewed by and comments received from Dr Jane Delany (Newcastle University).



Specific / scientific names of species mentioned in the previous table:

Congel Eel	<i>Conger conger</i>	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>
Salmon	<i>Salmo salar</i>	Rabbit	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>
Garfish	<i>Belone belone</i>	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus capensis</i>
John Dory	<i>Zeus faber</i>	Wood Mouse	<i>Sylvaemus sylvaticus</i>
Ray's Bream	<i>Brama brama</i>	Brown Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>
Lumpsucker	<i>Cyclopterus lumpus</i>	Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>
Codling	<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>
Sun-fish	<i>Mola mola</i>	Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>
Harbour Porpoise	<i>Phocaena phocaena</i>	Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>
Common European Squid	<i>Loligo vulgaris</i>	Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>
Lion's Mane Jellyfish	<i>Cyanea capillata</i>	Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>
Common Spider Crab	<i>Maja squinado</i>	Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>
Blue Velvet Swimming Crab	<i>Necora puber</i>	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
Red Cushion Star	<i>Porania pulvillus</i>	Woodcock	<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>
Common Sun Star	<i>Crossaster papposus</i>	Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Common Starfish	<i>Asterias rubens</i>	Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>
Sea Urchin sp.	<i>Echinoidea</i>	Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>
Cuttlebone	<i>Sepia officinalis</i>	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>
		Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>

### **Further News from the Northeast England coastline**

#### **Persecuted Kittiwakes at Marsden Bay**

Two men shot and killed nine kittiwakes at Marsden Nature Reserve one night in May 2009 as the birds nested on the cliffs ... they both went to prison for six weeks. For more detail see ...

<http://www.shieldsgazette.com/news/Yobs-slaughtered-rare-birds.5865992.jp>

#### **Eiders**

We have received two suggestions from Dr John Coulson as follows ...

1. We should record the sex of dead eiders. 'There is a large peak of female ringing recoveries in late May-July, but not of males. Males presumably die at other times so data would be useful as the specific time is not well known.'
2. If oiling is suspected on female eiders, Dr Coulson suggests the plumage is wiped with a piece of clean paper to check for oil stains. Wet plumage could be mistaken for oiling.

#### **Oiled birds on our Northeast England coastline, Nov 2009 – Aug 2010**

Nov 7th, Alnmouth, oiled Guillemot, 'the bird was fresh with patches of oil on vent and flank probably enough to have caused its demise', Maurice Hepple. Further notes from Maurice: 'I presume the reason we are not finding the numbers of dead birds, especially auks, we used to years ago is because of the cessation of oil spillages and dumping from ships these days - this is the first oiled bird I have seen for quite some time'.

Nov 9th, Druridge Bay, three oiled dead Guillemots on the beach and others on the sea close by also thought to be oiled (per Peter Collins).

May 16th, Whitley Bay beach, Black-headed Gull, age unknown: a few small dark specks of probable oil on primary coverts (Daniel Turner).

June 3rd, Cheswick Shiel, north Northumberland, Gannet adult with slight oiling around head (Malcolm Hutcheson).

### **New surveyor**

Welcome to Anita Herbert from Ellington, Northumberland, who started surveying with us in December 2009. See photo 4 later.

### **Starfish, Cushion Star, Sun Star**

See later photos 13 & 14 of part of Maurice Hepple's find on Blyth South beach from 19 December, including Common Starfish, Red Cushion Star and Common Sun Star. Searches on the internet by Maurice unearthed these sightings, which were thought unusual by the finders ...

1. a mass stranding of Common Starfish on Holkam Beach Norfolk on 9 December 2009 (see later Newsletter section of data from Southeast England / Norfolk).
2. two dead Sun Stars found on Winthorpe Beach (Lincs) on 5 December.

### **Sunfish at Seaham beach, Durham**

Northeast surveyor Peter Collins sent information about a Sunfish at Seaham beach on 15 January 2010. For more detail refer to the Sunderland Echo website:

<http://www.sunderlandecho.com/news/Family39s-fishy-find-on-beach.5986018.jp>

### **Sperm Whale, Beadnell Bay, near Seahouses, Northumberland**

Reports were present on the BBC, Tyneside, news website as follows ...

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/tyne/8478616.stm>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/tyne/8486932.stm>

In summary: The whale was found on 25 January, 2010. It was ten metres in length and thought to have weighed about 20 tonnes. Alive for a time, it could not be saved as the tide was receding. It was thought to have suffered from dehydration after losing its way and was too heavy to lift back into the sea. They can grow up to 18 metres and weigh up to 50 tonnes. This is the deepest diving mammal and the largest toothed of all whales. A specialist vet came to try to establish why the whale became stranded and died. Two men were found trying to remove its ivory teeth, they were turned away - the whale is protected under the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species regulations. If people remove and trade teeth this is an Offence. The body was to be cut up and disposed of for public health reasons. The vet came from London to perform a necropsy on the whale.

### **The Big Sea survey (organised by Dr Jane Delany, Newcastle University)**

A three year project started in March 2010 to collate information on our coasts.

Staff at the Dove Marine Laboratory, Newcastle University will be providing training sessions for volunteers to learn how to identify and record species distributions on the coast.

How much time volunteers want to devote to the field surveys will then be up to the individual.

Dr Delany hopes volunteers will "adopt" stretches of coastline near them and survey particular species. All of the Northumberland and Durham coasts will be included. Support in terms of field check visits, materials and equipment will be provided for any adult wishing to participate. The information will be used to provide a database of species records for conservationists and coastal managers to use to protect our valuable marine biodiversity. It could provide crucial baseline data on changes related for example to climate change or pollution. Volunteers will also have a say in how the information is made accessible to the wider community through interpretative or "heritage access" materials. Active recruitment began on 1st March. The next training sessions will be held at the Dove Marine Lab, Cullercoats, in January 2011. To register your interest and book a place... please contact Dr Heather Sugden, project officer, on 0191 222 3059 or email: [bigseasurvey@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:bigseasurvey@ncl.ac.uk)

### **Foam on the shore**

During the survey by Chris Beneke on 20 Feb 2010 (Durham coastline from Easington Colliery to Hawthorn Dene) he recorded foam on the shore in two places (see photo 12). The most likely causes are algal bloom / remains of microscopic organisms.

Following are some interesting internet links with associated findings:

A. Algae Blooms:

<http://www.science-house.org/nesdis/algae/background.html>

B. Algal Blooms, harmful:

<http://www.encyclopedia.com/doc/1G2-3409400015.html>

C. Science Focus: The Bering Sea:

[http://disc.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/oceancolor/additional/science-focus/ocean-color/bering\\_sea.shtml](http://disc.sci.gsfc.nasa.gov/oceancolor/additional/science-focus/ocean-color/bering_sea.shtml)

### **Chinese lanterns and their littering consequences**

These lanterns cause general litter problems. Their make-up includes paper rather than plastic and polythene. Pat Taylor saw an article stating Chinese lanterns are made with fine wire which can get chopped up and harm farm animals (and birds).

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-11265560>

The web link below says this company does not use wire, but use biodegradable materials:

[http://www.chineselanterncompany.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=1\\_5&products\\_id=2](http://www.chineselanterncompany.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=1_5&products_id=2)

There is also the nuisance of false alarms at the coast - where the lanterns may be confused with maritime flares ... for example ...

[http://www.rnli.org.uk/who\\_we\\_are/press\\_centre/news\\_releases/news\\_release\\_detail?articleid=604730](http://www.rnli.org.uk/who_we_are/press_centre/news_releases/news_release_detail?articleid=604730)

This website says their paper lantern covers are biodegradable:

[http://www.chineselanterncompany.com/index.php?main\\_page=index&cPath=1](http://www.chineselanterncompany.com/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=1)

### **Fulmar project – NEE 2009 specimens (Notes from Dan Turner)**

Dissections at the Dove Marine Lab of eight NE England Fulmars (collected during 2009) were performed on 15 and 16 February 2010. I performed the dissections assisted by Maggie Sheddan (Photo 5) and Eileen McConnell on Monday 15th and Linda Charlton on 16th (Photo 1). Thanks were extended to the Dove Marine Lab for allowing use of the premises – John Knowles (lab technician and boatman) carefully prepared two tables for us to work at. During the dissections we received visits from some of the laboratory staff. We carried out the autopsies and extracted all eight stomachs, although two were damaged due to scavenging and maggots prior to beach collection. I took the stomachs and a liver to Holland for further examination by Dr Franeker.

From internal examinations of these eight Fulmars, my findings included:

One adult / sub-adult male, collected from beach in June;

One immature male, collected December;

Two adult females in breeding condition, collected in June and July;

One juvenile female, collected in September;

For the other three birds the sex was uncertain from internal examination (due to scavenging and maggots). These specimens had been collected in June and July, including one adult with an incubation patch (additional measurements that were made may assist in sexing these birds later).

Causes of death included starvation, cement cloaca and collision.

### **Northeast England Fulmar dissected at OSPAR ministers' conference in Norway**

In Newsletter 18 (November 2009), photo 5 shows **Ray Chilton** with **Fulmar NEE-2009-001** (collected from North Blyth beach on 5 June 2009). On 24 Sep 2010, Dr Jan van Franeker was in Bergen, Norway on the OSPAR Ministers conference that was also dealing with marine litter. Jan performed a dissection of the stomach from NEE-2009-001. The event can be watched on the IMARES plastic dossier site and that of KIMO International:

<http://www.imares.wur.nl/UK/research/dossiers/plastic/>

Jan goes on to report .... 'The ministers, especially those of Norway and the UK were seriously impressed, and it will certainly improve their attitude towards marine litter problems. ... .. that sample, which, in addition to roughly 8g of paraffin like substance, proved to contain around 2.5g of plastic fragments. It is a nice example to show the great value of the work that you and the NEE volunteers are doing!' See photo 10 later in this newsletter.

### **International news and plastics**

Dr Jan Andries van Franeker reports ...

1. An English version of the TV documentary special 'Addicted to Plastic', including footage of our Fulmar work, is freely available on the internet at:

<http://www.documentary-log.com/d402-addicted-to-plastic/>

2. Please see the links below for some information (two short clips - of about six and three minutes each) on plastics in the oceans from the David Letterman Show. If a topic reaches the David Letterman show in the USA, it is "hot". Charles Moore of the Algalita Foundation appeared on the show.

To watch it via YouTube, see this links:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrhXUB4UJAE>

3. Link to video (by Terry Jones, taken on 24 April 2010) of a Herring Gull eating a plastic bag in Devon, England:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gF0isy3a1ew>

Jan added the comment ... 'Let's hope the gull has been able to regurgitate the meal as a big bolus later that day!'

4. A colleague forwarded (02 Sept 2010) links to an impressive nature mockumentary, that you may view by clicking on either of the 2 links below:

<http://t.co/bdTS82j>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GLgh9h2ePYw>

5. Jan provides a reminder to also visit the IMARES and Dutch Seabird Group websites (click on downloads to see marine litter publications and pictures):

<http://www.imares.wur.nl/UK/research/dossiers/plastic/>

<http://www.zeevogelgroep.nl>

6. For some scientific papers on plastic pollution – check this out ...

<http://rstb.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/364/1526.toc>

Plastic litter in the Atlantic Ocean ...

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/8534052.stm>

**Fulmar workshop, Texel, March 2010** (Notes from Dan Turner and photos 16 - 18)

The international workshop was organised by Dr Jan Andries van Franeker of IMARES (Institute for Marine Resources and Ecosystem Studies) and the University of Wageningen.

The attendees were as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Company / Institute / Involvement</b>
Marina Codina Garcia	Spain	University of Barcelona, seabird research
Johannis Danielsen	Faeroes	PhD student (marine environment and Fulmars)
Heather Eyland	Spain and England	Univ. of Barcelona and Univ. of Canterbury
Keith Fairclough	Orkney, Scotland	Fairclough Ecological Orkney, previously RSPB.
Jane Gollan	Brittany, France	Amateur ornithologist and beach/seabird volunteer
Martin Heubeck	Shetland, Scotland	University of Aberdeen, SOTEAG.
Dirk and Coby Kuiken	The Netherlands	Beach surveyors Dirk and his sister.
Javier Moreno	Spain	University of Barcelona, seabird research
Jennifer Provencher	Canada	University of Victoria, seabird research
Edward Soldaat	The Netherlands	Amateur ornithologist and seabird researcher
Daniel Turner	England (Tyneside)	Northeast England beached bird co-ordinator (amateur)
Rob van Bemmelen	The Netherlands	IMARES, member of Dutch birds rarities panel
Pieter van Franeker	The Netherlands	Amateur ornithologist (Jan's brother)
Hilbran Verstraete	Belgium (Brussels)	Institute for Nature Conservation ( <a href="http://www.inbo.be">www.inbo.be</a> )

The main workshop was held from 10 to 15 March, on the Dutch island of Texel at the laboratories of IMARES. The first laboratory day was spent with Cory's Shearwaters, which we studied carefully following Jan's demonstration of how to record their data. The day ended with a pack of samples for the three members from the University of Barcelona to return home with for further analysis. The second lab day included Fulmar analysis of specimens from Belgium, Shetland and Northeast England. We spent the third full day in the meeting room at IMARES with presentations from the various workshop members and international updates from Dr Franeker. The fourth complete day was taken birding around Texel. Most parties left on 15th, while Heather, Marina, Jennifer and Javier remained a little longer to learn more about stomach analysis. The food, accommodation, company and arrangements were excellent as always.

I returned from the workshop with two frozen specimens from Edward Soldaat (with appropriate paperwork to show airport staff) – a Great Shearwater and a Cory's Shearwater for the collections of the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh. Edward remarks ...

'The Cory's was collected as a recently fledged juvenile in Nov 1999 at Faial, Azores and donated by Joel Bried of the University of Horta to Jan's Shearwater Litter Ingestion Pilot Study. The Great (a female) is from a large series of about 115 birds that were collected as long line by-catch west of Ireland in Oct 2006. I received eleven birds from that batch, one for Bernard Zonfrillo and ten for my skeleton collection from Roberto Bao, Univ. of La Coruña, Spain. The other birds were dispersed over several museums. All were dissected in Spain. I donated one of my birds to a museum in Germany and kept one for a skin for my own collection. Together with two earlier skeletons from North America my collection now houses ten Great Shearwater skeletons and one skin.'

Some surveyors' live bird sightings, November 2009 – August 2010

Nov 23, (DMT), Seaton Sluice, six Stonechats seen on return journey though the sand dune path.

Dec 06, (STH & MHe), Blyth, 230 Golden Plovers flying overhead

Dec 29, (JE), Marsden, 40 (pairs of) Fulmars on cliffs, etc

Dec 20, (DMT & LKC), Druridge Bay, several Song Thrushes were present on the upper shore at the edge of the sand dunes, they were searching for snails.

Jan 31, (AHe, DMT, LKC), Druridge Bay (south), two Grey Plover, one Reed Bunting, a probable Peregrine 'stooped' on a flock of waders as we watched.

Feb 25, (DMT), Whitley Bay beach, adult Mediterranean Gull, etc

Feb 27, (JE), Marsden, 50 (pairs of) Fulmars on cliffs, etc

March 01, (AHe, et. al.), Druridge Bay (south), two Glaucous Gulls.

March 27, (DMT & LKC), Druridge Bay Country Park, one Chiffchaff singing.

April 25, (DMT), Druridge Bay, two Blackcaps (one singing), seven Swallows, 26+ Sand Martins, etc.

May 2010, (GDRM) Three tern corpses (Sandwich / Arctic) handed to Natural England for analysis ... they died from lack of food. Lindisfarne.

May 08, (DMT & LKC), three Purple Sandpipers bathing on sand beside the west pier, Blyth.

May 10, (STH & Phil Allott), Blyth south beach, eight Sanderling on tideline.

May 15, (RC), North Blyth (estuary), eight Shelduck

June 09, (DMT), Embleton Bay, eight Little Tern adults

June 21, (DMT), Tynemouth Long Sands, two Reed Buntings (male and female) on banksides.

June 27, (DMT & LKC), Druridge Bay, one Roseate Tern adult, 22+ Sand Martins, etc.

July 17, (DMT & LKC), second-summer Iceland Gull came onto Blyth beach from the harbour

July 29, (DMT & LKC), Whitley Bay beach, adult Mediterranean Gull, etc

Aug 28, (DMT), Whitley Bay beach, one Wheatear, one Bar-tailed Godwit, etc

Aug 29, (DMT), Druridge Bay, one Wheatear

**Photo section**



1. Dove Marine Lab, Cullercoats, Linda Charlton assists with Fulmar necropsies, 16 Feb 2010. Photo by D.M.Turner.



4. Anita Herbert (new surveyor) with Lottie, Druridge Bay, 31 Jan 2010. Photo by D.M.Turner.



2. George Moody, Lindisfarne surveyor, with one of his 'toys', 15 Jan 2010. Photo by D.M.Turner.



3. Michael Yianni with Black-headed Gull remains, Druridge Bay, 31 July 2010. Photo by D.M.Turner.



5. Maggie Sheddan holds a Golden Plover wing, Seaton Sluice beach, 14 Feb 2010. Maggie works and volunteers at the Scottish Seabird Centre, North Berwick. Photo by D.M.Turner.



6. Honey Buzzard, Embleton Bay, Northumberland. Finder Dan Turner, 6 Aug 2010, collected and frozen. Photo by D.M.Turner.



7. Black-headed Gull adult. Finders George McVitie and Gordon Hyslop, Durham coast, 23 March 2010. Specimen collected and frozen for later preservation. Photo by G. McVitie.



8. Lapwing, victim of the harsh winter, Seaton Sluice, 18 Jan 2010. Finders Dan Turner and Linda Charlton. Photo by D.M.Turner.



9. Martin Blick with corpses of Fulmar, Kestrel and Bittern, County Cleveland, 01 Feb 2010. A group freezer is behind Martin. The Kestrel and Bittern are to be preserved. Photo by D.M.Turner.



10. Plastic stomach contents of Fulmar NEE-2009-001, found by Ray Chilton, June 2009. Dissected by Jan in Norway at international conference. Photo by J.A.van Franeker.





11. Blue Velvet Swimming Crab, (*Necora puber*), found by Chris Beneke, 17 Jan 2010, carapace 65 mm long, a large male specimen. Photo by C. Beneke.



13. Red Cushion Star (*Porania pulvillus*), Blyth South beach, found by Maurice Hepple, 19 Dec 2009. Photo by M. Hepple.



12. Natural foam on Durham shore, 20 Feb 2010. Photo by Chris Beneke.



14. Common Sun Star (*Crossaster papposus*), Blyth South beach, 19 Dec 2009. Photo by M. Hepple.



15. Garfish (*Belone belone*), about 50 cm in length, 07 Nov 2009, found by Maurice Hepple, Alnmouth, Northumberland. Photo by M. Hepple.



16. Fulmar EcoQO (Ecological Quality Objective) Workshop, Texel. Photo: Pieter van Franeker.



17. Martin Heubeck and Javier Moreno study a Fulmar during the workshop, 12 March 2010. Photo by D.M.Turner.



18. Dr Jan A. van Franeker removes egg from Fulmar SHE-2009-007. IMARES laboratory, Texel, 12 March 2010. Photo by D.M.Turner.

## Southeast England – Beached Bird Survey summary report 2009

Norfolk, Holkham Bay ... surveyed by Steve Bexton (Veterinary Officer, RSPCA East Winch Wildlife Centre) and Alison Charles.

Table 1. Summary data: dead birds found during the Holkham Bay surveys.

Month 2008	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Kilometres surveyed	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	<b>31.9</b>
Fulmar												<b>0</b>
Brent Goose	3											<b>3</b>
Wigeon	1											<b>1</b>
Oystercatcher	1	2										<b>3</b>
Redshank	1											<b>1</b>
Black-headed Gull	2		1	1			2	1				<b>7</b>
Common Gull											1	<b>1</b>
Guillemot		1	1					2				<b>4</b>
Blackbird			1									<b>1</b>
<b>Total birds</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>21</b>
Number of oiled birds	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	-	-	0	0

Table 2. Other interesting shore finds (dead unless specified)

Species	Date	Who	Comments
Rabbit	22.02.09	SB	Hind legs and body skin.
Rabbit	30.03.09	SB	Dry mummified whole carcass
Muntjac	29.05.09	SB	Very fresh adult female.
Grey Seal	29.05.09	SB	Juvenile female. Rear half only, fairly fresh.
Rabbit	29.05.09	SB	Adult. Intact but dried out
Seal	09.11.09	AC	Probably an adult Common Seal, but too decayed to be certain.
Common Starfish	30.12.09	SB	Still lots left from mass stranding earlier in December
Common Sun Stars	30.12.09	SB	<i>Crossaster papposus</i> . Lower numbers than starfish

Further notes from Steve Bexton:

1. Over the last months of 2009 I have noticed the tide-line is becoming more difficult to locate, often being lost in the dunes. This might account for some of the 'nil returns' for some months. At other times it is very obvious.
2. There was an increase during 2009 in the number of rabbit carcasses found and the tide-line often contained lots of their droppings. I wonder if the populating colonising the sand dunes has recently increased, or the tides are getting further up the dunes and washing things down more often.
3. The adult female Muntjac was found in the surf. Muntjac are quite common in Norfolk and I suspect this one had been chased into the sea by dog(s) and subsequently drowned. It was in good body condition and had no visible injuries.
4. December saw a mass stranding of thousands of common starfish which was widely reported in the press. It was believed to be the result of heavy storms causing disturbance to the seabed. By the end of the month there were still unusually high numbers of common starfish and also some common sun stars on parts of the beach, but nothing like the dramatic scenes earlier in the month. Links:

[www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1234177/Thousands-starfish-carpet-Norfolk-beach-storm-throws-sea.html](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1234177/Thousands-starfish-carpet-Norfolk-beach-storm-throws-sea.html)

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/wildlife/6762593/Shakespeare-in-Love-beach-becomes-starfish-graveyard.html>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/dec/10/secret-life-starfish-norfolk>

### **Southeast Scotland – survey summary**

Surveyors: Linda K Charlton, Maggie Sheddan, Daniel M Turner

Summary table of beach-washed corpses found during the surveys Nov 2009 to Aug 2010.

<b>Month, '09 – '10</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Total</b>
Kilometres	1.3	0.8	0.8	4.7	5.1	<b>12.7</b>
Fulmar					1	<b>1</b>
Gannet				1	3	<b>4</b>
Cormorant					1	<b>1</b>
Black-headed Gull				1	1	<b>2</b>
Common Gull				2		<b>2</b>
Herring Gull		1			4	<b>5</b>
Lesser BB Gull					1	<b>1</b>
Kittiwake					1	<b>1</b>
Feral Pigeon					1	<b>1</b>
<b>Total birds</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>

The Black-headed Gull found on 12 Aug (Seton Sands) 2010 was collected and frozen.

### **Other news**

Linda Charlton and Dan Turner have collected plastic granules washed up on the Tynemouth and Seaton Sluice beaches in Northeast England. These samples have been sent to Dr Franeker who has forwarded them to Professor Hideshige Takada (Laboratory of Organic Geochemistry (LOG), Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology) in Japan so the levels of attached organic pollutants may be determined – in order to chart worldwide differences. Linda and Dan have also collected plastic granules from five other beaches in Southeast Scotland – which have also gone to Japan for analysis. In October 2010 Peter Collins collected some granule samples from the Whitburn to Roker beach on the south Tyne and Wear coast. Peter's samples will also be sent to Japan, he has recorded very much plastic litter on this beach during October 2010, as if a nearby business may be processing and recycling plastics carelessly. Local Authority investigations are underway involving various agencies.

### **Final Notes**

1. Please remember to collect any ringed auks (Guillemot, Razorbill and Puffin), any other ringed seabirds, all Little Auks (whatever the condition and state of completeness) and please continue to collect all Fulmars with complete abdomens for the litter monitoring project. Also collect any interesting specimens that are in good condition – for the Hancock Museum or our own collection. Also please collect all complete Kittiwakes, Puffins and waders and let Dan Turner know when you have specimens to be taken away.
2. Many thanks to Dr Jan van Franeker for checking the draft of this newsletter and converting the final version into Adobe .pdf format – so that it may be reduced in size for email purposes.

Beached bird and 'Save the North Sea' Fulmar project *Newsletter* (for northeast and southeast England and southeast Scotland) **Newsletter 19** completed: November 07, 2010.  
Compiled by D.M.Turner (northeast England co-ordinator).