



What did you do at the Lighthouse ?

I did a six-month internship studying harbour seal pupping timings and lactation durations using photo-ID and mark-recapture methods. We focussed on a haul-out site at Loch Fleet. Many happy days were spent watching the seals on the sandbank at low tide and photographing them.

What are you doing now ?

I work as a Lecturer at Anglia Ruskin University. My research focuses on wildlife change under changing climate, use of Indigenous knowledge and closer home in the UK, rewilding. I mostly work in semi-wilderness montane and arctic environments, which I love. At the moment, a major project is working to understand the drivers and impacts of beavers moving northward into the Arctic in northern Canada. I teach wildlife conservation, population ecology, wildlife management and impacts of climate change to undergraduates and masters students.

What was your best experience at the Lighthouse ?

The community atmosphere, the amazing pizza place (I hope it is still there) and great bunch of people. Also, hanging out by the shore reading a book as the sun was starting to go down while some bottlenose dolphins swam by. The best advice I have been given is that academia is a marathon and not a sprint, and although I find this hard to remember sometimes I think it is very true. It's also important to follow what you are passionate about.



Dr Helen Wheeler

Internship • 2006

