

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR 2003

The Society has contributed to the Marine Nature Reserve Advisory Group in the establishment of the "no-take-zone" off the eastern side of the island. The zone is proving a success with an increase of species' numbers and by a reduction in damage to the sea bed area generally. Fishermen respect the zone although some anglers and divers appear unaware of its existence.

Your committee have increased the frequency of meetings and commenced the refurbishment of our island library. For some time we have been acquiring and collating material to improve the church display to the standard and similar style as the new displays in the Shore Building by the jetty. It is hoped all is now ready for work to begin. Members have acted as guides for the North Devon Walking Festival excursions to the island and on some of the regular Oldenburg sailings. Our Honorary Secretary, Chris Webster, stepped down from office at the Annual General Meeting. On behalf of the Society I would register our appreciation and thanks for his ten years service.

ROGER CHAPPLE