**Mhairi McCann – winner of the 2017 David Robertson Youth Award for recording marine and coastal wildlife**

Mhairi McCann (18 years old) is a member of ReRoute – one of 14 enthusiastic 14-25 year olds from across Scotland who work in partnership with Young Scot and Scottish Natural Heritage to engage young people in nature.

When Mhairi was 17 years old, she completed a project entitled “The Impact of Novel Agrochemicals on the Activity of the Marine Intertidal Amphipod Echinogammarus marinus” at the University of the West of Scotland, funded by the Nuffield foundation. Her project investigated the impact that two novel so-called ‘environmentally friendly’ pesticides had on the horizontal swimming behaviour of Echinogammarus marinus, a type of amphipod, which is a small crustacean that lives on rocky shores. Often, when pesticides are tested for approval for use in the EU, only mortality is assessed, however, assessing the behavioural impacts is extremely important, as these can be indicative of physiological responses.