**Paula Lightfoot – winner of the 2017 David Robertson Adult Award for recording marine and coastal wildlife**

Paula Lightfoot is a marine scientist and is currently completing her PhD. She is one of the regional coordinators for Seasearch – the volunteer sports diver initiative that is mapping our sea bed and near shore areas. Paula has trained several cohorts of divers and ensures that surveys are booked and have been delivered annually, since 2012. Her dedication and professionalism have provided data and images that stunned those involved in the management of the Durham coast. The data being collected is building a clear picture of the communities that are thriving and are re-colonising the former despoiled area on the underlying magnesian limestone. Paula ensures that all the records are verified and shared previously via the NBN Gateway and now via the NBN Atlas.