Track 49

Today we're pleased to have on the show Alice Bussell from the Dolphin Conservation Trust. Tell us about the Trust, Alice.

Well, obviously its purpose is to (1).....in seas all around the world. It tries to raise people's awareness of the problems these marine creatures are suffering because of (2).....and other threats. It started ten years ago and it's one of the fastest growing animal charities in the country - although it's still fairly small compared with the big players in (3)..... We are particularly proud of the work we do in (4).....- last year we visited a huge number of schools in different parts of the country, going round to talk to children and young people aged from (5)..... In fact, about (6).....of our members are children. The charity uses its money to support campaigns - for example, for changes in (7).....and so forth.

It hopes soon to be able to employ its first (8).....biologist - with dolphin expertise - to monitor populations. Of course, many people give their services on a voluntary basis and we now have (9).....working in observation, (10)..... and other things.

I should also tell you about the award we won from the Charity Commission last year - for our work in education. Although it's not meant an enormous amount of money for us, it has made our activities even more widely publicised and understood.

In the long term it may not bring in extra members but we're hoping it'll have this effect.

Is it possible to see dolphins in UK waters?

Yes. In several locations. And we have a big project in the east part of (11)..... This has long been a haven for dolphins because it has very little shipping. However, that may be about to change soon because (12).....want to increase exploration there. We're campaigning against this because, although there'll be little pollution from oil, exploration creates a lot of (13)..... It means the dolphins can't (14).....

This is how I became interested in dolphin conservation in the first place.

I had never seen one and I hadn't been particularly interested in them at school. Then I came across this story about a family of dolphins who had to leave their home in the Moray Firth because of the (15)..... and about a child who campaigned to save them. I couldn't put the book down - I was hooked.

LIVEWORKSHEETS