



NEWSLETTER OF THE SAPPHIRE COAST MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE

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Associate Membership Launch

'Sea Connections' Marine Science Forum coming soon!

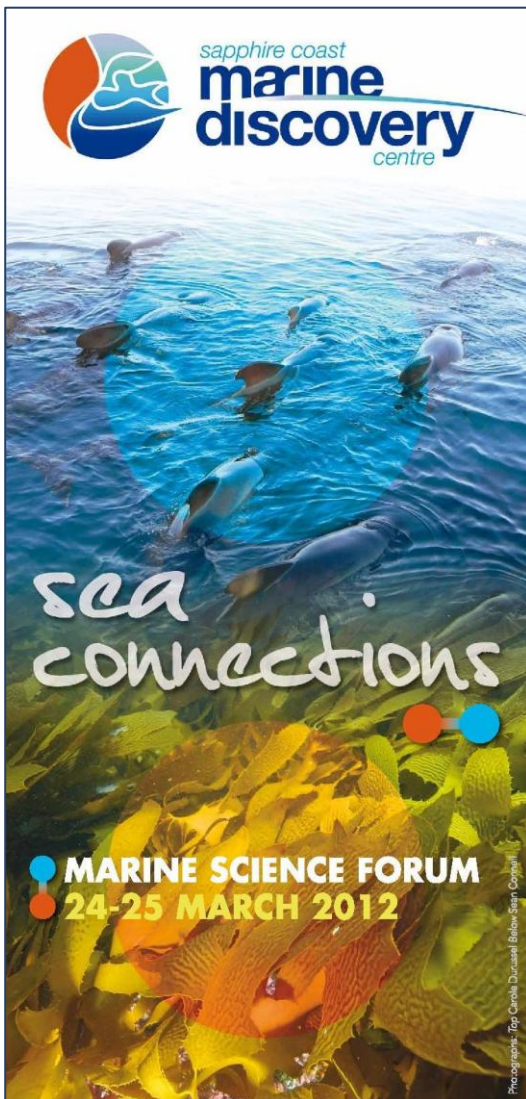
2012 – the calendar is filling already

School Holidays – what fun we had!

Easter Holiday Programs already planned

Our newest addition to the tanks

'Sea Connections' Marine Science Forum



Our 4th Annual Marine Science Forum will be here before we know it. Set down for 24th & 25th March 2012, this year's Forum theme is 'Sea Connections' and as always, the line up of speakers is very impressive:

Dr Moninya Roughan (Regional Oceanography Group, University of New South Wales) presenting on: *"Finding Nemo: Understanding the oceanic circulation and connectivity along the coast of Eastern Australia"*

Dr Lisa Kirkendale (Research Fellow, University of Wollongong Shoalhaven Marine and Freshwater Centre) presenting on: *"What have population genetic data done for marine conservation?"*

Dipl. Carole Durussel (PhD Candidate, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security (ANCORS) presenting on: *"Connecting High Seas Biodiversity Conservation"*

Dr Brendan Kelaher (Batemans Marine Park Manager and Principal Research Scientist) presenting on: *"Why detritus matters?"*

Dr Melinda Coleman (Research Scientist, Batemans Marine Park) presenting on: *"Connectivity of seaweeds on Australia's temperate reefs"*

Dr. Chris Fulton (ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, The Australian National University) *"Marine Protected Areas: do they work for fish and for people?"*

Registrations will be taken up until 8.30am on the Saturday of the Forum.

To register: download the Registration Form from our website www.sapphirecoastdiscovery.com.au and submit to the office. All details are on the Form. Phone the office on 02 6496 1699 if you have any queries.

SCMDC ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE SOON!

We are very pleased to announce the **launch of Associate Memberships** of Eden Marine Centre Ltd (our parent company). The launch will take place in conjunction with the 'Sea Connections' Marine Science Forum on 24th & 25th March.

With the adoption of our new Constitution, community members now have the opportunity to be a part of the Centre's growth. Anyone signing up for Associate Membership before 30 June 2012 will be permanently recognised in the Centre as **Foundation Members**.

Go to our website www.sapphirecoastdiscovery.com.au to download a copy of the Constitution and an Application Form.

Show your support for the Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre.

Your membership fees will help us to grow and develop – and give you the opportunity to contribute to its future.

Have a look at what we got up to over the *Christmas Holidays*.

Why wouldn't you want to be part of this!?



Busy March coming up!!!

We have a packed calendar for March – see below for significant dates:

Clean Up Australia Day – Snug Cove Eden:

Sunday 4th March 2012 – 9am till 12 noon

Join staff and volunteers from SCMDC as well as some of the people who work on our wharves and help clean up our foreshore. Good conditions permitting, some will be donning the wetsuits and getting wet for the cause – snorkelling amongst the pylons to retrieve any rubbish from beneath.



Sea Week – this year's theme is **MARINE DEBRIS: Monday 6th March – Friday 9th March 2012**



Staff members are planning some fun activities to help people of all ages understand the impacts of marine debris on the environment and how the public can help keep our oceans and beaches plastic-free.

Bermagui Seaside Fair – Dickinson Oval, Bermagui: **Saturday 10th March 2012**

SCMDC staff members will be in attendance to showcase some of our new outreach programs. Bring the kids along to check out the animals in our touch tank!

Bermagui
SEASIDE fair

'Sea Connections' Marine Science Forum: **Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th March 2012**

See Newsletter front page and our website for all the details: www.sapphirecoastdiscovery.com.au

SCMDC ANNUAL PASSES

AVAILABLE NOW!!

FEES:

Family (2adults + 2 children)	\$35
Extra child	\$5 each
Adult (16+)	\$15
Pensioners/students	\$10

WHAT DO YOU GET? Unlimited Entry for 12 months to the Discovery Centre + 10% off retail stock + Buy 1 coffee & get the 2nd coffee FREE from Great White Bite Cafe

CONTACT KERRY WOOD AT THE CENTRE TO PURCHASE YOUR PASS!



follow @ facebook

or Tweet us on [Twitter](#) @ SCMDC

SCMDC's Easter holiday activities

April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Feeding 12:00pm • Rocky Shore Ramble 12:30pm 	5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snorkel @ Eden 8:30am • Rocky Shore Ramble 1:00pm 	6 GOOD FRIDAY Centre Closed	7 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tsunami Demo 11:30am
8	9	10	11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Fossil Fun 11:00am • Fish Feeding 12:00pm • Snorkel @ Eden 9:00am 	12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea Shell Creations 11:00am • Snorkel @ Eden 1:00pm 	13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seaweed Bath Jelly 11:00am • Fish Feeding 12:00pm 	14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snorkel @ Merimbula 8:30am • Tsunami Demo 11:30am
15	16	17	18 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Feeding 12:00pm • Rocky Shore Ramble 12:30pm 	19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rocky Shore Ramble 1:00pm • Snorkel @ Eden 1:30pm 	20 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Feeding 12:00pm • Rocky Shore Ramble 1:30pm 	21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snorkel @ Merimbula 8:30am • Tsunami Demo 11:30am
22	23	24	25 ANZAC DAY Centre Closed	26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snorkel @ Eden 11:00am • Sand Art 11:00am 	27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slimy Sand 11:00am • Fish Feeding 12:00pm 	28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tsunami Demo 11:30am

Marine Fossil Fun: Make your very own marine fossil whilst learning about ancient marine creatures!

Slimy Sand: Discover how sand behaves like slime and make your own bit of goo to take home!

Sea shell creations: Paint and decorate sea shells, driftwood and other interesting beach treasures!

Seaweed Bath Jelly: Make your own bath jelly to take home using seaweed extract!

Sand Art: Get creative using sand and glue to make your very own sandy picture!

Rocky Shore Rambles: Join a marine biologist exploring the amazing diversity of life found on our rock platforms.

Any age 1.5 hours Adults \$10 Children \$5 Family \$25 Min. 4 participants.

Snorkel Tours: Discover our underwater world in a safe and fun environment along the beautiful Sapphire Coast.

Ages 12+ 2hours Adults \$25 Children \$10 Family \$60 Min. 4, max. 8 participants.

All activities are \$5 per person and recommended for children over 5 years.



VOLUNTEERS...volunteers....VOLUNTEERS....volunteers...VOLUNTEERS...

Volunteers are a special and integral part of any community based not-for-profit organisation, not least the SCMDC. Aware of the need for a well planned, organised and professionally trained, committed and energetic group of people, we will soon be conducting volunteer recruitment, orientation and training for new and existing volunteers.

**If you would like to join us & for further information, please contact
Kerryn Wood on 02 6496 1699 or email at kerryn.wood@sapphirecoastdiscovery.com.au**



**Australian
National
University**

Proud supporter of the Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre



Above: our latest addition – a beautiful little **Common Stingaree**. What's the difference between a stingray and a stingaree? Stingarees have a leaf-shaped caudal fin (tail) and stingrays have a whip-like pointed tail. Common Stingarees occur from Southern Queensland to Southern NSW and are most often observed in shallow coastal estuaries and reefs.

WEB CHECK

This edition's recommended website are pretty amazing. Check these out!

(hover your mouse over the link for instructions)

<http://www.elasmo-research.org/>

<http://www.ogsociety.org/>