

Marine Science “Blitz” Public Events

Whakatane / Tauranga – December 2015

In the first week of December a team of scientists from all over the world will descend on Whakatane in the Bay of Plenty. These marine scientists are planning a “blitz” on the nearby marine volcano: Whakaari or White Island. Their aim is to find out as much as they can about the currents, the water, the algae, and the marine animals in one week, but also to share their understanding of the local marine environment with the local community. All events are free of charge.



Seawater of the Future? - Public Talk

Monday, 30 November, 5:30 to 6:30pm

East Bay REAP Centre, Whakatane

Below the waves, on the flanks of Whakaari/White Island, are vents that bubble carbon dioxide into the seawater making it more acidic in a process called ocean acidification. Come and hear from a team of scientists from all over the world as they prepare for a “blitz” on Whakaari/White Island to find out as much as they can about this “Seawater of the Future” and the associated environment.



Incredible Edible Seaweed

Tuesday, 1 December, 12:30 to 1:30 pm

Exhibition Centre, Whakatane

Have you had your daily dose? Often described as food and medicine in one, find out why you should be eating seaweed and how to harvest and prepare it. The workshop will include some tasty treats and recipes.



Acid Ocean - Film

Wednesday & Thursday, 2 & 3 December. 12:30 to 1:20 pm

Exhibition Centre, Whakatane

From the icy polar seas to the world’s most pristine coral reefs, this film tracks the latest scientific research on ocean acidification. Dr Katharina Fabricius, from the Australian Institute of Marine Science, explains her research on a unique coral reef in Papua New Guinea that provides a natural laboratory to study the impacts of ocean acidification. Katharina is currently doing research at White Island, another unique location which may provide a window to the future of our oceans.

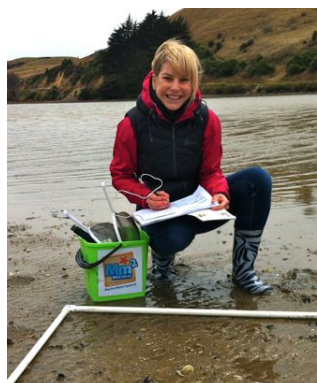


Marine Science for Eco-tour Operators / Educators

Tuesday, 1 December, 4:30 to 6:30 pm

PeeJays Café at White Island Tours, Whakatane

Find out what ocean acidification actually is and why the waters around White Island are being dubbed “*Seawater of the Future*”. Associate Professor Abby Smith, will provide an overview of the ocean acidification process and answer your questions about the local environment. Sally Carson will highlight ways to engage your clients with the marine environment from a boat or the shore.



Marine Metre Squared – Teacher / Community Workshop

Wednesday, 2 December, 3:15 to 5:00pm

East Bay REAP Centre, Whakatane

An introduction to Marine Metre Squared (Mm2), a citizen science project for long term monitoring of your local shoreline (www.mm2.net.nz). Bring your gummies and we will head to the shoreline towards the end of the workshop.

- Find out what lives between the tides at your local beach.
- The perfect project for schools and community groups looking for ways to engage with and improve their local environment.
- Ideal preparation for your 2016 field trips and Seaweed (27 Feb - 6 March 2016).
- FREE resources available (including shore guides).

Marine Science Workshops in Tauranga



Seawater of the Future – Teacher Workshop

Thursday, 3 December, 1:00 to 3:00pm

House of Science, Tauranga

Find out what ocean acidification actually is and why the waters around White Island are being dubbed “Seawater of the Future”. Associate Professor Abby Smith, who leads the University of Otago Ocean Acidification Research Group, will provide an overview of the ocean acidification process and highlight scientific concerns about what will happen as CO₂ in the air is absorbed by the sea over the next several decades. Ideas for classroom activities will also be shared.



Marine Metre Squared – Teacher / Community Workshop

Thursday, 3 December, 3:30 to 5:30pm

House of Science, Tauranga

An introduction to Marine Metre Squared (Mm2), a citizen science project for long term monitoring of your local shoreline (www.mm2.net.nz). Bring your gummies and we will head to the shoreline towards the end of the workshop.

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Would you like a Marine Scientist to visit you?



Marine Science for Schools / Community Groups

Tuesday & Wednesday, 1 & 2 December, 9:00 to 3:00pm

Whilst in the Whakatane / Tauranga area, Marine Science Educators are available to work with community groups or schools – either in the classroom, community space or on the shoreline, to look at what is special about your local marine environment and introduce the Marine Metre Squared (Mm2) project.

For more information about the Marine Metre Squared project, see www.mm2.net.nz

Bookings required – email sally.carson@otago.ac.nz

For further information contact:

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