



Marine Species Biology & Ecology Porcupine Annual Conference

**Marine Institute, Plymouth University
March 11th-13th 2017**

Saturday 11 March 2017

08:45 Registration & coffee
09:45 Welcome and housekeeping

Session 1

09:55 [**Seasearch discoveries 2016**]
Charlotte Bolton & Paul Kay, MCS, Ross & N.Wales
10:20 **From cetaceans to crustaceans: the role of natural history in marine science**
Nick Higgs, Marine Institute, Plymouth
10:50 Refreshments break

Session 2

11:30 **Marine Protected Areas: benthic recovery, storm impacts and lessons learnt**
Emma Sheehan, Marine Institute, Plymouth
12:00 **Arctica islandica: understanding impact on this protected feature offshore**
Becky Hitchin, JNCC, Aberdeen
12:20 **Benthic impacts of a novel, non-native shellfishery in a marine protected area**
Leo Clarke (& Roger Herbert & Richard Stillman), Bournemouth University
12:40 Lunch

Session 3

13:40 **The lives and times of tompot blennies**
Paul Naylor, *marinephoto*
14:10 **Behavioural field observations of black bream (*Spondyliosoma cantharus*) at breeding sites along the Dorset coast**
Matt Doggett
14:40 **Extending the knowledge of *Raja undulata* site fidelity and their movement along the Dorset Coast**
Martin Openshaw
14:50 Discussion session on fish behaviour studies
15:05 Refreshments break

Session 4

15:35 **Where's Onchi? A look at the occurrence of *Onchidella celtica* and its role as a climate change indicator species.**
Mike Kent, Wadebridge, Cornwall
16:05 **How many species are there? DNA taxonomy and digital photography of nudibranchs with implications for recording of distributions, diets and other aspects of their biology**
Bernard Picton, Ulster Museum, N.Ireland
16:30 [**Porcupine field trip to Staffa**]
Emily Priestley
16:50 **Innovative Uses of ICT in the Delivery of Rocky Shore Fieldwork**
Mark Ward, Field Studies Council, Preston Montford
17:10 Close of day 1

Sunday 12 March 2017

09:00 Registration & coffee

Session 5

09:30 ***Are jellyfish blooms born of the elusive polyp?***
Cathy Lucas, National Oceanography Centre, Southampton

10:00 ***Parasites in the plankton***
Dave Conway, Marine Biological Association, Plymouth

10:30 Refreshments break

Session 6

11:10 ***Photographing Maxmuelleria lankesteri feeding***
Nick Owen, Wool, Dorset

11:25 **[*Hermit worms - Neanthes fucata*]**
Andy Mackie, National Museum Wales, Cardiff

11:45 **Using citizen scientists to help understand reproductive resilience**
Gordon Watson, Institute of Marine Sciences, Portsmouth

12:15 ***A touch of Anchovy***
Doug Herdson, Marine Fish Information Services, Plymouth

12:35 **PMNHS AGM**

13:05 Lunch

Session 7

14:05 ***Three observations...***
Peter Barfield, Institute of Marine Sciences, Portsmouth

14:20 ***Observations session***
Various presenters

15:10 ***The biology of pink sea fans Eunicella verrucosa***
Keith Hiscock, Marine Biological Association, Plymouth

15:25 Field work information/logistics for Monday

15:35 Refreshments break

Session 8

16:05 **[*Maerl species – biology*]**
Francis Bunker, MarineSeen, Pembrokeshire

16:25 ***Cladophora – a field biologist's dilemma***
Anne Bunker, MarineSeen, Pembrokeshire

16:45 **[*Science communication*]**
Sofia Castelló y Tickell, Department of Zoology, University of Oxford

17:05 **Summing up**

17:15 Close of day 2