

# Marine Biology



What have we been up to?

*Images courtesy of Nicolas Jouault, Chris Isaacs, Gareth Jeffreys, Kevin McIlwee and Rebecca Kinnear*

A field discovery session took place on the 21st May at Green Island. Section members took the opportunity to try using the iNaturalist app, which as well as being a tool to record findings, can assist in identification of species.

The iNaturalist app ([www.inaturalist.org](http://www.inaturalist.org)) has been developed to encourage people to record their observations. This kind of citizen science can be a great way to improve your own knowledge whilst helping to increase our understanding of the environment and it is hugely beneficial to scientific research.

During our future discovery sessions we will continue to help members with the app. Please come and join us at the next field discovery session on the 4th June at la Saline (St Ouen).



Lady crab  
*Necora puber*



Painted top shell  
*Calliostoma zizyphinum*

Some of the species found during the discovery sessions



Elephant sponge  
*Pachymatisma johnstonia*



Bunny ears  
*Lomentaria articulata*

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The section was involved in the creation of another snorkel trail, recently launched at Bouley Bay.

The trail includes 4 different areas to explore and is a wonderful way for people to learn about Jersey's amazing marine environment.



During Invasive Species Week the Government of Jersey organised an event. Volunteers from Durell, Jersey Marine Conservation & the Societe were involved. Members of the Marine Biology section provided seaweeds & live specimens plus the non-marine species (freshwater crayfish & Asian hornets). The Asian shore crab touch tank was very popular & ITV ran a news article to inform the public about invasive non natural species.

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The section has kindly been given a collection of natural history texts. These are being made available to section members, at the members meetings, for a small charitable donation.



The section is continuing the work on the proposal for another No Take Zone on the East Coast of the Island.

Section members have been involved in public Marine Watch Tank events. This carefully managed voluntary education project, sponsored by Butterfield, is an important educational platform allowing the public to learn about the coastal environment and marine conservation in an enjoyable and accessible way.



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Surveys of Les Ecrehous continue above and below water, with a number of interesting records, including 5 *Berghia coerulescens* (nudibranch) making the reef and La Rocque one of best places to observe them in Europe. This time last year it was unrecorded in the British Isles!

Another warm water species that has recently made Les Ecrehous its home is the less colourful nudibranch - *Pruvotfolia pselliotes*.

This year is also proving a good one for the Velvet dorid - *Jorunna tomenosa*, although at the moment there does appear to be an absence of Sea hares - *Aplysia punctata*.

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*What's next?*

## Section meetings

**Marine Biology Section Meeting**  
Date: 6th July  
Time: 7.30pm  
Location: Société Jersiaise, 7 Pier Road

**Marine Biology Section Meeting**  
Date: 1st June  
Time: 7.30pm  
Location: Société Jersiaise, 7 Pier Road

## Field discovery sessions

Field discovery sessions will take place on a regular basis over the summer.

**Come and join us to see what can be found at various locations around the coast of Jersey. Please sign up via Eventbrite so we have an idea of how many folk to expect, this will enable us to ensure everyone gets the most out of the experience.**

If you have them, bring along any field guides and a camera to assist you. Please wear supportive shoes that you don't mind getting wet, and dress appropriately for the weather. We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Saturday 8th July**

Field discovery session at Portlet.  
We will meet at Portlet Carpark at 3.40pm.

### **Sunday 4th June**

Field discovery session at La Saline (St Ouen).  
We will meet at La Saline slip (Chemin de la Brecquette) at midday.