

## Ben's Bites!

**Ambassadors spreading the stories of our coast!**



### Ambassador awards

Be sure to get your entries in for the **'i sea, i care'** Ambassador awards. All the details are on the back of this newsletter.

### Humpbacks return

Two humpback whales have been sighted in Western Port over the past few days. These whales are heading south for summer feeding in Antarctica.

### Fundraising 2011

**'i sea, i care'** schools in 2011 have received a boost from **SEA-ALL Dolphin Swims**. Each school which conducts a fundraiser for DRI during 2011 will receive a free voucher for a dolphin swim. This voucher can be used as a prize for your fundraiser.

Thanks Sea-All!!!!



Ben

## Ambassadors Discover Western Port's Marine National Parks!

An **'i sea, i care'** Ambassador workshop was recently held for nearly 100 participants on Western Port, with the support of Parks Victoria.

The purpose of the day was to take our Ambassadors from over 20 schools out on Western Port to experience the wonders of Melbourne's closest Marine National Parks.

Their job is now to go back to their school communities and share their experience with an audience in the order of 10,000.

After a brief introduction in our centre, we boarded the vessel from Hastings, with three Parks Victoria staff joining us.

The images (from top to bottom) show some of the Ambassadors at the pier; one of the Parks



rangers interviewing Ambassadors about their knowledge of the effects of stormwater pollution, so that everyone on the boat could hear; back in our centre at Hastings, students investigated the biodiversity of seagrass; aboard the boat.

A great day for the Ambassadors and adults alike!



### **'i sea, i care TV - on Totally Wild !**

Marine pollution, catchments and Ambassadors at work  
Visit [www.dolphinresearch.org.au](http://www.dolphinresearch.org.au) and follow the links



## Look out for the baby dolphins!



the world by having common dolphins, which normally live in the open

ocean, becoming permanent residents.

When you are sitting on the beach this summer, have a thought for the other mums who are also making sure their kids don't get into strife!

Port Phillip has become a remarkable 2,000 km<sup>2</sup> nursery where dolphin mothers raise their families. What makes this so special is that our bay is quite unusual in



A female we call Esther, has now had two calves since we first noted her nearly three and a half years ago.

Last year, we recorded the third generation of bottlenose dolphins born in the bay since our research started 20 years ago, when Ariel became a grandmother.

It is inspiring to see a new-born calf swimming with its mum. When they get a little older they form chaotic nursery groups, where they play and can be kept safe.

Sometimes you can see a mother disable a fish so

that her calf can learn the art of hunting. Other times you might see a mother snap at a pesky calf that won't stop chewing on her flipper!

Have you seen them? We love to hear from our Ambassadors. email us at [admin@dolphinresearch.org.au](mailto:admin@dolphinresearch.org.au) or visit our Facebook page.



### 2010 'i sea, i care' Awards

We want to say "Well Done" to some of our fantastic Ambassador schools and Ambassadors. Contact Ben at [education@dolphinresearch.org.au](mailto:education@dolphinresearch.org.au) for more information.



**What to include** - You can write, send pictures, make movies, whatever you like, to highlight your work this year.

**Post entries to** - Dolphin Research Institute P.O. Box 77 Hastings, Vic 3915.

**Entries close** - 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010

### Web Site

Our web site has had a face-lift. Tell your friends to have a look!



### 2011 'isea,icare' Challenge

Between January 8<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> the DRI team will be out and about on the bays. Join in the fun, meet the researchers and the education crew in the **free** marine education activities.



DRI now has our own Facebook fan page. Help us get 1000 fans by Christmas! Check with your Mum or Dad first.

Get the latest news on DRI and Vic marine treasures [www.facebook.com/driface](http://www.facebook.com/driface)

## Victoria's marine world by the numbers

**2002** - the year 'i sea, i care' started

**1m** - the rate a giant kelp can grow in one day!

**5mm** - the size of the world's smallest sea star, found in southern Australia in 2007