

## Australian Marine Conservation Society Annual Report 2007



*"I joined the Australian Marine Conservation Society because they're the real deal. For 40 years they've been fighting for our seas and getting results: Ningaloo, Great Barrier Reef, new marine protected areas. If you're worried about overfishing, if you're angry about pollution and rapacious coastal development, if you're anxious about endangered species then why not add to the effort?"*

*Let's join together and get results."*

*Tim Winton, AMCS Patron*

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## Overview



The Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS) is the voice for our ocean wildlife. AMCS is Australia's only national organisation that is dedicated exclusively to protecting our ocean wildlife and their homes beneath the waves.

Our core focus is to advocate for more Marine National Parks, make our fisheries sustainable and protect and recover our threatened marine species.

As an incorporated association and a registered charity, AMCS is overseen by an eight member Board with representatives from business, industry, science, education and government. Multi award winning author and much loved Australian, Tim Winton, is our national Patron.

Our track record speaks for itself. Places like the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park in Queensland and Ningaloo Reef in Western Australia would not be protected without our vision, dedication and passion for our precious coasts and oceans.

*The Australian Marine Conservation Society was formed in the 1960s by a small group of marine scientists and concerned divers to legally contest and defeat a coral mining application on the Great Barrier Reef. This victory led us forward to organize Australia's largest sea-based campaign which culminated in the formation of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park World Heritage Area – an international tourist destination and one of the natural wonders of the world.*

## President's Highlights



2007 was another great year for AMCS. On an organisational front we made great inroads by meeting our ambitious financial goals and expanding our reach throughout Australia. Increasing our revenue ensures that we can expand our work to secure more marine parks around the country, recover our threatened species and make our fisheries sustainable.

Our Patron Tim Winton worked closely with the staff this year, providing great support for our campaigns. Winton joined us for our inaugural charity art auction at the State Library of Queensland to help raise funding to protect our threatened sea turtles. Tim also joined our Sustainable Seafood dinner at Kylie Kwong's restaurant in Surrey Hills, Sydney to highlight the state of our oceans and the power we have as purchasers to influence the state of our fisheries. Kylie Kwong's hosting of the evening reflects her ongoing commitment to the goals of our Sustainable Seafood Program.

As climate change has become accepted as a major global concern AMCS has joined forces with our conservation colleagues to spell out the way forward for governments. Our Climate Change Policy Agenda outlines a suite of policies to avoid dangerous climate change. The key to achieving this will be for Australia to legislate a national greenhouse gas reduction target of at least 30 per cent below 1990 levels by 2020, and to set a long term reduction target of at least 80 per cent by 2050.

During the year, we were honoured and touched to receive bequests from two long term members who have passed away. The gift of a bequest to AMCS leaves a true legacy for our precious oceans that will be honoured into the future.

AMCS is only as strong as the generosity and commitment of its supporters. I would like to take this opportunity as President to thank our growing family of Sea Guardian supporters, Members (including life and honorary life members), Donors, Business Supporters, Business Partners and Ocean Activists for your ongoing generosity and involvement in our work. Every single one of you is making a difference.

Thanks to the hard work of our dedicated staff and the support from you, the Australian public, we succeeded this year in meeting our ambitious income target, increasing our donations by 53 per cent from the previous year.

These are historic times for Australia, the planet and the Australian Marine Conservation Society. AMCS and our supporters are delivering better outcomes for our oceans, for the benefit of the marine wildlife and future generations that follow in our footsteps.

***Paul Saunders***

## Campaign Report

*Our supporters and online Ocean Activists have become increasingly involved in our campaigns through our Ocean Action Alerts, public petitions and community education events. Through this demonstrated support we are increasing the pressure on our governments to show that the public wants our ocean wildlife protected.*



Our campaigns have always focused on the big issues in marine conservation. In order to keep our oceans healthy we need to protect more places in the sea in marine national parks. The world's leading marine scientists recommend that between 20-50 per cent of each marine habitat must be fully protected in marine national parks to help ensure that our oceans are healthy and productive, particularly as climate change impacts increase the pressure on our seas. Australia currently has less than five per cent of our oceans in marine parks. This is woefully inadequate and we are advocating for marine parks around the country.

The other big issue for our oceans is overfishing, because throughout the world's oceans, there are too many boats taking too many fish. Three quarters of our oceans are overfished or fished to their limit, and Australia's oceans aren't faring much better. We also focus on the protection and recovery of our threatened marine species, some of which have been outlined below.

### **Whales**

AMCS is a member of the IWC Conservation Roundtable and has been working alongside our conservation colleagues to ensure that no whales are killed in the name of science (or otherwise). As part of our ongoing efforts to protect Australia's cetaceans, our Patron Tim Winton represented AMCS at a protest in Albany, Western Australia, to focus attention on Japan's unlawful whale hunt over the summer.

## Sharks

Saving sharks is core business for AMCS. Sharks and other big fish have disappeared by a staggering 90 per cent across the globe. Sharks are in big trouble and have been predicted to be part of the next global wave of extinction for our oceans. Sharks are killed in over 70 fisheries across Australia. AMCS believes that we should not be targeting sharks at all due to their life history, which makes them very slow to recover from impacts on their populations.

Throughout the year we have called on seafood purchasers and suppliers to take shark off the menu. In 2008 AMCS will be launching a new campaign to protect sharks in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, where they are under threat from a rapidly developing shark fishery. To Australia's shame, this fishery currently services the international trade in shark fin.



*Around 200 sea turtles are reported dead, injured or sick in Moreton Bay Marine Park each year. This dead green turtle was trapped and drowned in this crab pot before it was retrieved by Sea World staff in Moreton Bay Marine Park. Image c Sea World.*

## Turtles

Sea turtles have been swimming the world's oceans for millennia, and in the 21st century, they are under threat from climate change, pollution, boat strike and entanglement in fishing gear. In late 2006 AMCS partnered with Sea World to develop a project to rid Moreton Bay of discarded crab pots which are lethal to our threatened sea turtles. The endangered loggerhead turtle is particularly at risk as a resident of the Marine Park. This campaign aims to find out how many crab pots (discarded and operational) are in the bay, as well as seek solutions and raise awareness about the threats of crab pots to our precious sea turtles.

## Moreton Bay

The Save Moreton Bay campaign aims to secure 30% of Moreton Bay Marine Park (South East Queensland) in Marine National Park zones. Our dedicated campaign team and passionate support network of volunteers (known warmly as 'Team Turtle') have run a two year campaign which has secured huge support from the public. The team has consulted extensively with the Queensland Government to promote a less impacting 'greener' vision for the Park, with low-impact ecotourism and low impact recreational uses.

AMCS has been on the streets at events and stalls engaging directly with the community about the campaign. We have also been inundated with submissions and letters of support from individuals, groups, scientists and local businesses.

AMCS has begun a scientific project with the University of Queensland, to learn more about the Park's poorly understood Manta Rays, which are threatened by fishing throughout the world's oceans.



*Flinders Reef has the highest diversity of corals in Moreton Bay Marine Park. Photo by Chris Roelfsema.*

## Northern Australia

Northern Australia's marine environment is globally recognised for its relatively undisturbed and intact ecosystems. Alarming, these marine ecosystems have very little protection. The region faces mounting pressure from a combination of threats including offshore oil and gas ventures, increased fishing and climate change. The NT and Australian Governments must implement a system of Marine Protected Areas that protect this under-valued and under-protected part of Australia.

In 2007 our work with the Environment Centre of the Northern Territory paid off with the protection of Glyde Point, a beautiful coastal jewel 40kms north-east of Darwin. Glyde Point has enormous conservation and cultural significance and is a coastal jewel of the north. The region had been earmarked by successive NT Governments for large scale industrial development, but some vigorous campaigning from AMCS, the Environment Centre NT and our supporters paid off. Glyde Point is now rezoned from industrial land to public open space.



*This area at Glyde Point was destined to be the site for a large scale industrial development until AMCS and the community convinced the Northern Territory Government to reject the proposal. Photo by Prue Barnard.*

## Marketing & Fundraising



### Sustainable Seafood

*'What we buy and what we refuse to buy can make a massive difference. We can make threatened species commercially unviable. We can turn this market on its head. If we change our eating habits then suppliers will change their buying habits and fishing habits will change to keep up.'*

*Tim Winton, 2007.*

Australia's Sustainable Seafood Guide is in high demand from the hospitality industry, educational sector and individuals throughout Australia. The Guide's growing popularity means that sustainable seafood is fast becoming a household word. Proceeds from the sales are helping resource our Sustainable Seafood Program which aims to educate the public about the threats of overfishing and poor aquaculture practices, and to remove unsustainable fishing and aquaculture from our seas.



### Sydney Sustainable Seafood Dinner

Our staff worked with celebrity chef Kylie Kwong and our 'Perfect Patron', Tim Winton, to host a Sustainable Seafood fundraising dinner in Kylie's exquisite restaurant, Billy Kwong, in Surry Hills, Sydney. Guests were treated to a delectable array of seafood chosen from Australia's Sustainable Seafood Guide. As an avid promoter of sustainable seafood, organics and fair trade, Kylie paid particular attention to sourcing the product direct from boutique fisheries, often going straight to the source – the fishers or aquaculturists themselves.

Both Winton and Kwong shared their personal stories with the captivated crowd. They told tales of growing up in Australia, interacting with the sea its creatures, and how they have witnessed the changing state of our oceans. Both spoke of the immense importance of sustainable seafood if we are to continue eating wild caught seafood.

### Craig Bohm



*Kylie Kwong cooking up a sustainable seafood delicacy.*





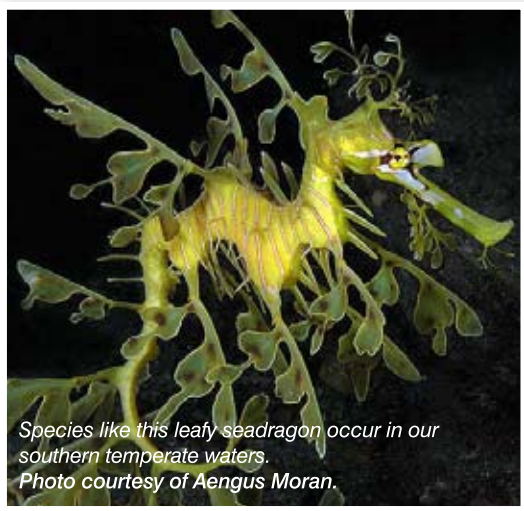
Dugongs depend on extensive healthy seagrass meadows for their survival.

### Community Outreach Seagrass Watch

Throughout the year we continued our designated seagrass surveys as part of the Moreton Bay Seagrass-Watch Project. Seagrass-Watch is an award winning, community-based, habitat assessment program. It is a partnership between conservation colleagues, the community and the Queensland Government.

As proud stewards of a local seagrass meadow, AMCS takes staff and volunteers out on our data collection trips several times throughout the year. The scientifically rigorous survey methods help guide decision making in marine park planning and ecosystem health monitoring. We survey the seagrass for qualities such as abundance, height, algal cover, lyngbia cover (toxic cyanobacteria) and presence or absence of dugong feeding trails.

*The southern temperate waters that surround the Australian continent are unique in that 90% of the marine life that is found there is not found anywhere else on the planet.*



Species like this leafy seadragon occur in our southern temperate waters.  
Photo courtesy of Aengus Moran.

### Reef Watch Victoria and the Great Victorian Fish Count

As part of the Reef Watch Program, the annual Great Victorian Fish Count took place in December. The Great Victorian Fish Count (GVFC) takes a snapshot of fish species living in the temperate coastal waters of Victoria. The collected data allows an estimation of the structure of fish communities around the coast at that time, which can then be compared to future fish counts at the same time each year. The count is organised by Reef Watch Victoria, based at Museum Victoria, in partnership with the Port Phillip Catchment Management Authority, AMCS and the Victorian National Parks Association.



### Marine & Coastal Community Network (MCCN)



AMCS was again successful in receiving \$500,000 from the Department of Environment and Heritage to oversee the management of the Marine and Coastal Community Network (MCCN).

The Network has undergone several staff changes during 2006 and a new and revitalised team is now on board. MCCN continues to provide up-to-date information to marine stakeholders and users across the country. For further information visit the website [www.mccn.org.au](http://www.mccn.org.au).

# Supporters' Report

AMCS's marketing and fundraising strategies continue to gain momentum and secure core funding for our work to protect Australia's ocean wildlife. Our donation base continues to grow as we extend our reach across the country. Our key focus areas in fundraising are our growing Business Partners, Business Supporters, Sea Guardians, memberships, donations, merchandise sales, grants and bequests.



## Art Auction

In August several hundred passionate Sea Guardians, government dignitaries and ocean supporters converged on the State Library of Queensland to help raise funds to save our threatened sea turtles. We were delighted to have our patron, Tim Winton, speak to the captivated audience about Moreton Bay, the only place in the world that has dugongs, turtles and dolphins on the doorstep of a major city.

Winton calls up the ocean like no other. He uses his rare ability with words to capture the ocean's beauty and importance for humanity. In a few captivating moments he described how the sea is changing and how we, as its stewards have an obligation to protect it. A transcript of Winton's speech is available from our Save Moreton Bay website – [www.savemoretonbay.org.au](http://www.savemoretonbay.org.au)

The night was made possible thanks to the generosity of a selection of Australia's treasured artists who donated their exquisite artworks for the cause. Raising over \$20,000, the art auction helped fund our critical work to protect sea turtles and other threatened wildlife of Moreton Bay.

## Business Partners

There are many benefits in forming partnerships with the business sector. The business sector can provide vital funding and in-kind support to our Society, enabling us to build our capacity and achieve our conservation goals. In return business sponsors can broaden their environmental knowledge, inspire their staff and contribute positively towards the community and the environment.

## Sea World

In 2008 Sea World contributed to our work to save our sea turtles and undertake sea grass surveys. To celebrate World Oceans Day 2007, we partnered with Sea World to launch a campaign to rid Moreton Bay Marine Park of discarded crab pots which are lethal to our sea turtles. Sea World's rescue and rehabilitation program involves the rescue and rehabilitation of several turtles each week, as well as the rescue of humpback whales from entanglements in commercial fishing gear and shark nets during the whale migration season.



*Girls Get Out There Marketing Coordinator  
Melissa Vitale and Patty Zenonos, AMCS  
Secretary at the Girls Get Out There gig.*

### Billabong Australia

As part of Billabong Girls' charter to help protect the environment, a series of charity wish bands were sold over summer, with proceeds going to our work to secure healthy oceans. Billabong Girls also donated a mini-malibu 'Rainbow Daze' surfboard which we raffled as a prize.



### Envirosax

Envirosax is a Queensland-based company that produces eco-friendly bags and sun-proof UV rash vests. Since late 2006, Envirosax has donated a percentage of all web sales from their stylish range of Rash Vests and UV shirts towards our Society.



### Business Supporters

Our Business Supporters Program encourages like-minded Australian businesses to invest directly in our conservation work. Our Business Supporters Program has three tiers of sponsorship – Platinum, Gold and Silver. The program continued its sustained growth during 2008, with one new platinum supporter and two new silver supporters coming aboard.

#### 2006 Platinum Supporters:

Coral Sea Dreaming ([www.davidhannan.com](http://www.davidhannan.com))

Ison Environmental Planners ([www.isonenvironmental.com](http://www.isonenvironmental.com))

Sport Diving ([www.divetheblue.net](http://www.divetheblue.net))

Blue Horizon Cruises ([www.bluehorizoncruises.com.au](http://www.bluehorizoncruises.com.au))



#### 2006 Silver Supporters:

Calypso Reef Charters (Port Douglas) [www.calypsocharters.com.au](http://www.calypsocharters.com.au)

Diversion Dive Travel ([www.diversionoz.com](http://www.diversionoz.com))

Tabata Australia ([www.tusa.com.au](http://www.tusa.com.au))

## Our Supporters



*“I am an AMCS Sea Guardian because, like most of us, I feel a real connection with our oceans. We need organizations like AMCS who are dedicated to protecting our precious coasts and seas.”*

***Bernard Fanning, Powderfinger lead singer***

Our Sea Guardian membership continued its steady growth in 2007. Sea Guardians are monthly donors who invest in our long term conservation programs and have become the backbone of AMCS. Annual membership remains strong, with the majority of members being longer term supporters of the Society. Our online Ocean Activists supporters continues its steady growth, with around 10,000 supporters throughout the country, including a small but active group of international members.

### **Merchandise**

Our stylish range of jewellery, stationery and t-shirts has been in hot demand in 2007, particularly around the Christmas season. Sales continued to steadily increase throughout 2007.

### **Bequests**

During the year we were very touched to receive bequests from two of our longer term supporters who have been members since our earlier incarnation as the Australian Littoral Society. Stanley Stokes, a Life Member since 1990, and Dr Eric Reye left a percentage of their estates to AMCS. Dr Reye was an entomologist at the Qld Museum who worked at the Peel Island Lazarette in Moreton Bay before it closed. Their legacy lives on through their bequest to the seas.

### **With Special Thanks to....**

Thank you to the individuals and businesses who supported AMCS throughout 2007. Your generosity has made a big difference for our precious oceans.

Tim Winton (our Perfect Patron - for your campaigning, financial and promotional generosity), Denise Fitch (for your financial generosity and for lending us your husband), Bruce and Sue Shepherd for your generous financial support and astute involvement, Daniel Mathews for your financial generosity and support for our work, Pam and Ray Ison for your ongoing generosity and support, Jenny Darling for your generosity to our sea turtles, Scott Thompson and Donna Burton, Jamie Lingham, Rodger Livsey and Margaret Roberts, Peter Ardill, David and Kristin Williamson, Patrick Gerry, Lynn Goldsworthy, and all of the other supporters who have donated to our conservation work, we thank you from the bottom of the deep blue sea.

Thank you Australian Ethical Investments for donating to our turtles.



*AMCS staff Tim Anderson and Ingrid Neilson at the Sydney Dive Expo.  
Photo by Mary-Ann Johnson.*

Thank you Mullum Trust for donating to our dugongs.

We also pay tribute to the memories of Dr Eric Reye and Mr Stanley Stokes for leaving gifts to the Society in your will. We hope their memory will live on in our work.

### **Thank you...wonderful volunteers**

Dave and Jan Graham for their ongoing ever-present dedication to AMCS, particularly through Dave's website support, Elizabeth Ginn for her help with fundraising and campaigning, Barbara Sheerin for your high calibre administrative support, Jade Janssen for all of those Loyalty cards, Sam Ledger for the sustainable seafood guides, Cristina De Leo, Denise Toogood and Fiona Maxwell for your campaigning and administrative support, Sam Charlton for your exquisite photography, Misha Jackson and other members of Team Turtle for your ongoing campaign support for Moreton Bay.

Art auction volunteers (Matt Foley for being the MC, Geoff Eaton, our wonderful auctioneer), the generous and talented artists who donated their work, the supporters who purchased the artworks, Sam Charlton for his exquisite pro bono photography, Anton Neilson for framing all that art so artfully and generously, the incredible volunteers at art auction (Elizabeth Ginn, Leslie Foley, Kylie Armstrong, Tony Kelly, Patty Zenonos, Denise Toogood, Dave Graham, Shelley Ronson... thank you!).

### **Thank you...Pro Bono Partners:**

Customer Community web design for your ongoing support for our work, Alltype Printing and Go Boating Magazine for your significant pro bono support, Propeller Graphic Design and Marketing (for your beautiful graphic design and IT support), Blue Wave (for your pro technology support), Red Ant (for your awesome digital designs), State Library of Queensland (and Katie Woods in particular for your support), Kylie Kwong for promoting our sustainable seafood and marine conservation work and for hosting the Sustainable Seafood dinner in your exquisite Billy Kwong Restaurant in Surry Hills, Sydney, the Manly Pub for providing ongoing meeting space for the staff...thank you!

Thank you....

Billabong for your merchandise support, Billabong Girls for your charity wishbands, Riverbend Books for raising \$1.5k for the Moreton Bay raffle, helping with promotions for our charity art auction and hosting the breakfast with our Patron, Sea World for your financial support for our Crab Pot Project and Seagrass Surveys (and for rescuing and rehabilitating all those animals), thank you EnviroSax for donating a percentage of merchandise sales, Oz-Tek for the space at the Sydney Dive Expo, Aengus Moran and Kelvin Aitken (of Marine Themes) for your beautiful photographs that you are both always willing to provide FOC....

Kim Lock, one of our treasured Sea Guardians



Barbara Sheerin, Wonderful Volunteer



KP and Mischa



....Thank you Powderfinger boys and Secret Service Management for your ongoing merchandise and vocal support, Donna Bath for your pro-bono legal advice, thank you Propeller Graphic Design and Marketing for your ever generous beautiful design work, thank you Sue and David Bilbow for donating in lieu of wedding gifts, thank you Chris Toogood for donating in lieu of 60th party gifts, thank you Omar Ameer for raising \$500 at your birthday party...

....Thank you Ballajura Community College in Perth for your Fishnet Friday dress up day, Arup Brisbane Office staff for your pie drive, Meadow Heights Primary School Grades 3/4A and 3/4P who fundraised from your colouring in competition on Pollution and how it affects marine Animals, thank you Peak Partnership – Chartered Accountants for your Casual Dress Day, thank you Tahnee Virgin, a Year 7 Student at Bordertown Primary School who raised \$167.00 through making your own jewellery and hosting a staff morning tea at school, and thank you Helen Carmosino for your ongoing generosity with Lamb Is, which overlooks the serene and gentle turtle and dugong feeding and breeding grounds in Moreton Bay...

...Thank you to the AMCS Board for all your pro bono advice, direction, support and expertise. And of course thank you AMCS staff, for all of your incredible hard work throughout the year. You are at the coal face and you make it happen....

...Thank you to all of our wonderful members, Business Supporters, Business Partners, Ocean Activists and last but not least, thank you magnificent Sea Guardians!



## Financial Overview

It is with great pleasure that we can report on a successful financial year for the Australian Marine Conservation Society in 2007. With our steady growth we have been able to employ more campaign and administrative staff in our National Office in Brisbane, Queensland.

The Society's Audit Report shows that we continue to meet our financial goals. In 2007 AMCS increased our donations by 53 per cent. This has been achieved through expanding our donor support and reach, and also through the loyal ongoing support of our members, Sea Guardians and donors across the country. Significantly, it means we can expand our team and our work across the country and achieve more than ever for our precious oceans.

The Society's Board, staff, branches and volunteers (including all our wonderful Ocean Email Activists) are once again commended for their ongoing passion and commitment to marine conservation and the work of the Society. It is truly inspiring to see the Society working for over 40 years alongside the community, scientists and the government to achieve real conservation outcomes for our oceans.

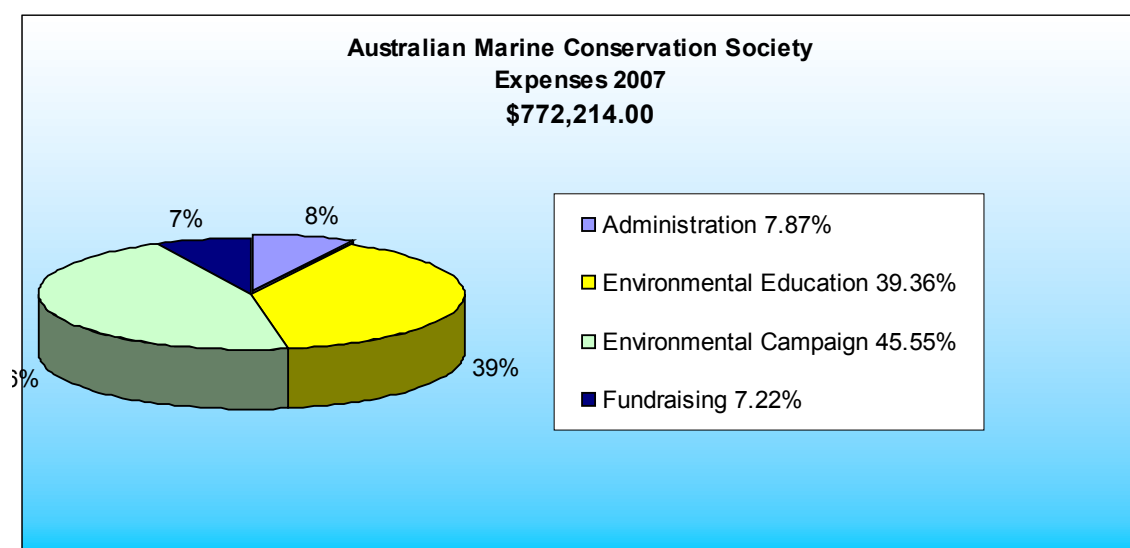
Our Sea Guardian (monthly giving) Program continues to grow and we are planning for the program to provide ongoing long term funding for our important work.

***Kate Davey (Director)***

## Financial Overview - continued...

| <b>Projects and Grants</b>         | <b>2007</b>    | <b>2006</b>    |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Grants - Environment Australia     | 400,000        | 500,000        |
| Grants - GNGO                      | 15,000         | 15,000         |
| Grants - GVEHO                     | 10,000         | 10,000         |
| Myer Foundation                    | 0              | 150,000        |
| Other Projects                     | 87,357         | 88,847         |
| <b>Total Projects &amp; Grants</b> | <b>512,357</b> | <b>763,847</b> |
| <b>Fundraising</b>                 |                |                |
| Donations                          | 171,958        | 92,601         |
| Membership Fees                    | 16,665         | 16,162         |
| Sales of Merchandise               | 33,107         | 28,688         |
| <b>Total Fundraising</b>           | <b>221,730</b> | <b>137,451</b> |
| <b>Other Income</b>                |                |                |
| Interest                           | 28,216         | 22,609         |
| Sundry                             | 6,790          | 49,351         |
| <b>Total Other Income</b>          | <b>35,006</b>  | <b>71,960</b>  |
| <b>Total Income</b>                | <b>769,093</b> | <b>973,258</b> |

\*Note, the apparent decrease in total revenue from 06-07 is the result of the final instalment of two large grants





## AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY INC

### Scope

I have audited the financial statements of the Australian Marine Conservation Society Inc. The Association's committee is responsible for the presentation of the accounts and the information contained herein. I have conducted an independent audit of the accounts in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the Australian Marine Conservation Society Inc.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free of material misstatement. Procedures included examination on a test basis of evidence supporting the accounts and other disclosures in the accounts and the evaluation of accounting policies.

These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether in all material respects the accounts are presented fairly in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Association's financial position and the results of its operations.

### Qualification

As is common for organizations of this type, it is not practicable for the Association to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations, subscriptions and other fund raising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, the audit in relation to fundraising was limited to amounts recorded.

### Qualified Audit Opinion

In my opinion, subject to the effects on the financial statements of the matter referred to in the qualification above, the financial statements of the Australian Marine Conservation Society Inc. are properly drawn up:

- (a) so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association as at 31 December 2007 and of the income and expenditure of the Association for the year ended on that date.
- (b) in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2008



SHERIDAN SPOWART  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

**AUSTRALIAN MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY INC  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2007**

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

A) BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost accounting principles and therefore do not take into account changing money values, the current value of non-monetary assets except where specifically stated.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the accounts

B) INCORPORATED ASSOCIATION

The Australian Marine Conservation Society Inc. is an association incorporated under the Association Incorporations Act 1981. The benefits of incorporation of a non-profit organization are similar to those enjoyed by a proprietary company. That is: the liability of members and the management committee is limited. The association does not have a share capital.

C) DEPRECIATION

Assets are depreciated on the diminishing rate method so as to write off the cost of each asset during its estimated life.

D) INVENTORIES

Trading stock such as products for resale is bought to account as an asset. Profits are bought to account at the time of receipt of monies from the sale of products.

E) PREPAID INCOME

This amount represents grant money received but unspent as at the end of the year. In previous years, grants have been only included as income in the year in which the grant was completed. However, because the major grant in the current year covers more than one year, it has been partially allocated to the current year.

F) ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OPERATING ACTIVITIES

In the current year this amount represents an adjustment for computers included in Fixed Assets and depreciated purchased under the Community Benefits Gambling Fund Grant. In the previous year, it represented monies returned to Head office as a result of the closure of bank accounts.

G) BOARD MEMBERS

The board members listed below were appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the Society on 29 March 2007. All board members remained on the board for the duration of the year. During the year ended 31 December, 2007 the board met 7 times. No remuneration was paid to any board member during the year ended 31 December 2007.

| Position  | Name              |
|-----------|-------------------|
| President | Paul Saunders     |
| Secretary | Patty Zenonos     |
| Treasurer | Michaela Mitchell |
| General   | Mary-Ann Pattison |
| General   | Richard Leck      |
| General   | Dennis Beros      |
| General   | Angeline Tew      |
| General   | Sue Crow          |

AUSTRALIAN MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY INC  
 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2007

|   | 2007                       | 2006                      |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>PROJECTS AND GRANTS</b>                              |                            |                           |
| Grants - Environment Australia                          | 400000                     | 500000                    |
| Grants - GNGO   | 15000                      | 15000                     |
| Grants - GVEHO  | 10000                      | 10000                     |
| Myer Foundation   | 0                          | 150000                    |
| Other Projects  | 87357                      | 88847                     |
|   | <u>512357</u>              | <u>763847</u>             |
| <b>Less Expenses</b>                                    |                            |                           |
| Coordinators and Project Officers                       | 276685                     | 309914                    |
| Postage Printing & Stationery                           | 7895                       | 26662                     |
| Project Expenses  | 23481                      | 177965                    |
| Publications  | 44870                      | 58109                     |
| Superannuation Contributions                            | 26048                      | 26333                     |
| Telephone, Fax and Internet                             | 14213                      | 13173                     |
| Travel & Conference Expenses                            | 27576                      | 50222                     |
| Total Project Expenses                                  | <u>420768</u>              | <u>662377</u>             |
| <b>NET PROJECTS AND GRANTS</b>                          | <u><b>91589</b></u>        | <u><b>101470</b></u>      |
| <b>FUNDRAISING</b>                                      |                            |                           |
| Donations   | 171958                     | 92601                     |
| Membership Fees   | 16665                      | 16162                     |
| Sales of Merchandise                                    | 33107                      | 28688                     |
|   | <u>221730</u>              | <u>137450</u>             |
| <b>Less Fundraising Wages</b>                           | <u>12279</u>               |                           |
| <b>NET FUNDRAISING</b>                                  | <u><b>209451</b></u>       | <u><b>137450</b></u>      |
| <b>OTHER INCOME</b>                                     |                            |                           |
| Interest Received                                       | 28216                      | 22609                     |
| <b>TOTAL DIRECT INCOME</b>                              | <u><b>329256</b></u>       | <u><b>261530</b></u>      |
| <b>LESS ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES</b>                     | <u><b>339167</b></u>       | <u><b>308325</b></u>      |
| <b>NET SURPLUS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>            | <u><b>-9911</b></u>        | <u><b>-46795</b></u>      |
| <b>ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OPERATING ACTIVITIES (Note E)</b> | <u><b>6790</b></u>         | <u><b>49351</b></u>       |
| <b>NET SURPLUS/(LOSS) FOR YEAR</b>                      | <u><u><b>-3121</b></u></u> | <u><u><b>2556</b></u></u> |

AUSTRALIAN MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY INC  
**ADMINISTRATION OVERHEADS**  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2007

|                                       | 2007                        | 2006                        |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>EMPLOYEE RELATED EXPENSES</b>      |                             |                             |
| Superannuation Contributions          | 19513                       | 14049                       |
| Travelling & Conference Expenses      | 13635                       | 3611                        |
| Wages                                 | 229106                      | 198994                      |
| Workcover                             | 5250                        | 4408                        |
| <b>TOTAL EMPLOYEE RELATED</b>         | <u><b>267503</b></u>        | <u><b>221062</b></u>        |
| <b>OCCUPANCY EXPENSES</b>             |                             |                             |
| Depreciation                          | 5019                        | 3193                        |
| Electricity                           | 787                         | 798                         |
| Insurance                             | 3190                        | 5768                        |
| Rent                                  | 17662                       | 20275                       |
| Repairs & Maintenance                 | 1184                        | 360                         |
| <b>TOTAL OCCUPANCY</b>                | <u><b>27844</b></u>         | <u><b>30393</b></u>         |
| <b>OFFICE OVERHEADS</b>               |                             |                             |
| Audit Fee                             | 1600                        | 1550                        |
| Bank Charges & Interest               | 2775                        | 1932                        |
| Computer Costs                        | 359                         | 1196                        |
| Magazine Expenses                     | 11115                       | 21790                       |
| Postage Printing & Stationery         | 14723                       | 14592                       |
| Subscriptions                         | 4142                        | 4310                        |
| Telephone, Fax and Internet           | 6939                        | 11496                       |
| Sundry Expenses                       | 2165                        | 4                           |
| <b>TOTAL OFFICE</b>                   | <u><b>43820</b></u>         | <u><b>56870</b></u>         |
| <b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION OVERHEADS</b> | <u><u><b>339167</b></u></u> | <u><u><b>308325</b></u></u> |

AUSTRALIAN MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY INC  
 BALANCE SHEET  
 AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 2007

|   | 2007                 | 2006                 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>MEMBERS' FUNDS</b>                   |                      |                      |
| Balance at Beginning of Year            | 180384               | 177828               |
| Net Surplus                             | -3121                | 2556                 |
| <b>MEMBERS' FUNDS 31 December, 2007</b> | <u><u>177263</u></u> | <u><u>180384</u></u> |
| Represented by:                         |                      |                      |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                   |                      |                      |
| Cash on Hand                            | 170                  |                      |
| Cash at Bank                            |                      |                      |
| Suncorp A/C No 161442159                | 100                  | 100                  |
| Suncorp A/C No 162442191                | 178826               | 166340               |
| Suncorp A/C No 052166909                | 78975                | 36120                |
| Suncorp A/C No 161920537                | 377073               | 194420               |
| Debtors                                 | 10227                | 6128                 |
| Stock on Hand                           | 11500                | 7936                 |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>             | <u><u>656871</u></u> | <u><u>411044</u></u> |
| <b>FIXED ASSETS</b>                     |                      |                      |
| OFFICE EQUIPMENT -at cost               | 42025                | 47019                |
| Less Accumulated Depreciation           | 32223                | 38988                |
| <b>TOTAL FIXED ASSETS</b>               | <u><u>9802</u></u>   | <u><u>8031</u></u>   |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                     | <u><u>666673</u></u> | <u><u>419075</u></u> |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>              |                      |                      |
| Creditors                               | 13656                | 9145                 |
| GST Payable                             | 24339                | 20676                |
| PAYG Tax Payable                        | 10060                | 9796                 |
| Provision for Long Service Leave        | 23640                | 25367                |
| Prepaid Income                          | 417715               | 173706               |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                | <u><u>489409</u></u> | <u><u>238690</u></u> |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                       | <u><u>177263</u></u> | <u><u>180384</u></u> |

## Our Patron and Board



### **Our Patron**

Tim Winton became our National Patron early in 2006. Winton first became involved in our work as the vice-president of the Society's Western Australian branch. Winton is a three times winner of the Miles Franklin Award and twice short-listed for the Booker Prize, his work has achieved the rare distinction of being both critically admired and loved by readers. He was recently declared a Living Treasure by the National Trust.

Winton's commitment to the environment is well known and was further highlighted in 2002 when he donated his \$25,000.00 prize money from the WA Premier's Award to the Save Ningaloo Reef Campaign in Western Australia. This was another outstanding success for the Society, thanks in no small part to our Patron, of whom we are very proud.

### **Our Board**

#### **President - Paul Saunders**

Paul Saunders is a registered psychologist and Director of LNC consulting which is a successful niche consulting company specializing in strategy, business planning and change management. Paul's interest in marine conservation stems from his love of sailing, surfing and swimming.



#### **Secretary - Patty Zenonos**

Patty Zenonos has been a member for many years and this is her second time on the Board as Secretary. For the last few years Patty worked on the staff at Head Office as Office Manager and Memberships Officer. Patty left to pursue her teaching career and joined the Board to continue her formal association with the Society.



#### **Treasurer - Michela Mitchell**

Michela Mitchell joined the Melbourne Branch of the Australian Marine Conservation Society in 1998 and has been our noble Treasurer for the last three years. Michela is studying her Masters in Sea Anemone Taxonomy, reviewing Sea Anemones found in Port Phillip Bay in Victoria. Michela dreams of becoming a Museum Curator.



#### **General Member – Dennis Beros**

Dennis Beros is has been a member of our national Board for several years and was pivotal in the Society's Save Ningaloo campaign in Western Australia. He is a diver and deeply committed to the conservation of our precious coasts and oceans. With expertise in matters technical, policy and marketing, Dennis is a treasured member of the Board and the Society.



### **General Member - Sue Crowe**

Sue Crowe is the Director of TUSA Australia, one of the original dive equipment manufacturers. Sue Crowe, a journalist and editor by trade, was managing editor of Scuba Diver Australasia magazine for eight years, before leaving in 2002 to start her own marketing and editorial business.

Sue is also a diving instructor and has made many excellent contacts in the dive industry for the Society. A member for many years and previously a Committee Member of the Society's Sydney Branch, Sue has been long been involved in marine conservation from her base in Sydney, New South Wales.



### **General Member - Mary-Ann Pattison**

Mary-Ann Pattison is a long term member of the Society and has been a formal member of the Board for many years. Mary-Ann is an environmental educator for Education Queensland and is based at the Nudgee Beach Environment Centre. Mary-Ann brings a strong corporate knowledge of our history to the Board and is well connected with many of our longer-term members and supporters across South-east Queensland.



### **General Member - Richard Leck**

Richard Leck is WWF-Australia's Marine and Coastal Policy Officer. Rick joined the Board in 2004 and brings an excellent knowledge of conservation politics to the Board. Rick works closely with our campaign staff on a daily basis on a range of conservation initiatives. Rick is also a keen diver, sports lover and tri-athlete.



### **General Member - Angeline Tew**

Angeline is a very active member of our Melbourne Branch and has been a member of the Society for several years. Angeline works in Parks Victoria as a Marine and Statutory Planner for the Victorian marine parks system. She is a committed conservationist and avid diver with an excellent knowledge of marine planning issues. Angeline joined the Board in 2005 and brings an important regional perspective and strong ethical views to the Board's deliberations.



Thank you AMCS Board and Patron!

## Publications 2007

- Turning the Tide Quarterly Magazine
- Climate Change Policy Agenda (Co-Report with conservation colleagues)
- (visit [www.marineconservation.org.au/climatechange](http://www.marineconservation.org.au/climatechange))
- Save Moreton Bay sticker series
- Moreton Bay Marine Park fact sheets series
- Merchandise (tees, jewellery, AMCS Cards)

