

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who participated in the inaugural Swansea Sea Slug Census, 14 December 2013, and made the event a huge success. We hope you will be available to participate in future events and build the database further. The census is a great example of how interested divers and science can work together to further marine species knowledge in our local area.

## **Summary of Results**

- 15 participants 13 divers & 2 snorkelers
- 3 distinct dive sites
- 41 images submitted
- 15 different species identified
- 4 buddy pairs found one or more species no other team recorded

**Most species\*** (1st prize 2 copies of Justin Gilligan's *Port Stephens Naturally*)

| Placing | Number of<br>Species | Buddy pair   | Dive Site/s   |
|---------|----------------------|--|---|
| 1st     | 8                    | Margo Smith / Tom Davis  | Swansea Channel, south wall, east of bridge             |
| 2nd     | 7                    | Di Pacey / Kate Tinson* winners as more species not seen by other divers Margo Smith / Tom Davis | Swansea Channel south wall, east of bridge  Lucy's wall |
| 3rd     | 6                    | Ian Marriner / Will Owyong   | Swansea Channel south wall, east of bridge              |

## Most unusual

*Marionia rubra* Tom Davis /Margo Smith (**not** *Tritoniopsis elegans* as labelled in Census results) Not sighted by any other divers, image was sent off for positive identification.

**Best Photo** (1st prize N. Coleman's *Underwater Naturalist*)

1st Place *Ceratosoma amoenum* laying eggs, William Owyong / Ian Marriner



(L to R) Marionia rubra T Davis



Ceratosoma amoenum laying eggs, W Owyong

The Swansea Sea Slug Census is a Combined Hunter Underwater Group Inc (CHUG) initiative. http://ombinedhunterunderwatergroup.weebly.com