



Swansea Sea Slug Census II – 6th December 2015







Swansea Channel contains a diverse range of nudibranchs due to the strong flows running up and down the channel and the wide range of habitats in the channel. Compared to the last census (December 2013) we found a higher number of species (22 vs 15); we had more participants (16 vs 13), and the best team (Meryl's) found more species (11 vs 8).

Thanks to everyone who took part, making this our most successful Swansea census ever!

Allan Nelson, Ashley Smith, Bob Staddon, Cath Shorthouse, Gina Mascord, Ian Medcalf, Jackie Gillispie, Margo Smith, Meryl Larkin, Nic Rewitt, Nicola Davis, Tom Davis, Rob Carraro, Victoria Greentree, Rob Rogers, Wendy Nelson

Photos of all species sighted on the census are given in the album below. 13 new nudibranchs were added to the species list (marked with *), with a total of 30 nudibranchs, and 3 bubbleshells, now recorded in Swansea Channel. Although bubbleshells were not included in the census, perhaps the most exciting find was the tropical bubbleshell *Haminoea ovalis*, found at Lucy's Wall by Meryl Larkin, so bubbleshells have been shown at the end of this album.

The photos below are in order from “most sighted” to “least sighted”. The photos were taken by participants in the census, but are not necessarily the best shot from the day as photos were selected for ease of collation.

		
<i>Ceratosoma amoenum</i> (8 sightings)	<i>Doriprismatica atromarginata</i> (8 sightings)	<i>Glossodoris angasi</i> (7 sightings)
		
<i>Mexichromis festiva</i> (5 sightings)	<i>Aeolidiella alba</i> (4 sightings)	<i>Phidiana indica</i> * (2 sightings)



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*Goniodoridella savignyi**
(2 sightings)



Hypselodoris bennetti
(2 sightings)



Dolabella auricularia
(2 sightings)



*Pleurobranchus peronii**
(2 sightings)



*Plocamopherus imperialis**
(2 sightings)



Polycera hedgepethi
(2 sightings)



*Aplysia extraordinaria**
(1 sighting)



*Atagema intecta**
(1 sighting)



*Austraeolis ornata**
(1 sighting)



*Chromodoris striatella**
(1 sighting)



*Crosslandia viridis**
(1 sighting)



Flabellina sp. 2*
(1 sighting)

Swansea Sea Slug Census II was conducted by the Combined Hunter Underwater Group (CHUG)

<http://combinedhunterunderwatergroup.weebly.com> For more information email: seaslugcensus@gmail.com



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*Hypselodoris obscura**
(1 sighting)



Jorunna sp. 2
(1 sighting)



*Trinchesia ornata**
(1 sighting)



*Trinchesia thelmae**
(1 sighting)

Bubbleshells



Bullina lineata



Hydatina physis



*Haminoea ovalis**