



Queen Victoria  
Museum & Art Gallery

# Media Release

Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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## Understanding the Tamar: Science and Management

A breakfast forum was held in Launceston today to update the community on some of the science and management initiatives in place for the Tamar estuary.

The forum – Understanding the Tamar: Science and Management, was organised by NRM North and the QVMAG as part of National Science Week.

The forum at the QVMAG Art Gallery included presentations from key NRM North and QVMAG staff on the topics of siltation, water quality monitoring, sub tidal habitats and citizen science.

Amanda Locatelli is NRM North's Water Theme Manager and also the Coordinator of the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program. The TEER program is a regional partnership between the agencies responsible for managing waterways in the Tamar catchment area.

Ms Locatelli gave a presentation on some of the key initiatives being undertaken by the TEER program.

"The forum was a good way to update the public on some of the projects the TEER program is working on to manage the Tamar estuary," Ms Locatelli said.

"These include monitoring for algal blooms in Lake Trevallyn, water quality monitoring and report cards for the Tamar estuary and working with land managers to reduce the amount of sediment entering the estuary.

"We encourage people to visit the TEER website [www.nrmnorth.org.au/TEER](http://www.nrmnorth.org.au/TEER) to find out the latest information and outcomes of these projects."

The Curator of Natural Sciences at the QVMAG, David Maynard, talked about the sub tidal habitats of the Tamar estuary.

"Often the community can't get past the siltation in the upper reaches of the estuary, but the lower reaches are very different," David said.

"Just below the waterline is a vibrant, healthy ecosystem. From The Batman Bridge, north of the estuary is dominated by colourful sponge gardens, soft corals, seagrass beds, fish and kelp forests."

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