International Bryozoology Association

Bulletin

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Antonietta Rosso, President
Catherine Reid, Secretary
Abigail Smith, Treasurer
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Comments regarding this Bulletin should be addressed to the IBA Secretary: catherine.reid@canterbury.ac.nz
Copies of the Bulletin are archived at the Natural History Museum London.

Further information at http://www.bryozoa.net/iba/index.html

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear friends and bryozoan-lovers,

I hope our community and related families are doing well, though news about covid-19 are still not really reassuring and numbers of infections per day rise in several countries fortunately often without parallel increase in extremely serious fatal consequences. I am reasonably confident that the situation is more and more improving with the spreading of vaccination and the consequent reduction of the disease. Though sometimes recklessly, people are reasserting their "normal" lifestyle, at least in several countries, if not everywhere.

Like all people around the world, our community is desiring to meet again because of the importance of discussions and exchanges of opinions for the advance of research, that can be more fruitful in face-to-face meetings and I hope that we could have this opportunity next year. After the Council definitely discarded the Brazil option for the 2022 IBA Conference because of the persisting unfavourable, potentially dangerous, situation in that country, the call for offers for a new location is already producing some intention to submit proposals (see page 14), whose formalisation is expected during the on-line joint Larwood/Australarwood Meeting latest September-starting October. I hope that a large number of members will attend it presenting the latest results of their research.

In the last months, an action to promote awareness of the relevance of bryozoans in Earth ecosystems and foster for their inclusion in lists of species and habitats for protection, has been prepared Chiara Lombardi, Jo Porter, Silvia Cocito and me has been sent to members of the IUCN commissions to attract their attention on them. We are now waiting for feedback.

My best wishes and stay safe

Antonietta Rosso

FROM THE TREASURER

<u>IBA Financial position -- two years after Conference in 2019</u>
All figures are in NZ dollars

- Income (since 31 May 2019) = $11,963 (comprising 31 donations, fundraising, profit from 2016 and 2019 conferences)
- Expenditure (since 31 May 2019) = $227 (bank fees, misc)
- Total funds in our bank accounts = $12,820

This is enough for 4-5 student travel grants in 2022. If you can, please consider donating to the IBA in order to ensure that students can attend the conference

Abby Smith

NEW MEMBERS

Natasha Gray Hitchcock is a biological research technician in the Marine Invasions Research Laboratory at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, Maryland, USA. A California native, she studied Marine Biology and Geology at UC Santa Cruz with Todd Newbury and John Pearse, and became intimately familiar with intertidal and subtidal ecology of the Monterey Bay by putting "her face where her feet are". Always enthralled with tiny sessile invertebrates, she ended up doing her masters with William Banta at American University and was introduced to the magical world of Bryozoans and the complexity of fouling communities. Having worked off and on for the Smithsonian over the last 20 years, she is happy to be once again up to her elbows in invertebrate samples and is excited to attempt to hash out the taxonomy of some of the more tenuous groups of cryptogenic Bryos seen on the many fouling panels that have been deployed all over the Northwestern Hemisphere.
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Natasha-Hitchcock

NEWS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

Abby Smith - Congratulations to **Katerina Achilleos**, **Hannah Mello**, and **Yuta Tamberg**, all of whom have submitted their PhD theses for examination in recent months or days. It's great to see bryozoologists who were supported by IBA travel grants taking their next steps. If you are looking for a postdoc or a new young lecturer – think of them!

Andrew Ostrovsky - **Ekaterina Shevchenko** and **Ksenia Serova** (whom you should remember both from the Sopot and Liberez IBA meetings) succeeded to get permanent positions as junior scientists at the Zoological Institution of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Both scientists continue to work on their PhD Theses (on cheilostome oogenesis and neuro-muscular anatomy of polymorphism, respectively).

Hans De Blauwe - After 12 years and 333,300 km we urgently needed a new car. According to the insurance company we also had to have a new European vehicle registration plate. This was the moment!

Consuelo Sendino - NHM London collections are on the move - By 2026 the NHM, London, will move over 27 million specimens and over 600m^3 of accompanying Library material to a new centre for the study of natural history at Harwell Campus, in Oxfordshire. The centre will provide a new bespoke facility to ensure the ongoing safety and expansion of the collections, and to safeguard specimens that are currently at risk of damage and deterioration in substandard buildings. It will also widen access to the collections for researchers and partners to tackle urgent global challenges, harness novel technologies and analysis techniques and accelerate digital collections access. You can find out more about the project here (www.nhm.ac.uk/about-us/harwell).

This move will affect the recent and fossil bryozoan collections. The full work plan should be defined by the end of this year and will begin to be implemented from early 2022. This is the reason that I wanted to get in touch with those of you who will need to come to London to study bryozoans in the following years. To allow us to prepare and move specimens, access to bryozoan collections will be affected until 2026. To support your planning I would encourage you to sign up to the NHM@Harwell mailing list on our website (www.nhm.ac.uk/about-us/harwell) to receive updates on specific impacts on collections access, developments and timeframes when available.

We realise that a lot of our visitors have been waiting to access the collections following the COVID-19 closures of museums worldwide and we will do our best to accommodate both visitors and loan requests where possible, and particularly over the next 2 years before collections start to move.

Please let us know about your plans asap.

Many thanks,

Consuelo

GIOVANNI MERLA MEDAL AWARDED TO EMANUELA DI MARTINO

Emanuela di Martino has been awarded the Giovanni Merla Medal by the Societá Paleontologica Italiana, in recognition of the activity of young Italian scholars in the field of paleontology who have greatly contributed to the discipline with their research. Emanuela, originally from the province of Syracuse but now a citizen of the world, received a master's degree in Geological Sciences from the University of Catania, and in 2014 a PhD from the University of Utrecht (Netherlands) dedicating her research to present day bryozoans and fossils from the Mediterranean to Indonesia. She was a post doc at the Natural History Museum in London, she dealt with the possible causes of the origin of biodiversity in tropical seas and then landed at the Natural History Museum in Oslo where she is currently and where she is dealing with macro-evolutionary issues. In a career of little more than ten years, she has shown a passion for research, scientific rigor and the ability to conduct innovative studies that have led her to be enormously appreciated internationally and to demonstrate the value of Italian paleontology in the world.
Paul Taylor

More detail at https://www.paleoitalia.it/varie/vincitori-delle-medaglie-spi-2021/
(Editors note – above text translated from the same website)

ARTICLES

COLLECTING BRYOZOANS FOR THE DARWIN TREE OF LIFE PROJECT

Andrea Waeschenbach

Mary Spencer Jones and Andrea Waeschenbach spent a week in May at the Marine Biological Association (MBA) in Plymouth where they were hosted by John Bishop to help collect fresh bryozoan samples for whole-genome sequencing. This work is part of a wider sequencing initiative led by the Wellcome Sanger Institute in Cambridge called the *Darwin Tree of Life* (DToL; www.darwintreeoflife.org), which aims to sequence the genome of every eukaryotic terrestrial and aquatic UK species over the coming years. Although a somewhat time-consuming affair for bryozoans, as large amounts of clean tissue are required for this type of sequencing, we collected DToL-ready samples for 15 species (*Alcyonidium hirsutum, Plagioecia patina, Disporella hispida, Bugulina turbinata, Bugulina flabellata, Cradoscrupocellaria ellisii, Scrupocellaria scruposa, Bicellariella ciliata, Cellaria fistulosa, Cellaria sinuosa, Schizomavella linearis, Celleporina caliciformis, Omalosecosa ramulosa, Parasmittina trispinosa,* and *Escharella variolosa*). We had extra pairs of hands helping with the collecting, imaging and liquid-nitrogen preservation from the rest of the MBA DToL team: Nova Mieszkowska (MBA Research Fellow), Robert Mrowicki (Postdoctoral Research Assistant), Patrick Adkins (Research Assistant), Joanne Harley (Research Technician) and Susie Wharam (Molecular Biology Technician). The results from the first genomes already in the pipeline, which were collected by John Bishop and Helen Jenkins (DToL Postdoctoral Research Assistant) previously (*Membranipora membranacea*, *Bugulina stolonifera, Bugula nertina, Cryptosula pallasiana* and *Watersipora subatra*) are already being anticipated with bated breath. Might there have been a genome duplication event with the origin of the ascophorans? We'll have to wait to find out!

The DToL team on the MBA vessel Sepia. From left: Patrick Adkins, Mary Spencer Jones, John Bishop, Andrea Waeschenbach, Joanne Harley

A very enjoyable cup of tea (Mary Spencer Jones & Andrea Waeschenbach)

John Bishop and Robert Mrowicki in Churston Cove (Brixham, Devon)

Mary Spencer Jones in Churston Cove (Brixham, Devon)

A boulder found in Churston Cove (Brixham, Devon) encrusted by colonies of Parasmittina trispinosa.

Delighted to have been joined by Helen Jenkins (currently on maternity leave with new arrival Arto) and her family for a sunny lunch by Smeaton's Tower on the Hoe. From left: Christine Wood (MBA Research Scientist), John Bishop, Mary Spencer Jones, Andrea Waeschenbach, Oscar Farnfield, Helen Jenkins, Ian Farnfield and Arto Farnfield (in the pram).

CALL FOR SOUTH AFRICAN MARINE SPONGE AND BRYOZOAN SPECIMEN OCCURRENCE DATA

Robyn P. Payne
BCB Department, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa

A collaborative project involving the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), as well as the Iziko South African Museum, includes the compilation of specimen occurrence databases for South African marine sponges and bryozoans.

Please contact me if you have access to any records of these taxa that are not found on OBIS/GBIF, or alternatively know of SA specimens housed in any collection worldwide. Identification to species level is not necessary. Any assistance would be much appreciated.

This work is based on the research supported in part by the National Research Foundation of South Africa, awarded through the Foundational Biodiversity Information Programme (FBIP), a joint initiative of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the National Research Foundation (NRF) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI).

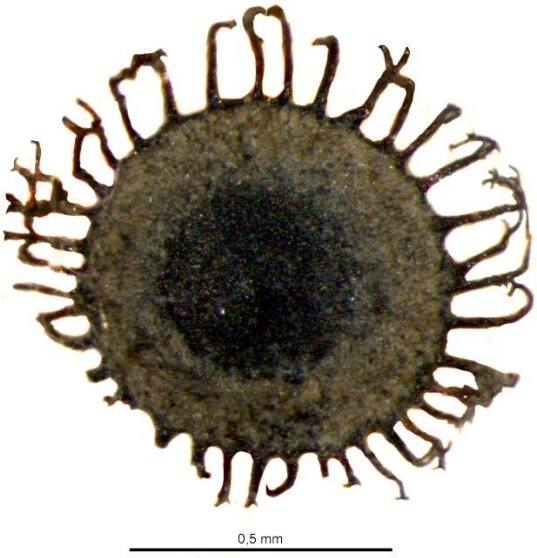
Kind regards,
Robyn P. Payne, MSc

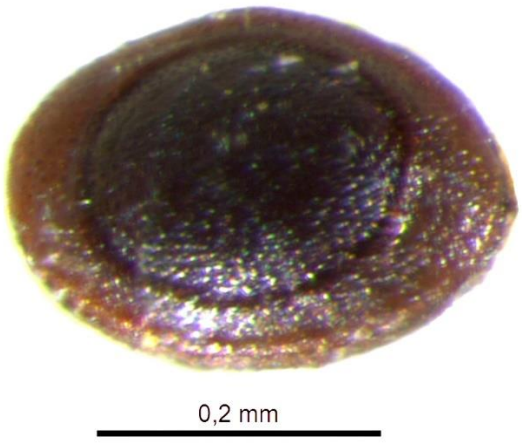
FIND OF PHYLACTOLAEMATA IN THE VALLEY OF THE ALDAN RIVER (SOUTH YAKUTIA, RUSSIA)

S.A. Kuzmina[1], A.V. Vinogradov[2]

[1]Borissiak Paleontological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow; [2] Samara Regional Branch of Russian Ecological Academy

Fossil statoblast *Cristatella mucedo* Cuvier, 1798 (Phylactolaemata, photo top left) was found by S.A. Kuzmina in a section near the village of Kharyyalakh (in southern Yakutia, in Russia, photo top right), 63 10 N 129 44 E, in the right-bank part of the Lena River valley, 30 km upstream of the mouth of the Aldan River, in an interlayer of peat (presumably early Holocene), the sample is filled with aquatic and coastal insects and seeds of the pondweed Potamogetonáceae. A fossil statoblast *Plumatella fungosa* (Pallas, 1768) (Phylactolaemata; photo bottom right) was found in the Peschanaya Gora section (photo bottom right) on the right bank of the Lena River, 56 km above the mouth of the Aldan River, 62 53 N 129 48 E, in a peat interlayer at the top of the section (early Holocene) [identified Phylactolaemata by A.V. Vinogradov]. The sample contains many shells of freshwater molluscs, seeds of pondweed, aquatic insects. The conditions for the formation of peat are approximately similar. Most likely, these were small stagnant bodies of water, not a swamp. The Aldan River is the largest, right, tributary of the Lena (flows into it in the upper reaches) and one of the largest rivers in Russia, has a length of 2273 km, flows along the northern slope of the Stanovoy mountain range. This is the first record of Phylactolaemata in the Aldan River Basin.





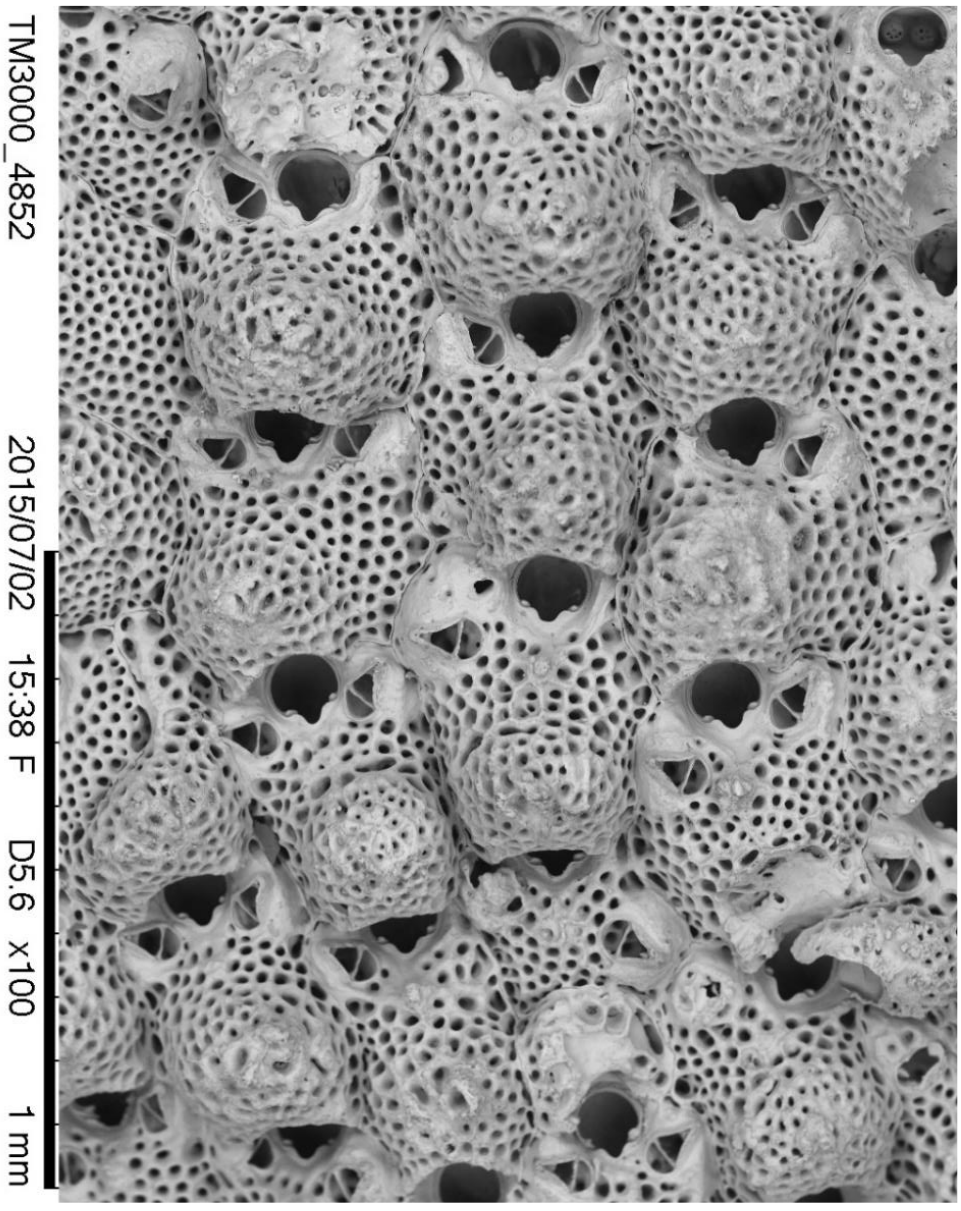
Photos by S.A. Kuzmina, September 2020.

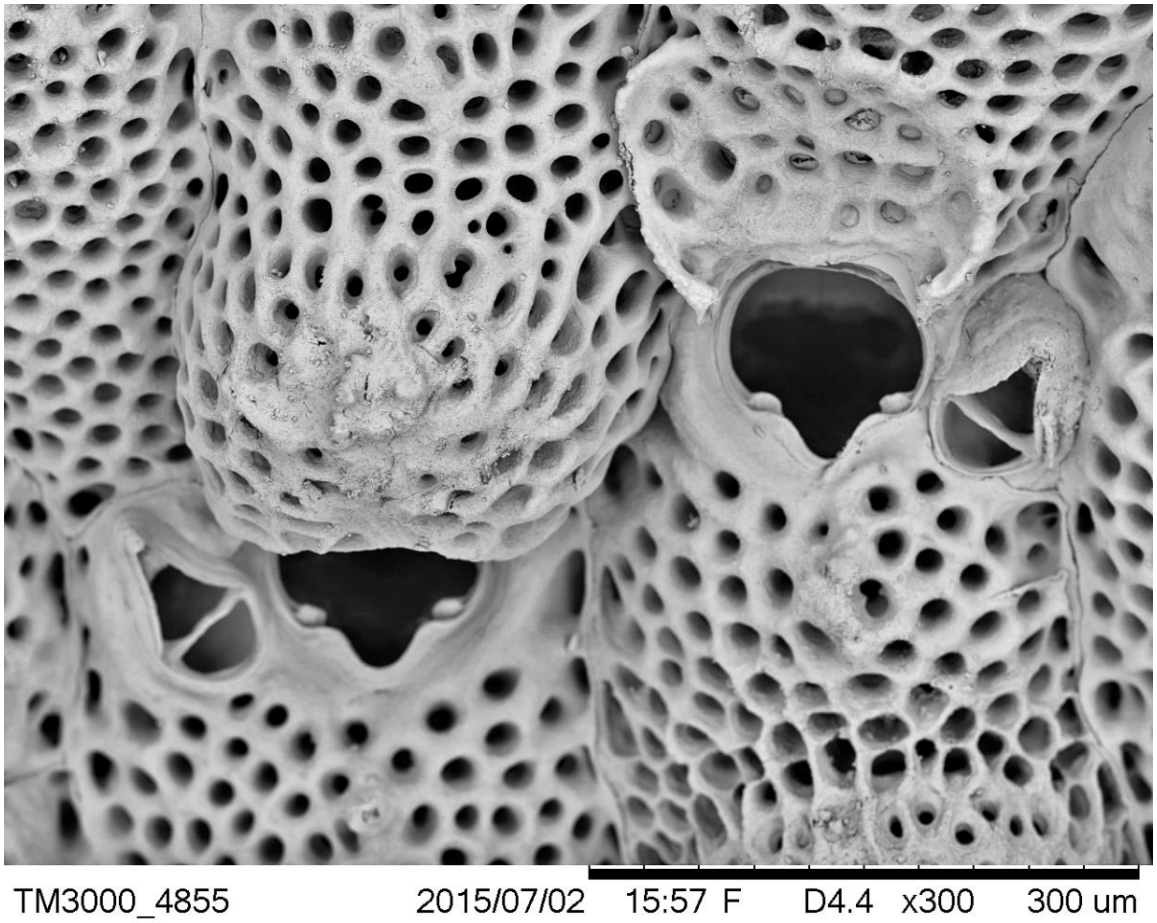
DO YOU KNOW THIS *SCHIZOPORELLA*?

Dennis Gordon & Keren Spong
National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research, Wellington, New Zealand

From time to time, species of *Schizoporella* come into New Zealand waters on vessels from overseas. Colonies are not always actively breeding when they arrive, so do not always produce larvae that will metamorphose to grow and reproduce, especially if the vessel is not long in port. But some species do escape into the local environment. In April 2003 *Schizoporella errata* was discovered forming well-developed breeding colonies in Waitemata Harbour, Auckland, on local substrata. Subsequently two other species were found on the hull of a vessel that berthed at the port of Nelson, northern South Island, in June 2015. These latter species were identified as *Schizoporella japonica* (Ortmann, 1890) (based on Dick *et al*. 2005) and *S. variabilis* (Leidy, 1855) (based on Winston & Hayward 2012). They have not been seen since. I am happy to send images of these species to anyone who is interested.

One species, however, has proven intractable. It was illustrated by Gordon & Mawatari (1992) from Opua, northern North Island, erroneously as *S. errata* (Waters, 1878). As Tompsett *et al*. (2009) observed, the identification was doubtful since the sinus was more V-shaped than in the lectotype and topotypic material of *S. errata*. It has been noted only once since (NIWA 58826), at Nelson in January 2002. Images of the Opua colony (NIWA 103877) are shown below in the hope that someone can tell us what the species is. We hope to obtain a molecular sequence this current funding year if more material turns up.





The orifice and sinus do not match that in *S. erratoidea* Liu *in* Liu, Yin & Ma, 2001 (which might be conspecific with *S. errata*), *S. pseudoerrata* Soule, Soule & Chaney, 2005 or *S. variabilis*. Avicularia are single or paired and sometimes variably placed. Phil Bock posted an image of what appears to be the same invasive species (undetermined) from southern Victoria, Australia, on 16 September 2000. *Schizoporella* sensu stricto is not native to Australasia.

References

Bock, P.E. (2000) *Schizoporella* sp. 1. http://www.bryozoa.net/cheilostomata/schizoporellidae/schispa.html

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Gordon D.P. & Mawatari, S.F. (1992) Atlas of marine-fouling Bryozoa of New Zealand ports and harbours. *Miscellaneous Publications, New Zealand Oceanographic Institute* 107, 1–52

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Tompsett, S, Porter, J.S. & Taylor, P.D. (209) Taxonomy of the fouling cheilostome bryozoans *Schizoporella unicornis* (Johnston) and *Schizoporella errata* (Waters, 1878*). Journal of Natural History* 43, 2227–2243.

Waters, A.W. (1878) The use of opercula in the determination of the cheilostomatous Bryozoa. *Proceedings of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society* 18, 8–11.

Winston, J.E. & Hayward, P.J. (2012) The marine bryozoans of the northeast coast of the United States: Maine to Virginia. *Virginia Museum of Natural History Memoir* 11, i-xii, 1–180.

2021 AUSTRALARWOOD X LARWOOD CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

IBA 2021

Australarwood X

17th Larwood Meeting

"Bryozoans of the World"

Bryozoology meetings are combining on-line in this unusual year

Where

Prof Abby Smith and her many students will host the meeting, based at University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand. Participants will join us on-line from all over the world.

When

We have to bring the date forward one day, so it will now take place 29-30 September, as follows:

City	Time Zone	Start	End
London	UTC	29 Sept 4pm	30 Sept 6:30am
Paris	UTC +1	29 Sept 5pm	30 Sept 7:30am
Tokyo	UTC +9	30 Sept 1am	30 Sept 3:30pm
Sydney	UTC +11	30 Sept 3am	30 Sept 5:30pm
Dunedin	UTC +13	30 Sept 5am	30 Sept 7:30pm
San Francisco	UTC -8	29 Sept 8am	30 Sept 10:30pm
New York	UTC -5	29 Sept 11am	30 Sept 1:30am

Approach

We will use Zoom. Sessions will run for about 15 hours straight. Participants will come in and go out as they wish to. We will provide ZOOM tutorials to anybody who feels they could use help before the conference.

There will be plenary sessions (35 mins), research talks (15 mins), and posters (5 mins). Speakers may choose for us to record the talks and upload them to BryoTube (a closed youtube channel, only IBA members can get in and find these talks), so that others can watch them at their leisure. We will take account of where people are in order to schedule their talks for a good time at their place. Student talk prizes will be awarded.

There will be 10-min breaks scattered throughout, to allow people to get food/drink between sessions.

We will use Breakout Rooms for social gatherings; alas, you'll have to bring your own drinks. There will be a special link to view posters in case you missed the poster session.

We will host a photo competition with "people's choice" voting among participants.

What Next?

Please register and send us your abstract! **Form is on the next page.** Deadline: 31 August 2021

Email to: abby.smith@otago.ac.nz

Bryozoans of the World
artwork by:

Yuta Tamberg

IBA 2021

Australarwood X

17th Larwood Meeting

"Bryozoans of the World"

Registration

Name:
Institution:
City, Country:
Email:
Time zone where you will be on 30 Sept/1 Oct, preferably in UTC:

I want to:
__ Give a Talk – ppt presentation, 12 min talk, 3 mins for questions
__ Present a Poster – one slide, 1 min talk, 4 mins for questions
__ Attend without presenting
__ Something else:
__ I am happy for my presentation to be recorded and posted on BryoTube, a private youtube channel only IBA people can find.

Please suggest up to three topics for breakout rooms that you would like to attend (e.g., Bryozoan Conservation; Cyclostomes; Freshwater).

Please indicate which "age" category you fall into:
___ student
___ postdoc, young lecturer, early career
___ mid-to-late career, established, still working
___ senior, retired, still love those bryozoans

Abstract

Title:
Authorship: (please put presenting author in **bold**)
Affiliations of authors:

Max 300 words
Can include one figure and/or a few references
Don't worry about formatting, we'll do that

Please send this form to: abby.smith@otago.ac.nz
Deadline is 31 August 2021

Bryozoans of the World
artwork by:

Yuta Tamberg

PROPOSALS FOR THE 2022 IBA MEETING

Penny A. Morris, University of Houston-Downtown, Houston, TX 77002

I am proposing that the University of Houston-Downtown (UHD), Houston, TX, host the next IBA meeting in June 2022. UHD can support an in-person meeting, a zoom meeting or a combined zoom/in-person meeting. I am proposing a 4-day meeting with one late afternoon and evening dinner at the Houston Museum of Natural History. HMNS has an excellent mineralogy and paleontology hall that will be open to meeting participants with a potential planetarium show.

The host, UHD, is part of the University of Houston system with over 15,000 U.S. and international students. The university is primarily an undergraduate institution and is unique because it supports undergraduate student research. Transportation to and from the hotels to UHD is served by a surface light rail and are within walking distance to the university. Nearby to the university and hotels are a number of restaurants that vary from pub style eating and drinking to upscale dining.

For those participants who wish to visit other venues, there are museums and a zoo available by light rail. These venues are all located in close proximity. Other potential self-tour venues are Space Center Houston and NASA Johnson Space Center. They are 26.5 mi (42 km) from downtown Houston. Space Center Houston is open to the public and can be reached by either public transportation buses, Uber, or Lyft.

Do you have a proposal?

If you are thinking about putting a proposal together but haven't yet been in touch please email Antonietta Rosso at rosso@unict.it and Catherine Reid at Catherine.reid@canterbury.ac.nz
Full proposals will be considered at the online Australarwood/Larwoord meeting at the end of September.

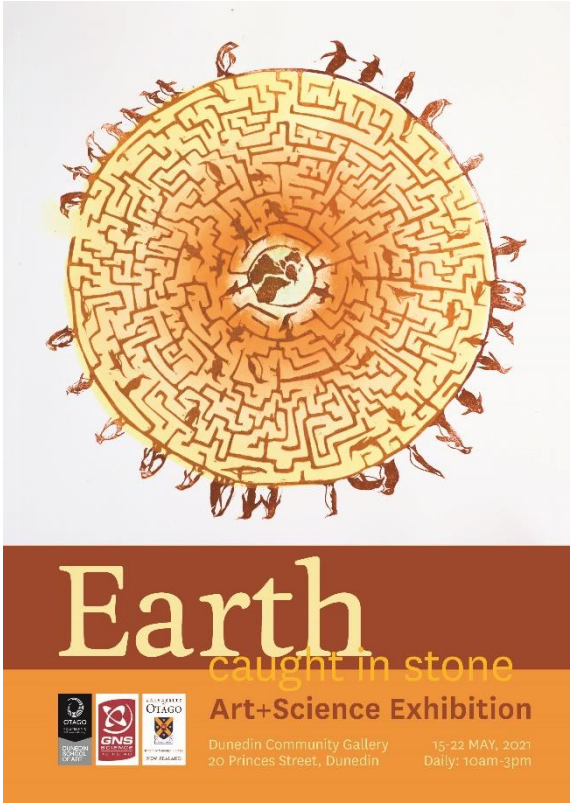
BRYOZOAN ARTWORK

EARTH CAUGHT IN STONE

Abby Smith

Bryozoans featured in a recent art exhibit called “Earth Caught in Stone” – an Art+Science exhibit put on by the Otago Polytechnic, University of Otago, and GNS New Zealand. It was in Dunedin in May, and will be in Oamaru next year about the same time.

The bryozoan exhibit was a multi-layered unfolding book in a tall narrow slip-case with bryozoan art all over both sides of it. Photo below of students gazing at it.
Here’s a link to an article about it:
https://www.odt.co.nz/the-star/bryozoans-caught-oamaru-stone



"BRYOZOAN BOUTIQUE APPAREL"

Seabourne Rust

A friend (Jan Barrett) who lives at Omapere on the shores of the Hokianga Harbour recently found this amazing pair of fabric shorts washed up, absolutely covered with intricate bryozoans galore, inside and out (must have been suspended in the water column for some time?)...like a natural artwork!

Could be a bit fragile - and smelly- for the wearable art awards, but I think it is so beautiful. Even came with a bonus fishing lure attached too!!

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The following list includes bryozoan related works either published since the previous issue of the *IBA Bulletin* as sent in to the editor. As always, members are encouraged to support future compilations by continuing to send complete citations to the IBA secretary at any time. Accuracy of your citation is assured if sent in bibliographic format, if re-drafting is required by the editor accuracy is not guaranteed! Reprints will be gratefully received by the IBA archivist, Mary Spencer Jones.

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Flórez, P., Di Martino, E., and Ramalho, L.V., 2021, Early Miocene coral reef-associated bryozoans from Colombia. Part I: Cyclostomata, “Anasca” and Cribrilinoidea Cheilostomata: Journal of Paleontology, v. 95 (4), p. 694–719. Open access: https://doi.org/10.1017/jpa.2021.5

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Kuzmina S.A., Izumova E.I., Vinogradov A.V. 2020 Finding Phylactolaemata at the Northern Pole of Cold. – Bulletin IBA (International Bryozoology Association), 2020, V.16, №1, P. 10 - 11.

Kuzmina S.A., Vinogradov A.V. 2018 Cenozoic Phylactolaemata from Upper Liard River basin, Yukon, Canada. – Bulletin IBA (International Bryozoology Association), 2018, V.14, №3, P. 11.

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