



# EARTHCARE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER EDITION



Dear Earthcare Members,

**Welcome to the latest Earthcare newsletter!**

In this newsletter, we are excited to share the latest updates, initiatives, and opportunities to get involved with Earthcare's ongoing projects. For further updates on Earthcare's activities, check out our [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

**Let's keep our planet thriving,** The Earthcare Team



## UPCOMING EVENTS

✦ NPS REMOVAL  
21 SEPTEMBER, 10AM  
LOCATION TBC

✦ EARTHCARE AGM  
28 OCTOBER  
STAY TUNED!

**LOCAL.  
DEDICATED.  
ACTIVE.**



# TREE PLANTING UPDATE



## WHAT DID WE ACHIEVE THIS YEAR?

**This year our volunteers have planted >7,550 native plants around St Kilda!**

Over 6 events, we've had over 300 different volunteers contribute to this project and have seen amazing change in our local community.



## DID YOU KNOW?

It is estimated that there are ~73,000 tree species globally





# NPS REMOVAL UPDATE



## SO FAR THIS YEAR...

We've removed **98,787 invasive sea stars** from Port Phillip Bay!

That's equal to **2,720 kilograms**.

This is nearly 3 x what we did last year but we have no intention of slowing down now...



### DID YOU KNOW?

NPS are listed as one of the world's 100 worst invasive species

## OUR NEXT EVENT

Join us on **Saturday 21 September from 10am.**

At this event we're aiming to pass 3 tonnes and over 100,000 invasive sea stars removed from Port Phillip Bay this year!

This is a big achievement and calls for a big celebration. All are welcome to assist on the beach or in the water.

**For more specific details join our NPS Facebook group:**

<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/4zxoMCZeAd3JA9g8/> **LOOK AFTER THE ST KILDA PENGUINS?**



# LITTLE PENGUIN UPDATE

## WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

The little penguins have been busy laying eggs and some nests already have chicks.

Over the next few weeks we'll start to see more chicks hatch and older chicks start to lose their grey juvenile feathers and replace them with adult blue feathers!



## HOW DOES EARTHCARE

In collaboration with Monash University professors and students, Earthcare researches and monitors the St Kilda penguin population. Since Earthcare started, our members have worked tirelessly to ensure the penguins of St Kilda are safe and healthy.

## FAVOURITE PART ABOUT EARTHCARE?





# MEET AN EARTHCARE TEAM MEMBER!

## RICH PENSAK

Rich is an important member of the Earthcare team and **organises the Northern Pacific Sea Star Removal Events**. In his free time he loves diving, painting, music and study. Oh and diving!

His favourite memory since joining Earthcare is his first NPS event at Seaford. **NPS were blanketing the bottom of the pier, highlighting how essential his work is in keeping the bay healthy**.

“Oh this has completely opened me up. **I have found I am capable of countless things I never thought I could do**, but my favourite thing is the human connection and the degree of commitment and genuine care each and every member of Earthcare brings.”

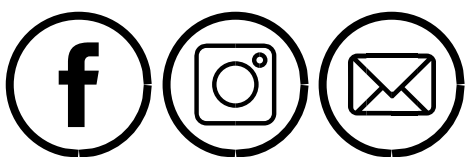


Can anyone guess what  
Rich is holding?



# THAT'S ALL FROM THE EARTHCARE TEAM FOR NOW!

The Earthcare Team acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which Earthcare resides, the Boonwurrung people of the Kulin Nations, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We would further like to acknowledge that these lands were never ceded. It always was and always will be, Aboriginal land.



*For more Earthcare updates, check out our socials!*

Earthcare St Kilda was formed in 1989 by a group of local volunteers to help research and protect the Little Penguin colony which lives on the rocks which form the St Kilda breakwater. Since that time, while maintaining its original purpose, Earthcare St Kilda's membership has grown to provide volunteers from both the local and surrounding municipalities with opportunities to help enhance and protect the natural land and marine environments of the City of Port Phillip and Elster Creek, meet and work on environmentally based projects alongside other enthusiastic volunteers, and learn from each other and scientific specialists about the amazing range of wildlife which inhabit this inner city location.