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**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA**

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## Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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### Community invited for an IMAS insight during Australian Antarctic Festival

Tasmanians and visitors will be able to get a rare insight into the world-leading marine and Antarctic science conducted by IMAS during next week's Australian Antarctic Festival.

IMAS will hold public Open Days at its waterfront building adjacent to PW1 from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 September as part of the inaugural Antarctic Festival.

Executive Director Professor Richard Coleman said that in the six years since its creation IMAS had established a global reputation for high quality research and teaching and the institute was keen to showcase its work to the community.

"Visitors to our Antarctic Festival Open Days will get a fascinating glimpse of the marine and Antarctic research that's being undertaken by world-leading scientists based here in Hobart," Prof Coleman said.

"Our displays will feature research into ice cores, the development of a new Automated Underwater Vehicle (AUV), the use of drones to map and video ice sheets, the skulls of Antarctic mammals and birds, and research into local and Southern Ocean marine species.

"We'll also present a range of fascinating videos about Antarctic and Southern Ocean science, and there'll be a series of talks by our researchers on subjects ranging from krill to underwater robots, and from Antarctic law to oxygen levels in the ocean.

"There'll also be plenty to engage the young scientists of the future, including face-painting, a penguin spy-cam track, and the chance to see and touch local marine life."

Find out more: <http://www.imas.utas.edu.au/australianantarcticfestival>

**IMAS Media Contact:** Andrew Rhodes (03) 6226 6683 or 0417 239 537, email: [ajrhodes@utas.edu.au](mailto:ajrhodes@utas.edu.au)

**Information released by:**

Communications and Media Office, University of Tasmania

Phone: 61 3 6226 2124

Email: [Media.Office@utas.edu.au](mailto:Media.Office@utas.edu.au)