

Marine Wildlife Roadshow in Galway

22nd – 25th March 2012

From 22nd to 25th of March 2012 the Marine Wildlife Roadshow took place in Galway parallel to the ASCOBANS AC19 and ECS meetings. The Roadshow, which was kindly hosted by the Galway Shopping Centre, was brought to the city of Galway by ASCOBANS and was intended to raise awareness amongst the local citizens on the marine diversity of the region and the conservation challenges that the animals living in the coasts of Ireland face. The Roadshow featured life-size inflatable models of marine species including an impressive 15-metre sperm whale, a killer whale, bottlenose dolphins, porpoises and turtles amongst many others. During the four days both school children and families had the chance to find out more about the fascinating sea creatures living in Irish waters. Six school groups were welcomed by Andy Peters, from the Whale Workshop, who offered interactive presentations during which the children had the opportunity to learn interesting facts about marine wildlife, as well as how they can contribute to preserve the marine environment and the amazing creatures that inhabit it. The children enjoyed hugging a porpoise and even took part in a dolphin rescue simulation. During the weekend the Roadshow continued to welcome the citizens of Galway and the colouring area was bursting with dolphin artworks by the youngest family members. The event, which was previously announced by the local media, attracted the attention of hundreds of visitors and will be featured in the local newspapers this week. The Marine Wildlife Roadshow was a very enjoyable experience for adults and children alike and received a great deal of positive feedback.



