



NEWSLETTER

URUMEPA PRESENTE EN ISLAS MALVINAS

On the 21st December, 2023 up to the 5th of January 2024, Pablo Quezada was once again a member of the Oosterschelde crew on the Leg from Puerto Madryn to Puerto Argentino o Stanley, participating in the Darwin 200 proyect.

The first stop was Weddell Island on the 26th of December, when some small particles of plastic were found. This sad discovery confirmed that there is no place on earth where plastics aren't present, invading natural habitats and intoxicating different species.



After a long sailing day towards the Sounder Island, were we walked for many hours, we found many different kinds of garbage and plastics, mainly belonging to fishing devices and gear. They were found were the penguins and other birds colonies were installed.





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Considering that plastic takes up to 1000 years to decompose, turning into micro and nano plastics, it is imperative to face the fact that all plastics end up on our ocean, and how important it is to decrease its use..

Plastic pollution kills many species and its impact is proved to be fatal and augmenting by the hour. Plastic contamination is a catastrophe that must be addressed asap.



BEACH CLEANUP TOGETHER WITH PLASTIC FISHERMAN

On Wednesday 10th of January, Urumepa participated in a beach cleanup in Maldonado (Parada 34, Punta del Este,) Our BOD member, María Cea organized a previous chat where the importance of these actions were addressed, followed by the clean up and the residue classification.





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ÁLVARO DE MARICHALAR VISITS URUGUAY

On February we received the visit of the Spanish seaman, activist and adventurer Álvaro de Marichalar, who is recreating the first world wide tour taken place in 1519 by Magallanes and Elcano. This time, Marichalar is repeating the adventure in the smallest vessel ever. His aim is to evidence the damage and degree of plastic pollution in seas, rivers and oceans.

Before arriving in Uruguay, he participated in the World Economic Forum in Davos.



Mr. Marichalar was welcomed by Urumepa's BOD, and shared many days in different scenarios listening to his experiences and having an enriching dialogue.

We participated in the lecture he gave at the Naval School for students and authorities.



We participated in different conferences where he talked about plastic pollution. One of them was on the celebration of the YCPE 100 years





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CHARLA EN LA INTENDENCIA DE MALDONADO

On the 8th March, during the Womens Day Celebration, our Director Pilar Lacalle participated in a conference where Urumepa's activities were presented.



VISIT TO OUR FRIENDS AT MIDLANDS SCHOOL



On the 20th March, we visited Midlands School, and shared activities regarding the 200 year anniversary of Charles Darwin's voyage.

We talked about our participation in the project and our work regarding plastic pollution in the River Plate.





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URUMEPA AT "OUR OCEANS" CONFERENCE, ATHENS

Greece hosted the 9th Our Ocean Conference from the 15th to the 17th of April. The conference took place at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center. This was a relevant event, confirming Greece commitment to transition to a Blue Economy to harness the advantages of a new balance between economic development, social cohesion and sustainability. Urumepe had the chance to meet with its organizer Secretary John Kerry, addressing amongst other issues, the Marine Protected Areas in Uruguay.



WELCOMING CAPTAIN TSAKOS AT THE MTF



URUMEPA participated in the reception organized for Dear Captain P.N.Tsakos at the MTF. We had the chance to exchange ideas and keep him posted regarding our activities.



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BEACH CLEAN UP WITH SCHOOLS FROM SOPHIA FOUNDATION



On the 2nd of May, Urumepe organized a beach clean up with children from extra school programme from the Sophia Foundation. More than 50 students participated enthusiastically.



The activities started with a chat by our BOD member, Pablo Quezada, who reminded all of us about the importance of being part of the solution, when it comes to the plastic pollution problem. Afterwards, the children were divided in teams and collected and classified the different types of garbage found at the beach.





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ANOTHER VISIT TO MIDLANDS SCHOOL IN FLORIDA



On the 8th of May, the students from 5th and 6th grade, shared their work on Charles Darwin Voyage.



VISIT TO WOODSIDE SCHOOL IN MALDONADO



On the 14th of May, we visited Woodside School in Maldonado, where we talked about the importance of the water cycle and its cares. Afterwards we had a workshop with the students who presented their own works on the matter.





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15 th May, Urumepa´s Aniversary

Since 15th May, 1997, Urumepa has been active in Uruguay, working with schools and organizations on the subject of marine environmental protection.

As a member of Intermepa, we are proud to represent these values in this part of the world.

Our main concern has been the education amongst the youngest when it comes to taking care of our planet, specially our seas, oceans and rivers.

We have concentrated our efforts in expanding the importance of implicating each and every child in this important task.

We´ve been working mainly in the plastic contamination issue, as well as the relevance of the renewable energies-

“Small actions, big changes!” Be part of the solution with us.

BEACH CLEAN UP AND WORKSHOP WITH MONTEVIDEO BOY SCOUTS



During the month of May, we met various times with the Boy Scouts, cleaning beaches and presenting works on plastic contamination.





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URUMEPA PARTICIPATED ON THE EXPO SUSTAINABLE FAIR

Just as we did last year, URUMEPA was part of the sustainable fair which took place in the Antel Arena. The expo was organized by the Environmental Ministry, and took place from the 6th to the 9th of June.



We offered various workshops at our stand, and received many visitors from different schools and organizations.

Some schools presented their own projects to the public at our stand.





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PARTICIPATION AT THE FAIR “EDUCATION LEADERS”

Urumepa was invited to participate and speak at the forum “Education Leaders”, where we shared a stand together with the “Maria Tsakos Foundation”.

It was a great opportunity to share with other educational centers what both of our organizations do and what we offer to the public.

It was an interesting environment where we exchanged programmes with other institutions.



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WORKSHOP ON RENEWABLE ENERGIES AND GREEN HYDROGEN AT MIDLANDS SCHOOL

On the 22nd of August, Urumepe organized a workshop regarding renewable energies and the importance of green hydrogen in this process.

The students were very interested, and eager to learn about this energetic transition taking place in the world and particularly in our country.

The plan is to continue this kind of workshops with pupils from 5th and 6th year.

ART AUCTION ON BEHALF OF URUMEPEA

Artist Pilar Lacalle, current Director of Urumepe, organized an auction of her paintings on behalf of our ONG. This took place on the 12th August in Buenos Aires at the Hyatt Hotel.



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URUMEPA PARTICIPATED AT THE JUNIOR MARATHON ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.

On the 12th September, we were part of an interesting school interchange on different environmental issues. It was organized by Maturana, School and had the participation of pupils from different schools, by presenting their projects on environmental problems and its possible solutions. Our BOD members Pilar Lacalle and Pablo Quezada, gave a talk on ocean plastic pollution and its consequences.



WORLD BEACH CLEANUP FESTIVAL ORGANIZED BY PLASTIC FISHERMAN

On the 21st of September, Plastic Fisherman organization invited us to be a part of a massive cleanup that took place in different parts of the world at the same time. Our BOD member, Maria Cea represented Urumepa.



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CONFERENCE “CURRENT SITUATION OF FISHING IN URUGUAY”

Urumepa organized an interactive conference on the current fishing situation in our country. Many experts on the subject exposed their positions, and debated afterwards.



The main areas discussed were sustainability, technological innovation and the necessary policies in order to reach social and economic balance. In marine conservation.

The conference took place at the Maria Tsakos Foundation building on the 23rd September, with more than 60 people present and many that followed it through internet, channel “Seminario AOU”.





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URUMEPA PARTICIPATION AT 10th CONFERENCE “INTERNATIONAL WATERS BIENAL”, ORGANIZED BY FMAM

From the 23rd to the 26th September, the UNESCO and the Global Environmental Facility organized the 10th Conference on International Waters. This took place at the Conrad Hotel in Punta del Este. This year's subject was “Impacts and transformative actions towards the water and oceans development objectives”.





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HERITAGE DAY AT MARIA TSAKOS FOUNDATION.

Once again, as every year, we celebrated Heritage day at Maria Tsakos Foundation, and Urumepe opened its doors to the public.

The open doors event took place on Saturday 5th of October and we received more than 500 visitors.

URUMEPE PART OF SUSTAINABLE FASHION

On the 21st October, at the Cottage Hotel, a sustainable fashion event took place and many sustainable brands presented their products, and shared the environmental friendly production process. Urumepe had a stand from where we shared our activities and environmental concerns.,



Pilar Lacalle was one of the speakers, and shared Urumepe's concern with sustainable production processes and its consequences on the marine environment.





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BEACH CLEAN UP AND RECICLE WORKSHOP AT PLAYA MALVIN

On October, 26th, we organized a beach clean up with two different schools, the María Reina and the Elbio Fernández. School. Both from Montevideo. The pupils participated at the garbage classification after the clean up activity.



ART EXPOSITION ON PLASTIC POLLUTION PUNTA DEL ESTE

On the 10th November, Urumepa together with the Manduca Art School, offered an exposition of the work done during the year. The theme was influence of plastic pollution in local marine species. The show was open to public for a whole week.





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INTERNATIONAL BEACH CLEAN UP

URUMEPA was part of the international clean up activity that took place on the 9th November by the coast at different beaches of the country.



MURALS WITH A MESSAGE & LECTURE ON DEEP WATER CORALS WITH MAR AZUL URUGUAYO

In December, Urumepa was part of the project “Murals with a message”, and painted different parts of the city with ifs slogan: “small actions, big changes!”

In addition, on the 19th December, we participated at the lecture on deep water corals, together with Mar Azul Uruguayo.

