



ISSUE Q3 - July - September

NEWSLETTER 2025

Environment Society of Oman
www.eso.org.om

Cover Photo:
Crown jellyfish,
Cephea cephea,
Yaqoob Al Rashdi



ACHIEVEMENTS & EVENTS

A summary of our Q3 highlights across research, conservation, education and community engagement.



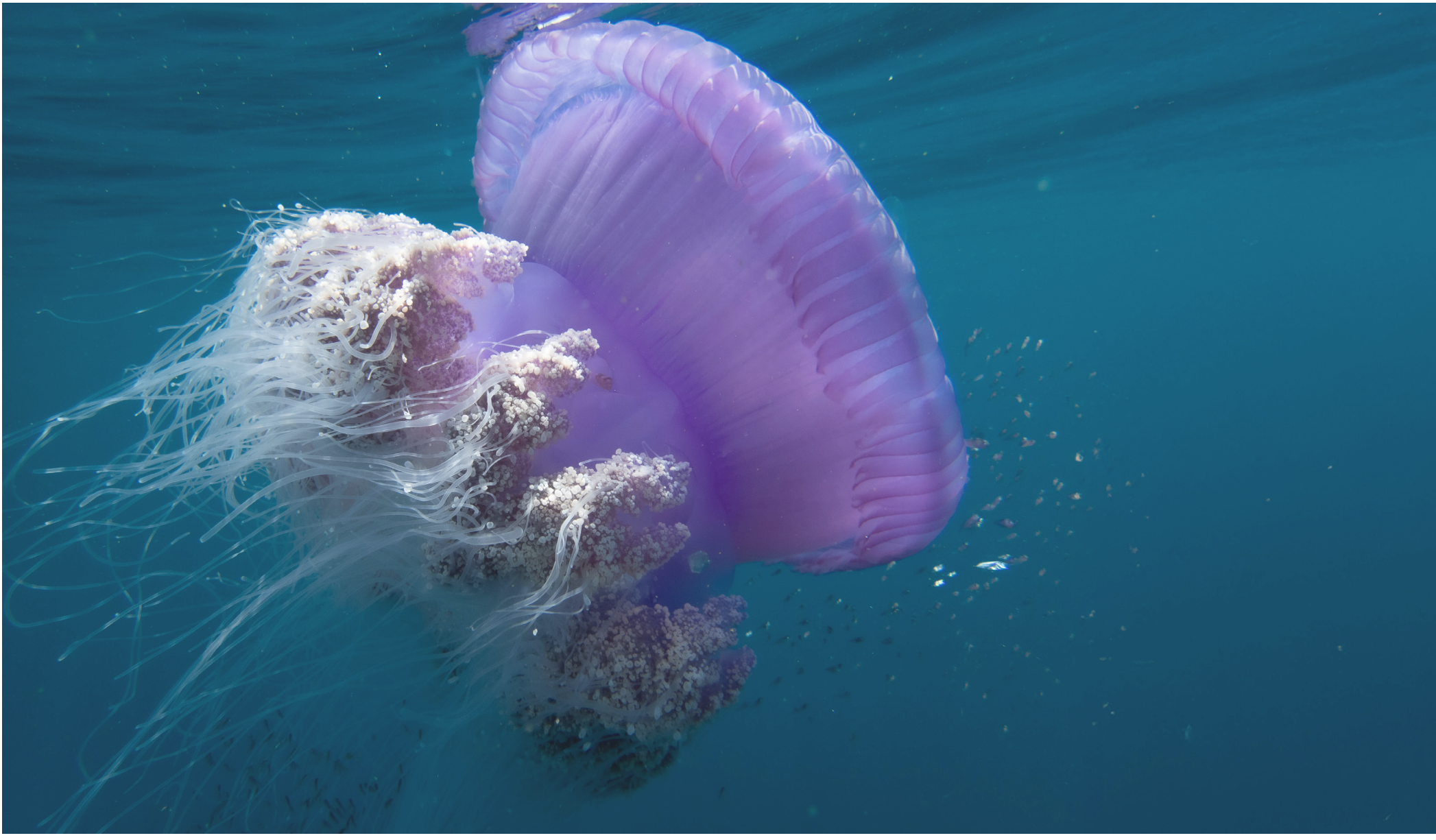
PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Stride for Nature: ESO charity run in celebration of World Cleanup Day



MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Highlights from our membership programme and details of how to get involved!



ACHIEVEMENTS & EVENTS



Plastic Free July Calendar

To encourage sustainable lifestyles, ESO shared a Plastic Free July Calendar as a step-by-step guide on social media to encourage small, meaningful changes that reduce plastic waste and protect the environment.



Oman Kite Festival

OMRAN Group in partnership with Oman Sail, hosted the Oman Kite Festival 2025. ESO participated with an activation which engaged 85 children in the community. ESO hosted a sea turtle awareness tent with interactive activities introducing children to Oman's sea turtle species and the challenges they face. The event took place at Masrah Island beach taking advantage of the natural setting and reaching families attending the outdoor festival.



Oman Climate Dialogues: Sustainable

The Sustainable Maritime Transport session at Oman Climate Dialogues brought experts and innovators to explore decarbonization ports, protecting marine life, building maritime skills, and advancing a sustainable maritime future. Moderated by Suad Al Harthi, Executive Director of ESO and joined by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology - Oman & IT, Captain Khalil Al Hooqi, Asyad Shipping, Dr Andrew Wilson, Future Seos Global SPC and Captain Rajkumar Palanivelu, International Maritime College Oman (IMCO). The discussion was full of insights and actionable ideas.



July without Plastic

As part of the 'July Without Plastic' campaign, ESO proudly joined the awareness workshops hosted by the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism on 28 July at their headquarters. Mr. Ahmed Al Zaidi, ESO's Membership and Communication Coordinator, delivered an engaging session titled "Plastic and its Impact on the Environment", shedding light on what plastic waste truly mean, why plastic pollution is a serious concern and how to take simple impactful steps to reduce it.



15th Ramsar COP in the Republic of Zimbabwe

Jawaher Al Ghafri, ESO's Education Specialist, attended the 15th Ramsar COP in the Republic of Zimbabwe, joining experts from around the world to exchange knowledge of wetland conservation, climate action, and sustainable water management. Together with the 2,543 Ramsar sites worldwide, these wetlands help protect vital habitats, conserve biodiversity and safeguard climate future. Oman hosts 3 Ramsar sites and protects over 714,000 hectares of wetland. In July 2025, Al Wusta Wetland Reserve (which includes Barr Al Hikman) received official Ramsar accreditation, after being designated in 2023.



The Origin Awards

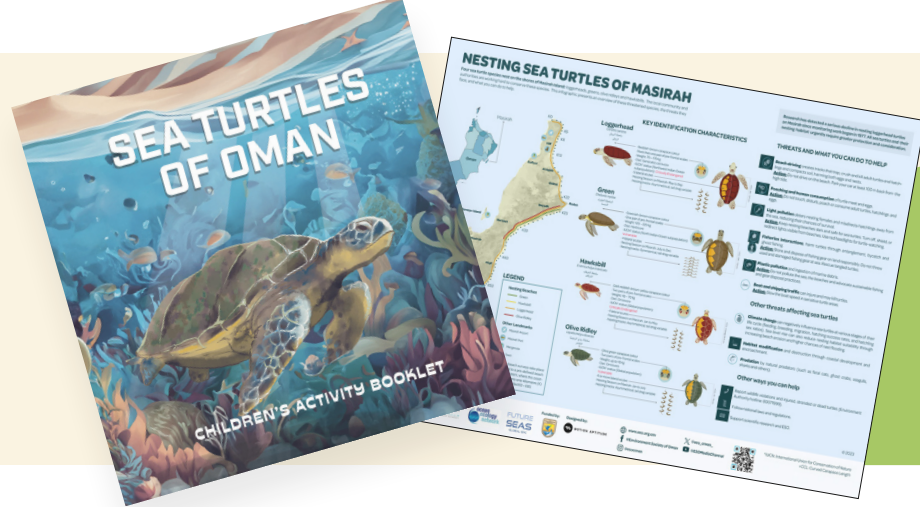
ESO congratulates Jawaher Al Ghafri, Environmental Awareness and Education Specialist, on receiving the Social Champion Award at The Origin Awards. This recognition highlights her inspiring efforts to lead environmental awareness and education initiatives in Oman.



BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

Discover the world of sea turtles and why they matter.

Visit our library to explore more books.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Stride for Nature: ESO charity run in celebration of World Cleanup Day

In celebration of World Cleanup Day 20th September 2025, the Environmental Society of Oman (ESO) organized a charity run that drew a diverse crowd of participants united in their shared passion for protecting the Sultanate's stunning natural environment.

The charity run, 'Strides for Nature', took place in partnership with Guinness World Record holder, **Fahad Al Abri**, on Shatti Al Qurum Beach, Muscat's most popular seaside destination. The 4km route was designed not only for runners to sprint along the shoreline, but also as a child-friendly hands-on cleanup drive for families to enjoy together. Around 40 volunteers were on hand to oversee safety and security, ensure smooth organization and support participants throughout the run.

The event was made possible through generous contributions from sponsors and in-kind supports. **National Bank of Oman** stepped forward as the Gold Sponsor. Our silver sponsors are **Al Ansari Trading and Enterprises** and **Al Mouj** and further in-kind support was provided by **Altech**, **InterContinental Hotel**, **Mandarin Oriental**, and **Oasis Water** for their in-kind support. We extend a heartfelt thanks to all of the sponsors, supporters, volunteers and participants who made this event a success.

A key player to the success of this event was Fahad Al Abri, the celebrated Omani athlete, fitness trainer, musician, and wellness advocate. Fahad recently entered the Guinness World Records for completing the fastest 10km run while playing the Ukulele (47 minutes, 57 seconds, Muscat, February 2025). His energetic community-led approach to encourage registrations and his presence at Stride for Nature proved both inspirational and galvanizing for participants.



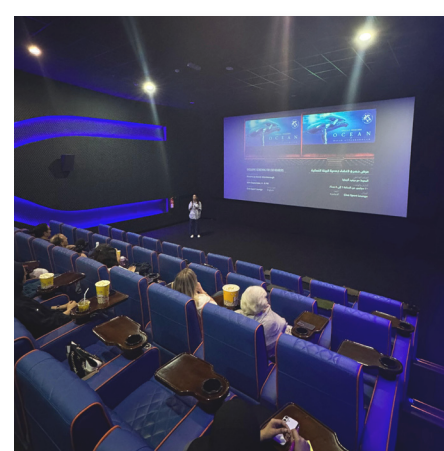
ESO MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We are proud to offer corporate and individual membership programs, providing the community in Oman with opportunities to engage with environmental initiatives and gain deeper exposure to sustainability topics. Through regular public talks and activities, we bring our members together to support environmental efforts and drive meaningful change. Stay updated on upcoming events by visiting our [website](http://www.eso.org.om) or following us on [social media](https://www.facebook.com/eso.org.om).



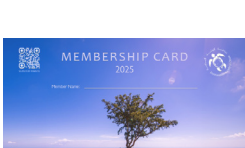
July & August Activity

ESO proudly wrapped up a successful Plastic Free July campaign in Dhofar, where ESO engaged with the community to raise awareness on the urgent need to protect the environment from plastic pollution. ESO inspired everyday actions through a Plastic Free Challenge booklet, and handed out reusable bags.



September Activity

ESO Hosted an exclusive screening of Ocean with David Attenborough's Ocean at Cine Sport Lounge. Ocean with David Attenborough is a powerful standalone documentary that explores the beauty and fragility of our oceans, narrated by world-renowned environmental storyteller Sir David Attenborough. Separate from his earlier works like Blue Planet, this film sheds light on critical ocean topics — from marine biodiversity and climate change to plastic pollution and global conservation efforts.



Become a Member Today!

If you would like to become an ESO member or **renew your membership** click on:

NEW MEMBER

RENEWALS

*STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

5^{RO}

Your support matters.

Thank you for believing in our commitment to conserve and protect the incredible biodiversity of Oman.

FOR ENQUIRIES:

Individual Membership: membership@eso.org.om

Corporate Sponsorship / Membership: mai.abumughli@eso.org.om

*INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

10^{RO}

*CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

2K^{RO}



*Memberships are per year.

Why support ESO!

Your support enables us to...



Conduct **RESEARCH** on threatened and endangered species in Oman



EDUCATE communities on the importance of adopting more sustainable lifestyles



ADVOCATE for environmental sustainability



BUILD CAPACITY within the environmental sector in Oman



CONSERVE Oman's natural heritage for future generations

How to support ESO in 2025

1. MAKE A DONATION VIA BANK TRANSFER

Bank Muscat

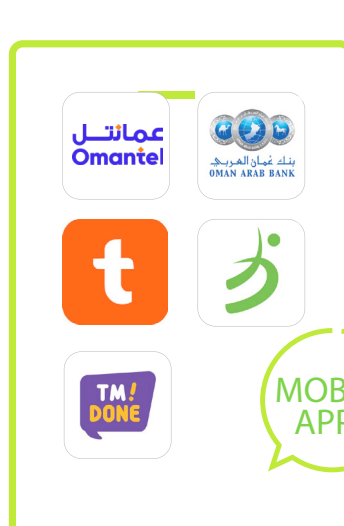
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Oman Arab Bank

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Sohar International Bank

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2. FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



3. JOIN OR RENEW ESO MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMME

MEMBERSHIP

4. SUPPORT OUR CHARITY INITIATIVES

LEARN MORE

ESO Annual Report 2024 now available on our [resources page](https://www.eso.org.om)

DONATION PROGRAMMES

We are very grateful to all our donation partners, who kindly add an optional donation to guests bills. We are actively working to encourage more hotels and tour operators to join the program.



THANK YOU!

- **Oman Sail** for covering the cost for ESO to participate in the Kite Festival. As well as to the volunteers Ali Abumughli, Sarah Zaitoon, Isra'a Al Kindi and Hamood Al Rawahi for helping with the campaign.

- Thank you to volunteer divers Antonia Vegh, Jenan Al Asfour and Angela and Neli Hadfield for supporting the coral reef monitoring surveys. Thank you to Extra Divers Qantab and Ras Al Hamra Dive Club for also supporting the surveys.

Green Turtle, *Chelonia mydas*
Nicholai Georgiou