

“I’ve never thought of myself as a Tall Poppy; if you spend enough time diving on exposed coasts Mother Nature tends to throw up a whole bunch of things to ensure that you never get too far ahead of yourself.”

Dr Ling’s research focuses on understanding how climate change and other non-climatic stressors, like overfishing, can interact to cause the collapse of important rocky reef ecosystems.

Dr Ling has been involved with a number of community initiatives targeting marine pests and he has trained up citizen scientists to undertake scuba observations to keep track of sea urchin populations.

He also shares his passion, experience and understanding of marine ecosystems at every opportunity by giving lectures at UTAS and presentations to school groups, adult education classes and broader interest groups.

Dr While’s research looks broadly at animal behaviour and evolution, with a particular focus on why animals live together.

Campaign currently recognises the achievements of Australian scientists through the annual Young Tall Poppy Science Awards and the biennial CSL Florey Medal.

Information Released by:
UTAS Communications and Media Office