

MCRP MEMBERS NEWSLETTER



Marine Care Ricketts Point



Visit <http://www.marinecare.org.au>

Issue no 40. June 2015

Winter Solstice Snorkel June 22nd



Image: Harold Hardwicke

Our winter solstice 'intrepids', in wetsuits alone, deserve a front page viewing in this edition. Water temperature was 11 degrees, and the air temp 11 as well. It was cold but the team were in for 45 minutes or more. They were rewarded with brilliant underwater visibility, beautiful algae and a feeling of youthful enthusiasm and camaraderie when they got out. There was a 100% vote in favour of this being an annual event.

This and That

Twenty of us attended the final Bayside Environmental Friends Network meeting led by Barbara Jakob, who helped establish the BEFN and managed its local Bayside activities for some 9 years. Barbara moves on with effect 30th June and we wish her well. Details on her successor next issue



This is a rare image of a male Port Jackson Shark showing his 'claspers'. It was taken by Phil Watson, elsewhere in the Bay.

Quality images abound these days, and the editor urges all photographers on this MCRP mailer list, to enter our August National Science Week, competition. See more on page 5.

To stay motivated, most of our photographers need outlets for their work, and that is a major reason as to why we have put the effort into this Natsciweek display

Nairm Notes—Revegetation of our Foreshore

From this in September 2012....



to this below in June 2015. A great tribute to the work of Citywide and our Friends of Ricketts Point Landside volunteers led by Moira Langdon.



Eclectic

Nice to see that we have stepped up our support for snorkelling, a notch, to include four newly qualified instructors. David, Terry, Jinty, Gayle, Stuart and Mick have all completed the PV snorkel instructors course.

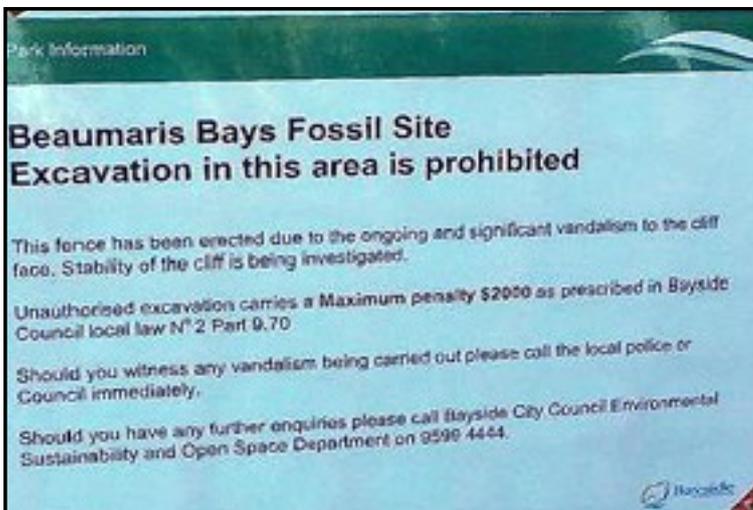
A brown snake was sighted recently on the beach Rd at Black Rock. They are not uncommon along the foreshore. Further, a red bellied black was seen at the Tea House last summer. So, just be careful if you wander amongst the bushes.

Fossils protected. A \$2000 fine is now imposed on those who 'mine' fossils from the Beaumaris Cliffs. Its still OK if you find something under water but we are pleased to see an end to

the public chipping away the cliff face south of the BMYS and removing embed fossils for their collections or sale. See the new signage below.



Red Bellied Black Snake



The above two matters come from the Sandringham Foreshore Assn Newsletter.

The unusual image below of a Spider Crab at Blairgowrie holding a sponge aloft, is from P T Hirschfield.

Her website is at www.pinktankscuba.com

Williamstown. Opposite the park on The Strand at Williamstown, is a totally unexpected and exciting spit of land that divides the Yarra from Hobsons Bay. It is a naturalists delight to walk its length, and find ships moving up river only metres away on one side, and a deserted beach on the other.



Science Week Photographic Competition.

As part of the Science Week activities to be held at the Beaumaris Yacht Club (future site of MESAC) from 15 to 23 August this year, we will be holding a photography competition. Entries will be displayed during Science Week with the aim of giving visitors a glimpse of various aspects of the Ricketts Point Marine Sanctuary.

There will be four categories –

1. Best above water land/seascape photo
2. Best underwater seascape photo
3. Best undersea critter photo– fish, crab or anything else that moves of its own accord
4. Best sea bird photo



Winners and place getters in each category will be decided by popular choice of Science Week visitors. Certificates will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placegetters in each category at the end of Science Week. Mounted photos can be collected then.

You can submit up to total of 4 photos, of which a maximum of 2 can be in any one category. The only condition is that they must have been taken in the Sanctuary

For display purposes we are asking you to submit your photos in 20 x 25 size (cost approx. \$1 each at Office Works). [Alternatively, and to save time,](#) you can submit them electronically and we will print them at this size – on a 'no responsibility for end result' basis. That is, we won't edit the photo in any way. [Please also indicate the subject matter and when they were taken.](#)

Please send your photos to Kim Wright, 17A Tennyson Street Sandringham 3191

We are running out of time and all entries are required urgently. If you have not already submitted, please do so and help in making a success of this inaugural MCRP marine photo competition.

On the right is the Slender Velvet Bush.

A few years back the last three of them were found at the Red Bluff by someone who recognised them for what they were. The Community Nursery in Resreve Rd managed to recover the species form these remaining plants.

They now abound in Bayside. To see what we nearly lost, have a look at the front of the Beaumaris Tea House next time you are there.



Marine Care

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Find out more about MCRP.

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EDITORS NOTE



This image was taken in front of the old teahouse in 1936. How much better and more beneficial to all, is our foreshore now?

On the phylogenetic tree, the hippopotamus is the closest living relative to whales, dolphins, orcas, belugas and porpoises.

We have a new Parks Victoria Ranger, Tamara Vekich, who, while based in Williamstown, has a responsibility for the three 'top of bay' sanctuaries.

Tamara visited us on the 26th June along with John Tornatora of PV who has moved on to duties in the Westernport region.

John has been a great supported of us and we wish him well.

We gave Tamara an area values briefing, and then a few of us joined her for coffee at the Tea House.

Beth, David, Tamara, John & Joe enjoy a coffee at the Tea House after the welcoming tour for Tamara



John Tornatora, Tamara Vekich and Ray Lewis during the local Ricketts Pt sanctuary tour.



A solo spider crab at Half Moon Bay.

Susan Carden

.... Next issue likely August and 2015