

MCRP MEMBERS NEWSLETTER



Marine Care Ricketts Point



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

Issue 45 date January 2016

Our Sanctuary is Under Threat. Do We Need a Sign Like This?



Over December we had a group of Islanders twice taking abalone, (at least 50), and ignoring local protests. We had an increasing number of dogs off leash in front of the Tea House, (two known dog bites), a fast moving boat transiting, fishing from a boat inside the markers, and a spear fisherman taking fish on dusk. No response from authorities could be effected.

Maybe a sign like the above might help, so at least ignorance can not be pleaded. should we ever achieve proper policing...

Nairm Notes (A Snorkel at Quiet Corner).



Our first seasonal snorkel at Quiet Corner (McGregors Rock), was a great success for the 14 who attended. Sightings of Eagle Rays, Old Wives, Zebra Fish, Toadies in droves, Goatfish, and more, had a few saying that this is the best place to dive in the sanctuary. We are fortunate to have so many dive sites available to us.

A Nudibranch Special—1

As promised some nudibranchs follow here. The images came from Kim Wright, David Reinhard, Susan Carden, Tim Forster, Phil Watson, N Kerjik and Ray Lewis. All are to be found on this side of the Bay.



Actinia tenebrosa



Chromodoris tinctorna



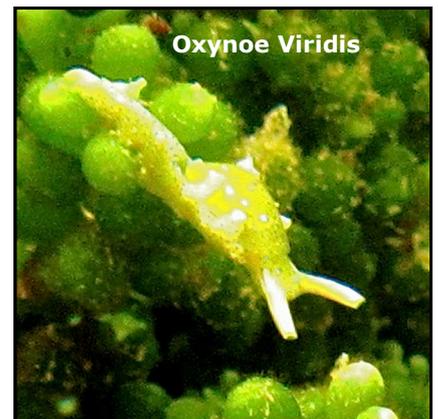
Black dendodorid



Phyllodesium serratum



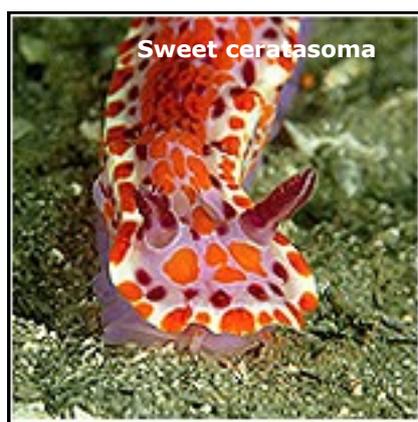
Phyllodesium serratum



Oxynoe Viridis



Vercoes nudibranch



Sweet ceratasoma

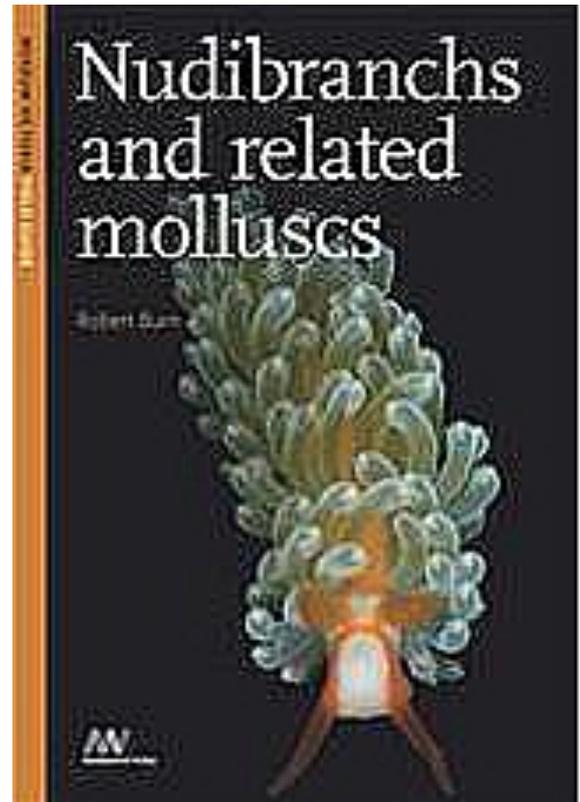
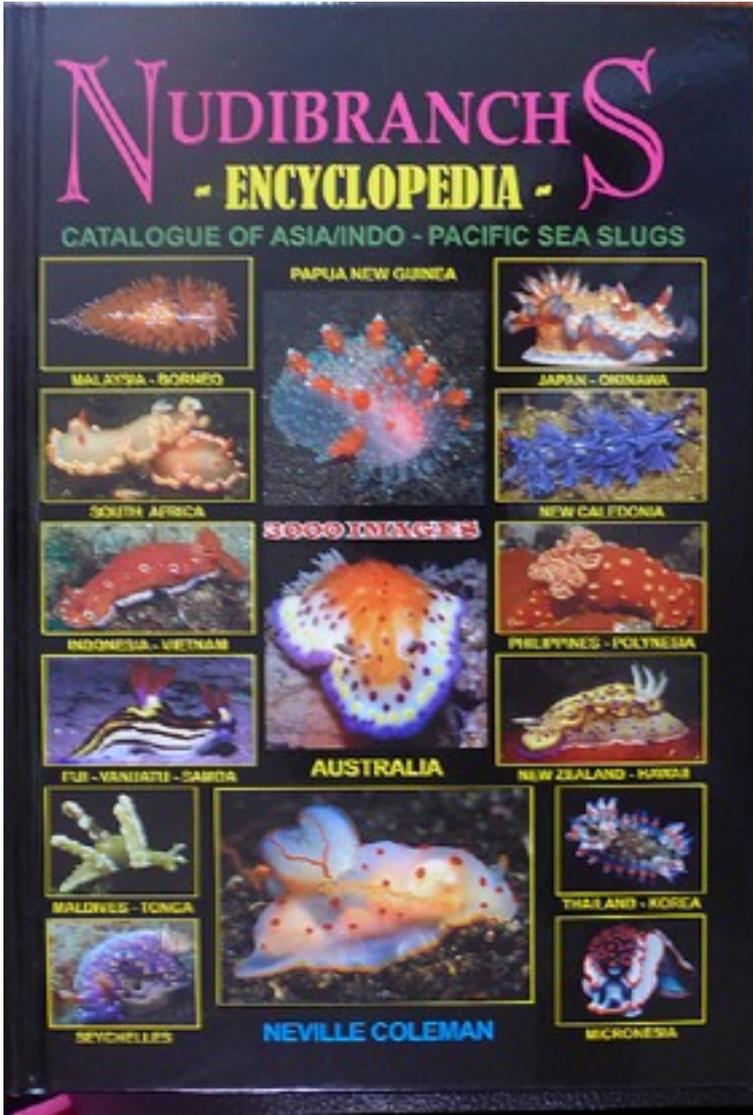


Ceratosoma brevicaudatum

Identification of nudis and their family, isn't really easy , but we are sure of some, as above. Overleaf we have images of a couple of books that may help if you become enthused. There are literally thousands southern waters. The most common one a snorkeler will first recognise is *brevicaudatum*, above. They are as lomng as half a thumb, and very obvious colourwise underwater in just a couple of metres.

A Nudibranch Special—2

Here are two valuable books that can help identifications. While the Nudibranchs Encyclopedia, written by an Australian, is spectacular, the MCRP library is getting in a copy of **Nudibranchs and related molluscs** as shown below, and it can be borrowed from our librarian. This second book is more focused on our local nudi's.



Above a nudibranch and her egg case.



Left, room here for a rare image of a fleeing blue ring octopus from Julienne Stewart.

What's it's Name?

If you have a little trouble trying to get on top of what species is what, let alone their Latin names, then feel better by reading this general list of what might be found in our waters. (Courtesy of a slide shown by Mark Rodrigue of Parks Victoria, at the recent Sea Search event held at Ricketts Point.) .

1000 Sponges

1300 - 2000 Molluscs

3000+ Crustaceans

200+ Echinoderms

200+ Ascidians

700+ fish

and

1000+ Bryzoans

In Victoria alone we have at least:

That said, it is well worth making the effort to get to know the main species in the sanctuary so that we may, as good marine carers and citizen scientists, recognise and record such observations and annual changes.

On the right we have a tray of northern Pacific Sea Stars on sale in Japan recently. **Does anyone have a recipe for such?** [Mail the Editor](#)

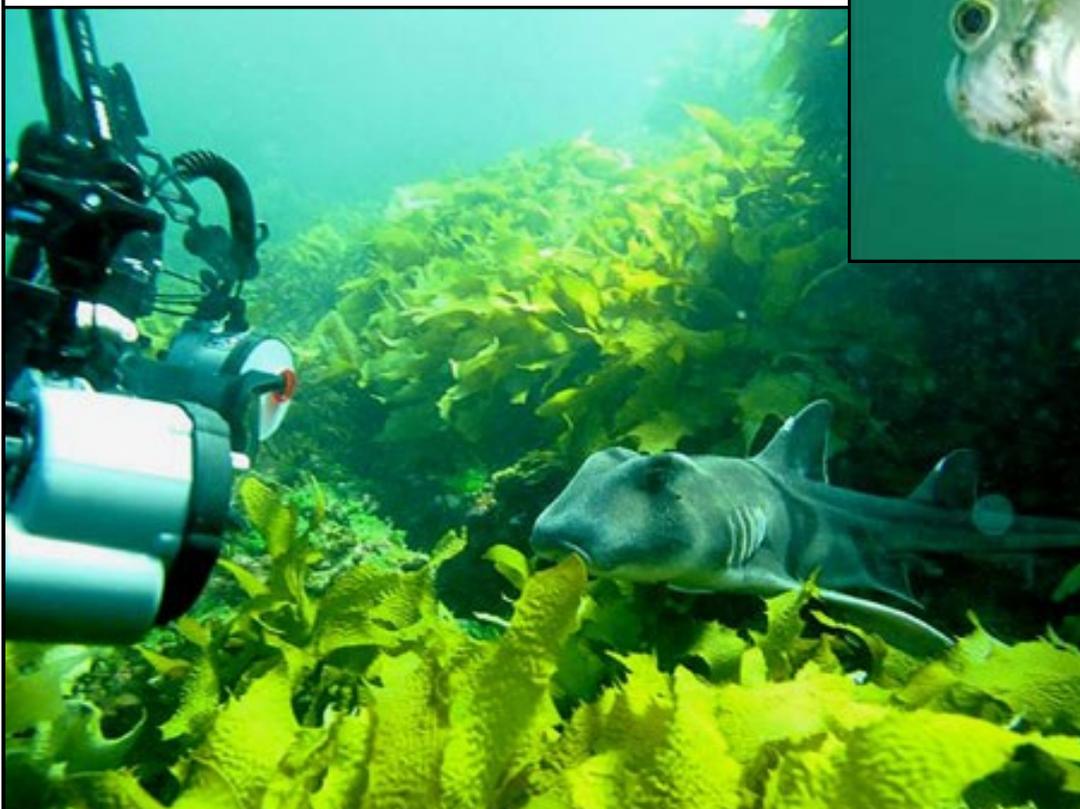
Kim Wright took this image of a toady with as lot of attached marine growth. Unusual to say the least.



Image Susan Carden



Image Kim Wright



Not only are our photographers taking better and better images all the time, but the professional layouts such works are also on the up and up. This excellent photo is from Peter Dedrick.

Events—Australia Day Award



The Orphan's Picnic on Xmas eve, was attended by the regulars, who enjoyed the sociable atmosphere, balmy evening, sipping champagne and eating (mostly) grilled sausages.

Following that in January we had the birthday bash for the 4 of us who had birthdays a few days apart in January. About 20 of us attended that event in the tea House Park. Another fun evening.



On Australia Day many of us turned up in a fetching blue, to support Beth as she accepted the Bayside Council's award for the best environmental group of the year.

The beach clean up brigade have had a noticeable effect on the beach, and local beach-walkers habits.



Marine Care

MCRP Business Address
PO Box 7356 Beaumaris 3193

Editor: Ray Lewis
ray@lewisfamily.com.au

Find out more about MCRP.

Go to our website .
www.marinecare.org.au

EDITORS NOTE

We took our citizen science efforts a big step along the way in January by supporting Sherrie Chambers with her Port Jackson Shark tagging and tracking project. See details next issue.

In our next issues too, I hope to bring a page on the work of our artistic members.

A MUST ATTEND! Our free 'pop up' easel marine art show is to be held in the BYC on **Sat/Sun 20/21st Feb.** 100 art works. Free foreshore marine art lessons at 10 am each day, aboriginal heritage walk 10 Sat. Free coffee and a great view of the Bay. You can encourage us to mount such events by drop-

One of the growing problems re plastics pollution in our Bay are celebratory balloons and their plastic ties. They blow out to sea in big numbers. This image below shows Maddie and Steve bringing one in after a dive in which they supplemented the beach clean up crew with a shallow water dive.

The Nairm notes page is so named as Nemm or Nairm is the local Aboriginal Peoples word for Port Phillip Bay. Opinions vary but we prefer to use Nairm.

On Tuesday the 19th January we hold our AGM and election of office bearers. Do put it in your diary as it is always a good night and we are usually surprised at just how much we have achieved during the year past.

Ideas for content for our mailers are welcome by the editor, as also corrections where some latin or a species name had gone astray,



.... Next issue likely March 2016