

# MCRP MEMBERS NEWSLETTER



Marine Care Ricketts Point



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

*Issue 68 October 2019*

## The Sanctuary Over Winter



**How Lucky can we be?**

# Splashing, a Plant and a Mola Mola



Rob Gardiner

This image from Rob Gardiner must bring out happy memories for many, of those early snorkeling days, before we were on our third UW camera, and preferred to be off on our own and away from the splashing!

At right, red florets on our foreshore salt bush, after about 4 years of yellow florets, are a sure sign of a return to normal Melbourne seasons after a few long warmer springs and autumns.



Ivan Leong reported this Giant Sunfish (Mola Mola), wandering about St Kilda Pier in mid September.

Its size, relative to the diver shown here, reflects the fact that such creatures can be up to 4 metres long and 2 tonnes in weight!

Click on the image for a bit of local video of it swimming about the pier.

# Eclectic



**Above,** a forerunner of the future for many. These Mt Martha beach huts appear to be beyond saving from the predictions of climate change effects on sea levels. **Right,** taking note of these location posts scattered about Bayside can save a life by identifying where one is at when seeking help in an emergency.



**Left,** Delicate Wing Shells, *Electromo Georgiana*, are seasonally washed up in their many thousands around northern Bayside [at least], in early spring. Locally, they are known as Butterfly Shells.

**Below,** galloping Blue Ring Octopus. Their life span is less than 12 months.



Susan Carden



Jack Breedon

# Splendid Annual Beaumaris Fossils EXPO



Over 160 people attended the second Annual Fossils Expo run by the newly formed (2017) Bayside Earth Sciences Society [BESS]. The event was supported by MESAC. Stories of our breathtakingly fearsome marine predecessors, whose bones are steadily appearing, and two splendid, well illustrated lectures by Victoria Museum staff Dr Ben Francischelli and PhD student James Rule, made for a memorable day.

BESS now has some 55 members.



**PRESERVATION**  
Beaumaris cliffs are being damaged in the search for fossils



Attendees brought along their private collections, to be identified and more by the various experts present. **Above**, President [Murray Orr](#), who can be contacted here for future such events.

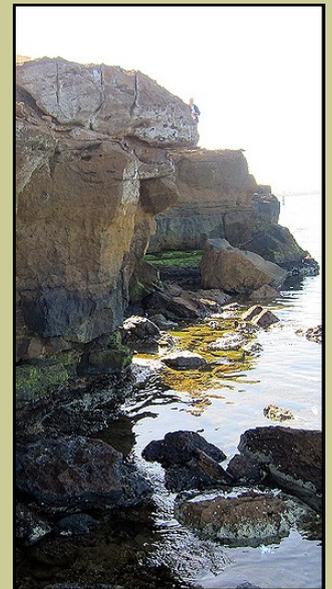
**Left**, as summer arrives, here is a new place for a quiet sit and a takeaway coffee, looking out over Sandringham Beach. Plenty of parking and toilets nearby.

# A View and a Great New Bayside Lookout



**Left**, beach erosion is alive and well, as this new safety fence, looking out to Banksia Point near McGregors Rock, attests.

**Below**, cliff loss further south, just north of the Beaumaris Yacht Club.



**Above**, the wonderful Table Rock at our Sanctuary's southern end.

MCRP are pleased to advise that we have great speakers lined up to talk about all things marine and local at our next two speakers nights at the Beaumaris Seniors Centre. They are: on 8 October, Lisa Goudie, a local expert on sea sponges and their important role in our seas; and on 10 December, Dr Vicki Karalis, President of the Sandringham Foreshore Association, will talk about the project to seek inclusion of Beaumaris Bay in the National Heritage list for its paleontological, geological, artistic and indigenous significance. Vicki will discuss the significance of Beaumaris Bay and what makes it special in relation to other Bayside beaches. [Click here to contact MCRP.](#)

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**Find more out about MCRP. Go to our  
website [www.marinecare.org.au](http://www.marinecare.org.au)**

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

The job of creating content for these mailers is made so much easier when images and observational data are [mailed in for consideration](#).



My thanks to those who do make such regular effort.

So many of us might call ourselves Citizen Scientists these days, and our observations have increasing value to the marine scientific community at large.

The mailer is circulated widely both here in Australia and overseas.

## What are some of the things MCRP has been up to? And what is coming up soon...

1. Sea Slug (nudibranch) Census: Saturday 5 Oct, 10am.
  2. MCRP Speakers Evenings: Tuesday 8 Oct and Tuesday 10 Dec, 7.30pm, Beaumaris Seniors Centre, Reserve Rd, Beaumaris.
  3. Warm water Pool training: Refresher and Extension Snorkel Skills, Sun 13 Oct, 1.45pm.
  4. Citizen Science Sea Search Monitoring: Next event Sat 19 Oct 12:00-2:30pm, South Triangle, Ricketts Point
  5. Our MCRP Facebook page
  6. Fisheries and Patrols of the Ricketts Point Sanctuary
  7. Various submissions to State Government and Bayside Council
  8. Plastics and Waste Update
  9. Good News Websites
  10. Spring Clean the City: 21 Sept, 9am-12noon, Queens Bridge Square, Southbank
- [Contact MCRP above, for more details]



John Eichler

**Above**, sighted at Black Rock foreshore in mid-September, a distressed but lovely, Balmain Bug.



MESAC has a day-long Introduction to Marine Photography Course coming up in November, at the BYC. It will cover underwater, reef

life and foreshore photography to cater for each of these three interest groups. [Click here to indicate](#) your interest and to be advised details when finalized. An introduction to 3D video will also be included.

**.... Next issue likely December 2019**