



# Marine Care Ricketts Point

## NEWSLETTER

[www.marinecare.org.au](http://www.marinecare.org.au)

Issue 74

July 2020

### Folks

As the corona virus has spread through Victoria, many of us are doing the right thing, and staying at home as much as possible.

While it's still not the same as being able to catch up with friends for a walk along the beach or a cup of coffee, in these strange times, we are keeping as closely connected as we can through this newsletter and Zoom catchups.

We had hoped to resume our bi-monthly *Speakers Nights at the Beaumaris Seniors Centre*, but this hope was dashed with the second shutdown. I know I certainly valued them, because it helped me not only catch up with friends, but also keep in contact easily with what members are thinking. We are now hoping, instead, to hold a couple of Zoom Speakers meetings, just as we did with our AGM. I know it's not the same thing, but it is one way of staying connected.

We'll send you out information closer to the time, and also how to join the Zoom meeting, which will be completely free. If you haven't used Zoom previously, this will be a good way to get into it.

The MCRP Committee has continued to be very busy. We've been writing to organisations on various matters – for example, we've asked Parks Victoria to ban smoking in Victorian National Parks, as does NSW and Queensland, given the devastating bushfires of last year. We've also joined with BCCAG to write opposing gas fracking in Narrabri in NSW. We will be providing a submission to the Victorian Parliamentary Enquiry into Ecosystem decline.

This is all part of our belief that, in order to protect the Sanctuary, we need to do our bit to stand up for action on climate change, and to protect the earth, which connects to our beloved Sanctuary.

We do want to hear more from you about any issues you want to raise, or any bits of information you want to share.

So stay in touch.

**Beth Jensen**

**President**

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### Marker Buoys for the Ricketts Point Sanctuary

We've asked Parks Victoria rangers to check out if the buoys marking the outer edge of the Sanctuary stay accurately in place at the 500 metre mark.

**MCRP protects and educates about the Ricketts Point Marine Sanctuary at Beaumaris.**

**We formed in January 2003, two months after the Ricketts Point Marine Sanctuary came into effect.**

**Our inaugural President, Bob Whiteway, OAM, was largely responsible for the Victorian Government declaring the area a marine sanctuary.**

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A fisher friend who fishes regularly around (ie outside) the Sanctuary, says that the Sanctuary buoys are stretched, and so the buoys have moved closer inshore – the end result being that the 500 metre line is not demarked truly, so people may unwittingly be fishing inside the Sanctuary as the buoys are floating inaccurately.

Parks Victoria is responsible for maintaining and ensuring the buoys are in the correct location. Our local Parks Vic ranger has said they will check the positioning of the buoys on their next water patrol from the vessel.

### **Boon Wurrung Blossom**



Boon Wurrung Blossom – Sculpture by Ellen Joise, 2008, in the Ricketts Point grassed area just north of the Teahouse, where MCRP usually has our BBQs.

Many people do not realise that the beautiful stones above are a sculpture – but there is a small plaque nearby which explains its meaning. This area of Ricketts Point was a very special place for women and children of the Boon Wurrung tribes, the original inhabitants of the area. They gathered here especially in spring and summer. The 6 bluestone rocks are laid to represent a blossom, the edible fruit of which is reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous people. It has 6 rocks or petals to represent the 6 tribes of the Boon Wurrung people.

## Flooding of Port Phillip Bay

Our June Newsletter carried an article about the beautiful sculpture of The Time of Chaos. Our member Terry wrote in saying:

Slight correction to the 10,000 year theory of Port Phillip Bay and more likely the latest incarnation only 1,000 years old! <https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/10-000-year-bay-theory-doesnt-hold-water-20110507-1edd1.html>

Thank you Terry! Great pick-up – we must let Bayside Council know to adjust their signage.

## Waste disposal – Bayside’s advanced processing proposal

Bayside Council announced on 2 July 2020 that three tenderers have been shortlisted for the biggest tender for new waste management infrastructure in Victoria.

Bayside City Council and 15 other councils from Melbourne’s south east are seeking an *advanced waste processing alternative*. The 3 shortlisted firms are:

- Veolia Environmental Services Australia Pty Ltd
- Sacyr Environment Australia Pacific Partnerships and
- REMONDIS

No decisions have been made yet regarding the type or location of any facilities. This will be identified late in the procurement process.

*Landfills in the south east of Melbourne are filling up and no more are planned to be built. Household rubbish in Bayside City Council and the other 15 councils is projected to increase by 40% over the next 25 years.*

Advanced waste processing will help the Victorian government deliver its circular economy strategy – Recycling Victoria – a 10 year plan that will completely overhaul Victoria’s recycling sector and reduce waste going to landfill. It will help achieve the target to divert 80 per cent of household rubbish from landfill by 2030.

Advanced waste processing technology project will transform how household rubbish is managed by using it to produce energy ----- ***However, it is NOT a substitute for minimising our waste, reusing or recycling - we must still continue with these efforts.***

## How Quảng Ngãi in Vietnam got its grove back

Could these humble rows of trees photographed below prevent a natural disaster? The Vietnamese government hopes so.

Mangrove forests like Bàu Cá Cái in coastal Vietnam's Quảng Ngãi Province are an important shield against destructive typhoons that rock the coast each year. Unfortunately, mangrove trees have been depleted over the years by population growth, climate change, and increased use of waters for fish farming. Plantings at Bàu Cá Cái - outlined by bamboo frames to create the neat patterns seen here - have been part of a major initiative to regenerate nearly 4,000 hectares of mangrove forest around the country.

As you probably know, mangroves are also one of the major nurseries for marine life, as well as being wonderful carbon sinks, so this will no doubt help in many ways a country which relies so much on fish for its people's diet.

