

MCRP MEMBERS NEWSLETTER



Marine Care Ricketts Point



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Issue 59. April 2018

Why We Must Protect Our Sanctuary



Image © Kim Croker

Arcto, the seal who roams the Bay via a number of favourite haunts of his, has been sighted at Dromana and up to Chelsea earlier this year, but on Tuesday the 13th, March he graced us by turning up on the South Signal Reef in the Sanctuary. It's an unusually exciting event for us.

He has been noted as "*Arcto is not sick or in distress, he's just ... different*"

Arcto and others of our wonderful visitors, need us to be vigilant and keep them undisturbed by dogs and people, if they are to continue to visit.

Our 2018 AGM

This year was our ACM was well attended with about 45 members.



Our most valued guest speaker, PT Hirschfield, better known to many, as Pink Scuba.



Above, Kevin, Hazel, Beth and Anna at the AGM



Hazel Stanworth and PT

At the meeting we publically acknowledged the various contributions of Jinty and Gayle, Peter, Virginia, and Kim, who were the five committee members who stepped down after putting in some 30 man years of committee work between them! Fortunately their positions were quickly filled by new blood...

Our new committee comprises :

Beth Jensen—President Anna Daniels —Secretary Kevin Mc Donnell—Treasurer

Hazel Stanworth –Beach Patrol, with Val Royal, Amy Stace-Smith, Ken Blackman, and Asher Judah as committee members.

Those who stood own are continuing their routine involvement with MCRP.

Great Beaumaris Fossil Heritage Outcome

After some years of considerable effort, led by Dr Vicki Karalis, Baysiders are close to having their own special national heritage site located along our world class fossil rich cliffs. Our congratulations to all concerned.



Another treasure, these beautiful fossil rich cliffs along our local coastline

At a well attended Bayside Council meeting on the 20th February, our councillors voted unanimously to support the heritage application. Recent discoveries have confirmed the area as being of world scientific importance. Next step a final submission to the National Heritage Authority.

Blennies here a'courting?

A rare image from Susan Cardin

Peter lamshed says he saw a male Blennie bringing food to a 'nesting' female... Nice



Some Summer Activities



Summer weather, although unpredictable at times, did not deter us from our routine summer programme.

The Great Fish Count, Saturday snorkelling, beachside rubbish collection and the 8 or 9 Summer by the Sea series of events we contributed, kept us busy.



On our first Autumn snorkel we had 20 of us off on time and another 6 arrived late and caught up. For the National Clean Up Day on Saturday the 3rd March, we ran out of rubbish buckets and tongs.

To quote Hazel,

“Another great morning, we had over 40 volunteers help clean up the beach near Beaumaris Yacht Club. Everyone together managed to collect 16 bags of litter, roughly 30 Kg in weight”.



The Sanctuary



A few sea jellies are back after a year or so of general absence. This one on the left is *Cactostylus mosaicus*. Better known as the Blue Blubber. It's OK to handle, but watch out for Lions Mane Jelly (Right) . They can sting some people rather badly for about 40 minutes after contact.



[Hot water seems to ease such pain in the interim]



We have a very big increase in visitors to the sanctuary these days, and it is important for us to let them know , (nicely), that to collect and/or remove anything in marine sanctuaries, is not lawful

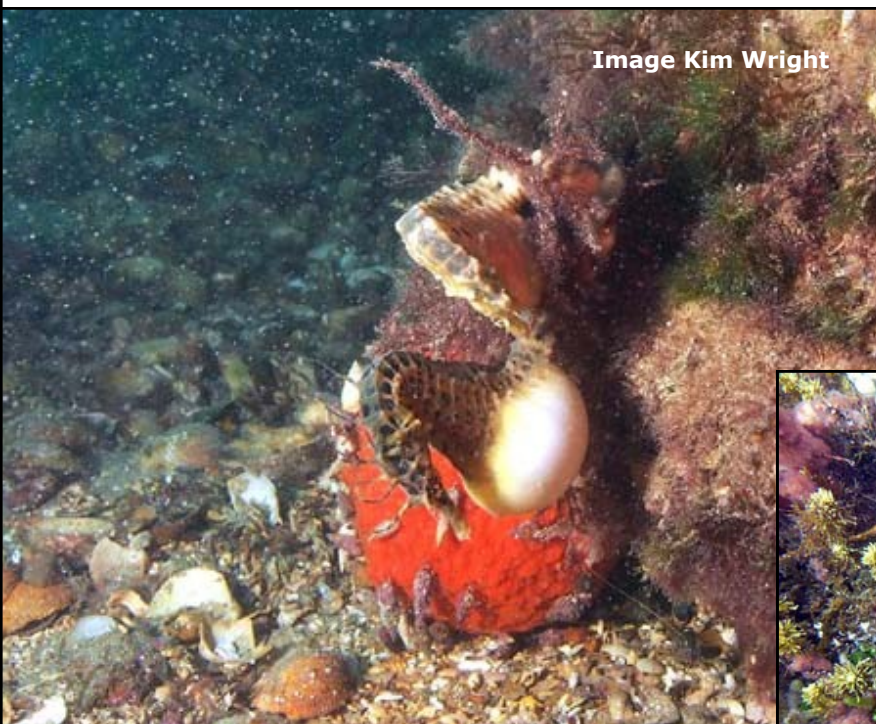


Image Kim Wright



Above a baby sea horse, then right ,a rare 'blister' on a shell, and below right, beautiful epiphytes on alga in the shallows.

Sea Creatures

Common Marine Creatures of the South-Eastern Waters



Golf Ball Sponge

Finger Sponge



Dish Sponge



Swimming Anemone



Sea Anemone



Gorgonian Coral



Lace Bryozoan



Zoanthidae



Brittle Star



Biscuit Star



Sea Cucumber



Feather Star



11-Arm Sea Star



Scallop



Abalone



Chiton



Sea Urchin



Nudibranch



Fan Worm



Volute



Tube Worm



Cuttle Fish



Hermit Crab



Blue Ringed Octopus

Sea Creatures



Southern Crayfish



Sea Tulip



Sea Dragon



Sea Horse



Compound Ascidian



Simple Ascidian



Globe Fish



Shaw's Cowfish



Ornate Cowfish



Pigmy

Leatherjacket



Horseshoe Leatherjacket



Yellow-Striped Leatherjacket



Maori Wrasse



Goat Fish



Long Snouted Boarfish



Old Wife



Blue Devil



Red Morwong



Magpie Morwong



Cobbler



Port Jackson
Shark



Stingray

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Find out more about MCRP.

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

EDITORS NOTE

When I begin compiling each two-monthly issue, I wonder what I will find of general interest to 'show and tell' about.

Yet again, and for the 59th time, the mailer is overfull.

Our numbers continue to grow, (now exceeding 250), and after 14 years since our creation by Bob Whiteway and his original team in 2004, many new members and a new wave of activity is emerging.

Val Royal was on the original committee, and still continues to serve. Thank you Val :-)

An eventful and happily colourful mailer for you all this time!



A relaxed flounder from Dave Morley. There are many in the shallows, but one needs to look for them (Just like the Pipe Fish)

An American tourist asked an Irishman why scuba divers always fall backwards off their boat?

To which the Irishman replied,

"If they fell forwards they'd still be in the boat."

[All images included in our mailers are acknowledged and where not so annotated, are from the editor, and may be freely used].

.... Next issue likely June 2018



Winds, rain, average viz, dark skies and more, set the scene for the last formal dive of our snorkelling season on March 24. In the end at least a dozen stalwarts braved the waters and all came out happy as usual. Meanwhile half a dozen of us braved the coffee house instead!

The end of season BBQ proceeded regardless.

Here Gayle and Liz were not fazed by 3 hours of rain..

