Integrated, Innovative Natural Resource Management
Friends of Edwards Point
Bellarine Landcare Group
Friends of Buckley Park
Swan Bay Environment Association
Friends of Begola Wetlands
Ocean Grove Coastcare Group
Friends of Point Richards
Greening Australia
Conservation Volunteers Australia
Point Lonsdale Coastcare Group
Friends of Beacon Point
Clifton Springs Curlewis Coastcare Group
Barwon Estuary Project
Friends of the Bellarine Rail Trail
City of Greater Geelong
Borough of Queenscliffe
Coastcare Victoria - DELWP
Parks Victoria
Corangamite CMA
Barwon Coast COM
Bellarine Bayside COM
Friends of the Ocean Grove Nature Reserve
Drysdale Clifton Springs Community Association
Geelong Sustainability Group
Geelong Field Naturalists Club
Breaking This Down

- 25 Network Member Groups and Organisations
- 2 Foreshore COM
- 2 Local Municipalities
- 3 Non Government Organisations
- 3 State Dept / Agencies
- 15 Community Groups inc, Friends of, Environment, Coastcare, Landcare, Other
- 3 New Community Groups Forming i.e Clifton Springs Curlewis Coastcare Group

This equates to approximate 2000 + total members. Very important for advocacy, project development, etc
The Integrated model has stood the test of time, 22 years in 2019.

4 FTE and 5 staff. The majority of the Program is funded through SLA’S, FFS, Grants are minor now.

**Examples**

- BCN – has 30 projects across all areas of NRM
- This equates to approx. 25 fund sources
- The majority is made up of partnerships. Backdate approx. 10 years and we had 2 funded projects from Federal and State Gov.
- Project examples and partners include; Geelong Cemeteries Trust, Gardens For Wildlife, Summer By The Sea, City of Greater Geelong and Borough of Queenscliffe Strategic Partnerships, Victrack, Port Phillip Ferries and Officeworks Geelong
- BCN model for projects has diversified over time
Having partners such as Government and Non-government provides officer advice & support. This includes HR and Finance Sub-Committee. Allows for independent advice, exposure to other business models and representation on these Committee’s.

This provides support for staff as well as the Executive.
Bellarine Catchment Network
Action Plan

I. Protect and enhance Ramsar wetlands and connecting wetlands
II. Promote and apply Ramsar values and guidelines
III. Protect, enhance and link remnant vegetation
IV. Protect indigenous fauna and enhance existing habitats
V. Facilitate community awareness and participation
VI. Advocate for adaptive management to climate change
VII. Rehabilitate and protect watercourses and improve water quality (in-stream & stormwater)
VIII. Increase the adoption of sustainable agricultural and land management practices
IX. Promote pest plant and pest animal control
X. Be an active, engaged and well-supported network
Fennell Infestation along BRT

Post weed control and revegetation
Dog Beach Queenscliff Pre – Erosion control and restoration works 2007
Post– Erosion control and restoration works 2018
Community Resources, Initiatives and Support

Clifton Springs & Curlewis

Flora · Heritage · Fauna

Discover the Real Ocean Grove
Woodlands · Wetlands · Coast · Estuary
Introduction

This environmental booklet is a result of increased awareness, understanding and appreciation of the flora, fauna, natural and cultural heritage values of the Clifton Springs area.

In 2011 a project was started to address woody and invasive weed species in the Dell. This led to a heightened awareness of the indigenous flora values in this area. Plant species that are localized to this area and are not seen in other parts of the Bellarine were identified and an agreement was set out to protect and enhance these values.

Drysdales Clifton Springs Community Association and Bellarine Catchment Network led the project.

Community education and involvement, weed control, revegetation activities and ultimately a greater appreciation of the area, are features of the project. It is hoped that this booklet continues the love for this area and inspires new initiatives and groups forming, to help protect and enhance the Dell, Clifton Springs and Beacon Point areas.

NEW SPECIES IDENTIFIED

Burrunan Dolphin

Only recently classified as a new dolphin species, the Burrunan dolphin, Tursiops australis (Charlton-Robb et al. 2011), resembles bottlenose dolphins, but also show numerous distinct differences; approximately 2.5 m in length with distinct tri-coloured pattern, from dark grey (brush-stroke pattern) on the upper side of the body, a paler grey midline and cream underside. The Burrunan has broad tail flukes, a prominent rounded head and a short stubby rostrum (nose).

Dr Kate Charlton-Robb, Founding Director and Principal Researcher with the Australian Marine Mammal Conservation Foundation (AMMCF), applied to have the Burrunan dolphin formally recognised as ‘threatened’ under the Victoria’s Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (1988), this was successfully approved in June 2013 With an effective population size of less than 100 (Charlton-Robb et al. 2015), Port Phillip and Corio Bay is an important region for these amazing dolphins.

For more information please visit ammcf.org.au
Gardens for Wildlife encourages residents to plant indigenous species in part of their garden to provide suitable habitat for local wildlife.

Register now to receive a free, one-hour garden assessment to advise on plants and features that will attract wildlife to your garden.

We will be holding assessments in your area on

To register for a free assessment go to: environmentbellarine.eventbrite.com

For further information contact us on:
email: lachlan.bcm@environmentbellarine.org.au or call Lachlan on 0422 031 833
Ocean Grove & Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club – Nippers Program
Summer By the Sea Program

Report and Results Compiled March 2015 Compiled by BCN – Matt Crawley

Funded and Supported By

Bellarine Catchment Network
Bellarine Bayside Coastal Management
State Government Victoria
1. Community Involvement

1.1 Sub Category: Campers and Caravan Parks:
- This program had objectives of involvement of a cross section of the community in the Northern Bellarine.
- The townships / areas prioritised were Portarlington, Indented Head and St Leonards, and this provided a good cross section of towns and communities. Specifically Campers in the Bellarine Bayside Caravan Parks were identified as a target audience to engage in the activities. The program set out to involve the campers in various activities to have them engage in the local environment, and to learn more about the positive and negative impacts on the local natural assets.
- Total caravan park and camper involvement is estimated at 80 children and adults.

1.2 Sub Category: Residents of Towns and Holiday Makers:
- In order to involve the towns residents and holiday makers that reside in holiday rentals and towns accommodation a different approach was taken.
- Fliers were placed at strategic locations in Portarlington, St Leonards and Indented Head. Added to this promotion through adverts in local papers and the Summer by the Sea On line promotions and booking system.
- In terms of results and interpretation of how many people participated in this category, it is hard to establish. However it is anticipated that the figure was approximately a third of the total numbers. This put the figure at 50.
- Total number of participants across all areas total 150.

L to R: Coastcare Environment Challenge Course at Portarlington, St Leonards Community Engagement, Rockpool Ramble and Beachcomb Indented Head
Bellarine Schools Environment Program

Bellarine Catchment Network

Schools Environment Program
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Program Est</th>
<th>Project and Site</th>
<th>Project Partners</th>
<th>Annual Student No</th>
<th>Accumulated Student No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellarine Secondary College (BSC) Yr 8</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>BSC Junior Campus – multiple lessons and classes, both on and off campus</td>
<td>Jointly led with BBCOM. Also, BCN, MFDC, CCMA, PV, CoGG, BLG, etc</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSC Yr 12 Outdoor Ed</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Narrows QC – Woody weed removal, study and research</td>
<td>BCN, BoQ, SBEA</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clifton Springs PS</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>The Dell – Environment Day reveg, restoration and enviro education</td>
<td>BCN, CoGG, DCSCA, CCMA,</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drysdale PS</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>The Dell – Environment Day reveg, restoration and enviro education</td>
<td>BCN, CoGG, DCSCA, CCMA,</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star of the Sea PS</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Bonyvale Wetlands – Wetlands Environment day, revegetation, WaterWatch, etc</td>
<td>BCN, CCMA, CoGG,</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Aloysius PS</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Swan Bay Caring for Swan Bay Environment Day</td>
<td>BCN, BoQ, CCMA, PV, SBEA</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Ignatius Secondary College</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>The Basin Drysdale</td>
<td>BCN, CoGG, BLG</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean Grove PS</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Ocean Grove Coastcare Day – Ocean Grove Foreshore, Challenge Course, Fauna Talk,</td>
<td>BCN, OGCC, BBCOM</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Lonsdale PS</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Point Lonsdale Foreshore Caring for the Bay Day, Coastcare Challenge Course, Revegetation, Connies Cards</td>
<td>BCN, BoQ, PLCCG</td>
<td>400 in 2015 90 annually</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queenscliffe PS</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Bellarine Rail Trail, Revegetation Fellows Rd</td>
<td>BCN, SBEA, BoQ</td>
<td>10 students annually</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian College Geelong</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Narrows QC – Woody weed removal, study and research</td>
<td>BCN, BoQ, SBEA</td>
<td>150 in 2015 50 annually</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Leonards PS</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Leaf Hooper Growing and Release New Program with BBCOM Foreshore Coastcare Day</td>
<td>BCN, BBCOM, PV, FOEP</td>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portarlington PS</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>New Program with BBCOM Foreshore Coastcare Day</td>
<td>BCN, BBCOM, FOOPR</td>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brighton Grammar</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Narrows QC – Woody weed removal, study and research</td>
<td>BCN, BoQ, SBEA</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gordon Tafe</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Queenscliffe Moonah Woodland Restoration and revegetation</td>
<td>BCN, BoQ, SBEA</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>180</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deakin University – Coastal Management Degree Course</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Catchment and Coastal Tour</td>
<td>BCN</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Olaf University America</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Catchment and Coastal Tour</td>
<td>BCN, MFDC</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>5,990</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Leopold Primary School

Bellarine Rail Trail
Environment Day

The Leopold Primary School Bellarine Rail Trail Enviro day was held on the 13th September 2018. Sunny Spring conditions greeted the 90 Grade 3 students for their activities. The Friends of the Bellarine Rail Trail welcomed the students to the site they prepared and explained their role on the Trail.

Staff from Bellarine Catchment Network and Bellarine Landcare conducted activities including revegetation, litter games, flora and fauna walks.

Left to Right: Students Eliza Morrissy & Jazmine Hickey Showcase their Wattle Bracelets, Felicity conducts Flora Walk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups and Organisations</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Figures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellarine Catchment Network</td>
<td>• Revegetation</td>
<td>• 90 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends of Bellarine Rail Trail</td>
<td>• Weed Control</td>
<td>• 4 Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Greater Geelong</td>
<td>• Flora and fauna walk, talk and interactions</td>
<td>• 2 support staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bellarine Landcare Group</td>
<td>• Litter and Fishing Games</td>
<td>• 2 BCN Staff, 1 BLG staff, 1 FOBRT volunteer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leopold Primary School</td>
<td></td>
<td>• 2 Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 300 plants revegetated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• 5 Activities conducted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VIP INVITATION

You are invited to share an evening of art and creativity as we celebrate local artists and their connections to the Bellarine’s natural environment. Featuring a diversity of art disciplines, the evening will showcase each artist’s creations while they share stories of the artistic journey behind their works.

Date: Thursday 19th April 2018
Time: 7.00pm
Venue: Potato Shed, 41 Peninsula Drive, Drysdale
R.S.V.P: Matt Crawley 0417 231 853
or matt.bcn@environmentbellarine.org.au
Please reply before 5th April 2018
• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alW8zfjAXd0
1. Support the implementation of best practice litter prevention projects

2. Develop and support partnerships to increase the capacity of organisations to implement litter prevention programs

3. Improve personal responsibility for litter disposal and prevention.

4. Improve the amenity of public spaces that impact upon the water quality of Corio and Western Port Phillip Bays.

CARING FOR OUR BAYS

LEAVE NOTHING BUT FOOTPRINTS
Caring For Our Bays
Litter Hotspots

Site Locations 2018/19
1. Hovells Creek
2. Cuthbertsons Creek
3. Cowies Creek Seagull Paddock
4. St Helens Pier
5. Cunningham Pier
6. Limeburners Boat Ramp
7. Clifton Springs Boat Ramp
8. Point Richards
9. Portarlington Pier
10. St Leonards Pier
11. Burnt Point
12. Queenscliff Ferry Terminal
13. Officeworks Geelong
14. Indented Head Wrathall Reserve
15. Cowies Creek Peacock Avenue
Be a local hero
Put your rubbish in a bin

Helpful Frogs
Frogs are an indicator species that help to show when pollution threatens a local ecosystem.

Food Chain Plastic
Plastics are not biodegradable. They break down into smaller pieces that can be consumed by fish, which are eaten by humans.

Most rubbish reaches seas via waterways and 80% originates from urban sources.

Growling Grass Frog
Litoria raniformis
Growling Grass Frogs live amongst reeds, sedges and rushes growing beside slow-moving freshwater sources such as swamps and wetlands. Their distinctive call of several short grunts followed by a long deep "growl" can be heard during the warmer months. They feed mainly on ground-dwelling insects, but are also known to eat lizards, snakes and other frogs.

Small Starts
Growling Grass Frogs are not huge. They only reach about 30 cm in length, but their smaller size allows them to move through grassy vegetation with ease. Tadpoles play an important part in the food chains for many species including fish.

Stealth Hunters
They are not always hunters, instead they sit and wait for their prey to come to them.

Did you know?

Australian Fur Seal
Arctocephalus pusillus
Australian fur seals are mammals of the sea, but they also need land to rest on. A very social animal, often seen playing with each other.

Regulated by nature, fur seals are seen anywhere feeding on fish, threatening colonies through entanglement or injuries. They feed on a variety of fish, seal, and cephalopods. Seals are a top-order predator of Evert Phillips and Caro Day et al.

Deep Divers
The Australian Fur Seal can dive to depths of 200m to catch fish and squid.

Not a true seal
Fur seals are different from true seals such as Eryttus Point because they have external ears and can use all four limbs to move across land.

Wire worry
Discarded fishing line is one of the biggest threats to seals. They become entangled and die.

Litter Magnets
Litter attracts more litter. When an area looks dirty and uncared for, people tend to litter more. In contrast, people are more reluctant to litter clean areas.

Did you know?
99% of the litter on beaches comes from suburban streets through the stormwater system.

Help us to protect our unique local species, keep Geelong and the Bellarine clean.

www.environmentbellarine.org.au
Burrunan Dolphin
*Tursiops australis*

Burrunan dolphin, a species of Bottlenose dolphin, was classified as a new species in 2011. With an estimated population of 150 individuals in Victoria, around 100 of these live in Port Phillip and Corio Bay.

Be a local hero
Put your rubbish in a bin.
Test the Info – Informs Management Actions

Clean ups and Litter Counts

- St Leonard’s Underwater.
- Over 80kg of litter was removed including 400m of fishing line.
- Fifteen participants turned up middle of winter.
- 11 degree water.
- 100’s AA batteries were commonly found.
Be a local hero...

Australasian Gannet
Growling Grass Frog
Australian Fur Seal
Banjo Ray
Weedy Seadragon
Eleven-armed Seastar
Angasi Oyster
Burraranun Dolphin
Business Partnerships
Festivals and Events

Including the following:

• Queenscliff Music Festival
• Portarlington Mussel Festival
• National Celtic Festival
• Pakofest
• Festival of the Sails Geelong
• Geelong Ironman Festival
• Wreck to Reef Swim
• Rip View Swim
• Moorpanyul 1000 Swim
• Geelong Ironman
• Portarlington Gatorade Triathlon
• North Geelong SKART Festival (Art and Skating)
• Festival of the Sea
Queenscliff Music Festival
CFOB Hero Bin Hubs and BCN Stand

The Queenscliff Music Festival was held over three days from the 23rd-25th November. The festival was a sold out event with 16000 people attending. Bin hubs were in place which featured the CFOB Hero species and Green Team monitors from QMF, supplemented by volunteers from BCN and Geelong Sustainability were positioned to ensure rubbish was placed in the correct waste stream. 90% of waste was diverted from landfill due to the QMF model and use of compostable crockery, cutlery and cups at all vendors and no single use plastic items were available at the festival. In addition, BCN had a stand in the family area of the festival were many great environmental conversations and discoveries were made by the children and their parents. Bellarine Catchment Network conducted activities including a beachcomb table, colour-in a Hero poster, plant propagation, litter and fishing games. Our keep cups were again available for loan to reduce waste.

Clockwise: Beachcomb & interpretation, BCN staff at bin hubs, CFOB staff with keep cups and poster pin ups. Waste diverted from landfill to other use streams.

Groups and Organisations
- Bellarine Catchment Network
- Queenscliff Music Festival
- B-Alternate
- Geelong Sustainability
- Diversitat
- Borough of Queenscliffe
- Swan Bay Environment Association

Activities
- Hero bin hubs
- Hero posters
- Beachcomb
- Coastcare
- Propagation
- Litter games
- Fishing games

Figures
- 16000 Attendees
- 200+ engagements with families
- 60 bin volunteers
- 7 BCN Staff
- 8 B-Alternate Staff
- 5 Diversitat waste crew

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource/Waste Stream</th>
<th>Kg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organics</td>
<td>1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardboard</td>
<td>745</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cans</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-mingled</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sporing Events and Reducing Waste

Rip View Swim Point Lonsdale
Wreck to Reef Swim
Indented Head
20,000+ items
Audits conducted by the Caring For Our Bays partners and volunteers during 2018 collected over 20K items of litter from the Geelong/Bellarine region.

4 years
The Caring for Our Bays project has been running for 4 years and is making a difference to our local environment.

80% Reduction
Our audited sites have seen a reduction of the amount of litter found at these sites.

1 million+ people
An estimated 1 million people have seen our bin stickers, posters, cards or drain stickers. These all remind people of the biodiversity in our bays.

75% Non-Recyclable
More than 21,000 of the items that were found were not recyclable.

Participation
100+ auditors, 20+ land managers and organisations, 20 community groups and 30 school groups. Volunteers undertook 300 litter audits.

Figure: Amount of litter collected at all sites
Home

Sweet Home

BELLARINE ENVIRONMENT CENTRE
For further information contact:

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