

## Queenscliffe Neighbourhood House Local Environment Course



Full course fee: \$100. Individual session prices as listed.

### 1. Canoe Trip on Swan Bay and Marine Discovery Centre Aquarium Visit (2A Bellarine Highway). Friday, February 20th 4.00pm to 7.30pm

MDC staff will take participants on a canoe trip on Swan Bay where marine life samples will be collected from the mudflats. This will be followed by a visit to the Marine Discovery Centre Aquarium. Cost: \$40, children 15 & under \$20.

**2. Marine Discovery Centre Aquarium Visit** Friday February 27th, 4.00pm to 4.30pm followed by a **Twilight Marine Biology Cruise** 5.00pm to 7.00pm. Discover a host of marine life above and below the surface of Port Phillip Bay. A sample of materials collected then sorted on deck can include crabs, seastars, seahorses & sponges. The cruise will take you across the bay to a colony of Australian Fur Seals & then past Popes Eye to view the colony of Gannets that breed there. Cost: \$40, Children 15 & under \$20.

**3. The Birds of Lake Victoria and Surrounds** Saturday March 14th, 10am to 1.00pm, meet at the Neighbourhood House. Learn about the birds that migrate from the Northern Hemisphere and other parts of Australia to the Point Lonsdale and Queenscliff area and also those birds that just live here like us. Rod Corinaldi will also talk about the variation in bird populations throughout the year which makes for an interesting story. Presentation at the Neighbourhood House followed by a walk along the shoreline of Lake Victoria. \$5

**4. Dunal Systems** Saturday April 4th, 10am to 1pm, meet at the Neighbourhood House. Warren Chapman, Reserve Manager for Barwon Coast Committee of Management will speak about the geological processes of sand dune building and the role the land plays in the establishment of the beach. Other topics to be discussed include the diversity of dunal vegetation, habitat, conservation of dunes, the impacts of humans on dunal systems and aboriginal cultural heritage. This session will include a Buckley Park Foreshore Dune Walk so wear a hat and suitable shoes and bring a drink. Cost: \$5

**5. Edwards Point State Fauna Reserve** Saturday May 2nd 9.30am, meet at the Reserve front gate, end of Beach Street, St Leonards. A representative of the Friends of Edwards Point will take participants on a tour of Edwards Point. Significant woodlands, salt marsh plants, coastal grasslands, as well as some species of birds and water fowl will be observed. Cost: \$5.

**6. Swan Bay Ramsar Wetland Walk** Saturday May 30<sup>th</sup>. 11.00a.m to 12.30 p.m. (Meet at Queenscliff Railway Station.) Swan Bay is a Ramsar wetland of international importance and part of the Port Phillip Heads Marine National Park. Learn about its plant and animal communities and catchment connections, while enjoying a stroll along its southern shores. Wear walking shoes. Bring a drink. Leader: Sue Longmore, Coastal Coordinator, Bellarine Catchment Network. Cost: \$5

**7. Wetland Connections** Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>. 11.00a.m to 12 noon (Venue: Queenscliffe Neighbourhood House) Take an 'armchair' tour through the beautiful and environmentally significant freshwater and coastal saline wetlands of the eastern Bellarine Peninsula. Discover their incredible diversity of indigenous plant communities, migratory and resident birdlife, and the international importance of protecting these linked wetland environments. Speaker: Sue Longmore, Coastal Coordinator, Bellarine Catchment Network (formerly Swan Bay Integrated Catchment Management Committee). \$5.

To book phone the House on 5258 3367 or email [qnhouse@fastmail.fm](mailto:qnhouse@fastmail.fm)