

Fish 'n' Ships – a bit of this & that!

DAY events: educational / social



For the past ten years, ~15 days of Padua grade 9 **biology classes** meet us at Sorrento backbeach to compare the rock pool environment with the pier. A snorkel is always the highlight. These students were the best we have worked with and a credit to the school and their teachers!

A few primaries did something similar though we swam them in the rock pools which was a huge success



Woodleigh grade 10/11s participated in their annual full day **history** excursion. What better way to bring the last 150 years alive than to journey to various significant historical sites, discussing the points of interest, and then having a dive - Nepean Bay, Popes Eye, Chinaman's Hat and South Channel Fort are all ideal for this purpose and the group both enjoyed and valued the hand-on experiences.

SeaSearch isn't for everyone, but for grade 10/11 Ivanhoe biology students, working on seagrasses at Mud Islands and invertebrates at the rock pools was a 'real' and worthwhile experience. We organised a dedicated teacher to teach students how to complete transects and record data which is then accessible to anyone

BayMonitor

*Australian Marine Ecology scientists, members of the Australian Conservation Foundation, newspaper reporters and film crew boarded MV ORCA in March for the launch of the first **BayMonitor** program.*

More regular and more intensive tests by independent scientists will provide additional data to ensure that water quality due to dredging, and beyond, remains high.

Two have run since and as long as donations from local councils and interested parties are forthcoming, they will run for four days each month. Results will be accessible to the general public.

Find out more!



360 DEGREE VIEWS for GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, ECONOMICS, ENGLISH, the SCIENCES, PHOTOGRAPHY... the list goes on!

ACT NOW and you could gain a FREE 1.5hr educational

Rorqual seats 39 passengers and with experienced crew, charts of the area and additional resources on board, a variety of learning outcomes are enhanced. Whatever the subject area, there is sure to be positive results for students and teachers by participating in a specialized program on board M.V. Rorqual as it tours both the Port of Melbourne dock areas in the north, and historical and environmental points of interest in the south.

Fourth term will see RORQUAL in city waters again – board at Docklands/Waterfront City or Williamstown and then cruise past the Yarra docks and round Hobson's Bay. A waterfront view of a moving, dynamic and colourful industry is right there to be enjoyed. Combine this 1 – 2hr voyage, with a free land based educational. To add to the experience have students plan their own transport using trams, buses and trains.

And in the south, we combine multiple subject areas to ensure a worthwhile educational marine experience.

DON'T MISS OUT!

GUARANTEED 30% discount on snorkel and SCUBA gear! Does your school have a snorkel or SCUBA club? Do class groups go on diving field trips? Are you happy with your equipment?

For years we have held an equipment sale for Grade 10 students involved in a one month science excursion to Qld. We come to you! Kids and teachers are fitted with a selection of brand new snorkel gear and wetsuits, they place an order for the required items, and we deliver back to the school.

Up to 50% off brand new equipment if ordered before end of financial year SO CALL US NOW – only a few weeks left!



Families, school and social groups all enjoy a flexible day out on the bay aboard RORQUAL. ALL ABOARD for your Bay Adventure



Where have all the staff gone? It's winter and many have migrated as Dave, Lucy and I will do in a few weeks time. Jacqui and Hayley have gone to swim with whale sharks via the rest of Australia, Euan is deckie on board Seahorse Spirit, as well as crewing with Warren on ORCA for the monthly BayMonitor program; Jon helped us out on snorkel and rock pool programs last year and is now travelling overseas, and Scuba Steve is ready to head back over to Canada. Jim's success in gear sales is high; Paul is still co-ordinating recreation programs at a retirement village but is thinking about getting back into our school adventure programs. Adam's a dad; Danielle, Nick, Guy and Amy are all enjoying teaching full time at their own schools, having graduated recently. With plenty of work happening for Fish 'n' Ships, we are looking at another great summer with some very experienced staff. New equipment, a variety of specialised programs, and two excellent 'hard' camps or foreshore camping options, all make the future a positive one for schools. Don't forget that we are happy to stay in touch and help wherever possible!

Have a safe, warm and successful winter – hope to see you soon!

A new crew member!

We've recently adopted a 5 yr old staffy with the hope that she'd cope with boats, kids and excitement. Lucy has proved to be quite the salty seadog and occasionally joins the crew on board ORCA, TORCA AND RORQUAL to enjoy the company of school kids and social groups. A look-alike Ribo, this female has been through some rough times but she kinda suits the ever-changing lifestyle that surrounds us. Fortunately, fins don't fit her otherwise she may have had a dive with Dave and breath-hold is only five seconds!

