

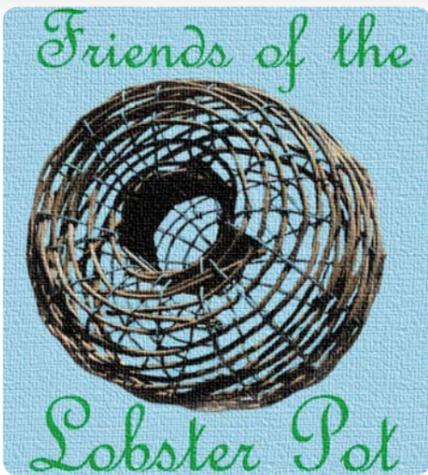


BARWON COAST VOLUNTEERS

Do make a difference

Barwon Coast recognises the valuable contributions that volunteers make to our community and the environment we manage.

Volunteers working along our coast to help protect our unique coastal and marine environments are an integral part of coastal management.



The Barwon Estuary Heritage Centre is known as the **Lobster Pot**. The centre is run by volunteers in conjunction with Barwon Coast and is open each afternoon during the summer holiday, and weekends up to Easter; or through special arrangement by contacting Barwon Coast on 03 5254 1118.

At the Lobster Pot, experience...

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

- Various clans were known to have seasonal camps in the plentiful estuary and coastal areas.
- The Centre illustrates attributes of the spiritual and living experience through story panels.



Mangroves

- Find out more about these amazing trees that form a protective fringe in the upper reaches of the estuary.
- Get an insight into the range of features that allow mangroves to grow in a harsh and constantly changing environment and provide a fish for many local species.



Marine Life

- The Barwon river rises in the Otway ranges and meanders through Geelong and Lake Connewarre until it meets the sea near the Barwon Bluff Marine Sanctuary.
- A diverse abundance of marine life exists, both in the estuary and in Bass strait.
- The sea water tanks contain a selection of marine creatures that can be found in the estuary.



Shipwrecks



- The chance of being lost at sea was very high in the 1800s.
- In 1880, one in ten British ships was lost at sea.
- Poor navigation and dependence on daylight made our rocky coastline hazardous to ships sailing from the west.
- The centre tells the story of some of these wrecks and displays artefacts recovered from the deep.

Flora and Fauna

- Appreciate the wide range of significant habitats found on the bluff, the estuary and the beaches
- Learn about the many birds and animals found there.



Geology



- The Bluff is an ever changing landscape weathered by wind, rain and tide over time.

- At the Lobster Pot see how and when these changes happened.

Local History

- Fishing, farming, swimming, boating, and Sunday promenading were the mainstays of early holidaying in the townships.
- The collection of historical artefacts and photographs contributed by residents is well worth a visit.

