



AUGUST 2026

**Friends of
The Bluff**
Caring for the unique Barwon Bluff since 1994

© David Brewster

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

BARWON HEADS NATURE FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 21 TO 25, 2026

As the weather (hopefully) warms up and the days get longer, we'll celebrate by once again hosting the Barwon Heads Nature Festival in the September school holidays.

This will be another week of inspiring events to help you discover and celebrate our amazing coastal and marine environments.

There'll be the chance to:

- take a walk on country with Wadawurrung traditional owners
- explore the Barwon River estuary by canoe
- search for orchids in Moonah Park
- hear from passionate people at the LandSeaSky slide night
- take part in some family friendly marine science
- give back at the Clean-up Australia big spring clean
- enjoy the TURNING the TIDE short film festival
- and more...

Most events will be free and family friendly with some bookings necessary. We're still finalising sessions, dates and times and but will share the program as soon as we can on the [Friends of the Bluff website](#).

In the meantime, if you would like to help with the preparations or during the week itself, we'd love to hear from you. Contact Jon Duthie at duthiejonb@gmail.com.

KEEP READING OVER THE PAGE...

What's on

Wednesday, August 19
7 for 7.30 pm

CONSERVATION CONVERSATION

@ Barwon Heads Bowls Club

Join us at the Barwon Heads
Bowls Club at 7pm for a 7.30pm
start.

Wednesday, October 21
6.45 pm

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

@ Lobster Pot (Discovery Centre)

Details over the page...

During September

RAPID HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

You're invited to take part in our post-
winter rapid health assessments of
shores in the Barwon Bluff Marine in
September.

Details over the page...

Dos and don'ts in the fight against bird flu

Agriculture Victoria asks Victorians to be on the look out for dead or sick birds.

- Please do not handle or move sick or dead birds, as this may spread the virus.
- If you suspect avian influenza in poultry, please call the Emergency Animal Disease hotline on 1800 675 888.

For birds and wildlife:

- AVOID contact with sick or dead birds, wildlife or their environment
- RECORD what you see
- REPORT wildlife sickness or deaths to DEECA using the [online form](#) or call the Emergency Animal Disease hotline on 1800 675 888
- Report clusters of 5 or more sick or dead wild birds of any species, anywhere in Victoria.
- Report even one sick or dead: wild seabird, waterbird, shorebird or bird of prey, or marine mammal (e.g. seal, sea lion, dolphin).

For more information, [visit this Australian Government webpage](#).

VISITED OUR WEBSITE LATELY?

Did you know the Friends of the Bluff website is packed with resources, puzzles and games to help you learn all about the bluff, the marine reserve and everything that calls our favourite place home?

It's the perfect place to spend some time when it's too wet and cold to go outside (let alone go snorkelling!)

All the online activities can be found at www.barwonbluff.com.au/online-activities.



© Geoff Gates

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – OCT 21

Due to a clash of dates we've postponed our AGM and it will now take place on October 21 at the Lobster Pot from 6.45pm. There'll be a guest speaker and supper, and we'd love to see everyone there.

Some current committee members won't be seeking re-election, so please [email Chris](#) if you are interested in nominating for the committee.
Reimaginebluff2022@gmail.com

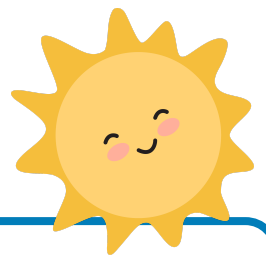
DARK SKY FILM NIGHT – AUGUST 26

Ocean Grove Coastcare is also running a film night on Wednesday, August 26 from 6.30–8.30pm.

It seems appropriate on a winter's night to be contemplating the long hours of darkness. But it's not as dark as we might think! Our birds and nocturnal animals experience the night differently now, compared to their previous generations, just a few decades ago.

Through short films, presented by guest speaker Kelly Clitheroe, we will explore the impacts of this change, and think about how we might help.

[Details and registration here](#).



THINK WARM!

We might be in the depths of winter, but that doesn't stop us planning for spring and summer!

Our **post-winter rapid health assessments** of shores in the Barwon Bluff Marine Sanctuary on September 16th (9 am) and 27th (4.30 pm). Each session will be about 1.5 hours. No experience required and no need to attend every session. Please contact Chris if you're interested:
reimaginebluff2022@gmail.com

Fish counts are being planned by Parks Victoria for the weekend of December 5 and 6 at Barwon Heads and Point Lonsdale respectively. And Friends of the Bluff will conduct our own informal counts around the same time. Stay tuned for details.