

# FATHOMS

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Safety in Diving

1995

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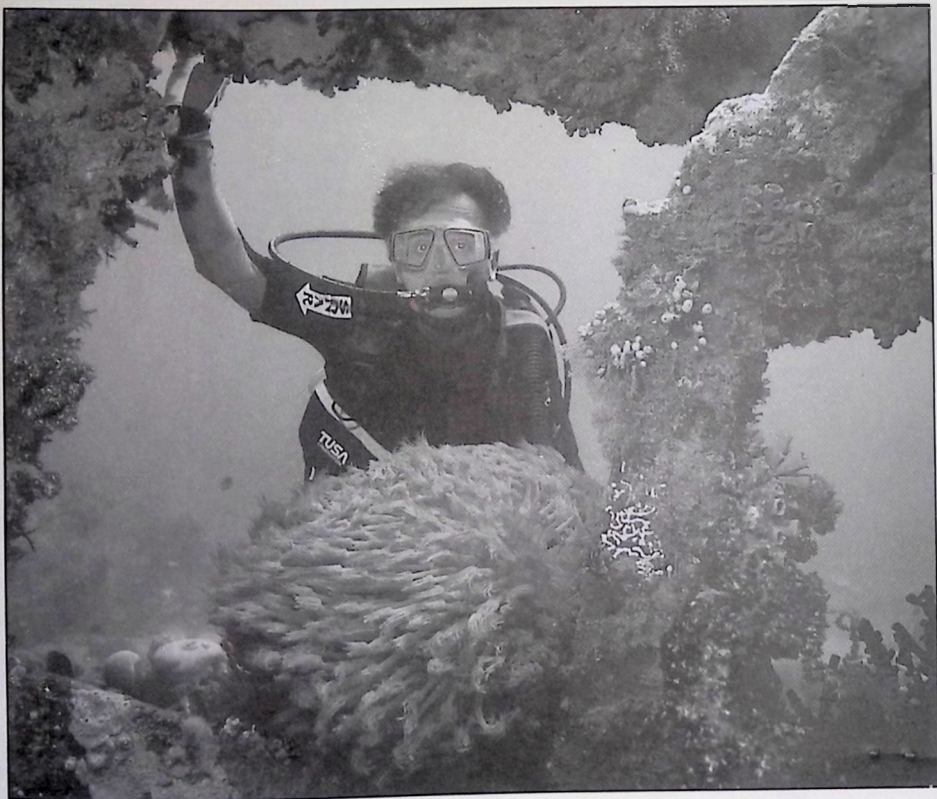
# VSAG

VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

AUG - SEP 95

# VSAG

Victorian Sub-Aqua Group. Box 2526W, G.P.O., Melbourne. 3001 Australia



## Cover photo:

This colourful photo of Sant Khan was taken by Des Williams on VSAG's 1994 trip to the Solomons & Vanuatu

The Victorian Sub-Aqua Group was founded in 1954 and has continued as a strong and active diving club since that time. It is incorporated as a non profit company and has no commercial affiliation with any organisation.

VSAG is committed to the preservation of independent diving freedom. It believes that divers must take a responsible attitude toward the protection and preservation of the marine environment but as a general rule is opposed to legislative measures that place prohibitive limitations and restrictions in diving activities.

Local diving is organised on a bi-monthly basis, generally out of participating member's boats. This is supported by weekend camps, charters to more remote locations and annual overseas trips. The club has a considerable investment in diving equipment. Regular functions provide an opportunity for members, friends and families to socialise. Each month VSAG meets at North Melbourne Football Club where bar facilities are available prior to and after the General Meetings. Visitors are very welcome - smart casual wear essential.

# FATHOMS

Official journal of the *Victorian Sub - Aqua Group*

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### Next General Meetings:

Bells Hotel  
157 Moray Street (cnr. Coventry Street)  
South Melbourne - 8pm sharp!  
Thursday 17th August 1995  
Thursday 21st September 1995

### Next Committee Meetings:

Tuesday 22nd August - Andy Mastrowicz's home  
Tuesday 26th September - Pat Reynold's home

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Des Williams  
John Lawler

## EDITORIAL



This issue of FATHOMS will be my last as Editor, giving the Club a chance to have a new Editor breath some fresh new life into your magazine. I have enjoyed my stay once again in charge of this very important element of the club.

My advice to your Editor is to be meticulous in keeping records of the mailing addresses of members, which will mean that Club funds are not wasted reaching the wrong people whilst at the same time missing financial members. Also the newsletter **MUST** be in the hands of members at least a couple of days before a meeting to ensure a good attendance at General Meetings.

The newsletter **IS** the life blood of V.S.A.G, so it **MUST** be accurate and most of all **ON TIME!** I will be available to assist your new Editor when ever the need arises.

On a lighter note, I detect a new trend appearing in V.S.A.G., it is called "Street Sharing". It all started when Des Williams moved address to Dorrington Court to be two doors away from fellow V.S.A.Ger Graeme Blanchard. Now Bob Scott has moved into Donn Close in Frankston putting him in the same street as Mick Jeacle! Who will be next in this extended form of the Buddy system?

Barry Andrewartha is conducting a survey to determine just how much support there is in the diving community for protection of the Great White Shark, which is now believed to be under threat. Refer to the item in this issue for further details regarding the survey and have your say on this issue.

Editor, Des Williams

**V.S.A.G. FATHER'S DAY  
YUM CHA**

**V.S.A.G. IS CELEBRATING FATHER'S DAY  
IN CHINA TOWN!**

**SUNDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 1995**

**11.00AM SITTING**

**SHARK FINN INN**

**50 LITTLE BOURKE STREET MELBOURNE**

**FULL YUM CHA SELECTION**

**\$18.00 ADULT \$10.00 CHILDREN**

**AND AFTERWARDS A STROLL AT SOUTH BANK**

**LET'S MAKE IT A BIG V.S.A.G. FAMILY DAY**

**CONTACT: CHRIS LLEWELLYN ON TEL: 9431 1650**

## ***THE POLPERRO***

JOHN LAWLER

In this edition there is a newspaper clipping on the now famous Polperro, a charter boat that was first to be specifically built for Victorian divers. The 43ft Polperro was launched at Mordialloc, Victoria on September 5th, 1978.

Built by Master Builder Mr Jack Pompei to specifications laid down by the proud owner/skipper Alan Cripps. Alan designed the boat for diving charters working out of Port Franklin and conducting diving tours around Wilsons Promontory and the Eastern Bass Straight Islands. The Polperro was a familiar sight to V.S.A.G. members on the annual trips to Refuge Cove and other places around the Prom.

Alan Cripps was no newcomer to the Bass Straight area. He spent the previous 32 years shark fishing and boating in the unpredictable water in the straight. He had another boat, the 32ft "A.B. Hunter" which made over one hundred trips with divers to the Prom and the Kent Group of Islands. The consistent support by Victorian divers enabled Alan to design and build a more suitable dive charter boat. At the time the Polperro was being built it was already booked out for private charter for the next 18 months by previous satisfied customers.

The Polperro is 43ft long of a rib to plank construction made from Huon Pine shipped in from the West Coast of Tasmania. It had a 61w Gardner 84 hp diesel engine installed which did around 9 knots. The beam was 15 ft that allowed sufficient room for 12 divers to sleep in relative comfort. Additionally the boat was equipped with a 7.5 cu. Ft compressor, as well as auto pilot, depth sounder, radio, radio telephone and naturally radar. The boat weighed around 23 tons and was registered as a British Ship. The name Polperro is a small town in England. Alan sold the boat after many years of dive charters and she now is berthed at Sorrento.

*Mornington Peninsula Leader*

# Dolphin protectors win recognition

**P**ORT Phillip's wild dolphins proved to be the stars of the recent Victorian Tourism Awards with Blairgowrie operators Judith and Tony Muir winning an environmental award which recognised their care and protection of the bay's dolphins.

Tony and Judith, with their son Troy, operate Polperro Charters which runs dolphin cruises from Sorrento Pier through the summer season.

The highlight of these cruises is the chance to drop over the side and swim with the dolphins. Judith and her son Troy are both dive-masters.

"Our operation is held in high regard by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources," said Judith Muir. "Our aim is to highlight the presence

of these beautiful creatures and preserve their environment. In no way do we impinge on the dolphin's natural lifestyle."

This was a factor in Polperro Charters being recognised by the award judges in the environmental section.

Right on Melbourne's front door these dolphins are hailed as more "honest" contenders for environmental tourism awards than the famous Monkey Mia attraction in Western Australia where dolphins have been coached to swim in the shallows among the tourists by being thrown the odd mackerel every morning.

The death of a dolphin through over-feeding at Monkey Mia sparked a battle to educate tourists and politicians about the fragile nature of human contact with these creatures.

Judith and her team intend to make sure Melbourne's dolphins remain wild and free.

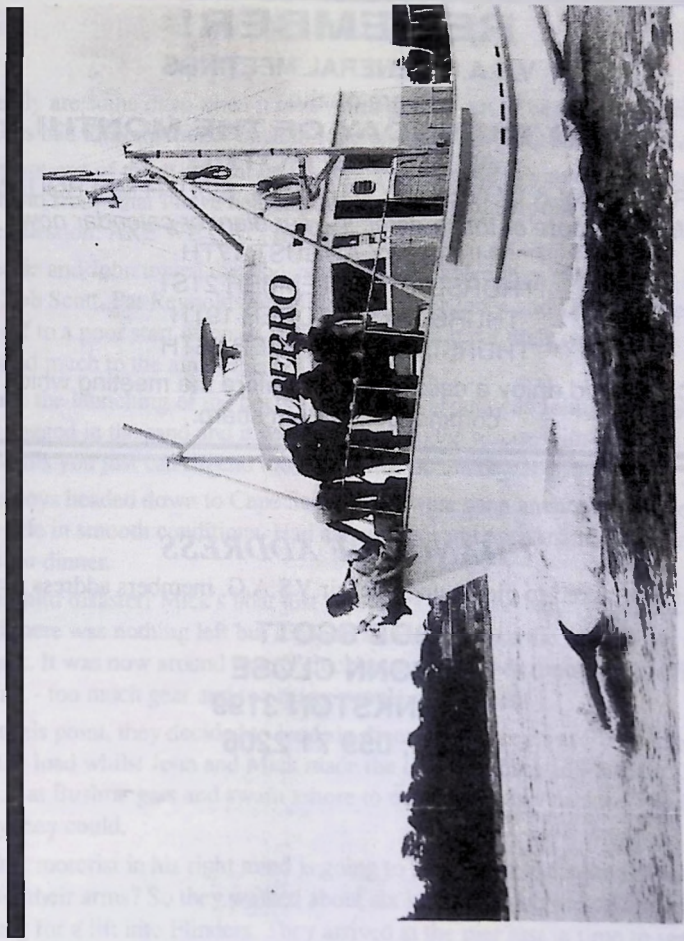
"No feeding or other inducement is used as far as our project is concerned and that is how it must remain," said Judith.

After a conference with the operators, an agreed code has been adopted. It is much like courting.

There is to be no touching. If a swimmer's approach is rejected by a dolphin, there is to be no pursuit.

"They are a natural wonder," said Judith, "and they must be protected."





DOLPHINS ride the bow wave of 'Polperro' as it sets out from Sorrento.

**REMEMBER!**

**V.S.A.G GENERAL MEETINGS**

are on the

**THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH!**

**AT BELLS HOTEL**

**CNR. MORAY & COVENTRY STREETS, SOUTH MELBOURNE**

*Make a note of these dates in your diary or calendar now.*

**THURSDAY AUGUST 17TH**

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST**

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 19TH**

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 16TH**

Come and enjoy a delicious meal before the meeting which commences at 8pm sharp.

***CHANGE OF ADDRESS***

Members are asked to please update their V.S.A.G. members address list thus:

**BOB SCOTT  
1 DONN CLOSE  
FRANKSTON 3199  
TEL: 059 71 2206**

## *ONE OF THOSE DAYS*

DES WILLIAMS

There really are some days when it isn't worth getting out of bed and a bunch of V.S.A. Gers had this experience back in June on a privately organised dive to Flinders.

As I was not one of those present on the day, I must relate to you the days events second hand from what I have heard. It sure was a day of surprises and one which begs the question: ARE WE GETTING PAST IT?

Mick Jeacle and John towed their boats to Flinders where they met up with Robert Birtles, Bob Scott, Pat Reynolds, Paul Tipping, Peter Jones and Doug Catherall. The day got off to a poor start when BOTH Paul and Doug put their wetsuits on the wrong way around much to the amusement of the others.

Next came the launching of the boats and the second delay as John Lawler's rig became bogged in the sand and it was Bob Scott to the rescue with his four wheel drive! Seems you just can't spend too much time on the beach eh John.

Now the boys headed down to Cape Schank and were soon anchored around the western side in smooth conditions. Had a great dive and even managed to secure a crayfish for dinner.

Then the third disaster! Mick's boat just would not start, the battery had absolutely died and there was nothing left but for John Lawler to make the tow all the way back to Flinders. It was now around four O'clock on a winters afternoon and the light was fading fast - too much gear and too many people in the boats.

It was at this point, they decided to land six divers on the coast at Bushrangers Bay, to lighten the load whilst John and Mick made the long tow back to Flinders. The boys jumped in at Bushrangers and swam ashore to make their way back to Flinders the best way they could.

Now, what motorist in his right mind is going to pick up six wetsuited divers with fins under their arms? So they walked about six kilometers before calling on a farmer and asking for a lift into Flinders. They arrived at the pier just in time to see John and Mick rounding the point as the last of the daylight was fading from the sky.

Yep! You guessed it, there was a full tide by this time and you can imagine what a fine time those weary boys had retrieving the boats in the darkness amongst the thick weed on the beach. You don't have to be crazy to be a diver, but it does help!

John told me it was around 9pm before he finally got home - WHAT A DAY!



## V.S.A.G. CHRISTMAS TRIP 95/96 ROBE SOUTH AUSTRALIA

THIS CHRISTMAS V.S.A.G. WILL TRAVEL TO THE FANTASTIC COASTAL TOWN OF ROBE FOR THE FAMILY AND DIVING HOLIDAY. ROBE HAS ALL YOU COULD WANT IN A HOLIDAY!!

- EASY ONE DAYS DRIVE FROM MELBOURNE
- EASY DRIVE TO MOUNT GAMBIER
- EASY DRIVE TO THE GREAT COONAWARRA
- CRAYFISH CRAYFISH CRAYFISH - ROBE IS RENOWNED FOR IT'S ABUNDANCE OF CRAYFISH
- LOADS OF WONDERFUL SIGHTSEEING AREAS
- LOADS OF SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS  
AND THERE IS MUCH MORE IN AND AROUND THIS BEAUTIFUL AND HISTORIC SOUTHERN PORT
- RATES FOR POWERED SITES - \$14 PER DOUBLE PER DAY PLUS AROUND \$4 PER ADDITIONAL PERSON

**BOOKING WITH A \$50 DEPOSIT ARE TO BE MADE AT THE JUNE GENERAL MEETING AS WE MUST BOOK OUR NUMBERS VERY SOON ENQUIRES - JOHN LAWLER**

# *SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF VICTORIA*

DES WILLIAMS

The following several pages should be read by all members to achieve a clear idea of the issues facing scuba divers in Diving Politics. Firstly, the Annual Report for 1994 appears to give you some idea of the work which goes on behind the scenes. We should all be grateful to the dedicated S.D.F.V. committee and other members who have unselfishly given up their time to pursue the many important issues which effect us all! The second item makes comments on the 1995 Fisheries Bill, and the last item refers to the Scallop Issues Paper. If you would like to make further comments or have some questions please contact V.S.A.G. reps to S.D.F.V., Des Williams or John Lawler



Affiliated with  
 - Scuba Divers Federation of Australia  
 - Sports Federation of Victoria

## Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria Inc.

G.P.O. Box 1785F, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, 3001

### Annual Report 1994

Dear Members of the Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria Incorporated.

I am pleased to present in accordance with clause 9.8 of the constitution, the Annual report of the Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria for the period 1st of February 1994 to the 30th of January 1995.

#### Executive Members

##### Chairman

Vice President  
 Communications  
**DARREN LAITER**  
 from API Diving Club  
 works Telecom Australia  
 lives Ringwood - Melb

Vice President  
 Statutory  
**DR. JOHN HAWKINS**  
 from RMIL Underwater Club  
 works Telecom Australia  
 lives Rowville - Melb

Vice President  
 Commercial  
**RODNEY KING**  
 from API Diving Club  
 works NEC Australia  
 lives Scoresby - Melb

Vice President  
 Public Relations  
**PRIYA CARDINALETTI**  
 from Marine Diving Group  
 works Melbourne University  
 lives Boronia - Melb

The closing of 1994 saw an end of an era for the SDFV. We have for many years been privy to, and well informed about, issues relating to the Victorian fisheries, through our regular nomination of a delegate on the Ministers Recreational Fisheries Advisory Council. For the last three or so years, Rodney King has done an excellent job of passing on information and ensuring the Recreational Scuba Diver gets a fair hearing amongst the other fishers in our community. However 1995 has seen the disbanding of that Council and now the recreational fishing community is about to be represented by a new Peak Body. This new Peak Body is an independent group who may on one hand advise the government, and on the other hand lobby against its actions. How it will work out is yet to be seen, but the SDFV is again fortunate to get good representation. Marriten Vanetic and Priya Cardinaletti are our members on the Body and we are well placed in having Marriten on the executive council. However once again we would like to thank Rodney King for his valuable work and effort at VRFAC.

Our representations on various government fisheries committees does not seem to diminish. The year 1994 once again saw most of our resources being devoted to fisheries matters. John Hawkins and Rodney King attended and became involved in management committees for Rock Lobster and Abalone. In February 1994 the SDFV prepared and made a submission to the government Abalone Background and Issues Paper. As well, and on a similar subject, the SDFV made a submission to the government on its policy of Ranching Abalone. Rodney and John also attended, on behalf of the SDFV, a three day management workshop on Abalone. The SDFV also during the year attended a 1 day Rock Lobster management workshop. Both Abalone and Rock Lobster get a high amount of attention and this is simply related to the high value of the fishery to the Victorian economy.

The SDFV also assisted with the development of the concept of a series of Diver Brochures. These brochures were produced by the Department of Conservation and Environment and showed new divers what it was they could fish for on Scuba, how to catch them, where to find them, and how to cook them. It's the sort of information that most of us would probably take for granted, but never-the-less is unknown to the new chum divers.

Another issue of importance that was raised as 1994 closed, was the implied imposition of Possession Limits for Abalone, Rock Lobster and Scallops for recreational divers. The issue was not resolved as 1995 started and will continue on for some time yet, but the SDFV aimed to hold the government accountable and sought its explanation for such fundamental changes to the way we have known the law for many years.

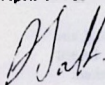
The SDFV has also been active in the area of Historic Shipwrecks and Coastal Conservation. Des Williams continues to represent the SDFV and recreational divers on the Historic Shipwrecks Advisory Committee. Through this forum, Des has ensured that the voice of the recreational diver is heard strong and loud amongst the scientists and bureaucrats of the shipwrecks committee. Marriten Vanetic has ensured that the SDFV is aware of important issues relating to coastal conservation with his alliance with the Coastal Community Network. It was through this alliance that Marriten arranged a guest speaker to attend the Tidal River Wilson's Prom Dive get together in November. The BBQ held at that weekend saw over one hundred divers and family members gather around for a chat and a sausage, and although the weather was terrible, the service and hospitality of the RMIT underwater club, who ran the event, was exceptional.

During the year, the Victorian Sub Aqua Group, known as Vec - SAG to their friends, held its 40th Birthday Ball. This was a fantastic milestone for the club and one that any club would be proud to achieve. We sincerely hope a few more clubs can go on and achieve a similar age. The Ball was a blacktie affair with everybody getting into the proper spirit and dressing up for the occasion.

The Federation continued in 1994 to perform one of its most important functions, and that is the collection of information of relevance to dive clubs. The SDFV gets regularly inundated with information from government departments, dive businesses, the underwater medicine society, dive clubs, the Sports Federation, and other societies and groups, and it is the Federation's intention to make this information known to your delegate for your clubs benefit. The Federation also disseminates information about our clubs and diving, to individuals, citizen advice centres, government departments, and school groups. Also Priya Cardinaletti does a great job of keeping the all important informal grapevine going so that we rarely miss out on knowing at least something about most relevant diving issues. John Davis keeps the feedback coming from the Sports Federation of Victoria on issues of importance in that area. We also thank John most sincerely for his generous assistance in meeting the costs of belonging to the Sports Federation.

To the member clubs, I think you would notice it more, and to your detriment, if the Federation didn't exist. Lets ensure it remains strong and viable. Personally, I would like to thank all the clubs and delegates associated with the Federation for all their staunch and ongoing support during the past year.

Darren Salter  
Chairman - Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria  
April 1995.





## Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria Inc.

GPO Box 1705P  
Melbourne, Vic, 3001

### Introduction of a new Fisheries Bill

A new Fisheries Bill was introduced into the Victorian Parliament during March, 1995. The SDFV has had a watching brief on the progress of the Bill and this is a short commentary and summary of both the process and the ramifications of the new Act to recreational fishers.

#### Process

The new Fisheries Bill has origin as a 1992 Coalition election policy commitment to revise and remodel the *Fisheries Act 1968* into a modern legislative framework to enable significant improvement in fisheries management. Consideration of stakeholders, flexibility in the use of fisheries and increased responsiveness to changing circumstances were all promulgated in this more holistic, enlightened approach to the sustainable management of the utilisation of ecosystems.

In a show of both intent and good faith, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) released a Discussion Paper in July, 1994 for relatively wide public comment. The document clearly demonstrated the intent and rationale of purpose of the new Act, and the format implied sponsorship to the promise of participative community involvement. The Discussion Paper outlined the proposed administrative pathway for public comment and input, although there was some inconsistency in the time-line of process.

#### The Discussion Paper

The Discussion Paper invited public comment and submissions on the legislative proposals in Part B of the Paper (Part A - Background and Explanatory Notes was not open for debate). Submissions were to be received by the DCNR by 5 Oct, 1995. The Discussion Paper signalled revision and consolidation of the existing Fisheries Act in terms of modern public policy principles and thus would be :-

- enabling rather than directive or prescriptive
- simpler to understand and compatible with other legislation
- consistent with ESD principles
- versatile and flexible in terms of changing circumstances
- fairer from a cost and benefit distribution point of view
- effective in terms of protection of resources

These principle reforms would allow proclaiming of new legislation which had the objective to :-

- efficient, effective (and economical) and ecologically sustainable fisheries management
- maximisation of community benefit
- equitable access to fisheries resources by all
- greater involvement of resource users in management decisions
- rationalisation & restructuring of commercial fishing industry
- protection of fish resources
- encourage sound utilisation of new fisheries.

The SDFV viewed the Discussion Paper in detail, and found the rationale and legislative proposals sound and reasonable. A number of SDFV people subsequently attended presentations and information sessions by DCNR about the proposed changes. The Discussion Paper did not indicate any significant impact on recreational fishers.



*On the basis of the given explanatory notes and the broad aims and objectives of the new Act as written, decided that a specific submission to the DCNR on any aspect of the Discussion Paper, concepts or intent, was not justified. The SDFV requested to be continually briefed on the steps in the progress of the development of the new Act as it made its way to parliament. Rightly or wrongly, the SDFV did interpret the clause "Additional opportunities for input and comment will be provided when the bill has been drafted" (page 3) to mean that a Draft Bill would be made available for public comment sometime prior to the tabling of the new Act in Parliament.*

### ***What Happened Next***

The new Fisheries Bill was tabled in Parliament for the first reading on 8 March, 1995. The Minister for Natural Resources gave the second reading on 9 March, 1995. The speech by the Minister reiterated the general flavour of the Discussion Paper, as well as indicate some specific aspects of the new bill which obviously were of particular concern to some groups.

The debate over the bill was adjourned and subsequently the SDFV was advised by DCNR that the matter was to be held over until 11 April, 1995. Interested parties had until then to submit comments about the new Bill to DCNR. The SDFV received a copy of the new Fisheries Act, and a copy of the Minister speech to parliament on 24 March, 1995.

It appears that there was some deliberate government strategy over introduction of the Bill into Parliament which seemed to thwart attempts to find out what was going on. It is not clear how much the DCNR was involved. The SDFV was not advised of or did not receive any information about the process of development of the new Bill after the Discussion Paper. The SDFV only received a copy of the new Bill after inquiry on 20th March, 1995. It is not clear whether the SDFV would have received a copy without asking.

### ***Outcome***

The Bill is largely as pre-empted in the Discussion Paper. However, both the promised simplicity and fishery protection - community benefit ideals are de-emphasised (in relation to how they were espoused in the Discussion Paper) while wide ranging fishery management tools and enforcement appear to be powerfully emphasised in the new Bill. Those that expected literal equivalence between the Discussion Paper information and the new Bill will be disappointed. It takes some effort and interpretation of the Sections and Clauses of the new Bill to arrive at the same layman view of many issues described in the Discussion Paper.

A direct outcome of the "process" is that :-

- 1 there is now very little time to consider and discuss the new Bill in the SDFV forum
- 2 the claim of a successful participative approach and community input is weakened
- 3 as far as the SDFV is concerned, the Bill must be considered a *fait-accompl*. The fate of any comments the SDFV may make to DCNR over the Bill is unknown, and it is difficult to see how input via the DCNR may influence the up-coming parliamentary debate.



## Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria Inc.

GPO Box 1705P  
Melbourne, Vic, 3001

Mr Tim Harding,  
Project Leader, Fisheries Bill,  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources,  
240 Victoria Pde,  
East Melbourne, 3002.

7th April, 1995

### Comments on the Fisheries Bill 1995

The Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria (SDFV) thanks the Department for the recent copies of the new Bill, along with the Hansard extract of the Minister's speech to Parliament which accompanied the reading of the Bill on the 9th march. The copies were received by the SDFV on 24th March, 1995. We welcome the Department's invitation for comments about the new Bill, and we acknowledge advice that debate on the Bill has been adjourned until at least 11 April, 1995, and that comments should therefore be sent as soon as possible within this time frame.

We wish to make strong protest about the time frame. Given the importance of the new Bill, it is totally inadequate that community groups such as the SDFV have had less than 2 working weeks to review the Bill and offer sensible and informed comments.

In the very short time we have had available to scrutinise the new Bill, we find that it is generally sound and is consistent with that pre-empted by the Department's Discussion Paper released last July/August. That is, the claimed reforms and revision as detailed in the Discussion Paper are generally achieved within the wording and our interpretation of the new Bill. However, from a wider community view outside our own specific interests as recreational diving fishers, we see that the new Bill potentially goes much further as an legislative enabling tool than might have been expected or implied from the Discussion Paper.

It is our strong view that the very broad-brush scope of the new Bill warrants and requires further inspection. There are, in fact, some areas of detail in the Bill which are of concern to some of our members and thus should aired in a wider forum. However, it is not within the volunteer resources of the SDFV to undertake such a process in the very short and unreasonable time made available for comment. The SDFV has conveyed our concerns about the poor process, inadequate time to consider and study the Bill, and some areas of specific concern of content to the new *Victorian Recreational Fishing Peak Body*. It is our view that, if at all possible, there should be efforts to slow the passage of the Bill through the Parliamentary process until there has been enough time and sufficient process by all stakeholders to assess the ramifications of the new Fisheries Bill. Not to do so risks legitimate claims of insincerity towards community consultation and participation.

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment (albeit hastily), and we look forward to future dialogue with the Department where we might explore the intent, understanding and interpretation of aspects of the Bill which might be of particular concern to our members.

Dr John M. Hawkins  
for the  
Scuba Diver Federation of Victoria, Inc



**Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria Inc.**  
GPO Box 1705F, Melbourne Vic 3001

**The Scallop Management Team**  
**Fisheries Branch**  
**Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**  
**6th Floor, 250 Victoria Parade**  
**East Melbourne, Victoria 3002**

**15th May 1995**

**SUBMISSION TO**  
**SCALLOP BACKGROUND AND ISSUES PAPER**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS SUBMISSION**

This Submission has been prepared by the SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION of VICTORIA (S.D.F.V.) on behalf of recreational SCUBA divers who are members of diving clubs affiliated with the S.D.F.V.. A list of the affiliated diving clubs is included in Appendix 1.

The Submission is in response to the **VICTORIAN SCALLOP FISHERY - BACKGROUND AND ISSUES PAPER** (hereafter referred to as "the paper") written by the **DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**, and in particular is primarily directed at providing comments on **ISSUES** that the S.D.F.V consider as having a possible impact on the future diving activities of our members.

## 1.2 SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

The SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF VICTORIA is a non-profit and voluntary organisation formed in 1961 to represent the interests of recreational SCUBA divers. It is dedicated to promoting the safety and enjoyment of the underwater world and by virtue of its constitution is conservation oriented. Member clubs are not permitted to engage in competition spear fishing or other activities which could be detrimental to the underwater flora and fauna.

Over the years S D F V has represented the views of its affiliated clubs to various Government bodies on matters relating to the activity of recreational diving and

the environment  
conservation  
fishing licences  
bag limits  
safety standards  
boat ramps  
marine reserves  
shipwreck preservation, etc.

On all such matters the S D F V has attempted to provide Government with informed opinions and presented such information rationally, responsibly and without commercially motivated bias. It is with the same intention that we make this Submission.

In reading our submission the Federation asks that the Department give consideration to our lack of professional resources in the preparation of this submission. The Federation, who probably is the only body speaking on behalf of the Recreational Scuba Diver, is not funded by commercial businesses, nor does it receive funding from any government body. All too often the recreational diver and his activities are targeted as the easy management option when weighed up against the strong and professional lobby of the commercial associations and businesses.

The Federation has read the paper and has used its available resources to investigate the issues and offer comment. Our comments may however not be all that there is to say about the Scallop resource from a recreational point of view but it is the best we can do given the

circumstances Our comments are listed by section number and refer to the corresponding section in the paper

## **2. COMMENTS**

### **Recreational Fishery (2.6)**

The Federation in general supports the information given in the report about the Recreational effort to collect scallops except as noted below.

Recreational divers would tend to target scallops in warmer months not because of any special relationship to the scallop (eg spawning) but because diving is in general more pleasant at these times of the year.

Of the 200 or so divers estimated (in the paper) to be diving on any particular good weekend only a small percentage (probably less than 10%) would be targeting scallops.

Most recreational divers would concentrate their efforts to take scallops in the lower regions of the bay and not the top end of the bay as indicated in the paper. The reason for this is that most divers would be aware that scallops are filter feeders and that the water quality, and hence the scallop quality, is better and cleaner in the lower regions of Port Phillip Bay. Also most divers target scallops only as a second or shallow dive, after diving the popular areas around Port Phillip Heads. The scallop beds off Rye for instance are within an acceptable boat distance from the Heads. The top end of the bay is well out of reach to most boats.

### **Minimum Legal Size (3.6)**

The Federation believes that a minimum legal size should apply to both recreational and commercial fishers only if the scallop stocks in Port Phillip Bay look like becoming depleted. Though, this management option should only be applied when most other management options have been exhausted. If a minimum legal size was introduced it should apply equally to both commercial and recreational fishers. The juvenile beds of scallops must be protected until they have had an opportunity to spawn.

### **Closed Seasons and Areas (3.7)**

The Federation does not support the introduction of any closed season for the Recreational catch of scallops. The Federation's reason for this is that at present no quantitative data exists to show adversely or otherwise the extent or effect of the recreational effort. We would only support such moves when irrefutable evidence showed the adverse affect of the recreational fisher.

The continuation of "summer closure" for the commercial fishery should continue be related to stock assessments as determined by the Department. The Federation supports the continued closed area for commercial scallop harvesting off St Leonards as a reference site to enable a measure of the effect of commercial versus recreational scallop fishing activity.

The Federation believes that the areas on the Eastern side of Port Phillip bay shallower than 5 metres are usually devoid of abundant scallop stocks and as such should continue to remain out of limits for commercial harvesting. The Federation believes the recreational impact in these areas to be negligible and therefore unchanged to recreational access.

### **Commercial Dive Fishery (4.3)**

The Federation believes the introduction of a commercial dive fishery as an alternative to the current method should be strongly considered for Port Phillip Bay if studies indicate dredging seriously damages the bay floor ecology. As indicated in section 2.6, divers can be selective in being able to take good size and quality scallops. Also good divers are able to easily take the bag limit (100 scallops) on one tank of air. We would suggest that an experienced commercial scallop diver would easily triple this amount per 45 minutes. A commercial diver would use surface supplied air and in most parts of the bay (15-20m) would be able to undertake three 45min dives per day. We believe commercial diving for scallops would be far less damaging to the sea floor than dredging.

### **Recreational Dive Fishery (4.8)**

The Federation believes there is never enough research, and of course the results of correctly targeted research should source resource management decisions. In particular because very little, or no research or data exists on the recreational Scallop catch, the Department must put effort into this area before management options are taken that alter or affect recreational fishers. As such the Federation supports strongly the setting aside of areas reserved only for

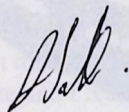
recreational users. They would provide a major benchmark for studies into the effect of the recreational effort. In all fisheries where recreational divers / fishers are active, little or no quantitative data exists as to the effect of the recreational catch. Implementing reserved recreational only areas would certainly provide a mechanism to overcome this deficit in this particular fishery.

The Federation believes two areas in Port Phillip bay should be set aside. One area on the eastern side of the bay and one on the western side.

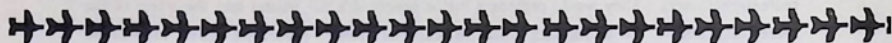
An area around the "Hurricane" wrecksite off Rosebud would be an ideal reserved site on the eastern side of Port Phillip bay. The wrecksite is a protected wreck and has of recent times been severely damaged by the activities of Scallop dredging. To ensure future protection of the wreck, a total ban of commercial scallop dredging within a two kilometre radius would suffice, as well it would also fulfil the need for a recreational only study area. Having the wreck and the reserve co located is also beneficial from a recreational diver perspective as it allows two dives (the normal recreational diver plan for a single day) to be conducted without the need to travel vast distances.

The continued closure of the area off St Leonards on the western side of Port Phillip Bay will provide a second study area for measuring the effect of the recreational effort. This site would be frequented by recreational divers from Western Victoria. Having a second study area will help corroborate any findings of the first study area.

end of comments



**Darren S. Salter**  
Vice President Communications  
Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria



## ***V.S.A.G. OVERSEAS TRIP DEPARTS 12TH MAY 1996***

**ORGANISER: PAT REYNOLDS TEL: 9789 1092**

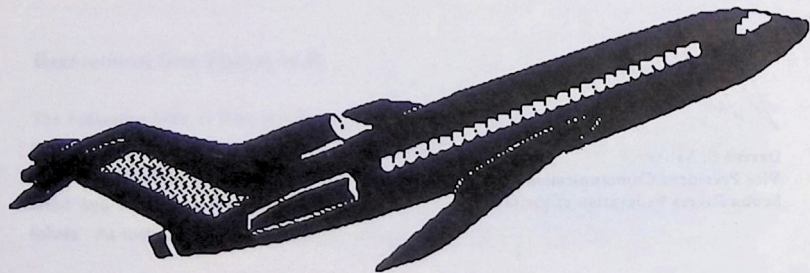
18 great days flying Continental Airlines, diving the beautiful pristine waters of Truk Lagoon, renowned for 60 fantastic wrecks and a constant water temperature of 28 degrees. Includes 10 dives in Truk and accommodation at the Continental Hotel. Renovations at the Continental include new units and a swimming pool. The dive operator in Truk will be Clark Graham.

The majority of the diving will take place in the beautiful islands of Palau, named by Capt. Cousteau in 1989 as the number one underwater wonder of the world. Accommodation in Palau will be at the Marina Hotel, approx 200 rooms. Dive operator will be Fish "N" Fins.

See 4000ft dropoffs, wall dives, sharks feeding, wrecks, Jellyfish Lake, Blue Holes, etc. Dive package: 18 dives with lunches included.

Possible starters at the present time are: P. Reynolds, N. Viapree, B. Hayes, A. Mastrowicz, G. Mastrowicz, R. Scott, A. Talay, S. Khan, R. Luxford, C. Luxford, P. Vleugel, C. Llewellyn, A. Stewart, J. Liddy, L. Maybus, M. Black.

More information next issue .....





## ***V.S.A.G'S QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND***

DES WILLIAMS

Another very successful long weekend trip with the V.S.A.G.. Thank you Andy for organising the accommodation and providing such a brilliant dive on the Saturday.

The Beacon Resort is definitely worth a return visit as it is very comfortable indeed. The indoor swimming pool was a great hit with our offspring who very quickly seemed to pair up with buddies of the same age group, so they had a wonderful time.

The dive on Saturday consisted of five divers and the two boats of Andy and Neville - thanks very much guys for towing them to queenscliff. we were positioned off Queenscliff's Shortlands Bluff in about 70ft of water b y 11.30am, as the slack water flood was just about to turn and run out again. We had experienced about five solid days of rain during the previous week, so who could believe the visibility would be 60ft as Paul Tipping, Neville Viapree and I descended leaving Mick, Andy and non-diving Doug Catherall in the boats above.

Not having been in the water since January, I was delighted to drift over this spectacular reef formation covered in a never ending garden of sponges of all kinds. There were some of the biggest boarfish I have ever seen along with large leatherjackets, blue devils at the back of towering limestone overhangs and the usual assortment of reef dwelling fishes. It was very easy to keep our group together for this 40 minute dive with such clear water and a very gentle out going stream.

Don't think I have ever seen such an assortment of different sponges on one dive before and I really enjoyed the scenery as we tucked in under some of the big limestone overhangs to surprise the sheltering marine life. Every now and then we could hear, then make out the shape of the boats above, as they kept up with our market bouy.

At the 35 minute mark the cool water caught up with Paul who signalled he was

returning to the surface, so Neville and I drifted on a little further keeping an eye on Paul's ascent above us. Suddenly, there it was! A real beauty, tucked into a neat little ledge all by itself, a very nice decapod! Haven't seen one of those for ages either and so I offered Neville first shot at it as I had the bouy line. But, Neville is a real gentleman who soon relieved me of the line and motioned to me this was my big chance, whilst he held his torch on the critter for me.

Not having caught a cray for a long time, I was probably more surprised than the crayfish to find ourselves in a warm embrace just a few minutes later! Neville and I then made for the surface without delay as we didn't have a cray bag between us to secure the catch. Andy took the bug from me at the surface as Mick Jeacle chorused JEEEEZUZ!

We were no sooner back in the boat, when two loud splashes announced the departure of Andy and Mick as they barrelled down through the clear waters to the bottom in search of a decapod to rival my 71b male friend.

Well, let me tell you there are no flies on Mick, as he returned with two more male beauties to keep my mate company. Andy wasn't lucky enough to even see one during the dive, but still enjoyed the scenery and great visibility.

It was about 2pm by this time and it was evident that the weather wasn't going to hold out much longer, so we returned to the Beacon Resort for gear washing, story telling and hot showers. A very pleasant dive!

On Saturday evening, we gathered at the Royal Hotel for a delicious meal, a few drinks and told some more stories. That evening the weather really fell to pieces and our very comfortable cabins were lashed with winds and driving rain as my crayfish tap-danced in the sink all night.

Sunday we relaxed in bed, cooked our crays, went to the Sunday market a short walk from the park, took a sight seeing trip through Portarlington, St. Leonards and Queenscliff and watched the children having a great time in the heated indoor pool. parents took it in turns to have a siesta and keep an eye on the children. Very restful day!

More rain that night and Monday morning we packed up to drive back to Melbourne. Julie, Hannah and I took the 11am ferry across to Sorrento to complete our circumnavigation of the Bay.

## *DIVE REPORT 25TH JUNE 1995*

MICK JEACLE

This dive was scheduled for Shellback Island at Wilsons Promontory however due to lack of numbers we decided to transfer the dive site to Flinders.

In hindsight the scheduling of Shellback Island in winter months proved to be some what ambitious due to the shortness in daylight hours at this time of year.

However, for those who dived Shellback at Easter time I'm sure you will agree that it is a fantastic dive location and the re-scheduling for a day visit is not out of the question, but this will be scheduled during the summer months.

So on this particular day two boats and eight divers met at Flinders and it was decided that we would dive around the back area of the golf course and seek out a relatively new area out a bit deeper than the places we normally dive in this area. Visibility was considered excellent at around 40 to 50 feet due to the lack of rain during the previous week and also northerly winds.

There was no surge whatsoever under water and it was great for a change to dive this area and see the kelp virtually standing upright with very little movement. I dived with Jack Namiota and was fortunate (or was it unfortunate) to have captured five crayfish during the course of the dive, however due to restrictions on females four were left in their ledges until 16.11.95.

At one stage a very large stingray glided past and when I pointed this out to Jack it was indeed a funny sight to see him back peddle at a great rate of knots. Don't worry Jack, these animals won't hurt you.

Upon surfacing and boarding the boat Robert Birtles and Frank Natoli informed me that they had had a visit from a local cray fisherman. He asked to pass on the message to the divers in the water that we were a bunch of parasites, presumably because we were diving quite near their craypots marker buoys.

You could imagine my immediate response as I dismissed this churlish remark and thought nothing more of it. After lunch we dived in our usual spot being much closer in towards the Golf Course Reef however. the underwater terrain here was nowhere near as good as our previous spot and due to the coldness of the water, yours truly was out in a matter of about 20 minutes.

At completion of the days diving we then returned to the ramp. Immediately we pulled up there were two cray fishermen returning from their boat via there small tinny and one of these "gentlemen" could not help himself but to remark on the fact that we were diving on their pots.

Of course I vehemently denied this and stated that the ocean is for everybody and we could not be concerned that he placed his crayfish pots on our favourite dive site.

From that moment on the air around the place got considerably worse as he and his friends continued to hurl abuse at us, albeit from afar.

It was quite comical really to hear grown men carry on in such a childish manner and in the end we chose to simply ignore their remarks in the hope that they would go away. The situation was exacerbated somewhat by the fact that yours truly bogged his vehicle in the sand whilst endeavouring to retrieve the boat and you could imagine the remarks that followed from these idiots at the stage.

When the ringleader offered to pull me out for the cost of \$120 dollars, you would not need to be very intelligent at all to imagine what I told him he could do with his tractor.

On more than one occasion our divers have retrieved cray fishermen's pots in this area but when next asked to do so it would give me great pleasure in quoting a fee of \$120 dollars and I'd be glad to do so.

At this point let me assure everybody regarding this article that it certainly was not our intention to dive on these pots and anybody who knows this area will realise that a diver can drift quite a considerable distance due to currents and it is not uncommon therefore to encounter pots whilst diving at Flinders. The situation could have got out of hand if we allowed ourselves to be as childish as our adversaries.

In closing, we did not allow this to spoil our day and whilst on the drive home I reflected on the fact that VSAG is certainly getting older when we can only attract 8 divers on such a great day as Sunday 25th of June 19895.

Scotty, maybe you should get into the manufacture of dry suits and perhaps this will increase our numbers dramatically during the winter months.

Thanks Leo and guys for the use of the shovel etc. and also John Lawler for towing out my vehicle from the two feet deep soft sand.

## *THE DIVE CAPTAIN*

MICK JEACLE

As you are all aware the Dive Captain's lot is to take bookings from those interested in diving the evening before, and to allocate people to the respective boats.

This task can be rather onerous but it need not be, particularly if those intending to dive show a bit more consideration towards the dive captain's task.

During my fifteen years as a member of vsag, I have taken on the task of Dive Captain on numerous occasions.

To my knowledge it has always been a rule of the club that those intending to dive should ring the dive captain from 6pm on the evening prior to the dive. However, until recently there has never been an advertised cut-off time and it was not uncommon to still receive telephone calls from some people wishing to dive, as late as 10pm.

To my mind, this is quite unreasonable and in an effort to eradicate this aspect I propose that the following arrangements should be adhered to in future:

- Boat owners intending to dive and use their boat should ring the Dive Captain from 5.30pm
- Divers should commence telephoning the Dive Captain from 6pm with an absolute cut-off time of 7pm.

I would not consider this to be onerous at all, and what this does is free up the Dive captain to enjoy the evening in any other way that he so desires. This could include going out to dinner or a social function without the necessity to transfer the dive capaincy to some other committee member.

These are two requests designed to make the Dive captain's lot a very simple task indeed. It would be appreciated if you all made a mental note for the future.

## **A WINTRY TALE**

DOUG CATHERALL

Only seven divers felt inclined to use Neville Viaprees & John Lawler's boats on the cool but promising day.

To catch favourable tides we bought the ETA Sorrento forward to 9.30am and all was peaceful & calm on arrival, so launching was easy and without incident.

Big Mick guided NV straight for a spot where he had some unfinished business. We left them gearing up fairly close to the shipping channel whilst I took us further towards Queenscliff where Pat & Don were first in and reported 50 foot visibility, 2 good sized female crays were inspected by Donald and carefully replaced. When JL and I entered the water we experienced the feeling that only winter can give. My face ached for several minutes as it tried to adjust to the arrival of the cold current. Anyway we did adjust and our dive was really most enjoyable. Not fruitful, but enjoyable.

The weather kept improving and by late lunch the sun was shining, the sea calm and all around was at peace, except a bloody big seal who was having a great deal of trouble breaking up it's catch into bite size pieces. It must have surfaced about 20 times whilst thrashing this thing from side to side.

A sunny winters afternoon on the bay with good company, a good lunch (thanks to my darling), no hurry and another dive to go. Hard to beat!

For seconds Neville headed for the scallop beds at Mick's request, (Charlie kept telling baby stories) & John took us for abalone.

No problems, it was easy & enjoyable.

## MEDIA WATCH

# Off-course cruise ship runs aground

BOSTON: A cruise ship with 1500 passengers and crew aboard headed to Boston yesterday after it was refloated from shallow waters off Cape Cod, where it strayed off course and ran aground.

US Coast Guard officials said they had launched an investigation into why the luxury liner *Royal Majesty* was sailing kilometres outside normal shipping lanes when it ran aground 16 km east of Nantucket Island on Saturday.

There were no injuries to either passengers or crew, but rough sea conditions scuttled a planned evacuation of the passengers.

The 173-metre Bermuda-to-Boston ocean liner, carrying 989 passengers and 520 crew, was expected to arrive in Boston around 4pm local time, when it would be inspected for damage.

Coast Guard officials said the ship ran aground on the Rose and Crown Shoal off Nantucket in just 3.3 metres of water at 11pm on Saturday (1300 AEST Sunday) in an area of shallow water that is plainly marked on nautical charts.

The incident happened in

calm seas in clear visibility. Tugs freed the vessel about 23 hours after it ran aground.

"They were outside the normal shipping channel," said Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Glenn Rosenholm. "The shipping channel is several miles from there."

The ship was between 16 and 27km off course.

The *Royal Majesty* has a 6-metre draught.

The *Boston Herald* quoted Paris Katsoufia, president of Majesty Cruise Lines of Miami, as saying that the *Royal Majesty's* master, Captain Nicholas Astanis, is a 20-year seafaring veteran.

Majesty Cruise Lines owns the Panamanian-registered liner.

Coast Guard Lieutenant Paul Wolf said it was not known if Captain Astanis was on the bridge when the ship ran aground.

The 32,400-tonne vessel, built in Finland in 1992, was equipped with state-of-the-art electronic navigation equipment, company officials said.

Continued rough seas prevented divers from inspecting the vessel immediately after it was freed from the shoal.

Reuter

## Willing and Abell at 105

JUST short of her 105th birthday, Beatrice Abell will be honored today for her tireless work for a leading charity.

Mrs Abell, who will turn 105 on Monday, has made some 9000 items of clothing over the past 15 years — that's about two a day — for the Anglican Home Mission Society in Sydney.

Through the society her clothes have gone to street kids, unemployed people and single parents, society spokeswoman Diana Stein said.

Mrs Abell no longer sews because of failing eyesight but still knits garments for the society.

"I will continue to help others by making clothes for as long as I can," Mrs Abell said in a statement.

— AAP

*The Herald Sun 9.6.95*

## MEDIA WATCH

News Sunday Age

# Marine park changes draw flak

By Ben Mitchell

**T**WO former marine park planners with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources have strongly criticised the Land Conservation Council's new recommendations for the state's marine parks.

The council's recommendations would allow commercial fishing and mining in Victoria's most protected marine parks.

Ms Joan Phillips, Victoria's senior marine park planner before she moved to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in September 1993, has described the council's recommendations as a retrograde step for the Victorian coast.

"What they are calling marine parks is a joke. Look at everything that may be allowed in their so-called conservation zones — mariculture, (seafood farming), commercial fishing and even mining," Ms Phillips said.

The council last week announced an eight-week extension of the period for public submissions about the recommendations. The council chairman, Mr Don Saunders, said the conservation and fishing groups had asked for the extension.

A former senior policy adviser with the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Mr Mike Vanderzee, also called the recommendations a backward step.

The director of the Victorian National Parks Association, Mr Doug Humann, said the recommendations would have been unacceptable if they had concerned rural, rather than maritime, resources.

Submissions must be made by 31 August.

## Expert warns on dredging

**MELBOURNE** Parks and Waterways has been dredging in bayside creeks and rivers without notifying the Environment Protection Authority.

And an expert has warned contaminated sediments caused by dredging would harm aquatic life.

Spoil from a dredging operation at Patterson River is said to have been dumped on the beach.

The issue came to a head this week when EPA chairman Dr Brian Robinson wrote to Melbourne Parks and Waterways chief executive Jeff Floyd, requesting there should be no more dredging without notification.

The letter highlights Dr Robinson's concerns about dredging in the Patterson River, Mordialloc and Kananook creeks.

*The Herald Sun 29.6.95*



## MEDIA WATCH

"The Herald Sun 7.6.95

# Scuba diving spine damage fear

PEOPLE who scuba dive for years may be risking damage to their central nervous system and spine, a new study has suggested.

Doctors from Germany believe that long-term amateur diving can cause degeneration of the central nervous system and of the discs in the spine, even without any decompression incidents.

Dr Jürgen Reul and colleagues from the Technical University in Aachen wrote in *The Lancet* this

week that they studied men and women recruited from diving clubs in Germany.

For comparison, they also studied men and women of similar age to the divers who took part in other sports, such as running and swimming.

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans were taken of the brains and spines of 52 amateur divers and 50 runners and

swimmers, all of whom seemed healthy.

They found 86 brain lesions in 27 divers but only 14 lesions in 10 of the non-divers. Spinal changes in the divers were mostly in the neck. Thirty-two divers had at least one abnormal disc, compared with only nine non-divers.

The researchers said they could not predict whether the lesions would go on to produce symptomatic disorders.

Dr Reul said one study

of professional divers who died from diving accidents showed some were unwittingly working with spinal cord degeneration and the damage may have contributed to the difficulties in their final accident.

But South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society past president Dr John Knight said Australian divers should not panic because the study was a very select sample and there was no information about their dives.

*If you think Great White Sharks should be protected, this item from "Dive Log" may be of interest. Victims or relatives of victims are not eligible for this survey!  
The Editor*



## EDITORIAL

AS I mentioned in our last editorial, in May I joined Rodney Fox aboard the *Falio* to go on a Great White Shark Expedition to the Neptune Islands. I pointed out then that chances of success were not good and as it turned out I was right – NO SHARKS! That made 5 trips out of the last 8 unsuccessful – less than 50%! We believe population numbers of White Sharks are so low that a recovery of their numbers may well be too late. The SA Government released a Discussion Paper late last month on Management of the

White Shark in SA. As expected the powerful fishing lobby are against any protection as has occurred in South Africa and California so the push for protection for this magnificent animal is underway. Next month in *DIVE Log* we will bring you a whole list of reasons we believe this protection should exist, meanwhile how about your view ... fill in the coupon below and let us know your thoughts.

*Barry Andrewartha and Belinda Barnes  
Publishers/Editors*

***Do you think Great White sharks should be protected? Please record your vote.***

- Yes, I believe Great White Sharks should be protected.  
 No, I don't believe they should be protected.

(Tick one box only)

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone: ..... Fax: .....

Please fill in the above coupon and return to:

**Great White Shark Debate**  
**C/O SPORTDIVING Magazine**  
**PO Box 167, Narre Warren, Victoria 3805, Australia.**  
 Fax : (059) 444 024 Aust readers  
 +61 59 444 024 overseas readers.

***DIVE/SOCIAL CALENDAR***

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT/LOCATION</b>	<b>DIVE CAPTAIN</b>	<b>MEET AT</b>
6 Aug	Spectacular Reef/Heads area	Don Abell 889 4415	10.00am Sorrento
17 Aug	General Meeting at Bells Hotel, cnr. Moray & Coventry Sts, Sth Melbourne		8.00pm Sharp!
20 Aug	Limestone Caves Point Nepean	Bob Scott (059) 71 2206	10.00am Sorrento
2 Sept Saturday	Night Dive Popes Eye	Leo Maybus 727 1568	3.30pm Sorrento
3 Sept	Fathers Day Yum Cha in Melbourne's Chinatown	Chris Llewellyn	9431 1650
17 Sept	The Dungeons/Whale Watch	John Lawler 9589 4020	9.30am Flinders
21 Sept	Annual General Meeting Bells Hotel Cnr. Moray & Coventry Streets, Sth Melbourne		8.00pm Sharp!
1 Oct	Treasure Hunt - Food Hamper Prize	Mick Jeacle (059) 71 2786	9.30am Sorrento
15 oct	Portsea Hole	Pat Reynolds 9789 1092	9.30am Sorrento
19 Oct	General Meeting Bells Hotel Cnr. Moray & Coventry Streets, Sth Melbourne		8.00pm Sharp!
29 Oct	Broken Submarine	Andy Mastrowicz 9318 3986	9.00am Sorrento
4 to 11 Nov	Tidal River - Melb Cup Long Weekend	Pat Reynolds 9789 1092	
16 Nov	General Meeting Bells Hotel Cnr. Moray & Coventry Streets, Sth Melbourne		8.00pm Sharp!

19 Nov	"George Kermodé" Wreck Plus new dive site	Sant Khan 9817 3214	9.30am Flinders
26 Nov	Tennis Day & V.S.A.G. Mile Cranbourne Sth. Tennis Club Browns Road	Paul & Tony Tipping	10am
2 Dec	Xmas Function at "Enri's Restaurant" 344 Bridge Road Richmond	Chris Llewellyn 9431 1650	7.30pm
10 dec	New Dive Site	John Lawler 9589 4020	9.00am Flinders

NOTE: BOAT OWNERS PLEASE RING DIVE CAPTAIN BY 6PM -  
DIVERS PLEASE RING BETWEEN 6.30 AND 7PM

## TIDE TABLES

## PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

LAT 38° 18' S LONG 144° 37' E TIME ZONE -1000  
TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS

AUGUST - 1995

Time	m	Time	m	Time	m
<b>1</b>	0241 1.35	<b>9</b>	0218 0.26	<b>17</b>	0430 1.47
	0829 0.33		0955 1.33		0954 0.41
TU	1511 1.51	WE	1447 0.74	TH	1628 1.51
	2106 0.40		2125 1.29		2229 0.25
<b>2</b>	0323 1.37	<b>10</b>	0332 0.27	<b>18</b>	0514 1.42
	0904 0.36		1100 1.38		1032 0.47
WE	1545 1.51	TH	1606 0.71	FR	1700 1.45
	2142 0.35		2246 1.31		2306 0.27
<b>3</b>	0404 1.38	<b>11</b>	0445 0.26	<b>19</b>	0557 1.36
	0942 0.40		1201 1.45		1110 0.53
TH	1620 1.49	FR	1720 0.63	SA	1735 1.38
	2217 0.30		2358 1.37		2344 0.30
<b>4</b>	0448 1.38	<b>12</b>	0552 0.25	<b>20</b>	0641 1.29
	1022 0.45		1258 1.51		1148 0.59
FR	1656 1.46	SA	1828 0.52	SU	1812 1.31
	2255 0.27				1921 0.42
<b>5</b>	0536 1.36	<b>13</b>	0100 1.43	<b>21</b>	0023 0.33
	1105 0.52		0651 0.25		0729 1.23
SA	1734 1.42	SU	1348 1.56	MO	1230 0.66
	2336 1.45		1928 0.42		1853 1.24
<b>6</b>	0630 1.34	<b>14</b>	0159 1.48	<b>22</b>	0106 0.37
	1149 0.59		0744 0.27		0820 1.19
SU	1817 1.38	MO	1435 1.59	TU	1317 0.71
			2019 0.34		1941 1.17
<b>7</b>	0022 0.24	<b>15</b>	0253 1.51	<b>23</b>	0159 0.40
	0733 1.32		0831 0.31		0917 1.16
MO	1239 0.66	TU	1516 1.58	WE	1417 0.75
	1907 1.34		2106 0.28		2042 1.12
<b>8</b>	0115 0.25	<b>16</b>	0343 1.50	<b>24</b>	0392 0.42
	0845 1.31		0915 0.36		1016 1.17
TU	1335 0.72	WE	1553 1.55	TH	1531 0.75
	2008 1.30		2148 0.25		2152 1.10

## PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

LAT 38° 18' S LONG 144° 37' E TIME ZONE -1000  
TIMES OF FLOOD AND EBB TIDES

AUGUST - 1995

Time Start	Time Start	Time Start	Time Start	Time Start	Time Start
<b>1</b>	0516 ebb	<b>9</b>	0640 flood	<b>17</b>	0100 flood
	1810 ebb		1315 ebb		0720 ebb
	1810 ebb	WE	1637 flood	TH	1242 flood
					1920 ebb
<b>2</b>	0011 flood	<b>10</b>	0000 ebb	<b>18</b>	0142 flood
	1210 flood		0745 flood		0809 ebb
	1839 ebb	TH	1423 ebb	FR	1311 flood
			1828 flood		1954 ebb
<b>3</b>	0052 flood	<b>11</b>	0117 ebb	<b>19</b>	0224 flood
	0651 ebb		0845 flood		0855 ebb
TH	1238 flood	FR	1518 ebb	SA	1339 flood
	1910 ebb		2020 flood		2028 ebb
<b>4</b>	0135 flood	<b>12</b>	0233 ebb	<b>20</b>	0310 flood
	0742 ebb		0937 flood		0942 ebb
FR	1305 flood	SA	1606 ebb	SU	1407 flood
	1943 ebb		2139 flood		2101 ebb
<b>5</b>	0224 flood	<b>13</b>	0343 ebb	<b>21</b>	0401 flood
	0836 ebb		1023 flood		1032 ebb
SA	1332 flood	SU	1648 ebb	MO	1438 flood
	2020 ebb		2240 flood		2137 ebb
<b>6</b>	0318 flood	<b>14</b>	0445 ebb	<b>22</b>	0502 flood
	0937 ebb		1103 flood		1130 ebb
SU	1400 flood	MO	1730 ebb	TU	1517 flood
	2102 ebb		2332 flood		2217 ebb
<b>7</b>	0420 flood	<b>15</b>	0540 ebb	<b>23</b>	0512 flood
	1045 ebb		1139 flood		1236 ebb
MO	1436 flood	TU	1807 ebb	WE	1616 flood
	2153 ebb				2308 ebb
<b>8</b>	0530 flood	<b>16</b>	0018 flood	<b>24</b>	0717 flood
	1159 ebb		0631 ebb		1343 ebb
TU	1523 flood	WE	1211 flood	TH	1759 flood
	2252 ebb		1845 ebb		

## TIDE TABLES

## PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

LAT 38° 18' S LONG 144° 37' E TIME ZONE -1000  
TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS

## SEPTEMBER - 1995

Time m	Time m	Time m	Time m	Time m	Time m
1 0351 1.45	0435 0.35	0513 1.37	0535 0.46	25 0331 1.30	0339 flood
FR 0928 0.38	1137 1.36	1042 0.48	1204 1.25	25 0643 ebb	FR 1224 flood
FR 1556 1.44	SA 1712 0.51	SU 1700 1.32	MO 1800 0.41	1830 ebb	1830 ebb
2153 0.17	2353 1.35	2305 0.25			
0434 1.43	0543 0.34	0651 1.30	0633 1.30	2 0122 flood	2 0731 ebb
2 1008 0.42	1231 1.42	1119 0.52	0624 0.42	2 0731 ebb	SA 1254 flood
SA 1632 1.42	SU 1815 0.40	MO 1735 1.25	TU 1250 1.31	SA 1908 ebb	1908 ebb
2233 0.16		2343 0.30	1843 0.30		
0520 1.40	11 0054 1.43	0632 1.23	0123 1.41	3 0209 flood	3 0940 ebb
SU 1050 0.47	0640 0.34	1159 0.57	0706 0.39	0822 ebb	MO 1007 flood
SU 1713 1.38	MO 1321 1.47	TU 1816 1.18	WE 1332 1.37	MO 1606 ebb	MO 1606 ebb
2316 0.17	1908 0.31		1923 0.20	1949 ebb	2234 flood
0513 1.35	12 0149 1.50	0021 0.35	0209 1.49	4 0301 flood	4 0437 ebb
MO 1134 0.53	TU 0729 0.34	0721 1.17	0747 0.37	0915 ebb	MO 1045 flood
MO 1758 1.34	TU 1404 1.49	WE 1242 0.62	TH 1414 1.40	MO 1402 flood	TU 1646 ebb
	1955 0.24	1904 1.12	2004 0.13	2036 ebb	2317 flood
5 0002 0.20	13 0239 1.53	0106 0.40	0253 1.53	5 0401 flood	5 0528 ebb
TU 0714 1.30	0812 0.35	0817 1.13	0829 0.37	1014 ebb	1120 flood
TU 1222 0.59	WE 1443 1.49	TH 1334 0.65	FR 1453 1.42	TU 1447 ebb	WE 1723 ebb
1851 1.29	2037 0.20	2004 1.07	2046 0.09	2130 ebb	2357 flood
6 0055 0.25	14 0322 1.52	0202 0.45	0337 1.53	6 0510 flood	6 0614 ebb
WE 0824 1.27	0851 0.38	0919 1.12	0910 0.38	6 1116 ebb	1152 flood
WE 1319 0.63	TH 1517 1.46	FR 1443 0.66	SA 1533 1.41	WE 1551 flood	TH 1759 ebb
1959 1.24	2116 0.18	2119 0.06	2129 0.08	2235 ebb	
7 0200 0.31	15 0401 1.49	0314 0.48		7 0623 flood	7 0738 flood
TH 0932 1.28	0929 0.40	1019 1.14		1125 ebb	1305 ebb
TH 1432 0.65	FR 1551 1.42	SA 1600 0.61		FR 1723 flood	SA 1954 flood
2124 1.23	2153 0.19	2234 1.10		2351 ebb	1831 ebb
8 0318 0.35	16 0438 1.43	0431 0.48		8 0730 flood	8 0852 ebb
MO 1037 1.31	1005 0.44	1115 1.19		1132 ebb	0737 ebb
FR 1556 0.60	SA 1625 1.38	SU 1710 0.52		FR 1919 flood	SA 1253 flood
2244 1.27	2230 0.21	2339 1.19		1904 ebb	2052 flood

## PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

LAT 38° 18' S LONG 144° 37' E TIME ZONE -1000  
TIMES OF FLOOD AND EBB TIDES

## SEPTEMBER - 1995

Time Start	Time Start	Time Start	Time Start	Time Start	Time Start
9 0115 ebb	17 0148 flood	9 0115 ebb	17 0148 flood	9 0115 ebb	17 0148 flood
SA 1431 ebb	SU 0815 ebb	SA 1431 ebb	SU 0815 ebb	SA 1431 ebb	SU 0815 ebb
2042 ebb	SU 1325 flood	2042 ebb	SU 1325 flood	2042 ebb	SU 1325 flood
	1936 ebb		1936 ebb		1936 ebb
10 0232 ebb	18 0230 flood	10 0232 ebb	18 0230 flood	10 0232 ebb	18 0230 flood
SU 0922 flood	MO 0854 ebb	SU 0922 flood	MO 0854 ebb	SU 0922 flood	MO 0854 ebb
2152 ebb	MO 1357 flood	2152 ebb	MO 1357 flood	2152 ebb	MO 1357 flood
2144 flood	2009 ebb	2144 flood	2009 ebb	2144 flood	2009 ebb
11 0340 ebb	19 0316 flood	11 0340 ebb	19 0316 flood	11 0340 ebb	19 0316 flood
MO 1007 flood	TU 0933 ebb	MO 1007 flood	TU 0933 ebb	MO 1007 flood	TU 0933 ebb
MO 1606 ebb	TU 1434 flood	MO 1606 ebb	TU 1434 flood	MO 1606 ebb	TU 1434 flood
2234 flood	2045 ebb	2234 flood	2045 ebb	2234 flood	2045 ebb
12 0437 ebb	20 0413 flood	12 0437 ebb	20 0413 flood	12 0437 ebb	20 0413 flood
TU 1646 ebb	WE 1522 flood	TU 1646 ebb	WE 1522 flood	TU 1646 ebb	WE 1522 flood
2317 flood	2127 ebb	2317 flood	2127 ebb	2317 flood	2127 ebb
13 0528 ebb	21 0521 flood	13 0528 ebb	21 0521 flood	13 0528 ebb	21 0521 flood
WE 1723 ebb	TH 1634 flood	WE 1723 ebb	TH 1634 flood	WE 1723 ebb	TH 1637 ebb
2357 flood	2220 ebb	2357 flood	2220 ebb	2357 flood	2339 flood
14 0614 ebb	22 0633 flood	14 0614 ebb	22 0633 flood	14 0614 ebb	22 0633 flood
TH 1759 ebb	FR 1828 flood	TH 1759 ebb	FR 1828 flood	TH 1759 ebb	FR 1716 ebb
2351 ebb	2330 ebb	2351 ebb	2330 ebb	2351 ebb	2330 ebb
15 0623 flood	23 0738 flood	15 0623 flood	23 0738 flood	15 0623 flood	23 0738 flood
FR 1828 flood	SA 1954 flood	FR 1828 flood	SA 1954 flood	FR 1828 flood	SA 1209 flood
1831 ebb	2052 flood	1831 ebb	2052 flood	1831 ebb	2052 flood
16 0110 flood	24 0052 ebb	16 0110 flood	24 0052 ebb	16 0110 flood	24 0052 ebb
SA 1253 flood	SU 1357 ebb	SA 1253 flood	SU 1357 ebb	SA 1253 flood	SU 1357 ebb
1904 ebb	2052 flood	1904 ebb	2052 flood	1904 ebb	2052 flood