

# FATHOMS

Registered for posting  
as a publication Category B  
Print Post Approved  
PP332873/0035

EST. 1954



Safety in Diving

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Box 2526W,  
GPO, Melbourne 3001



# VSAG

VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

# 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 18th April 1996  
Thursday 16th May 1996

### Next Committee Meetings:

Tuesday 23rd April - Don Abell's home  
Tuesday 21st May - Leo Maybus's home

### Editorial submissions to:

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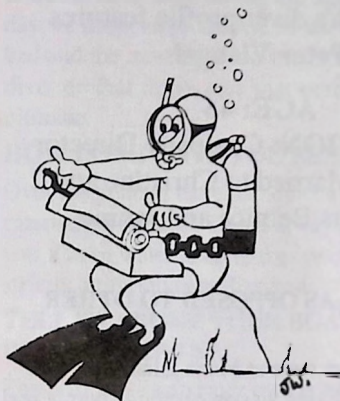
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### S.D.F. DELEGATES:

Des Williams  
John Lawler  
Leo Maybus

## EDITORIAL



The last 3 scheduled club dives have been superb. Calm seas, warm temperatures and relatively good visibility. Interestingly, these were all wreck dives and judging by the banter that followed perhaps we should do more of this kind of diving. Melbourne is a very pleasant place to be at this time of year and I am sure we can look forward to a lot more "indian summer" days to enjoy some great diving.

This month we welcome 3 new members to VSAG; Robin Woods, Andrew Marshall and Helen Fryday. These members have graciously provided a short profile which is included in this edition of FATHOMS. I hope you like the idea which gives us an understanding of just who they are and what other interests they have.

I noted with concern, that some film crew was successful in attracting a Great White Shark to the surface recently near Phillip Island. Apparently, they laid a berley trail for about a week with complete disregard for diver safety, and did not even bother to inform local charter operators of their intentions. I hope they show common courtesy in future, but what I really hope is they don't come back at all.

The good news is we can launch the boats at Tidal River after all, despite the fact that the river changed its course following the deluge last November. By the time you read this, we will have been there and done it, and the usual tales will follow in the next FATHOMS.

Rest assured your Committee is working hard to make VSAG the envy of all diving clubs. Recently we have seen the introduction of regular night dives every alternate Saturday for your enjoyment. Soon a questionnaire/survey will be put to all members inviting input. Be sure to have your say as its important for the continued success of the club as we head towards the 21st Century.

Many thanks to all those who have contributed articles and have responded to my forthright requests. It makes for a better magazine and I am keen not to let the standard slip.



## V.S.A.G. PROFILE

This month's diver profile features  
**Peter Vleugel**

**AGE:** 45

**OCCUPATION:** Company Director

**FAMILY:** Married to Christine and 2  
daughters Bernice and Janine

### **WHY DID YOU GET INVOLVED IN DIVING, AS OPPOSED TO OTHER SPORTS?**

In 1989 I took my family for a holiday to Fiji and we were at Mana Island where I decided to do a Padi open water dive course. I felt diving was an exciting sport, a real challenge and I feel that there aren't too many other sports that give you the sort of excitement that diving has to offer. Also the camaraderie that is involved with diving is absolutely fantastic because everybody looks after each other, and when you get to 45 that's essential.

### **WHEN AND WHY DID YOU FIRST JOIN VSAG?**

It was about 1990 I think. I was fortunate enough to meet our current VSAG president John Lawler through another friend. When John learned that I had become interested in diving, he suggested I come along and have a dive with the club. After begging, borrowing and stealing half of the gear, we did some terrific diving and soon after they got my money.

### **WHAT ARE YOUR FAVOURITE UNDERWATER INTERESTS AND SITES?**

My favourite dive sites are wrecks. I really enjoy exploring and fossicking, and I find entering inside these dark adventurous unknowns are a real buzz. I also really enjoy reef diving on sheer walls with the black abyss below, lots of fish life swimming with you, and sharks in the distance.

**TELL US ABOUT ONE OF YOUR MEMORABLE DIVES?**

It would have to be diving the S.S. President Coolidge at Espirito Santo Vanuatu, the day we dropped to the rear of the ship in 65m of water. It was the deepest dive I have had and the most exciting at this stage in my dive career. There were lots of other dives on that ship wreck that were nearly as good but I would say that would be the ultimate.

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED IN BOATING?**

Over the years, I have had quite a few boats but these have generally been yachts or catamarans because I have always been involved in sailing. In my younger days, I was a keen water skier and once owned a ski boat. The boat that I currently own, is strictly a touring type dive boat.

**TELL US ABOUT YOUR BOAT AND WHY YOU SELECTED IT OVER OTHER MODELS?**

The boat that I currently own is a 6m Allison fibreglass hull with a 175hp Mercury outboard motor, plenty of extra power when you need it. It has a cabin arrangement up front that can comfortably sleep 2 people. The rear of the boat is quite large and can comfortably carry up to 5 divers and their gear. I have arranged the targa bar in such a way that everyone has a firm grip when negotiating rough water. It also has a shade canopy that covers half the deck area.

We chose the Allison boat over the others after going to the boat show and being introduced to the brand by Ross Luxford, who knows his boats. On the short list, was also Haines Signature, and Yamaha boats.

**DO YOU HAVE A PET HATE ABOARD YOUR BOAT?**

I try to be an easy going person but I find it very difficult to tolerate dickheads.

**HOW WOULD YOU RATE VSAG IN BOATING SAFETY AND PROCEDURES DURING CLUB DIVES AND WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ANY CHANGES?**

I feel that boating safety is quite good as most of the time we try to stick together as a group. Everybody has radio contact with each other which is excellent since we changed to the new radios. I feel that we should all be trained in dive first-aid procedure as we are all at risk of things going wrong from time to time.



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## **DO YOU FEEL DIVER CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOAT OWNERS ARE ADEQUATE?**

This is a difficult question to answer. I have taken up diving and purchased a boat and joined our club to enjoy diving which I wouldn't be able to do on my own. Its my choice to invest in a boat which I also use for other things outside the club. They aren't cheap to run but I previously knew that, and I feel that contributions to the boat owners are appreciated because they do help in the everyday running of the boat but I feel that it is an executive decision about the amount of the contribution, keeping in mind we now also have to pay for quite hefty season tickets just to launch the boat.

## **DO YOU FEEL THERE IS ENOUGH DIVERSITY IN VSAG DIVE SITES?**

Sometimes I wonder how the committee puts the Dive Calendar together up to 5 months in advance. Its a difficult job and we do have some terrific dive sites around the Heads and Western Port Bay. We go on some fantastic trips away at Christmas time, Easter at the Prom etc. and other long weekends. Its also nice to see a little more emphasis has been placed on more interesting dives other than bottom bashing.

## **WHAT ARE YOUR FUTURE DIVING AMBITIONS?**

I am really looking forward to the club overseas trip to Truk Lagoon and Palau on 14th May this year and I sincerely hope that after this trip, there will be many more excursions overseas for all to enjoy because they are really what diving is all about, great club, nice friends, and lots of laughs. Thank you to everybody for making me feel very welcome in our club as it is truly a unique dive club.

## **VSAG MEMBERSHIP INCREASES**

**Our very special effort to encourage new members to VSAG in 1996 is going very well indeed.**

**So far we welcome Helen Fryday, Andrew Marshall & Robin Woods to the good old VSAG and we have membership applications just in from Kate Caine and Gerry Dammer.**

**To Helen, Andrew and Robin a very warm welcome and hope you will be out on the water with us on a regular basis.**

**Since December '95 General Meeting, we have had 20 visitors to V.S.A.G. so let's hope we will see some more new membership applications in the very near future.**

**Des Williams, Public Relations**



## NEW MEMBER PROFILE

### Robin Woods



It came as a great delight to contribute some information about myself for the new member profile section of the **Fathoms** Magazine.

#### HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN DIVING?

I completed a "B.A.S. Divers" course way back when the only buoyancy control devices were horse collars that tended to be a CO<sub>2</sub> powdered trip to the surface.

Where you could have any coloured wetsuit you wanted, so long as it was black. But I was young then and almost completely controlled by teenage hormonal instincts. Needless to say diving (into water) was not high on my priorities. Then in 1994, after much cajoling from some VSAG Members, I completed a PADI course and am enjoying the sport.

#### AGE

I'm thirty-two but I feel younger as often as I can.

#### MARITAL STATUS

No, My wife Debbie has all the status, just ask her. Actually we've been married for just over a year and have one in the catchbag. They're in season and will be measured when we get to the surface and are hoping it will be of legal size. Expected around the time of the April meeting, so if I'm not there you know why.

#### OTHER INTERESTS

Well, I'm a Saturday morning golfer who once actually played to my handicap of 22. A keen follower of the mighty Kangaroos (Nth Melb) and an expert in the consuming of that wonderful amber nectar of the gods.

#### DETAILS OF EMPLOYMENT

AllWoods Breathing Services Pty Ltd. You may have heard of us; we test diving cylinders, regulators of any description, BCD's and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus. If it, is out of test, leaks, wet-breathes, free-flows, auto-inflates or it just won't work. We will fix it. Did I mention we are at 21-23 Paul St Mooroolbark and

that our phone number is 9725 1577.

### **FAVOURITE DIVE SITES**

Are you kidding? That bay one was nice and if anyone is at the place where I saw that big cray, I seem to have left a knife there it had a green handle (just like the two that Gerry DeVries lost).

### **WHY DID YOU JOIN VSAG?**

Last November I went to Wilson's Prom with VSAG and being with a group of people twice my age made me feel quite young. Except for the weather we had a great time and we look forward to doing it again.

### **WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR IN A DIVE CLUB?**

Basically to go diving with a nice bunch of people with varied interests, a warm friendly social family atmosphere and I think VSAG and its members are exactly that. I hope this helps fill a page.

*Ed. Note: Many thanks Robin. I note you have a quick wit and a flair for writing. I'll be seeking more articles from you in the future.*



## NEW MEMBER PROFILE

### Helen Fryday



Mick's request for some information about myself for the "New Member Profile" section in the next FATHOMS magazine has brought back many childhood memories of snorkelling around the rocks and under the wharf at a small beach in New Zealand.

Here my interest and fascination with under the bay where we swam and sailed developed. As a teenager the snorkelling and sailing continued along the coast line, north to the Bay of Islands and further north to Spirits Bay where I saw my first Mako Shark, schools of Snapper, Kawau, Trevally and some very large King Fish. In my early 20's I left Auckland to live in Melbourne. Further thoughts of snorkelling or even scuba diving were put to one side. Many years later, while on holiday in New Zealand I noticed a dive shop had opened across the road from Murrays Bay beach. Here was my chance to truly discover the bottom of the bay. Mum sat on the beach with my children while I learnt the rudiments of scuba diving. The course included trips further afield to the Goat Island Marine reserve and various Islands in the Hauraki Gulf.

Throughout the following years I have dived in a wide variety of places from the Lava Tubes at Kauai island in Hawaii, to the chilly Tasmania waters and around New Zealand. The waters around Victoria are yet to be discovered. My favourite place would be the well known Poor Knights Islands off the northern New Zealand coast with 300ft visibility and some of the most charming and inquisitive fish I have encountered - and crays - well, even the large ones at Robe look tiny next to these grandadies - but hands off people, this place is a marine reserve and the fish know it!! Mick also asked for other details such as my age, hobbies, family, employment, etc. So here goes.

Robert, myself and my children presently live in Richmond. We are in the process of converting a warehouse into a residence. On this site in Abbotsford we met Andy Mastrozicz, along with his brother-in-law Jim. Yes, they were wiring up our new abode. This was our introduction to VSAG and Robe over the Christmas holidays.

Between us we have four children. Anita (19), Richard (15), Katherine (13) and Piers (9) who lives with his own Mum and spends much of his weekends and holidays with his Dad. Robert and I are architects. Robert is a sole practitioner with an office in the warehouse. I work with a large architectural company, The Buchan Group. We tend to be an out-door family enjoying cycling - particularly mountain bike riding, camping and 4 wheel driving around the National Parks of Victoria, water sports and beach activities.

Back to diving and VSAG.

I find the non commercial nature and family atmosphere of the club attractive. My children are interested in diving and as they grow older I will encourage their interest in the sport. I feel, as a club, if we foster and support our children's interest in diving the club will remain alive and strong. Activities such as snorkelling around Pope's Eye make a good introduction. As a club - taking part in the Clean Up Australia Campaign - both under water and along the coast might be a possible activity for all the club members and their families.

*Ed note: Thanks Helen, we certainly do foster & support our children's interest in the dive club family memberships are currently being discussed.*

## **REMEMBER!**

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

are on the

**THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH!**

**AT BELLS HOTEL**

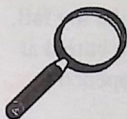
**CNR. MORAY & COVENTRY STREETS, SOUTH MELBOURNE**

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

**THURSDAY MAY 16th**

**THURSDAY JUNE 20th**

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



## NEW MEMBER PROFILE

### Andrew Marshall



IT consultant specialising in computer networking, hardware and software engineering. Age 48, married, no children. Diving only two years. Other interests include adventure travel and sailing.

I have always enjoyed water activities such as sailing, canoeing, whitewater rafting, swimming and snorkeling. Unfortunately my wife, Heather, does not share my aquatic enthusiasm.

A little over two years ago I had an opportunity to try a resort dive on a day trip out from Cairns. "Don't hold your breath and return my OK signal" the instructor said to a group of three of us and slowly down the line went. We hadn't been down for more than five minutes and I was hooked. From that day on, my wife has been convinced that I am slowly turning into a dolphin or something. She says I even take longer in the shower. I don't understand why I didn't try it earlier but diving always seemed an uncomfortable, equipment cluttered sport with an oversized macho image. I am now so keen on it that I am doing a PADI Divemaster course.

I didn't have a regular buddy and was not impressed with the commercial club scene. John from John's Dive Shop considered my problem when I went in to buy some weights and recommended VSAG as the solution. I don't normally have the time to take part in club activities but the hotel was not far away and I thought I would give it a go. With someone as enthusiastic as Des for PR and warm greetings from the other members that were introduced, I was impressed and decided to join.

February 25th was my second Sunday outing, this time with Barry and Don. The diving was superb and like the first trip I realised that there was fun to be had in hanging onto the boat as we tried to break the water speed record. Not content with being the skipper of fastest boat that day, Barry tried an interesting aeronautical manoeuvre when going out through the heads. We slowed for a few seconds and then he reached for the vertical take off lever. We climbed easily to our cruising altitude but then, as suddenly as we had started, the after burners must have failed because we

hit the water with a wallop, on re-entry the skipper's chair conveniently broke my fall. Clutching my ribs on the bottom of the boat, I was wondering if I should be buried at sea or wait till we got back. Don cheerfully told me that the same thing happened to him once and I realised that this might be some sort of initiation.

The club has a warm cheerful atmosphere and I am looking forward to meeting more members and enjoying lots of good diving. I like sites with plenty of fish. Around the Heads, I have only been on the popular commercial dives, so I cannot give you any new sites. I've tried Merrimula but the conditions were bad. Warm water dives include Hawaii (turtles) and two, three day live-a-boards in the Whitsundays.

Mick has asked me for some ideas:

- 1) Supply a list of members for direct contact between members, name, address, phone, age, occupation and main interests.
- 2) The membership fee, joining fee and the cost of a second tank come to around \$500. Hiring a tank reduces the cost benefit of being a member. I see these as discouraging younger prospective members. Can we get a wholesale price on tanks or help in any other way?
- 3) Put a dive-related trading Post into the magazine.
- 4) Include a magazine section for gear reviews so that benefits and faults are better publicised.
- 5) Open Water Scuba Skills Review Sessions. I believe we have at least one instructor and should encourage practising techniques and rescue procedures. We all know what to do but can we still do it? Perhaps we could have a competition afternoon twice a year? I know I am at the super keen stage in diving but when doing my Divemaster course, I was amazed how rusty I had become in such a short time. We could also review the differences between the diving associations and approved changes in techniques.
- 6) Can we get any dive shops to give us discounts?
- 7) We are not in Dive Log. This could be a good place to recruit new members.

*Ed Note: Thanks Andrew. As you get to know VSAG a bit better, you will see that most things you raise above are already in existence. See any Committee Member if you want discounted Dive gear and we will steer you in the right direction.*



## ***ROBE CHRISTMAS 1995***

BY GERRY DEVRIES

Well what a way to spend my last days of diving for 1995. Diving from Peter Vlugels boat, off Robe SA with the company of a pod of dolphins including a baby one whilst catching the odd cray. Peter and myself were only about 16m down over a reef with poor visibility of about 50-60 feet - undulating ground - swim throughs etc. As Peter had his antennas out for the crayfish, catch bag at the ready two dolphins approached us - a mother and her calf. They swam past to check us out then glided off into the haze.

Shortly after a flurry of activity as they returned with another 8 dolphins in tow. Peter still had his head buried in a cave after the ultimate cray catch while I was doing 360 degree turns as this friendly pod of dolphins decided to play. I somersaulted, they somersaulted, they pushed their snouts to be patted so I obligingly patted them - always mindful that they were crowding me in somewhat. After about 10 minutes or so they disappeared. We surface to the sounds of "DID YOU SEE THAT". Honestly to all those who missed the excellent diving and camping site at Robe this Christmas just gone you will really have to make an effort for the Clubs next visit there.

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## ***KNOW YOUR MARINE RESERVES***

BY MICK JEACLE

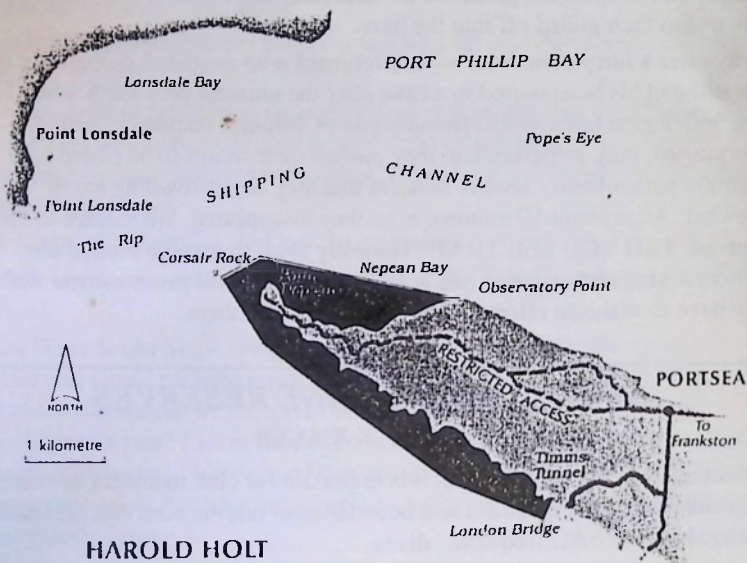
As mentioned in my last Editorial it is important for club members to become fully conversant with localities and boundaries of marine reserves, particularly in those areas that VSAG frequently dives.

To my mind, as far as VSAG is concerned, all divers should become totally familiar of the four Harold Holt Marine Reserves of Port Phillip Bay. By far the most important of these Reserves are Point Nepean Marine Reserve and Point Lonsdale Marine Reserve. A map showing these areas follow and I thank Des Williams for providing these for inclusion in FATHOMS. The other 2 Reserves

are Popes Eye and Swan Bay and these will be covered in the next issue of FATHOMS.

All members please note that if you are anchored in these Reserves having lunch between dives, (as we quite often do) and you have in your possession any sort of sea creature such as crayfish, abalone etc, then you could find yourself in court endeavouring to prove where you caught same. Boat owners especially please note and familiarise yourselves with the boundaries and regulations listed.

## Point Nepean Marine Reserve



**HAROLD HOLT  
MARINE RESERVES  
POINT NEPEAN**

## REGULATIONS

Collection of, or damage to, plants, animals, rocks and sand	NO
Line fishing by recreational anglers	YES
Spear fishing	NO

Together, Point Nepean and Point Lonsdale form "The Heads" of Port Phillip Bay. The dangerous currents of "The Rip" flow between them. The rock platforms and marine life at Point Nepean are similar to those of Point Lonsdale, but because there is no public access to them at Point Nepean, the intertidal zone has remained largely untouched. As a result, this is an ideal scientific reference area and is generally richer in animal life than nearby

Point Lonsdale.

Diving on the subtidal reefs on both sides of Point Nepean provides superb scenery and photographic opportunities; however, currents often make the reef dangerous. People may dive from boats, but may not dive from the national park shoreline. Landing facilities for boats are not available, and boat landings are prohibited.

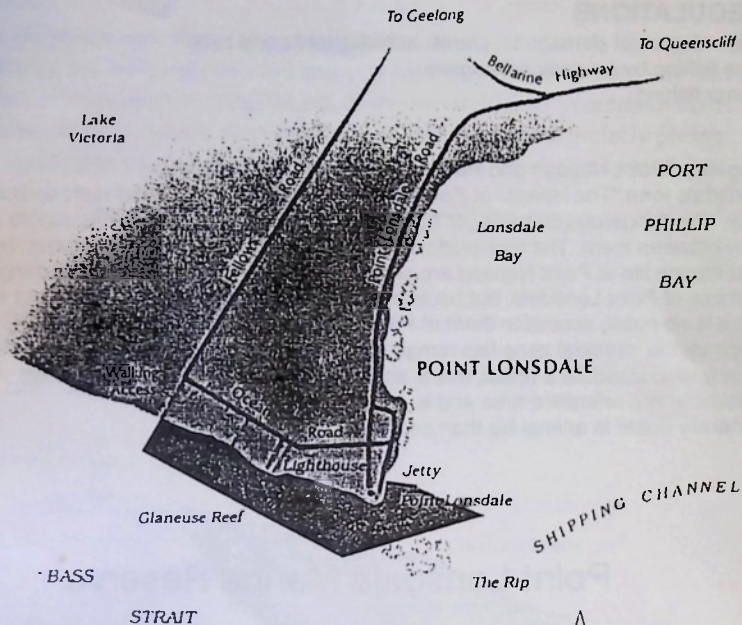
## Point Lonsdale Marine Reserve

### REGULATIONS

Collection of, or damage to, plants, animals, rocks and sand	NO
Line fishing by recreational anglers	YES
Spear fishing	NO

A large sandstone platform exposed at low tide below Point Lonsdale lighthouse contains a wide variety of intertidal marine habitats and is an excellent place to observe and study the plants and animals of an open - ocean rocky shore. the surface of the platform is covered with

the seaweed Neptune's Necklace (*Hormosira banksii*). Scientists from all over the world come to study the many algal species found on the Point Lonsdale rock platforms. Studies have been carried out in this area for more than one hundred years.



**HAROLD HOLT MARINE RESERVES  
POINT LONSDALE**

## ***MARCH MEETING - GUEST SPEAKER***

BY DES WILLIAMS

At our General Meeting in March, VSAG members were treated to a very interesting talk by Gerry Dammer about underwater cutting & welding. What Gerry doesn't know about this subject isn't worth knowing! A very interesting talk indeed & maybe we could encourage him to return to elaborate on some of his personal experiences over the last 40 odd years as a commercial diver.

Thanks very much Gerry for speaking to us and for shaking the dust off some of your old equipment which helped us to visualise the effort needed for such specialist work.

## ***SPECIAL NOTICE***

### **FLINDERS CHARTER BOAT DIVE**

Sunday 21 April, 1996

Phone: 9589 4020

Contact: John Lawler

Times: 8.15am, 1.30pm

Every now and again VSAG Boat Owners enjoy the opportunity to climb aboard a chartered boat and dive with other members in a relaxed atmosphere. This means no boat launching and retrieval, definitely no boat washing, and not having the responsibility of locating dive sites for all and sundry.

Sunday, 21 April is to be one of these days, and John Lawler has booked a dive out of Flinders for both a morning and afternoon session on that day.

The reason for this is that the boat can only take 12 divers at a time Cost is \$450 for a 2 tank dive which equates to \$37.50 per diver. An adjustment to cost will need to be made if numbers are less than 12.

New sites (not familiar to VSAG) have been booked.

Contact John Lawler on 9589 4020 to reserve your spot.

## ***WILSONS PROMONTORY - A PLACE OF EXQUISITE BEAUTY***

BY BILL HAYES

Viewed the dreadful weather from my office window on Wednesday prior to the long weekend and conceded that Kennett may again get his wish and deny us a trip to the beautiful prom.

After discussions with Captain "Bazza" and Robert Swoffer we conceded that with NW winds blowing and improving conditions we might have a chance.

Set off mid afternoon Thursday with Robert trailing in his trusted Defender (Geez they're a great vehicle) and arrived at the Port Welshpool ramp at 1900 hrs. To our great surprise the only trailer in the park was Ross Luxford's and it was high tide with light winds. We immediately made a positive decision to launch the two boats. Robert helped share the weight-thanks.

As we motored out through the entrance there was not another boat to be seen and Bazza remarked "this is eerie". Looked back towards the mountains and they appeared like a Jack Absolom painting with pink skies breaking the silhouette. We had been blessed. Out of the channel it was flat seas and we sat down all the way and enjoyed a VB.

Arriving one hour later at Refuge Cove we were greeted by Ross his brother Gary and their friend Russell Sheppard attempting to rescue Ross's boat which had broached on the sand. Couldn't understand why until we stepped ashore and found them legless after a big dinner. anyway Gary helped carry our gear up while the other two muttered something about "let's save the boat".

We met the new Parks Ranger - Matt. Nice young bloke who provided a shovel.

Robert brought down his MCG tent (big!) with a large verandah out front. Ross laughed at the verandah which upset Robert. Told Ross to make us coffee and himself one. Early night until the Luxford's started snoring.

Sunshine greeted us on Friday. Ross and his crew rose early and headed off fishing. Yes fishing! Gary is a keen fisherman having run charters part time out of Wameet in Westport for a number of years and the other two thought they had better not dive for a few hours. After breakfast, Bazza Robert and the reliable deckie headed North around Hobbs Head and did a quick tour of Sealers Cove before heading South towards the lighthouse.

Winds were NW making seas moderately calm. The crossing of Waterloo Bay was sit down stuff unlike previous years and these conditions prevailed till we reached South East Point when the swells rolled in.

The sun shining on the lighthouse made it look an imposing sight (it's suggested that in the near future the buildings surrounding the lighthouse may be opened up to backpackers).

Seas flattened again as we passed Fenwick Bight and headed to Wattle Island. We only stuck our nose around the Island as the NW winds ripped down between the Glennies and Anser Groups and the white caps said - turn back.

Bazza as chief navigator then piloted around South Head to "Roaring Meg" which is within the Fenwick Bight. Roaring Meg is a tranquil stretch of water several hundred meters long with sheer granite cliffs on both sides. We motored at walking pace and enjoyed what must be one of the most exquisite areas within our magnificent Promontory.

We returned to Waterloo Bay and dived the lee of Cape Wellington Point. Vis was terrible after the weeks bad weather however the underwater scenery of the Prom has to be enjoyed at every opportunity. Prolific fish life, huge swim throughs and an abundance of corals. A satisfying dive. Returned to Refuge to be greeted by light rain and a cold swim after having set the anchor. Arriving at camp we discover the Luxford crew moved camp under the verandah out of the rain. Ross apologised to Robert and said the tent looked terrific. They had fished outside the marine park around Horn Point (near Sealers). Gary was upset! a fish pinched his new rod of two weeks. He carried on about "four bloody divers should be able to recover it."

With Robert on board and Ross following we headed North East the next day to the Seal Islands about twelve miles out. Good seas. The group is made up of Seal, Notch, Rag and Cliffy Islands and White Rock. The vis had improved and once again we enjoyed a good dive on Seal Island itself. The only cray to be found was undersized and went overboard. While we had lunch the wind came up and the trip home was rough. Thank God for the Haines. At one stage we heard a loud scream only to find Swoff had fallen over and crashed his ribs on the seat. With the strong NW blowing the spray coming over the bow was like sand. In true VSAG fashion we soldiered on.

Returning to the safe confines of Refuge about 1600 hrs we decided to explore the "bat cave" located just inside the Cove. The only trouble you have to swim to shore to gain entry and the water was damm cold. Once inside the cave we penetrated about one hundred

meters. When we turned the torches out it was pitch black. Swoff is still looking for the bloke who kissed him. Back on the boat we decided to pay VSAG respects to Steve Voros and family on board the MV Mirrabooka.

We met Steve's lovely wife Jenny and his children - Rhiannon Dylan and Shannesy. Dylan entertained us by doing doughnuts in the small tender dingy and the two girls looked after us with biscuits. Steve provided drinks and then proceed to cook mussel's squid and fish on the BBQ (this over a period of four hours!) Jenny took over when the cooking got to hard for Steve. The hospitality was just sensational and we thank them. A great ranger with a common sense approach.

Old Bill (75yrs) moored beside Steve in his old twenty eight foot couta boat of thirty years called "Moonbird". Named after the aboriginal word for muttonbird. A look inside revealed a "Steptoe & Son" existence but very comfortable.

That night during a late tea and after a visit to the loo I remarked to the boys I had seen a ghost in the trees. Russ said he had once had sex with a ghost. I said what! a ghost and Russ replied Oh! I thought you said a goat! Well that got the joke session going and we partied late.

Sunday morning after a hearty breakfast we packed up camp and headed back in flat seas to the Seal Islands group and dived on the south point of Notch Island. We had two dives at Notch and in brilliant sunshine the vis was excellent. Depth only fifteen meters but still no crays of any size. Strange! Lots of boats our around the islands fishing.

Arrived back to a packed ramp at about 1645 hrs. A great trip with more indelible memories of the Prom including the diving the scenery and the Voros' hospitality.

Wilson's Promontory is truly a place of exquisite beauty.

Many thanks to Captain Bazza, Robert, the Luxford boys and Russ for many hours of laughter.



## ***SPECIAL NOTICE***

**VSAG BIKE/BOAT RIDE, BBQ, PICNIC, TEAROOMS.**

Sunday 28 April, 1996

Phone: 9431 1650

Contact: Chris Llewellyn

Location: Fairfield Park Boathouse &  
Tea Gardens Fairfield Park

Fairfield Park Drive (near Panther Place) Melway P. 30 J12

Come along and enjoy a great family day. Bring your bikes and enjoy a ride along the banks of the majestic Yarra River. Or hire a rowing skiff, canoe or kayak starting from as little as \$11 per hour (for one person) up to a maximum of \$22 per hour for a craft which will accommodate 5 people. For pricing purposes, 2 Children equals one person.

BYO Alcoholic drinks only & lunch.

A large range of drinks, desserts etc. are available from the tea room.  
Scones baked all day.

## **SEAFOOD BBQ WIPEOUT**

BY CHRIS LLEWELLYN

I read somewhere that another half a degree lower would have made the day before our planned Seafood Catch n Cook, the coldest January day on record! We had been dealt some of the wildest, wintriest summer weather that I could certainly remember.

Needless to say the phone was not exactly ringing off the hook for what I had hoped would be a repeat of last years great day. But there is a resilient chord that runs through VSAG membership, a certain never-give-in attitude that even the most foul weather cannot dim. Actually they are just a bunch of alcoholics!

It did not take too much convincing to persuade the hardy souls who did make contact to convert our summer seafood BBQ into a winter winery tour. Bazza and Marie Truscott were already in the carpark of the Dromana Estate winery when we arrived for our 11am Sunday morning rendezvous, so along with the Jeacle clan, Bob Scott, Judy, Christine and Jane Brincat we had ourselves a very distinctive group of wine connoisseurs.

We must have impressed the management as I overheard the Boss telling his staff to make sure they kept their eye on us. They tried to test our obvious knowledge out by offering a few paltry drops in a glass, but we soon put them straight by advising them that if they wanted our valued opinions and critique "to fill the bloody glasses up". I must admit there is something enjoyable about drinking someone else's grog for nothing! One word of warning though, there is a big steel bucket next to the glasses, don't try the wine as I saw one guy spitting into it just after I had tried it out!

On a serious note the Dromana Estate would be one of the most enjoyable wineries on the Peninsula with a choice of tables indoor, out on the balcony or on the lawns all overlooking the vineyard and man made lake. There are swings and trampoline for the kids, good wine and superb inexpensive light lunches available.

The day didn't finish there as we then took a short drive up to the very rustic Higginbotham Winery, where we were warmly welcomed with some quite generous tastings of their produce. They still have a nice Anakie Hill Cab Sav that will be quite familiar to many VSAG members who polished off a few hundred dozen bottles in a past Club Fundraiser. It was indeed a pleasant day enjoyed by all with the Brincat girls earning a gold star for exemplary behaviour and our young Blake a "try again stamp". Hopefully we can have a repeat performance an official VSAG social event sometime in the near future.



*VSAG wine buffs enjoying the local produce! (photo courtesy Judy Brincat)*

This article  
appeared in the  
Feb 1996 edition of  
**REC/FISH**  
**NEWSLETTER**,  
handed to me by  
Priya Cardinaletti.

## Caught... . . . and . . . . . Court



**Caught and Court reports activities in the prosecution of fisheries offences. Minor misdemeanours are handled by the Penalty Infringement Notice System (PINS). Many amateur fishing offences are dealt with under the PINS process and are not reported here.**

Order of information is: Name, age and place of residence, location and date of commission of offence/s, penalty imposed, *Court and hearing date* and any subsequent action/s. WC indicates that a conviction was also recorded. U/S indicates undersize fish. CBO indicates that a Community Based Order was imposed.

There are many offenders listed, and these ranged from the breaching of conditions of Master Fishermans licence, using nets to take Murray Cod and other species in the Goulburn River, to taking of excess and undersized abalone.

By far the most common offence is the taking of abalone without a licence, and I have included a number of these offences below. Note the wide variances in penalties. It certainly does not pay to give a false name and address.

**HAT, L., 23, Springvale:** at Cape Schank, 21 4 95: take abalone without a licence, person found offending gave a false name, took u/s abalone, possess more than the bag limit for molluscs/crustacea, \$3,000 & \$44 costs. *Dromana, 25 09 95*

**HIPWELL, G. A., 40, North Geelong:** near Queenscliff, 29 5 95: take abalone without an abalone licence; possess more than 10 abalone; \$1000 & \$42 costs. *Geelong 12 12 95*

**KARDUM, R., 25, Fairfield:** at Flinders, 19 5 95: take abalone without an abalone licence, use commercial abalone equipment, possess more than 10 abalone, possess u/s abalone, \$6500 WC & \$24 costs, diving gear forfeited, motor vehicle returned. *Dromana, 25 9 95*

**NGUYEN, H., 30, Springvale:** at Cape Schank, 21 4 95: take abalone without a licence, person found offending gave a false name, took u/s abalone, possess more than the bag limit for molluscs/crustacea, \$3,000 & \$44 costs. *Dromana 25 09 95*

**NGUYEN, M. C., 24, Springvale:** at Cape Schank, 21 4 95: take abalone without a licence, person found offending gave a false name, took u/s abalone, possess more than the bag limit for molluscs/crustacea, \$3,000 & \$44 costs, fishing equipment forfeited, motor vehicle ordered returned. *Dromana, 25 09 95*

**NGUYEN, T. V., 29, Springvale:** at Cape Schank, 21 4 95: take abalone without a licence, person found offending gave a false name, took u/s abalone, possess more than the bag limit for molluscs/crustacea, CBO for 175 hours over 12 months WC. *Dromana, 25 09 95*

## *DIVING 21 JANUARY*

### *WE HAD A GALE OF A TIME*

BY DON ABELL

The weather on Saturday 20 January was absolutely foul. A westerly gale blew all day and the news reports listed almost every planned watersport as cancelled. Even shore based events were cancelled in wind gusting to 70 knots.

The forecast for Sunday was an improvement - morning winds of 10-15 knots increasing to 20+ in the afternoon. I remember my childhood holidays at Mornington when my father would take me fishing. He always taught me that you do not go onto the bay in a westerly and if a westerly comes up you return to shore. So I knew that only madmen would ring to book into the Sunday dive and ten of them did. Can you believe this? But before you start to think that all of VSAG is mad it is worth noting that the number had fallen from 7 boats and 25 divers at our previous Thursday meeting. Only 3 boats and 10 divers suggest that there is still hope for our sanity.

I agree to run the dive only because we were launching from Stony Point which would be protected and calm. I warned all divers of the expected conditions and that diving would be poor. I was right on both points.

Once we left the protection of the launch site it was choppy and uncomfortable. We headed slowly for Flinders. Some hardy divers tried a braille dive off Somers but I don't know why. Baz dived in the Western Port heads while Bill Hayes burlied the ocean from the boat, the best part of day was lunch.

A couple of divers with a dream wish (Jack, Robert and Frank) decided to dive in the heads after lunch. We plodded out and found a likely spot. As I looked South I saw a wall of water heading towards us, expletive, expletive. I felt very uncomfortable. We could drop them in but then we had to get them out. Too dangerous for me so dive abandoned. There was no argument put up to the dive captain. The boys had a dive inside the heads. Jack found some abalone which we checked for size on the boat. The best fun of the day was watching Jack trying to work out which were males and which were female abalone. Of course I

only laughed to join with Ross and Peter. I have never been too good with the birds and bees stuff.

The trip back was hard going. It was great to get back to shore and the Stony Point ramp is very user friendly.

Well, 10 divers get points for the day and Baz checked out the old Haines (which held together better than the old Hayes), but overall it was a lousy day.

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## ***90 FOOT SUBMARINE***

BY MICK JEACLE

Sunday 25th February was one of those great summer days that these days seem to be somewhat of a rarity. Blue skies, calm seas and a top temperature forecast in the low 30's.

As the listed Dive Captain Leo Maybus could not attend the dive, he asked me to take over that role. Due to the fact that I got home late on the Saturday from a day's fishing with the family, I was too late to book my boat in. This however did not phase me one bit as I was able to place myself on the "Flagship" of Peter Vleugel as all D.C. seem to do these days.

The dive was simply listed in FATHOMS as Heads Area. Due to the outstanding conditions, consensus dictated that a dive on the 90 foot submarine was the go. After plugging in our destination on the GPS unit (marvellous machine that, Don!) we were soon traversing smooth seas in glorious sunshine enroute to the Sub.

As we were soon to find out we need not have bothered with the G.P.S. (useless bit of equipment that, Don!) as the site had no fewer than 7 boats with occupants either under or waiting to enter the water.

When it became our turn we descended into the relatively warm blue water and soon located the sub in visibility of about 40 feet.

My main mission was to locate and examine the bronze plaque near the Conning Tower which laid by members of the Bottom Scratchers Club some years ago to record their discovery of the wreck. How this plaque was laid made interesting reading in a recent issue of marine Diving Group's Newsletter.

Another thing I was keen to see was the reported total collapse of the forward bulkhead at the section where the hull is broken away near the torpedo tubes. In the past this area was quite dangerous for inexperienced divers when a fair swell was running as one could easily lose a mask or regulator in the surge when exiting the sub at this spot. The collapse of this section has now eradicated this problem.

This submarine would be without doubt my favourite of the four. It's shallow depth gives one more time to enjoy the dive, and the large hatch openings ensure plenty of light enters the wreck, thus enabling novice divers to explore the interior from one end to the other in complete safety.

The adjoining reefs are also quite colourful and one particular ledge houses a very large Rock Ling which Scotty says he's been observing for some years now. Following the dive we proceeded inside the Heads and anchored the boats about 100 metres from Point Lonsdale reef which is normally battered by white water and inaccessible. The sight of a commercial dive boat coming through the reef from the ocean side was one that I had not observed before and thought to be impossible.

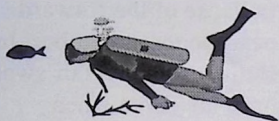
Peter didn't need much encouragement from the rest of us to do the same as it could be some time before we will be able to do this again.

We then decided it was the perfect opportunity to dive the old shipwrecks located in the area as we had not done this for many years, and some of the newer members had not done so at all. It was also the perfect spot for new diver Ted Cornish to have his first dive with VSAG in calm clear waters and he enjoyed himself immensely.

The area is littered with broken crockery and remnants of slate roof tiles, and some large Boar fish and Sweep were also sighted.

The day was perfect and the company was good. The diving was extremely relaxing and a welcome change from the usual drift dives, desperately searching every nook and cranny. I am sure all who attended enjoyed the day and will be keen to do more of the same in future.

Thanks Peter, John, Neville and Bazza for providing their boats.



# VSAG 4WD WEEKEND



With all the 4WD's (and Caravans) in the club now, VSAG is taking on a new challenge and heading for the hills this QUEENS birthday weekend. In the past we've generally gone inland (Wining, Gliding and Hume Weiring) to where the weather was hopefully a bit friendlier. This year we're fauna and flora-ing in some of the best forests in Victoria. So get your gumboots and cold weather gear on, find a 4WD with some room and come along.

**DATE:** 8-10 JUNE 1996

**TIME:** 9:00am

**STARTING POINT:** Healesville Post Office

**DESTINATION:** Sat- Merrijig (via Eildon Forests)  
Sun- Local site seeing/Mt buller, Sterling  
Mon- Healesville (Back way Mt Terrible)

**ACCOMMODATION:** Merrijig Area (Shared)

**COST:** \$25-\$30/night/Person

**BOOKINGS:** By May General Meeting

**CONTACT:** Andy Mastrowicz Ph. 9318 3986

As parts of the Track may be closed, due to weather some variation to itinerary may occur (More details to follow).





## **MORNINGTON PIER NIGHT DIVE**

### **SATURDAY MARCH 2ND**

BY LEO MAYBUS

It was a perfect Saturday afternoon, weather wise and the boys were keen about the proposed dive. We had Robert Birtles, Ross Luxford with his daughter Tamara (as support crew), John Mills, Bob Scott, Gerry DeVries along with Andrew and myself. As I was left to pack the diving gear (as number 1 son was not home, gone roller blading!!) trying in-between to keep the board of control happy I packed our gear. First Andrews then mine. Number 1 son arrives home 5 minutes before take off. We threw the gear in the car and left. As I'm driving along the brain starts to tick over. Going through the packing routine I realised to my *horror* that both *face masks* are at *home*. Back track home 17 kmls., grab the masks and make quick trip to Mornington. After arriving 1 hour later we met the other and began to gear up. John Mills using his dry suit for the first time after tearing a hole in the neck seal at Christmas. Bobby Scott proudly flashing his new model Ax/3347>2 almost a dry suit (all you need now Bob is a waterproof zip and you're there). Gerry had his 250 watters on his helmet dazzling everyone in sight. I start gearing up dry suit on, bc, reg on tank with the battery pack for my 50wat torch on helmet. Grab camera, set it all up, base plate, flash, close up lens etc. missing distance rod for close up lens. Abandon camera, gather up rest of gear, low and behold NO FINS!! Blaming Andrew, I took one of his brand new flippers and said we'll wear one each son! Now we get in the water and swim out 15 metres, Andrew finds he's to light and abandons the dive. I score 2 flippers!! John and I finally start to dive, my helmet wouldn't sit right so I took it off and decided to carry it in my hands. As I dive down the battery pack went plummeting past my ears landing in my helmet. From then on the dive could only get better. We saw a number of small octopus, some squid, sea horses and a small green dumpling squid that buried itself in the sand. Bob finished early and went home. Gerry got separated from Ross and Robert swimming out to sea from the pier. After finishing the dive Robert set up the BBQ, capping the night nicely, with a good meal, some cool drinks in good company. I'm looking forward to the next one.

## ***VSAG DIVE REPORT MARCH 11, 1996***

### ***BROKEN SUB***

BY PETER VLEUGEL

All of the boats and divers met at Sorrento at 9.30am. The weather was fine, and warm with an expected top temp. of around 30. The wind was blowing from the north at around 10 knots.

We left the boat ramp, running a little late, the seas were smooth except for a little tidal chop in the rip as we headed down to the mark of the sub. Thanks to Mick Jeacle who had the mark on a trusty piece of paper (toilet paper).

Incidentally, I thought the club owned a GPS and if it does, why wasn't it handed on to the dive captain prior to the days activities? The mark was fortunately, found quickly as there were other divers on the same sub at the time, dropped anchor and proceeded to gear-up and enter the water. Vis was excellent about 20m and we dropped onto the sub at around 35m. What a terrific dive as you enter different sections and compartments of the sub. Fish life was good and there was plenty to see on the old girl.

We could swim full penetration inside the sub which is still quite intact except for the fact that it is broken in half. Swimming up the length of the boat, checking out all the compartments, there was not time at all and our computer suggested we had 1 minute left of no deco, so we headed up leisurely stopping on the way to degas before climbing aboard. The general consensus of all divers was that it was a fantastic dive, with a lot to offer.

The three boats headed to Rye back beach where there was no swell, to enable some of the more inexperienced divers to have a relaxing reef dive. The visibility wasn't too flash and the crew aboard my boat decided to have an extended lunch and sat around enjoying the sun for the rest of the afternoon. We all headed back to the ramp by about 4pm satisfied with the days living. Three boats, 13 divers, great weather, great diving. great company, thanks to all concerned.



## KIDS PROFILE

This month's kids profile features  
**Catherine Tipping**

**AGE:** 13    Born 8.10.82

**SCHOOL:** Princes Hill Secondary  
College

**FAMILY:** Paul (Dad), Lesley (Mum),  
Susie, Eliza and Sophia.

### **DO YOU LIKE YOUR DAD DIVING WITH VSAG?**

Yes, I like my Dad diving with VSAG because it's good to know that my Dad has a hobby that he enjoys & I also like seeing my friends at VSAG.

### **ARE YOU EVER AFRAID THAT SOMETHING MAY HAPPEN TO YOUR DAD WHILST DIVING?**

Yes, because of that experience with the white pointer which happened to Alex, Mick and Bazza. So I worry that it might happen to my DAD but end with a terrifying outcome.

### **DO YOU LIKE BEING INVOLVED IN VSAG ACTIVITIES?**

I like taking part in VSAG activities because we get to go to nice beaches and especially beaches at Wilsons Prom!

### **WHAT ARE THE BEST THINGS YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR DAD DIVING?**

The photos he takes under the water of the sea life and also the nice seafood he brings home.

### **ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE UP DIVING WHEN YOU GET OLDER?**

Maybe. I want to dive when I'm older but all those programs and stories which I have seen or heard that have happened to people with sharks turn me off.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT SCALLOP DREDGING AND POLLUTION IN THE BAY?**

For starters scallop dredging should be banned and simply have many divers collecting scallops. For pollution in Bays, they could clean out the water like they did with St. Kilda beach. I know everyone simply says what I just said but not many people do anything about it, so when I'm older I might become a conservationist.

**SO FAR, WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE HOLIDAY SPOT YOU HAVE VISITED WITH VSAG?**

Out of all the holidays I've been on I love going to Wilson's Prom!! It's because I guess, I'm used to everything and everybody there and I know my way around, it's also because it's so pristine.

## MEDIA

# Out for a bite

TWO years ago Australian shark hunter Vic Hislop touched down to rid Hong Kong of its shark menace. In a plot borrowed from *Jaws* he was Robert Shaw and out there somewhere was one killer great white. "It's him against me," said Vic, endlessly until he returned having caught only a cold. Is he embarrassed, then, to learn there are several sharks ... and not great whites but tigers? We called him.

**GO:** Vic, you've always claimed there is just one killer shark in Hong Kong waters, right?

**VIC:** Yeah, a real nasty 'un. A man-eater.

**GO:** So how come two sharks were photographed cruising near the beach recently?

**VIC:** Well, it's like I said. There have always been two sharks, a little 'un and a big one — great whites.

**GO:** But the photos were identified as tiger sharks.

**VIC:** By who?

**GO:** I dunno. The Hong Kong Government?

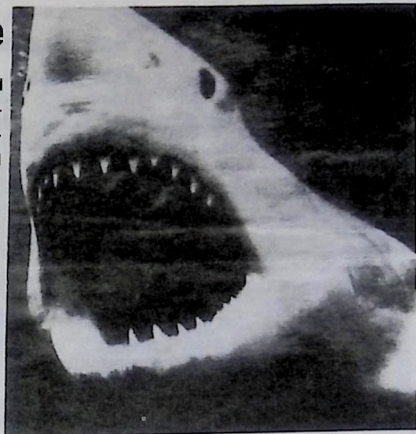
**VIC:** What do they know ... I'm telling you, they're great whites.

**GO:** Maybe they got marine biologists to look at the photos and identify the sharks.

**VIC:** Marine biologists? They know even less. Look lad, I've been hunting sharks for years. And I've always said there have been two sharks, both great whites. But only one kills humans. Only the big one is a man-eater.

**GO:** But according to autopsy reports the bites on this year's shark victims were a different size.

**VIC:** Look son, do you want to listen to an expert or some idiots who have never seen a shark in the wild, much less hunted one?



*Ed Note:*

*This article appeared in the South China Morning Post in Hong Kong, and was forwarded by David Moore.*

*I reckon it's a classic.*

*We met up with Dave at our Christmas cheer night on 21st December and he advised that two people were eaten in two weeks recently.*

Herald Sun 17.1.96

## Blitz on bay catches 70

SEVENTY penalty notices were issued during a Department of Conservation and Natural Resources fisheries enforcement blitz on Port Phillip Bay from Williamstown to Altona at the weekend.

One of the worst cases was that of a repeat offender, a recreational diver, allegedly found in possession of 130 abalone.

The two main offences were the taking of abalone, mostly undersized, and illegally removing shellfish from the shoreline.

## MEDIA

### Salvaged teak for sale

A cargo of 22 large Burma teak square logs has been salvaged from *SS Pegu*, which sunk after hitting a mine off southern Ireland in 1917. She was bound for Liverpool from Rangoon.

PK Teak, the UK's largest specialist teak importer, has acquired all 22 square logs: 17 of which are over 20 ft long and the longest around 38ft. They will be offered for sale from January 1996.

The logs from the sea bed are slightly gribbled on the surface or ends, but a minimum of trimming will reveal sound timber, says the importer. Logs from the hold are undamaged and are in such good condition that it is still possible to read the original stencilling on the sides. The hammer stamp shows the squares to have been shipped by the Bombay Burma Timber Company.

For more information fax: +44 (0) 1844 238016.

*International Boat Industry Magazine*

### Lighthouse bargains

THE State Government will pay less than \$200,000 to assume control of 10 historic lighthouses in a deal struck with the Federal Government.

State Conservation Minister Mark Birrell said the Government had rejected the Commonwealth's asking price of \$2.268 million and would only pay \$190,000 in administration costs.

The lighthouses will go on the State's Historic Buildings Register.

The lighthouses are at Wilson's Promontory, Cape Schanck, Cape Otway, Citadel Island, Clifty Island, Cape Nelson, Cape Liptrap, Split Point at Airey's Inlet, Gabo Island and Point Hicks.

The deal, which takes effect from today, ended four years of negotiation.

*Herald-Sun 1.12.95*

## MEDIA

# Sailing into a luxury stay

By **JIM TENNISON**,  
Grand Prix reporter

IT'S the closest thing to Monaco in Melbourne.

Quite simply, it's the ultimate way to enjoy Grand Prix week.

It's a motor yacht-townhouse package for 22 people, where the only hitch could be the price — \$32,000.

At Victoria Dock, nestled under the giant Melbourne city skyline, sits the luxury motor cruiser *Inspiration II*.

The 24m "little ship" is carpeted throughout (even the ceilings) and has six double-bed cabins, two of which are state rooms with ensuite.

This baby has everything. It's fully air-conditioned, with separate sound system control for each room, large dining area, large sitting area, large viewing area ... the list goes on.

All meals and drinks are provided. Cleaning is also taken care of.

Skipper (and owner) Daryl Brosche will take the helm.

Only the weather can interfere with five fun days on the bay.

That's accommodation for 12.



AUSTRALIAN  
GRAND PRIX  
MELBOURNE

The other 10 stay in the recently completed, architect-designed townhouse on Marine Pde, St Kilda.

This luxury builder's own home overlooks St Kilda marina with an excellent view of the bay.

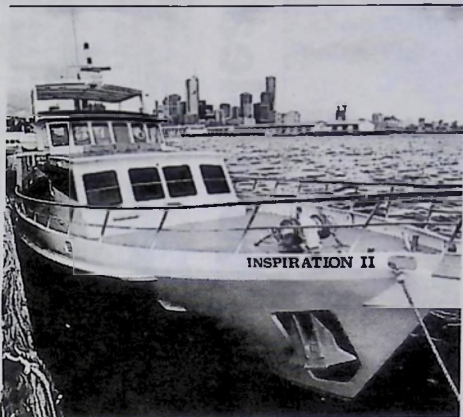
Again everything is catered for, including land travel by chauffeur-driven limousine.

Estate agent Graeme Brown, from Wilson Pride, was certain this package would be taken.

He said he had three other similar deals.

"This is for the corporate market with mainly middle-aged people involved," Mr Brown said.

And for those wanting to see some of the Formula One action between bay sojourns and penthouse parties, an extra \$5000 package will see the luxury service continue at the race track.



**Sea views:** the 24 m luxury cruiser *Inspiration II* at Victoria Dock

*Herald Sun (Feb'96)*

*This is Daryl Brosche's new luxury craft that we had tentatively booked for Refuge Cove in January.*

*We will try again but I suspect the price will be out of reach we'll keep you posted. Ed!*

## MEDIA

# Dolphin scare sparks boat plea

A CHARTER service operator called for greater security on the Mornington peninsula yesterday after she and her crew were abused by boat owners who spat on them. Some jet skiers harassed and frightened dolphins by circling them, stopping them from swimming out to sea and broke up their pods, the operator said.

Judith Muir, co-owner of the Polperro Dolphin Swims and Charter Service, said boat owners, including jet skiers, should be licensed. She described the behavior of some of the 30 or more boat owners off Sorrento on Sunday as disgraceful.

But police said commercial operators of charter services also had a duty to act responsibly.

Sgt George Dixon of the water police said Mrs Muir should have

called his unit, whose officers could have acted under the Marine Mammals Act. He said some operators had breached rules themselves, especially in placing buoys unfairly to protect the dolphins.

State Government spokesman Tony Cudmore said there were no immediate plans to license boat owners, but Mrs Muir should put the matter to the Roads and Ports Minister, Mr Bill Baxter.

Mrs Muir said there should be more fisheries officers on the peninsula. "At this time of the year there are only two officers and they are already overworked," she said.

Mrs Muir said legislation was in place to protect whales and dolphins, but it was rarely policed.

She said that on Sunday some jet

skiers were jumping into the water to get near the dolphins, leaving their skis to move in circles.

Whole families, including children, had jumped into the water to scare the dolphins.

"It's the breeding season and there are dozens of dolphins out on the peninsula at this time of the year. Some dolphins have babies and can't dive to avoid the harassment," she said.

Passengers on her boat had filmed the "senseless" activities of some boat owners and the film would be handed to police.

"Someone will be killed out there before long. On Sunday it was mayhem and madness, super scary stuff," Mrs Muir said.

"Many boat owners don't know the regulations and care even less. They're arrogant. All they're worried about is having a good time."



**DIVE/SOCIAL CALENDAR**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT/LOCATION</b>	<b>DIVE CAPTAIN</b>	<b>MEET AT</b>
18 April	General Meeting Bells Hotel Cnr. Moray & Coventry Streets, Sth Melbourne		8.00pm Sharp!
21 April	Charter Boat Flinders	John Lawler 9589 4020 (see separate notice)	8.15 am sharp Flinders Pier
28 April	Bike Ride Yarra River Boat Ride BBQ	Chris Llewellyn 9431 1650 (see separate notice)	Details T.B.A.
5 May	Eliza Ramsden	Mick Jeacle 059 712786	Sorrento 8.30am
11 May	Night Dive	Gerry Devries	Portsea pier
Saturday		9725 <del>2351</del> 2381	5.30 pm
16 May	General Meeting Bells Hotel Cnr. Moray & Coventry Streets, Sth Melbourne		8.00pm Sharp!
19 May	Popes Eye/Courier	BobScott 059 712206	9.30am Sorrento
2 Jun	Flinders/Phillip Island	Don Abell 9889 4415	9.30am Stony Point
8-10 Jun	4WD Weekend	Andy Mastrowicz 9318 3986 (see separate notice)	Healsville PO 9.00am
16 Jun	Seal Rocks/Phillip Island	John Lawler 9589 4020	9.30am Stony Point
20 Jun	General Meeting Bells Hotel Cnr. Moray & Coventry Streets, Sth Melbourne		8.00pm Sharp!
30 Jun	Coogee	Mick Jeacle 059 712786	Sorrento 10.00am
7 July	Queenscliff Talk	Geoff Naylor	Details Next Issue

NOTICE: BOAT OWNERS INTENDING TO BRING THEIR BOATS PLEASE RING DIVE CAPTAIN BEFORE 6PM ON EVENING PRIOR TO DIVE.

DIVERS PLEASE RING BETWEEN 6PM - 7PM.

THOSE ATTENDING NIGHT DIVES (SATURDAYS) PLEASE RING BY 8PM ON EVENING PRIOR TO DIVE.

## TIDE TABLES

TIMES OF FLOOD AND EBB - The tables of Times of Flood and Ebb give the times when the rate of change in the sea level at Point Lonsdale (Port Phillip Heads) is a maximum, each time approximately one when the tidal flow at the entrance to Port Phillip bays change direction, this time is given in the column marked "Time". The direction of this flow is indicated by the words "flood" and "ebb" in the column "start". Thus the word "flood" indicates that the tide starts to flow into the bay, at the given time in the "Time" column. The word "ebb" indicates that the tide starts to flow out of the bay at that time.

## PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

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

MAY - 1996

Time	m	Time	m	Time	m	Time	m	
1	09:36	0.58	9	03:37	1.45	17	04:53	0.38
	09:26	1.17		09:30	0.16		12:00	1.51
WE	14:52	0.69	TH	16:31	1.62	FR	17:24	0.73
	21:47	1.22		23:03	0.49		23:45	1.38
2	03:43	0.52	10	04:23	1.43	18	05:46	0.33
	10:46	1.25		10:17	0.22		12:54	1.58
TH	16:08	0.71	FR	17:15	1.57	SA	18:21	0.70
	23:46	1.25		23:50	0.48			
3	03:45	0.44	11	05:13	1.40	19	06:34	1.39
	11:37	1.36		11:05	0.30		13:34	1.58
FR	17:20	0.69	SA	18:03	1.52	SU	19:11	1.62
	23:43	1.29		23:40	0.49			
4	05:37	0.34	12	08:11	1.35	20	01:18	1.40
	12:42	1.47		12:15	0.41		12:18	0.27
SA	18:16	0.65	SU	19:56	1.46	MO	14:23	1.63
							19:52	0.63
5	03:34	0.25	13	00:32	0.50	21	01:58	1.40
	06:25	1.35		07:25	1.32		10:00	0.27
SU	13:30	1.57	MO	14:28	0.52	TU	15:00	1.61
	19:05	0.60		19:54	1.41		20:30	0.60
6	01:22	1.40	14	01:35	0.50	22	02:37	1.39
	07:12	1.18		06:25	1.33		09:16	0.25
MO	14:17	1.64	TU	13:49	0.63	WE	15:32	1.59
	19:50	0.55		20:54	1.38		21:08	0.58
7	02:08	1.43	15	02:45	0.48	23	03:14	1.37
	07:58	1.14		06:55	1.37		09:16	0.32
TU	15:03	1.62	WE	15:00	0.71	TH	16:04	1.55
	20:34	0.52		21:54	1.36		21:45	0.57
8	02:53	1.45	16	03:52	0.43	24	03:51	1.31
	05:45	0.14		11:00	1.43		14:32	0.36
WE	15:47	1.66	TH	16:15	0.74	FR	16:35	1.32
	21:16	0.50		23:51	1.37		23:22	0.55

## PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

LAT 38° 48' S LONG 144° 37' E TIME ZONE -1000  
TIMES OF SLACK WATERS

MAY - 1996

Time	Start	Time	Start	Time	Start	Time	Start	
1	00:25	flood	9	06:11	ebb	17	01:29	ebb
	12:30	ebb		12:54	flood		08:27	flood
WE	18:03	flood	TH	19:50	ebb	FR	19:37	ebb
							19:53	flood
2	06:31	ebb	10	00:45	flood	18	02:30	ebb
	19:12	flood		07:04	ebb		09:15	flood
TH	13:59	ebb	FR	13:58	flood	SA	16:20	ebb
							20:54	flood
3	01:21	ebb	11	01:58	flood	19	03:17	ebb
	08:23	flood		08:01	ebb		09:57	flood
FR	15:10	ebb	SA	14:18	flood	SU	17:15	ebb
							21:17	ebb
20:12	flood						21:43	flood
4	02:10	ebb	12	02:37	flood	20	04:00	ebb
	16:07	ebb		05:04	ebb		10:34	flood
SA	16:07	ebb	SU	15:00	flood	MO	17:54	ebb
							22:04	ebb
21:03	flood						22:26	flood
5	03:58	ebb	13	03:45	ebb	21	04:40	ebb
	10:04	flood		10:15	ebb		11:10	flood
SU	16:58	ebb	MO	15:44	flood	TU	18:30	ebb
							23:05	flood
21:48	flood						23:54	ebb
6	03:45	ebb	14	05:05	flood	22	05:17	ebb
	10:47	flood		11:37	ebb		12:22	ebb
MO	17:41	ebb	TU	16:31	flood	WE	19:02	ebb
							23:47	flood
22:31	flood						23:43	ebb
7	04:32	ebb	15	06:22	flood	23	05:55	ebb
	18:28	ebb		13:05	ebb		12:17	flood
TU	18:28	ebb	WE	17:29	flood	TH	19:34	ebb
							20:04	ebb
23:15	flood						20:04	ebb
8	05:20	ebb	16	00:44	ebb	24	00:21	flood
	12:12	flood		07:30	flood		06:32	ebb
WE	15:08	ebb	TH	14:30	ebb	FR	12:51	flood
				15:40	flood		20:04	ebb

## TIDE TABLES

TIMES OF FLOOD AND EBB - The times of Times of Flood and Ebb give the times when the rate of change in the sea level at Point Lonsdale (Port Phillip Heads) is a maximum. Each time approximately 15 minutes before the tide starts to flow into the bay, at the given time in the "Time" column. The direction of this flow is indicated by the words "flood" and "ebb" in the column "Start". Thus the word "flood" indicates that the tide starts to flow into the bay, at the given time in the "Time" column. The word "ebb" indicates that the tide starts to flow out of the bay at that time.

## PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE) TIME ZONE -1000

LAT 38° 16' S LONG 144° 37' E

## JUNE - 1996

Time	m	Time	m	Time	m	Time	m			
1	0350 1.40	0511 1.44	0600 1.34	0532 1.29	1	0932 ebb	17	0938 flood		
	1114 1.41	1055 0.98	0607 0.34	1109 0.55	SA	0749 ebb	SU	1349 flood		
	1629 0.90	SU	1749 1.59	MO	1316 1.56	TU	1751 1.45	SA	1510 ebb	
	2255 1.31	2334 0.43	1943 0.74	2346 0.48	1809 flood	2100 ebb	2058 flood	2059 ebb		
2	0450 0.32	10	0615 1.41	18	0947 1.35	26	0622 1.28	10	0238 flood	
	1213 1.51	SU	1144 0.49	MO	0653 0.33	1149 0.61	0843 ebb	MO	1424 flood	
	1784 0.76	MO	1637 1.53	TU	1358 1.57	WE	1630 1.41	SU	1605 ebb	
	2355 1.36	2359 0.69	1929 0.69	1930 flood	1930 flood	2045 ebb	2045 flood	1930 flood		
3	0547 0.34	11	0608 0.43	19	0150 1.35	27	0025 0.45	11	0343 flood	
	1207 1.60	TU	0726 1.29	WE	0735 0.32	0718 1.23	0532 flood	TU	1026 ebb	
	1631 0.70	WE	1423 1.57	TH	1226 0.69	1915 1.37	MO	1650 ebb	TU	1457 flood
										2232 ebb
4	0652 1.41	12	0124 1.47	20	0211 1.35	28	0112 0.43	12	0451 flood	
	0947 0.19	WE	1328 0.71	TH	1506 1.57	FR	1330 0.78	WE	1528 flood	
	1523 0.63	2021 1.42	2048 0.61	2006 1.34	2010 0.74	2006 1.34	2010 0.74	WE	1839 ebb	
								TH	1839 ebb	
5	0145 1.45	13	0223 0.44	21	0250 1.35	29	0205 0.29	13	0559 flood	
	0753 0.16	FR	0938 1.40	FR	0951 0.36	0933 1.35	0933 1.35	TH	1310 ebb	
	1446 1.70	TH	1429 0.79	FR	1537 1.56	SA	1435 0.82	TH	1602 flood	
	2014 0.57	2117 1.37	2126 0.57	2105 1.32	2105 1.32	2105 1.32	2105 1.32	FR	1906 ebb	
								FR	1906 ebb	
6	0235 1.48	14	0223 0.43	22	0329 1.34	30	0309 0.35	14	0014 ebb	
	0826 0.17	FR	1038 1.44	FR	0926 0.39	1042 1.41	1042 1.41	FR	0611 ebb	
	1533 1.70	FR	1538 0.63	SA	1509 1.54	SU	1546 0.83	SA	1223 flood	
	2102 0.52	2214 1.35	2301 0.54	2213 1.32	2213 1.32	2213 1.32	2213 1.32	SA	1542 ebb	
								SU	1542 ebb	
7	0915 0.22	15	0422 0.41	23	0408 1.33	30	0408 1.33	15	0105 ebb	
	1618 0.47	SA	1640 0.83	SU	1642 1.52	1642 1.52	1642 1.52	SU	0755 flood	
	2152 1.67	2359 1.34	2237 0.52	2312 0.50	2312 0.50	2312 0.50	2312 0.50	SA	1542 ebb	
								MO	1629 ebb	
8	0415 1.47	16	0517 0.37	24	0448 1.31	31	0448 1.31	16	0159 ebb	
	1005 0.29	SU	1230 1.53	MO	1033 0.48	1033 0.48	1033 0.48	SU	0844 flood	
	1703 1.64	SU	1749 0.79	MO	1715 1.49	1715 1.49	1715 1.49	SU	1312 flood	
	2243 0.45	2312 0.50	2312 0.50	2312 0.50	2312 0.50	2312 0.50	2312 0.50	MO	1320 flood	
								MO	1320 flood	

## PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

LAT 38° 18' S LONG 144° 37' E

## JUNE - 1996

Time Start	Time Start	Time Start	Time Start
9	0138 flood	17	0247 ebb
SU	0808 ebb	MO	0928 flood
SU	1349 flood	MO	1706 ebb
2100 ebb	2058 flood	2059 ebb	
10	0238 flood	18	0333 ebb
MO	1424 flood	TU	1740 ebb
2145 ebb	2153 flood	WE	1409 flood
11	0343 flood	19	0415 ebb
TU	1026 ebb	WE	1811 ebb
TU	1457 flood	WE	1811 ebb
2232 ebb	2240 flood	2240 flood	
12	0451 flood	20	0453 ebb
WE	1528 flood	TH	1839 ebb
2321 ebb	2323 flood	2323 flood	
13	0559 flood	21	0531 ebb
TH	1602 flood	FR	1906 ebb
2349 ebb	2349 ebb	2349 ebb	
14	0014 ebb	22	0611 ebb
FR	1436 ebb	SA	1223 flood
1652 flood	1932 ebb	1932 ebb	
15	0105 ebb	23	0651 ebb
SA	1542 ebb	SU	1250 flood
1811 flood	2000 ebb	2000 ebb	
16	0159 ebb	24	0128 flood
SU	0844 flood	MO	1320 flood
SU	1312 flood	MO	1320 flood
2018 ebb	1945 flood	2028 ebb	

## EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION MORNINGTON PENINSULA AREA

	PHONE
POLICE - AMBULANCE - FIRE	(000)
PENINSULA AMBULANCE (ROSEBUD, SORRENTO) (MORNINGTON)	(008) 137333 (03) 783 2222
SOUTHERN PENINSULA HOSPITAL 1527 NEPEAN ROSEBUD	(059) 86 8444
FRANKSTON HOSPITAL HASTINGS ROAD FRANKSTON	(03) 781 3111
MORNINGTON BUSH NURSING HOSPITAL MAIN ST MORNINGTON	(059) 75 2009
MORNINGTON BAY RESCUE SERVICE	(059) 75 2733
SOUTHERN PENINSULA RESCUE	(059) 84 2000
DIVING EMERGENCY SERVICE	1800 088 200
COAST GUARD	(03) 598 7003
STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE (S.E.S)	(03) 26 1468
WATER POLICE	(03) 662 0911
MELBOURNE AMBULANCE	(03) 662 2533
<b>DOCTORS DIVING MEDICINE</b>	
DR. GUY WILLIAMS	ROSEBUD (059) 81 1555
DR. J De B.J. DADE	MORNINGTON (059) 75 5288
DIVING EMERGENCY SERVICE	1800 088 200

V.H.F. EMERGENCY CHANNEL..... (16)

### PENINSULA DIVING INSTRUCTION

10 MAIN STREET  
MORNINTON 3931  
PH: (059) 75 6865  
FAX: (059) 75 6844

7/33 COOK STREET  
FLINDERS 3929  
PH: (059) 890 900

