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FATHOMS

DECEMBER 05 - JANUARY 06



VSAG

VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP

<http://members.iimetro.com.au/~vsag/>

NET



20/11/2005

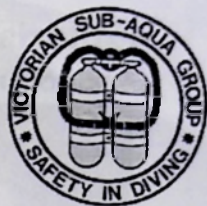


VSAG Family Day at Queenscliff 20 November 2005
Photos: Herb Epstein, Mary Malloy, Alan Beckhurst, John Lawler



I have entered the snapdragon part of my life....
Part of me has snapped,
and the rest of me is draggin'.

FATHOMS



*Official Journal of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group
In this December-January issue...*

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VSAG General Meetings
3rd Thursday in the month

Bell's Hotel
157 Moray Street (cnr Coventry Street)
South Melbourne, 8.00 pm

Editorial Submissions to:

Alan Storen
15 Regal Court Vermont South Vic 3133

Editorial

Alan Storen



With 2005 almost gone it is time to think up those New Year resolutions. I hope that for all of you it is to do more dives in 2006 than you did in 2005. The committee and I wish you, and you families/loved ones all the best for the festive season and the coming year.

For those not going to Eden with VSAG at xmas the contact for diving is John Lawler. Please let him know when you

are available to dive. For those going to Eden – have a great trip.

Booking for Wilsons Prom at Easter are now due and if you have not responded to Pat or Andy then you must do so very soon. We look like asking for about 30 sites at this stage.

The postponed Blues Train Trip is on in February and you must let Priya know if you intend going. Cut off date is before Christmas.

The club is looking at running a few new (to VSAG) diver days, hoping to attract some new members. If you know of any divers that might be interested please pass their names to Trevor Williams and they will be followed up.

The committee is still requesting names of possible guest speakers/topics – please let me know, and also social events that members are interested in attending.

The club has been given some old diving equipment and records. We hope to arrange a display of these at meetings, etc. Do you have any to donate/loan?? Please see one of the committee.

Several members are yet to pay their subs for the current year. If this applies to you could you please forward a cheque to the treasurer asap as we are currently doing our budget for 2006. If you are not financial this will be your last fathoms until you are!

REMEMBER:

ALL dives are good dives, just some are more fantastic than others!

PLEASE NOTE NEW WEB SITE DETAILS:

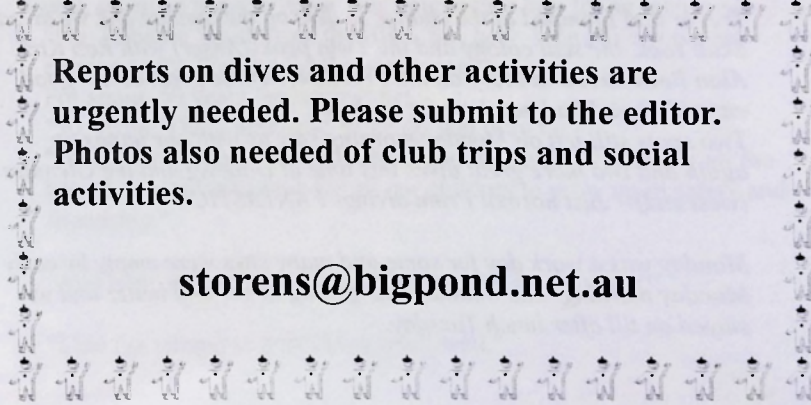
<http://members.iimetro.com.au/~vsag/>



Merry Christmas

And

**Happy New Year
From the committee**



**Reports on dives and other activities are
urgently needed. Please submit to the editor.
Photos also needed of club trips and social
activities.**

storens@bigpond.net.au

Cup Weekend – October/November 2005

Alan Storen

VSAGers and family/friends that could make it included:

Alan and Jude Storen and Alan Storen Senior(92 years old), Jackie Storen, Trevor Williams and Cathy, Pat Reynolds, Alan Beckhurst and Mary, Rob Kirk, Priya and John Mills. (not sure if Alan B, Mary and Rob were calling themselves VSAG or Getunder/or both!)

The weather was superb on the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday and the diving was equally great. I only arrived at lunchtime on the Saturday and missed the 'not-so good' start to the few days on the Saturday morning. VSAG had no boats and I had taken my 92 year old father down so I thought that any dive I got would be a bonus. As it turned out we both had a terrific time. He was only just out of hospital and staying with us and hence the invite to visit the Prom. He did lots of walking and site seeing. Jackie was suffering from the flu and so spent her time above water and went walking with Jude and Cathie.

The SDFV BBQ was held on the Saturday night and Cathie Williams was the lucky one winning the dive mask, snorkel and camera. [Photo on the inside back page]

Trevor and I jumped at the chance to dive on the Sunday and we dived Skull rock, the seal colony and the Twin peaks(Anser) with Rob Kirk, Alan Beckhurst and Mary on the Freediver. Three great dives- good viz and dives I had not done for a while!

Two spots still left on Monday morning saw us with our hands up again and two more great dives this time at Danevig and the Glennies (west end) – Just normal Prom diving- FANTASTIC!!

Monday was a work day for some and many sites were empty by early Monday morning. The weather was getting better and better and we stayed on till after lunch Tuesday.

Not as many 'other' divers as in past years – I think that some Uni clubs forgot to book and by then it was too late! Blackrock were there in numbers and Getunder were also well represented. Not as many from LaTrobe as in the past but I am sure all that went enjoyed the weekend. All that wanted to dive were able to find a boat.

Put the cup weekend date in your diary for 2006 if you want a great fun filled, diving, enjoyable weekend. Even if you do not dive there is plenty to do – or just enjoy the company.

Alan

PERSEVERANCE

In Jerusalem :

An English female journalist heard about an old rabbi who visited the Wailing Wall to pray, twice a day, everyday, for a long, long time. In an effort to check out the story, she goes to the holy site and there he is!

She watches the bearded old man at prayer –and after about 45 minutes, when he turns to leave, she approaches him for an interview.

"I'm Rebecca Smith from the BBC. Sir, how long have you been coming to the Wailing Wall and praying?"

For about 50 years, he informs her.

"50 years! That's amazing! What do you pray for?"

"I pray for peace between the Jews and the Arabs. I pray for all the hatred to stop and I pray for all our children to grow up in safety and friendship."

"And how do you feel, Sir, after doing this for 50 years?"

"Like I'm talking to a f#@king brick wall."

Committee 2005 - 2006

President / Newsletter /SDFV rep

Alan Storen
15 Regal Court
Vermont South VIC 3133
9803 3573(H)
0417 017 446
storens@bigpond.net.au

Vice President / SDFV rep

Pat Reynolds
14 Nurla Court
Frankston VIC 3199
9789 1092(H)
0407 334 276

Treasurer

Andy Mastrowicz
224 Wattle Valley Road
Camberwell VIC 3124
9809 0984(H)
9201 7117(W)
0402 060 711
amastrow@agl.com.au

Secretary

John Mills
PO Box 864
Boronia VIC 3155
9758 8423 (H)
9369 2377(W)
millsj@bordenchem.com

Assistant Secretary

Leo Maybus
5 The Crescent Ferntree Gully 3156
9758 4475
0418 375 102

Property Officer & Safety Officer

Gabriel Sekias
31A Edwards Street
Cheltenham Vic 3192
9584 4557(H)
0423 578 348
gabrielsekias@bigpond.com

Diving & Development Officer

Trevor Williams
168 Newman Street
Kensington VIC 3091
9372 6189(H)
0404 069 572
twilliam@bigpond.net.au

Public relations / Membership Officer

John Lawler
7 Cloris Avenue
Beaumaris VIC 3193
9589 4020(H)
0414 922 916
jylawler@tpgi.com.au

Social Secretary

Priya Cardinaletti
PO Box 864
Boronia VIC 3155
9758 8423 (H)
0414 310 727

Point Scorer

Darren Pearce
4 Cheviot Close
Wantirna VIC 3152
9729 4444(H)
0414 314 824
scuba2@optushome.com.au

General Committee

Gerry DeVries
16 Vitner Avenue
Croydon VIC 3136
9725 2381(H)
0417 324 608
gerry.devries@bigpond.com

Committee meets 2nd Thursday of the
month at: Leighoah Hotel
1555 Dandenong Road Oakleigh.
ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

Dive Report November 6th Phillip Island

Jackie Storen

Why we didn't have more starters for the best day of diving off Phillip Island I will die wondering ! Alan Storen, AJ Storen, Bob Kirk, Darren, John Lawler and myself all piled into John's boat on 6/11/05 and thankfully lined up the right markers out of the Newhaven boat ramp, sunscreened up and it was all smiles marvelling at the stunning day.

On John's suggestion, we headed straight for The Pinnacles. I was really excited to dive there. On my first dive off Phillip Island on 27/2/05, we did the George Kermode and planned a second dive at The Pinnacles. Throwing up over the side of Mick's boat with swell rolling in, it was just not my day, and the Pinnacle dive was not to be.

After some Depth Finder issues and plenty of circle work over what we thought was the site, we reverted to lining up land marks and when Alan Storen said throw the shot line it was really just suck and see. There were claps and laughs all around when the shot line landed fair and square on the middle of one of the pinnacles. It was meant to be !!

AJ, Bob and Darren geared up and went in first. They said they could have caught a few crays (bugger it wasn't a day to take crays or abalone) and there was a great variety of fish to spot. My dive buddy, John and myself geared up next. By this stage it was very warm as forecast temperature was 30 degrees, which felt like 50 in the wetsuit. So quickly into the water we went. I didn't have my weights right so after some up and down and more weights in pockets of my BCD I got down to see a really spectacular area. John had said the south side was better so we made our way around thru the pinnacles.

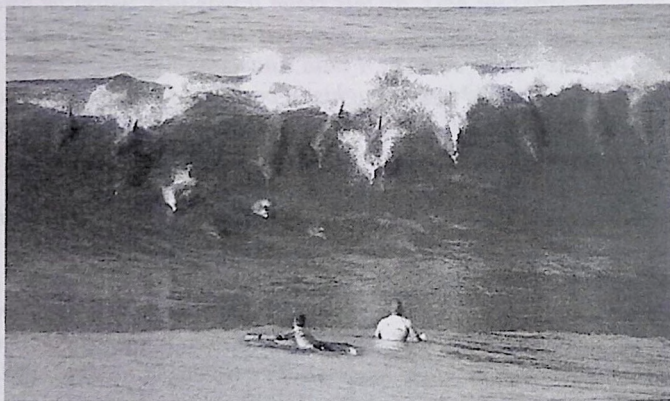
We got to the south side and saw tons of different fish, the wall had colour all over it and one cave area was covered in yellow zoanthids. John did his arms open wide and 'isn't this the most beautiful thing you have ever seen' signal. If I could have I would have done the Toyota jump in response, it was a sensational view with the sunlight filtering down the wall. It actually reminded me of a wall dive we did in Vanuatu called

Gotham City, because as you looked up you saw fish swimming down towards you with the backdrop of the sunlight, looking to the side you saw the bright colours of the wall and looking down you could see the sandy bottom and fish swimming up to you. A.A.A.Ahhhhh !

Bob said he was happy to do The Pinnacles again for the second dive of the day and we all agreed but the wind had picked up a bit and we headed for the safe haven of the little rocky bay directly in line. Alan Storen was captain of the boat and was watching like a hawk as we got closer to shore and after spotting some 'just under the surface' bommies.

John, myself, Darren and Bob jumped in the water, carefree and loving life. I thought it maybe deeper there but we hit the bottom at about 15-16m. I think we landed on a crayfish nesting ground. They were everywhere but mostly undersize. We had a seal join us briefly and a Port Jackson shark. Darren pulled his tail and swam after him and I watched from a safe distance about 2m away, ensuring my second shark sighting didn't get ugly. It topped a great dive and I surfaced a very 'happy jack'.

What a day of diving, I will not forget! Thanks fellow divers.



HINTS FOR DIVING WITH A BUDDY

From DAN(SEAP)

- *Chose a compatible buddy ... someone with similar underwater interests who moves at the same speed as you is more likely to remain close by.
- *Plan the dive together, and agree on what you will do once underwater. Where you will go? Who will lead?
- *What will be your bottom time? Maximum depth? Air cut-off?
- *Agree on what safety stops you will perform.
- *Confirm your underwater signals before diving with a new buddy.
- *Agree on lost buddy procedure: if a diver goes missing, the other diver searches for no more than one minute, after which he/she surfaces.
- *Begin the descent together, facing each other. Match your descent speed to that of the slower diver.
- *Be equal partners underwater. Avoid dependant diving, where one diver constantly leads and the other follows.
- *Share the lead by using pre-arranged signals, or swim side by side.
- *Signal frequently while underwater.
- *Agree that it's "one-out all out".

Follow these tips and you will be on your way to a memorable and safe summer diving season!

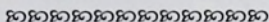
Safe Diving from the DAN SEAP Team





The Troubadour

*Thoughts and experiences of a
new VSAG member and diver.*



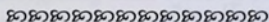
Cathy and I have a long-standing affinity with Wilson's Promontory. Fortunately VSAG created two opportunities for us to revisit the Prom after an absence of many years.



Wilson's Prom is renowned for its nature and beauty but there is a special feel, akin to sunrise over Uluru or a full moon over the Kimberly, which sets it apart. The environment seems to connect people with nature more than many other nature reserves – the animals somehow seem friendly, it's easy to be alone with nature in its many diverse forms. Except for the damned seagulls in the caravan park.....



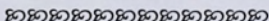
This is true below sea-level as well as above, which a special treat is for divers.



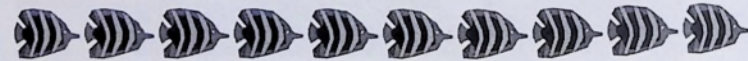
Often you have a great dive. Rarer comes such a great dive day. Twenty five kms out from Tidal River, five boats, great weather, twenty divers and Skull Rock. The SDFV Melbourne Cup weekend trip has many dive clubs mixing it together.





The plan is to dive the eastern side of Skull Rock, through a crevice/cave to the northern side and back again. A fabulous dive with the highlight being upwards of 10 divers in the cave together, each with torches like Christmas sparkles in the dim light.





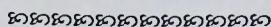
We save some air for a shallow dive with the seals. Hundreds of them on and around Seal Island, a 5 minute cruise across the channel! First sight under the water is a seal











 and Alan Storen coming face-to-face. Was that a head butt or a Maori kiss? After lying quietly in the weed and frolicking with the seals, I decide that it must have been a kiss-butt. 

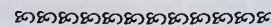
 Did I say that the animals are friendly? Sure are! 







 One very recognizable seal has the remains of a fish net around its neck. With star-like, splayed rope ends, the seal looks like a circus performer cavorting amongst the audience of seals and divers. Unfortunately we realise that the necklace will become a noose, as the seal grows, unless it can somehow be removed. 



 

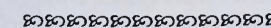
 







 Dive 3 is a frolic off Twin Towers. Down to 15 metres to find a vertically oriented swim-through. Shall we go through? Five swim-throughs later, 3 divers are exhilarated and at 35 metres. The reverse profile requires a slow ascent and long safety stops, but it's definitely worth it. 

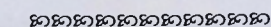
 



 Thanks Alan Beckhurst, Mary Molloy and Freediver for a great dive day. 







 35 metres. Hmm! Doesn't sound like much. Less then a long kick of the footy. 

 35 metres. Height of a 10-12 story building. Now that sounds deep. 



 I am keen to include items by other new members and new divers. Send them to twilliam@bigpond.net.au. 



DIVE REPORT- 4th December-Phillip Island

John Lawler. DC

The weather report was not looking to favourable for diving on Sunday 4th December, however as the Queenscliff members had a crew and planned to dive in the North westerly, our crew decided we would give it a go.

Trevor Williams teamed up with me for the trip down to the island and we met Alan, Jude and Jackie Storen at the Newhaven boat ramp. Alan's car had developed mechanical problems and the problem was left in the capable hands of Jude and the RACV person as we launched and headed down the channel for the open sea. Our plan was to dive in the small bay on the south east side but as we got clear of Newhaven it became clear that the wind was coming in from the south.

We rounded the island and headed south to check the conditions but the swells were very high...plan cancelled. Back to the big bay directly below the high cliffs on the east and side and the conditions here were very diveable... great.

Trevor and I were nominated for the first dive. Into the water and down at 16 mtrs we found abundant abalone, fish life and very interesting rock formations. As today was a nominated take day for abalone our maximum of 5 each was easily bagged. I found a couple of nice crays on this dive and they soon shared the catch bag with the abs. Our dive was very calm, peaceful and relaxed as we swam over a small ray dozing in the sand and not too far away a Port Jackson also having a sleep. This place around the southern end of this bay was great diving and all too soon however time to ascend and call for a pick up.

Jackie and Alan were up for their dive however Jackie was experiencing mild sea sickness and it took a bit of prompting to get her into the sea but the thought of maybe a cray or some abs did the trick. They too come up smiling and had a great dive, no crays were seen but some abs in the bag for dinner.

After a break for lunch it was Trevor and me in again and this time we moved more north in this bay. The bottom was not as good as the previous dive area and not as deep. We found a large hole in some big rocks and it was a magic sight to see three very large boarfish swimming around there in. After I moved away Trevor had a look in and told me later that up on ledge a cuttlefish was taking all this in... great dive sights!

Back on the boat the wind had changed to the predicted north west. Alan and Jackie had decided not to have a second dive so we cleared the bay and headed back. As we rounded the island we ran into the north wind and some heavy sprays came over the bow... we can hang this on Jackie as she was in training for her boat licence!

Boat retrieved, gear was loaded into Jackie's car as Alan's car had to be taken to Cowes for repairs...another trip down on Monday to collect! After some hot chips and a cold drink we were off back to Melbourne after some great diving around Phillip Island. This is a place we should put more diving into as it holds some great adventures.

Thanks to all for making this day a great diving and fun one.

JL.

The Australian Poetry Competition had come down to two finalists; a university graduate and an old aboriginal. They were given a word, and then allowed two minutes to study the word and come up with a poem that contained the word.

The word they were given was 'TIMBUKTU'. First to recite his poem was the university graduate. He stepped to the microphone and said:

Slowly across the desert sand,
Trekking a lonely caravan
Men on camels two by two
Destination - Timbuktu.

The crowd went crazy! No way could the old aboriginal top that, they thought.

The old aboriginal calmly made his way to the microphone and recited;

Me and Tim a huntin' went
Met three whores in a pop up tent
They were three, and we was two
So I bucked one, and Timbuktu

The aboriginal won.

Bass Strait Scallop Fishery Closed

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200511/s1515466.htm>
23 November 2005

Part of the Bass Strait Scallop Fishery is to be closed for at least three years to allow stocks to rebuild.

It is part of the Federal Government's strategy announced today to protect Commonwealth waters from over-fishing.

The \$1.5 million Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery was closed in 2002 and 2003, and has been fished very little since.

Divers Hope to Find More Fish in the Sea

Source: <http://www.theage.com.au/text/articles/2005/12/01/1133422048319.html>
2 December 2005

The blue-throated wrasse has a novel take on gender politics, even for a fish.

"They live in these harems — there's a group of females and they all get bossed around and harassed by one male," Wendy Roberts, co-ordinator of Reef Watch Victoria, said yesterday.

"The females are kept in check until the male disappears and then the next largest female changes sex and turns into a male."

Not all fish species living along the Victorian coast boast such an exotic life cycle. Some, such as the scalyfin, are fastidious homemakers, constantly pulling out seaweed to build their gardens.

For the next 10 days, the wrasse and scalyfin, along with 23 other species, will be counted by 300 scuba divers in the state's first fish census.

Ms Roberts, who organised the count with funding from the Natural Heritage Trust, said that while land animals were often surveyed, Victorian reef fish had been neglected.

"People think of Victoria's water as too cold to enter, but it's not, and what's down there is brilliant ... just a garden of colours," she said. "These fish are unique — they're not found anywhere else — and we should know more about them."

Club and volunteer divers are scanning sites between Portland and Cape Conran, including piers at Rye, Mornington and Portsea and sites off Williamstown, Queenscliff and Warrnambool.

"The divers are like the birdwatchers under the sea," Ms Roberts said. "They will tell us if there's a huge variety or if there's nothing — and if there's nothing, we've got a huge problem."

Anecdotal evidence suggested numbers were declining, she said.

Women in Sport

In early November, VSAG became aware of the Victorian Government program of grants to encourage the increased participation of women in sport. The VSAG committee decided to encourage participation in this program and a number of women members were contacted.

One of our members has made an application for a grant. Jackie Storen has applied for funding to do a leadership course with the Australian Institute of Management and to obtain a boat operator's licence. If chosen, Jackie will also attend a 2-day workshop together with other successful applicants. Best of luck with the application, Jackie!!

VSAG supported Jackie's application. The text of the supporting letter is below. Hopefully, there will be further interest from VSAG members when the grants for 2007 become available.

Projecting a Grand History into the Future: Victorian Sub Aqua Group

Victorian Sub Aqua Group (VSAG) has a long and proud history of developing and promoting SCUBA diving as a not-for-profit sport. First formed in 1954, VSAG currently has in excess of 60 members and schedules club dives within Victoria on most weekends throughout the year.

With many members at or approaching retirement age, VSAG has recognised the need to encourage the personal growth of its younger members, in particular women. VSAG committee is keen to support the development of its members and to provide opportunities for them to apply new skills and gain experience. We desire that our members thrive as recreational divers, and benefit from new skills and confidence in other areas of their personal life.

Some areas where VSAG needs to encourage female and younger members are:

- § Dive Captain – to arrange safe, stimulating dive experiences for club members;*
- § Dive Master – to become competent planners and leaders of underwater activities;*
- § Committee Members – to continue, over the next 50 years, the enviable club record of successfully managing the activities of a large membership;*
- § New Membership – to become role models who attract more younger and female participation in the sport.*

The "2006 Sport Development for Women" grants offer women a superb opportunity for personal growth. VSAG has a strong desire to provide opportunities for its member, Jackie Storen, to develop and apply skills learned under this program. We strongly commend Jackie's application and will do all we can to support her.

Hit and Myth in the Channel Debate

Source: <http://www.theage.com.au/>

28 October 2005

The public deserves more information about channel deepening and the Victorian Government should have it, writes Richard McEncroe.

In a pathetically transparent attempt to again divert the Victorian public from the real problems with the proposed channel deepening project, Neil Coulson of VECCI (Business Age, Opinion 14/10) astonishingly, accuses opponents of the proposed project of evoking myths, seven in fact. It is astonishing because the entire rationale for the project, such as it is, is premised on myths and unknowns. While Neil no doubt struggled to find seven myths he could attribute to the opponents of dredging, containing the proponents' myths to just seven proved challenging for the author.

Where do you start with a project that, despite being Australia's biggest in terms of infrastructure expenditure, is totally unfunded? Moreover, nobody knows when it will be finished, how much damage it will really do to the bay, and, above all, nobody can point to the compelling economic case to do it. Not only have the management, governance and oversight of the project been appallingly sloppy and second rate, but the entire basis for the work is flimsy at best.

The primary myth being put about by the Port of Melbourne Corporation (PoMC) and the Government and now more vigorously by the Victorian Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry is that there is a compelling business case to undertake this project. Two consultants' reports have been commissioned by and prepared for the proponents of the project — not prepared for, or on behalf of, the people of Victoria but paid for and prepared for the PoMC.

These reports, by Drewry and Meyrick, differ by about \$300 million in their estimation of the net cost benefit position after the dredging project. They are both narrowly focused, and costs considered are really only the costs of the project itself. The costs of a lost season or two to businesses dependent on Port Phillip Bay, the potential for property prices to decline as the amenity of the bay declines, and foregone opportunities in areas such as eco-tourism have not been considered. Nobody has even bothered to ascertain the economic value of the bay.

The other great myth put about by the PoMC and others is that the benefits of the project outweigh the costs. This is my favourite howler because of its complete lack of logic. How can one side of an equation be greater than the other when we don't know the size of either? We don't know the financial costs, the environmental costs or the social costs. We know next to nothing on the cost side of the equation.

A lonely woman, aged 70, decided that it was time to get married.

She put an ad in the local paper that read:

HUSBAND WANTED!

MUST BE IN MY AGE GROUP (70's),

MUST NOT BEAT ME,

MUST NOT RUN AROUND ON ME

AND MUST STILL BE GOOD IN BED!

ALL APPLICANTS PLEASE APPLY IN PERSON.

On the second day she heard the doorbell. Much to her dismay, she opened the door to see a gray-haired gentleman sitting in a wheel chair. He had no arms or legs.

The old woman said, "You're not really asking me to consider you, are you?"

Just look at you! You have no legs!"

The old man smiled, "Therefore, I cannot run around on you!"

She snorted, "You don't have any hands either!"

Again the old man smiled, "Nor can I beat you!"

She raised an eyebrow and gazed intently. "Are you still good in bed?"

With that, the old gentleman leaned back, beamed a big broad smile and said, "I rang the doorbell, didn't I?"



Fishing holiday in Nhulunbuy

Gabriel Sekias

I recently had a fishing holiday in Nhulunbuy, I here you ask, where is Nhulunbuy? Nhulunbuy is in East Arnhem Land, Northern Territory about 1000km by Rd East of Darwin, around 650 Km of that is on dirt. It is home to approx. 4000 people making it the Northern Territory's fourth largest town. However, the entire Arnhem Land region has a population of about 20,000 people in an area the size of Texas, USA.

Nhulunbuy is a major service centre for the mining operations and is the administrative and commercial centre for the East Arnhem Region. The Alcan Gove bauxite alumina refinery and mine is located at Nhulunbuy on the Gove Peninsula in the East Arnhem Land region of Australia's Northern Territory. From this remote location Alcan Gove supplies alumina and bauxite for the international aluminium industry. It is regarded as one of the most cost-efficient producers in the highly competitive world alumina market, with a commitment to innovation and excellence. Fortunately for me the flying kangaroo took me there with no fuss, I flew from Melbourne to Cairns and Cairns to Nhulunbuy, around 5.5 hours of flying. Fishing was on the agenda for the week and at our disposal was a 6.25 m boat, all kitted up ready to go.

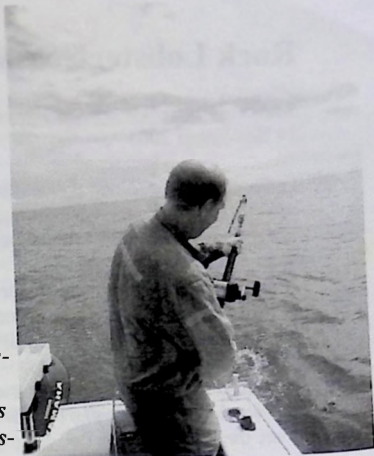


Fishing was the reason for the trip and there was plenty of fish for everyone. The first day was a warm up day to test the boat and motor, all went well, some fish were also caught. The first fish I caught up in the Northern Territory was a Barracuda only a small one so he/she got another life. The real first fish I caught and kept was a Spanish Flag apparently a type of Snapper, which is excellent eating, he/she earned themselves a trip back to Melbourne and is now sitting in my freezer.

There were plenty of large fish for the taking and the most effective way to catch these was



with live bait. The type of fish we caught of live bait included Grey Reef Shark (catch and release), Spanish Mackerel, Giant Trevally, Queen Fish and Jew Fish. All of which earned a place in the freezer next to the Spanish Flag. The weather was hot and humid around 34 degrees and 92% humidity so plenty of sunscreen was required. The smaller fish that we caught included Snapper, Moon Fish, Coral Trout, Mangrove Jack and Cod.



It also happened to be Magpie Goose season while we were there. The magpie goose is a very important part of the lives of Aboriginal people across northern Australia. These birds are abundant on wetlands. They are hunted as a source of food and eggs are harvested from their nests in swamps. They are very tasty to eat and we had some prepared by the locals.



The Top End really is a special part of Australia and deserves a visit at some stage. There are plenty of interesting activities to see and do that cannot be done anywhere else in the world. If you get a chance I fully recommend that you go, I will be back at some stage.

Rock Lobster Season Opens

Source: <http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/>

24 November 2005

The rock lobster season opened for both recreational and commercial fishers on November 15. New figures indicate Victoria's stocks are showing strong signs of building as indicated by an increasing trend in stock numbers, spawning biomass and catch rates.

The rock lobster closed season for males runs from September 15 to November 15 inclusive, and for females from June 1 to November 15. These measures are in place to protect the spawning stock of this valuable recreational and commercial fishery.

More information on rock lobster catch limits, approved fishing methods, marking and closed seasons can be found in the Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide or see the website www.dpi.vic.gov.au/fishing.

Abalone Dates

You can only take abs on these dates—with current fishing license!

All dates inclusive:

1,2 October 2005

29 Oct- 1 Nov 2005

19,20 Nov 2005

3,4 Dec 2005

27 Dec 2005 – 29 January 2006

11- 13 Mar 2006

25,26 Mar 2006

14-18 April 2006

22-25 April 2006

27-28 May 2006

OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Draft Recovery Plan for the Australian Sea Lion

Source: Department of the Environment and Heritage

This Draft Recovery Plan closes for public comment at 5pm, Monday 2 January 2006.

Department of the Environment and Heritage, September 2005

The Australian sea lion (*Neophoca cinerea*) is the only species of sea lion that is endemic to Australia. The species was listed as threatened (vulnerable) under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) on 14 February 2005.

The Draft Recovery Plan addresses the statutory requirements of the EPBC Act. It identifies targeted actions that will assist the recovery of the species. The draft plan is supported by a non-statutory, peer reviewed Issues Paper ([Issues Paper: population status, threats and impediments in growth to Australian sea lion populations \(Neophoca cinerea\)](#)), which describes the biology, threats and conservation status of the species.

Comments should be sent to:

Director, Migratory and Marine Species Section

Department of the Environment and Heritage

GPO Box 787

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Email: recoveryplans@deh.gov.au

Fax: (02) 6274 2455

Further information and to download the Draft Recovery Plan visit:

<http://www.deh.gov.au/biodiversity/threatened/recovery/public-comment/n-cinerea/index.html>



What Lies Beneath?

Mapping Victoria's Marine Wonderland

Source: www.dse.vic.gov.au/coasts

8 December 2005

Although we generally think of Victoria's marine environment as a large place, it is really made up of lots of small places, particularly the seafloor where there is an array of habitats including majestic kelp forests, expansive seagrass meadows and stunning sponge gardens.

Until now, our understanding of location, extent and health of many of these habitats in Victoria has been low. But during November and December marine experts embarked upon a voyage of discovery to map the extent of Victoria's marine habitats in key locations across the State. This includes many of the State's Marine National Parks and Sanctuaries.

The ocean waters off Victoria's coast are highly diverse. Marine habitats are home to over 12,000 species of marine plants and animals. They support a suite of marine industries including Victoria's highly valuable abalone and rock lobster fishing industries, SCUBA diving industry and the recreational fishing sector.

To help ensure that human activities in Victoria's marine environment are well managed, it is important that natural resource managers have adequate knowledge about the location, distribution and health of marine habitats.

The Victorian Government, through Parks Victoria, is investing in the mapping of the State's Marine National Parks and Sanctuaries. This work is being undertaken in partnership with the Coastal CRC, Frugo Survey Pty Ltd and PIRVic.

The Australian Government has invested \$900,000 through the Natural Heritage Trust to undertake mapping in other locations within Victoria's coastal waters. Deakin University is co-ordinating this work through the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority.

Both these projects are working in partnerships to share resources and expertise.

The mapping work will result in a dramatic increase in knowledge about location, spatial distribution, condition and extent of Victoria's marine habitats. This includes awareness raising of marine biodiversity hotspots eg giant kelp communities and sponge garden communities. The information will help guide management decisions and enable informed priority setting for Victoria's marine environment in the future. The project will also improve the knowledge of natural resource managers', amongst them coastal Victoria's Catchments Management Authorities on marine their habitats and associated values in their regions.

For further information E-mail Tim Allen, Australian Government Natural Resource Management Facilitator – Coastcare – at tim.allen@dse.vic.gov.au or phone 9637 8493.

No Dredging in Bay before State Election

Source: <http://www.theage.com.au/text/articles/2005/11/20/1132421545865.html>
21 November 2005

Work on the controversial Port Phillip Bay channel deepening will not start — if it starts at all — until after next year's state election, angering business and unions.

The Bracks Government has confirmed it will take at least another 12 months to finish the project's supplementary environmental effects statement (SEES), meaning Victorians could go to the November 25, 2006, election without knowing if the \$580 million project will be approved.

The most likely starting date for the dredging is autumn 2007. Senior Government sources say work would not begin in summer so as not to disturb tourism and recreational activities in the bay.

"I can't see how you would meet a deadline to start next year," a senior Government figure told *The Age*.

"I can't see how you could finish the SEES, get a panel, have public hearings, get a decision and dredge next winter."

It is believed Dutch dredging firm Royal Boskalis was recently told any channel deepening had to be delayed until after the state poll and that April 2007 was when work would start.

Channel deepening is looming as a negative issue for the Government, which has faced protests from bayside communities fearing environmental damage from dredging.

The Government has also been under pressure to spell out the economic case for the proposal, which would deepen the channel to 14 metres, allowing larger vessels into Melbourne.

The Victorian Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which regards channel deepening as the state's most vital project, urged the Government to start work before 2007.

"If this (delay) is true, it is very disappointing and we have great concerns," VECCI chief executive Neil Coulson said.

"The project must begin next year — Adelaide and Auckland have received approvals for their channel-deepening projects — Melbourne will be the odd man out, the only capital city port in Australia without a 14-metre depth."

The channel deepening was originally to begin in mid-2005 and be completed by 2007.

It was significantly delayed earlier this year when the Government ordered further environmental studies after an independent panel found the Port of Melbourne Corporation's initial environment effects statement lacked basic information.

Trades Hall secretary Brian Boyd said that although he believed the Government was still keen on channel deepening, it ought to "bite the bullet and get on with the project".

Opposition environment spokesman Phil Honeywood said having dredging start after the election suited Labor's electoral purposes.

"They want to ensure there is no backlash from environment groups and recreational fishers that could affect marginal seats along the bay," he said.

Port of Melbourne chief executive Stephen Bradford said the deepening was a complex

project. A schedule of key dates would be announced next year.

"We will not rush the science, which will also be put to peer review providing further reassurance," he said.

He would not comment on when Royal Boskalis' dredge, Queen of the Netherlands, would be required. But the Dutch company would be involved in the new environmental studies.

A Government spokeswoman said Treasurer John Brumby recently told business leaders at least 12 months of work lay ahead before the project was approved. "This is not about when an election is held, it is about environmental responsibility," the spokeswoman said.

The port authority "has been given a clear message by Government that there should not be any unnecessary delays".

The Age emailed Royal Boskalis last Wednesday seeking confirmation that it had been told no work would start until 2007. They did not reply.

The Story So Far ...

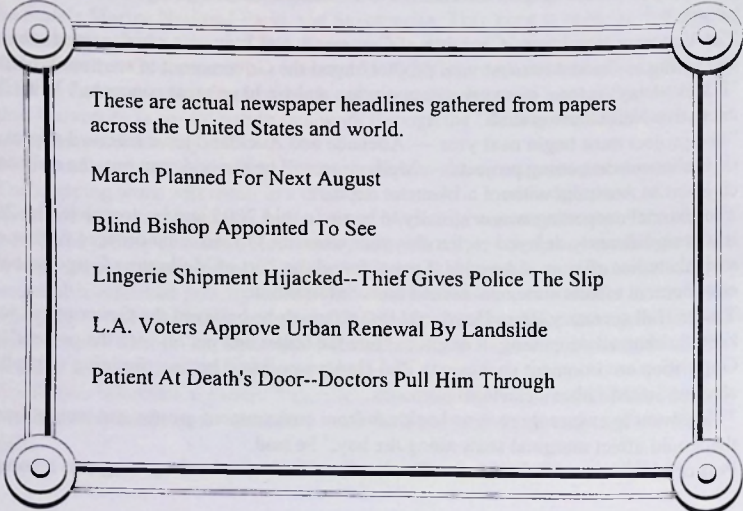
AUGUST 1997 Channel-deepening cost estimated at \$100 million.

DECEMBER 2004 Estimated cost revised to \$550 million.

JULY 11, 2005 Victorian Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry backs trial dredge plan.

AUGUST 2, 2005 State Government consents to a \$32 million Port of Melbourne Corporation trial dredge. Federal Government consent not required.

SEPTEMBER 23, 2005 Dredge, the Queen of the Netherlands, expected to finish trial works by October 2, two weeks ahead of the scheduled finish.



These are actual newspaper headlines gathered from papers across the United States and world.

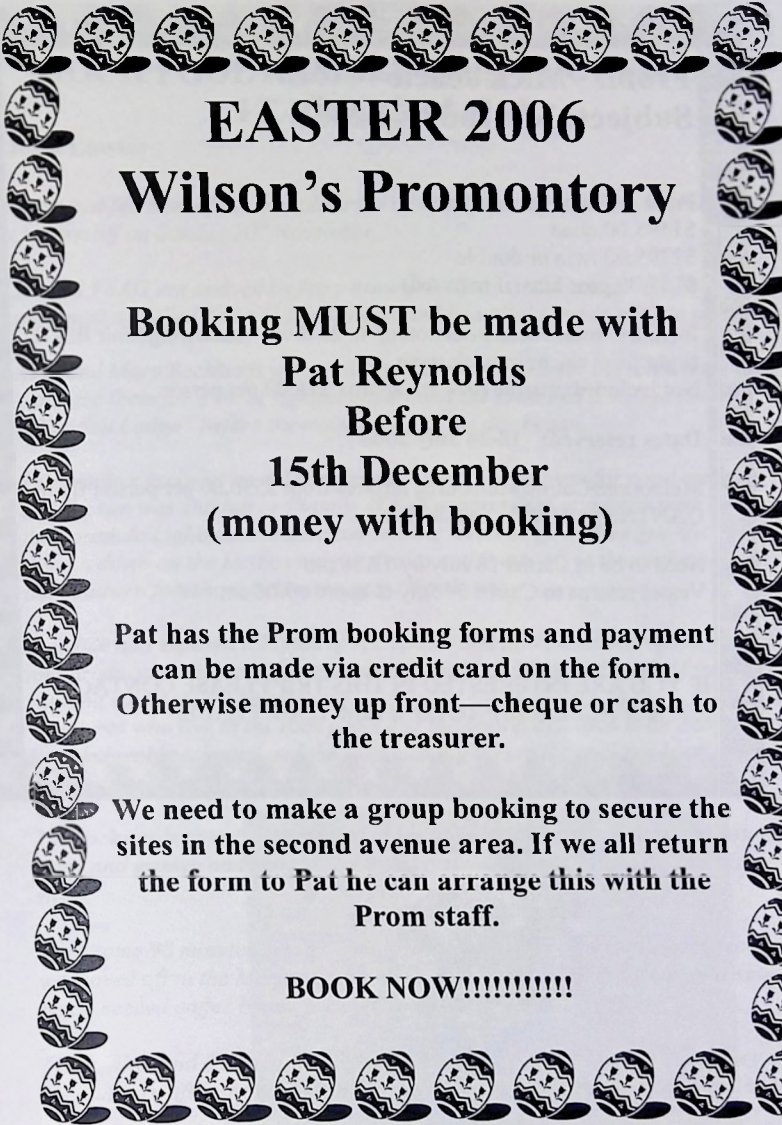
March Planned For Next August

Blind Bishop Appointed To See

Lingerie Shipment Hijacked--Thief Gives Police The Slip

L.A. Voters Approve Urban Renewal By Landslide

Patient At Death's Door--Doctors Pull Him Through



EASTER 2006
Wilson's Promontory

**Booking MUST be made with
Pat Reynolds
Before
15th December
(money with booking)**

**Pat has the Prom booking forms and payment
can be made via credit card on the form.
Otherwise money up front—cheque or cash to
the treasurer.**

**We need to make a group booking to secure the
sites in the second avenue area. If we all return
the form to Pat he can arrange this with the
Prom staff.**

BOOK NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

From: 'Mick Jeacle'
Subject: Nimrod trip 2006

Price ex Cairns per person :
\$1595.00 quad
\$2395.00 twin or double
\$135.00 gear hire (if required)

Includes: meals/accomodation/up to 23 dives - tank/weight/air fills & flight from cairns to cook town

Not included: marine park fee approx \$15.00 per person

Dates reserved: 18-24 July 2006

Melbourne/Cairns/Melbourne airfares from \$530.00 per person flying QANTAS (subject to conditions)

Need to be in Cairns 18 July by 12.30 pm

Vessel returns to Cairns 24 July at approx 9.00 am

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS TRIP PLEASE CONTACT
MICK JEACLE ASAP TOCONFIRM YOUR PLACE.**



Laugh often.

MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE QUENSCLIFF ROCK POOL RAMBLE POINT LONSDALE VSAG SOCIAL DAY.

John Lawler

Plans just fell beautifully into place for this fabulous social day adventure at Queenscliff on Sunday 20th November.

Several VSAG'ers arrived by ferry around 8.45 am and some at 10.45am however most travelled down to this historic and beautiful town in private vehicles.

Alan and Mary Beckhurst were waiting in their vehicles for the ferry bods and collected them for a bit of sightseeing around the town and a visit to their "Boarfish Lodge" before the main events of the day began.

The weather god was on side having answered our prayers for good weather and the sun was shining brilliantly. We all congregated at the car park below the Lonsdale Lighthouse where our marine scientist guide Ben greeted us with the run down on the forthcoming activities and it was off to the rock pools on the Southern foreshore below the great lighthouse.

Low tide had exposed all types of rock pools and into these Ben would fossick and produce a plethora of marine animals and shellfish and gave a fascinating running commentary on all these

Creatures who live in the rock pools and the seaweeds....Ben is an extremely knowledgeable scientist and the stories being told at the rock pools on the various fish and shellfish and how they live and breed were fascinating!

The rock pools at very low tide are a beautiful sight, rocks covered in lush seaweed and growth and pools filled with crystal clear sea water. An amazing sight!

After some 90 minutes on this ramble, our time at the rock pools was over and we moved off to the Marine Discovery Centre, with some of us taking a short much needed coffee break at Point Lonsdale village.

Mary, Alan and Ben again greeted the VSAG'ers at the Marine Discovery Centre and then after the mandatory washing of the hands at the entrance, the tour

began. This centre is a fascinating look into the lives of the marine world by seeing the fish live and at peace in simulated habitats.

There is a "touch pool" where visitors can pick up various objects and feel them live, placing them back in the exact same position as before.

Whilst Ben had one group listening intently to his excellent run down, Alan had the attention of another group as he explaining some finer details on the life and breeding of the Southern Rock Lobster and whales to mention just two topics.

Some 90 minutes was spent in this centre and soon the tour was at an end. We all came away from both the Rock Pool Ramble and the Marine Discovery Centre very much the wiser from the informative and professional presentations by Alan and Ben.

Our next stop was the Victoria Hotel in Queenscliff for our lunch ...it was excellent!

Our thanks to Alan and Mary for making the arrangements with the MDC and Ben for this day.

Thanks also to Parks Victoria who sponsored the day with a donation of \$150, arranged by Alan Beckhurst.

Finally thanks to all the VSAG'ers, friends and families who enthusiastically supported this VSAG Social Day.

Those who attended were:

Alan and Mary Beckhurst, Barry and Mary Truscott, Trevor, Cathy and Sarah Williams, Mick and Annie Jeacle, John Goulding and Carol Lovell, Bev Farmer and Friend, Alan, Jude, and Jackie Storen, Pat Reynolds, Bob and Bev Thornhill, The Epstein Family, John and Yvonne Lawler and Dallas Kleish.

JL

VSAG Xmas Party—25 November 2005

Alan Storen

On the 25th of November a very select group of VSAGers met at Milanos to enjoy the evening and the company. Those present were: Alan and Jude Storen, Chris Storen, Jackie Storen, Kathie Pedlow, Paul and Tony Tipping, Barry and Marie Truscott, John and Yvonne Lawler, Bruce and Dawn Dart, Andy and Gail Mastrowicz, Don and Nikki Abel, Priya Cardinaletti and Pat Reynolds. What we lacked in numbers we made up for with quality.

We started with Thai style pumpkin soup with coconut cream, this was followed by Traditional Christmas Roast dinner – baked turkey, pork and ham served with all the trimmings, .and to finish we had sticky date pudding with butterscotch sauce and double cream and freshly brewed coffee /tea with minted chocolates. To state that this was fantastic would be an understatement – the empty plates going back to the kitchen were testament to the talents of the chef.

The raffle prizes were won by:

*Tony Tipping – the **SONAR** wetsuit*

*Paul Tipping – the Drizabone from **Chris Llewellyn***

*Priya Cardinaletti the Whip from **Chris Llewellyn** (watch out John!!)*

Priya Cardinaletti the Hamper

*Nikki Abel the Mystery Prize (jocks and sox) donated by **Gabriel Sekias***

The Kris Kringle completed the night's activities (well those at Milanos anyway! Not sure of those that went on to dance the night away at other venues or what other nocturnal activities took place!)

A big thank you to those involved in the organisation and to those that organised and/or donated prizes. I know the Storens had a great evening and from comments heard I am sure all others had a great time. Please make sure that you mark you diaries early next year so that you will not miss out on a fantastic, most enjoyable evening.

Draft Boating CAP on Public Exhibition

Source: <http://www.ccb.vic.gov.au/Boating%20CAP.htm>
Public Exhibition: 15 November 2005 to 31 January 2006

The Central Coastal Board has prepared a draft Coastal Action Plan (CAP) for recreational boating in the central coastal region, in accordance with section 22 of the Coastal Management Act 1995.

The purpose of the Boating CAP is to provide a regional policy basis for the planning and management of recreational boating facilities in Port Phillip and Western Port. It sets a vision for 2030, and provides short and medium term guidance for public and private investment to support boating, whilst recognising other important coastal uses and the need to protect the coast for future generations.

The draft Boating CAP has been developed through extensive consultation with industry, community and Local and State Government. Written submissions on the draft Boating CAP are invited from all interested groups and individuals.

Further information and to access the draft Boating CAP and supporting documents: <http://www.ccb.vic.gov.au/Boating%20CAP.htm>

Mornington Peninsula Shark Attack 'First in 7 Years'

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200511/s1517305.htm>
26 November 2005

Life Saving Victoria says a shark attack off the Mornington Peninsula is the state's first for at least seven years.

Tom Burke, 18, escaped serious injury in the attack off Flinders Beach about 6:00pm AEDT last night.

He was dragged from his surfboard and had his leg bitten by a 1.5 metre shark.

He was taken to hospital and released a short time later.

Mr Burke says surfers are aware that the area is a shark breeding ground, and it is up to individuals to assess the risk of using an unpatrolled beach.

"You can't tell people what to do, can you?" he said.

"It's up to them, if they want to catch a wave or whatever.

"It's all good fun, but it's always in the back of your mind I suppose.

"What are they going to do? It's in the water, they're in the water. I don't think I'll be surfing much more."

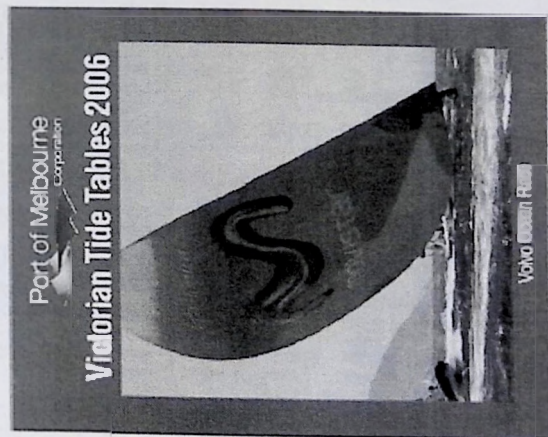
Life Saving Victoria's Chris Stevens says the Western Port area is a shark breeding ground, but swimmers and surfers should not be unduly alarmed.

"It is a known area for sharks, but for shark-attacks, we don't have records that say that they are common in that area," he said.

"I have spent a lot of time at Phillip Island and am more than happy to go for a swim at Phillip Island without having to worry what's in the water."

VICTORIAN TIDE TABLES 2006 - NOW AVAILABLE

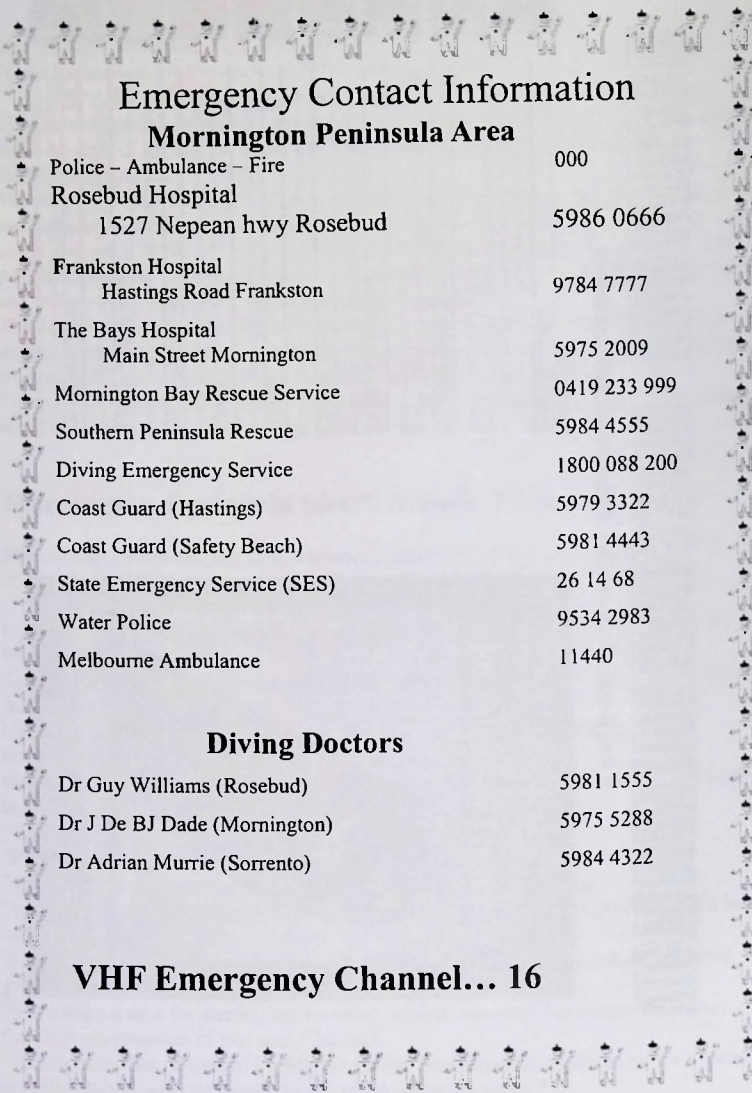
Rec Retail \$8.25 inc GST, discounts for bulk purchases



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Contact PoMC on (03) 9612 3512



Emergency Contact Information

Mornington Peninsula Area

Police – Ambulance – Fire	000
Rosebud Hospital 1527 Nepean hwy Rosebud	5986 0666
Frankston Hospital Hastings Road Frankston	9784 7777
The Bays Hospital Main Street Mornington	5975 2009
Mornington Bay Rescue Service	0419 233 999
Southern Peninsula Rescue	5984 4555
Diving Emergency Service	1800 088 200
Coast Guard (Hastings)	5979 3322
Coast Guard (Safety Beach)	5981 4443
State Emergency Service (SES)	26 14 68
Water Police	9534 2983
Melbourne Ambulance	11440

Diving Doctors

Dr Guy Williams (Rosebud)	5981 1555
Dr J De BJ Dade (Mornington)	5975 5288
Dr Adrian Murrie (Sorrento)	5984 4322

VHF Emergency Channel... 16

PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

LAT 38° 18' LONG 144° 37'

TIME ZONE +1000

TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS

DECEMBER - 2005

Time m	Time m	Time m	Time m
1 0454 0.75	0826 1.42	0108 1.48	0647 1.29
1 1042 1.11	1159 0.56	17 0634 0.63	25 1140 0.37
TH 1957 0.22	FR 1227 1.22	SA 1229 1.19	SU 1816 1.10
	FR 2315 0.25	SA 1539 0.29	SU 2345 0.51
2 0014 1.39	0610 1.35	0153 1.50	0622 1.24
2 0652 0.71	1158 0.32	0719 0.58	1225 0.34
FR 1187 1.14	SA 1258 1.20	SU 1516 1.20	MO 1916 1.11
● 1745 0.13		SU 1923 0.29	
3 0101 1.48	0609 0.41	0232 1.49	0030 0.51
3 0636 0.65	1058 1.31	0502 0.53	0701 1.19
SA 1230 1.08	SU 1254 0.29	MO 1559 1.20	TU 1307 0.31
● 1832 0.00	SU 2050 1.25	MO 2305 0.11	TU 2023 1.14
4 0147 1.54	0103 0.54	0509 1.47	0125 0.71
4 0721 0.90	0749 1.20	0543 0.50	0747 1.15
SU 1312 1.22	MO 1354 0.25	TL 1439 1.20	WE 1356 0.28
1912 0.02	MO 2114 1.25	MO 2049 0.14	2130 1.19
5 0232 1.50	0627 0.65	0342 1.44	0230 0.78
5 0802 0.54	0845 1.21	0921 0.47	0841 1.11
MO 1400 1.26	TU 1458 0.22	WE 1519 1.18	TH 1493 0.23
MO 2004 0.00	TU 2221 1.31	WE 2120 0.19	TH 2238 1.20
6 0316 1.55	0321 0.71	0414 1.40	0345 0.81
6 0845 0.49	0514 1.19	0358 0.44	0942 1.09
TU 1452 1.27	WE 1651 0.17	TH 1559 1.15	FR 1500 0.18
2050 0.02	WE 2322 1.39	TH 2155 0.25	FR 2341 1.33
7 0400 1.52	0457 0.72	0444 1.37	0500 0.78
7 0800 0.45	1042 1.15	1034 0.42	1046 1.10
WE 1540 1.27	TH 1659 0.15	FR 1640 1.14	SA 1705 0.11
2137 0.08		FR 2229 0.33	●
8 0442 1.47	0018 1.45	0515 1.33	
8 0410 0.40	0542 0.65	1110 0.40	
TH 1530 1.25	FR 1158 1.15	SA 1725 1.12	
● 2225 0.17	● 1751 0.10	● 2304 0.42	

© National Tidal Facility Australia - Finders University of South Australia
 Times Stated are Eastern Standard Time
 Add one hour to the times stated during daylight saving

Port Phillip Heads - Tidal Streams

LAT 38° 18'

LONG 144° 37'

TIME ZONE +1000

Times of Start of Flood and Ebb (Black) Walks. Add one hour for Official Summer Time.

DECEMBER - 2005

Time Start	Time Start	Time Start	Time Start
1 0235 ebb	9 0113 flood	17 0407 ebb	25 0139 flood
0828 flood	0835 ebb	0950 flood	0811 ebb
TH 2006 flood	FR 1413 flood	SA 1420 ebb	SU 1451 flood
	FR 1549 ebb	SA 2139 flood	2045 ebb
2 0329 ebb	10 0155 flood	0449 ebb	26 0215 flood
0923 flood	0357 ebb	1039 flood	0837 ebb
FR 1315 ebb	SA 1514 flood	SU 1512 ebb	MO 1536 flood
● 2053 flood	2101 ebb	2219 flood	2152 ebb
3 0415 ebb	11 0243 flood	0528 ebb	27 0557 flood
1003 flood	0513 ebb	1110 flood	0804 ebb
SA 1410 ebb	SU 1619 flood	MO 1901 ebb	TU 1928 flood
SA 2138 flood	SU 2224 ebb	MO 2250 flood	2321 ebb
4 0459 ebb	12 0340 flood	0601 ebb	28 0350 flood
1041 flood	0552 ebb	1152 flood	0935 ebb
SU 1500 ebb	MO 1723 flood	TU 1647 ebb	WE 1725 flood
2232 flood	2352 ebb	2531 flood	
5 0541 ebb	13 0459 flood	0630 ebb	29 0505 ebb
1115 flood	1039 ebb	1237 flood	0505 flood
MC 1551 ebb	TU 1623 flood	WE 1732 ebb	TH 1916 ebb
2306 flood			1926 flood
6 0625 ebb	14 0113 ebb	0204 flood	30 0211 ebb
1153 flood	0634 flood	0657 ebb	0726 flood
TU 1845 ebb	WE 1151 ebb	TH 1500 flood	FR 1114 ebb
2345 flood	WE 1919 flood	1510 flood	FR 1927 flood
7 0658 ebb	15 0221 ebb	0330 flood	31 0311 ebb
1233 flood	0350 flood	0731 ebb	0845 flood
WE 1743 ebb	TH 1230 ebb	FR 1536 flood	SA 1223 ebb
	2019 flood	1901 ebb	● 2023 flood
8 0031 flood	16 0318 ebb	0106 flood	
0732 ebb	0604 flood	0745 ebb	
TH 1320 flood	FR 1329 ebb	SA 1411 flood	
● 1645 ebb	● 2057 flood	1349 ebb	

© National Tidal Facility Australia - Finders University of South Australia

PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

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

JANUARY - 2006

Time m	Time m	Time m	Time m
1 08:58 1:41	09:26 1:36	09:02 1:56	25 06:18 1:23
SU 11:58 1:44	MO 19:46 1:27	TU 19:42 1:15	WE 12:26 0:19
12:55 0:05		19:02 0:10	
2 08:50 1:47	09:42 0:55	09:40 0:40	26 05:47 0:07
MO 12:59 1:25	TU 13:36 0:14	WE 18:26 1:17	TH 13:09 0:16
15:00 0:01	20:49 1:27	20:06 0:18	TH 20:43 1:19
3 08:47 1:51	09:34 0:65	09:19 1:40	01:41 0:75
TH 12:54 1:26	WE 18:26 1:17	TH 18:07 1:18	FR 19:03 1:13
15:00 0:01	20:49 1:27	21:03 0:22	FR 21:55 1:20
4 08:33 1:53	09:27 0:72	09:47 1:30	28 03:48 0:20
WE 14:46 1:30	TH 15:21 0:19	FR 21:38 0:27	SA 15:12 0:16
20:42 0:03	22:54 1:28		SU 23:08 1:24
5 08:45 1:55	09:51 0:75	04:15 1:32	29 04:09 0:29
TH 15:59 1:25	FR 16:20 0:19	SA 15:26 1:20	SU 16:30 0:15
21:51 0:10	23:54 1:31		
6 04:27 1:50	05:00 0:72	04:42 1:36	30 00:13 1:21
TH 10:42 0:24	FR 11:06 1:09	SA 17:07 1:21	MO 11:55 1:15
FR 16:53 1:32	SA 17:27 0:18	SU 22:45 0:41	MO 17:44 0:09
22:19 0:15			
7 05:59 1:46	06:49 1:54	05:12 1:32	31 01:09 1:39
TH 11:00 1:15	FR 12:11 0:57	SA 11:17 0:21	MO 06:52 0:59
SA 17:33 1:31	SU 12:04 1:31	MO 17:51 1:21	TU 12:45 1:21
22:59 0:21	SU 15:20 0:19	MO 23:22 0:46	TU 18:47 0:06
8 05:49 1:41	06:30 1:37	05:41 1:22	
TH 11:47 0:14	FR 12:05 0:50	SA 11:50 0:21	
SU 18:59 1:29	MO 12:00 1:12	TU 18:42 1:20	
23:53 0:43	MO 15:08 0:16		

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National Tidal Centre
Add one hour to the times stated during daylight saving time

PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

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

FEBRUARY - 2006

Time m	Time m	Time m	Time m
1 01:52 1:45	01:01 0:62	01:58 1:50	25 01:04 0:70
WE 07:30 0:44	TH 07:23 1:15	FR 07:23 1:15	SA 07:10 1:14
19:44 0:06	TH 19:40 0:15	FR 19:47 1:26	SA 19:28 0:10
2 08:42 1:49	01:56 0:63	02:15 1:37	26 02:07 0:74
TH 08:22 0:29	FR 08:18 1:11	SA 08:18 0:25	MO 08:22 1:09
TH 14:44 1:38	FR 14:59 0:24	SA 14:33 1:50	SU 14:36 0:19
20:34 0:09	FR 22:19 1:17	SA 21:21 0:32	SU 22:35 1:19
3 09:22 1:51	03:05 0:74	03:43 1:37	27 03:30 0:73
FR 10:39 1:43	SA 09:25 1:05	FR 09:48 0:20	MO 09:54 1:08
FR 15:39 1:43	SA 15:50 0:25	SU 16:10 1:32	MO 16:01 0:21
21:22 0:10	SA 23:25 1:19	SU 21:54 0:37	MO 23:42 1:25
4 04:02 1:50	04:50 0:73	04:12 1:35	28 04:56 0:53
SA 09:58 0:07	FR 16:58 1:02	MO 19:17 0:17	TU 19:27 0:20
SA 15:33 1:44	SU 17:01 0:25	MO 19:40 1:33	TU 17:27 0:20
23:07 0:24		MO 23:28 0:42	
5 04:40 1:47	06:25 1:21	04:41 1:32	
SU 10:42 0:02	MO 05:51 0:67	FR 05:10 1:30	
SU 17:28 1:42	MO 11:45 1:04	TU 17:37 0:32	
23:01 0:34	MO 16:39 0:26	MO 23:02 0:48	
6 05:17 1:42	01:14 1:26	05:12 1:28	
MO 06:12 0:02	MO 06:54 0:55	MO 11:17 0:13	
MO 18:23 1:37	TU 12:49 1:05	WE 15:12 1:28	
23:32 0:44	TU 18:55 0:24	WE 23:58 0:55	
7 06:56 1:36	01:50 1:30	05:44 1:23	
WE 12:02 0:05	FR 05:59 0:49	MO 06:30 1:18	
TU 19:12 1:31	WE 15:58 0:24	FR 19:33 1:14	
8 09:15 0:59	02:20 1:25	00:17 0:63	
WE 09:26 1:27	TH 02:15 0:40	MO 06:30 1:18	
WE 18:52 0:11	TH 14:17 1:20	FR 12:34 0:13	
20:15 1:26	TH 20:15 0:26	FR 20:04 1:19	

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National Tidal Centre
Add one hour to the times stated during daylight saving time

ADD ONE HOUR for DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

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AUSTRALIA, SOUTH COAST - THE RIP 2006

Lat 35° 16' Long 154° 37'

Tidal Stream: Predictions (Rates in Knots)

Fusive (+) Direction Fused Negative (-) Direction Ebb

Time Zone -1000

JANUARY

	Slack Time	Maximum Time	Rate		Slack Time	Maximum Time	Rate
1	0029	0630	6.5	16	0425	2711	-2.1
SU	0941	1211	1.8	MO	1027	1245	2.4
	1332	1659	-5.2		1532	1553	-1.6
	2119				2227		
2	0119	0719	7.0	17	0524	2751	-2.0
MC	1022	1302	2.6	TU	1105	1332	2.9
	1440	1750	-5.6		1559	1939	-4.6
	2209				2245		
3	0208	0803	7.2	18	0534	2826	-3.7
TU	1102	1351	3.3	WE	1139	1417	3.2
	1548	1845	-5.7		1645	2016	-4.4
	2236				2320		
4	0255	0845	7.1	19	0620	2900	-3.9
WE	1145	1439	4.0	TH	1211	1502	3.5
	1556	2026	-5.6		1730	2054	-4.2
	2340				2351		
5	0341	0925	6.8	20	0623	2929	-4.1
TH	1230	1531	4.4	FR	1241	1545	3.7
	1759	2117	-5.4		1812	2129	-4.0
6	0322	0428	6.3	21	0620	2410	5.1
FR	0703	1005	-5.2	SA	0845	0958	-4.4
	1319	1634	4.7		1311	1529	3.8
	1900	2206	-4.2		1854	2205	-3.8
7	0103	0510	5.6	22	0648	2433	4.7
SA	0733	1045	-5.3	SU	0707	1027	-4.6
	1410	1745	4.9		1342	1711	4.0
	2000	2253	-4.3		1935	2245	-2.6
8	0144	0551	4.7	23	0118	2458	4.1
SU	0803	1123	-5.4	MO	0729	1057	-4.8
	1502	1844	5.1		1415	1754	4.1
	2106	2341	-3.6		2027	2328	-3.2
9	0227	0630	3.8	24	0151	0522	3.5
MC	0835	1200	-5.4	WE	0751	1121	-4.9
	1554	1939	5.1		1453	1639	4.2
	2218				2123		
10	0032	0032	-2.9	25	0014	-2.7	
TU	0315	0623	3.0	WE	0228	2546	2.8
	0911	1238	-5.3		0815	1106	-5.0
	1547	2034	5.1		1536	1930	4.3
	2331				2237		
11	0131	0131	-2.3	26	0104	-2.2	
WE	0415	0709	2.3	TH	0311	0514	2.1
	0950	1328	-5.3		0845	1148	-5.1
	1743	2132	5.1		1628	2027	4.4
12	0045	0241	-2.0	27	0029	0203	-1.6
TH	0533	0850	1.7	FR	0434	0702	1.4
	1037	1430	-4.8		0923	1245	-5.0
	1841	2235	5.3		1733	2137	4.6
13	0154	0403	-2.0	28	0134	0312	-1.3
FR	0719	1000	1.9	SA	0525	0833	0.9
	1134	1535	-4.5		1019	1408	-4.8
	1940	2336	5.9		1848	2258	5.1
14	0255	0529	-2.3	29	0244	2448	-1.4
SA	0643	1102	1.6	WE	0751	1025	0.9
	1243	1641	-4.4		1145	1531	-1.8
	2034				2031		
15	0037	0037	5.8	30	0025	0025	5.8
SU	0346	0824	-2.7	MO	0325	0611	-2.1
	0941	1157	1.9		0909	1147	1.8
	1357	1800	-4.5		1315	1535	-5.0
	2123				2105		
31	0048	0101	6.3		0101	0101	6.3
TU	1020	1247	2.9		1443	1735	-5.1
	1443	1735	-5.1		2220		
	2220						

FEBRUARY

	Slack Time	Maximum Time	Rate		Slack Time	Maximum Time	Rate
1	0452	0748	-3.8	16	0457	2907	-3.8
WE	1045	1343	4.0	TH	1110	1423	3.8
	1900	1938	-5.4		1644	2005	-4.1
	2245				2308		
2	0525	0825	-4.7	17	0521	2935	-4.2
TH	1129	1440	5.0	FR	1139	1503	4.4
	1705	2023	-5.5		1725	2029	-4.1
	2331				2338		
3	0555	0903	-5.4	18	0544	3018	-5.1
FR	1215	1540	5.6	SA	1208	1529	4.8
	1805	2108	-5.4		1805	2112	-4.2
4	0613	0406	6.1	19	0603	3044	4.8
SA	1331	1839	6.2	SU	0603	2020	-3.9
	1902	2152	-5.6		1238	1614	5.1
					1845	2147	-4.1
5	0652	0445	5.5	20	0633	3109	4.5
SU	0959	1019	-5.3	MO	0627	1021	-3.2
	1347	1731	6.3		1309	1646	5.2
	2000	2236	-4.5		1926	2225	-4.0
6	0130	0519	4.7	21	0102	2435	4.1
MC	0730	1057	-5.2	TU	0647	1022	-5.2
	1432	1822	6.1		1342	1725	5.3
	2057	2321	-3.8		2011	2305	-3.7
7	0209	0542	3.9	22	0133	2503	3.5
SA	0801	1131	-5.9	WE	0711	0938	-3.2
	1517	1911	5.5		1416	1805	6.1
	2155				2100	2345	-3.1
8	0251	0949	4.2	23	0208	2529	2.9
WE	0834	1205	-5.5	TH	0738	1025	-3.4
	1503	2041	5.6		1457	1853	4.8
	2258				2202		
9	0300	0100	-2.5	24	0244	2445	2.4
MC	0339	0625	2.4	FR	0810	1115	-5.4
	0911	1246	-4.9		1545	1949	4.5
	1554	2055	4.5		2318		
10	0303	0207	-2.0	25	0331	2527	1.8
FR	0441	0729	1.7	SA	0852	1215	-5.1
	0955	1345	-4.3		1648	2100	4.3
	1542	2157	4.3				
11	0115	0318	-1.8	26	0042	2220	-1.4
SA	0523	0907	1.2	MC	0442	0747	1.2
	1054	1503	-3.8		0958	1335	-4.7
	1904	2304	4.4		1810	2225	4.5
12	0221	0452	-1.9	27	0156	2350	-1.4
MC	0817	1036	1.2	MO	0644	1003	1.3
	1219	1621	-3.6		1139	1511	-4.4
	2012				1940	2337	5.0
13	0315	0911	4.8	28	0251	2543	-2.2
MC	0821	1144	1.7	TU	0835	1133	2.4
	1355	1758	-3.7		1327	1624	-4.3
	2107				2032		
14	0357	0106	5.1		0357	0658	-2.9
TU	1005	1244	2.4		1504	1891	-4.0
	2154						
15	0430	0149	5.4		0430	0737	-3.4
WE	1040	1337	3.2		1505	1934	-1.1
	2233						

ADD ONE HOUR for DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

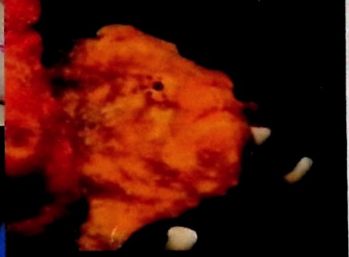
VSAG Meeting and Dive Calendar

Dive Date	Location	Dive Captain	Phone	Meeting Point	Time
December					
15	Social Meeting at Bells - come and join us for a xmas drink.			Bells	8pm
18	Local diving	Alan S	9803 3573	Sorrento	9am
26 Dec-9 Jan Christmas Trip—Eden See Pat for details FOR LOCAL DIVING BOOK IN WITH John Lawler					
January					
15	Phillip Island	John Lawler	0414 922 916	Newhaven	9am
19	General Meeting			Bells	8pm
22	C New (to VSAG) diver day—help needed Alan Storen 9803 3573		Ring Trevor Williams	9372 6189 or	
26	Australia Day Dive	Alan Storen	9803 3573	tba	tba
29	Local Dives	<i>cancelled</i> John Lawler	9589 4020	Sorrento	9am
February					
1	Lawn Bowls Night -	CANCELLED Alan Storen	9803 3573	Elsternwick	6pm
4	Night dive—	Mornington Pat Reynolds	9789 1092	Mornington Pier	7pm
5	Catch and Cook	Priya	9758 8423	Rye	tba
12	Local diving	XMAS DIVER Alan S	9803 3573	tba	tba
16	General Meeting			Bells	8pm
19	Local Dives	Alan S	9803 3573	Sorrento	9am
25	Blues Train Book with Priya 0414 310 727 CAN CANCELLED				
26	Phillip Island	Gerry DeVries	9725 2381	Newhaven	9am

ANY TIME Interested in a shore dive (Saturday, etc) or a night dive (shore or boat). Ring Alan Storen on 9803 3573 (H). Free gear hire is available—wetsuits depending on size!

Cathy Williams winning the first prize at Wilsons Prom SDFV Melbourne Cup Weekend BBQ

Well Done!





Tony Tipping, AJ Storen, Alan Storen, Jackie Storen and Trevor Williams at Pope's Eye
[report inside]
[Photo by John Lawler]

A successful day at Phillip Island
Alan Storen, Jackie Storen and John Lawler
[photo by Trevor Williams]



Bagged out on abs also
Alan Storen, Jackie Storen and Trevor Williams
[photo by John Lawler]