

# FATHOMS

**AUGUST- SEPTEMBER 2006**

VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP



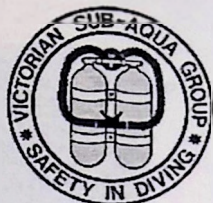
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# FATHOMS



*Official Journal of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group*

*In this August -September issue...*

*Committee are listed on Page 6*

<b>Article</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Page</b>
Editorial	Alan Storen	4
Winter Diving	John Lawler	7
Picture on page 8	Rob Kirk	8-9
Liveaboard Diving	Mick Jeacle	10
Cairns 2006—The don'ts	Charlie Brincat	16
Nimrod trip report	Jim Cutler	17
Deco Stops	Mick Jeacle	18
Osprey Reef	Charlie Brincat	22
Solo Diving	Alan Storen	25
The Troubadour	Trevor Williams	28
Abalone Regs	Alan Storen	31.33
Dear Alcohol	Robin Woods	32
Emergency contacts		34
Tide Tables		35-37
VSAG Dive Calendar		38

**VSAG General Meetings**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday in the month

Bell's Hotel  
157 Moray Street (cnr Coventry Street)  
South Melbourne, 8.00 pm  
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**Editorial Submissions to:**

PHOTOS: A team effort from Trevor Williams, Mick Jeacle, Chris Llewellyn and Alan Storen.  
Page 22—Charlie Brincat



## Editorial

*With winter almost gone it is time to get the gear out and get it serviced for the coming year. For many it should also mean getting the body checked – how long since your last dive medical?*

*I have just returned from over 3 weeks in the glorious North, aboard the Nimrod Explorer and then a week in Cairns and a week in Port Douglas. Some great diving and you will read more about the Nimrod trip in other articles in this magazine. Like they say "Diving is living – everything else is surface interval!"*

*I completed a Solo diving course on the trip and Trevor Williams completed a Nitrox course. I have written about my course in the magazine so I will not expand on it here. I think all those on the trip had a great time and those that were not members of VSAG – two Americans (father and son), a couple from the UK/US (husband and wife) and two other young guys – one from ACT and one from NSW enjoyed our company. There was some concern when Mick announced a TOGA party for the last night and the only woman on the trip, apart from two female crew members, quickly renamed it 'Totally Obnoxious Group of Aussies'. I am sure this was not meant to be a reflection on any of the VSAG boys.*

*Your committee has four vacancies for the upcoming year and nominations are due to the secretary by the end of the month (August), please nominate if you are interested in a position – your support is vital to keep the club active.*

*If you have not paid your subs for the 2006/2007 year please do so asap as we are running to a tight budget. They were due 1 July. After this month non-financial members will not be receiving a copy of Fathoms. If you want an extension due to any circumstances please notify the Treasurer.*

*We have several dives and activities planned between now and xmas so please try to fit one or two or all in your diary. Wilsons Prom for the Melbourne Cup weekend is on again and, while the club booking will have been made, see Pat if you want details. Our Christmas Party is planned for a 'spit roast in a park' and planning is almost complete. Christmas trip to Eden is booked and Pat needs the deposits soon. Our trip next year is planned for Palau and expressions of interest are needed asap. It should be a great trip and Pat has the details.*

*'Keep blowin bubbles'  
Alan*

PLEASE NOTE NEW WEB SITE DETAILS:

**<http://members.iinet.net.au/~vsag/>**

AND

New POSTAL ADDRESS on front cover

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

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Committee meets 2nd Thursday of the  
month at: Leighoah Hotel  
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ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

## WINTER DIVING....OR “How long has this been going on!!!)

It seems the passion from some VSAG'ers for Saturday dives has almost dissolved as it was just three hardy souls who booked in for the “exploratory dive” on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June out of Rye.

Alan Storen, Mike Kakafitis and myself arrived around 9.30am at the Rye ramp facing a day of a new dive area.

Some months ago whilst talking about dive sites, Bob Thornhill, who has a very broad knowledge of dive locations in and around the great Port Phillip Bay, made mention of “Rosebud Reef”



None of the divers on the boat on that occasion were aware of a reef off Rosebud. Through Bob and his son Cam we were given the new site GPS marks and this was our dive target for today.

The conditions on the bay as we motored out through the channel were quite good and the wind was around 10 knts from the west..quite comfortable.

The trip to the site was quick as distance was only around 6kms from the pier. The reef came up very quickly and sharply on the sounder and was located at a depth of just 20feet.

Mick and I got the first dive and when we found the reef in a flash we were a bit stunned..it was beautiful! The soft corals, fish life, brilliant colors had us both looking at each in appreciation of the aquatic wonderland...amazing.

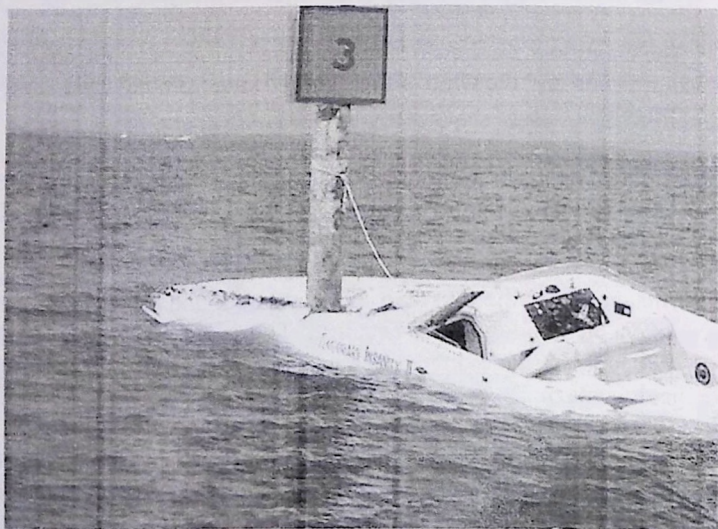
We moved against a very slight incoming tidal current and covered around 250 meters before turning back to let the current carry us home in a leisurely drift.

Alan did a solo dive and he came back with the same appreciation of the reef..once back on the back we asked “how long has this been going on”

From this point on the new dive location will become a part of the upcoming VSAG dive calendar..and for sure!

JL.

*Do not forget Palau 2007—see Pat*





## Picture on page 8

It beggars belief really. Sure, it's funny, but I reckon it's just not physically possible for this to happen. I reckon some bloody propellor-head wiz-kid's pasted an image of the pole in there - it's a joke photo, surely.

If a boat were to hit a pole nose-on like that, I reckon the forces of physics would either deflect the boat off the pole or make the boat pitch over and hit the pole on its back. You'd still do some damage, but you wouldn't carve a neat straight slice through it like that!

Murrumbena High School wasn't big on physics in the 70's (or any other subject for that matter) so I can't fully explain my line of thinking here, but the boat would be going, what, 30 or 40 knots? That pole has allegedly carved through the hull, what, 10 feet or so, if that? So, according to the image, the boat would have gone from 30 knots to a dead stop in 10 feet. You'd then have all that water surging forward from the wake and flood the boat - that's one thing I do agree with in the picture.

For this to happen in the real world, it just seems to me that it could only happen if (a) the boat hits absolutely nose-on, (b) the boat is perfectly balanced with a central centre of gravity and with no extra weight on either side, and (c) the surge of water from the wake hits the stern square-on and floods the stern evenly?

So, surely it's impossible? I dunno...it just looks suss. Anyone got any theories so I can sleep at night?

And, before you ask, NO. I'm NOT going to try it in the Edsel!

Cheers,

Rob Kirk

## LIVEBOARD DIVING – THE ONLY WAY TO GO

By Mick Jeacle

*It had been some 17 years since I had experienced the pleasures of liveboard diving in the Solomon Islands. On that occasion, I was joined by Barry Truscott, Alex Talay, Igor Chernishov, Anthony Finnegan and Pat Reynolds on Brian Bailey's yacht Wyuna, travelling from Gizo to Honiara, and diving some 13 WW2 shipwrecks along the way. Without doubt, this had always been my favourite dive trip, and one that I will never forget.*

*Since then, I have been keen to once again experience a liveboard trip, with a few mates from VSAG, and some months ago a trip to far north Queensland was planned. Whilst the destination plays a big part, the real value of such a trip is the camaraderie experienced, and the ease of diving, enabling one to dive 4 or 5 times per day. This could not be achieved otherwise.*



*After three nights in Cairns, we were transported to the airport to board a small plane for a low level flight to Cooktown, where we were to board the Nimrod Explorer for 5 days and 6 nights, diving the Ribbon Reefs, and hopefully Osprey Reef. After a few schooners at the Cooktown pub, we reported to the boat and were soon settled into our cabins and enjoying*

*our first meal prepared by Karen, the boat cook. We made an immediate impression on skipper Steve, as we drank his whole supply of beer whilst still tied up to the Cooktown jetty. I am sure glad he alerted us to this fact and we were able to get in sufficient supplies to last us for the trip's duration, before setting sail around midnight.*



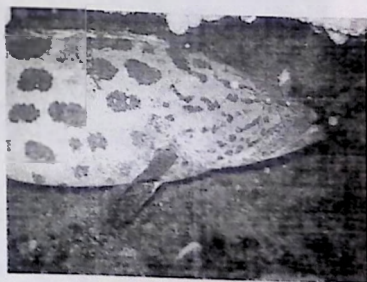
Steve warned us that the trip out to the Ribbon Reefs would be rough, until he could make the turn left and achieve the benefit of a following sea. This caused no end of discomfort to the 18 landlubbers who had just managed to drink the entire beer quota for the next 6 days, before leaving the pier. However, on reflection, this was no big deal, it just seemed that way at the time.



The next morning we awoke at around 6.30am which was to be the norm for the rest of the trip. That is, drag yourself out of bed, and make your way to the saloon where a light breakfast of cereal and/or toast awaits. This was followed by a dive briefing at around 7.15am, after which it was "gear up and hit the water!" Following this dive, a hot breakfast was served, very civilised. A further dive at around 10.30 am, lunch, dive at

say 1.30pm, afternoon tea, another dive at say 3 pm. On some occasions, a night dive was also offered, but this was after dinner, and only the really keen divers made that one.

The first three days we dived the Ribbon Reef area, including some great dives such as Pixie Pinnacle, The Lighthouse, and the world famous Cod Hole. On most days white caps were the norm, and we wondered if indeed we would be able to venture beyond the Ribbons and visit Osprey Reef, some further 100 kms offshore. Steve indicated that a decision would need to be made by Thursday evening, and he would discuss further at that time, with the benefit of an updated weather report. He did add that they had not been able to visit Osprey for some two months, due to strong winds prevailing, and that if we get the chance, then it should not be missed.



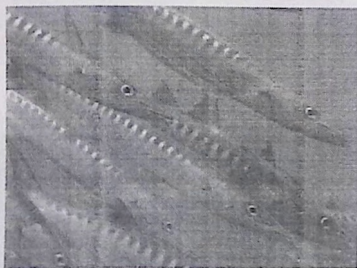
Meanwhile, however, we were to enjoy 3 fine days diving on the Ribbons. No doubt others will write about various dive sites in this issue, so I will en-

deavour to give my account of the "Lighthouse", which was a favourite of mine. This site describes a tall bommie, shaped like a lighthouse, rising from the depths at around 100 feet (30 metres for you young folk) to some 25 feet from the surface. Here one can expect to see olive sea snakes, big eye trevally in large schools, green turtles, lined snapper, and after the



dive, minke whales on the surface. On this dive, we were lucky to experience all of the above. Green turtles were in abundance, and the big eye trevally school was a great sight. The bommie itself was covered in growth and the colours were spectacular, improving markedly as you neared the surface. Schools of large fish simply hung in space, whilst on top of the bommie small colourful fish darted around to

complete the picture. This typified what the Great Barrier Reef is all about – life in abundance and in such variety and beauty.

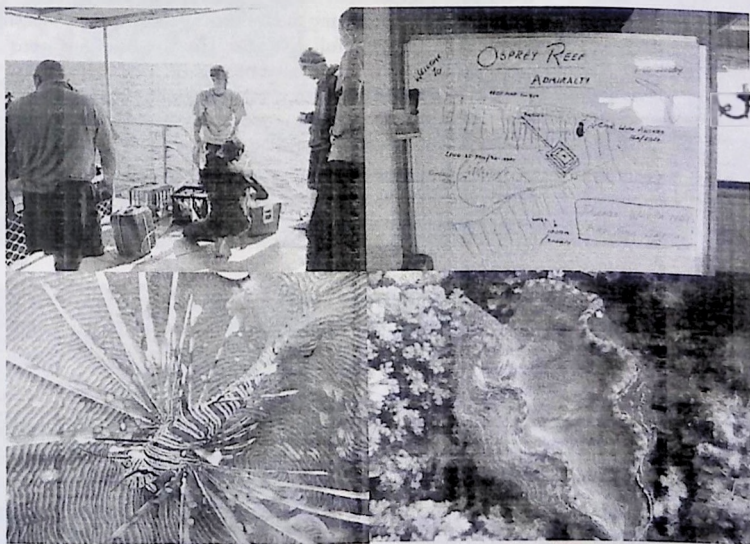


Come Friday afternoon the vote was taken. The weather report was favourable and the unanimous vote was to go to Osprey Reef. Thank heavens we were afforded the opportunity, as the diving there really is pristine. No doubt the best site that we dived was North Horn. At Osprey, the reef rises from a depth of 1,000 metres to the surface, attracting all forms of life. North Horn is best known for its resident population of white tip and grey whaler reef sharks. There is a natural amphitheatre at around 15 metres deep, adjacent to which is the shark feeding station, where divers are afforded an excellent view of these creatures trying to extract fish heads and carcasses from plastic milk crates, placed by our divemaster Demi.



*A great spectacle, with the sharks hanging around until the last diver is aboard the boat.*

*That evening, due to worsening weather, we sailed back to the confines of the Ribbon Reefs, and spent the last day diving on other popular sites such as Steve's Bonnie, on the way back to Cairns. The last night was a joyous occasion as we listened to Llewey's music CDs, and tried to once again drink the boat dry and relieve Llewey of his cigars. What a great trip. More than one participant indicated that liveaboard diving is a sure winner, and that they would like to do it again at a different location next year. Anyone else interested?*



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

To the crew of Nimrod Explorer –

Skipper: Steve



What a great bloke. Saved us from disaster when he alerted us to the fact that we had drunk the boat dry before leaving port. Welcomed us to the Bridge at any hour for a chat. Took us out to Osprey when the weather report was only just okay. Loved his dry sense of humour.

Engineer: John.

A yank but a naturalised Aussie. Must be a good bloke. Happy to show us the engine room, and was spotted smokin' cigars and joining in the fun on the last night.

Cook: Karen

Nice lady. Provided choice of fare for the hungry mob. Loved reading FATHOMS and enjoyed our company. Recovered well from her first encounter one night in Cairns, when she didn't realise that the rowdy mob outside the pub would be joining her on Nimrod the next day.

Divemaster: Demi



Demi was a real joy. A Japanese didgeridoo player for god's sake. His dive briefings were classics, and never failed to raise a few laughs. "Don't touch the cods!" became his most quotable saying. Also produced video of the trip.

Divemaster – Ben

Ben was ever present filling our tanks and recording our maximum depth and bottom times. To this end he was very enthusiastic, sometimes asking me for these details when I was still climbing the steps in full dive gear. His dive briefings were informative, and it would have been good if he was able to join us on the odd dive, but his duties topside obviously took precedent. A cheery young member of the team.

Host: Lisa

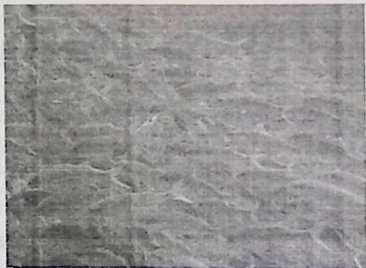
Lisa was a pommie backpacker who was a paying passenger on the trip immediately before ours. As she had no immediate plans, she was asked to stay on and assist on our trip. She managed to fit in a few dives and she had a ball despite the work.

Explorer Ventures:

Laurene and staff in Cairns were great and greeted us with open arms when we reported to their office at the beginning of the trip. I would not hesitate to recommend them to all and sundry.

In summary:

Nimrod is great value for money. Other liveboards offering the same dives for the same period of time cost around \$700 more. The boats may be a bit more fancy looking, but I bet they would not enjoy the freedom we had to "do our own thing", which is right up my alley!



## CAIRNS 2006 The Don'ts

### DON'T

- Fill in Ted's crosswords. You lose points for untidiness.
- Eat sausages on a boat. They give you heartburn.
- Sleep with Mick or Lewi their snoring registers on the Richter scale.
- Buy a didgeridoo, they're impossible to play.
- Ask Lewi to take a photo for you. You will get your camera back without any memory.
- Dive with Neville, he tries to lose or bend you.
- Get too close to a Moray eel, they have nasty-looking teeth.
- Jump into the ocean without your mask. The visibility decreases.
- Don't offer to be the designated driver when your passengers are intoxicated and all insist on navigating.
- Drink with Mick, his bladder is twice as big as yours.
- Don't talk to Americans, they think we talk funny.
- Complain about the natives taking under-sized bream at Cooktown....they're allowed to.
- Worry about entertainment. Drama, comedy and music is all provided by Lewi's Road Show.
- Go on the Skyrail when the forest is covered in mist....missed the view!
- Touch the Cods...Japanese Dive-Master's instructions.

Charlie Brincat

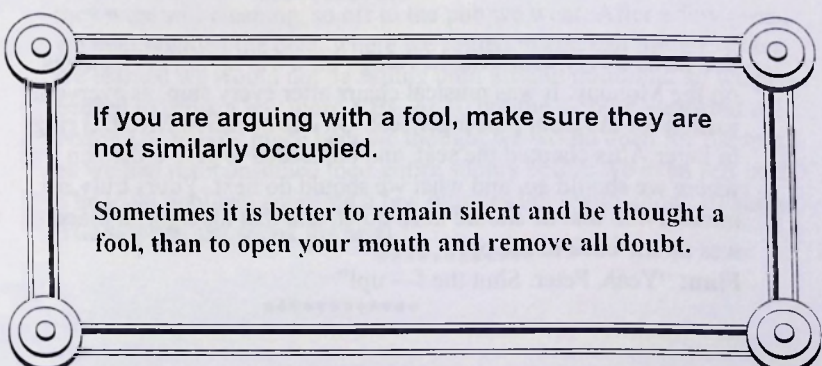




## Nimrod Explorer Trip Report

*I was very concerned upon my arrival at Nimrod HQ to learn that the boat had been booked out by a club and they were all forty something year old blokes. My dismay grew as they turned louder and uglier after polishing off the designated booze for the week before we left port. I was surprised to see them all bright and early and diving the very next day. One by one I started talking to these blokes and realised they'd all done more dives than I'd had hot dinners and would you believe it they were all top blokes. I learnt a lot from these boys and can take away some great memories stories of outrageous depth and near death experiences. Mick taking out the coffee machine on a fairly rough night was particularly amusing. Thanks to Ted for making crossword clues that I understood, Fin and Dougie for their mental stories and Charlie for leaving me for dead with a bunch of sea snakes. Neville always seemed to be around when I got myself lost and Louis, well what can I say? I am looking forward to meeting with Alan and his boys somewhere round the Pacific and not really looking forward to seeing them in the TOGA tonight!!  
Good on you old bastards!!*

Jim Cutler



**If you are arguing with a fool, make sure they are not similarly occupied.**

**Sometimes it is better to remain silent and be thought a fool, than to open your mouth and remove all doubt.**

# DECO STOPS

By Mick Jeacle

Well, the Coral Sea dive adventure is well and truly over and what a time we had. The liveaboard is certainly a great way to go diving, seeing many great dive sites miles apart, and having fun in between with your mates. We certainly had a few laughs, so I thought I would share a few snippets with you.

Whilst walking around Cairns on the Saturday of our arrival, I came upon a shop with a straw sun hat that I was considering buying. Llewey and the others were urging me to buy it, but I declined, stating that I didn't want to have to carry it around all afternoon.

**Finn:** "But Mick, it's a hat, put it on your head!"  
Must admit, I didn't think of that.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Finn:** "You slept well last night Llewey, you didn't wake up once!"

**Llewey:** "Yeah, the bed was OK, but it was a bit cramped with the two of us in there."

**Finn:** "Maybe we should try the double bed tonight!"

\*\*\*\*\*

We hired a very comfortable Tarago for a trip up to Port Douglas on the Monday. It was musical chairs after every stop, as everyone jostled for the front passenger seat. On one occasion BRUDG ring-in Peter Altis claimed the seat, and proceeded to give orders on where we should go, and what we should do next. Yours truly reminded him that he should keep quiet, and that his rightful place was up the back of the bus.

**Finn:** "Yeah, Peter. Shut the f--- up!"

\*\*\*\*\*

On the last night in Cairns we had a big night out at the "Rattle & Hum" (or was it the Hum & Rattle?) pub. The schooners weren't touching the sides and we were playing pool with some locals, and making a nice old racket. I think it was around 1am when we were swept out with the butts, and congregated out the front, apparently making quite a noise. Karen, the cook on the Nimrod Explorer, lives on the top floor and she remarked to her friend "gee, I hope those rowdy blokes aren't on Nimrod for this trip!" Whilst her (then) worst nightmare came to fruition, towards the end of the trip she did say to me that we were the best fun group she had ever seen on the boat.

\*\*\*\*\*

At the end of this night poor Charlie was the designated driver to get us home in the Tarago. Silly bugger volunteered, which opened the door for everyone else to get legless. He didn't bargain on 6 drunks all yelling directions on how to get to the Colonial Club Resort. This confused the hell out of him and we must have gone around in circles for 20 minutes before we somehow got on the right track. I just wish we had a recording of the conversation that took place. I'll bet Charlie doesn't volunteer for this again in the near future.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tuesday morning soon arrived, and we checked in to Explorer Adventures and were whisked away to the airport for our flight to Cooktown to board the boat. We could not board until about 6.30pm as they were still cleaning, so off to the pub we went. After a few pints, we then boarded the boat, where we settled in and had dinner. Then we learned we would not be sailing until around midnight, so we proceeded to drink a few more VBs. At 10 pm the skipper appeared to enquire as to how much beer we thought we would need for the trip, as we had just consumed their entire supply before we even left port! The local publican appeared a few minutes later with about 10 slabs. The skipper just shook his head.

\*\*\*\*\*

One of the other passengers on the boat was a nice Irish lady called Naimh (pronounced Neeve). She was married to Scott, an American, and they lived in Chicago where they work for the same company. Throughout the trip we taught Naimh many Australianisms including "bewdy mate", G'day mate, givus a slab of stubbies will ya?" etc. etc. It was funny when she wanted to know why a few of the boys referred to me as the Big Lloyd, and wanted to know what it meant. But the funniest was when Llewey referred to the famous Australian artist called Ken Oath, or 'kin oath for short. It's hard to believe I know, but when we answered many questions with "'kin oath" she still didn't have a clue. We sure laughed when she called us all a bunch of Lloyds.



\*\*\*\*\*

The diving was great and we were allowed the freedom to do what we wanted to do. It was certainly very relaxing, but when we were diving 4 times a day, it was a bit tiring and one lapsed into a sort of a trance at times. One such time was when yours truly proceeded to the back of the boat to don fins and jump in, when Finn enquired: "Are you gonna use a tank on this dive Mick?"

\*\*\*\*\*

Alan Storen is the keenest diver I have ever seen. There is no way he would ever miss a dive if it was on offer, even if it meant missing out on his beloved red wine at dinner time, when night dives were scheduled after dinner. I would have liked to have done at least one night dive, but the staff weren't willing to schedule it before dinner, so that ruled me, and a few others, out. If you were to ask Alan why he loves diving so much, and never misses an opportunity, he will simply say "**so much water...so little time!**"

\*\*\*\*\*

Llewey complained one morning after a dive that he was chaffing quite badly, and he was quite red around the bum area, if you know what I mean. So, he proceeded to apply some sort of cream that he used for dry skin on his elbows, thinking this would do the trick. By the end of the day he was making so much fuss that I approached the skipper stating that our little mate's arse was now a disaster area, and that he had better get on the satellite phone to the flyin' doc. This he did and he received the correct advice on what he should apply to the tender area. Llewey soon found out that his only real mate was Finn, when all others rostered on to dab the stuff on failed to turn up at their allotted times.

\*\*\*\*\*

Finn somehow put on one of Llewey's blue T shirts one day, and couldn't figure out why all of a sudden it was so tight. It appears he had the same shirt, but it later came to light that he had left it at home. He realised the mistake just in time, before taking to a pair of scissors to cut out the neck. Llewey was no better. They both had the same short wetsuit, and one day they got mixed up as well. They both scratched their heads as to why all of a sudden their suits did not fit as before. The VBs had nothing to do with it, they assured.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you are ever away with Llewey somewhere, and you hand him your camera and ask him to take a photo, make sure you are quite specific. Charlie found this out first when we were on the train to Kuranda and he wanted Llewey to take a photo of him.

**Charlie:** "Here Llewey, take a photo will ya?" handing him his camera.

**Llewey:** "Sure, Charlie." and proceeded to take a photo of the landscape outside.

**Charlie:** "I meant a photo of me, ya bloody idiot!"

**Llewey:** "Well, you did say to take a photo!"

\*\*\*\*\*





Charlie was diving with David from the ACT, when they came across a large moray eel. David motioned for Charlie to move closer and face the camera for a shot. As Charlie began to position himself, the eel came out of its hole a few inches, (a few feet if you listen to Charlie) fangs bared and ready to latch on at

any moment. Charlie was having none of this and he took off at a hundred miles an hour. I wonder what he was doing on the shark dive if he was afraid of a little moray eel?

\*\*\*\*\*

## OSPREY REEF- NORTH HORN

Neville and I kept separating on most dives. I would stop to look, and he would keep going. Someone suggested that we should do the solo divers' course that was available on the Nimrod Explorer. "Bit late for that", I thought.



We could see that everyone was concerned for our safety so we split and buddied up with two young guys one from Adelaide and one from NSW.

My new buddy spun out after our first night dive, remarking how scary it was descending 20m to the anchor in the dark with Giant Trevally darting in and out of our torch-light.

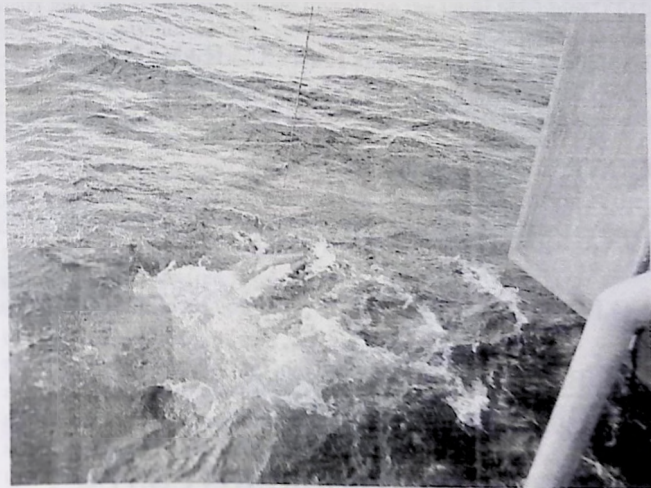
Jim had never dived with sharks before and was a bit apprehensive before he plunged into the water at the North Horn. As soon as we entered the water and looked down sharks were circling below. We hastily swam across to the "protection" of the wall and continued along the wall.

As we looked down sharks just kept emerging from the distance. It was impossible to count how many, but I can tell you there were lots, all reef sharks. Some divers reported seeing Hammerheads down deeper.

Back on the boat Jim was buzzing... "That's the best dive I have ever done!" he exclaimed.

The second dive was a shark feed. The feed (fish) were contained within two milk-crates to prolong the dive with the sharks. However, because the fish were not readily accessible the sharks lazily picked at the crates. Unfortunately, no frenzy took place and the feed was uninteresting by past standards.

Back on the boat the Dive Master tied a fish onto some rope and tantalized the sharks by dangling the bait. He had them flying out of the water. Some great photos were taken.



On the whole we had two enjoyable dives at the North Horn, exhilarating diving for both novice and experienced divers.

Charlie Brineat

**VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP**  
**CHRISTMAS TRIP 2006/7**

**VSAG WILL BE TRAVELLING TO EDEN THIS YEAR FOR THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DIVE AWAY HOLIDAY.**

**TIMING:**

**26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2006 TO 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2007.**

**LOCATION:**

**EDEN - at the FOUNTAIN CARAVAN PARK  
(same park as 2005/6)**

**COST: \$32.00 PER DAY**

**DIVE CAPTAIN: PAT REYNOLDS**

**NOTE:**

**ALL BOOKING WILL CLOSE AT THE  
OCTOBER 19TH MEETING.**

**FOR DETAILS AND BOOKINGS CONTACT  
PAT REYNOLDS**



# Solo Diving

Alan Storen

The best buddy is one that will rescue you if you have a problem under the water but is sufficiently competent that you will not ever need to rescue them. Their gear is regularly serviced and unlikely to break down and they are physically and mentally up to the dive planned.

Many divers with a buddy actually 'solo' dive - it is the 'same ocean, same day' concept. While they might have jumped in the water together, for what ever reason, each go their own separate way. The main problem with this is: What happens is something goes wrong?

I do not have a problem with solo diving and have done so on many occasions but when the opportunity came up to do a course on solo diving on the recent club trip to the Coral Sea, I signed up. I had done a Risk Management Course on solo diving several years ago and wanted to update myself on the latest teachings. I have also been refused a dive without a buddy on several dive trips along the East coast and thought that if I had a qualification then this might allow me to dive in the future without being paired with an often incompetent diver or one that had a different interest in the water to me at the time (eg photographer, hunter and gatherer, muck, etc)

The course theory was based on a 'what-if' section and a discussion of the risks involved. What would you do if you were solo at 30m (100ft) and:

- a. the main reg started to free flow
- b. the occy started to free flow
- c. the first stage packed up
- d. the HP hose burst
- e. the burst disc fails
- f. the tank o-ring decides it is past its use-by date
- g. the BC self inflates continuously
- h. the weight belt buckle broke on a wall dive
- i. the computer died
- j. the mask strap broke, or fin strap
- k. the BC would not inflate
- l. or, on surfacing the boat was nowhere to be seen, or it was too far away to swim

[I have been diving a long time and I have had all of these happen to me except (c) - the first stage packing up! ]

My gear was then checked and a pony bottle attached to the side of my main tank. A test was then done to see how long the 20cubft would last me at 20m. I was asked to use it from 200bar to 100bar and time how long it took. 17minutes – more than enough time to get to the surface safely from most depths.

After the theory section of the course we were ready for test one – a 400m surface swim against the current in full gear using a snorkel– just in case one came up away from the boat! Hard work!

Next an underwater navigation test – I assume so that you can come back to the start location. Easy!

Next a full removal of BC and tank, check for problems, fix and replace - all in blue water without changing depth! OK!

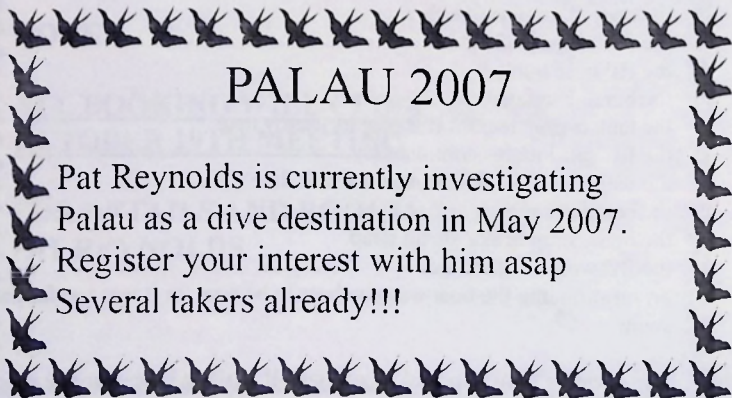
Next the instructor took of my mask, and a slow ascent to the surface was practiced. OK!

Dropped back to 12m and practiced deploying my safety stop anchor – actually my safety sausage or surface marker buoy attached to a reel, again without changing depth! Slow reel to the surface with a safety stop at 5m. Easy!

Dropped back to 20m and the instructor turned off my main tank (without my knowledge!) to simulate an out of air situation – a quick change to my pony bottle and the course was all but over. Easy!

Some more discussion on the boat about the risks and options and one newly qualified TDI / SDI Solo diver!

Alan



## PALAU 2007

Pat Reynolds is currently investigating

Palau as a dive destination in May 2007.

Register your interest with him asap

Several takers already!!!

**YOU KNOW YOU ARE LIVING IN 2006 when...**

1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of 3.
4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
7. Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen.
8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.
11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile.  
:)
12. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
13. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
14. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.
15. You actually scrolled back up to check that there wasn't a #9 on this list

**AND NOW U R LAUGHING at yourself.**



**A sea horse**  
Chris Llewellyn



## The Troubadour



Thoughts and experiences of a VSAG member and diver.



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M.V. Nimrod Explorer and the Coral Sea - my first extended VSAG club trip. An amazing experience to be away with 9 other intelligent, caring, humble VSAG members!!! And the attitude of the VSAG group to the two Black Rock members and the six other guests on board was totally polite and courteous at all times, #S%^ . The details in the reports elsewhere in Fathoms will totally support my impression of the group.



"Dive time, dive time". A rapid briefing, totally efficient gear up, over the side and complete adherence to the dive plan at all times.



I am sure that those who have been on similar trips will recognize this scenario - not.



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With 4-5 dives per day live-aboard life is quite hectic. Each day starts at around 6.30 - 7 am and finishes around 7 pm, or 9pm with a night dive. A persistent cycle of eat-brief-dive all day is only broken by an afternoon nap for the old dears on board. Except perhaps for the crossword crew who even tried to continue underwater, I'm told.



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Somehow, in the midst of all this activity, I signed up for a Nitrox course. In a nutshell, Nitrox divers use air other than the normal mix of 21% Oxygen and 79% Nitrogen to increase the available Oxygen. For recreational divers the mix can be up to 40% Oxygen with 60% Nitrogen.



The promoted Nitrox advantage is to be able to stay under longer, but this rarely occurs because available air usually runs out before a recreational diver can take advantage of the extended no-decompression limits. The downside is certain safety issues with equipment handling, potential Oxygen over-exposure, strict limits on depth for each Nitrox mix and the cost of Nitrox tank fills.



For me, the interest was to learn some more of the physiology of diving and to experience the improved well-being of diving with Nitrox. Having dived entirely with normal air for the first half of the trip and entirely with 32% Nitrox for the second half of the trip, I certainly felt much fitter to continue diving each day with Nitrox. Nitrox is not something that I'd con-





sider on a 2-dive club day. But it's certainly worth considering when the dives are coming thick and fast over an extended period - especially when the boat is equipped with easily accessible Nitrox dive tanks, Nitrox gas and the other paraphernalia required.



\*\*\*\*\*



I feel the need to slag certain aspects of the dive industry in Victoria. Preparing for an extended trip, and wanting to have everything in good order, I put my regs and dive computer in for service about 2 months before the Coral Sea trip. Simply put, the dive industry - dive shop, repair service and supplier - were not able to perform this service and return the equipment before I headed off to Queensland.



That's a pathetic performance. Worse than that however was the apparent lack of urgency or concern to resolve this problem before my trip.



I have now had two dive experiences in Queensland and there is a marked difference in service levels. I reckon. Maybe it's time for some aspects of the Victorian dive industry to take a look at how it's done in other places.



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One other thing that may be holding back the dive industry in Victoria is cost: \* Nitrox course on MV Ninrod Explorer - \$180



\* Nitrox course through a local dive shop - \$250  
It just occurred to me that all of my certifications have been done outside of Victoria. Interesting thought that!



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The next new diver day is planned for August 27. Please contact me if you are, or know of, a potential (certified) new VSAG member who would like to join us.



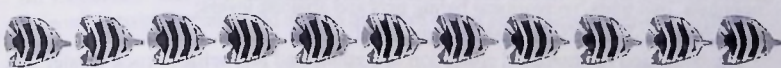
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I am keen to include items by other members, existing and new divers.



Send them to my new email address  
[Trevor.J.Williams@bigpond.com](mailto:Trevor.J.Williams@bigpond.com)



A decorative border of pencils surrounds the text. The pencils are arranged in a slightly curved line at the top and bottom of the page, pointing towards the center. Each pencil is oriented horizontally, with the eraser on the left and the lead tip on the right. The pencils are drawn in a simple, illustrative style with shading to give them a three-dimensional appearance.

## Letters

When you get those "pre-approved" letters in the mail for everything from credit cards to 2nd mortgages and similar type junk, do not throw away the return envelope. Most of these come with postage-prepaid return envelopes, right? It costs them more than the regular 50 cents postage "IF" and when they receive them back. It costs them nothing if you throw them away! In that case, why not get rid of some of your other junk mail and put it in these cool little, postage-prepaid return envelopes. Send an ad for your local chimney cleaner to American Express. Send a pizza coupon to Westpac.

If you didn't get anything else that day, then just send them their blank application back! If you want to remain anonymous, just make sure your name isn't on anything you send them. You can even send the envelope back empty if you want to just to keep them guessing! It still costs them \$1.00 The banks and credit card companies are currently getting a lot of their own junk back in the mail, but folks, we need to OVERWHELM them. Let's let them know what it's like to get lots of junk mail, and best of all they're paying for it... Twice!

Let's help keep Australia Post busy since they are saying that e-mail is cutting into their business profits, and that's why they need to increase postage costs again. You get the idea! If enough people follow these tips, it will work ---- maybe you'll get very little junk mail anymore.

## Controls to Limit Abalone Virus Spread in Victoria's South-West

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

22 June 2006

Strict quarantine measures have been introduced to Victoria's south-west waters to stop the spread of an abalone virus which has infected littoral reefs adjacent to Port Fairy and forced the closure of four Victorian abalone aquaculture farms. A Control Area has been declared by the Minister for Fisheries, Bob Cameron, along 10 kilometres of coastline west of Port Fairy, following consultation with the local fishing industry. The Control Area extends from the high water mark at Boulder Point (east of the Crags) to the Moyne River mouth at Port Fairy (extending between 200 and 700 metres off shore). This is the first time that the virus, that causes ganglioneuritis, has been found in Australian waters. It is believed the virus is spread by direct contact between abalone activity that involves human or equipment contact between an infected and healthy abalone and by other marine species. The Control Area seeks to reduce the risk of human related activity spreading the disease, particularly from reef to reef and over large distances. The following activities are prohibited in the Control Area:

- \* The use of all commercial fishing and abalone equipment and the use of recreational hoopnets, bait traps, recreational haling nets and abalone levers;
- \* Anchoring of vessels and fishing equipment; and,
- \* The collection or attempted collection of abalone and all shellfish, rock lobster, sea urchins, all other invertebrates and substrate.

## **In Minke Condition: Pregnant and Killed (International)**

Source: <http://www.theage.com.au/text/articles/2006/07/29/1153816426959.html>  
30 July 2006

Japanese whalers claim an extremely high rate of pregnancies in the female Antarctic minke they harpoon is proof that the whale can sustain a commercial hunt — others have branded it a grisly atrocity. A report from hunters in Tokyo yesterday disclosed that, on average, 93.8 per cent of the 391 female minke whales harpooned last season were pregnant. And according to the Institute of Cetacean Research (ICR) — Japan's leading whale-hunting body — this means the Antarctic minke whale "reproduces consistently every year". Such a high productivity demonstrated that the minke population is "certainly well able to sustain a commercial hunt", said the ICR's director-general, Doctor Hiroshi Hatanka. But the Humane Society International said it was disgusted with yesterday's report and accused Japan of "killing the future generation" of whales. The environmental group said the report showed that 853 minke and 10 fin whales were slaughtered last summer. Of the 391 female minke whales killed, 224 were pregnant with 227 fetuses...

## **Legal limit shrinks as poachers net a larger cut**

Date: July 29 2006 Steve Butcher

THE legal amount of abalone that can be taken each day has been slashed again, as poaching bites further into Victoria's stocks of the delicacy. The Government has decided to halve the daily bag limit of 10 abalone. The limit will apply along Victoria's entire coastline. Last year, the daily bag and possession limit in the state's "central" waters — between about Cape Otway and Cape Liptrap — was reduced. An annual 60-day season was also introduced. But increased thefts by organised abalone gangs since that announcement have prompted Fisheries Victoria to extend the reduced limit to the state's borders with South Australia and NSW. A notice declaring the changes was gazetted yesterday. Fisheries Victoria chief investigator Murray Donaldson told *The Age* that car-loads of divers posing as recreational fishers had been repeatedly taking multiple 10-bag hauls of abalone since last year. "These people are down there nearly every day, five to a car, diving in all sorts of weather and driving back to Melbourne," he said. "We have done a lot of intelligence in the south-west region and we've found a lot of people who have previously been in central waters are now down there all the time." And for the first time we've started to see these crews working in the eastern areas." The recent increase in maximum penalties for trafficking abalone — which are now set at 10 years' jail and \$250,000 in fines — and the reduction in bag limits and a closed season mean the poachers are now moving inland. One-time abalone poachers, forced out by the intense attack on their activities, are now starting to target restocked populations of freshwater native fish such as Murray cod. Meanwhile, so-called "whole-life" criminals have moved into fisheries crime. Recent arrests for poaching include alleged offenders with prior convictions for burglary, theft, handling stolen goods and low-level drug trafficking. Mr Donaldson said he thought that the presence in the prison system of more people jailed for abalone crimes had spread the word about apparently lower-risk, soft targets.

"We surmise that they are making a judgement about dealing with such high-value products," he said.

## Dear Alcohol,

First & foremost, let me tell you that I'm a huge fan of yours. As my friend, you always seem to be there when needed. The perfect post-work cocktail, a beer at the game, and you're even around in the holidays, hidden inside chocolates as you warm us when we're stuck in the midst of endless family gatherings. However, lately I've been wondering about your intentions. While I want to believe that you have my best interests at heart, I feel that your influence has led to some unwise consequences:

1. Phone calls: While I agree with you that communication is important, I question the suggestion that any conversation of substance or necessity takes place after 2 a.m. Why would you make me call those ex-boyfriends/girlfriends when I know for a fact they do not want to hear from me during the day, let alone all hours of the night?
2. Eating: Now, you know I love a good meal, but why do you suggest that I eat a kebab, a butter chicken curry along with a sausage with cheese, onion and mustard (washed down with WINE & topped off with a Kit Kat after a few sweet chilli and sour cream red rock chips)? I'm an eclectic eater, but I think you went too far this time.
3. Clumsiness: Unless you're subtly trying to tell me that I need to do more yoga to improve my balance, I see NO need to hammer the issue home by causing me to fall down. It's completely unnecessary, and the black & blue marks that appear on my body mysteriously the next day are beyond me. Similarly, it should never take me more than 45 seconds to get the front door key into the lock.
4. Furthermore: The hangovers have GOT to stop. This is getting ridiculous. I know a little penance for our previous evening's debauchery may be in order, but the 3pm hangover immobility is completely unacceptable. My entire day is shot. I ask that, if the proper precautions are taken (water, vitamin B, bread products, aspirin) prior to going to sleep/passing out face down on the kitchen floor with a bag of popcorn, the hangover should be minimal & in no way interfere with my daily activities.

Alcohol, I have enjoyed our friendship for some years now & would like to ensure that we remain on good terms. You've been the invoker of great stories, the provocation for much laughter, and the needed companion when I just don't know what to do with the extra money in my pockets.

In order to continue this friendship, I ask that you carefully review my grievances above & address them immediately. I will look for an answer no later than Thursday 3pm (pre-happy hour) on your possible solutions & hopefully we can continue this fruitful partnership.

Thank you,

Your biggest fan

P.S. THINGS THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO SAY WHEN DRUNK:

1. Innovative
2. Preliminary
3. Proliferation
4. Cinnamon

THINGS THAT ARE VERY DIFFICULT TO SAY WHEN DRUNK:

1. Specificity
2. British Constitution
3. Passive-aggressive disorder

THINGS THAT ARE DOWNRIGHT IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY WHEN DRUNK:

1. Thanks, but I don't want to have sex.
2. Nope, no more beer for me.
3. Sorry, but you're not really my type.
4. Good evening, officer. Isn't it lovely out tonight?
5. Oh, I couldn't. No one wants to hear me sing.

Regards,

*Rob Woods*

*[AllWoods Breathing Services]*



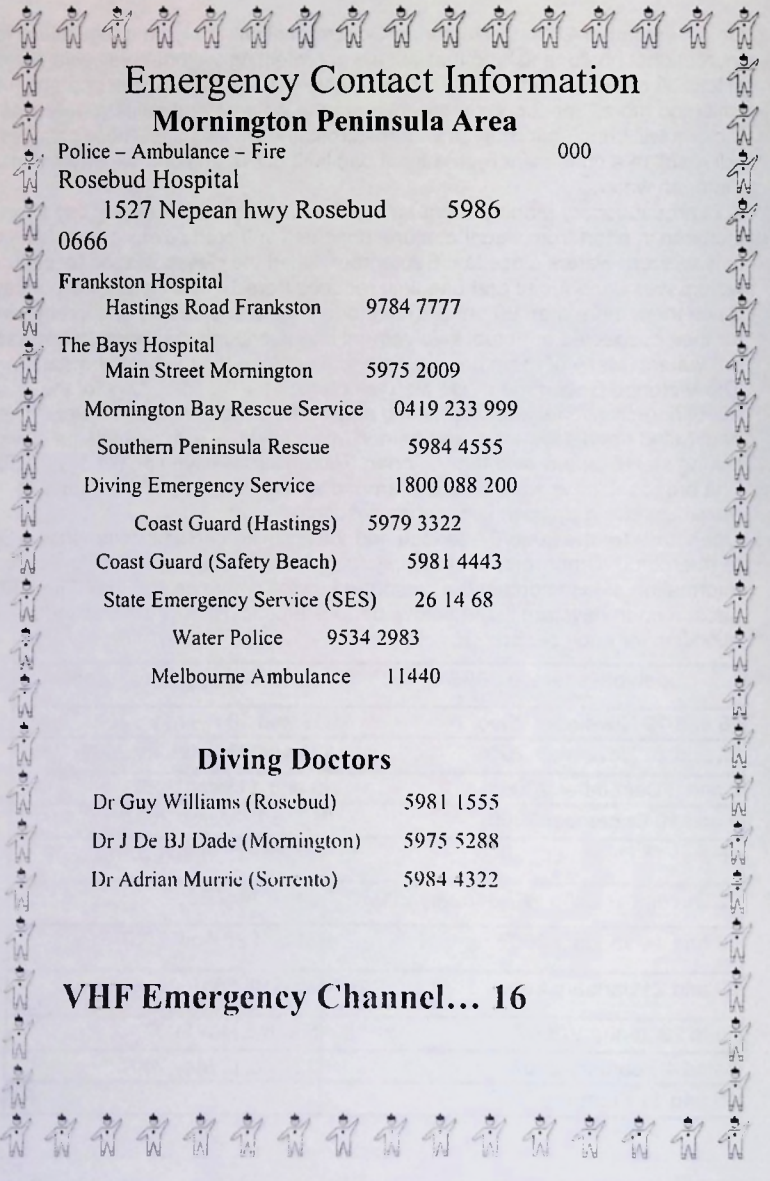
## Increased abalone theft results in reduced bag limits

On 1 September 2006 the Victorian Government will implement regulations for recreational abalone fishing that will aid in protecting Victoria's valuable abalone stocks. A reduction in the daily catch limit from 10 to 5 abalone per person (of which no more than 2 can be greenlip) for the western and eastern waters of Victoria will bring uniformity to waters across the whole state. These changes will result in a consistent recreational bag limit of five abalone per day within all Victorian waters.

This precautionary management arrangement has been necessary due to an increase in effort from illegal abalone poachers in Victoria's eastern and particularly western waters since last September, when the closed season for central waters was announced and bag limit reduced from 10 to 5 per person per day. Since then, more than 60 people have been seen, intercepted or apprehended for their suspected or actual involvement in abalone crime in western and eastern waters. Many of them have a history of abalone theft in central waters. The Victorian Government has also announced the 60 open days for the 2006/07 recreational abalone fishing season for central Victorian waters. The nominated open days were determined in consultation with recreational abalone fishing stakeholders, and the Victorian Recreational Fishing peak body, VRFish. The proposed days were selected around weekends and public holidays to maximise diving opportunities for recreational fishers.

Open days for the 2006/07 season and the reduced bag limit commence 1 September 2006. Other regulations apply for recreational abalone fishing. For further information please contact the customer service centre on 136 186. The 2006/07 season open days are listed below; periods are inclusive of the first and last day specified for each period.

Open days for the 2006/07 recreational abalone fishing season	
18 and 19 November 2006	17 and 18 February 2007
25 and 26 November 2006	24 and 25 February 2007
2 and 3 December 2006	3 and 4 March 2007
9 and 10 December 2006	10 to 12 March 2007
16 and 17 December 2006	24 and 25 March 2007
22 December 2006 to 7 January 2007	6 to 9 April 2007
13 and 14 January 2007	21 and 22 April 2007
20 and 21 January 2007	25 April 2007
26 to 28 January 2007	5 and 6 May 2007
3 and 4 February 2007	12 and 13 May 2007
10 and 11 February 2007	



## 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 Murrice (Sorrento) 5984 4322

## VHF Emergency Channel... 16

# PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

LAT 36° 18' LONG 144° 37' TIME ZONE -10:30  
TIMES AND HEIGHTS OF HIGH AND LOW WATERS

## AUGUST - 2006

Time m	Time m	Time m	Time m	Time m
0415 1.29	0357 0.26	0654 1.46	0028 1.16	
1600 0.47	1143 1.33	1157 0.52	<b>25</b> 0634 0.34	
1629 1.42	WE 1648 0.03	TH 1728 1.43	FR 1330 1.34	
TU 2234 0.37	WE 2300 0.12	TH 2342 0.12	FR 1916 0.56	
0456 1.30	0505 0.18	0650 1.40	0120 1.22	
0536 0.52	1239 1.40	1151 0.60	<b>26</b> 0719 0.34	
1657 1.36	TH 1755 0.71	FR 1910 1.36	SA 1402 1.37	
19 2305 0.35			SA 1955 0.46	
0535 1.25	0015 1.25	0027 0.18	0204 1.25	
<b>3</b> 1111 0.00	0513 0.20	0748 1.33	<b>27</b> 0757 0.35	
1728 1.35	FR 1329 1.47	SA 1236 0.68	SU 1430 1.39	
TH 2336 0.33	FR 1856 0.57	SA 1956 1.29	SU 2028 0.55	
0635 1.28	0115 1.34	0116 0.25	0244 1.32	
1145 0.68	<b>12</b> 0709 0.19	0848 1.27	<b>28</b> 0831 0.36	
FR 1800 1.31	SA 1414 1.52	SU 1328 0.75	MC 1457 1.40	
	SA 1943 0.42	SU 1959 1.21	MC 2059 0.32	
0015 0.31	0215 1.43	0215 0.31	0319 1.36	
<b>5</b> 0716 1.25	<b>13</b> 0801 0.22	0952 1.24	<b>29</b> 0904 0.42	
SA 1230 0.75	SU 1455 1.55	MO 1433 0.80	TU 1824 1.39	
SA 1937 1.36	SU 2025 0.29	MO 2101 1.14	TU 2129 0.27	
0052 0.30	0811 1.49	0326 0.35	0354 1.32	
0816 1.25	0851 0.28	1058 1.23	<b>30</b> 0637 0.46	
SU 1316 0.82	MO 1533 1.59	TU 1690 0.79	WE 1552 1.35	
SU 1922 1.22	MO 2126 0.16	TU 2216 1.11	TU 2159 0.25	
0141 0.30	0404 1.52	0438 0.36	0430 1.35	
<b>7</b> 0925 1.25	<b>15</b> 0939 0.35	1159 1.26	<b>31</b> 1011 0.50	
SA 1416 0.87	TU 1611 1.53	WE 1724 0.74	TH 1622 1.35	
MO 2021 1.18	TU 2212 0.12	TH 2327 1.12	TH 2230 0.23	
0243 0.29	0459 1.50	0612 0.35		
<b>8</b> 1036 1.28	1024 0.43	1250 1.30	<b>24</b> 1830 0.64	
TU 1530 0.58	WE 1628 1.49	TH 1830 0.64	TH 1830 0.64	
TU 2136 1.16	WE 2251 0.10			

# AUSTRALIA, SOUTH COAST - THE RIP 2006

Lat 36° 18' Long 144° 37'  
Tidal Stream Predictions (Rates in Knots)  
Positive (+) Direction Flood Negative (-) Direction Ebb

Stack Maximum Time From Rise	Stack Minimum Time From Rise	Stack Maximum Time From Rise	Stack Minimum Time From Rise
9 0724 1153 5.8	0251 4.6	24 0140 0430 3.1	0540 1.9
WE 1511 1740 1.7	WE 1511 1740 1.7	16 0735 1010 4.5	1637 1.54
MO 2030 2115 1.5	MO 2030 2115 1.5	WE 1901 1641 4.5	2139
TU 1230 1523 2.5	TU 1230 1523 2.5	MO 1901 1641 4.5	
WE 1852 2210 2.5	WE 1852 2210 2.5	<b>25</b> 0021 0653 0.5	0232 2.7
MO 0046 0405 1.7	MO 0046 0405 1.7	FR 0921 0653 0.5	0529 3.1
TU 1620 1936 2.8	TU 1620 1936 2.8	FR 0921 0653 0.5	0829 3.4
WE 1814 2241 1.7	WE 1814 2241 1.7	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1310 1.67
MO 0021 0217	MO 0021 0217	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2210
WE 0520 0816	WE 0520 0816	<b>26</b> 0046 0644 5.8	0125 3.4
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	FR 0921 0644 5.8	1434 3.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1945 3.1
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	<b>27</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
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TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
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FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
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WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>33</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>34</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>35</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>36</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>37</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>38</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>39</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>40</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>41</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>42</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>43</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>44</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>45</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>46</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0021 0217	<b>47</b> 0021 0644 5.8	0212 4.1
MO 0315 0510 4.9	MO 0315 0510 4.9	MC 1924 2336 1.0	0748 3.1
FR 0827 1254 0.4	FR 0827 1254 0.4	SA 1924 2336 1.0	1434 3.1
MO 1626 1822 3.5	MO 1626 1822 3.5	SA 1924 2336 1.0	2036 4.1
TU 2212	TU 2212	FR 2002 2345 5.2	2247
WE 0021 0217	WE 0		

# PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

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

SEPTEMBER - 2006

Time in	Time m	Time in	Time m
1 0508 1.26	9 0009 1.20	17 0715 1.24	25 0149 1.24
1 1445 0.65	9 0609 0.27	17 1209 0.81	25 0736 0.42
FR 1552 1.31	SA 1455 1.39	SU 1830 1.20	MO 1248 1.31
1 2360 0.25	SA 1933 0.37		MO 1740 0.26
2 0451 1.32	10 0112 1.42	18 0841 0.37	26 0224 1.41
2 1150 0.61	10 0612 1.20	18 0815 1.20	26 0606 0.43
SA 1724 1.27	SU 1340 1.40	MO 1203 0.37	10 1417 1.33
SA 2154 0.22	MO 1924 0.21	18 1525 1.12	10 2021 0.20
0641 1.27	11 0009 1.53	19 0140 0.36	27 0237 1.45
3 1158 0.68	11 0747 0.30	19 0819 1.15	27 0541 0.44
SU 1500 1.22	MO 1421 1.48	TU 1405 0.22	WE 1448 1.33
	MO 2012 0.09	2045 1.05	WE 2062 0.17
0614 0.20	12 0001 1.59	20 0511 0.42	28 0310 1.46
4 0730 1.42	12 0834 0.33	20 1032 1.14	28 0705 0.48
MO 1241 0.74	TU 1500 1.40	WE 1645 0.71	TU 1520 1.42
MO 1846 1.17	WE 2009 0.02	2232 1.14	TU 2123 0.16
5 0105 0.25	13 0352 1.60	21 0413 0.45	29 0406 1.44
5 0847 1.19	13 0919 0.38	21 1131 1.16	29 0947 0.48
TU 1336 0.78	WE 1539 1.47	TH 1753 0.83	FR 1552 1.20
TU 1905 1.13	WE 2114 0.60	2352 1.09	FR 2154 0.16
6 0207 0.28	14 0441 1.51	22 0523 0.45	30 0443 1.46
6 1001 1.50	14 1002 0.43	22 1209 1.20	30 1021 0.52
WE 1352 0.77	TH 1618 1.41	FR 1825 0.53	SA 1924 1.25
WE 1921 1.12	FR 2229 0.03		SA 2226 0.16
7 0326 0.21	15 0530 1.43	0032 1.17	
7 1108 1.26	15 1044 0.40	0017 0.43	
TH 1616 0.70	FR 1650 1.37	SA 1247 1.24	
TH 2259 1.18	FR 2313 0.00	SA 1845 0.42	
8 0447 0.20	16 0021 1.38	0110 1.06	
8 1205 1.32	16 1126 0.35	0100 0.42	
FR 1733 0.54	SA 1741 1.29	SU 1319 1.28	
	SA 2357 0.16	SU 1919 0.33	

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National Tidal Centre

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# PORT PHILLIP HEADS (PT. LONSDALE)

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

OCTOBER - 2006

Time in	Time m	Time in	Time m
1 0524 1.34	9 0653 1.52	17 0911 0.52	25 0200 1.48
1 1055 0.57	9 1641 0.40	17 0738 1.18	25 0745 0.50
SU 1357 1.21	MO 1903 1.38	TU 1235 0.59	WE 1342 1.20
2 0300 0.18	MO 1456 0.50	1910 1.05	WE 1845 0.13
2 0811 1.37	10 0176 1.52	18 0802 0.43	26 0324 1.51
2 1331 0.61	10 0770 0.40	18 0833 1.12	26 0617 0.49
MO 1737 1.17	TU 1341 1.41	WE 1341 0.62	TH 1416 1.27
2 2442 0.21	1944 0.03	WE 2035 1.01	TU 2018 0.11
0616 1.21	11 0246 1.00	19 0207 0.52	27 0309 1.51
3 1214 0.65	11 0915 0.41	19 0951 1.10	27 0651 0.48
TU 1632 1.11	WE 1456 1.42	TH 1512 0.60	FR 1452 1.26
	WE 2033 0.00	2230 1.03	2551 0.10
4 0033 0.20	12 0353 1.54	20 0530 0.57	28 0345 1.49
4 0812 1.17	12 0950 0.42	20 1025 1.10	28 0925 0.49
WE 1511 0.60	TH 1510 1.46	FR 1639 0.53	SA 1528 1.24
WE 1947 1.10	2110 0.63	TU 2309 1.10	SA 2124 0.11
5 0140 0.33	13 0418 1.57	21 0452 0.58	29 0424 1.44
5 0829 1.17	13 0959 0.41	21 1154 1.12	29 1000 0.51
TH 1427 0.62	FR 1551 1.30	SA 1724 0.43	SU 1603 1.22
TH 2121 1.12	FR 2203 0.03		SU 2158 0.14
6 0301 0.29	14 0503 1.47	22 0035 1.21	30 0504 1.37
6 1028 1.20	14 1025 0.46	22 0622 0.57	30 1035 0.53
FR 1503 0.51	SA 1632 1.30	SU 1154 1.16	MO 1642 1.18
FR 2251 1.23	SA 2244 0.12	SA 1803 0.33	SA 2236 0.17
7 0429 0.42	15 0448 1.36	0349 1.32	0548 1.31
7 1125 1.20	15 1102 0.50	0336 0.55	31 0114 0.54
SA 1707 0.35	SU 1717 1.22	MO 1231 1.19	TU 1730 1.15
	SU 2247 0.22	MO 1839 0.24	TU 2320 0.24
8 0032 1.38	16 0640 1.26	0127 1.41	
8 0645 0.41	16 1140 0.55	0112 0.52	
SU 1216 1.32	MO 1900 1.13	TU 1336 1.23	
1805 0.16		TU 1912 0.17	

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National Tidal Centre

All one hour to the times stated during daylight saving time

# Tidal Streams at the Heads

## ADD ONE HOUR FOR DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

### [ + Flood - Ebb ]

AUGUST			SEPTEMBER			OCTOBER			
Time	Maximum	State Maximum	Time	Maximum	State Maximum	Time	Maximum	State Maximum	
Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate	
1	0051 0429 4.1	16	0114 0552 4.5	1	0120 0557 5.3	16	0202 0714 5.7	1	0201 0715 5.7
2	0044 0420 3.9	17	0107 0543 4.3	2	0111 0545 5.4	17	0205 0718 5.8	2	0205 0718 5.8
TU	1232 0420 4.7	18	0100 0534 4.8	FR	1312 0542 3.8	SA	1432 0703 5.3	SA	1432 0703 5.3
WE	1034 0421 4.1	19	1901 0529 4.5	FR	1852 0549 5.0	SA	1559 0714 5.5	SA	1559 0714 5.5
4	0120 0504 4.2	17	0200 0551 5.3	2	0155 0548 5.1	17	0201 0703 4.9	2	0200 0659 5.0
5	0132 0520 3.9	18	0205 0555 5.7	3	0205 0549 5.9	18	0205 0703 5.0	3	0205 0703 5.0
WE	1302 0543 5.5	19	0200 0548 5.8	SA	1344 0713 5.0	SU	1441 0712 5.0	SU	1441 0712 5.0
TH	1034 0541 4.7	20	1934 0558 5.0	FR	1819 0709 5.1	SU	2021 0558 4.5	SU	2021 0558 4.5
3	0158 0543 4.3	18	0248 0594 5.9	3	0252 0630 4.8	18	0259 0708 4.7	3	0249 0648 4.4
4	0210 0541 4.0	19	0246 0592 5.7	4	0242 0628 4.8	19	0253 0708 4.6	4	0241 0647 4.3
TH	1331 0707 5.7	20	0250 0593 5.4	5	0242 0628 4.8	20	0253 0708 4.6	5	0241 0647 4.3
WE	1034 0541 4.7	21	0300 0596 5.9	6	0242 0628 4.8	21	0253 0708 4.6	6	0241 0647 4.3
5	0203 0524 4.4	19	0333 0724 5.3	7	0248 0632 4.9	19	0253 0708 4.6	7	0241 0647 4.3
6	0205 0526 4.4	20	0335 0726 5.3	8	0248 0632 4.9	20	0253 0708 4.6	8	0241 0647 4.3
FR	1428 0732 5.1	21	0340 0729 5.3	9	0248 0632 4.9	21	0253 0708 4.6	9	0241 0647 4.3
SU	2020 0732 4.8	22	0345 0732 5.3	10	0248 0632 4.9	22	0253 0708 4.6	10	0241 0647 4.3
5	0114 0510 4.5	20	0351 0735 5.3	5	0210 0559 4.9	20	0253 0708 4.6	5	0202 0703 5.0
6	0120 0514 5.0	21	0353 0735 5.3	6	0210 0559 4.9	21	0253 0708 4.6	6	0202 0703 5.0
SA	1440 0721 4.9	22	0353 0735 5.3	7	0210 0559 4.9	22	0253 0708 4.6	7	0202 0703 5.0
2020 0723 4.9	23	0353 0735 5.3	8	0210 0559 4.9	23	0253 0708 4.6	8	0202 0703 5.0	
6	0420 0502 4.5	21	0401 0741 5.4	9	0210 0559 4.9	24	0253 0708 4.6	9	0202 0703 5.0
7	0420 0502 4.5	22	0401 0741 5.4	10	0210 0559 4.9	25	0253 0708 4.6	10	0202 0703 5.0
8	0420 0502 4.5	23	0401 0741 5.4	11	0210 0559 4.9	26	0253 0708 4.6	11	0202 0703 5.0
9	0420 0502 4.5	24	0401 0741 5.4	12	0210 0559 4.9	27	0253 0708 4.6	12	0202 0703 5.0
10	0420 0502 4.5	25	0401 0741 5.4	13	0210 0559 4.9	28	0253 0708 4.6	13	0202 0703 5.0
11	0420 0502 4.5	26	0401 0741 5.4	14	0210 0559 4.9	29	0253 0708 4.6	14	0202 0703 5.0
12	0420 0502 4.5	27	0401 0741 5.4	15	0210 0559 4.9	30	0253 0708 4.6	15	0202 0703 5.0
13	0420 0502 4.5	28	0401 0741 5.4	16	0210 0559 4.9	31	0253 0708 4.6	16	0202 0703 5.0
14	0420 0502 4.5	29	0401 0741 5.4	17	0210 0559 4.9			17	0202 0703 5.0
15	0420 0502 4.5	30	0401 0741 5.4	18	0210 0559 4.9			18	0202 0703 5.0
16	0420 0502 4.5	31	0401 0741 5.4	19	0210 0559 4.9			19	0202 0703 5.0

# VSAG Meeting and Dive Calendar

Dive Date	Location	Dive Captain	Phone	Meeting Point	Time
<b>August</b>					
13	Wreck dive	Alan S	9803 3573	Sorrento	9am
17	General Meeting—VRFISH and report on the Nimrod Trip			Bells	8pm
20	Wreck dive if 13th cancelled	Alan S			
27	NEW DIVER DAY New to vsag - invite potential new members—qualified only Current members asked to assist - ring Trevor early	Trevor W	0404 069 572	Sorrento	9am
<b>September</b>					
3	Father's Day lunch at Glen Waverley—Chinese	Priya C	0414310727	tba	tba
10	Rosebud Reef /Scallops	Alan S	9803 3573	Rye	9am
17	Rosebud Reef if 10th cancelled	Alan S			
21	AGM			Bells	8pm
24	Nepean Wall	Darren P	0414 314 824	Sorrento	9am
<b>October</b>					
1	Nepean Wall if 24th cancelled	Darren P			
8	Rotamahana	Alan S	9803 3573	Sorrento	9am
15	Rotamahana if 8th cancelled	Alan S			
19	General Meeting			Bells	8pm
<b>DIARY DATES</b>					
2Dec	Xmas Party—Jells Park GW , Spit roast, social committee will be sending out details soon—keep the date free!! Prize donations gratefully accepted.				
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!				
soon	10 pin bowling night—coming soon—expressions of interest to Gabriel Sekias				