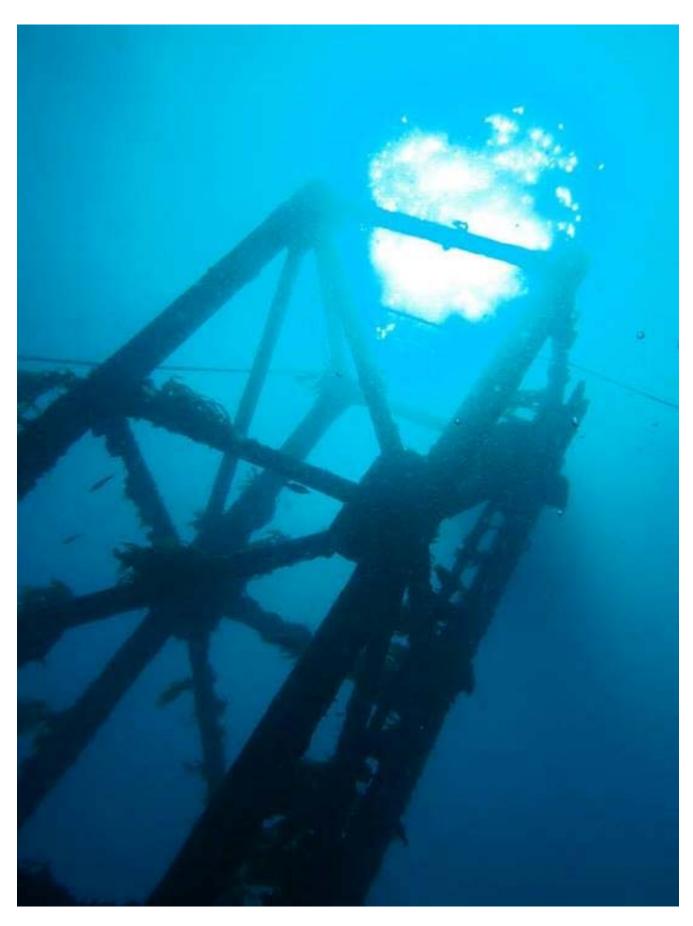




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Looking towards the surface from Ex-HMAS Canberra—photo by Simone Lee



Est. 1954 Official Journal of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group, Inc.

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NOTICES

VSAG Committee meets at 8.00 pm every 2nd Tuesday of the month (except in January)

All Members Welcome

Bell's Hotel, 157 Moray St, South Melbourne VIC 3205

VSAG Monthly meetings are at 8pm on the 3rd TUESDAY of each month at BELL'S HOTEL — 157 MORAY ST, SOUTH MELBOURNE

All are welcome to join us for a meal at 7.00 pm before the meeting.

Tuesday Night Special—all meals \$15

VSAG on Facebook

Did you know VSAG now has a Facebook page? Check it out at https://www.facebook.com/vsag.divers and 'Like' us.



VSAG Dive Equipment Box VSAG now has a private transient equipment box located at The Scuba Doctor dive shop, 1/49 Peninsula Avenue, Rye VIC 3941. Equipment that is not in-use by VSAG divers and boat owners can now be held in our black storage box. Currently: 2 x Oxygen kits, 1 x DAN first aid kit, plus 1 x Boat Ramp Permit. Please use this facility responsibly. ❖

VSAG Committee 2013–2014



Back row: John Lawler, Ian Scholey, Lloyd Borrett, Graham Ellis, Tre-

vor Williams

Front row: David Flew, David Geekie, Peter Galvin, Benita McDonough.

Absent: Christine Reynolds



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MEMBER OF THE MONTH AWARD

February 2014

This month the Award was presented to two members—**Benita McDonough** and **Ian Scholey** — for providing rescue and first aid to two divers diving with a commercial operator: one in a critical state and the other at risk due to buddy support in a difficult ascent from 25 metres.





Honourable Mention was presented to the VSAG crew of Ian Scholey, Benita McDonough, Simone Lee, John Lawler and Trevor Williams — who provided a tow to another VSAG boat and later supported a commercial dive operator incident, by assisting in rescue and attending to 13 divers in-water on ex-HMAS Canberra. ❖

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Please extend a warm VSAG welcome to our latest new Members:

Claire Cooper Janet Wright
Gavin Latimer Laura Campisano
Leanne Van Der Merwe Peter Beaumont
Lisa Zilberpriver Feng Qui
Arthur Kokkinos

We look forward to diving with you.

*As you will see from our Dive Reports, some of these new members have already enjoyed some VSAG dives. ❖

VSAG CLOTHING NOW AVAILABLE!

The Committee have done some work on sourcing a couple of items of VSAG clothing.

A minimum order of 10 units of each is needed before an order can proceed, but there are already lots of people interested.





We have the following available:

Beanie—\$16.
The beanie is acrylic.
One size fits all.

Polo sizes:	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	5XL
Half-chest	52cm	55cm	58cm	62cm	65cm	71cm	79cm
measurements:							

If you are interested in purchasing either item, then please email Ian Scholey — secretary@vsag.org.au or ischoley@iinet.net.au — ASAP with your size requirements. He will then confirm back whether we have sufficient interest and will at that time advise payment details.

MEETING REPORTS

FEBRUARY — Steve Fordyce: "A different kind of diving"



Steve is the President of the Monash Area Scuba Club and is an impressive dive adventurer with many unusual dive stories in his dive repertoire.

Report by Cheryl Lees Cave photographs by Liz Rogers

Unfortunately our usual meeting room at Bells Hotel was unavailable for our February meeting but we were offered a spot in the undercover terrace area outside. The weather was kind to us and Steve Fordyce, our guest speaker, was very accommodating and flexible about this.

A large group of VSAGers were entertained and educated about The Elk River Cave Diving & Exploration Project that is situated near Buchan in East Gipps-

land. Steve regularly travels the 4.5hrs from Melbourne with a group who are dedicated to the exploration, documentation, mapping and scientific study of this cave system.

He showed us a video shot by Ken Smith and photos by Liz Rogers (pictured below) from an expedition that was undertaken with 6 others in June 2013. There had been record rainfall in the area prior to their visit and the higher water level in the caves restricted how far they could go — usually they spend 18 hours underground but this time it was a short trip of 10 hours and they were covered in mud at the end!!



This is a significant cave that joins up with the Buchan Cave system. It was discovered in 2007 and is the longest & deepest cave in the area. In fact it runs under all the other caves and is 157 vertical metres from the surface. So far, 2250

metres of horizontal passage has been mapped. Traps have been set and they may have found a new species of wildlife in there.

Safety is an important part of their Project. They liaise with Parks Victoria and always have rescue plans in place with their support crew. They have 'rescue dumps' along the way with 1st aid kits, spare food, space blankets & water purification tablets.



After prepping their gear and bags on the surface, they abseil in through a 6 metre wide x 40 metre deep hole. The first part of the journey is dry caving. Each of the divers has 1 person for dry support as this helps to keep the divers fresher.

Steve ran through their dry caving gear: overalls / frog suit, gumboots or dive boots, caving harness, helmet with headlamp (helmets are mandatory for dry caving and it is easier to wear them all the time so they must be waterproof), caving bags (2 per diver), kneepads and gloves.



It takes 2 hours from the surface, with all the gear, to get to the first dive — Sump 1. For the underwater diving, they do not use wings, BCDs or fins as some of the passages are tight. It would be time consuming having to take them on and off and hard to carry. They just wear a basic harness. They turn their tanks on for diving only and turn them off in the dry caves.



Each diver takes 3 lights & 2 tanks for safety. When they first enter the water, the viz is usually 10 metres. However this



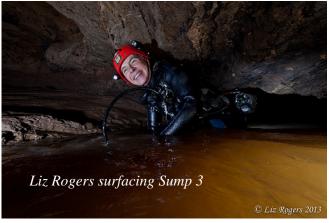
changes once all the divers are making there way through the cave. There is often zero viz where you can't read a dive computer, so you need to be a confident solo diver. You must have CDAA Advanced Cave or equivalent certification for this type of diving.



They don't use radios but do have a pinger (transmitter) that can be located on the surface by a receiver. This is also useful for mapping. When asked if they use canaries to check the air in the dry caves, Steve said "No, they just use the old guy in the group". He said there is plenty of fresh air as limestone caves have cracks.

They use guidelines underwater and in

the low dry sections in case of flood. Steve told us that flooding is not too risky as there are a number of dams in the system and a lot of the water drains through the limestone. He said there are some great formations in the dry sections and often waterfalls from the caves above.



If they leave the surface at 9am, they usually reach the 3rd & final sump by 3pm. This sump is 200 metres long and there are no photos of it yet. If they are planning a push dive, they often do a support trip the week before to leave gear. This reduces time and fatigue dry caving accidents are a worry if the divers are tired.

They use knotted line so they don't need measuring gear. The area has been surveyed and they know where the cave is heading and think they know where it comes out. The water depth is usually 6-8 metres and 20 metres is the deepest they have encountered so far.

They sometimes stay overnight at

"Fireball Camp", just before the final sump. Steve said it is very cold even though they have sleeping bags, mats & a stove with them. They usually get all the gear out on the following day.

It was a very enjoyable and informative evening for us, especially as there are very few of us who would ever experience this type of cave diving! ❖

For more information & videos, visit Liz Rogers website:

http://lizrogersphotography.com/

MARCH — Doug King: **Boating Safety**

written by Cheryl Lees



For our March meeting, we were fortunate to have an excellent presentation on boating safety by Doug King from Transport Safety Victoria.

He took us through such topics as:

- Before you go
- Weather implications
- Potential weather hazards including wind, wave height, cold fronts, storms, cloud indicators & fog
- 5 vital checks
- Things to consider
- Familiarization of weather maps

He also encouraged us to use the following websites when planning our boating & diving:

Bureau of Meteorology and their new service - "MetEye"

www.bom.gov.au

Buoy weather

www.buoyweather.com

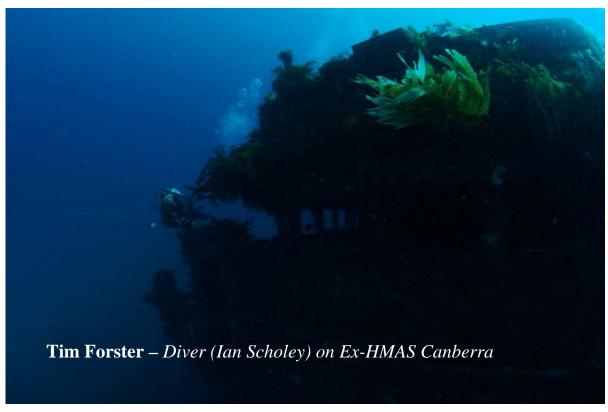
Doug also has a new book being released in May - Boating survival guide published by Explore Publishing — keep an eye out for it.

I'm sure that all the VSAG members & guests who attended the meeting came away with a better understanding of boating safety and will use this knowledge whenever we are out on the water. *****



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS

January 2014



February 2014



RUNNERS UP IN THE JANUARY PHOTO COMPETITION



2nd Place — DAVID REINHARD



3rd Place — Ian Scholey

Don't forget your entries to The VSAG **Photo Competition**

Members are invited to submit up to 2 photographs each calendar month for entry into the competition.

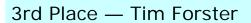
Your colour or black and white photo can be of any diving related subject. Both underwater and above water shots are acceptable. Photographs can be taken locally or overseas and they do not have to be taken on a VSAG dive day (although that would be even better). The only rules are that the photograph be your own work and should be taken in the calendar month of entry.

Entries should be in Jpeg format and sent via email to ischoley@iinet.net.au before the end of each month. Please include as much detail with your entries as possible e.g. Location, names of any people pictured, fish species if known.

RUNNERS UP IN THE FEBRUARY PHOTO COMPETITION



2nd Place — Peter Beaumont





If you have any cute (or otherwise) family photos of scuba diver costumes... we'd love to see them.





Photo above of Phil Watson by Hui King Ho from BSAC

Photos on left and below found on Google by searching 'Scuba diving costumes'





VALE ROBERT (ROB) ADAMSON



For those who don't know, Robert (Rob) Adamson was a member of VSAG in the 1970's and 80's but eventually gave diving away because he used to get terribly sea sick.

He had a Haines Hunter boat which he brought along to club dives and was a keen cray hunter and wreck explorer.

He had not been involved with VSAG for quite a number of years, but kept in touch with a few of the old boys and came to the Club's 50th anniversary dinner in 2004

He and his wife Cheryl were tragically murdered in their Murrumbeena house in February.

A 21 year old man who lived close by has been charged with their murders.

Rob and Cheryl have two children — Michael and Katie — and our sincere condolences go out to them. �

Written by John Lawler





VSAG'S 60TH **BIRTHDAY**

The 60th Anniversary of the formation of the Victorian Sub-Aqua Group will be held on Saturday 16th August at Milano's Brighton Beach — 4 The Esplanade, Brighton.



Time: From 6.30pm until midnight

Dress: Gents — Jacket & Tie ~ Ladies — After 5

Cost: \$95.00 per head, all inclusive (Beer, Wine & Soft Drinks)

A letter of invitation and tickets will be sent in the mail.

Please put this date in your diary

The production of the Anniversary Book is still a work in progress and much progress has been made thanks to so many contributors...

BUT MORE CONTRIBUTION ARE NEEDED!

Looking back in past, early editions of FATHOMS, there are so many articles which we can only assume have photos in our members archives.

DO YOU HAVE ANY?

Could you look into your photo files and albums please. DO YOU HAVE ANY EARLY VIDEOS OR VIDEOS OF ANY VSAG DIVE TRIPS?



We have just one opportunity to document the history of our great club and this is it! The more history in the book, the stronger the contribution and value is to the current and future generations of VSAG divers.

Please take some time to look for any contributions to the book from your files... Thank you

Please send to: Lloyd Borrett — <u>lloyd@borrett.id.au</u>



Bringing you the world's most amazing ocean films, from both above and below the surface by Cheryl Lees

On Wednesday 5th March a group of VSAGers joined a sell-out crowd at the Capitol Theatre in Melbourne for the very first Ocean Film Festival Australia. After the success of the 2013 San Francisco Film Festival that toured last year, the organisers were inspired to bring more local films to Australian audiences.

We were treated to 12 films — ranging in length from 2 minutes to 38 minutes.

There were 3 surfing films, including the amazing and inspiring story of Pascale Honore who was left paralyzed from the waist down after a car accident, but still manages to experience the joy of the waves, thanks to the help of one of her sons' friends and a roll of duct tape.

We saw some wonderful underwater footage in the Australian premier of *The Trip* that demonstrated how all the world's oceans are linked, and highlights the global consequences local actions have on our seas. The film's protagonist, a mysterious traveller, was revealed only at the end.

Hydropolis was a fascinating film made in Bali and featuring footage of a feather hydroid colony that provides a refuge for countless tiny creatures including skeleton shrimps, squad lobsters, a doto sea slug and an ornate ghost pipefish.

The Giant and the Fisherman showed us the incredible friendship that has developed between a group of Indonesian fisherman, who live on floating platforms in West Papua's largest marine protected area, and a group of whale sharks.

There were also films on the Haenyo female free-divers off Jeju Island in South Korea; Kimi Werner — an award winning free-diver and spear-fisher from Hawaii; and Guillaume Nery — world champion free-diver.



Photo from Tony Plant's website: http://www.tonyplant.co.uk/

There were 2 films about artists of the sea. One was about Tony Plant who creates large-scale beach drawings on sand. As one person in the audience said, "He needs a real job." To which Lloyd replied, "We should be paying more like him to do this." Check out this YouTube link to

see the film and Ruarri Joseph's song *Till* the Luck Runs Dry:

https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=AT3CeGjfvoo

The other was about Jason deCaires Taylor who combines his two lifelong passions — scuba diving and sculpture. *Peo*ple Under the Sea captures his journey as he transforms the seafloor into a huge underwater museum for visitors to explore while diving, or admire from the surface with a mask. To see how the sculptures have evolved visit:

www.underwatersculpture.com



Then there was the film that evoked the most laughter on the night — And then we swam — about two friends who set off to row across the Indian Ocean in a second- hand boat. Neither had any rowing or boating experience and I won't tell you how it ends in case you ever see it. Needless to say "Only mad dogs and Englishmen..." To view the trailer for this film use this YouTube link:

https://ww.youtube.com/watch? v=fTCvEWstNl8

I can thoroughly recommend this film festival and hope it returns to Melbourne next year so that more of our members can join us for the experience. ❖

Phil Watson certainly gets around!

Diving in kelp heaven off Anglesea with Sandy Webb



Little River — *Phil's bubbles* with Sandy Webb



Lipotrapezia vestiens aka PPB sea cucumber at Rickett's Point with Tony Dragon



Williamstown Main Beach With Sandy Webb



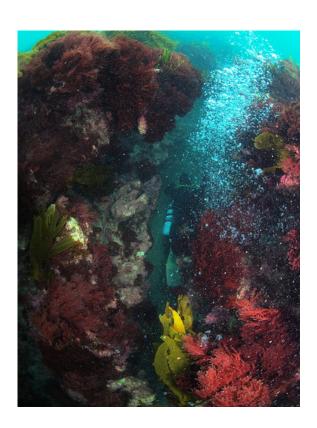
Barwon Heads



St. Paul's Back Beach with Claire Cooper



Diamond Bay with Claire Cooper



Dive Reports

"Paradise at the George Kermode"

WEDNESDAY 29TH JANUARY 2014

by Simone Lee; photos by Ian Scholey

Signature One: John Lawler, Benita McDonough, Simone Lee, Paul Owen

Sea Eagle: Ian Scholey, Andrew Quested

We met at Newhaven boat ramp at 9 am and loaded up the boats very efficiently before launching. It was forecast to be a very hot day, and it was already in the high twenties when we started loading. We set off heading south around the island to the Pinnacle, taking it slow at the beginning so that the Sea Eagle could catch up to us.

We got to the Pinnacle in some very nice conditions and launched our shot line. The swell was low and the visibility looked quite good from the surface.

Benita, Andrew and I went first and headed down to a depth of 30 m, where there was a ridge that only rose slightly to about 27 m. We wandered around a little but we had clearly missed the Pinnacle. We then gradually ascended and drifted off in the slight current, before doing our safety stop and separating to our respective boats.

JL and Ian then decided to shift the shot line and luckily they hit the Pinnacle on their dive. Benita and I enjoyed eating Squirms while JL and Ian were diving.

After Ian and JL had got back to the boat, we headed off to the George Kermode site for a spot of lunch. We were enjoying the cool breeze in the strong summer sun and listened to the buzz of the motorcycles of the International Island Classic, which wafted to us from the Grand Prix circuit.

After our surface interval, Benita, Andrew and I jumped into the water and followed the perfectly placed shot line directly to the George Kermode. We had pre-arranged to do some penetration and eagerly entered through a hole in the hull. The visibility was excellent and we followed Benita's lead as she meandered her way through the wreck. Andrew brought up the tail of our little buddy team, filming with his trusty GoPro. Scores of bulleyes parted lazily as we drifted through the wreck, exploring all the nooks and crannies.



Highlights included the enormous boiler and the beautiful light that streamed in through the numerous holes in the hull. We wandered in and out of the fallen ribs of the boat and as we came out of the boat, we encountered a huge school of big yellowtail whiting, which were almost stationary in the protected cavities of the wreck. We then reluctantly swam acrossthe top of the wreck admiring the beautiful kelp growth before ascending to do our safety stop and clambered back up on the boat.



The visibility remained fantastic both within and without the wreck and we had very little swell, making this a very comfortable dive. The entire experience was amazing and is personally one of the best wrecks I have done. Benita and I excitedly

compared our experiences while JL and Ian had their turn at the wreck.

We took our time driving back to the boat ramp so that JL could do some filming of the beautiful coastline. We were reluctant to get back to the ramp, as we knew that we could be hit with the full force of the heat of the 35° C day. We got back to the ramp at about 4 pm and sweated while we unloaded the boat and drove home after a fantastic day at Phillip Island.

Andrew produced an amazing video of the dive, which gives a very good feel for

this fantastic dive. Check his YouTube video at this link:

http://www.youtube.com/watch? v=OqKVgDxmMjE&feature=youtu.be

"Nine lessons I learned from VSAG"

SUNDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2014

By Lisa Zilberpriver

My first day with VSAG was a learning experience.

The opening lesson was the location of the Sorrento boat ramp, which despite its considerable size is well-defended from recognition by the untrained eye. OK, so there IS a big sign that says 'BOAT RAMP' but it's actually inside the complex and invisible from the road.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Having driven straight past the entrance at least four times, then up and down the serpentine road connecting the many parking areas, and finally the wrong way through a NO ENTRY sign I finally found JL and the gang patiently waiting atop the Signature One, got my gear on board and off we went - a snappy 45 minutes later than planned.

En route to the Ex-HMAS Canberra, the bay was calm under a clouded sky. As we donned our safety vests and entered the rip-zone, it was obvious that Bass Strait had been abducted by aliens and replaced with some completely different tract of ocean.

We made quite a fleet heading out in convoy — Barcrusher, the Sea Eagle RIB and Signatures One and Two. On board the Signature One, all the stresses of losing the boat ramp melted away as I cruised out with JL, Janet, Simone and Gavin, all wearing the familiar 'boatface' — that lovely, peaceful and pleased expression people get in the first few moments of speeding over the waves toward the horizon.

Lesson Two came when we reached the buoys marking the wreck, and it was that gentle side-to-side rocking that can make even the steeliest-stomached former dive instructor a touch seasick - particularly when combined with a mild red-wine hangover and very little sleep.

I'd handed my regs in for servicing and it turned out that the good friend who'd lent me his rather spiffy set should have done the same. Despite working perfectly at noon the day before, his octopus was now leaking heavily enough at the second stage to be undiveable. Fortunately John had a spare on board — and a wonderful one at that! 'Saved by the JL,' you could say.

But the seasickness, the heat and the equipment malfunctions were all forgotten as soon as we hit the water. The perfect conditions up top were matched by stunning visibility and almost no surge down below. I couldn't take my eyes off the exquisite garden of kelp carpeting the entire ship — especially a lovely curly species I'd never seen before.

The plant life was so engrossing that I almost swam headfirst into Lesson Three — a gigantic Boarfish hanging out

around the middle of the deck. Never having seen one before, I lay on my stomach and stared at him for long enough to lose JL and Simone, and then gestured excitedly upon finding them "Did you see the thing with the HUGE NOSE!?" Simone nodded, but who knows what question she thought she was answering.



After a civilised safety stop on the Signature One's blue and yellow rope, we hopped back up for some lunch. Which, of course, was Lesson Four. Ain't no cafeteria in the middle of Bass Strait.

The hangover and seasickness were still taking their toll, and I had to refuse Simone's generous offer of half of her (well-organised) sandwich, conscious that my lunchlessness would surely contribute to the excellent first impression I was making. Her Haribos, on the other hand, proved very useful for distracting a queasy tum momentarily at least.

The sun was beating down as we set off in the direction of Chimney Rock, and upon arrival we threw Gavin and Janet in to see the sights first.

They returned with reports of a giant weedy sea dragon among other delights, but then another crew mentioned they'd heard even more glowing praise for a different site — possibly known as Chimney Rock II.

We took their advice and it was worth it. Kelp-covered bommies towered over us, and 15-metre viz let the sun pour in freely to illuminate the seaweeds and sand in all their gold, brown, green and purple glory lying hidden beneath the towers in beautifully-sculpted caves with floors of large, dune-like sand ripples.

Beneath one ledge, we found a huge Blue Devil hanging out with a cuttlefish — a pairing identical to one Phil Watson and I saw before at Cottage by the Sea. But the crowning glory were the wobbies. After spotting a tail fin next to a cave-lurking Ling, I swam around to the other side of the bommie to see if a front -view was on offer. It was, and how.



Blue Devil & Cuttlefish - photo by Ian Scholey

A gigantic specimen lay on the cave floor, his flowery mouth angled directly at Simone and I, and his at-least-threemetre body resting in undulations that followed the even contour of the miniature dunes, making him look just like ancient paintings of sea serpents, or the Loch Ness Monster.

I have never seen a wobbie that big or that close, and could have stayed in the Lesson Five 'classroom' until the end of my tank and everyone else's. Unfortunately, we were getting close to the nodeco limits, so Simone and I decided to head up.

Lesson Six went something like this: no matter how much positive pressure you have from air in your drysuit, and even despite the fact that you're vertical & the right way up during ascent, giving the neck-seal a quick tug will ALWAYS result in flooding your suit.

The water got milky at about 8m, but not so milky as to obscure the sweet school of — I think they were bream? — with whom we shared our safety stop.

A bit of a fumble with the SMB taught me Lesson Seven. Don't try to share one with someone else if you have your own. It's hard enough to communicate with one hand, let alone figure out a rig that's not yours and understand what your buddy's plan for deployment is. Lesson Eight came on the trip back: if you're in a drysuit, and you haven't been to the loo all day, don't be too shy to hop off the boat and 'go to the ladies'. The ride home is long and very, very bumpy.

The most powerful lesson of the trip was the last one — that no matter how much of a BARRY of a day one has, being surrounded by the lovely people of VSAG makes it all better.

The flustered state caused by my navigational, equipment, preparation and drysuit -knowledge failures was minimised by everyone's kindness, patience, and general awesomeness.

Not to mention how much of a treat it was to get a spot on a boat skippered by the ever-calm and supremely knowledgeable JL, who even distractedly helped me tug my fins off before I climbed the ladder (they're a little small for the boots of my drysuit).

So hopefully this dive report can be counted as a vote of thanks — for having me, for a great day and for nine lessons worth learning. �

DAVEY'S BAY, **FRANKSTON**

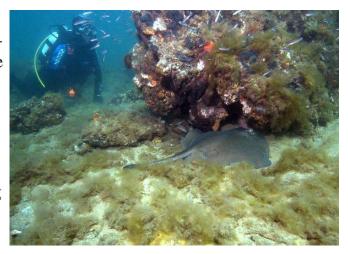
WEDNESDAY 5th FEBRUARY 2014

report & photos by David Reinhard

I had a great dive with Peter Dedrick (from Marine Care, Rickett's Point) at Daveys Bay, Frankston. I don't know why this location isn't dived more often because it is really nice, and also easy to access with a short drive from Melbourne.

To access the site, drive down to the end of Daveys Bay Rd where there is a small car parking area (I guess it could be an issue getting a park on hot weekends but virtually no one there on this day). You then walk down a flight of wooden steps (can't miss them) to the beach.

I have dived the reef to the left — basically just swim out towards the pole (some of the reef sticks up out of the water so you can't miss it). Alternatively



there is a reef to the right which I believe is good but haven't tried as yet.

The best wind conditions are much the same as for all the eastern side of the Bay — easterlies would probably be the best, and westerlies the worst. From the map it looks like it would be exposed to northerlies (although light northerlies may be okay). It may have some protection from southerlies and south easterlies, but I would think not so good for south westerlies. All this is speculation from the map as I have only dived there twice so don't know it that well.

I probably should mention that a fair area of this site looks a bit barren of algae

which would presumably be due to the large numbers of sea urchins. There is still plenty in the way of sponges, stony corals, etc though.



In particular we saw lots of sea horses, at least a dozen but I really lost count. A large school of mullet also entertained us as we were swimming back to shore.



It would be a great night dive location. ❖

"Heavy Metal"

FRIDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2014

A tongue in cheek report by John Lawler

Friday saw 4 divers head down to the historic wreck BMYS Uralba!

A metal retrieval plan had been worked up for some time. The conditions were perfect.

The site was shot then divers David Flew and Owen Green descended to unfathomable (ahem!) depths in viz about 5 metres. It was very challenging to just find the wreck let alone metal.

BUT... their job was done while the real work was done by muscle men, Tim Forster and John Lawler to retrieve the metal and pull up and heave into the boat. Exhausting work! Job was done.



Two hours of cleaning by JL brought the stainless steel anchor to near new condition. Work to be done yet on the Sarca... eBay here we come! �

SYDNEY WEEKEND

15TH-16TH FEBRUARY 2014

report & photos by Ian Scholey

With my old buddy Peter Beaumont returning from his current spell in exile in Sydney very shortly, I took the opportunity to hook up for a few dives on his last weekend in NSW.

With light northerly winds blowing, both Botany Bay and the coastal waters were nice and flat so it was a very comfortable boat ride to our first dive site at The Whale Watching platform. This site sits just off the coast between Botany Bay and Cronulla. It is at the foot of the cliffs below the Whale Watching Platform. In about 20m of water there are two caves, the second of which is big enough to enter comfortably.



Peter dives here frequently so was able to lead us straight to the first cave. Inside we found an Eastern Blue Devil fish and a Giant Cuttlefish who was very happy to pose for a photo or two. The Eastern Blue Devil fish is quite different to our all blue version with broad white stripes and yellow fins and tail. They can be quite skittish but this one seemed unafraid of the cameras. They really are a great looking fish and make for a good photo subject.

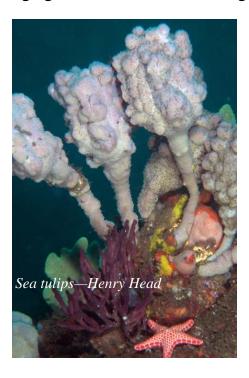
Outside the second cave we found a small cuttlefish who was desperately trying to blend into the red algae covered rock face. As I was snapping the little fellow, I noticed Peter's flashing torch out of the corner of my eye. As I turned towards it I saw the biggest cuttlefish I have ever seen (I have seen a few in my time) coming towards me out of the cave. The small cuttlefish saw it as well and disappeared in a shot. The big cuttlefish was completely unafraid and was happy to get a stroke or two on the head, happily hanging around until I got bored.



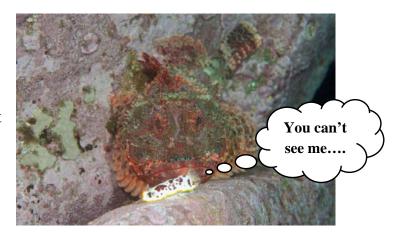
Inside the cave was a large school of bullseyes and yet another cuttlefish. There were also the ever present hawkfish at intervals on the walls and roof. After exploring the cave I spent the rest of the dive exploring the reef. There were plenty of fish about and an amazing selection of Nudibranch.

After about an hour it was time to head back to the boat for a hot drink. The water was pretty cold in places but was a bit mixed with 16 degrees on the bottom and 20 on the surface.

The second dive of the day was on the Northern entrance to Botany Bay at a spot called Henry Head. This site was marginally deeper at 22m. In typical Sydney style it was a mixture of large boulders, sponge gardens and rock overhangs.



Once again the life was excellent with yet more Blue Devils and Cuttlefish. As on the first dive site there were Nudibranch everywhere. The other thing I noticed were the large number of Anchors stuck in the rocks, clearly this is not a good spot for the fisho's. As the last one up I unhooked the anchor from the rocks and carried it over to the sandy bottom. As I was doing this I spotted a large rock cod with a white and red Nudibranch crawling along in front of it's nose. The camouflage clearly works or rock cod don't eat nudi's. It made for a good picture before I headed back to the boat.



At the surface we had company when one of the St George Scuba club boats pulled alongside for a chat. They had been down to the shark cave at Magic Point and reported that the vis was pretty average. With vis about 15m on our first two dives, we decided to stay at Henry Head for a third dive. This time we edged closer to the cliffs and stayed a little shallower. This was one of those perfect slow cruisy dives with no surge or current at all to worry about. Happily snapping away with the camera I drank my tank down as far as I dared before heading back up.

While Peter headed home to wash the boat I took the empties to the St George Scuba centre for fills ready for the next day's diving.

The forecast for Sunday was moderate Northerlies switching to Strong 30 knot Southerlies about mid morning. Discussing the next day's options with Peter we both agreed that remaining in the semi protection of Botany Bay would be the way to go.

To avoid the wind change we were up early and heading off to Bare Island to dive the deep wall. I like to dive here when in Sydney in the apparently futile hope of finding a Red Indian Fish. I have looked many times myself and Peter has not seen one in two years of regular diving. That said, the other members of St George scuba club seem to find them regularly.



The deep wall is truly spectacular, if not all that deep at 21 m and with vis at 15-20m we knew we were in for a good dive. The sponge growth is absolutely amazing, I'm no expert but assume that this is down to it's exposure to current. As we sat anchored the prop was spinning away so we knew we were in for a bit of a work out.

Dropping in and descending quickly, the current was manageable, if not ideal for photography. With a forecasted shift in the wind direction, Peter kept his dive short to keep an eye on things topside so as agreed we separated and I continued the dive alone. Hugging the bottom to stay out of the current I took my time and really had a good look at the reef. It is amazing how much more you see when you slow down and take your time.

I found a Green Moray tucked into a hole in the reef and spent a fair amount of time snapping pictures as it poked its head out for a look. Under a ledge I found a

Numbfish, this time keeping my distance as these ray like fish can give a nasty electric shock to an unsuspecting diver. With my air getting low I followed my line back to the anchor, reeling it in with one hand and camera in the other.

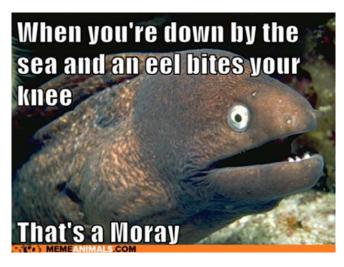


Back on the surface, the wind had shifted around to the South and the chop was building. We decided to head to the other side of the bay and sat below the cliffs at Kurnell for morning tea before our second dive.

The wall at Kurnell is not too deep at 16m so it's possible to get a nice long dive in there. It's another site with a mixture of sandy bottom, areas of weed, sponge gardens and large boulders. I have dived here a few times and have always found an amazing selection of Nudibranch. This dive followed the same pattern with at least 10 different types found and two I hadn't seen before. Other highlights were two more cuttlefish and a pair of rays swimming freely across the reef. I managed a nice long dive to complete the weekend's diving.

Back on the boat, the weather had deteri orated and the rain had started so I was pleased it was only a short boat ride back to the boat ramp at Port Botany.

I always enjoy my dive trips to Sydney and catching up with Peter. It will be good to see him back in Melbourne and I'm sure he will soon be a member of our great club. Look out for him on a boat near you soon. �



SS COOGEE

23RD FEBRUARY 2014

report & photos by Ian Scholey

Crew:

Signature 1 - John Lawler, Benita McDonough, Denise Rogers, Christine Reynolds & Paul Owen.

Two Cans - Peter Beaumont, Ian Scholey Signature 2 - David Geekie, Pam Dagley, Simone Lee and Peter Altis.

We met as usual at Sorrento and the conditions on the bay were fantastic with a 10-15 knot Southerly blowing and seas flat and calm. There were two boats Sorrento side with pending new member, Peter Beaumont's Two Cans joining

Miles Ahead. Two Cans is an unusual aluminium inflatable style boat built by Ocean Craft, Caloundra. It provides a great diving platform with plenty of room and great stability and it certainly created plenty of interest from the assembled crew.

A quick discussion re dive sites and we agreed to take a look at the Heads, and if conditions were favourable, to head out to the Coogee. The Signature 2 crew headed out from Queenscliff with DownUnder's Free Diver and opted for one of the deeper reefs.

Our Timing at the Heads wasn't great with an ebb tide and southerly wind making conditions borderline but we pushed on through with little problem and were soon dropping a shot onto the Coogee. With Signature 1 staying live during the dives, we opted to anchor Two Cans. The shot line was spot on, just inches away from the target and the anchor from Two Cans was close by but with vis pretty average, it was out of site of the wreck.



Peter, Denise and I descended the anchor line and after making sure it was secure, we started off for the wreck. It didn't take too long to find it and Benita and Christine were already exploring when we arrived.

The SS Coogee was built in Sunderland, UK in 1887. She was originally named the Lancashire Witch and began her life sailing between Liverpool and The Isle of Man. However she was soon down under and spent most of her life sailing between Melbourne and Geelong for the Melbourne shipping company, Huddart Parker Ltd. The Coogee finally came to the end of her useful life in 1928 and was despatched to the ships' graveyard. She now sits in 33m - 35m of water with sections of bow and stern, and her two massive boilers still visible. The midships is flattened or missing due to the use of explosives to send her to her final resting place. Most of you will have dived her at some stage and I'm sure will agree that she makes for a very nice dive.



As usual, the stern was loaded with fish life. There were schools of Barber Perch

around the outside and inside were schools of Bullseye as well as a trio of Long-snouted Boarfish. Despite all the life, this wasn't a great dive for photographers as the vis really was average with plenty of particles floating in the water. With the depth of the wreck, the dive times were relatively short and we were soon heading back to the surface.



During the safety stop we were joined by a large Seal which circled for a few minutes.



John and Paul were the next to dive. Paul reported a decent Cray hiding in the wreck but even for these two Cray pro's it was too well in for them to bag it.

The plan for dive two was to find a bit of reef but it turned out the shot was too good and no matter how hard they tried Signature 1 could not budge it. After a

quick radio discussion, we decided that the first dive groups would do a second dive on the wreck and free the shot in the process.

The second dive allowed further exploration and this time Peter and I headed past the boilers towards the bow. On reflection, two dives is not a bad option on this wreck as you certainly get to cover the whole wreck. As we headed back up the anchor line we noticed a second shot line had appeared with both shots and our anchor line all in pretty much the same spot.



Back on the surface we found we had been joined by Free Diver although Signature 2 had headed back into the bay to try a dive at Cottage by the Sea.

With our dives done, Peter and I headed back through a much calmer Heads with the tide approaching slack water. John and Paul on Signature 1 did a second dive at The Supermarket and reported an enjoyable dive.

Most of the Sorrento crew headed back to Lloyd's Scuba Doctor for an enjoyable post dive coffee and chat before calling it a day after a good days diving for all. ❖

SS HURRICANE & ROSEBUD REEF

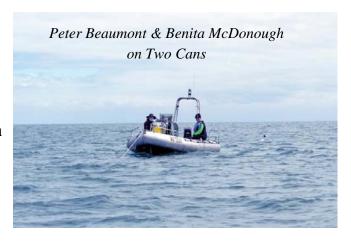
2ND MARCH 2014

report & photos by Ian Scholey

Crew:

Sea Eagle - Ian Scholey, David Flew Two Cans - Peter Beaumont, Benita McDonough

The forecast wasn't all that friendly for diving with 15-20 knot Southerlies and swell at 2-2.5 m. However, we had some still keen for a dive. So, with the only boats available, the two smaller RIBs belonging to Peter Beaumont and I, we opted to stay in the lee of the land at the southern end of the bay.



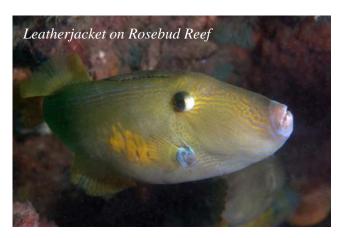
We started early and put the boats in at Rye boat ramp. The plan was to dive The Hurricane (a three masted iron clipper) and follow that up with a dive at Rosebud Reef. These sites don't seem to get dived

all that often but have been long time favourites of mine. This point was backed up by the fact that neither David or Benita had dived them before.

Both sites are shallow and usually loaded with life. This allows for long bottom times and good photography options which is good for me. I was interested to see what David and Benita made of the sites.

We had a smooth run out to the site of The Hurricane, just outside the shipping lane off Capel Sound. Unfortunately the fisho's had beaten us to it and there were 3 boats already anchored on the site. We decided to do the decent thing and swapped the dive plan around, heading the short distance to Rosebud Reef.

I was buddied with David and having anchored Sea Eagle we attached a line and reel to the anchor and headed off along the reef. Although it's pretty difficult to get lost on this reef, as it's basically just on long thin reef, this ensured we would find our way back to the anchor line.



The visibility wasn't great but good enough to enjoy the vibrant colours and abundant fish life. All the usual reef fish were about but what I really noticed were the huge number of Port Jackson egg

cases around - they clearly favour this spot as I soon lost count. After about an hour the vis took a real change for the worse quickly going from 7m to less than 2m. I'm not really sure what caused the sudden dramatic change but it seemed like a good time to end the dive, so we headed back to the boat.



Back at The Hurricane site, the last of the fisho's was pulling up his anchor as we arrived. After completing our surface interval, David and I kitted up and headed down the line. The shot was a good one, just a few metres off of the stern section of the wreck. This area was covered by a spectacular school of Longfin Pike sitting motionless in the current. Once we got torch light under the wreck there were several types of Leatherjacket, Longsnouted Boarfish and Ornate Cowfish hiding inside. The water was that peculiar green colour common in the bay and the vis wasn't fantastic but it didn't detract too much from the dive.

The stern section is the largest piece of the wreck remaining. Following it's dynamiting, the wreck is pretty broken up and covers a pretty large area. As we made our way across the flattened decking and hull plates we came across an Octopus sitting away from its hole in the open. We

stayed for some time filming and photographing the Octopus who seemed unconcerned by our presence.



As we moved on towards the bow there was plenty to see including the remains of a winch, the capstan and hawse pipes. The marine life was outstanding with schools of Pinkies and Perch, numerous Stingrays, Sea Horses and the occasion Nudibranch. Finally we also came across a pyramid shaped marker plinth which was well encrusted with marine growth, but scraping some of that back, we found the plaques giving some historical information on the wreck.



After another nice long dive we surfaced to find Peter and Benita already back on Two Cans. The wind had picked up slightly so we hugged the shore line on the way back to Rye to stay out of the worst of the chop. Back at the Rye Bakery for a post dive coffee both Benita and

David had enjoyed the new dive sites and we all agreed we shouldn't forget this option next time the swell is up outside and the Southerlies are blowing. ❖

CAPE JAFFA, S.A.

MARCH LONG WEEKEND 2014

report David Politakis; photos from John Lawler

Crew:



Mike Kakafikas & Peter Briggs on Tinny 1



John Lawler, Tony Hood (absent from photo) & Charlie Brincat on Streaker captained by the jovial Chucky (Charlie)



David Politakis (and Kim Saunders), Andy & Gail Mastrowicz, and Justin Dowling on Hunter 2

Well another March long weekend approached and so did the annual caravan of VSAG divers to The Limestone Coast's cray mecca — "Cape Jaffa" in South Australia. Preparation, expectations high, three boats, 3 teams, 4 days of diving scouring the vast cold, limited viz & sometimes surgy 14 degree Great Southern Ocean's floor for the little red critters & snails (ABS) we ventured west over the border.

Arriving safely on Thursday, albeit for a bearing problem on the way over for Andy, every one settled down on the first night eating like kings & downing a few drinks in the newly found communal kitchen/lounge surroundings at the back of the park. Andy's crew arrived late & tired, but in one piece after doing some mobile roadside repairs to the trailer around the Horsham area.

Day one: unanimously classified by all as "CRAPPY". Choppy conditions, poor viz only 3 crays came up across the 3 boats. The popular "Big boy" cray hotspot let the veterans down, based on

past experiences – cleaned out! What to do?! The wind picked up and the captains cautiously called it a day after dive 1. On returning to port, Hunter 2 boat was lucky enough to come across a large pod of approx 100 dolphins frolicking in the shallows and playing in the pressure wake of the idling boat. For 10-15 minutes they darted around jumping, porpoising playfully alongside the boat. An amazing experience and a great omen we thought.

Day 2: saw an improvement to the weather and the cray tally (well, on some boats). Streaker crew complained the numerous Wobbegongs (carpet sharks) seen at the various sites were the culprits for no crays being sighted, while Hunter 2 and team Briggafikas found the "RED GOLD" bagging out. Streaker crew even ventured all the way out to the fault line way out offshore yet came up looking for other options & answers.

Charlie couldn't escape attention on the ramp for trailer backing skills on this day — plenty of amusement as usual. Justin won the day, nabbing a nice 4/4.3kg cray off Andy & Gail's boat and as it turns out, had the winning cray for the weekend. Some great exploring was done amongst beautiful underwater scenery around Margaret Broderick reef Northern side.

Sunday: was a similar chain of events, (Charlie's antics too), the weather improving slightly and similar numbers of crays brought to surface.

The final dive day, Monday: the pick of the days, looking back, was awesome.

JL suffered a head cold & opted not to dive. Reduced to 2 boats and a diver reshuffle, we dived the southern side of Margaret Broderick Reef. The vast majority of fishing boats departed now, we had the whole ocean to ourselves and the viz considerably clearer. Unbelievably, Justin had a crayfish, a decent one 2.5/3.0 kg, casually walk out under him while he was hovering /waiting /watching me struggle under a ledge for another. He couldn't believe his luck. He swears it thought he was a ledge! They were literally presenting themselves for the taking.



It was great diving and interesting terrain. Lots of rocky out crops, deep ledges and some swim throughs. We laughed all the way back to the ramp about the day, taking home a number of crays and feeling very happy with ourselves.

While Charlie (and his supposed nonworking radio ignoring the other boats) filled the entire weekend with plenty of laughter, commentary & innuendo, it really was a great weekend away as usual with the team from VSAG. Andy, feeling the cold in the cooler water, still managed some good crays and Gail was always close by his side.

Great company, fantastic food prepared

by all on any given night, with plenty of talking around the campsites, some alcohol fuelled were very interesting at times. 🌣

BRIGHTON 18TH MARCH 2014

report & photos by David Reinhard

For those who haven't dived this site, it is at the end of New St Brighton. I park in New St and walk across the railway line and Beach Rd. Enter from the sandy beach on the left side of the groyne.

There is plenty of reef around the area so you really can't miss it whichever direction you swim. It is similar territory to South Rd, which is not surprising since it is in effect a continuation of the same reef. Most of it is relatively flat but with a few ledges etc.

Today wasn't anything special in terms of fish life — mainly small goat fish, porcupine fish, hula fish, a few rays and one large flathead and a medium sized dusky morwong. Heaps of various species of sea stars to be seen and lots of urchins. Depth is around 3m.



Don't dive here after recent rain as there is a storm water drain. ❖

POPE'S EYE & LADY CHERYL WRECK

SUNDAY 23RD MARCH 2014

by Peter Beaumont; photos from John Lawler & Ian Scholey

Crew:



Signature One Divers: Peter Beaumont, Ian Scholey, John Lawer, Denys Smerchanskyi, Graham Ellis,

Signature Two Divers: David Geekie, Pam Dagley, Michael Ngai, Mrs Nagai

Weekend diving outside the bay wasn't looking good with 20+ knots of SW on Saturday with 2.4 mtrs of swell. Sunday's forecast was for 11—15 knots of SW remaining steady throughout the day with the bay swell remaining below a metre.

The five of us headed out on Sunday from Sorrento ramp in Signature One to meet up with Signature Two at Pope's Eye.

First stop was at the seal colony on the way to Pope's Eye where Ian jumped in for a few minutes to take some pics of the

seals. A few minutes turned out to be approx 40 minutes (OOP's - time lapse due to photography). The seals were quite happy to put on a show for Ian. They followed him around & played pass the parcel with a snorkel that someone had dropped. Back in the boat, Ian indicated he was pleased with the results & would like to give it another go some time in the future.

By this stage the wind had picked up to about 20 knots of South Easterly so we headed over to Pope's Eye & tied up to the stern of Signature Two.

Dive 1: Popes Eye

Divers: Ian Scholey, Peter Beaumont and

Signature Two Divers Dive time: 50min

Water temp: 18C Max depth: 10.4m

Ian & I geared up then swam over to the eastern side of the eye & started a 5knot drift around to the SW side. It was a bit of a sand storm initially with viz at approx 3mtrs on the eastern side which improved to approx 8mtrs once we reached the area sheltered from the outgoing tide. Ian managed to find some fan corals amongst the rocks at the 2–3 mtr mark plus some of the resident marine life. Ian & I had a look around for the Signature Two divers but didn't see them. Dive completed we surfaced & climbed back on board the boat. We then noticed the Signature Two divers had returned to their boat.

Dive 2: Popes Eye

Divers: John Lawler, Graham Ellis, Den-

ys Smerchanskyi

Dive time: 50min approx

Water temp: 18C Max depth: 10m

Not sure what they got up to down there as Ian & I remained in the boat, had a quick bite to eat then watched as divers from other boats popped up all over the place. JL did take his camera in so I suspect he took some pics/video footage.

Once every one was back on board we proceeded to Point Nepean for some lunch. By this stage Signature Two's divers were back on board and they proceeded to South Channel Fort.

Dive 3: Lady Cheryl wreck

Divers: Ian Scholey, Peter Beaumont, John Lawler, Denys Smerchanskyi

Dive time: 48min approx

Water temp: 18C Max depth: 12.1m

John & Graham drove/navigated to the mark then Ian & I put the shot line in on John's mark. The tide appeared to have already turned so Ian & I geared up, jumped in & followed the shot line to the stern deck area of the wreck. JL & Denys followed shortly after. I checked the line was hooked on & found the weight had detached itself from the snap shackle (dynamic reversal) & was lying a short distance away. I quickly re-attached it & placed in on the deck. Ian & I then swam around the wreck & had a good look whilst Ian took a heap of pics.

The port side of the wreck had about 4 knots of surge & has scoured out under the stern, giving full access to the propeller nozzle. The aft cargo holds are full of sand with the engine room/forward section partially filled. There are cables & hoses dangling in most areas with a healthy array of fish life throughout the wreck.



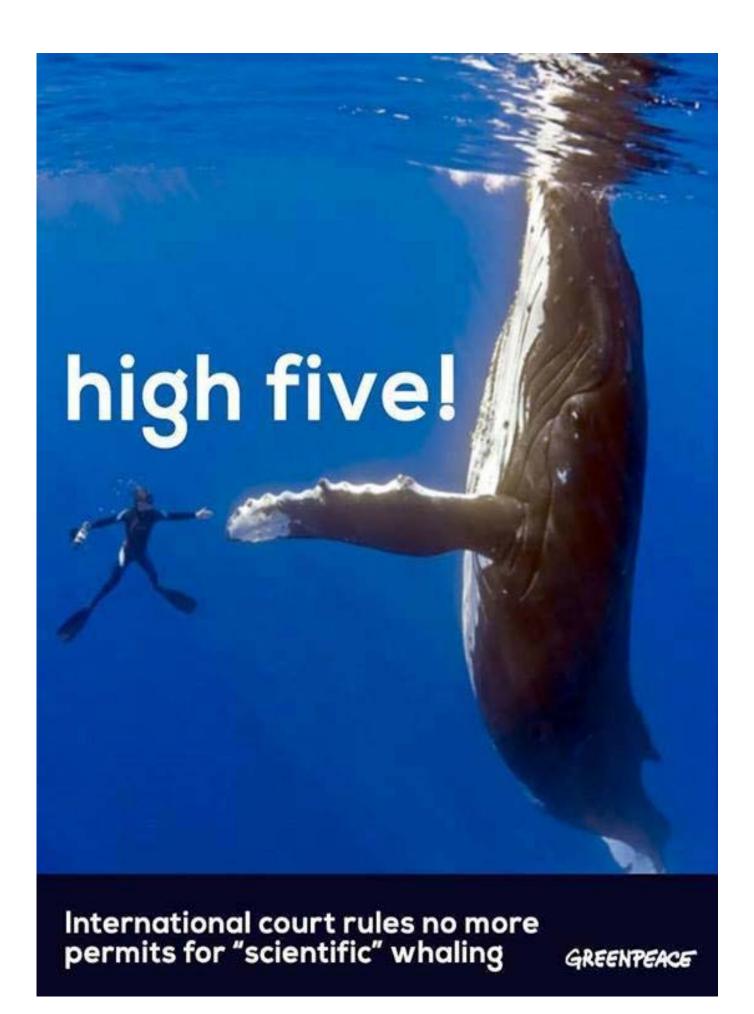
surge was fairly strong and required frequent use of handholds to prevent being pushed up against the hull. The adjacent seabed looks like a bit of a scrap metal yard with material lying around the wreck. The starboard side hull plating has been cut away, approx 1.5mtrs x 2mtrs, to expose the main machinery room equipment. The main deck is at the 5-6 mtr mark with enough hand holds to allow

The

Once the dive was complete we headed back to the ramp then onto The Scuba Doctor for a coffee, chat & the obligatory group photo.

movement across the deck.

Overall, the day's diving was quite enjoyable despite the wind factor & a commercial operator anchoring nearby then asking "if we swing around do you mind moving". �





DIVING THE WEB



Video: under the Polar Ice Cap

Under the polar ice cap lies a hidden universe, a spectacular ecosystem that is rapidly disappearing...

http://www.facebook.com/l/aAQH46rf4/ www.scubadiving.com/videos/travel-videos/ *video-under-polar-ice-cap*

My wish: Protect our oceans

Legendary ocean researcher Sylvia Earle shares astonishing images of the ocean — and shocking stats about its rapid decline — as she makes her TED Prize wish: that we will join her in protecting the vital blue heart of the planet.

http://www.ted.com/talks/ sylvia_earle_s_ted_prize_wish_to_protect_our_oceans





Scuba Diving Magazine's 2013 Underwater photography contest finalists

http://www.scubadiving.com/photos/2013-photocontest-semi-finalists#.UvcY6guqV7A.facebook



Rickett's Point with Emily Reinhard — photos by David Reinhard





VSAG Dive and Meeting Calendar

Activity Details

Dive Coordinator (DC) nominated below.

Dive site determined by DC and advised by email based on forecast conditions.

Boat Captains for the dive will be confirmed by email prior to the weekend.

Dive day can swap between Sat and Sun depending on conditions!

Dive Coordinator is responsible for organising a dive report after their weekend.

Dive sites adjusted on the day to suit divers and conditions.

Apr 5/6	DC Christine Reynolds 0402 214 136
Apr 12/13	DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Apr 15	General Meeting, Bells Hotel, 8.00 pm
Apr 19/20	DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Apr 26/27	DC David Flew 0418 446 530
May 3/4	DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
May 10/11	DC Benita McDonough 0419 399 000
May 17/18	DC Christine Reynolds 0402 214 136
May 20	General Meeting, Bells Hotel, 8.00 pm
May 24/25	DC Peter Galvin 0417 061 564
May 31/Jun 1	DC John Lawler 0414 922 916
Jun 7/8/9	Queen's Birthday Weekend - watch out for emails for more details DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Jun 14/15	DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Jun 17	General Meeting, Bells Hotel, 8.00 pm
Jun 21/22	DC David Flew 0418 446 530
Jun 28/29	DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Jul 5/6	DC Benita McDonough 0419 399 000

Book in for a dive day ASAP after receiving notification via email. Please provide the Dive Captain with your full name, mobile phone number and e-mail address.

You are required to call the Dive Captain between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. the evening prior to the dive day to confirm that you will still be coming on the dive.

Tidal Streams at the Heads — Apr 2014

RED italic times are slack water with EBB about to start (Flood Slack) which are the best diving conditions near the Heads. **BLUE** are Ebb Slack.

Mar	April					
Mon 31	Tue 1	Wed 2	Thu 3	Fri 4	Sat 5	Sun 6
3:27	4:18	5:04	0:19	1:01	1:41	2:18
10:08	11:04	11:53	5:47	6:27	7:05	6:42
16:13	17:17	18:11	12:37	13:17	13:55	13:31
22:36	23:31		18:58	19:41	20:21	19:59
Mon 7	Tue 8	Wed 9	Thu 10	Fri 11	Sat 12	Sun 13
1:54	2:30	3:08	3:51	4:46	5:56	0:30
7:18	7:54	8:33	9:19	10:17	11:31	7:12
14:06	14:41	15:18	15:58	16:46	17:51	12:57
20:36	21:14	21:55	22:42	23:34		19:13
Mon 14	Tue 15	Wed 16	Thu 17	Fri 18	Sat 19	Sun 20
1:24	2:12	2:55	3:35	4:13	4:51	0:16
8:14	9:03	9:46	10:26	11:05	11:44	5:29
14:17	15:20	16:11	16:55	17:36	18:17	12:24
20:29	21:27	22:15	22:58	23:38		18:57
Mon 21	Tue 22	Wed 23	Thu 24	Fri 25	Sat 26	Sun 27
0:55	1:35	2:18	3:07	4:04	5:13	6:29
6:10	6:53	7:40	8:36	9:43	11:05	12:36
13:06	13:49	14:34	15:22	16:16	17:22	18:42
19:39	20:21	21:05	21:52	22:44	23:41	
			May			
Mon 28	Tue 29	Wed 30	Thu 1	Fri 2	Sat 3	Sun 4
0:41	1:40	2:35	3:25	4:10	4:52	0:22
7:41	8:43	9:37	10:23	11:06	11:45	5:32
14:02	15:13	16:11	16:59	17:42	18:20	12:21
20:04	21:14	22:11	22:59	23:42		18:56

Tidal Streams at the Heads — May 2014

RED italic times are slack water with EBB about to start (Flood Slack) which are the best diving conditions near the Heads. **BLUE** are Ebb Slack.

		April	May			
Mon 28	Tue 29	Wed 30	Thu 1	Fri 2	Sat 3	Sun 4
0:41	1:40	2:35	3:25	4:10	4:52	0:22
7:41	8:43	9:37	10:23	11:06	11:45	5:32
14:02	15:13	16:11	16:59	17:42	18:20	12:21
20:04	21:14	22:11	22:59	23:42		18:56
Mon 5	Tue 6	Wed 7	Thu 8	Fri 9	Sat 10	Sun 11
0:59	1:35	2:11	2:49	3:31	4:20	5:18
6:10	6:48	7:27	8:09	8:58	9:57	11:09
12:56	13:29	14:02	14:36	15:12	15:53	16:47
19:30	20:03	20:36	21:10	21:47	22:29	23:15
Mon 12	Tue 13	Wed 14	Thu 15	Fri 16	Sat 17	Sun 18
6:20	0:07	1:00	1:52	2:42	3:30	4:17
12:31	7:20	8:14	9:03	9:49	10:34	11:19
18:02	13:51	14:56	15:50	16:36	17:20	18:02
	19:31	20:45	21:43	22:32	23:16	
Mon 19	Tue 20	Wed 21	Thu 22	Fri 23	Sat 24	Sun 25
0:00	0:44	1:30	2:18	3:10	4:08	5:10
5:05	5:54	6:47	7:43	8:46	9:57	11:17
12:04	12:49	13:34	14:19	15:05	15:56	16:57
18:43	19:24	20:04	20:45	21:26	22:12	23:02
					May	Jun
Mon 26	Tue 27	Wed 28	Thu 29	Fri 30	Sat 31	Sun 1
6:15	7:18	0:57	1:54	2:48	3:37	4:21
12:40	13:57	8:16	9:08	9:54	10:36	11:15
18:12	19:35	15:02	15:57	16:43	17:23	17:58
23:58		20:49	21:49	22:39	23:23	

Tidal Streams at the Heads — Jun 2014

RED italic times are slack water with EBB about to start (Flood Slack) which are the best diving conditions near the Heads. **BLUE** are Ebb Slack.

Jun						
Mon 2	Tue 3	Wed 4	Thu 5	Fri 6	Sat 7	Sun 8
0:02	0:39	1:15	1:50	2:27	3:07	3:50
5:03	5:44	6:24	7:05	7:49	8:39	9:36
11:51	12:25	12:58	13:30	14:02	14:36	15:13
18:31	19:02	19:31	20:01	20:30	21:02	21:36
Mon 9	Tue 10	Wed 11	Thu 12	Fri 13	Sat 14	Sun 15
4:39	5:32	6:30	7:28	0:53	1:54	2:54
10:43	11:58	13:16	14:25	8:24	9:18	10:09
15:58	16:59	18:20	19:49	15:24	16:15	17:00
22:15	23:00	23:54		21:02	22:01	22:53
Mon 16	Tue 17	Wed 18	Thu 19	Fri 20	Sat 21	Sun 22
3:52	4:50	0:31	1:21	2:12	3:04	3:58
11:00	11:48	5:48	6:47	7:48	8:52	10:01
17:43	18:24	12:35	13:21	14:05	14:50	15:37
23:42		19:03	19:42	20:20	21:00	21:41
Mon 23	Tue 24	Wed 25	Thu 26	Fri 27	Sat 28	Sun 29
4:54	5:51	6:50	0:17	1:17	2:15	3:08
11:14	12:28	13:39	7:46	8:39	9:27	10:11
16:31	17:38	18:59	14:43	15:37	16:23	17:02
22:28	23:20		20:19	21:25	22:18	23:02
June	July					
Mon 30	Tue 1	Wed 2	Thu 3	Fri 4	Sat 5	Sun 6
3:57	4:41	0:17	0:51	1:25	2:01	2:37
10:51	11:27	5:24	6:05	6:47	7:31	8:19
17:35	18:05	12:01	12:33	13:04	13:36	14:08
23:41		18:33	18:59	19:26	19:53	20:22

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Emergency Contac Mornington Penin	
Police – Ambulance – Fire	000
Water Police no longer use the 1800 0	88 200 number
The new 24/7 No is: 03 9399	7500
Diving Emergency Service	1800 088 200
Rosebud Hospital 1527 Nepean Hwy, Rosebud	03 5986 0666
Frankston Hospital Hastings Road, Frankston	03 9784 7777
The Bays Hospital Main Street, Mornington	03 5975 2009
Southern Peninsula Rescue (Sorrento	0) 0417 038 944 (new number)
Mornington Bay Rescue Service	0419 233 999
*Coast Guard (Queenscliff)	03 5258 2222
*Coast Guard (Hastings)	03 5979 3322
*Coast Guard (Safety Beach)	03 5981 4443
State Emergency Service (Vic)	132 500 (new number)
Diving Doctors:	
Dr Pamela Dagley (Eltham)	03 9439 2222 (VSAG member)
Dr Vanessa Haller (Carrum Downs)	03 9782 6666
Dr Adrian Murrie (Sorrento)	03 5984 4322
Dr Guy Williams (Rosebud)	03 5981 1555
VHF Emergency Channel 16	(club channel 73)
27 MHz AM Emergency Chan	nel 88 (club channel 96)
*Coast Guard is not always manned &	operates mainly during daylight hr