



Fathoms

AUGUST—SEPTEMBER 2017

*Tutupo Island Reef, Vanuatu
Photo by Ian Scholey*

**VSAG Vanuatu Trip
Photo competitions
Christmas in July
and more.....**

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Postal Address:

VSAG, Inc., P.O. Box 596, Cranbourne Vic 3977

www.vsag.org.au

Victorian Sub-Aqua Group, Inc.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, 19 September, 2017

Hi all

We will hold our AGM on Tuesday 19th September. At this time there is an opportunity for any member to nominate to join the VSAG Committee.

For information, our committee meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month in Frankston South.

If anyone would like to nominate please complete a Nomination form and send it to David Geekie at Secretary@vsag.org.au and copy to Ian Scholey at President@vsag.org.au. This is your chance to contribute to the running and future direction of the club and new committee members are always welcome.

It is with some sadness that I have to announce that two of our current committee have decided to stand down at this time. Both David Flew and Michael Ngai are busy with

other commitments. Both David and Michael have made a significant contribution to the club over the past few years and I am sure you will join me in thanking them for all that they have contributed.

Without David's hard work the transition to an Incorporated Association that we made last year would not have been possible. We are also indebted to David for his contribution to the Safety standards that we have achieved.

Michael has been instrumental in our annual awards night and has certainly made that event a great success while enhancing it by providing us with annual statistics on the club activities.

Thanks for all your hard work David and Michael.

Ian ❖



Fathoms

Est. 1954

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

In this December—January 2017 issue...

Article	Author	Page
VSAG Dive Trip to Vanuatu		6-31
VSAG Christmas in July		32-33
Tunicates	Dr Jan Watson	34-38
Cray Tagging		39
May 2017 Photo Competition		40-45
June General Meeting Guest Speaker	Kade Mills	46-47
June 2017 Photo Competition		48-54
July General Meeting Speaker	Ian Scholey	55-59
Hogan Island	Rowan Salger	60-61
Dive Reports & Snippets		62-69
Apollo Dealer of the Year Award	Lloyd Borrett	71
Diary Dates		72-75
VSAG Dive and Meeting Calendar		75-77
Tidal Streams		78-81
Emergency Contact Information		82-83

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NOTICES

VSAG Committee meets at 7 p.m. every 2nd Tuesday of the month
(except in January)

All Members Welcome
South Frankston VIC 3199



**VSAG Monthly meetings are at 8 p.m. on the
3rd TUESDAY of each month
at THE WATER RAT HOTEL
256 MORAY ST, SOUTH MELBOURNE**
All are welcome to join us for a meal at 7 p.m.
before the meeting.

VSAG on Facebook

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



UECWA our sister club in Western Australia is pleased to offer reciprocal diving arrangements to VSAG members.

Underwater Explorers Club of Western Australia

Postal Address
PO Box 382, Melville WA 6956

Email: info@uecwa.com.au

Meetings
Esplanade Hotel
The Esplanade, Fremantle, WA
Boat
Port Coogee Marina
Chieftain Esplanade, North Coogee, WA



Check out St George Scuba Club at :
<http://www.stgeorgescubaclub.org.au/news.php>

Peter Beaumont joined the club in 2012 whilst living in Sydney and is still a member . They are a very active and a nice bunch of people.

We are delighted to announce that we have now established another relationship with an interstate club that will allow you to dive with them if you wish to and vice versa.

The club is the Tas Uni Dive Club. You can check them out at : www.tudc.org.au



Your VSAG Committee 2016–2017

To email all VSAG committee members: committee@vsag.org.au

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DIVING VANUATU

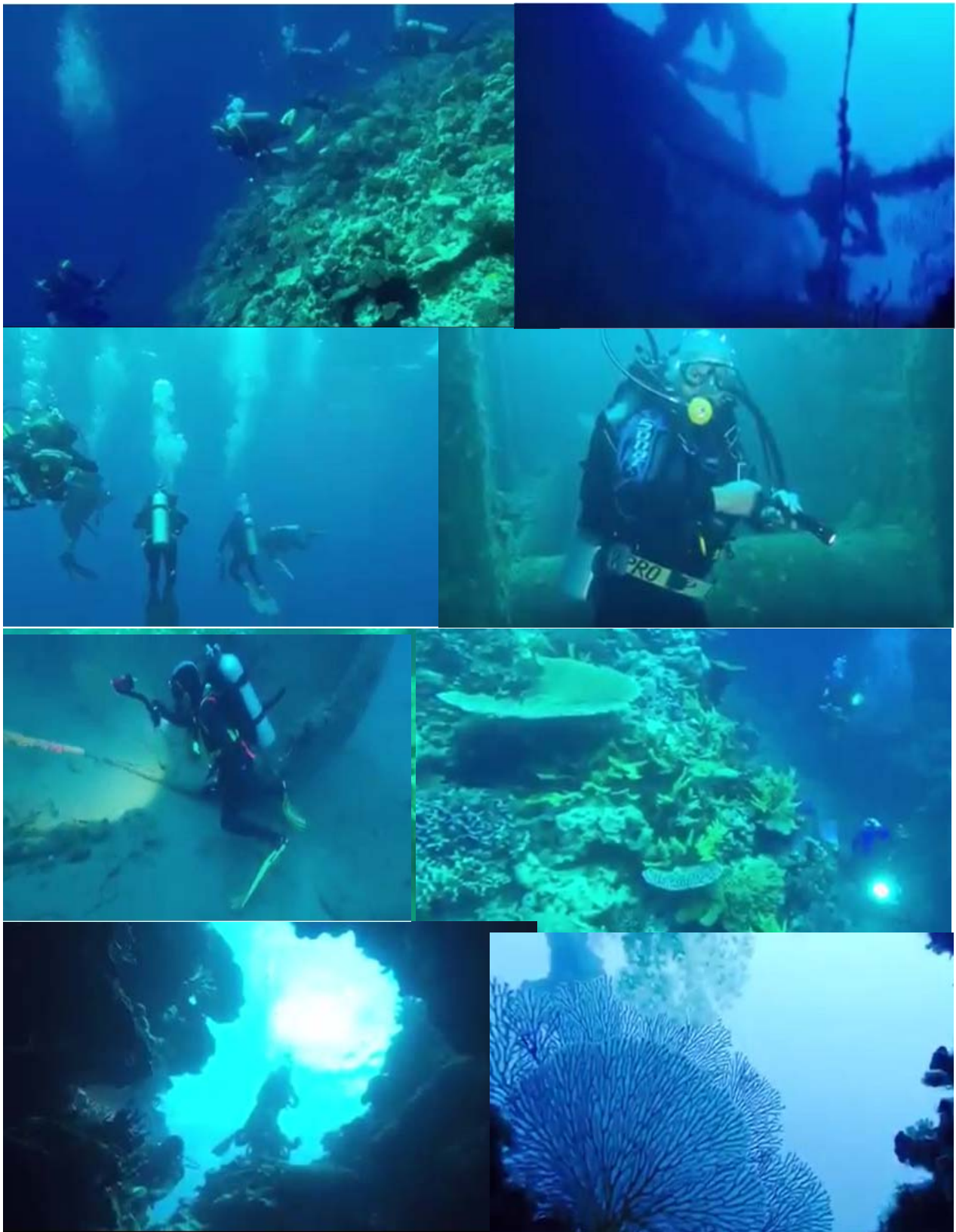
Vsag Club Dive Trip 2-12 July 2017

VSAG divers arriving on our Vanuatu trip and many thanks to Benita for organising it.

- John Ashley

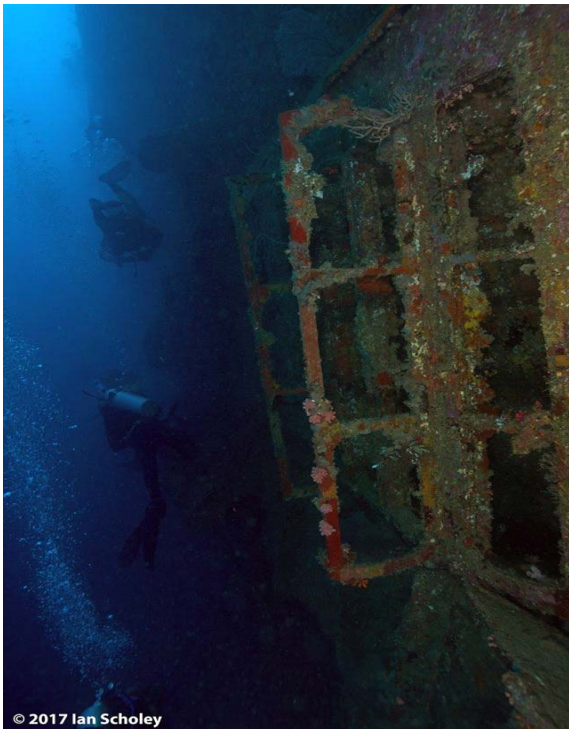


DIVING VANUATU



DIVING VANUATU

The first dive of our trip was an orientation and check out dive on the President Coolidge with no penetration. It's difficult to photograph such a big wreck so I did my best. The wreck is 200m long, 25m wide and rests on its port side. The bow is at 21m and the stern is on the bottom of a slope at 70m. It's truly an impressive sight and left us all excited about the dives to come. - By Ian Scholey



DIVING VANUATU



Tutupo Island Reefs

Today we took the opportunity of the right weather conditions to take the longer boat ride to Tutupo Island. The coral was spectacular and with vis of over 30m it made for a couple of really excellent dives. I guess we came for the Coolidge but finding reefs like these was a really unexpected bonus. Well worth a visit.

By Ian Scholey



DIVING VANUATU

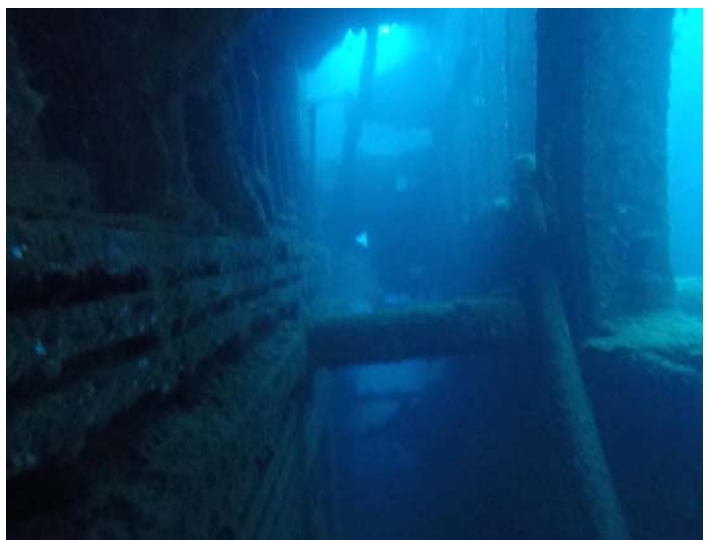


DIVING VANUATU

Luganville, Vanuatu

A few days into the VSAG Vanuatu dive trip and the crew are going gangbusters, 7 dives in, 5 Coolidge and 2 reef dives. Today and yesterday the crew have been split into 3 groups and it's interesting to see the other groups pass by and sometimes only see their lights faintly as we tour the ship. Some groups are in 35m whilst others are down at 46m. Not as much fish life as we expected but the wreck more than makes up for it. When we get to the deco stops the fish are waiting to play and be fed by our guides. Last night we were treated to a show of a local women's water dance show. Things are good.

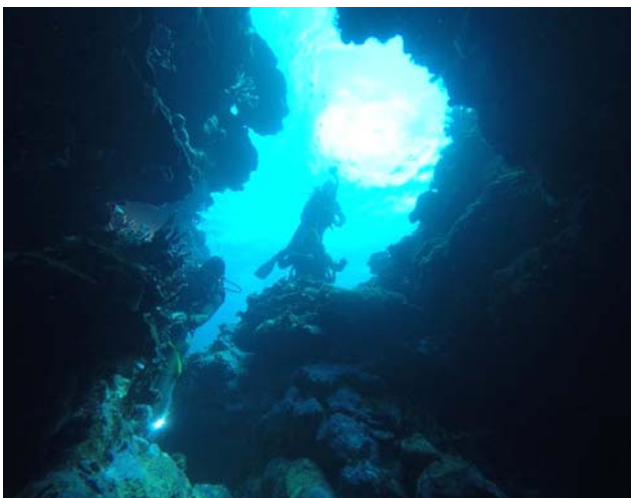
—*John Ashley*



DIVING VANUATU

Ok, finally got some underwater reef shots of Tupu island. 40-45 metre viz, 28 degree water temp and possibly the best reef dive I've done in years. Caves, swim throughs, overhangs, it's got the lot with a max depth of 25 metres on both dives. We drifted along the reef in a slight current for about 200 metres. It's a funny sight seeing Ian chasing a cuttlefish for a photo but credit to Ian, he got the shot.

- John Ashley



DIVING VANUATU

President Coolidge

Cargo Holds 1&2

The first dives today were our first penetration dives. The group split into 3 and we all headed to separate spots. Myself, guide Alfred and Paul Williams headed to Cargo holds 1 & 2. For both safety and good photographs inside wrecks careful finning is required and both Alfred and Paul did an excellent job. Inside hold one we found several Willeys jeeps originally packed in crates that have now rotted away. In hold two were the larger 10 wheel GM Trucks and 155mm Long Tom gun barrels. We also ducked into the barber's shop to photograph the barber's chair and visited the crew's mess where many artefacts are still to be seen. -
Ian Scholey



DIVING VANUATU

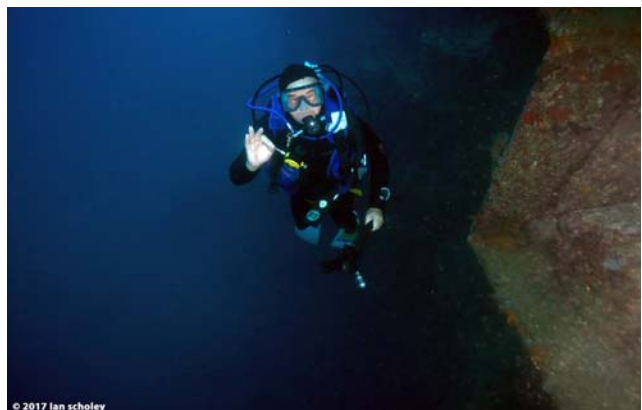


DIVING VANUATU

A double dive on the SS President Coolidge today with our 3 buddy pairs heading off in different directions. Myself and Paul Williams started with a good look through the very impressive engine room. Huge boilers, twin engines, some nice gauges and 4 telegraphs were the highlights. Our second dive involved some tight squeezes as we meandered through the guts of the ship exiting through the chain locker. We found lots of artefacts on the way including light fittings with the bulbs still in place, rifles, gas masks, entrenching tools, water bottles, a typewriter in one of the offices, a

vice in the forward workshop and mirrors along with the other fittings in the bathrooms. As usual we all hooked back up at the Deco Stop.

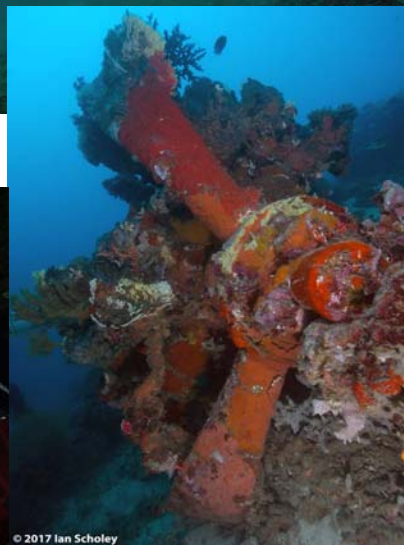
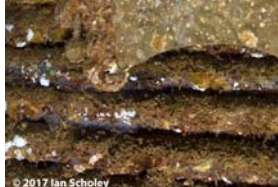
- Ian Scholey



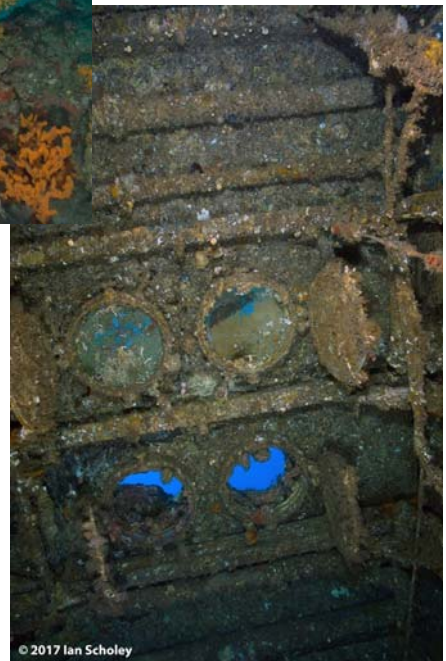
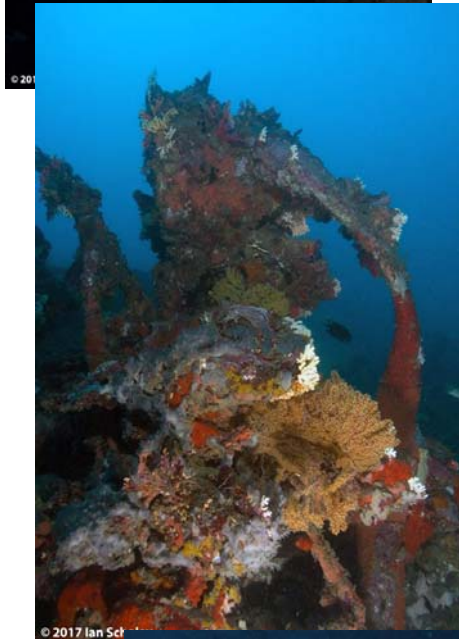
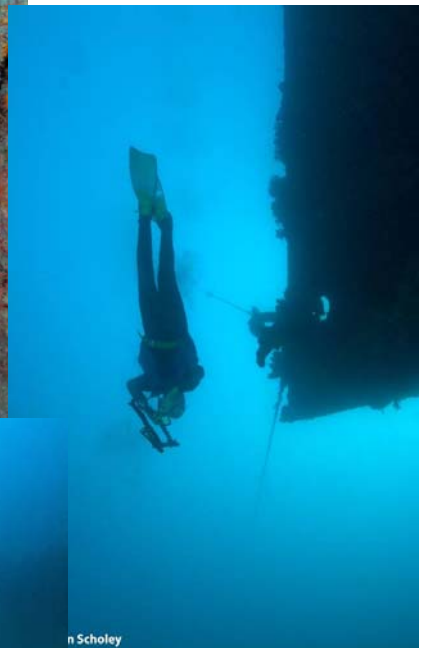
DIVING VANUATU

Today we went back to the SS President Coolidge for our first dive. Once again, we headed off in different directions in our buddy pairs. Myself and Paul Williams headed off to the First Class Lounge to kiss the lady and then took a tour along 'A' deck. Our second dive was across the water off Aore Island where we dived the wreck of an American Dauntless Dive Bomber. It had clearly hit the water hard as it was pretty broken up. We then drifted along finding ammunition scattered everywhere and some very nice Sea Fans.

- Ian Scholey



DIVING VANUATU



DIVING VANUATU

A very enjoyable night dive on Monday. The objective was to see the Flashlight fish and we all enjoyed the show. We then came up via the 3 inch guns and the bow. - Ian Scholey



DIVING VANUATU

It's been a couple of busy days. Yesterday morning we were back on the Coolidge, again in three groups, with one doing the Lady, another doing the engine room and our group visiting the anti aircraft guns. In the afternoon we did a dive on a Douglas Dauntless dive bomber which doesn't much resemble a plane anymore but a slow drift along the channel wall brought lots of other surprises. Today first up was a great dive on the Henry Bonnard an inter island ferry sitting in 42m of water on a sandy bottom. Sitting bolt upright and being only 40 metres long, the whole ship is diveable and the 35m viz made this one of my best dives here so far. After lunch we were treated to a great reef dive off Bokissa Island and after having a break headed out for a night dive on the Coolidge.

- John Ashley



DIVING VANUATU

Diving the USS Tucker, US Navy destroyer today. Sunk by friendly mines during the Second World War. Depth 16m - 22 m

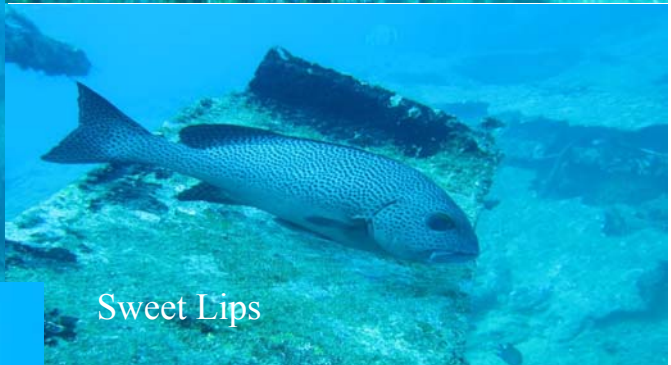
—*Carole Campisano*



Peter Campisano with hatch cover



John Ashley cruising around



Sweet Lips



Sea Perch

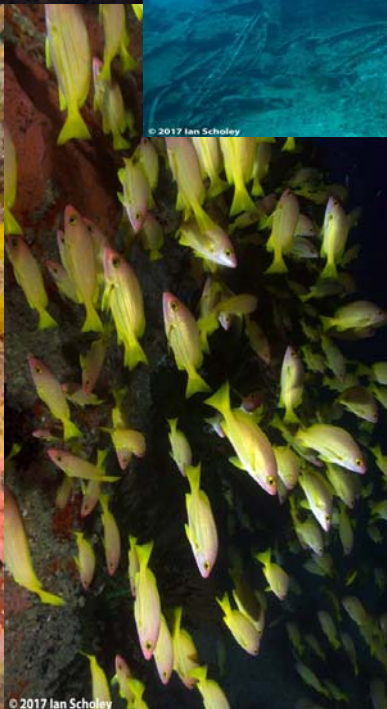


Bat Fish

DIVING VANUATU

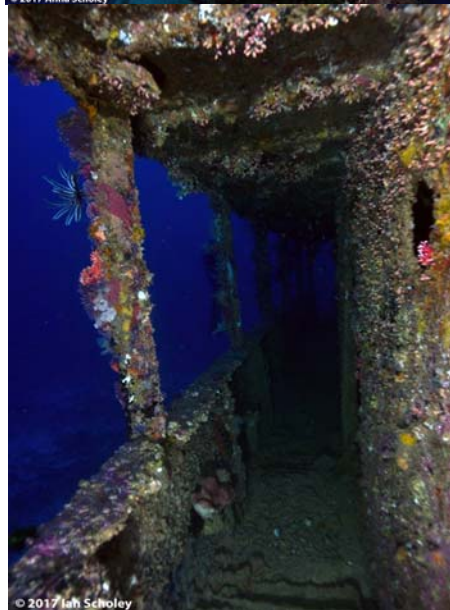
A good couple of wrecks today. Very different but both excellent in their own way. The Tui Tawate is intact and upright in 46m, while the USS Tucker is well broken up after hitting one of the US mines (As with the Coolidge) and nice and shallow at 22m. The Tucker was loaded with fish life. Another great day's diving.

- Ian Scholey

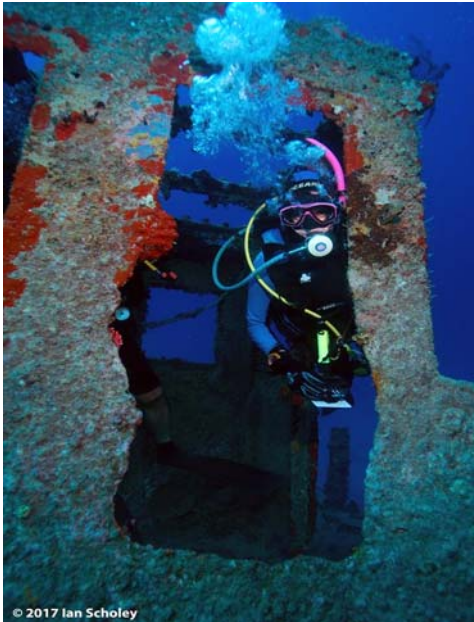


DIVING VANUATU

The Henry Bonnard and Million Dollar Point. - Photos by Ian Scholey



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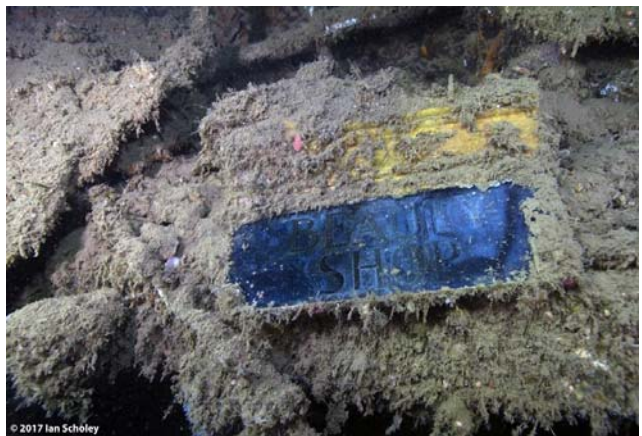
Anna Scholey does her deco after getting to see the lady. Didn't do the kiss though, so missed the chance of all that good luck.



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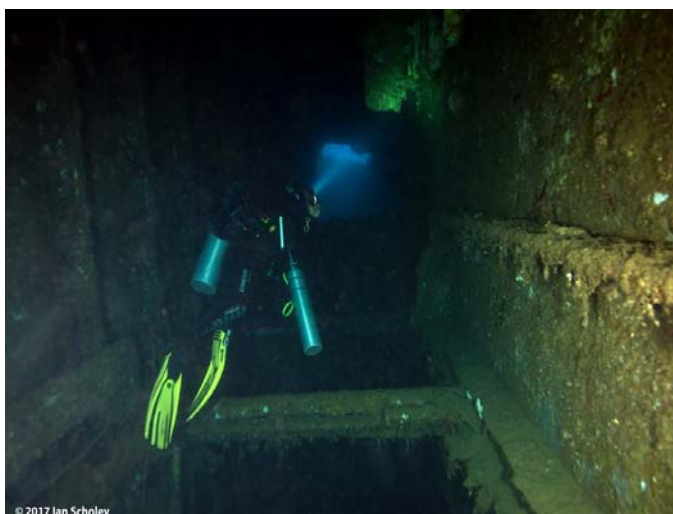
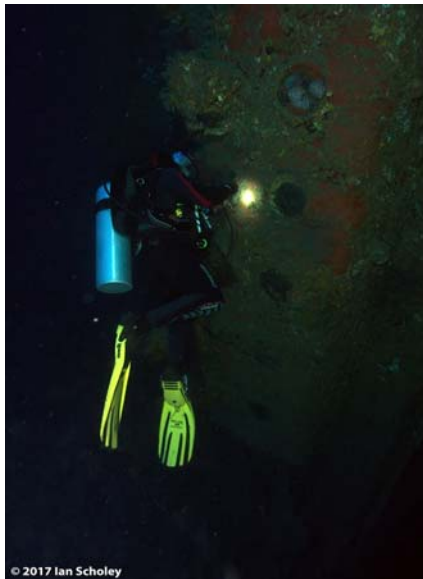
Last dive on the President Coolidge for our group today. It feels like a job half done to me with a few spots still to see. Today we went in all different directions with Peter Campisano, Carole Campisano and Anna Scholey heading to the Lady, John Ashley and David Flew to the Engine Room and myself and Paul Williams the Swimming Pool and a much need visit to the Beauty Salon for me. I am now buff.

—Ian Scholey

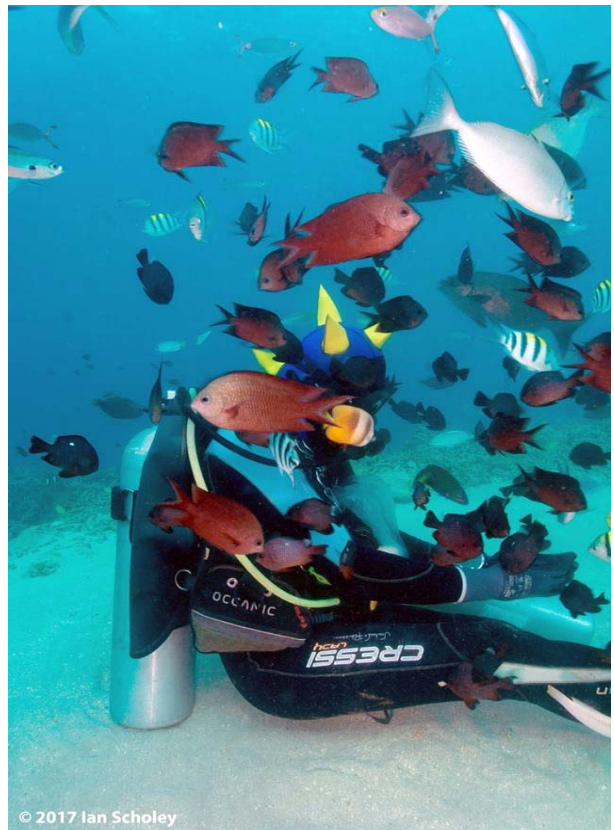
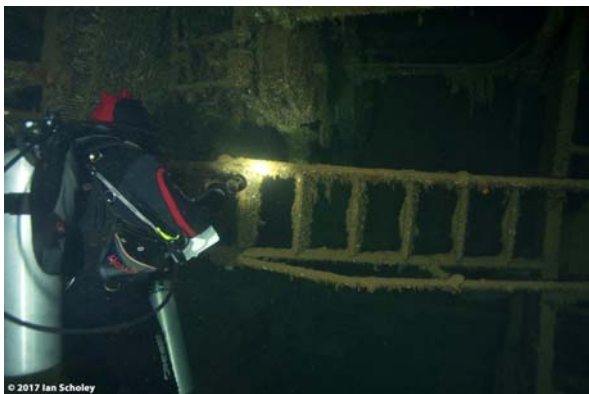


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DIVING VANUATU



DIVING VANUATU



DIVING VANUATU

With Anna Scholey needing to do a check out dive to make sure she was over a cold and able to equalise, I did an afternoon dive today on the resort house reef. With Anna all good, we spent a happy hour critter spotting and enjoying the large schools of fish around the jetty.—Ian Scholey



DIVING VANUATU



DIVING VANUATU

With 20 odd dives to off gas and the flight home tomorrow, there was no diving for the crew today. Instead, we packed into the back of a pick up truck and headed off to one of Vanuatu's spectacular Blue Holes for a swim. It was a great way to end the trip and we all got wet so everyone was happy.

We have had an absolute ball here with excellent diving, friendly locals and a great group. Thanks to all for making it a trip to remember. As for Vanuatu, we will definitely be coming back again some time.

- Ian Scholey



DIVING VANUATU



DIVING VANUATU



Thanks so much for a wonderful 12 days of diving. So professional and safe. Great variety of dive sites, excellent guides and truly scrumptious lunch! Thanks Lyndal xx.

- Peter and Carole Campisano ❖



VSAG Christmas in July





TUNICATES

TUNICATES - THE SEA SQUIRTS

The Tunicates are a large and diverse group of marine invertebrates that we often see but usually don't recognise. There are many species in Australia ranging from the tropics to temperate regions. Unfortunately, there is no-one in Australia currently researching this interesting group of organisms.

Almost all tunicates have an outer membrane of cellulose-like "tunicin", hence their name. They are predominantly sessile filter feeders with a complex and advanced biology. The animal has two siphons – an incurrent one for drawing in water and an excurrent siphon for expelling waste. They are colloquially called sea squirts because when disturbed, water is forcibly ejected as the siphons close. They have a complex nervous, circulatory and digestive system. They are very distantly related to vertebrates (ourselves) as the larva has a notochord like that of human embryos. After finding a suitable habitat the free swimming tadpole-like larva sticks head down and both head and tail are resorbed as the adult begins to grow. Due to their tough outer skin (test) they have few

predators although some nudibranchs specialise in feeding on them.

The tunicates we normally see belong to the sessile Class Ascidiacea found on firm substrate in many habitats. Some are strongly adherent to the substrate, others are stalked and some put down anchoring roots

Another group of tunicates that we see only rarely are the salps, long trailing ribbons of jelly-like clusters of individuals floating in the summer plankton.

The three major groups of sessile ascidians that are familiar to us are: the solitary, colonial and compound groups.

SOLITARY ASCIDIANS. These are the large ones we often see on dives. The in/excurrent siphons are large and quickly close when the animal is disturbed.

Pyura stolonifera

A ubiquitous ascidian hand-sized or larger, growing solitary or in groups on jetty piles, reef and sometimes on the seabed. It is a very versatile species, able to fix itself to whatever

TUNICATES

substrate is available. The test varies in colour from pinkish to yellowish-brown and the large siphons are in the form of a cross with a sensitive outer fringe. The leathery test is often an attractive substrate for settlement of algae and other invertebrates. They occur throughout the bay and on local ocean coasts but prefer quieter waters.

I'm not aware that any studies have been done to determine the life history of *P. stolonifera* but I once found a colony on Gem pier in Williamstown plugged onto clean wood of a pile that had been installed 14 years previously!



Above, Pyura stolonifera on jetty pile, Clifton Springs, 1 m.



Above, exposed deep root system of Pyura stolonifera, from sandy bed, Curlewis, 2 m.

Herdmania grandis

Another common large ascidian which prefers oceanic or near-oceanic reef habitats and jetty piles. The body texture is very firm and jelly-like, the large siphons are smooth and trumpet-shaped, usually in shades of pink with a darker line around the rim. It can reverse blood circulation around the body and has the peculiar ability to secrete vanadium from seawater using it in the same way as haemoglobin in our blood. Many years ago I collected some specimens for bleeding the clear blood for estimation of vanadium in the blood; it was a tug-o

TUNICATES

-war to get them intact off the substrate.



Above, *Herdmania grandis* St
Leonards pier, 2 m.



Above, *Herdmania grandis* St
Leonards pier, 2 m.

STALKED ASCIDIANS

There are several local species that have solved the problem of getting above the substrate, and therefore have access to better feeding opportunities. Their flexible stalks are so tough that it is almost impossible to pull them away from the substrate. Most of these species prefer oceanic or near-oceanic habitat, although occasionally one can be found on bay jetties.

Pyura spinifera

An ascidian of deeper oceanic waters. It grows in clusters of knobly stalked individuals. Varies in colour from yellow to pink with a slippery texture from a thin epibiotic sponge covering the test. Common along southern coasts.



Pura spinifera, Jervis Bay NSW,
Photo: Andrew Newton

TUNICATES

COLONIAL ASCIDIANS

These are smaller individuals clustered together in sheets for feeding and protection. They are often seen in extensive mats. Each individual has an in/excurrent siphon. They are found in all habitats but more easily seen (if we look carefully) on jetty piles and reef in places of good water movement. Depending upon species they come in many colours and are often partly disguised by sand embedded in the test.

Amphicarpa diptycha

Colonies of small closely associated individuals, the test is only moderately tough, and usually shades of brown in colour. The in/excurrent siphons are clearly seen. It can withstand high water turbidity



Above. *Amphicarpa diptycha*
Bluescope wharf, Western Port, 5m



Above. *Amphicarpa diptycha*,
Popes Eye, 3 m

Clavellina australis

White to pale blue or pink, small hand-sized untidy clusters. Prefers sheltered oceanic reef habitat. Individuals are easy to see as the siphons are bright blue, contrasting with the pale translucent jelly-like test. There are several related similar species with varying colours and general appearance.



Clavellina australis, Popes Eye,
under the gannet platform, 1 m.

TUNICATES

Genus and species unknown.....

Not being my speciality I do not attempt to identify this species. It has a moderately tough jelly-like texture and favours a quiet water habitat. The in/ex current siphons indicate it is a colonial species, but it may be a compound species. Can anyone help? There is so much we don't know even of common marine invertebrate species.



*Genus and species unknown.....
Clifton Springs jetty ruins, 1 m.*

Jan Watson

Marine Science & Ecology

Ph: 03 5253 2294

Mob: 0457 981 875

Rock Lobster Tagging Program

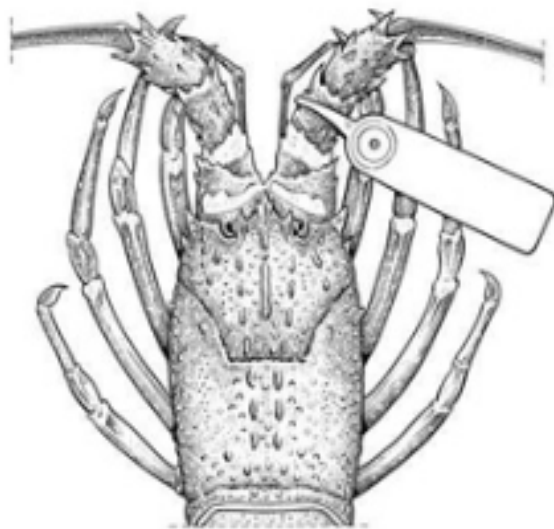
Tagging of recreationally caught rock lobsters commenced on 1 July 2017

1 July 2017, all recreational fishers will be required to tag the rock lobster they catch and keep as part of a three year trial program.

A primary focus for the government is to ensure ongoing access to the rock lobster resource for all sectors, and a healthy, sustainable and well-managed fishery for present and future generations to enjoy.

Tags are free and can be ordered online or collected from selected Victorian Government Offices.

For further information please visit the link below:



<http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/fisheries/recreational-fishing/tagging-of-recreationally-caught-rock-lobsters>

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

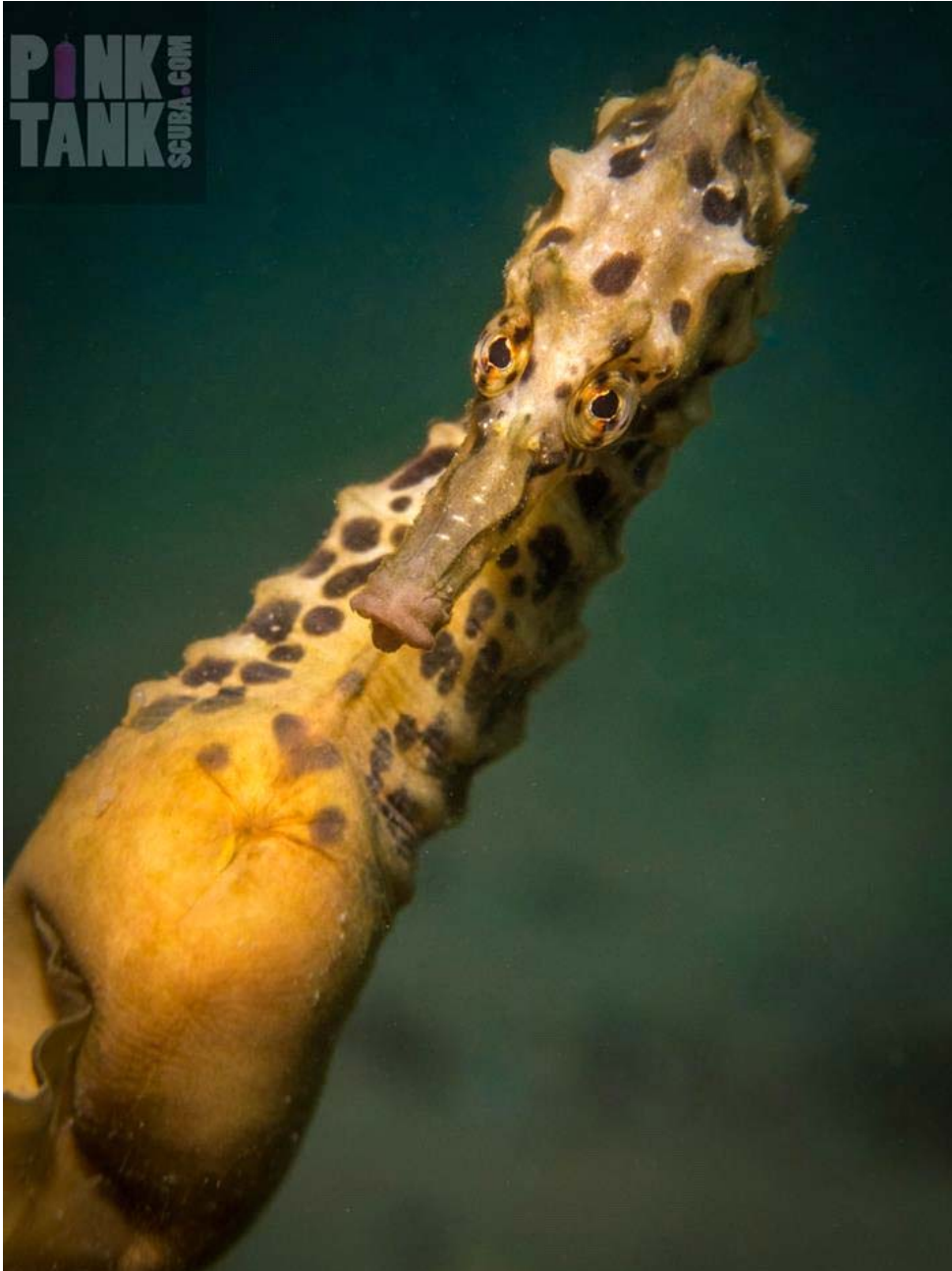
First - May 2017



First Place - Octopus, Rye Back Beach - by Phil Watson

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

Second - May 2017



Second Place - Sultry Seahorse - by PT Hirschfield

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

Equal Third - May 2017



Equal Third Place - Tiny Cray, Ricketts Point - by Mark Jeffrey

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

Equal Third - May 2017



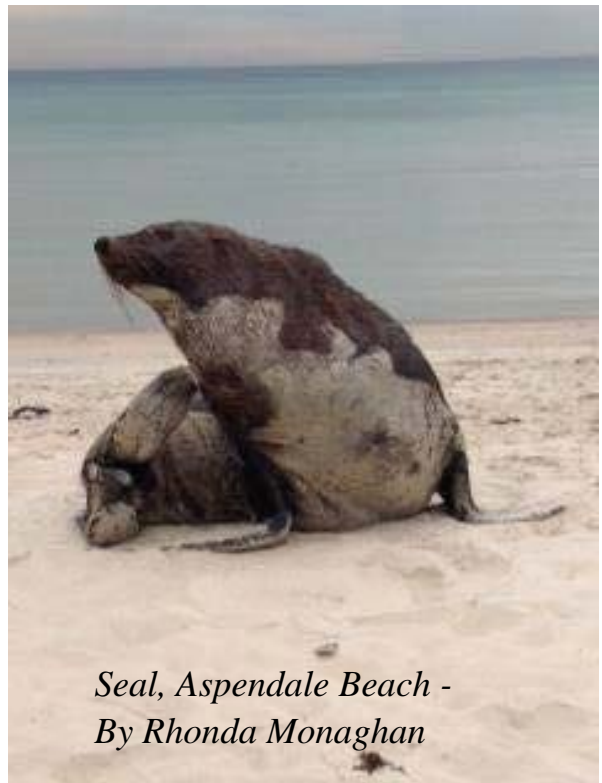
Equal Third Place - Adriana Posing with Octopus -by PT Hirschfield

MAY 2017 PHOTO COMPETITION



The Pinnacle - by Mark Jeffrey

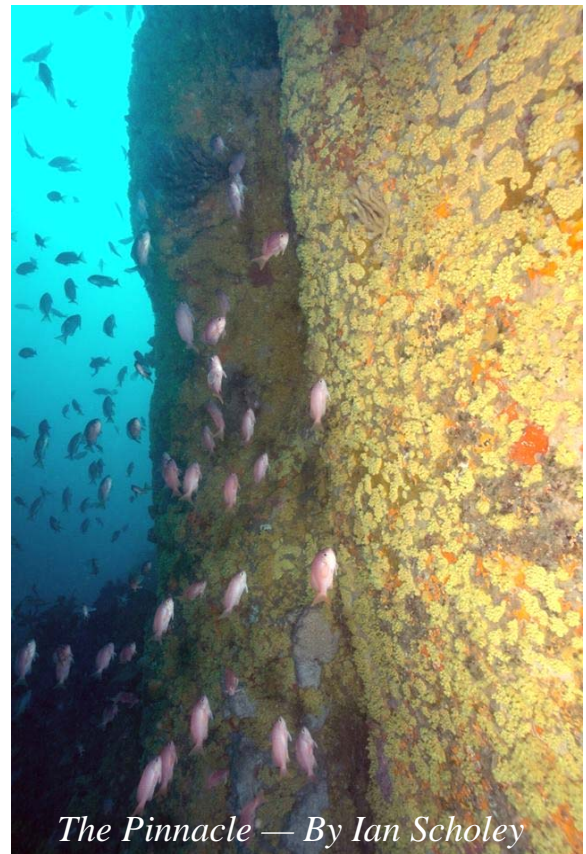
© Mark Jeffrey



*Seal, Aspendale Beach -
By Rhonda Monaghan*



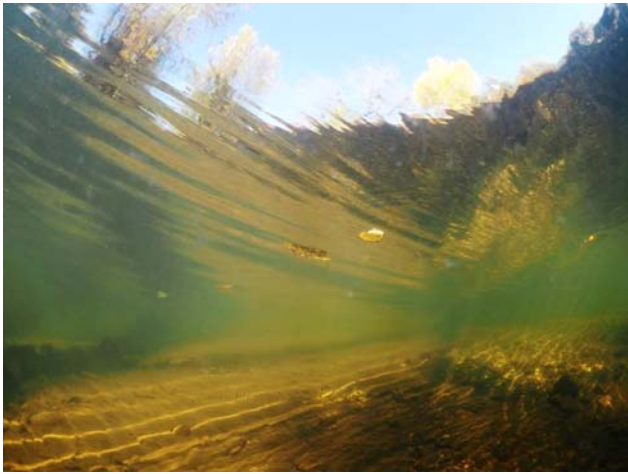
*Seal, Aspendale Beach -
By Rhonda Monaghan*



The Pinnacle — By Ian Scholey

MAY 2017 PHOTO COMPETITION

Congratulations to our First Place competition winner, Phil Watson, with his photo of an Octopus, Rye Back Beach. Second place went to PT Hirshfield with her photo of Sultry Seahorse. Equal Third place went to Mark Jeffrey with Tiny Cray, Ricketts Point and PT Hirshfield with Adriana Posing with an Octopus. Thank you to everyone who contributed.



Owens River — By Phil Watson



Isolation.— By Jon Kenfeld



*Nudibranch, Blairgowrie -
By Ian Scholey*



*Sentinel Stands Guard -
By Charmaine Alford*

JUNE GUEST SPEAKER

VSAG General Meeting Guest Speaker

Kade Mills

20 June 2017

Kade, as a scientist, has elected to work for Victorian National Parks Association, working with the Marine department. VNPA is a not for profit organisation and has been around for 65 years. Currently there is a staff of 12 working in the organisation including Kade. The organisation is involved in identifying areas which require protection and was involved in the protection of Wilsons Prom, when there was an attempt to commercialise the Prom.

Reef Watch has been around for 15 years, and has worked on the project to protect and create shellfish reefs with one of VSAG's previous guest speakers, Simon Branigan. Kade discussed that at one time Melbourne had 60 Oyster saloons selling great quality Melbourne oysters.



The oyster program, after putting down sediment plates, takes seeded oysters from a farm and re-locates them. Experiments are also being conducted to establish if the structures will make a natural place for the oysters to grow without seeding on a farm first. The types of oysters they are growing is Paper Oysters and the oysters will be released on the sediment plates in October when they release their larva.

One of the areas Kade would like to work is on analysing the data



ReefWatch



VICTORIAN
NATIONAL PARKS
ASSOCIATION
The part of nature

obtained from the Fish Count and making a story from this data. Kade also discussed the fact that members from the rays and sharks family that are seen very regularly at Point Cook have been added to the list of species that will be included in the Fish Count for next year.

Another area that Kade is getting involved in is using technology similar to facial recognition with the dots on the weedy sea dragons to build up a database of the dragons and monitor them. At some point in the future Kade will be asking if photos of sea dragons can be sent to him for this purpose. He did note that he is not ready for these as yet so please don't send them.

Kade left us with the possibility of the club potentially getting involved and collecting data with reef live surveys to assist the scientists.

A very interesting talk which was enjoyed by the VSAG members.

Kade Mills
ReefWatch Co-ordinator
0393416519

kadem@vnpa.org.au

Victorian National Parks Association

2016 Great Victorian Fish Count Report

Many thanks to all the 2016 Fish Count divers who submitted their count data!

Check out the report on our website at www.vnpa.org.au/publications/2016-great-victorian-fish-count/.

Praise the Rays

Fisheries Victoria has recently responded to community concerns about the killing of rays in Port Phillip Bay following the efforts of Project Banjo Action Group. ([see their petition here](#)) The agency is proposing to prohibit the take of rays larger than 1.5 m, reduce the bag limit to one a day (from five) and prohibit the take of rays from man-made structures.

[The Fisheries notice can be found here.](#)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

First - June 2017



First place - Cute Anemone Crab, Atauro Island Timor Leste -

By Charmaine Alford

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

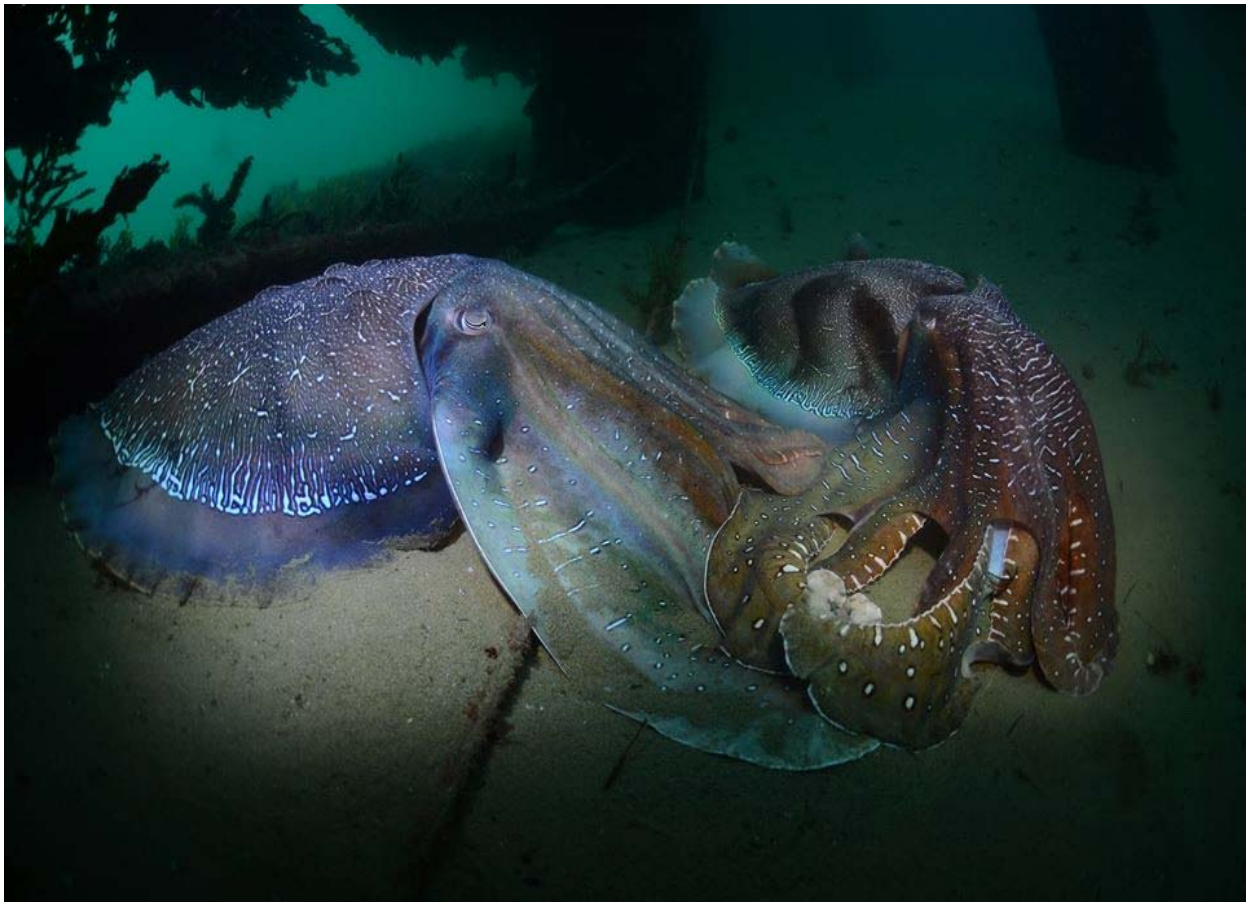
Second - June 2017



Second place - Sea Jelly Delight, Blairgowrie - By PT Hirschfield

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

Equal 3rd - June 2017



Equal Third Place—Cuttlefish, Blairgowrie - By Peter Beaumont

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

Equal 3rd - June 2017



Equal Third Place - Jelly, Blairgowrie - By PT Hirschfield

JUNE 2017 PHOTO COMPETITION

*Feather Star, Atauro Island Timor Leste
- By Charmaine Alford.*



*Green Moray, Ship Rock Sydney -
By Ian Scholey.*



*Cuttlefish, Blairgowrie
- By Peter Beaumont*



*Sea Horse, Bare Island Sydney -
By Ian Scholey*



*Alien Attack, Blairgowrie -
By Mark Jeffrey.*



JUNE 2017 PHOTO COMPETITION

Another fantastic photo competition in June with a wide variety of entries. First place went to Charmaine with her cute Anemone Crab, Second place to PT's Sea Jelly Delight and Equal Third to Peter Beaumont's Cuttlefish and PT's Jelly. Thank you to everyone who contributed!



*We got crabs, Blairgowrie -
by Mark Jeffrey.*



*Puffer Fish, Blairgowrie -
By Fiona Karney.*



*Sea Life, Blairgowrie -
By Jeff Horton*



*Spider Crab, Blairgowrie -
By Fiona Karney.*

JUNE 2017 PHOTO COMPETITION



*Snorkeller, Williamstown -
By Phil Watson.*



*Artificial Reef, Amed -
By Tim Forster*



*Artificial Reef, Amed -
By Tim Forster*



*Nudi and Diver,
Williamstown - By Phil Watson.*

July 2017 Speaker

VSAG General Meeting Speaker

Ian Scholey



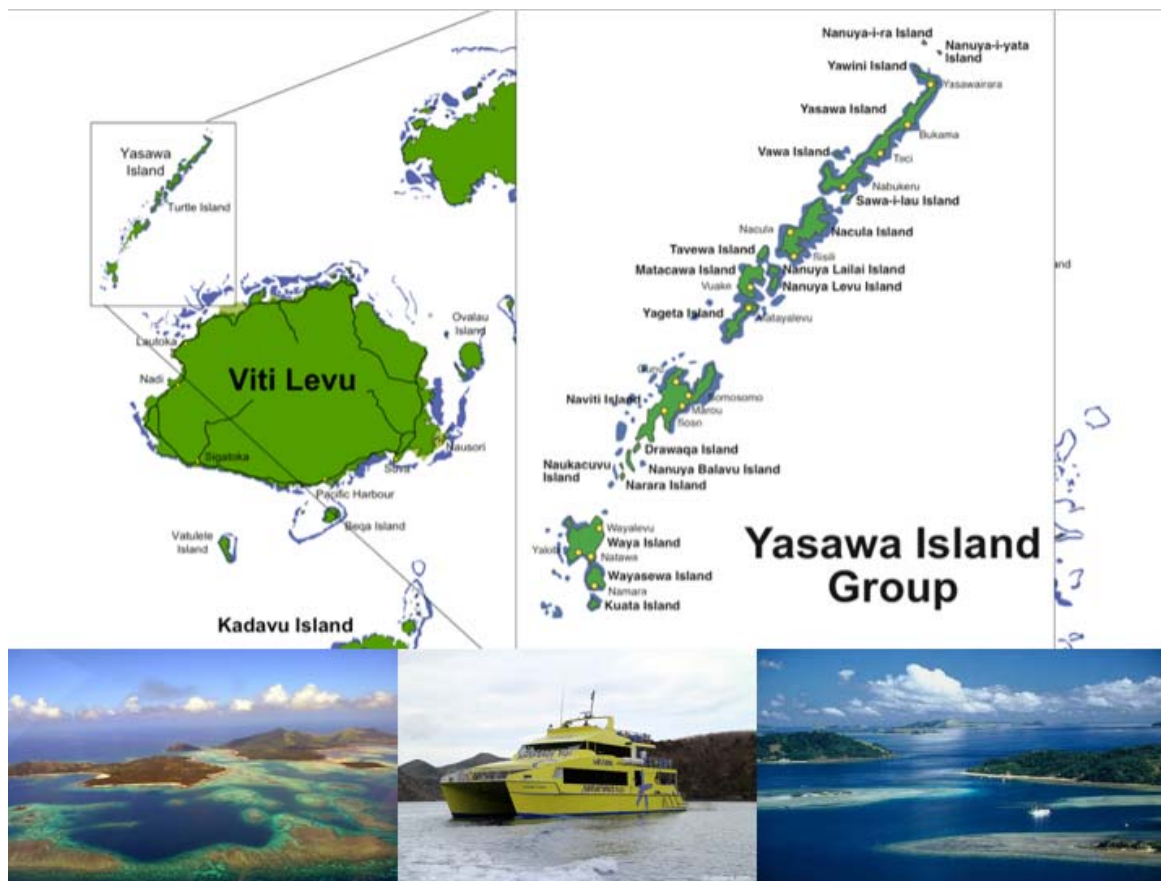
At the July General Meeting Ian presented on a recent trip to dive the Yasawa Islands in Fiji, a new Bull Shark dive to rival Beqa Lagoon and the Walls, Caves, Pinnacles and Manta Ray encounters at Mantaray Resort. VSAG is planning a trip there in 2019.

DIVING THE YASAWA ISLANDS

FIJI JUNE 2017



ALLWAYS
Dive Expeditions



Getting There

- Flights from Melbourne to Nadi with Qantas, Jetstar, Virgin and Fiji Airlines
- Yasawa Flyer fast Catamaran departs Port Denarau at 8.30am every day
- Bulla Pass allows Island/Resort hopping
- Accommodation from backpacker to luxury

Yasawa Island Diving Facts

- Water Temperature
- June – August: Minimum of 23 degrees (We had 27 degrees)
- Dec – Feb: Maximum of 30 degrees
- Visibility 10 - 40m (best in winter)
- Currents can be strong
- Less crowded than other areas of Fiji
- 7000 fish species inhabit the local reefs

KUATA ISLAND RESORT

DIVING KUATA It's all about the sharks



Diving Kuatau Island

- Shark feed dives at 8.00am and 11.00am daily
- Staff are passionate about Sharks and conservation
- We saw 15-20 Bull Sharks, Lemon Sharks, Silver Tips, Black Tips, White Tips and Nurse Sharks
- Single tank dives
- Walls and House Reef (What we saw were not the best)
- Snorkle feed of White Tip Reef Sharks
- Afternoon and Night dives
- Comfortable boats with shade and good ladders

MANTARAY ISLAND RESORT NANUYA BALAVAU ISLAND



Walls and Caves



Macro Life



Diving Nanuya Balavau Island

- 40 Dive Sites
- Good Coral
- Walls, Caves, Pinnacles
- Snorkelling with Manta Rays
- Excellent House Reef
- Twin tank dives AM and PM
- Night dives
- Comfortable boats with shade and good ladders
- Flexible operator

YASAWA ISLANDS FIJI 2019

Hi all

A long way out but the first of our 2019 overseas trips to be organised is a cracker to Fiji to dive with Bull Sharks at Kuata Island before a week of Reef diving and snorkelling with Mantas at Mantaray Resort. If anyone would like more information then please contact me directly.

Ian

VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP YASAWA ISLANDS FIJI



Get ready for magic reef, healthy fish life and more importantly some great pelagic action. This fantastic shark dive offers a chance to get up close with an array of sharks - Bull, White, Silver, Blacktip reef, Nurse, Lemon and Grey reef sharks are seen frequently slipping through the water amongst nearly 300 species of fish, including Grouper and Napoleon wrasse. Other sites include large pinnacles, swim-throughs covered in soft corals, wrecks, macro sites and incredible walls.

FLY

VIRGIN AIRLINES

Return flights Melbourne to Nadi
Airlines taxes & fuel surcharges

SLEEP

GATEWAY HOTEL NADI

1 Night Deluxe room twin share
Return airport transfers

BAREFOOT KUATA RESORT, FIJI

2 Nights Beach Safari room

All meals ending with breakfast on the last day
Return Ferry transfers from Denarau Port Marina
Transfer from Barefoot Kuata to Mantaray Resort

MANTARAY ISLAND RESORT

7 NIGHTS Reef Bure or Beachfront Villa

Compulsory meal package \$90 FJD pp per day - paid locally

FOI GATEWAY HOTEL

1 Night Deluxe room twin share
Included transfers

DIVE

BAREFOOT KAUATA DIVING

3 Bull Shark dives

3 Reef dives

2 FREE shore dives per day

Tanks, weights & air-fill

The use of a professional dive guide

Non Diver- Includes 2 x shark snorkel trip

MANTARAY ISLAND RESORT DIVING

10 Dives per diver

Tanks, weights, air-fill

Professional dive guide



TRAVEL DATES
13- 24 JUNE 2019

DIVER \$4,635
NON DIVER \$3,225

REFERENCE
D19864

CONTACT VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP FOR MORE INFORMATION

info@vsag.org.au | 0439 310 646 or 0414 922 916 | vsag.org.au

ALWAYS DIVE EXPEDITIONS

res@alwaysdive.com.au | 1800 338 239 | alwaysdive.com.au

Excursions, equipment, rental, night dives, Hoses, Shark and marine park fees not included - 120 FJD Per day per diver

Hogan Island

Hogan Island Winter 2017

I had a fantastic time and am looking forward to the next trip there.

- Rowan Salger





Dive Reports & Snippets

Flinders Pier

Sunday 9 Jul 17

Water temp: 11c

Vis: 5 mtrs

Dive time: 40-65 minutes

Divers: Peter Beaumont, Grant Callow, Mike Mosseveld

Photos: Peter Beaumont

With Blairgowrie Marina blown out by 30k N/NNW winds boat or shore diving wasn't an option for the bay so we met at Flinders Pier for an early (8am) dive. There was one other non VSAG diver gearing up in his wetsuit so I said g'day before he headed off to the entry point. The 10-15k N/NW wind was keeping the surface chop down but the sandy bottom was a bit stirred up with sand & kelp particles suspended in the water column.

Entry was from the beach with Grant & Mike buddying up while I headed off to take some pics of the pylons & have a swim out to the left of the pier where the old pylon stumps & old mooring chains are located.

From there I swam back to the pier & checked the rotted-out pylon tops for resident occy's. I saw the usual ornate cow fish, weedies, dusky

morwongs but no occy's. I was hoping to see the odd bull ray or eagle ray which occasionally hang around the pier but they were a no show today. With the gear packed away, we watched as a group of open water students geared up then we headed off for coffee at a local café.

-Peter Beaumont ❖



Hurricane Wreck

Tues 11 Jul 17

Water temp: 11c

Vis: 8-10 mtrs

Divers: Peter Beaumont & Bo Zhang

Photos: Peter Beaumont

Bo Zhang & I went out for a leisurely Tuesday double dive on the Hurricane as the wind forecast was for 5-10k winds for most of the day & a slack water time of approx. 10:18am. Once anchored we geared up, performed buddy checks & entered the water at approx. 9:45am into a 2 knot (approximate) outgoing current.

Once on the bottom we ran a line from the anchor & swam to the stern section then the bow area & had a good look around. We saw the usual leather jackets, ornate cow fish, rockling, pinkies plus a draft board shark tucked away under one section. After 35 minutes we ascended, completed our safety stop then climbed back onboard to have morning tea & change tanks.

For the second dive, I had a good look around the middle, bow section for cuttle fish or any eggs but didn't see any. After 30 minutes & with the tide now running in at about 2 knots we returned to the anchor, completed our safety stop then climbed back onboard. With the

gear packed away we recovered the anchor & headed back to the ramp.

- Peter Beaumont ❖



Exploring the Hurricane

Great diving with Peter Beaumont on a beautiful day! Thanks Peter! ❖



Blairgowrie Marina

Thursday 22nd / Friday 23rd / Sun 25th Jun17

Water temp: 12c

Vis: 10mtrs

Dive time: 96 minutes / 60 minutes / 55 minutes

Divers: Peter Beaumont (22nd/23rd/25th) Bert Parker (23rd)

Walter Medenbach (25th)

Photos: Peter Beaumont

Walked down from the top carpark & did a beach entry to the Marina. Swam down to the T junction, turned right & followed the wave screen looking for some cuttlefish. Found a couple of cuttles under the matting, one of which decided to come out for a look, flash some colours & stay out over the weedy reef structure whilst I followed it around.

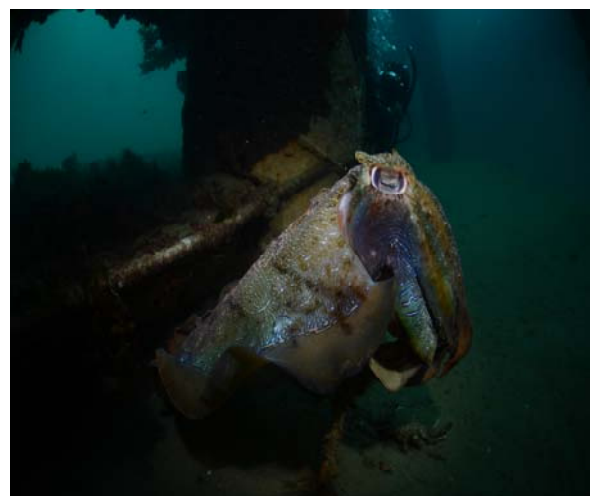
On the way back, I found a couple of large cuttles out on the sand flashing lots of colours & mating. I sat there for the next 15 minutes snapping away till they decided to move back under the matting / swim off.

Went back the next day & did the same dive with Bert Parker & found one cuttle sitting adjacent to its hole under the matting. It was interested in its reflection from the camera & started flashing colours then basically just sat there whilst I took some pics. No mating cuttles out & about on this

dive & a quick check showed that there were no eggs under the matting. With the gear packed away we headed off for coffee at one of the local cafés

Sunday's dive was similar to Friday's with just the one cuttle sitting outside its hole whilst one of the other cuttles was under the matting guarding a large cluster of eggs. Afterwards we had coffee at one of the local cafés.

- *Peter Beaumont* ❖



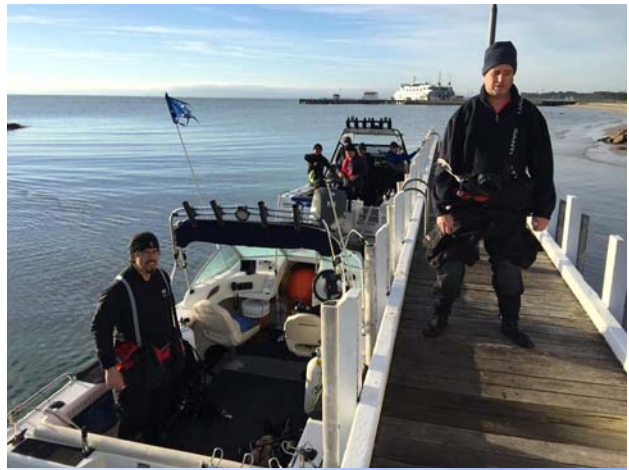
J5 Sub & SS Coogee

June 11 2017

Today's diving was excellent. VSAG had two boats out today - Bar Crusher and Narcosis with 8 hardy divers. On Bar Crusher was David Politakis, Greg Richards, Ian Smith, Andrew Quested and Ian Scholey, with Darren Pearce, Sonny Voss and John Ashley on Narcosis.

Conditions outside were good so after an easy run through the heads in choppy seas we dived first on the J5. After looking at the corrosion around the conning tower, it's obvious that it's won't be long before it's on the sand. A great dive in 15 metre viz with all the usual fish life. After lunch we did our 2nd dive on the Coogee in much the same viz. Most of the fish seem to live around the stern on this wreck and I was told even the odd cray. Back at the boat ramp both boats were boarded and checked by Fisheries.

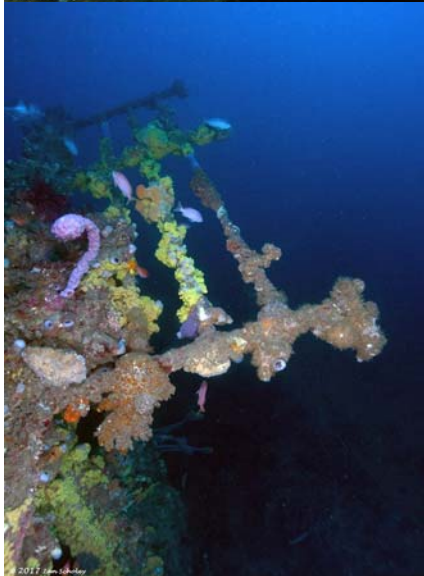
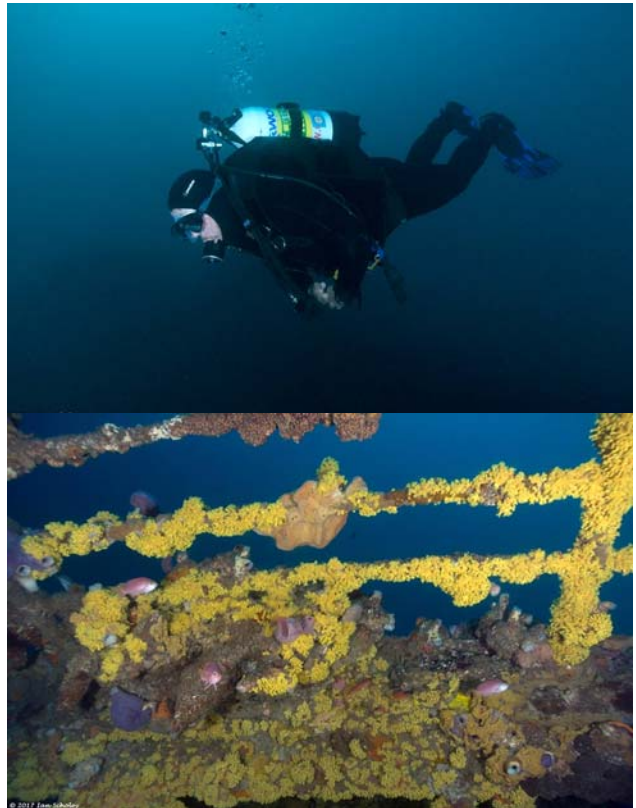
- John Ashley ❖



To back up John Ashley we had a really good day's diving today with two excellent wreck dives in near perfect conditions. The vis was a respectable 15m so with the sun out, as well, we got some nice light down there.

I dived the J5 with David Politakis before switching buddies and diving the Coogee with Darren Pearce. I even bumped into an ex VSAG president on the Coogee and can confirm his trim was in order (Greg Richards). Thanks for a good day everyone.

- Ian Scholey ❖





PORTSEA HOLE

The weather was too good to ignore this weekend. Not sure why there was nil interest in diving from the gang, but John Gladding and I decided to head out Sunday afternoon for a quiet slack water dive at Portsea Hole. We don't have the flash Underwater cameras of the normal correspondents but at least we have a surface shot as proof. Viz was 4-5 m and the fish life was amazing as usual. Water temp still a gloveless 14C and surface conditions were excellent. —Greg Richards



SS Coogee and J5 Sub - Greg Richards, no Gloves!

The advertisement features a background image of divers underwater. At the top, there is a checklist with two items: 'Home: Covered' and 'Car: Covered', each followed by a checked box icon. Below this, the text 'Are You?' is written in large, bold, yellow letters. At the bottom, the DAN logo is displayed, which includes a red and white scuba diver icon, the word 'DAN' in large red letters, and 'ASIA • PACIFIC Divers Alert Network' in smaller blue and red text. Below the logo, the text 'Can You Afford Not to be a DAN Member?' is written in yellow. Underneath, it says 'DAN Membership Costs Less than AUD\$6* per month' and 'Be Prepared. Join the Experts in Dive Accident Management.' The website 'www.danasiapacific.org' is listed in white. At the very bottom, a small line of text reads: '*DAN Membership provides up to US\$150,000 Worldwide Emergency Evacuation Coverage. DAN Dive Injury Insurance is additional.'

★ APOLLO ★ AUSTRALIAN DEALER OF THE YEAR 2017



Award night at the Victorian Roadshow. There was so much applause and cheers from the masses, you couldn't hear the house band.



Congratulations again to Lloyd and the rest of the team at The Scuba Doctor for being Australian Dealer of the year for the third year running!



Rapid Bay, SA 4-7 November, 2017

We are planning a trip to South Australia over the Melbourne Cup weekend for anyone interested in joining us. The options to get there, either driving or flying to Adelaide and driving from there. At this stage we have people going both ways. The main attraction is Rapid Bay Jetty and its resident Leafy Sea Dragons but we have plenty of other diving options including a possible HMAS Hobart boat dive if we have the numbers and conditions allow.

Contact me if interested - Ian Scholey

BOAT RAMP PERMITS—MORNINGTON PENINSULA SHIRE COUNCIL

Annual Boat Ramp Permits are valid for a 12 month period from 01 November to 31 October. The annual permit fee is \$125.00 (GST free).

The permit comes in the form of a vehicle windscreen sticker that **must** be attached to the bottom left hand side of the vehicle windscreen. To purchase an annual boat ramp permit complete the application form or visit one of our Customer Service Centres during business hours 8.30am – 5pm Monday to Friday (excluding Public Holidays).

You must pay a fee for each day that you use and park at a Shire boat ramp.

This has been made easy with the introduction of cashless parking meters at boat ramps across the peninsula.

Online with Parkmobile

Set up an account online with Parkmobile by visiting www.parkmobile.com.au call 1300 564 564 or download the free smart device application at iTunes, Google Play or Windows markets. You will be guided to register your vehicle (car) registration number and your credit card details.

Parking vouchers

Users who do not have a credit card, or who are infrequent users of the ramps, can pre-purchase vouchers (\$12) from any of the Shire's customer service centres during business hours. The vouchers are 'one use' only and do not have an expiry date; therefore, you can buy a few and use them when you want. Just complete the details on the voucher and display on your dashboard. ❖

DIARY DATES



Hi all,

I am pleased to announce that the club will offer a Truk Lagoon trip in 2018. With flights via Port Moresby there is also an optional extension in Milne Bay, PNG.

Please see the flyers for both the Truk trip and the optional extension.

If anyone has any questions about the proposed trip or about the diving in Truk Lagoon then please don't hesitate to contact me.

If anyone would like to join the trip then please complete a booking form and return it to me and pay the required deposit of \$440 to secure your place.

For those who have dived Truk you know how great it is. For those that haven't, please be warned that if you go once it will almost certainly not be your last visit. The place is addictive!

Ian Scholey ❖

DIARY DATES



VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP PRESENTS **TRUK LAGOON** MICRONESIA



February 1944, US Forces launch Operation Hailstorm on Truk Lagoon, Japan's Pacific base during World War II. The Japanese are caught unaware and lose over 275 aircraft and 45 ships. See plane wrecks, artillery shells, torpedoes, tanks, bow and stern guns and an abundance of anemones, tropical fish, sharks and eagle rays. With depths ranging from 10m to 60m and little current, Truk is the ultimate wreck diving destination.

**OPTIONAL
TAWALI, PAPUA
NEW GUINEA
EXTENSION!**

FLY

AIR NIUGINI

- Return flights ex Brisbane to Truk Lagoon
- Flying via Port Moresby
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges

SLEEP

AIROLDGE INTERNATIONAL, BRISBANE

- Standard twin share room - 1 night
- BLUE LAGOON RESORT, TRUK LAGOON**
- Standard twin share room - 11 nights
- Late checkout on final day until 6PM
- Return airport transfers

ADDITIONALLY FOR GROUPS OF 7 OR MORE

- FREE welcome drink upon arrival
- FREE use safety deposit box
- FREE lunch or dinner on last day
- FREE use of dive lockers & kayaks
- FREE additional dive

DIVE

BLUE LAGOON RESORT DIVING

- 20 dives per diver
- Tanks, weights, airfills & dive guide

CONTACT IAN SCHOLEY FOR MORE INFORMATION

travel@vsag.org.au | 0439 310 646 | www.vsag.org.au

ALLWAYS DIVE EXPEDITIONS

allways@allwaysdive.com.au | 1800 338 239 | www.allwaysdive.com.au

Exclusions: Equipment rental, Dive permit USD\$50 per person, Departure Tax USD\$20 per person & transfers within Brisbane.

TRAVEL DATES
18 - 30 AUG 2018

DIVER \$ 4,364
NON DIVER \$ 2,771

REFERENCE
DI9273

Lic # 32511

DIARY DATES



VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP PRESENTS

TAWALI EXTENSION PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The diving surrounding Tawali is renowned for its world-class macro life: explore a sandy ocean floor alive with rhinopias, pygmy seahorses, mimic octopus and much more! Beyond the macro diving, there are a myriad of dive sites that have something for every diver including dramatic drop-offs, coral encrusted walls and fast-paced drift dives. And if all of that isn't enough, the house reef boasts a 60 metre drop off filled with marine life with everything from mandarin fish closer to shore, to schooling pelagics and rays out in the blue.

FLY

AIR NIUGINI

- Return flights Port Moresby to Milne Bay
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges

SLEEP

TAWALI RESORT, MILNE BAY

- Deluxe twin share room - 6 nights
- All meals including coffee & tea
- Return airport transfers

DIVE

TAWALI RESORT DIVING

- 3 boat dives per day over 5 days (total 15 dives)
- FREE shore diving on the house reef
- Lunch & snacks on dive boats
- Tanks, weights, airfills & dive guide
- Reef, chamber fees & fuel surcharges

TRAVEL DATES
30 AUG - 05 SEP 2018

ADDITIONAL
DIVER \$ 2,770
NON DIVER \$ 1,790

REFERENCE
D19273



CONTACT IAN SCHOLEY FOR MORE INFORMATION

travel@vsag.org.au | 0439 310 646 | www.vsag.org.au

ALLWAYS DIVE EXPEDITIONS

allways@allwaysdive.com.au | 1800 338 239 | www.allwaysdive.com.au

L1-8 32011

D I A R Y D A T E S

Rapid Bay, SA - 4-6 November, 2017

Tasmania 17-18-19 of March 2018

Truk Lagoon/ PNG 18-30 August 2018

Yasawa Island Fiji 2019

VSAG Dive and Meeting Calendar

By Peter Beaumont, Dive Calendar Co-ordinator, VSAG

Activity Details

Dive Co-ordinator (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.

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 Stream information for Port Phillip Bay Heads is located here:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/tides/#!/vic-the-rip>

Rates in RED are the maximum forecast outgoing (ebb) tidal rate.

Rates in BLUE are the maximum forecast incoming (flood) tidal rate.

Apr 8/9	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Apr 14/15/16/17 Easter weekend	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Apr 18	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Apr 22/23	Boat DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Apr 25 Anzac Day	Boat DC Ross Walker 0417 376 192
Apr 29/30	Boat DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
May 6/7	Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
May 13/14	Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
May 16	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
May 20/21	Boat DC John Lawler 0414 922 916
May 27/28	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Jun 3/4	Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Jun 10/11/12 Queens B'day W/E	Boat DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Jun 17/18	Boat DC Ross Walker 0417 376 192
June 20	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Jun 25 June 24/25	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 Boat DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Jul 1/2	Shore DC Carol Penfold 0434 374 044 Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Jul 8/9	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Jul 15/16	Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Jul 18	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Jul 22 Jul 22/23	Christmas in July Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Jul 30 Jul 29/30	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 Boat DC David Flew 0418 446 530
Aug 5/6	Shore DC Carol Penfold 0434 374 044 Boat DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Aug 12/13	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Aug 15	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm

Aug 19/20	Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Aug 27 Aug 26/27	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 Boat DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 6844
Sep 2/3	Boat DC Ross Walker 0417 376 192
Sep 9/10	Boat DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Sep 16/17	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Sep 19	Annual General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Sep 24 Sep 23/24	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Sep 29/30/Oct 1	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Oct 7/8	Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Oct 14/15	Boat DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Oct 17	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Oct 21/22	Boat DC Ross Walker 0417 376 192
Oct 29 Oct 28/29	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Nov 4/5	Shore DC Carol Penfold 0434 374 044 Boat DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Nov 7 Melb Cup	Boat DC Benita McDonough 0419 399 000
Nov 11/12	Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Nov 18/19	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Nov 21	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Nov 25	Christmas Party Sat 25th (Date TBC)
Nov 26 Nov 25/26	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Dec 2/3	Shore DC Carol Penfold 0434 374 044 Boat DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 6844
Dec 9/10	Boat DC Ross Walker 0417 376 192
Dec 16/17	Boat DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Dec 19	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Dec 23/24	Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Dec 30/31	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646

Websites for Tidal Streams & Weather Conditions

Peter Beaumont

Tidal Stream information for Port Phillip Bay Heads is located here:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/tides/#!/vic-the-rip>

Port Phillip Bay winds and temperature information is located here:

<http://www.baywx.com.au/>

Tide information for Cape Woolamai is located here:

<http://tides.willyweather.com.au/vic/gippsland/cape-woolamai.html>

VSAG Dive Equipment Box - Update

VSAG has a private transient equipment box located at:

The Scuba Doctor 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.

It currently holds :

- ◆ 2 Oxy-Sok Oxygen Resuscitation Kits
- ◆ 1 Oxygen Medical Tank *Yearly Ramp Passes and occasional parking vouchers are now available from Mornington Peninsula Shire Council. Pay by credit card at payment machines on the day or pay on line at: www.parkmobile.com.au*
- ◆ 1 Oxygen Medical Kit
- ◆ 1 DAN First Aid Kit
- ◆ 2 Scuba Tanks.

Please use this facility responsibly and handle Oxygen equipment safely. ❖

Tidal Streams at the Heads — August 2017

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.

Times have been adjusted for Daylight Savings

July	August					
MON 31	TUE 1	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4	SAT 5	SUN 6
2:34	3:15	3:56	4:40	5:29	6:23	7:21
8:28	9:20	10:15	11:15	12:21	13:30	14:32
14:18	14:54	15:34	16:20	17:21	18:43	20:08
20:22	20:54	21:28	22:06	22:52	23:47	
MON 7	TUE 8	WED 9	THU 10	FRI 11	SAT 12	SUN 13
0:49	1:53	2:52	3:46	4:35	5:22	0:33
8:18	9:10	9:56	10:38	11:17	11:54	6:09
15:23	16:04	16:38	17:09	17:38	18:07	12:31
21:12	22:01	22:42	23:20	23:56		18:37
MON 14	TUE 15	WED 16	THU 17	FRI 18	SAT 19	SUN 20
1:11	1:52	2:35	3:21	4:14	5:14	6:22
6:56	7:47	8:41	9:41	10:47	12:02	13:18
13:08	13:46	14:24	15:07	15:59	17:07	18:38
19:07	19:39	20:14	20:55	21:45	22:48	
MON 21	TUE 22	WED 23	THU 24	FRI 25	SAT 26	SUN 27
0:04	1:25	2:41	3:49	4:48	0:00	0:41
7:35	8:44	9:45	10:38	11:25	5:41	6:30
14:27	15:24	16:11	16:53	17:31	12:07	12:44
20:10	21:24	22:23	23:14		18:06	18:38
August				September		
MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU 31	FRI 1	SAT 2	SUN 3
1:20	1:56	2:32	3:08	3:48	4:33	5:27
7:15	7:58	8:42	9:27	10:19	11:18	12:26
13:19	13:52	14:25	15:00	15:39	16:30	17:42
19:09	19:39	20:10	20:43	21:21	22:08	23:07

Tidal Streams at the Heads — September 2017

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.

Times have been adjusted for Daylight Savings

August				September		
<i>MON 28</i>	<i>TUE 29</i>	<i>WED 30</i>	<i>THU 31</i>	<i>FRI 1</i>	<i>SAT 2</i>	<i>SUN 3</i>
1:20	1:56	2:32	3:08	3:48	4:33	5:27
7:15	7:58	8:42	9:27	10:19	11:18	12:26
13:19	13:52	14:25	15:00	15:39	16:30	17:42
19:09	19:39	20:10	20:43	21:21	22:08	23:07
<i>MON 4</i>	<i>TUE 5</i>	<i>WED 6</i>	<i>THU 7</i>	<i>FRI 8</i>	<i>SAT 9</i>	<i>SUN 10</i>
6:31	0:17	1:31	2:38	3:36	4:28	5:16
13:35	7:38	8:39	9:32	10:18	11:00	11:40
19:16	14:33	15:18	15:55	16:27	16:58	17:29
	20:31	21:24	22:07	22:47	23:27	
<i>MON 11</i>	<i>TUE 12</i>	<i>WED 13</i>	<i>THU 14</i>	<i>FRI 15</i>	<i>SAT 16</i>	<i>SUN 17</i>
0:06	0:47	1:29	2:13	3:00	3:52	4:51
6:03	6:50	7:39	8:31	9:26	10:26	11:34
12:19	12:58	13:36	14:16	15:00	15:53	17:03
18:01	18:35	19:12	19:52	20:38	21:35	22:47
<i>MON 18</i>	<i>TUE 19</i>	<i>WED 20</i>	<i>THU 21</i>	<i>FRI 22</i>	<i>SAT 23</i>	<i>SUN 24</i>
6:01	0:09	1:34	2:49	3:52	4:45	5:31
12:45	7:18	8:31	9:33	10:25	11:10	11:49
18:34	13:52	14:49	15:37	16:18	16:54	17:27
	20:01	21:09	22:04	22:50	23:31	
September						October
<i>MON 25</i>	<i>TUE 26</i>	<i>WED 27</i>	<i>THU 28</i>	<i>FRI 29</i>	<i>SAT 30</i>	<i>SUN 1</i>
0:08	0:42	1:15	1:48	2:22	2:59	4:40
6:13	6:51	7:28	8:05	8:44	9:28	11:19
12:25	12:57	13:29	14:00	14:33	15:11	16:56
17:58	18:28	18:58	19:30	20:04	20:44	22:33

Tidal Streams at the Heads — October 2017

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.

Times have been adjusted for Daylight Savings

MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7	SUN 8
5:29	6:31	0:54	2:15	3:27	4:28	5:20
12:18	13:23	7:47	9:02	10:04	10:56	11:42
17:59	19:25	14:24	15:16	15:59	16:38	17:14
23:36		20:44	21:41	22:29	23:13	23:56
MON 9	TUE 10	WED 11	THU 12	FRI 13	SAT 14	SUN 15
6:09	0:39	1:22	2:06	2:52	3:39	4:30
12:26	6:56	7:43	8:30	9:18	10:08	11:02
17:51	13:07	13:48	14:29	15:12	16:00	16:56
	18:28	19:08	19:50	20:37	21:32	22:37
MON 16	TUE 17	WED 18	THU 19	FRI 20	SAT 21	SUN 22
5:27	6:36	1:22	2:45	3:55	4:51	5:38
12:01	13:06	7:56	9:14	10:18	11:10	11:54
18:07	19:30	14:09	15:07	15:56	16:38	17:15
23:55		20:47	21:48	22:38	23:20	23:58
MON 23	TUE 24	WED 25	THU 26	FRI 27	SAT 28	SUN 29
6:18	0:32	1:05	1:37	2:09	2:42	3:17
12:32	6:54	7:28	8:01	8:35	9:10	9:48
17:48	13:06	13:38	14:09	14:41	15:14	15:51
	18:19	18:50	19:23	19:57	20:33	21:16
October		November				
MON 30	TUE 31	WED 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4	SUN 5
3:54	4:38	5:32	0:34	1:58	3:14	4:17
10:31	11:19	12:12	6:45	8:12	9:29	10:30
16:35	17:30	18:40	13:09	14:06	14:58	15:46
22:08	23:14		19:54	20:57	21:51	22:40

Emergency Contact Information

Anywhere on water in Victoria Ch 16 or 88 should be your first choice using Mayday or Pan Pan

VHF Channel 16
27 MHz AM Channel 88

Note: VSAG uses VHF CH 73 and 27 MHz CH 96 for routine communications. Check you are using the correct emergency channel.

VSAG Nautilus will be tuned to Ch 73 (Green button for routine comms) and Ch 16 (Red Button for distress comms)

Speak slowly and clearly

<p>Mayday Call – for grave & imminent danger requiring immediate assistance</p>	<p>Urgency Call – when the danger is not grave or imminent</p>
<p>Distress Call:</p> <p>Mayday, Mayday, Mayday</p> <p>This is: <u>“Boat call sign x3”</u> (Boat owners insert your call sign)</p>	<p>Urgency Call:</p> <p>Pan Pan, Pan Pan, Pan Pan</p> <p>All Ships, All Ships, All Ships (or the emergency service you want to contact)</p> <p>This is: <u>“Boat call sign x3”</u> (Boat owners insert your call sign)</p>
<p>Distress message after contact made:</p> <p>Mayday</p> <p>“2 DIVE 4”</p> <p>Give position-(see GPS for co-ordinates), nature of the problem, number on board plus any other relevant information</p> <p>Over</p> <p>Follow advice given by the emergency agency – DO NOT “Sign off” until told so by agency.</p>	<p>Urgency message after contact made:</p> <p>Pan Pan</p> <p>“2 DIVE 4”</p> <p>Give position-(see GPS for co-ordinates), nature of the problem, number on board plus any other relevant information</p> <p>Over</p> <p>Follow advice given by the emergency agency – DO NOT “Sign off” until told so by agency.</p>

All passengers on a boat should be familiar with the use of marine radio(s) in case of emergency.

Emergency Contact Information

Telephone contacts

Police – Ambulance – Fire : 000

Water Police no longer use the 1800 088 200 number

The new 24/7 No is : 03 9399 7500

**DAN International Emergency Hotline: +1-919-684-9111 (from mobile)
0011 1 919684 9111 (from landline)**

State Emergency Service (VIC): 132 500 (new number)

Alfred Hospital Hyperbaric Unit: 03 9076 2269

Alfred Hospital switchboard: 03 9076 2000

Mornington Peninsula Area

Diving Emergency Service: 1800 088 200

Dr. John Roth:

Mornington Medical Group **03 5975 2633**

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) 0417 038 944

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**

***Coast Guard is not always manned & operates mainly during daylight hrs**

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

Dr John Roth (Mornington) 03 5975 2633



Guide Sethi kills time during deco by feeding fish, Vanuatu
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