

Postal Address: VSAG, Inc., P.O. Box 596, Cranbourne Vic 3977

L.I.D.A.R.

3D Mapping of Submarines, Structures, Landscapes and More



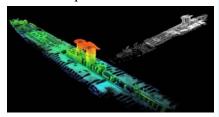
Tim Smith Heritage Victoria Executive Director

We have had Tim Smith in twice to present to the club on his work with the AE2 expeditions. He is always entertaining and I'm sure this will be a very interesting presentation.

LIDAR (Light Detection and **R**anging) is а surveying method that measures the distance to a target object through illumination with a laser light. It is used to make high resolution. three dimensional maps, with applications in geomatics, deodesy, geology, geography, archaeology, atmospheric physics and much more ...

Working with CSIRO and their Zebedee LIDAR scanning

system, Heritage Victoria has modelled sites from the Royal Exhibition Building, World War One submarine shipwrecks in Port Phillip Bay and key State significant heritage places; particularly those that are harder to access for most people! Come along and see the remarkable application of some of this technology. Some inventive 3D modelling of overseas heritage places from Cambodia to the AE2 submarine wreck site (1915) near Gallipoli also included.



Date and Time Thu. 9 February 2017 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm AEDT Location The Royal Society of Victoria 8 La Trobe Street Melbourne, VIC 3000

https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lidar-bringing-heritage-places-intothe-digital-age-tickets-31054005366



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NOTICES

VSAG Committee meets at 8 p.m. every 2nd Tuesday of the month (except in January) All Members Welcome The Water Rat Hotel, 256 Moray St, South Melbourne VIC 3205



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 <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>groups/vsag.divers/</u> and 'Like' us.





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 : <u>www.tudc.org.au</u>



Your VSAG Committee 2016–2017

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Pyrosomes and Salps

Pyrosomes and salps are pelagic (freeswimming) tunicates or sea squirts. All Species are open ocean animals that rarely come close to shore, and all are colonial, although many salps can also be solitary. Pyrosomes are colonies of tiny animals that form hollow tubes sealed at one end.

Pyrosomes get their name (Pyro - fire + soma = body) from their ability to emit light (bioluminescence) - colonies can glow of flash light at night, particularly if touched.



Pyrostremma Spinosum - Giant Pyrosome - can reach 30m in length!





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ELIZA RAMSDEN

Samuel Ramsden was a stonemason and Melbourne businessman who in 1874 built the Eliza Ramsden an iron ship of 395 tons, in honour of his wife, Eliza.

The Ramsden was built in Scotland, was built for general cargo duties and was a fine vessel. Very similar to the (JAMES CRAIG) which has been fully restored as one of the few tall ships left.

However, the Eliza Ramsden turned out to be a poor investment having only completed a couple of trips before ending her days in 18 metres of water in South Channel opposite the Quarantine Station.

On the 4th July 1875 she left Melbourne for Newcastle and tried to signal for a pilot vessel while off Queenscliff but getting no response, the captain sailed through the Heads anyway.



James Craig similar to Eliza Ramsden



Samuel Ramsden

I will be diving these wrecks over the summer months. Anyone interested let me know.❖

John Ashley





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BEVERWIJK



As some of our intrepid divers visited the Beverwijk last Thursday and had a fabulous dive (we're all jealous) I thought I'd pay homage to the old girl by putting pen to paper.

The Beverwijk was built about 1913 and for almost 50 years was a sight doing her duties in Port Phillip. She was a dredge built of steel and weighed 317 tons and after a useful career she last saw daylight on 7th May 1963.She now lays upside down in 46 metres in the ships graveyard.The photo above is similar (I'm told) as 1 cannot find a photo anywhere.

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By John Ashley



We dived the Beverwijk a few days ago (and didn't get any great photos of it) but I noticed that there is another wheel mid ship that looks a lot like the one in the old photo. I went back through my pics from years ago and found a photo of this wheel. Maybe the other wheel with more spokes is hidden in the photo. \checkmark

By Chris Taft



Into the ships graveyard for two boat crews today with a plan to dive the Bevewijk, take a long surface interval then do the Milora.

The first bit of the plan went swimmingly. David Geekie got the shot within 10m of the wreck, the vis was superb and it was flat tack on the surface. There were smiles all round after a really good dive. We then moved to the Milora and dropped the anchor with the wreck coming up nicely off the seabed on the sounder.

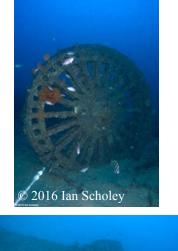
Peter Beaumont and I were first in the water and to our dismay we found that the anchor had dragged and there was no sign of the wreck. On this site there was a significant current running and after swimming against it running out a line at 41.5m for a few minutes trying to find the wreck, we decided discretion was the best part of valour and called the dive.

We hit the surface in time to stop the next pair going down. The surface had really chopped up with the storms coming in so with a 16 nautical mile run back home, we called it a day and headed back home. Diving today were:

On Dire Straits (formally Signature Two) were skipper David James Geekie, Pam Dagley, Peter Beaumont and Ian Scholey. On Wave Rider were John Mills and Priya Cardinaletti.

Same again tomorrow? Oh go on then, twisted my arm. ❖

By Ian Scholey







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SS Rotomahana & Chimney Rock

SS Rotomahana was the first merchant ship built of mild steel, fitted with bilge keels, in her day the fastest ship in Australasian waters. A screw steamship she measured 90.9 metres in length with a draft of 7.2 metres. Built by William Denny & Bros. in Dumbarton, Scotland in 1879 and registered to Union Steam Ship Co., Dundedin, New Zealand. She was later sold to shipbreakers



Power and Davies in 1925 and stripped. The hull was eventually scuttled in Bass Strait in 1928.

A pretty spectacular start to the holiday diving today, with perfect conditions up top and down below. Just Peter Beaumont and I out today on Toucans.

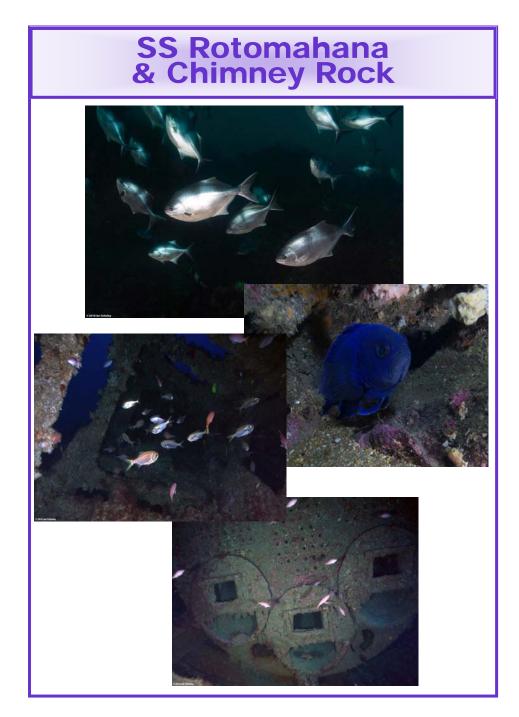
We started the day early with a 6.30am launch and headed out through a flat tack Rip to the SS Rotomahana.

Probably the best vis I've ever had on this deepish wreck. There was loads of fish life on the wreck and plenty of other stuff to see. After a decent surface interval we opted for Chimney Rock for our second dive in the hope of a Christmas Crayfish.

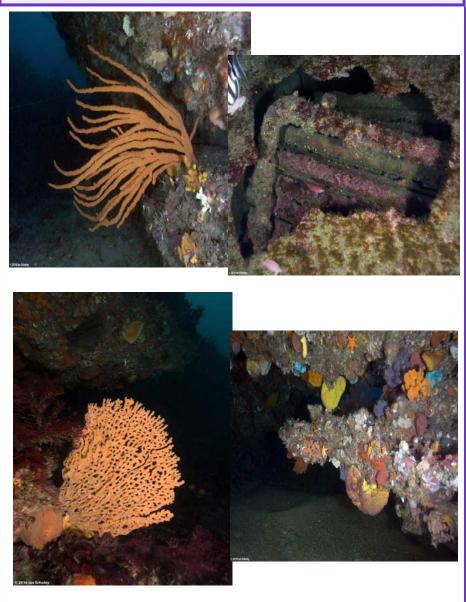
Neptune delivered for me, but I don't think I'm winning any prizes for biggest cray, but at least it was size.

Hopefully this is the start of a good festive season's diving. ◆

By Ian Scholey



SS Rotomahana & Chimney Rock



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The Fawkner



The Fawkner

Ok, so not strictly a VSAG dive but I thought you may be interested in taking a look at the Fawkner.

This was a new wreck for me today and what fantastic conditions I was treated to. The vis was 30m at least, just sensational!

The Fawkner is at 45m in the Ship's Graveyard and was a 153ft Steam Hopper Barge owned by the Melbourne Harbour Trust Commissioners. Built in Scotland in 1883 she came in at 169 tons and was despatched to the graveyard in 1935.

Thanks to my buddies Chris Porter and Brendan Steele for a top diving day and to Dive Victoria for the ride.

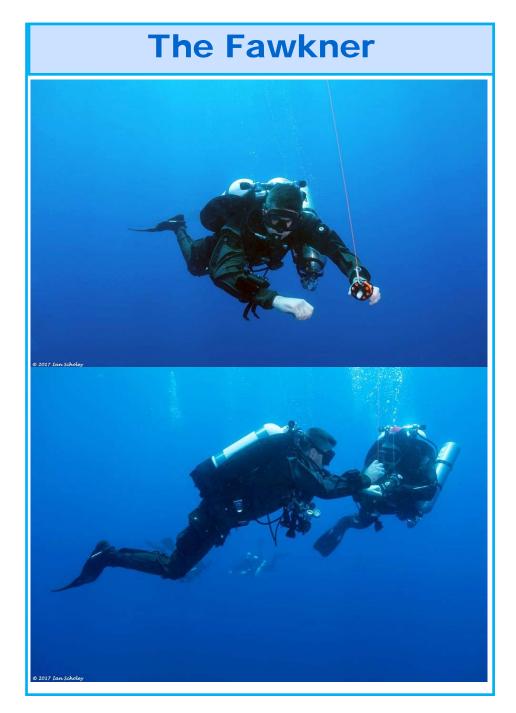
By Ian Scholey







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The Fawkner



The Canberra

Canberra Dive.

24 January, 2017.

Just one boat on this particular dive (Narcosis) with John Mills, guest Diver Darren and myself. I arrived at the top car park at 7 am to find every spot filled. Anywhere you could possibly park a boat trailer, ie: nature strips, under trees, anywhere was full. I parked so far away I had to catch a public bus back to the ramp, well, that's what it felt like!

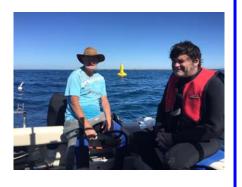
The day looked fantastic with virtually no wind and sunny skies. "Happy Days". The trip out was fairly uneventful albeit we played dodgem boats going through the Heads as they were wall to wall.

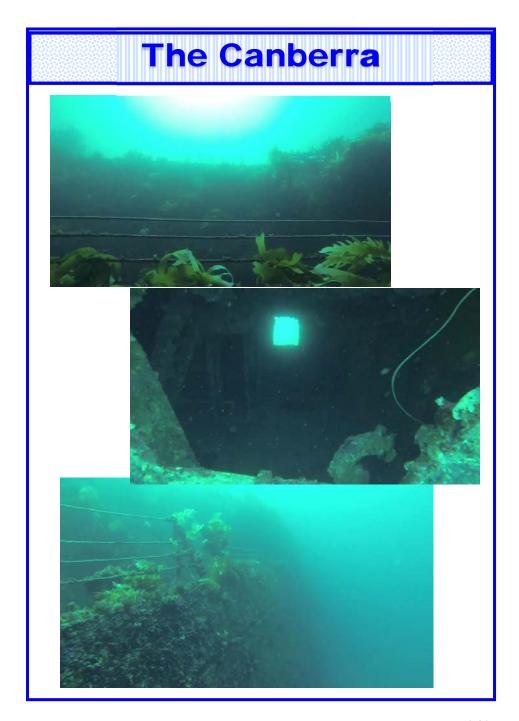
On arriving at the Canberra we quickly suited up and hit the water, dropping down to the sand, then heading towards the stern in approximately 30 metres. Into the bowels of the ship we went until eventually coming out on the helicopter hanger, then working our way back on the starboard side until our time ran out, then topside for lunch. There didn't appear to be as much fishlife on this dive as previous dives I've done here, no schools of whiting, no sweep. Normally when you dive here the fish come to greet you as soon as you hit the top of the wreck.

Dive two. This time we went towards the bow via the bridge and what a sight it is as most VSAG divers who have been there will tell you. The sponges and corals are coming along nicely and the viz was pretty good considering the rain we had earlier in the week, 10-12 metres outside and up to 15 metres inside.

Sadly all good dives come to an end and it's back to reality. So with all the gear stowed away, it was an easy run back to the ramp where we spent 1 hour and 14 minutes retrieving the boat. A good day and many thanks to the crew.

By John Ashley.





The Hurricane

Three boats out today for a dive on the Hurricane. Highlight of the dive was a large Wobbegong tucked in under a part of the wreck and the usual Cuttlefish and schools of Longfin Pike. It's the first time I've seen a Wobbe on this wreck. Second dive of the day was a fruitful Scallop drift with everyone bagging out with ease. Interesting we saw a large quantity of Spider Crabs on the march across the Scallop beds heading east.

Diving today were:

On Dire Straits - skipper David James Geekie, Ian Scholey, Jeffery Horton and Lindsey Horton. On Carmine skipper Peter Campisano, Carole Campisano, Cheryl Lees and Tim Forster. On Signature One - skipper John Lawler, Chris Demetrious, Antony Platford and guest diver Dex from the old good US of A. Today brings to a close the Christmas Diving for me. Sadly I have to go back to work and earn some money to pay for it all. Still only 3 days until the weekend so it's not all bad!!!!

By Ian Scholey



From left: Peter Campisano, Chris Demetrious, John Lawler, Cheryl Lees, Antony Platford, Jeffrey & Lindsey Horton, Tim Forster, David James Geekie and in front: Carole Campisano.



J1 Submarine

Great conditions again today as two boats headed out.

On Sea Eagle were myself and Ian Smith and on Toucans were Peter Beaumont and Benita McDonough

First up was the J1 Sub. Vis was once again excellent and we had another excellent dive. However I experienced every photographers' worst nightmare and spotted an inch of water in my dome port. To say I experienced a nervous 11 minutes of deco as I carefully held the housing dome down would be an understatement. As you can see from the pictures I dodged a bullet and there was no harm done.

With the camera out of action there are no shots from 16m Reef which is a shame, as it is a great spot. A series of gullies run parallel to each other with some nice overhangs. We saw crays (but out of arm's reach), cuttlefish, devils and a couple of cat sharks including a jet black juvenile that I would have loved to have photographed - next time I guess.

Tomorrow we are heading to Phillip

Island for a change of scenery and to hopefully get out of the strong Northerlies forecast. ↔

By Ian Scholey



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J1 Submarine



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Karingal Restoration

For those of you who don't know "Karingal" it's the 50+ year old wooden Flew family boat. We have not owned it for 50 years - I'd love to know who had it built, but that's another story.

Karingal is slow, stable, economical and whilst she doesn't take us very far from Mordialloc, she has done so in style and comfort.

Karingal is currently undergoing some SERIOUS refurbishment work. Aside from fitting a new, modern engine (and all the systems which support it), the project includes stripping and repainting the inside of the hull, and everything below the waterline. Floors and other removable panels are out and will be sanded and repainted. If anyone is interested in visiting, or even better giving us a hand for a few hours one morning, please call me. Boat is in a factory in South Dandenong. Whilst some of the work needs boat related skills, at last count we had around 40 pieces of timber in various sizes which just need sanding and (eventually) painting.

As you can see from the picture, it's pretty well "gutted" right now. Whilst we hope the new engine will make Karingal go a bit faster (and give us a bit more effective range from Mordialloc) the main thought is extend her life so we can keep on using her for a few more years.

PS There are no plans to change the dive ladder ◆ David Flew



PYLUM MOLLUSCA

Molluscs are invertebrates, most of which have protective external calcareous shells .The phylum encompasses a huge range of animals although nudibranchs (sea slugs) and octopods have reduced, internal or no shells. There are six classes in the phylum, the ones of most interest to divers are the Amphineura (shell of plates) the Gastropoda (usually a coiled shell), the Bivalvia (hinged shell) and the Cephalopoda (an internal shell).

AMPHINEURA - CHITONS

A primitive group with a longitudinally flattened body, an anterior (front) a posterior (back) end, a tough mantle and dorsal outer shell composed of overlapping plates. The protective dorsal shell plates are usually fawn, brown, and greenish colours, sometimes in patterns or streaks. Shapes of the plates are important in identification of species.

There are many species of chitons, many are small and inconspicuous, bur others are larger and thus more easily seen. Most species like a flat surface to cling on, others tuck themselves between seagrass leaves. They are particularly fond of the smooth surface of old bottles. Turning over rocks to see what's underneath will almost always reveal at least one chiton. They cling very firmly by a large flat foot and move only sluggishly away if disturbed. They feed on microscopic plant and animal material by scraping with the radula, a series of horny plates in the mouth. The shape and arrangement of the radula plates which can only be seen microscopically, is very important for identification of species.

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The commonest species is *Ischnochiton variegata*, the specific name describing the various colours of the species. It is found under rocks from the intertidal to shallow water. Another less common species is *Ischnochiton lineolatus*, more often seen on ocean coasts.



Ischnochiton variegata, brown and black colours, under basalt boulder (worm tubes are of shell-fragments), Steeles Rock near Portarlington, 1.5 metres



Ischnochiton lineolatus, colour green and cream with brown streaks, Lawrence Rocks, Portland, 6m

GASTROPODA - SNAILS

Sea shells are prized by seashore fossickers, have been collected by dredging in past centuries and in last few decades by diving. The Gastropoda is the largest and most diverse group in the phylum, and includes marine and terrestrial snails. Marine gastropods live from the intertidal zone to deep water.

The animals have an external calcareous shell which may be a simple capshape or spirally coiled. The soft body consists of a stomach (gastro) for digestion and a muscular foot (podos) upon which the animal creeps. They have a front (anterior) and a back (posterior) end. The head typically has two eye stalks and a mouth equipped with radula for feeding. Means of identification are the size, degree of coiling of the shell, its ornamentation and colour and shape and colour of the animal. The gastropod can fully retract into the shell when disturbed which in most is closed by horny or calcareous plug (operculum).

Reproduction is sexual, the female laying masses of fertilised eggs. On release, there are two growth stages: the first (trocophore) followed by the second (veliger) which swims away in the plankton. Eventually ithe veliger finds a suitable substrate on which to settle and develop into a shelled snail. Gastropods range in size from minute to the large tritons of the tropics; in our cooler south the snails are smaller, the largest, *Charonia* reaches 15-20 cm in length.

UNCOILED GASTROPODS - LIMPETS

Limpets are common inhabitants of intertidal bay and ocean reefs. They have an uncoiled cap-shaped external shell protecting the animal. The shells are usually longitudinally ribbed and variously patterned in colours of cream, fawn and grey. They are extemely difficult to dislodge due to the suction exerted by the animal on the rocky surface. They feed at high tide by scraping microscopic algae from the rock with the radula over a small range of their home habitat.

There are several local species of limpets, *Cellana tramoserica* being the most abundant on local reefs, it is easily distinguished by its cream to

brown ribbed shell with a paler apex. *Siphonaria diemenensis* has a strongly ribbed white and dark grey shell. Both lay ring-shaped egg masses containing many tiny eggs.



Cellana tramoserica, intertidal, Ricketts Point.



Siphonaria diemenensis (with epiphytic green alga) and egg ring, intertidal, Portarlington.

COILED GASTROPODS

The sea shells we are most familiar with are those with coiled shells. Gastropods are classified according to the shape and degree of coiling of the shell. The subtidal group we are familiar with that has least coiling are the primitive abalone (genus *Haliotis*), common local species being the commercial blacklip *Haliotis rubra* (referring to the reddish colour of the shell) and the greenlip *Haliotis laevigata* (referring to the greenish colour and smooth shell). *H. rubra* is an opportunist, favouring open rocky habitat with good water movement while *H. laevigata* prefers slightly quieter water and a smooth (preferably limestone) substrate. The holes visible on the shell are excurrent pores for water and oxygen exchange. Both are

algal feeders, *H. rubra* being very active in stormy weather when it raises its shell, exposing the large muscular foot which clamps down on drifting red algae. If they escape being eaten they live for 5-6 years.



Above: Haliotis rubra, on sandstone, Steele Rock Portarlington, 2 m.



Above: Haliotis laevigata on smooth concrete, South Channel Fort, 6m.

Strongly coiled and ornamented shells are characteristic of most species. The coiled shell tapers outwards from a small pointed spire which is the original point (protoconch) from which the shell grows. Some species have a long slender extension of the shell while others, depending upon their mode of life, have a simple large rounded opening for extrusion of the foot.

Pleuroploca australasia

has a tightly coiled shell with an elongated anterior axis which allows it to plough through sand, preying on buried bivalves. The animal is bright red and the oval horny operculum is dark brown.





Above: Pleuroploca australasia, on sandy bottom, 1m, St Leonards pier

.Above: *Phasianella australis,* Steeles Rock, near Portarlington, 2 m

Phasianella ventricosa is found near seagrass beds or among brown algae. The smooth shell is profusley ornamented in zig-zag brown and white patterns which is a good invisibility adaptation. The thick coin-shaped operculum is white.

Some gastropods, for example the carnivorous *Cabestana spengerli* have a smooth shell covered in a fine hairy periostracum for camouflage in reefy habitat. The shell has a very wide aperture for emergence of the large animal and has a brilliantly coloured purple and white outer lip. The corrugations in the lip allows the animal to grip and twist when feeding on the tough-textured ascidian *Pyura stolonifera*

Some carnivorous gastropods plough through sand, preying on buried bivalves. Thousands of the dead bivalve shells on the beach have tiny circular holes drilled by snails through which it dissolves and extracts the flesh.



Left: Cabestana spengleri, Portsea pier, 4 m

Sand snails lay tiny eggs in gelatinous egg masses or in sandy collars, while others living on reef lay eggs in capsules. Gelatinous balloons and sandcollars are often seen in very shallow water just below low tide mark while egg capsules are usually hidden among other reef invertebrates on reef or jetty piles.



Above: Sand-covered egg collar of the sand snail, probably *Sinum zonale*, Clifton Springs, 1 m.



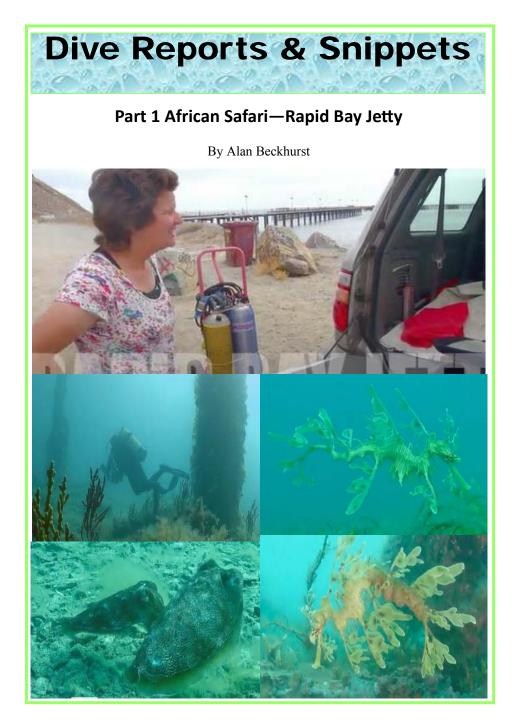
Abovre: Gelatinous egg ring of the sand snail *Polinices sordidius*, Clifton Springs, 1 m.

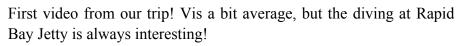
The carnivorous whelk *Dicathais orbita* usually hides among invertebrate growths on reefs or among sponges on jetty piles. The grey-coloured shell is short, rounded (=orbita) with conspicuous concentric ribs. The eggs are laid in clusters of white capsules. �



Above: Thais orbita among sponges, and an egg cluster, St Leonards pier, 2 m

Dr Jan Watson Marine Science & Ecology 7 Bampi Street Clifton Springs Vic 3222 Aus Ph: 03 5253 2294 Mob: 0457 981 875







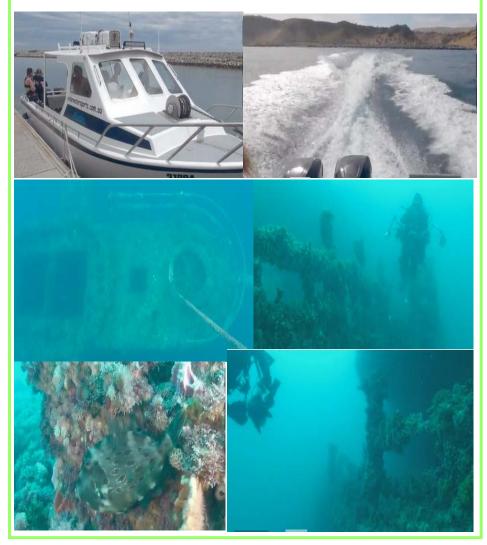


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Part 2 African Safari—H.M.A.S HOBART

By Alan Beckhurst

Part 2 of our SA Safari, this time diving the ex HMAS Hobart. Viz not fantastic, but plenty of interest on the wreck, though no Great White Sharks!



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Part 3 African Safari—Port Noarlunga Jetty

By Alan Beckhurst

Part 3 of our SA Safari, and we free dive Port Noarlunga Jetty! This was a lot of fun and fish!



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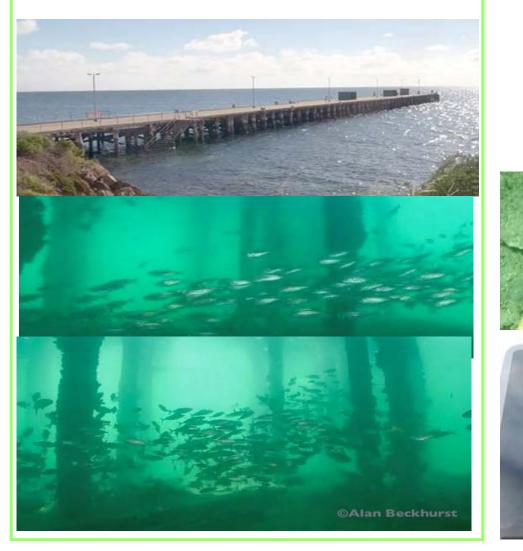


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Part 4 African Safari—Edinburgh Jetty

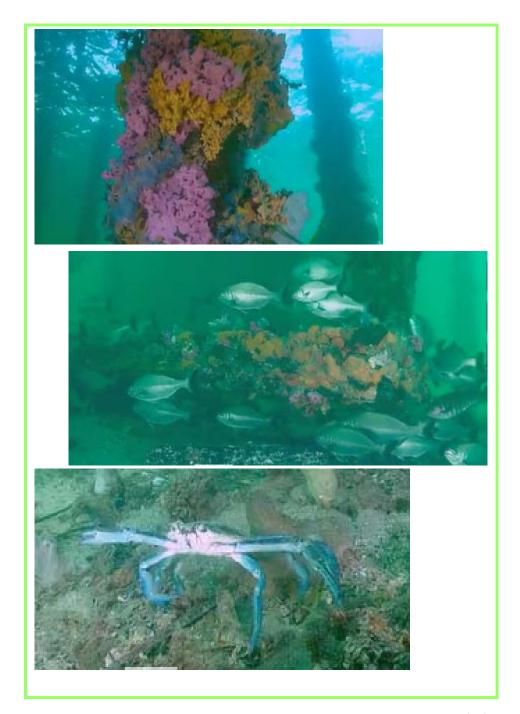
By Alan Beckhurst

Part 4 of our SA safari, this time we've travelled to the Yorke Peninsula to dive Edithburgh Jetty. No Leafies, but stacks of other interesting stuff, and colourful pylons!



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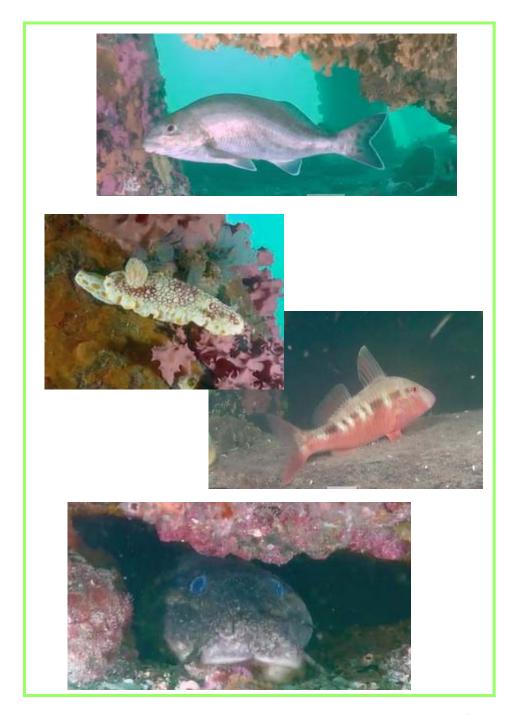




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VSAG Dive Day 30/12/16: Double Dive at Tom's Reef

Spectacular conditions on the water today with no wind and next to no swell. We had two boats on the water and did a double dive at Tom's Reef moving 100m or so between dives.

A few epic battles with the crayfish which they largely won. I did get one nice 3kg one though with the help of Tim Forster and a helpful free ride for it in a catch bag from Andrew Quested as I didn't take mine in.

Divingtodaywere:On Sea Eagle, skipper IanScholeyandTimForsterOn Dire Straits, skipper David JamesGeekie, Pam Dagley, Ian Smith andAndrew QuestedBy Ian Scholey.

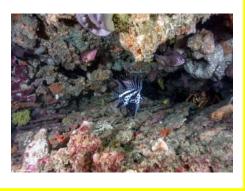




John, I know I said yesterday that I had nailed multi tasking while diving. That was clearly a load of b__!! Check out the right hand side of this photo. I was that focused on the little Boarfish that I didn't even see that crayfish. Doh!!!! Andrew,Ian - did you see that one, it was right under the overhang by my anchor? ❖



Tim Forster living the dream



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Oddest thing I've seen recently. This Magpie Morwong has a hole through it's body! My guess is that it was speared and got off, and the wound healed to form this hole! \clubsuit

By Alan Beckhurst



Photo below by Mervyn Peter Dannefaerd



Photo below by

Ian Scholey



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By Carole Campisano

This was Friday 31.12.2016 at Cape Woolamai.

Diving were: The Campos, Peter Galvin and Tony Hood. Bagged out again. The water is warmer, at last! Peter C is no longer wearing a hood with his 7 mm wetsuit.

The water is quite clear.

Perfect conditions for diving, VSAGers. Come and get wet!



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By Ian Scholey

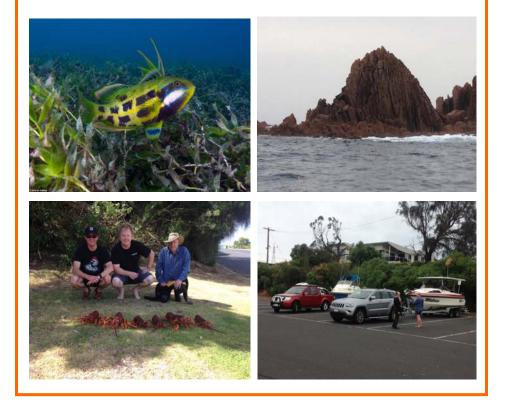
-, ----,

Two boats out today with Mistress and Stroker braving the forecasted strong Northerlies and tucking in close to shore at Cape Woolamai. The wind didn't kick in until late, but when it did, it certainly blew. It was an interesting challenge getting Mistress back on the trailer.

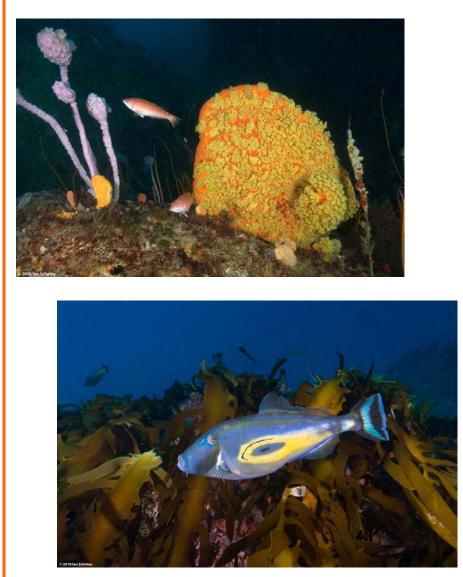
Collectively, we gave the crays hell today with the Mistress crew bagging 6 and the Stroker crew 7.

Diving from Mistress were joint skippers Angus Stuart-Adams and Walter Medenbach, Ian Scholey and Peter Beaumont.

Diving from Stroker were skipper Peter Galvin, Tony Hood, Ian Smith, Cam Bowie and someone else whose name escapes me (Sorry).



By Ian Scholey



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By Peter Galvin

Another great day at Woolamai, with John Lawler, Angus Stuart-Adams, Walter Medenbach, Tony Hood, Peter Campisano, Carole Campisano, Louise Campisano & John Ashley. Peter Beaumont & Benita McDonough dived earlier than the rest of us at the Kermode and the Pinnacles.



FLINDERS

By Ian Scholey

Peter Beaumont and I hit the water early as usual. We opted for a shore dive today while David James Geekie, Pam Dagley, Phil Watson and Deb Serginson headed out in Dire Straits and dived the SS Coogee and Rob's Reef.

Excellent vis at Flinders this morning bought out the best in the dive site and as a result we had an excellent dive. I finally got to photograph a male Herring Kale which has been on my wish list for a while now. With some serious contortion, holding the camera at arms length and a new dive position of flat on my back with my legs in the air, I managed some nice Weedy Sea Dragon shots.



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By Ian Scholey

17 December 2016. Just Cheryl Lees and myself on the night dive last night. Conditions were excellent and there was loads to see at Blairgowrie as usual.



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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 <u>www.parkmobile.com.au</u> 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. \diamondsuit

By Ian Scholey

2 January 2017. The forecast today caused the cancellation of our boat diving. Instead we headed down to Blairgowrie for an early morning splash. Lots to see as usual with the small stuff on my agenda, but there was also plenty of larger stuff about with a Bull Ray buzzing me a few times during the dive. Still plenty Nudibranch around even though the water is warming up. of today Diving were myself, Peter Beaumont and Ian Smith. Back to boats tomorrow with 3 boats booked out.



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By Ian Scholey

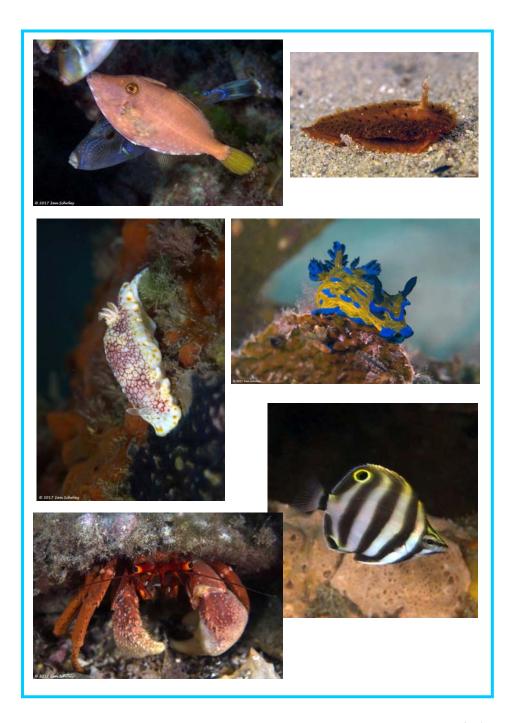
15 January 2017. We had a sensational dive this morning at Blairgowrie. No boat diving this weekend due to the high swell and strong winds so Peter Beaumont and I headed down to Portsea to check out conditions there. Finding the swell up we went back to plan B and headed back down the road to Blairgowrie.

We had a really good dive with the critters out in force and two big Bullrays buzzing about as well. I found a Tassled Angler which is something I haven't seen for a while. We did a couple of hours and were heading off for coffee as the crowds turned up.

Is it just me or is Blairgowrie just getting better and better? There are so many fish species in there nowadays!



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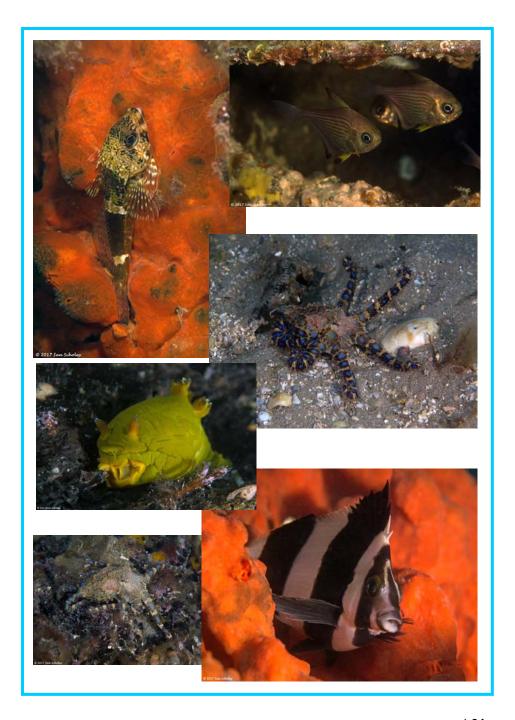
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By Ian Scholey

Night dive Blairgowrie

20 January, 2017. What started out as a potentially well attended Night Dive last night slowly dwindled away yesterday with diver after diver pulling out. Scholey's are made of stronger stuff (or are slightly madder than everyone else) though and in the end it was myself and Anna Scholey who went for a splash. It was good to see a few of the baby Cuttlefish hanging on in there. Peter Beaumont saw one get munched by a Wrasse on Sunday so it's obviously a dangerous business being a young Cuttle. We found three separate Blueringed Octopus. Two out of the three were un-phased by us and hardly had a blue ring showing.



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AUSTRALIA DAY

I have had some really good dives already this year but nothing compared to today's very special dives. Words almost fail me to describe how good the dives were today, just awesome!

We started off deep at Lost Reef. First thing to happen when we arrived was a boat came over and warned us that they had seen a 3.5m Great White there yesterday. Apparently, it circled their boat for ages. We thanked them kindly and made sure our cameras were working and splashed in anyway. The vis was stunning again and the territory and fishwife were great.

Next up we headed inside and decided to drift. We found a likely looking spot to start on the sounder and Benita & I dropped in. After a short swim we hit the jackpot with the most amazing section of reef. We hooked off the drift lines and just explored the reef we had chanced upon. We basically spent the whole dive there and didn't drift anywhere. The reef was so special that we left the drift lines hooked in for the next divers and finned against the current as we ascended. The reef is a new spot for

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us and we have named it Horseshoe Reef. The pictures give you some idea just how good this spot is.

Diving today were:

On Dire Straits, David James Geekie, Pamela Dagley, Benita McDonough, and Ian Scholey.

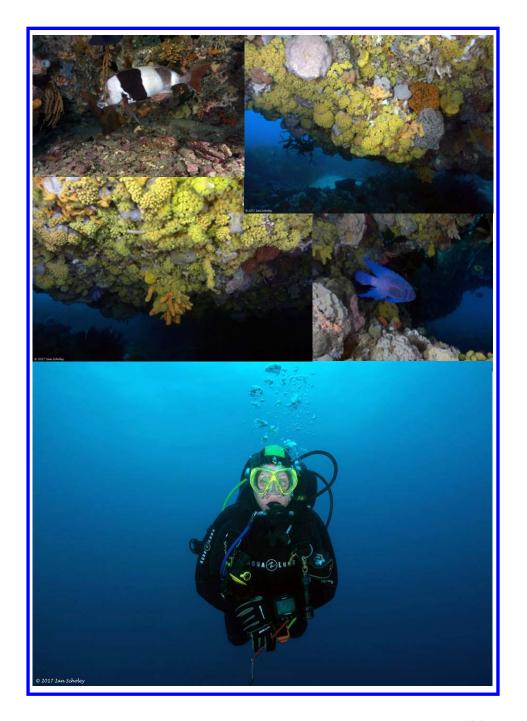
On Carmine, Peter Campisano, Carole Campisano, Ian Smith, Monique Hammersley and Peter Mosse.





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DJARY DAJES



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.

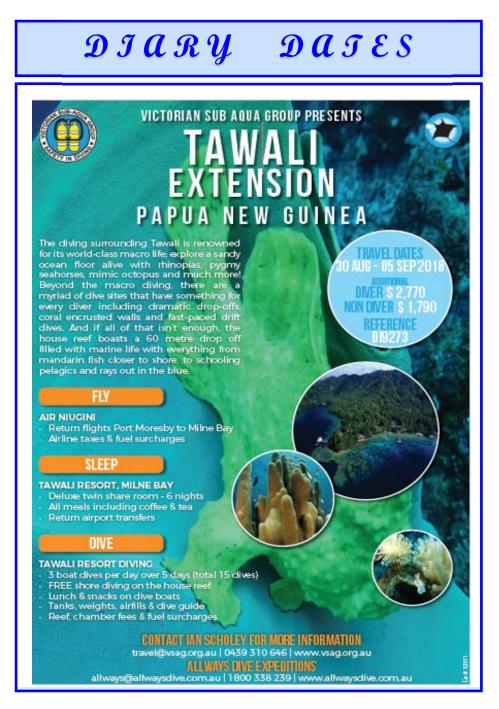
If anyone would like to join the trip then please complete a booking form and return it to me and pay the required deposit of \$440 to secure your place.

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 �

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DJARY DAJES

Tassie Trip - 3-7 March 2017 Tassie Trip – Labour Day 2017 Vanuatu 2-12 July 2017 School holidays Truk Lagoon/ PNG 18-30 August 2018

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.

Dec 3/4	Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Dec 10/14	Boat DC John Lawler 0414 922 916
Dec 17/18	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Dec 20	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Dec 24/25/26/27	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881
	Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Dec 31/Jan 1	Boat DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Jan 7/8	Boat DC Ross Walker 0417 376 192
Jan 14/15	Boat DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Jan 17	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Jan 21/22	Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Jan 26/27/28/29	Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Feb 4/5	Boat DC John Lawler 0414 922 916
Feb 11/12	Shore DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881
	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Feb 18/19	Boat DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Feb 21	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Feb 25/26	DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Mar 4/5	Boat DC David Geekie 0419 300 686
Mar 11/12/13	Boat DC David Flew 0418 446 530
Labor Day long	
weekend	
Mar 18/19	Boat DC Benita McDonough 0419 399 000
Mar 21	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Mar 25/26	Boat DC Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Apr 1/2	Boat DC John Lawler 0414 922 916

Apr 8/9	Boat DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Apr 14/15/16/17 Easter week- end	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	DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Queens B'day weekend	
Jun 17/18	
June 20	General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm

Websites for Tidal Streams & Weather Conditions

Peter Beaumont

<u>Tidal Stream information for Port Phillip Bay Heads is</u> <u>located here:</u>

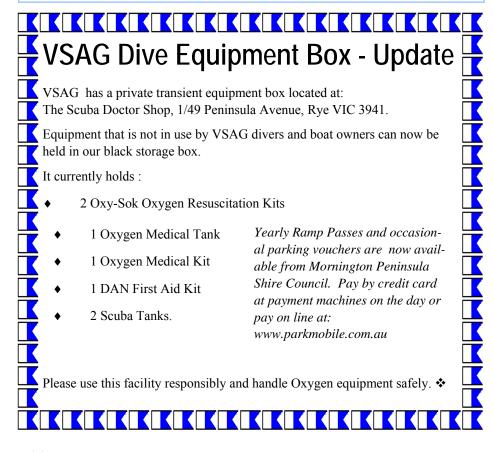
http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/tides/#!/vic-the-rip

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



December						January
MON 26	TUE 27	WED 28	THU 29	FRI 30	SAT 31	SUN 1
1:23	2:33	3:34	4:25	5:07	5:44	6:19
6:39	8:05	9:24	10:24	11:12	11:52	12:31
12:10	13:01	13:58	14:54	15:48	16:36	17:24
19:39	20:33	21:24	22:11	22:55	23:36	
MON 2	TUE 3	WED 4	THU 5	FRI 6	SAT 7	SUN 8
0:14	0:51	1:28	2:05	2:42	3:22	4:05
6:52	7:23	7:54	8:24	8:55	9:28	10:05
13:07	13:42	14:18	14:55	15:36	16:21	17:11
18:08	18:51	19:36	20:24	21:18	22:18	23:27
MON 9	TUE 10	WED 11	THU 12	FRI 13	SAT 14	SUN 15
4:55	0:44	2:05	3:20	4:23	5:17	6:03
10:48	5:58	7:21	8:55	10:16	11:20	12:15
18:09	11:41	12:45	13:58	15:12	16:20	17:22
	19:14	20:22	21:29	22:30	23:26	
MON 16	TUE 17	WED 18	THU 19	FRI 20	SAT 21	SUN 22
0:17	1:02	1:44	2:21	2:56	3:30	4:06
6:45	7:23	7:58	8:31	9:02	9:31	10:02
13:04	13:50	14:32	15:11	15:49	16:27	17:08
18:19	19:12	20:02	20:51	21:39	22:30	23:26
MON 23	TUE 24	WED 25	THU 26	FRI 27	SAT 28	SUN 29
4:45	0:28	1:38	2:48	3:50	4:39	5:19
10:35	5:34	6:40	8:12	9:38	10:39	11:25
17:52	11:13	12:01	13:01	14:09	15:16	16:16
	18:42	19:40	20:39	21:36	22:27	23:14

Tidal Streams at the Heads — January 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**

		es have been	adjusted for	Daylight Sav	ings	
January		February				
MON 30	TUE 31	WED 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4	SUN 5
5:53	6:26	0:37	1:17	1:55	2:34	3:13
12:06	12:44	6:56	7:27	7:58	8:29	9:03
17:09	17:58	13:21	13:59	14:38	15:20	16:04
23:57		18:46	19:33	20:22	21:15	22:11
MON 6	TUE 7	WED 8	THU 9	FRI 10	SAT 11	SUN 12
3:54	4:40	0:24	1:40	2:55	4:00	4:54
9:40	10:23	5:37	6:55	8:32	10:00	11:06
16:52	17:46	11:16	12:23	13:43	15:04	16:18
23:13		18:48	19:59	21:10	22:16	23:14
MON 13	TUE 14	WED 15	THU 16	FRI 17	SAT 18	SUN 19
5:39	0:04	0:48	1:27	2:02	2:34	3:06
12:00	6:19	6:54	7:26	7:56	8:24	8:52
17:21	12:46	13:27	14:05	14:39	15:13	15:46
	18:15	19:04	19:48	20:30	21:11	21:53
MON 20	TUE 21	WED 22	THU 23	FRI 24	SAT 25	SUN 26
3:38	4:12	4:51	0:32	1:42	2:52	3:51
9:21	9:52	10:29	5:43	6:58	8:38	9:55
16:22	17:00	17:45	11:14	12:13	13:29	14:48
22:38	23:30		18:39	19:44	20:53	21:56
February		March				
MON 27	TUE 28	WED 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4	SUN 5
4:36	5:14	5:48	0:22	1:04	1:45	2:25
10:48	11:33	12:14	6:21	6:53	7:27	8:02
15:59	16:59	17:52	12:55	13:36	14:17	15:00
22:50	23:38		18:42	19:30	20:20	21:10

Tidal Streams at the Heads — February 2017 **RED** italic times are slack water with EBB about to start (Flood Slack)

which are the best diving conditions near the Heads. $\ensuremath{\mathsf{BLUE}}$ are Ebb Slack.

		es nave been	aujusteu for			
February		March			1	
MON 27	TUE 28	WED 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4	SUN 5
4:36	5:14	5:48	0:22	1:04	1:45	2:25
10:48	11:33	12:14	6:21	6:53	7:27	8:02
15:59	16:59	17:52	12:55	13:36	14:17	15:00
22:50	23:38	na	18:42	19:30	20:20	21:10
MON 6	TUE 7	WED 8	THU 9	FRI 10	SAT 11	SUN 12
3:05	3:47	4:33	0:01	1:10	2:22	3:27
8:40	9:21	10:08	5:29	6:46	8:20	9:44
15:44	16:31	17:23	11:05	12:17	13:42	15:08
22:02	22:59		18:23	19:34	20:50	22:00
MON 13	TUE 14	WED 15	THU 16	FRI 17	SAT 18	SUN 19
4:21	5:06	5:45	0:31	1:07	1:41	2:12
10:47	11:37	12:20	6:18	6:48	7:17	7:45
16:21	17:20	18:10	12:57	13:30	14:02	14:33
22:59	23:48		18:53	19:32	20:08	20:44
MON 20	TUE 21	WED 22	THU 23	FRI 24	SAT 25	SUN 26
2:43	3:14	3:46	4:23	5:09	0:36	1:42
8:13	8:44	9:17	9:54	10:39	6:13	7:41
15:05	15:38	16:13	16:54	17:42	11:41	13:01
21:20	22:00	22:45	23:36		18:43	20:00
March					April	
MON 27	TUE 28	WED 29	THU 30	FRI 31	SAT 1	SUN 2
2:44	3:37	4:21	5:01	0:03	0:49	1:32
9:03	10:04	10:54	11:40	5:39	6:17	5:56
14:29	15:46	16:50	17:46	12:25	13:09	12:54
21:16	22:20	23:15		18:36	19:25	19:13

Tidal Streams at the Heads — Marck 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**

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

Mayday Call – for grave & imminent danger requiring immediate assistance	Urgency Call – when the danger is not grave or imminent
Distress Call:	Urgency Call:
Mayday, Mayday, Mayday	Pan Pan, Pan Pan, Pan Pan
This is: <u>"Boat call sign x3"</u> (Boat owners insert your call sign)	All Ships, All Ships, All Ships (or the emergency service you want to con- tact)
	This is: " <u>Boat call sign x3</u> " (Boat owners insert your call sign)
Distress message after contact made:	Urgency message after contact made:
Mayday	Pan Pan
Mayday "2 DIVE 4"	Pan Pan "2 DIVE 4"
"2 DIVE 4" Give position-(see GPS for co- ordinates), nature of the problem, num- ber on board plus any other relevant	"2 DIVE 4" Give position-(see GPS for co- ordinates), nature of the problem, number on board plus any other rele-

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)

State Emergency Service (VIC): Alfred Hospital Hyperbaric Unit: Alfred Hospital switchboard:

132 500 (new number) 03 9076 2269 03 9076 2000

0011 1 919684 9111 (from landline)

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	

