



Fathoms

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2018

Cover photo by PT Hirshfield

**VSAG AGM & Awards Evening
HMAS Tobruk
Photo Competition May & June
Pycnogonids and more.....**

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

www.vsag.org.au

VSAG Inc.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
And
ANNUAL AWARDS EVENING
21st August, 2018

Hi Everyone

Once again, VSAG Inc will be holding the Annual General Meeting,
this year combined with the Annual Awards Evening, on
Tuesday, 21st August, 2018

at the

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 commencing at 8 pm.

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.

Awards up for grabs—Wooden Weight Belt, Literary, Photo of the year, Fathoms, New member of the Year, VSAG Club Champion, 2nd and 3rd place.

Who will win the coveted Wooden Weight Belt this year?



Fathoms

Est. 1954

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

In this August—September 2018 issue...

| Article | Author | Page |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| VSAG Christmas in July | | 6-7 |
| HMS Belfast | Ian Scholey | 8-12 |
| HMAS Tobruk | | 13 |
| South West Rocks, NSW | Peter Beaumont | 14-15 |
| June Guest Speaker | John Lawler | 16-17 |
| Thailand | John Ashley | 18-19 |
| July Guest Speaker | John Lippmann | 20 |
| VHB 54 | Ian Scholey | 21-23 |
| Party Point | Ian Scholey | 24 |
| Amun Ini | David Flew | 26-27 |
| Pycnogonids | Jan Watson | 28-30 |
| May & June Photo Competitions | | 31-42 |
| Hogan Island, Queens Birthday Weekend | Rowan Salger | 44-45 |
| Uralba & Phil's Reef | Ian Scholey | 46-48 |
| Save the Rays /Lobster Tagging | Victorian Fisheries | 52-53 |
| Yasawa Islands Fiji | | 56 |
| Truk Lagoon Micronesia | | 57-59 |
| Diary Dates, Midweek Diving, SafeTrx | | 60 |
| VSAG Dive and Meeting Calendar | | 61-63 |
| Tidal Streams | | 64-67 |
| Emergency Contact Information | | 68-69 |

Editorial Submissions:

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

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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, Mel-
ville 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 2018–2019

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

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VSAG Christmas In July 2018



From left: Anna Scholey, Sue Scholey, Mark Jeffrey, Kerry Shanahan & Geoff Roda, Roy and Carol (behind the camera) Penfold, Charmaine Alford and Ian Scholey.

In true VSAG style, a roudly bunch of stalwart members congregated for the annual VSAG Christmas in July at P J Obrien's at Southbank.

Here we were treated to a traditional feast of ham and turkey followed by a winter warmer plum pudding accompanied by copious

amounts of wine, beer or soft drink..

Good friends, good food, and really good cheer!

Thank you to everyone who supported our social activity and a huge thank you to Sherryn Amor for organising the outing for all of us. ❖



From left: Denise Ellis, Christine Reynolds, Yvonne Lawler, John Lawler, Sherryn Amor and Mick Young.

HMS BELFAST

HMS BELFAST, LONDON

Visit Report, May 2018

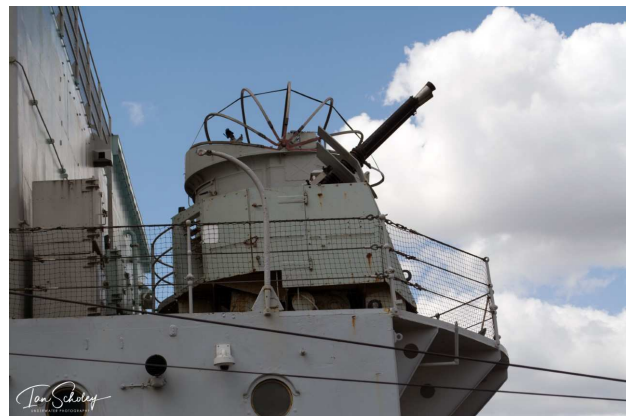
With a day in London planned and looking for something aside from shopping to amuse myself, I decided to keep the nautical theme of my UK trip going and pay a visit to HMS Belfast. This was a familiar sight for me in my previous life in the UK, as I used to walk past her every day. As happens, so often when you have things so close, I never found the time to visit the ship, so decided to put that right.

HMS *Belfast* is a Town-class light cruiser that was built for the Royal Navy. She is now permanently moored as a museum ship on the River Thames in London and is operated by the Imperial War Museum.

Construction of *Belfast*, the first ship in the Royal Navy to be named after the capital city of Northern Ireland and one of ten Town-class cruisers, began in December 1936. Fittingly, she was launched on St Patricks Day 1938. Commissioned in early August 1939 shortly before the outbreak of the Second World War, *Belfast* was initially part of the British naval blockade against



Anti-Aircraft Gun



Anti-Aircraft Gun



Aft 6-Inch Guns

Germany. In November 1939 *Belfast* struck a German mine and spent more than two years undergoing extensive repairs.

Belfast returned to action in November 1942 with improved firepower, radar equipment, and armour. *Belfast* saw action escorting Arctic convoys to the Soviet Union during 1943 and in December 1943 played an important role in the Battle of North Cape, assisting in the destruction of the German warship *Scharnhorst*.

In June 1944, *Belfast* took part in Operation *Overlord* supporting the Normandy landings. For the invasion of Normandy, *Belfast* was made headquarters ship of Bombardment Force E, flying the flag of Rear-Admiral Frederick Dalrymple-Hamilton and was to support landings by British and Canadian forces in the Gold and Juno Beach sectors. On 2 June, *Belfast* left the River Clyde for her bombardment areas. That morning, Prime Minister Winston Churchill had announced his intention to go to sea with the fleet and witness the invasion from HMS *Belfast*. This was opposed by the Supreme Allied Commander, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, and the First Sea Lord, Sir Andrew Cunningham. An intervention by the King eventually prevented Churchill from going.



Forward Gun Turrets



Radio Room



The Bridge

The invasion was to begin on 5 June, but bad weather forced a 24-hour delay. At 5:30 am on 6 June, *Belfast* opened fire on a German artillery battery at Ver-sur-Mer, suppressing the guns until the site was overrun by British infantry of 7th Battalion, Green Howards. On 12 June, *Belfast* supported Canadian troops moving inland from Juno Beach and returned to Portsmouth on 16 June to replenish her ammunition. She returned two days later for further bombardments. On the night of 6 July, *Belfast* was threatened at anchor by German motor torpedo boats ("E-boats"). She evaded them, by weighing anchor and moving to the concealment of a smoke screen. *Belfast* fired her last round in anger in European waters on 8 July, in company with the monitor, HMS *Roberts*, and the battleship, HMS *Rodney*, as part of Operation *Charnwood*. On 10 July she sailed for Scapa Flow, the fighting in France having moved inland beyond the range of her guns. During her five weeks off Normandy, *Belfast* had fired 1,996 rounds from her six-inch guns.

In June 1945, *Belfast* was redeployed to the Far East to join the British Pacific Fleet, arriving shortly before the end of the Second World War. *Belfast* saw further combat action in 1950–52 during the Korean War and underwent an extensive



The Medical Centre



The Naafi

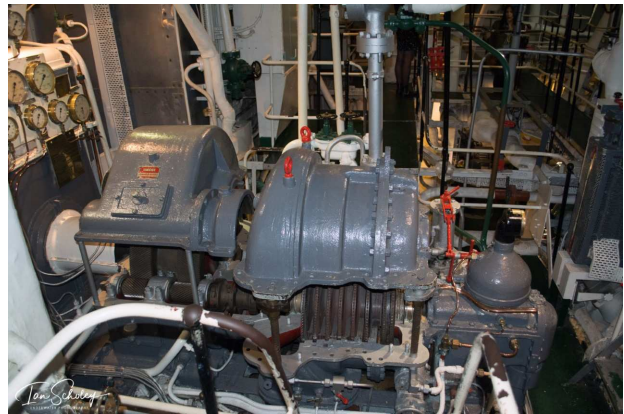


Magazine Forward Gun Turret

modernisation between 1956 and 1959. A number of further overseas commissions followed before *Belfast* entered reserve in 1963.

In 1967, efforts were initiated to avert *Belfast's* expected scrapping and to preserve her as a museum ship. A joint committee of the Imperial War Museum, the National Maritime Museum, and the Ministry of Defence was established and then reported in June 1968 that preservation was practical. In 1971, the government decided against preservation, prompting the formation of the private HMS *Belfast* Trust to campaign for her preservation. The efforts of the Trust were successful, and the government transferred the ship to the Trust in July 1971. Brought to London, she was moored on the River Thames near Tower Bridge in the Pool of London. Opened to the public in October 1971, *Belfast* became a branch of the Imperial War Museum in 1978. A popular tourist attraction, *Belfast* receives over a quarter of a million visitors per year.

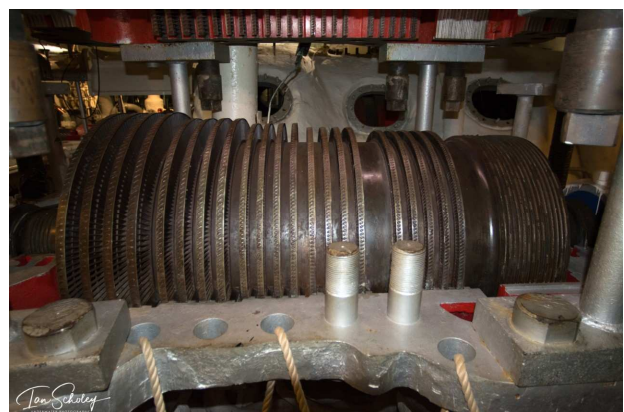
Boarding the ship, I picked up a self-guided audio tour and started my tour in one of the aft 6-inch gun turrets. I can't even start to imagine what it would have been like in that confined space, with the noise created by firing the guns. It was pretty cramped, to



Engine Room



Engine Room



Engine Room

say the least. I then descended through the guts of the ship and down into the engine room. Meandering through the ships corridors, I passed the Naafi, where a few luxuries were on sale to the crew, through the dining rooms, saw the dentists and hospital and passed many workshops and offices. Moving towards the bow I stood in the Admiral's bridge and enjoyed the view over the forward guns before climbing the stairs to the proper bridge above. From there I explored the sizeable radar rooms, control rooms and communications centre.

It was a fascinating experience to explore the ship. It was a real maze and I am amazed anyone ever found their way around. The most surprising thing was the lack of any crew accommodation, with hammocks slung in every spare space.

It was a great way to spend a couple of hours and if anyone is ever in London, it's well worth a visit.

- Ian Scholey ❖



HMS Belfast



Ship's Bell

*. 6-Inch Gun
inside the rear
turret*



HMAS TOBRUK

EX-HMAS TOBRUK - FROM WRECK TO REEF

July 2, 2018

Ex-HMAS Tobruk was decommissioned in 2015 after 35 years service, mainly as an Army transport vessel and has been scuttled off the Queensland coast, where it will become a dive site and tourist attraction.

After the event was rescheduled twice due to unfavourable weather conditions, the ship was towed overnight to a spot halfway between Bundaberg and Hervey Bay, about 15 nautical miles off the coast.

The former Navy vessel will become an artificial reef for divers after it clears government safety checks, with hundreds of people already on the wait list to dive the site as early as August.

Aerial footage supplied by the Queensland Government shows ex-HMAS Tobruk being scuttled off the Bundaberg and Fraser Coast July 2.

Safety divers have confirmed that ex-HMAS Tobruk has settled on her starboard side, settling on the bottom of the ocean at a depth of approximately 28 metres.



Project Manager, Steve Hoseck, has said that this dive is going to be like no other wreck in Australia. It is a massive void inside, with huge areas for people to swim around. Divers will be able to swim 110m in one direction inside the ship. ❖



South West Rocks

SOUTH WEST ROCKS

July 2018

Wed 25th -

1st Dive- Fish Rock - Cave shallow entrance.

2nd Dive – Fish Rock Cave via 24mtr entrance.

Thurs 26th

1st dive – Fish Rock - Fish & Chips

2nd dive – Fish Rock - Western drift to mooring

Depth: 28mtrs

Water temp: 18c

Vis: 15mtrs +

Divers: Peter Beaumont, St George Club members – Michael McFadyen, Jason Coombs + 3 others.

With favourable conditions forecast for the East Coast of NSW, I didn't hesitate in saying yes to a St George Club email asking members for expressions of interest in diving South West Rocks on the 25th and 26th July.

Judy and I packed the car and headed off on a leisurely road trip. Along the way we visited family members and stopped/overnighted/visited places like Gundagai, Yass, Windsor and Taree, before checking into our accommodation at the South West Rock Dive Centre late Monday afternoon. Bistro type meals can be had at the Seabreeze Hotel bistro,

which is a 20-minute walk from the Dive Centre or the Riverfront Tavern, which is a 5-minute drive from the dive shop. Pizza deliveries to the Dive Centre accommodation are also available. There are also a variety of restaurants close to the Seabreeze Hotel.

Tuesday was a tourist sightseeing day as it was a sunny 21 degrees, no wind and the ocean was dead flat, which meant ideal conditions for diving Fish Rock.



Wednesday saw 8 divers setting up and loading gear onto the boat at 7:30am before we headed off to the boat ramp to don our wetsuits, etc. and wait for the boat to come to the landing. On the trip out to the dive site, we saw a few humpbacks breaching and frolicking, as well as a few southern right whales quietly making their way along the coast.

Once at the mooring and the dive briefing was done, we geared up and waited for our guides. For the first dive, we swam along the reef wall

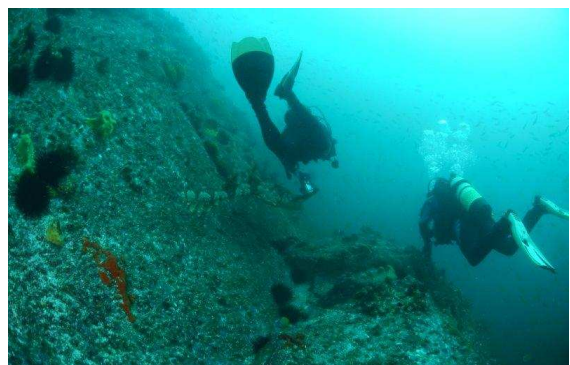


and around to the shallow cave entrance. Along the way we saw a couple of dozen grey nurse sharks, 4 or 5 rays gliding through the water as well as the odd wobbegong, blue groppers, turtles etc. During the surface interval we had the odd humpback/southern right whale swim past or hang around the boat for a few minutes. The second dive was down to the cave's 24 metre entrance, through the cave and out the shallow entrance. Along the way we saw more grey nurses, wobbies, turtles, schools of fish etc. before returning to the mooring line and climbing back onboard.

Thursday saw 7 divers heading out on the boat for a couple of dives. The first dive was an area known as Fish & Chips, where we swam along the



reef wall and followed a couple of gullies, before heading back to the mooring. Along the way we saw about a dozen grey nurses, a couple of turtles, 4 or 5 blue groppers and the odd wobbegong. After the surface interval, the boat took us to the other side of Fish Rock where we geared up and entered the water for a drift dive back to the previous mooring, where the boat would be waiting for us. This dive was the best of the lot with more than a dozen wobbies, 2 x large marble rays, 2 x eagle rays, a school of kingfish, 1 x seal, over a dozen grey nurse sharks and 1 x turtle spotted along the way.



With diving completed for the day we headed back to the dive centre, washed our gear up, then headed off to the light house and jail ruins for a bit of sightseeing.

The following morning, we packed our gear into the car and headed off for a leisurely drive back to Melbourne, via Sydney (overnight), Ulladulla, Batemans Bay, Braidwood, Canberra, Yass, Gundagai (overnight) and Albury.
- Peter Beaumont ❖

JUNE GUEST SPEAKER

JUNE GUEST SPEAKER JOHN LAWLER



At our June General Meeting we were fortunate to have as our guest speaker, Mr John Lawler, past president and life member of VSAG, President of Victorian Artificial Reef Society 2009-2010.

John presented an informed and detailed account of the effort that went into the securing and sinking of HMAS Canberra as an artificial reef off Barwon Heads. HMAS Canberra

is a leading dive site in Victoria and is now managed by Parks Victoria.

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of the VARS committee and sponsors, we can all enjoy this marvellous addition to Victoria's Dive Sites.

Further information is available on www.vars.org.au and www.hmascanberra.com.au

LET'S SINK THE EX HMAS CANBERRA IN VICTORIA!



Plan view of the HMAS Canberra FFG 02



Oct 2009: Vars ex HMAS Canberra Sinking Committee with the Australian Flag that went down with the ex HMAS Canberra

Front Row L-R: Mick Jeacle (Treasurer), John Lawler (President), Mike Reed (Vice-President)
Back Row L-R: Alan Beckhurst, Bryan McGoldrick, Alan Storen, Warwick McDonald, Jason Salter.



The ex HMAS Canberra FFG-02 was scuttled at 2pm on Sunday, 4 October 2009.

This would not have been possible without VARS, Dive Industry Victoria, Scuba Divers' Federation of Victoria, Department of Defence, Tourism Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment.

THAILAND

15 June, 2018

I really do need to tell you all that I've had to put up with almost two weeks diving in 28°C water temp in Thailand. One dive that stands out was the Chumphon Pinnacle off the island off Koh Tao, which is one of the many islands in the Gulf of Thailand. This Pinnacle rises up from 31m to within 11m of the surface and as you would expect, covered in the most spectacular sponges/corals. The fish life is spectacular.

Vis today was about 20-25m which always makes a dive more memorable, it's a funny thing that some reefs have no clown fish but other reefs nearby have lots, and I'm told by the dive guides that it's the same for Morays.

- John Ashley ❖

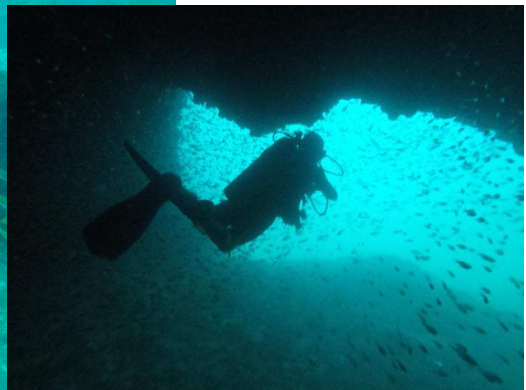


THAILAND

June 11, 2018

Just a few shots of the King Cruiser wreck off Phuket. I suspect most divers have done this dive and that of Shark point. I did this wreck 4 years ago and I'm afraid her best days as a dive site are behind her. Viz was dreadful at 4-6m but diving in 28 degree water somewhat makes up for it. What I did notice, was the many different types of Morays and in parts you couldn't see the wreck for the massive schools of fish.

- John Ashley ❖



JULY GUEST SPEAKER

JOHN LIPPMANN

At our July general meeting our very special guest speaker was Mr John Lippmann, Founder, Chairman, Director of Research at Divers Alert Network Asia-Pacific.

John presented on open discussion on a newly emerging dive medical condition causing dive emergencies, namely Diver Immersion Pulmonary Oedema or IPE (Immersion Pulmonary Edema) This condition, immersion pulmonary edema (IPE), presents as a rapid onset of shortness of breath, cough and sometimes blood-tinged, frothy sputum. It is a life threatening condition that affects surface swimmers, including snorkellers and divers.

John is currently researching this silent killer, a condition which at autopsy closely resembles drowning. Further information can be found on the Dan Asia Pacific web site:

<https://www.diversalertnetwork.org/health/heart/immersion-pulmonary-edema>

A real life case study can be found here:

Diving Accident Bare Island, Sydney
- 3 February 2011



https://www.michaelmcfadyenscuba.info/viewpage.php?page_id=816

Anyone experiencing symptoms of IPE, is encouraged to immediately abort the dive and seek medical assistance.

The DAN Diving Emergency Service (DES) Australia Hotline
(funded by DAN)

1800-088 200

(toll free within Australia – English Only)

+61-8-8212 9242

(from outside Australia – English Only)

VHB 54

VHB 54 & THE GARDEN

June 10, 2018

The fantastic conditions of late continued for this dive, with light variable winds and flat seas. We didn't have a lot of interest so it was just myself and Peter Beaumont out on Sea Eagle.

We took advantage of the conditions and headed down to the Ships' Graveyard. The intent was to dive the Batman but I had some sounder issues and we didn't find it. I did go and have a look, but found only a shallow reef covered with sponge growth. As I was down there, I decided to stay and had an enjoyable dive, dragging the shot with me in case I found the wreck.

We got some help from Chris Taft, Vaughn Naylor and crew, who were also diving in the graveyard. They kindly dropped our shot on VHB 54 for us and we dived there.

VHB 54 is one of several vessels brought to Australia in the 1950's by the Australian Dredging and General Works Pty Ltd. Other vessels include sister ship VHB 53 and the Dredge Beverwijk, both of whom sit elsewhere in the graveyard. All were involved in a major dredging job in



an area east of the entrance to the Yarra River.

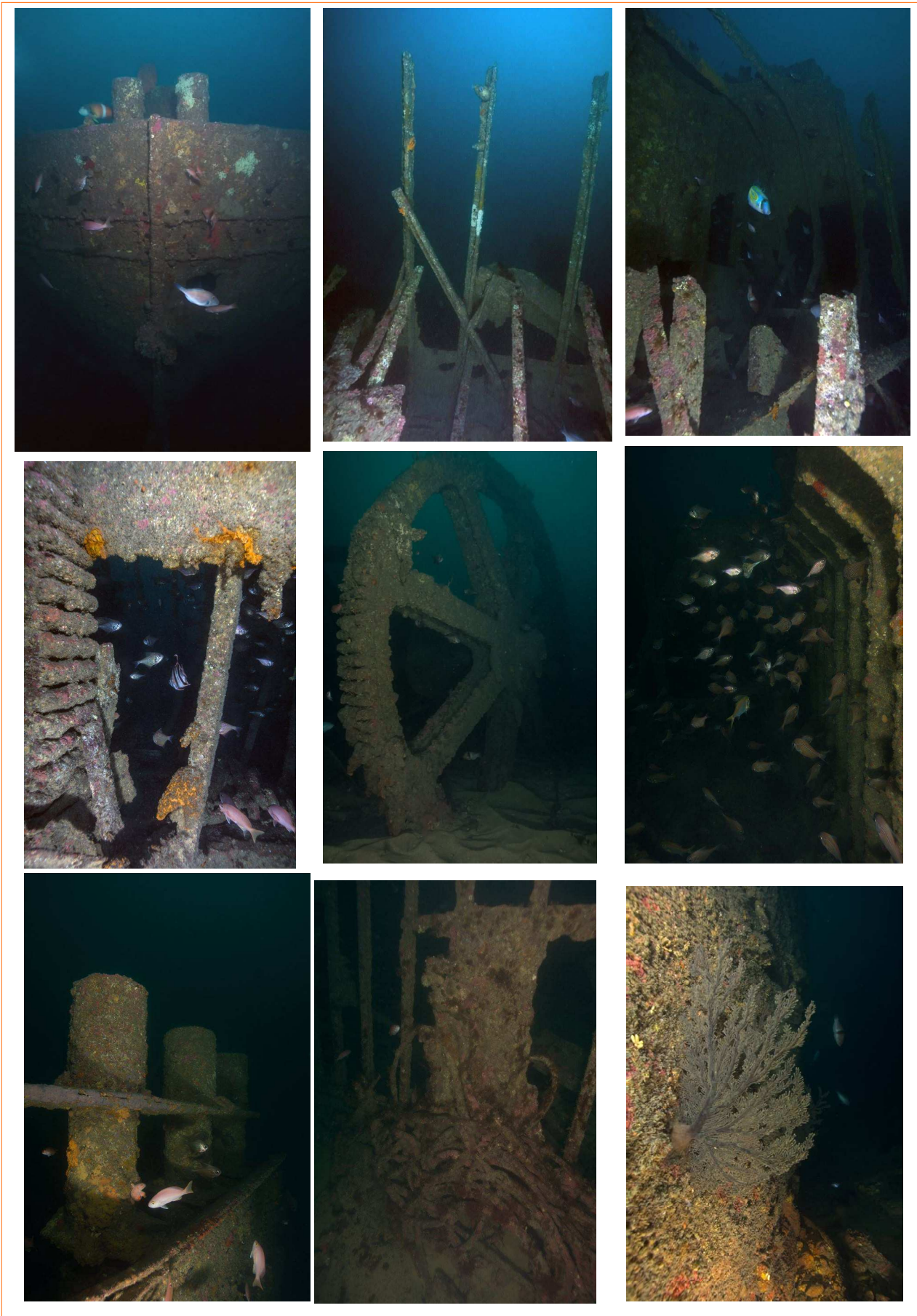
VHB 53 and 54 were Hopper Barges and the huge wheels, used to open the doors on the barge to allow the dredged materials to be dumped on board, are still visible at midships on the VHB 54. The stern is pretty intact but midships is very broken. The ship was absolutely covered in fish life with big schools of Bullseyes occupying the insides.

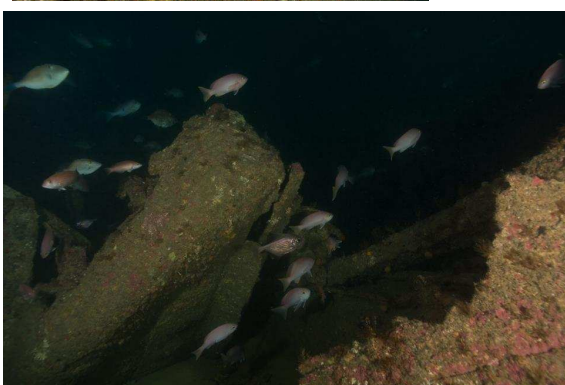
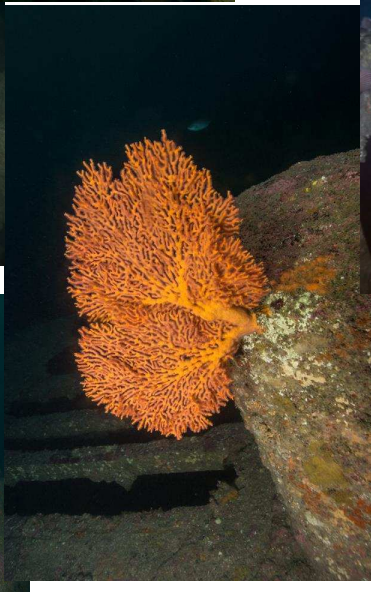
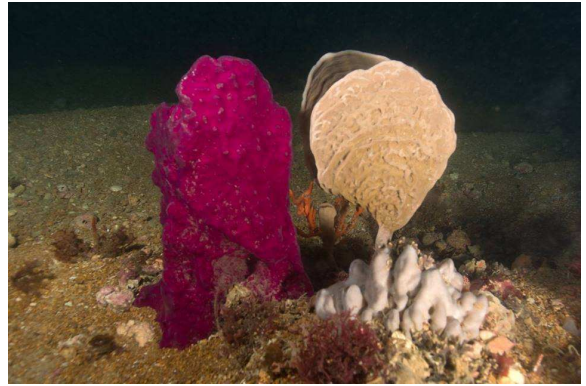
She was scuttled in the graveyard in 1970 and is sitting upright at 42m.

There were hundreds of Dolphins about and we saw 4-5 large pods between Barwon Heads and the Graveyard.

Every time we stopped they were all around the boat and I was lucky enough to get several close encounters while doing my deco. Sadly I had my camera clipped off, so didn't manage any decent shots.

- Ian Scholey





PARTY POINT

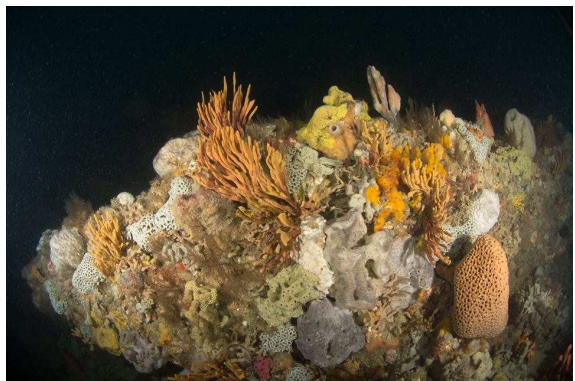
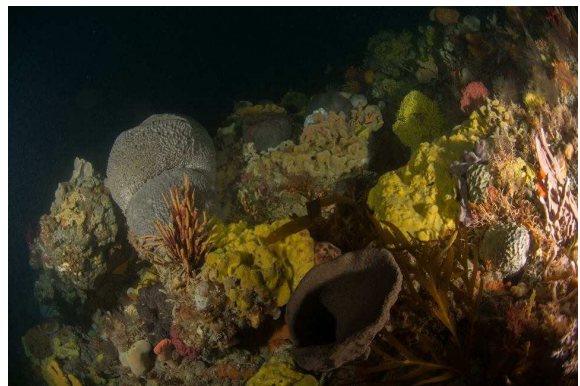
PARTY POINT DIVE

14 July, 2018

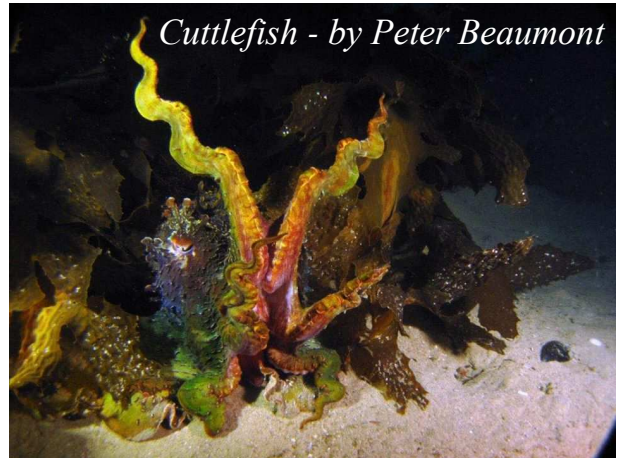
Today, buddy Chris Porter and I let Redboats do the hard work and jumped on board for a deep dive on the wall. Sometimes it is good not to have to do the driving and cleaning up afterwards. We were heading for a spot called New Cave, which sounded good, but shipping movements put paid to that and we went to plan B.

It was pretty dark down at 40m but in some respects, I think that creates a great dive. Your lights reveal the stunning colours and things pop out of the darkness as you drift along. With a long gap between scheduled dives today, we were offered as long a dive as we wanted which was brilliant. We had plenty of gas, diving with twins and stage tanks, so we enjoyed a nice long run time. It was good to see a full boat given the time of year and the water temp. A good days diving.

- Ian Scholey ❖



Blairgowrie



AMUN INI

AMUN INI

Bohol, Philippines

June 2108.

This trip was organised by Alan Wiggs, with Dive Adventures as the travel agent.

10 days/11 nights. Our package included all meals and 10 dives. Flights with Philippine Airlines, overnight stay in Manilla on the way.

Amun Ini has a capacity of around 30 guests, so the group of 29 filled it.

Accommodation, grounds, service and food were outstanding.

All dives are guided, maximum group size is 4, however on many dives it was one guide to two or even one diver. Guides were excellent. Depth limit of 30 m and no deco diving strictly enforced because of distance from diving support services. Nitrox available.

First dive briefing is 8:30 AM; most dive sites are within 10 minutes boat ride. Really easy “resort” style diving – nothing required other than analysing nitrox and carrying camera, mask and fins across the

beach to the boat. Up to 4 dives per day, with one being a night dive. Excellent briefings and one of the best set-up and organised dive centres I’ve seen.

We didn’t visit the more remote sites because the wind was unseasonably high, however it’s all wall, reef or sand diving. Not much in the way of larger fish – I suspect they are fished out. Plenty of turtles and one lucky group saw a whale shark on their first dive.

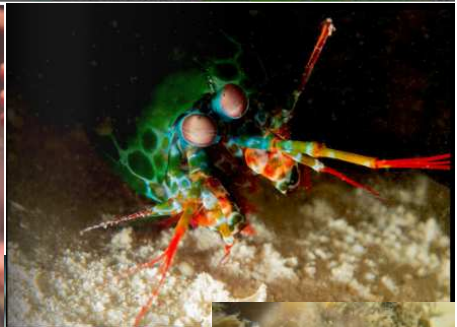
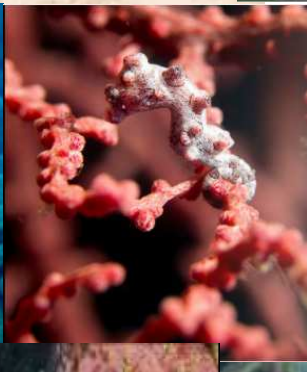
Coral shelf at around 6 m, vertical wall down to a sandy slope at anywhere from 15 to 30+ m. Night dive was on a sandy slope around 20 m. The highlight has to be the “wonderpus” – but lots of other small stuff to look at.

I did 13 dives over 6 days, including one “coral planting” dive on the house reef.

- *David Flew*

- *Photos by Heidi Harron*





PYCNOGONIDS

LAST OF THE ARTHROPODS – THE PYCNOGONIDS

The Pycnogonids belong to the phylum Arthropoda. They resemble but are only distantly related to terrestrial spiders, hence the name “sea-spiders”. They are exclusively marine, with distribution ranging from the intertidal to abyssal ocean depths. There are approximately 40 known species along the southern Australian coast, and more are being found through scuba collecting and underwater photography.

Most species are small, ranging in size from 3 – 60 mm across the extended leg span but some deep water species are very large - a specimen 35 cm across the outstretched legs was recorded from abyssal depths off Tasmania. They are often well camouflaged and almost invisible, but some are brightly coloured and patterned.

Pycnogonids are predators, with a vestigial body of four segments covered in cuticle, eight long legs ending in a claw, a palp for location and manipulation of prey, a large proboscis with mouth and four pairs of eyes on a knob. Unlike other arthropods they have no antennae but they do moult several times from

larva to adult. They prey predominantly on hydroids, anemones and bryozoans, spending their lives on or near their food source, sucking out contents or tearing and chewing tissue.

The female passes the eggs to the male who broods them, clutching them underneath his body on modified legs until they hatch. The young of some species spend their early life sheltering inside hydroid reproductive sacs, eventually emerging as small adults.

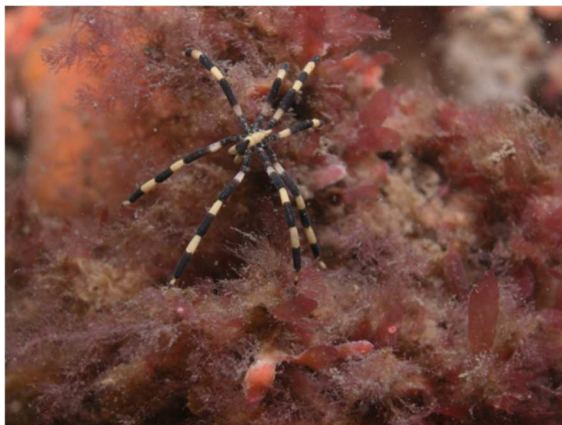
They are sluggish, usually not moving far from their preferred habitat but sometimes drift on water currents to find new homes. Many are colourful and brightly marked, while others are almost invisible on their chosen habitat. Unfortunately the colours and patterns are lost when the animal is preserved, so underwater photography is very helpful for identification of species.

Bright Colours. *Pseudopallene ambigua* is the bright yellow species we often see when diving around the Heads. It lives and feeds on a curly yellow-orange bryozoan, *Orthoscuticella*.



*Mating pair of Pseudopallene ambigua on bryozoan Orthoscuticella. The female is transferring eggs to the male. Port Phillip Heads 10 m.
Photo: Andrew Newton.*

Patterns. *Stylopallene longicauda* is a chunky species with black and creamy-white bands. It prefers shady, hidden locations where it is often present in large numbers. It is particularly abundant in the North Arm of Western Port.



*Stylopallene longicauda on bryozoan Amathia, Bluescope wharf, Western Port 3 m.
Photo: Andrew Newton.*

Camouflage – or Not. *Parapallene australiensis* is not often seen because it merges so well with its background habitat. Its body assumes the colour of its preferred food the scarlet hydroid *Halopteris glutinosa*. The red colour of the hydroid is from Zooxanthellae (microscopic algae) living in the hydroid tissue. The pycnogonid ingests the zooxanthellae when eating the hydroid, also becoming red thus becoming perfectly camouflaged.



*Parapallene australiensis on hydroid Halopteris, Bluescope wharf, Western Port, 3 m.
Photos: Andrew Newton.*



Well camouflaged! On hydroid colony, Crawfish Rock Western Port, 6 m.

Photos: Andrew Newton.

Perfect Camouflage. This species of *Nymphon* blends perfectly with its hydroid prey growing on a sponge. It sucks out the hydroid tissue leaving empty stems behind.



Nymphon. Pycnogonid in centre on sponge. Hydroid colony spreading below. Popes Eye 6 m.

So, on the next dive, look very carefully for pycnogonids – you will be surprised at what you find, and don't forget to photograph!

Jan Watson

Marine Science & Ecology

Ph: 03 5253 2294

Mob: 0457 981 875

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

First - May 2018



1st Place—Nudibranchs with Imperial Shrimp, Bali—PT Hirshfield

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

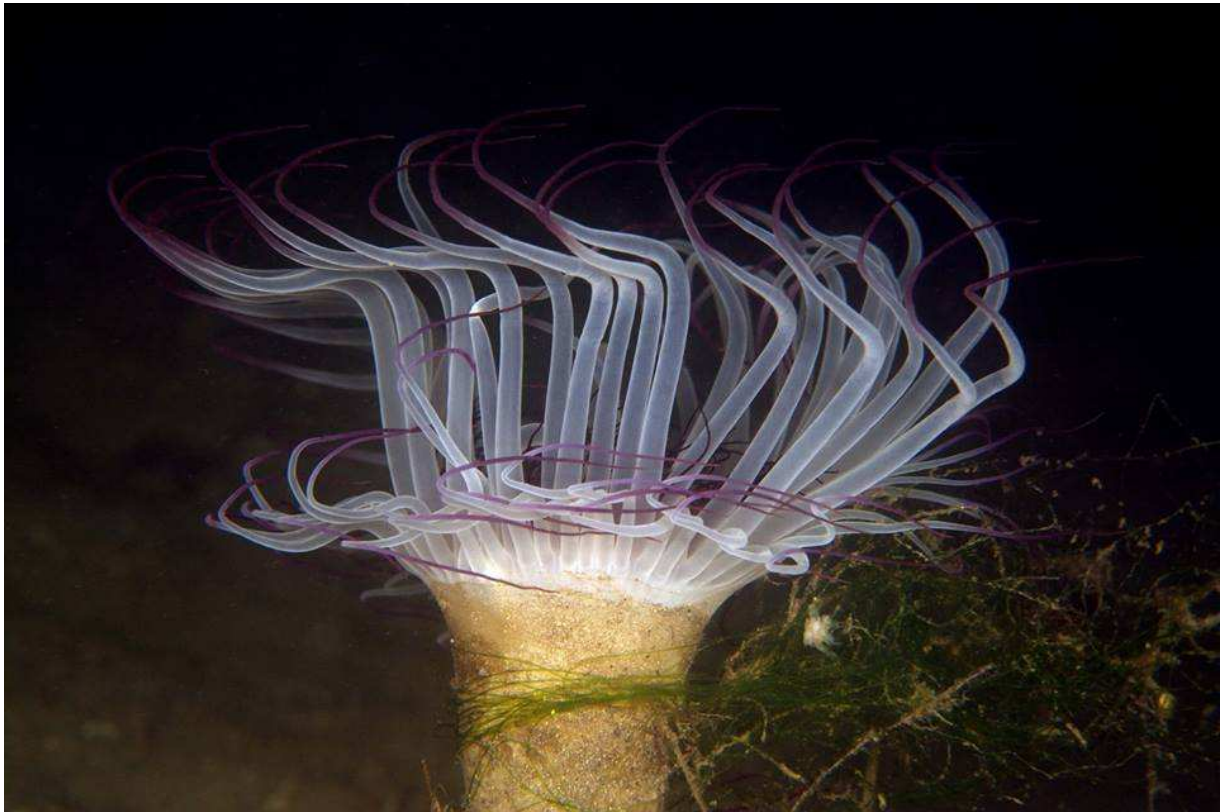
Second - May 2018



2nd Place - Juvenile Bat Fish, Bali - PT Hirshfield

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

Third - May 2018



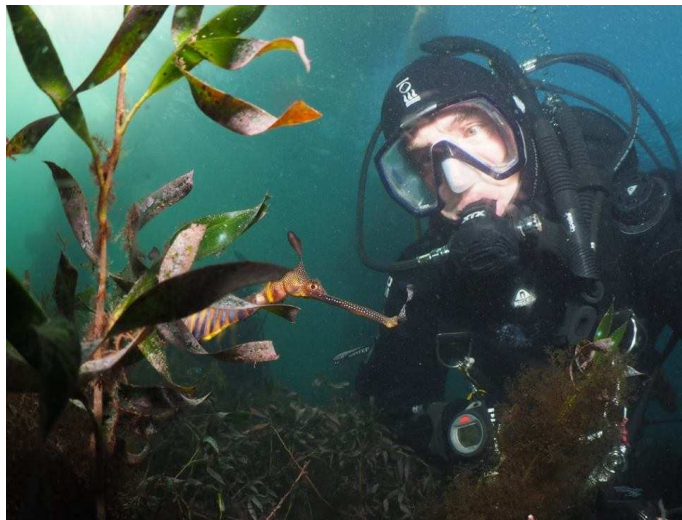
3rd Place - Anemone, Swan River, WA - Ian Scholey

MAY 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION

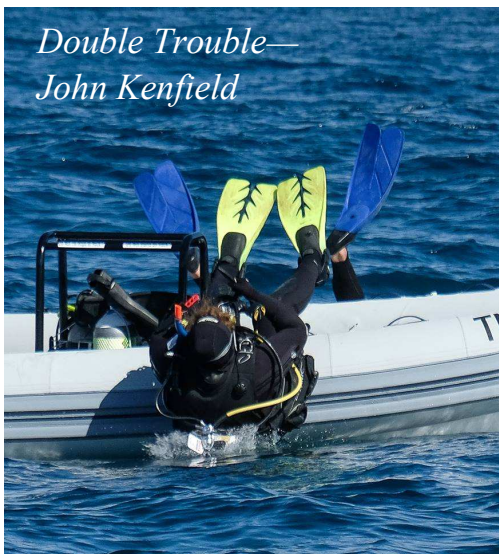
A few VSAGers have been travelling and some great images the result. For May - 1st was PT Hirschfield's Pair of nudibranchs with Imperial Shrimp, 2nd was her Juvenile Batfish, both from Bali, and 3rd was Ian Scholey's Anemone from the Swan River. Hopefully we'll see even more photos over the next few months, as we all try to escape winter for warmer waters. Thank you to everyone who contributed. - Mark ❖



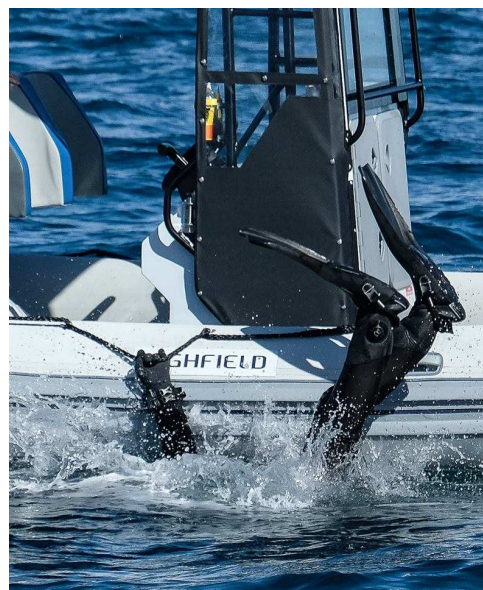
Jellyfish, Swan River, WA
—Ian Scholey



Selfie with Weedy Seadragon, Flinders
—Phil Watson

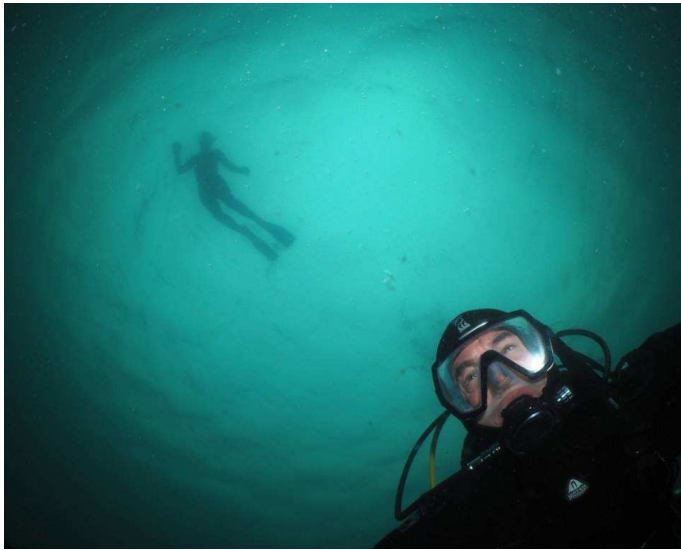


Double Trouble—
John Kenfield



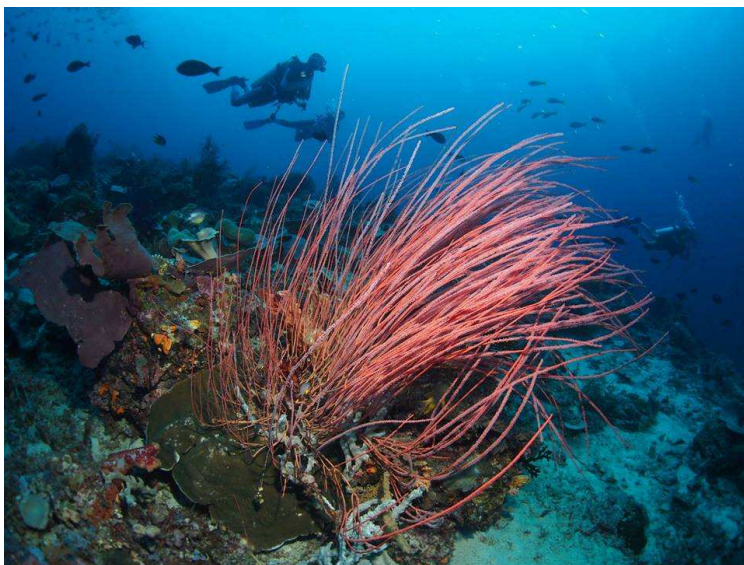
Sheer Poetry—John Kenfield

MAY 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION



*Selfie with a snorkeller,
Williamstown .
- Phil Watson*

*Raja Ampat—
Tim Forster*



*Raja Ampat—
Tim Forster*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

First - June 2018



1st Place - Crab? - David Flew

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

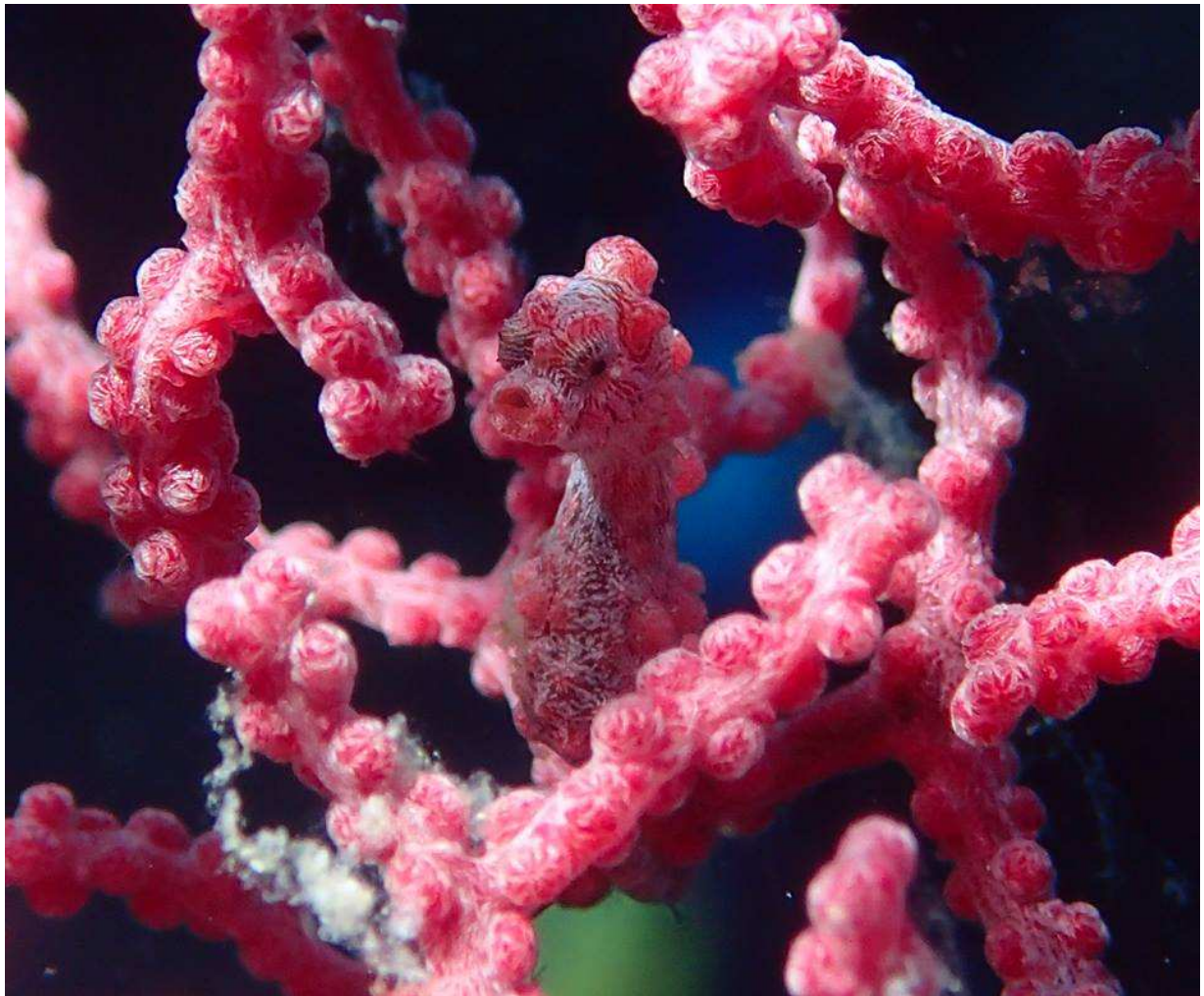
Second - June 2018



2nd Place - Cute Ray and Crunchy Crab - PT Hirshfield

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST
PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS**

Third - June 2018



3rd Place - Pygmy Seahorse - David Flew

JUNE 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION

June's photo comp was a bumper edition of some fantastic images from home and abroad. 1st was David Flew's Crab?, 2nd was PT Hirschfield's Cute ray and crunchy crab, with 3rd David Flew's Pygmy seahorse. Thank you to everyone who contributed. - Mark

Whatcha lookin at? Hogan Island
- Mark Jeffrey



Angry Cuttlefish, Blairgowrie
- Peter Beaumont



Cuttlefish—Tim Forster

Whale shark, Philippines
- Sandy Webb



Grey Nurse Shark, Fish Rock Cave
- Carole Campisano

Blue Ringed Octopus, Hurricane
- Ian Scholey



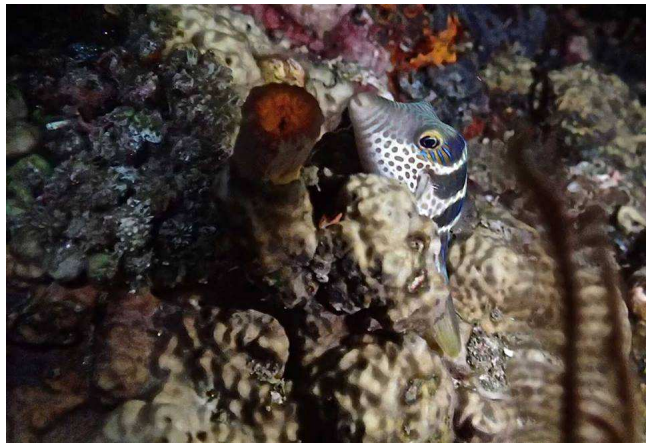
JUNE 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION



*Desolate, Hogan Island
- Mark Jeffrey*



Drink Time - Tim Forster



Black Striped Toad Thingy - Sandy Webb



Divers, HMAS Brisbane, Mooloolaba - Peter Campisano

JUNE 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION



*Blue Devil fish, Chimney Rock
- Peter Beaumont*



Seahorses - PT Hirschfield



Free Diver—Phil Watson



*Fish at Fish Rock Cave, South West -
Carole Campisano*



*Cow fish, The Hurricane -
Ian Scholey*

JUNE 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION



Chumphon Pinnacle, Thailand—John Ashley

Koh Tao Island, Thailand - John Ashley





Photo by Mark Howells



Photo by Peter Beaumont

Queens Birthday HOGAN ISLAND

12 June, 2018

We've just returned from another epic Hogan Island trip on Breaker. Grant Callow did an excellent job, skippering us out and back on the 80km crossing from Port Welshpool. Divers were Mark Jeffrey, Mark Howells and myself. We lost one day of diving due to 40-45knot winds but we were able to ride it out in the comfort of the hut. We were even able to enjoy a hot shower for the first time. Well worth taking a few days off work to dive such a pristine location.

- Rowan Salger





The Uralba & Phil's

THE URALBA & PHIL'S REEF

3 June, 2018

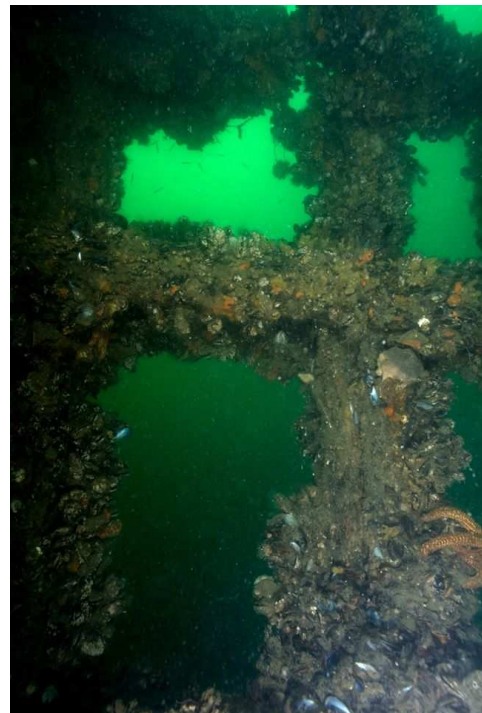
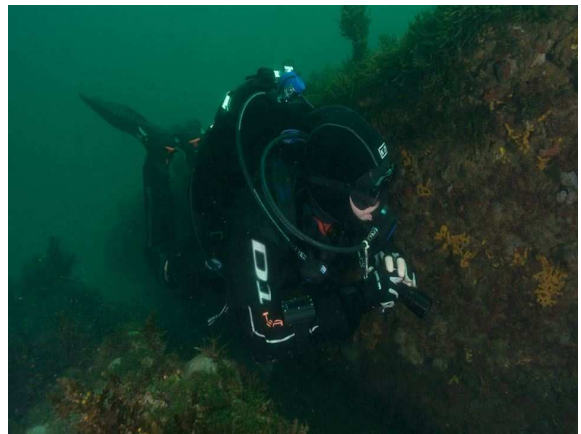
The bay was like a Mill Pond as we headed out from Mordialloc onboard David Flew's boat Karingal.

We headed first to the wreck of the Uralba. Given it's location and reputation for dreadful vis, we were pleasantly surprised with the 4-5m vis as we descended the shot line to the wreck at 18m.

The Uralba was the last vessel built for the North Coast Steam Navigation Co. and fitted with second-hand machinery. It was also the last wooden coal burner built in Australia. Scuttled with an old pleasure boat (condemned by Marine Board), by the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands, as part of their artificial reef program. This program resulted in a number of reefs being established in Port Phillip Bay and Western Port, including last weekend's dive site, the George Kermode off Phillip Island. The Uralba had been a wartime boom defence vessel, and served in Milne Bay, New Guinea.



The Uralba in her heyday



The Uralba & Phil's

Purchased by State Electricity Commission of Victoria in 1946, running concrete cargoes between Tasmania and the mainland. Two ownership changes followed. Then Benny Gelbart of Footscray bought the vessel for conversion to a Northern Territory cattle boat but it sank when moored in the Yarra - caulking had deteriorated. It was salvaged, re-caulked, and towed to a mooring adjacent to the Charles Grimes Bridge. Eleven of its natural knees were used in the reconstruction of the Golden Plover, now in Queensland. The Uralba remained there until, filled with ballast, it was towed by the Ports and Harbours tug, Fury, to reef-site and blown with 20 sticks of gelignite by 'Buck' Taylor - debris went everywhere.

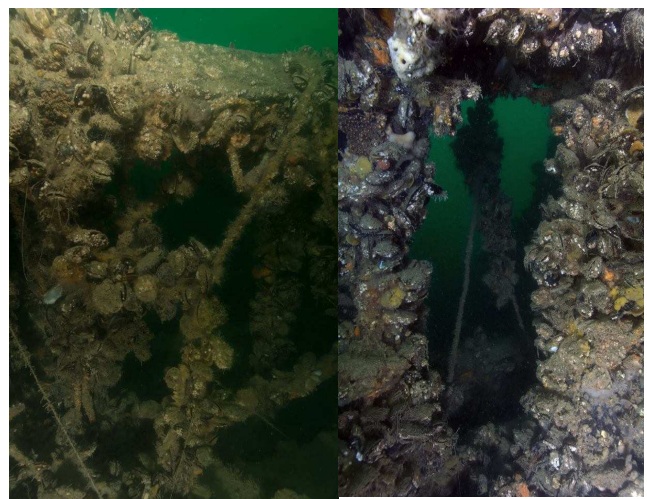
The wreck has an eerie quality, draped in ropes and chains in the green water and care is needed as entanglement is a real risk.

We took the opportunity to grab ourselves a nice anchor, one of many hooked and lost on the wreck.

The second dive was on at Phil's Reef. The vis was better on the shallow reef and there were plenty of fish about.



The George Kermode

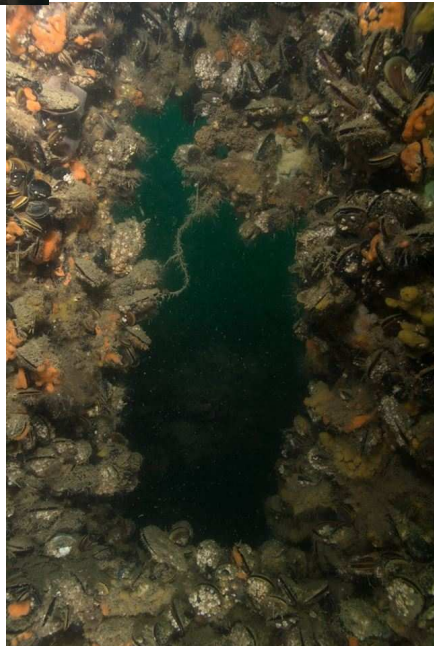
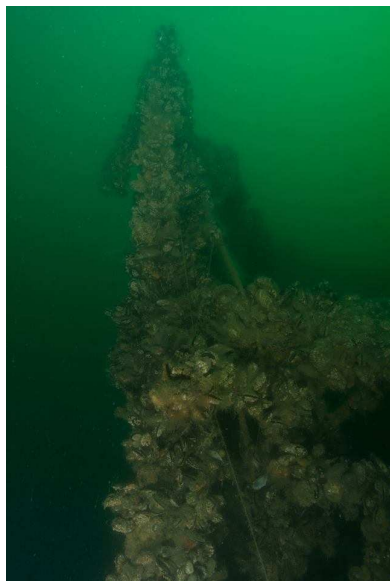
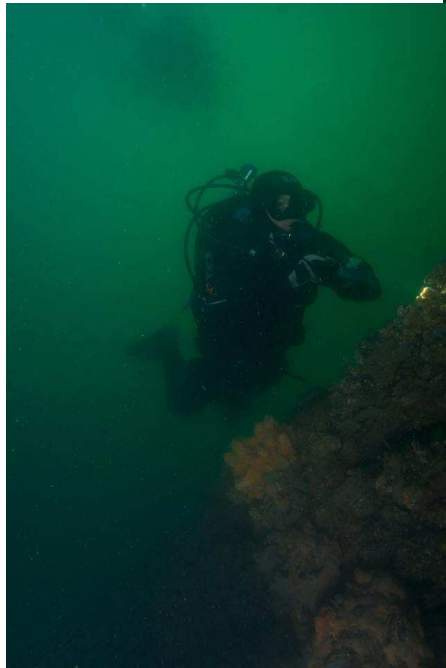


The Uralba & Phil's

Diving today were myself, Chris Porter, Mark Howells and Mark Toomey.

Thanks again to skipper David Flew.

- Ian Scholey



The Hurricane

THE HURRICANE

24 June, 2018

Today, we went for safety and opted to stay inside the bay. We launched at Rye and headed to perennial favourite, the Hurricane. As we were shooting the wreck, we were joined by half a dozen Seals, who looked to be having a lot of fun. Entering the water, we were greeted with sensational vis, with the wreck visible from just under the surface.

I owe an apology to the little Blue Ringed Octopus, who was clearly not happy with my nearly dropping the anchor on his head. It was swimming around clearly trying to work out what had just happened. Not often you get to see them swim and it made for some nice pictures.

All the usual fish were around, along with a large school of Pinkies. We wondered what was going on when they all scattered, but quickly had the





seals buzzing all around us, chasing fish.

At one point, I spied Peter Beaumont taking an unusual interest in a piece of wreck and swam over to find him tickling a friendly Rockling under the chin. It actually seemed to be enjoying the experience and was happy to hang about for a few snaps.



We had planned to do our second dive at Rosebud Reef, but as it was so good on the Hurricane, we stayed and did a second dive there.

Diving today were:

On Sea Eagle: Myself and Mark Howells

On Toucans: Peter Beaumont and Greg Richards





Home: Covered
Car: Covered

Are You?

DAN
ASIA • PACIFIC
Divers Alert Network

Can You Afford Not to be a DAN Member?

DAN Membership Costs Less than AUD\$6* per month
Be Prepared. Join the Experts in Dive Accident Management.

www.danasiapacific.org

*DAN Membership provides up to US\$150,000 Worldwide Emergency Evacuation Coverage. DAN Dive Injury Insurance is additional.

Save the Rays

REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING ACTIVITY



Ray protection fishing rules

We are making changes to ray, skate and guitarfish fishing rules.

These new rules commence on **Tuesday 7 November 2017**.

The new rules:

1. Prohibit the take or possession of sting rays, skates or guitarfish greater than 1.5 metres in width;
2. Reduce the combined daily bag limit for rays, skates and guitarfish from 5 to 1, which are smaller than 1.5 metres in width;
3. Prohibit the take of these species within 400m of any pier, jetty, wharf or breakwater;
4. Require these species to be landed whole so they can be measured by Fisheries Officers.



An education and awareness program will be conducted to educate fishers about these new rules.

<https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/ray-protection-fishing-rules>

You can report illegal fishing activity to 13 3474.

Rock Lobster Tagging Program

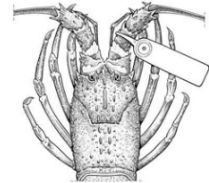
Tagging of recreationally caught rock lobsters commenced on 1 July 2017

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

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

To Create an account, Order/Report/Transfer tags please visit:

<https://lobstertag.agriculture.vic.gov.au>



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 \$130.00 (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. ❖

YASAWA ISLANDS FIJI 2019

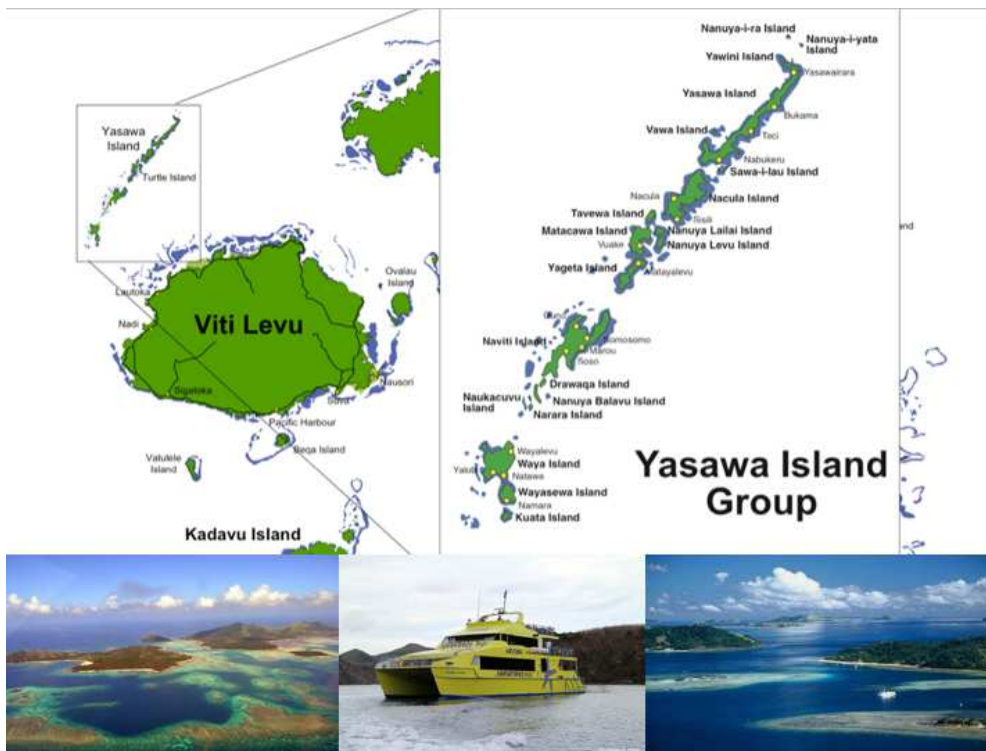


ALLWAYS
Dive Expeditions

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 Scholey ❖



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 Mura, Lemon and Grey reef sharks are seen frequently, flipping through the water amongst nearly 300 species of fish. Including Groupers and Napoleon wrasse. Other sites include large pinacles, swim-throughs covered in soft corals, weeds, 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

BADEFOOT 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 ReefBure or Beachfront Villa
Compulsory meal package \$99 FID pp per day - paid locally

FID GATEWAY HOTEL

1 Night Deluxe room twin share
Included transfers

DIVE

BADEFOOT 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
RESERVE
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

Excludes: Equipment rental, night dives, Hotel, Shark and manta park fees not included. - 120 FID Per day per diver

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.

Due to some changes to the Air Niugini flight schedule we have had to change the itinerary for our trip in August. We will now be offering 14 days in Truk Lagoon with an optional 5 nights in Tawali, Milne Bay, PNG.

I have attached the new flyers for these in case anyone is still interested in joining the group

Additionally I have attached a new flyer which offers the PNG part of the trip as a stand alone if anyone fancies just hooking up with us in PNG.

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 ❖



VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA PRESENTS TRUK LAGOON MICRONESIA



In February 1944, US Forces launch Operation Hailstorm on Truk Lagoon, Japan's Pacific base during World War II. The Japanese were caught unaware and lost 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.

FLY

AIR NIUGINI

- Return Flights ex Brisbane to Truk Lagoon, via Port Moresby & Pohnpei
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges

SLEEP

AIROLODGE INTERNATIONAL, BRISBANE

- 1 night standard room twin share
- BLUE LAGOON RESORT, TRUK LAGOON**
- 14 nights standard twin share
- Return airport transfers
- Day use of resort on final day until 18:00
- **GROUP SPECIAL (8 OR MORE)**
- FREE use safety deposit box
- FREE dinner on last day
- FREE use in house videos
- FREE use of Kayaks
- FREE use of movies on request

DIVE

BLUE LAGOON DIVE

- 24 dives per diver
- Tanks, weights, air-fills & dive guide
- GROUP SPECIAL (8 OR MORE)**
- FREE additional dive
- FREE use of dive lockers

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

**TRAVEL DATES
17 AUG- 02 SEP 2018**

**DIVER \$4,851
NON DIVER \$2,919**

REF : ADE 609

CONTACT VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

ALLWAYS DIVE EXPEDITIONS

res@allwaysdive.com.au | (03) 9531 6818 | www.allwaysdive.com.au

Exclusions: Dive permit \$50 USD pp / Departure Tax \$40 USD pp

EA # 12311



VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP PRESENTS



TAWALI PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Tawali is located in the heart of Milne Bay, which is made up of 160 named islands, and 500 coral cays spread over 250,000 square kilometres of ocean. Milne Bay is famous for its muck diving and walls covered in soft corals and large sea fans. Swim amongst huge schools of brightly coloured fish, discover vibrant mantis shrimp and play with radiant mandarin fish, its truly a kaleidoscope of colours down there.

FLY

AIR NIUGINI

- Flights ex Port Moresby to Gurney
- Flights ex Gurney to Brisbane, via Port Moresby
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges

SLEEP

TAWALI RESORT, MILNE BAY

- 5 nights- deluxe twin share
- All meals included
- Return airport transfers

DIVE

DIVING TAWALI

- 12 boat dives- 5 dive days
- FREE shore diving on house reef
- Lunch & snack on dive boats included

TRAVEL DATES
30 AUG- 07 SEP 2018

ADDITIONAL:
DIVER \$2,743
NON DIVER \$2,118

REF : ADE 608



CONTACT VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

ALLWAYS DIVE EXPEDITIONS

res@allwaysdive.com.au | (03) 9531 6818 | www.allwaysdive.com.au

Exclusions: reef chamber fees & fuel surcharges per diver

Lic # 12311



VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA GROUP PRESENTS



TAWALI

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Tawali is located in the heart of Milne Bay, which is made up of 160 named islands, and 500 coral cays spread over 250,000 square kilometres of ocean. Milne Bay is famous for its muck diving and walls covered in soft corals and large sea fans. Swim amongst huge schools of brightly coloured fish, discover vibrant mantis shrimp and play with radiant mandarin fish. Its truly a kaleidoscope of colours down there.

FLY

AIR NIUGINI

- Return flights ex Brisbane to Alotau via Port Moresby
- Airline taxes & fuel surcharges

SLEEP

AIROLODGE INTERNATIONAL, BRISBANE

- 1 night- standard twin share
- #### TAWALI RESORT, MILNE BAY
- 7 nights- twin share
 - All meals included
 - Return airport transfers

DIVE

DIVING TAWALI

- 15 boat dives- 5 dive days
- FREE shore diving on house reef
- Lunch & snack on dive boats included
- Environmental fees included
- Tanks, weights, air-fills & dive guide

TRAVEL DATES
30 AUG- 07 SEP 2018

DIVER \$3,967
NON DIVER \$2,658

REF : ADE 732



CONTACT VICTORIAN SUB-AQUA FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

ALLWAYS DIVE EXPEDITIONS

res@allwaysdive.com.au | (03) 9531 6818 | www.allwaysdive.com.au

OPTIONAL: Upgrade to deluxe room additional \$250 pp twin share

01-33211

DIARY DATES

Truk Lagoon/ PNG 18-30 August 2018

VSAG Christmas Party 24 November 2018

Yasawa Island Fiji 2019

Mid Week Boat or Shore Dives

If interested in mid week boat or shore dives, contact Peter
Beaumont direct on 0403410725 / beaumont@nex.net.au

SafeTrx

Coastguard have an excellent app that allows you to register your boat trip with them and allows them to track you, using the GPS in your phone.

How it works:

You register your trip, together with your latest return time. If you go an hour past this, without notifying them, the wheels are set in motion to

find you. Firstly, they will try and ring you or your nominated contacts and then, go from there.

Great tool for extra safety. Details can be found on the coastguard website:

www.coastguard.com.au/SafeTrx

VSAG Dive and Meeting Calendar

By Peter Beaumont, Dive Roster Coordinator (DRC),

2/3 Jun 2018 - 30 Dec 2018 VSAG Dive Coordinator (DC) Roster listed below.

Book in for a dive day ASAP after receiving notification via email. **Please provide the DC with your full name, mobile number, emergency contact info and date/details of your last dive(s).**

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

Dive site(s) & dive day determined by DC in consultation with boat owners and advised by email based on forecast conditions.

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

DC & Boat Owners are responsible for compiling & forwarding a Fathoms dive report to 'editor@vsag.org.au'.

You are required to confirm your intention to dive with the DC & the boat owner by 6:00 p.m. the day before the dive.

Failure to confirm your intention to dive may result in the boat owner cancelling the boats availability or your spot being allocated to a diver on the “standby diver list”.

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.

TBA = To Be Advised

TBC = To Be Confirmed

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Jul 14/15 | Boat Dives DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684 |
| Jul 17 | General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm |
| Jul 22 21/22 | Boat Dives DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920 |
| Jul 28/29 | Boat Dives DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646 |
| Aug 4/5 | Boat Dives DC – Peter Beaumont 0403410725 |
| Aug 11/12 | Boat Dives DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684 |
| Aug 18/19 | Boat Dives DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920 |
| Aug 21 | Annual General Meeting & Awards Night, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00pm |
| Aug 18-30 | Truk Lagoon Trip Organiser – Ian Scholey 0439 310 646 |
| Aug 25/26 | Boat Dives DC – Carol Penfold 0449 986 473 |
| Aug 30 – 5 Sep | Tawali, PNG Optional extension to Truk Lagoon Trip Organiser Ian Scholey 0439 310 646 |
| Sep 1/2 | Boat Dives DC – VACANT |
| Sep 8/9 | Boat Dives DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684 |
| Sep 15/16 | Boat Dives DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920 |
| Sep 18 | General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm |
| Sep 22/23 | Boat Dives DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646 |
| Sep 28/29/30 | AFL Grand Final Holiday (TBC) Boat Dives DC – Peter Beaumont 0403410725 |
| Oct 6/7 | Daylight Saving starts 07 Oct – advance clocks 1hr Boat Dives DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684 |
| Oct 13/14 | Boat Dives DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920 |
| Oct 16 | General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm |
| Oct 20/21 | Boat Dives DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646 |
| Oct 27/28 | Boat Dives DC – Peter Beaumont 0403410725 |
| Oct 28 | Shore Dive DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 |
| Nov 3/4 | Boat Dives DC – TBC- David Geekie 0419 300 686 |
| Nov 6 Melb Cup | Boat Dives DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684 |

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Nov 10/11 | Boat Dives DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646 |
| Nov 17/18 | Boat Dives DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920 |
| Nov 20 | General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm |
| Nov 24 | Christmas Party Sat 24 th |
| Nov 24/25 | Boat Dives DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646 |
| Nov 25 | Shore Dive DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 |
| Dec 1/2 | Boat Dives DC – Carol Penfold 0449 986 473 |
| Dec 8/9 | Boat Dives DC – Peter Beaumont 0403410725 |
| Dec 15/16 | Boat Dives DC Michael Ngai 0414 894 684 |
| Dec 18 | General Meeting, The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm |
| Dec 22/23 | Boat Dives DC Ian Scholey 0439 310 646 |
| Dec 29/30 | Boat Dives DC Graham Ellis 0403 070 920 |
| Dec 30 | Shore Dive DC Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881 |
| | |

VSAG CHRISTMAS PARTY

24 NOVEMBER 2018



Could everyone please put a date in their diary for our annual get together.

Venue and details to be confirmed

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
 - ◆ 1 Oxygen Medical Kit
 - ◆ 1 DAN First Aid Kit
 - ◆ 2 Scuba Tanks.
- 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*

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

Tidal Streams at the Heads — August 2018

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 30 | TUE 31 | WED 1 | THU 2 | FRI 3 | SAT 4 | SUN 5 |
| <i>3:36</i> | <i>4:23</i> | <i>5:07</i> | 0:31 | 1:04 | 1:38 | 2:14 |
| 10:34 | 11:12 | 11:46 | <i>5:49</i> | <i>6:32</i> | <i>7:16</i> | <i>8:05</i> |
| <i>17:18</i> | <i>17:46</i> | <i>18:13</i> | 12:19 | 12:51 | 13:24 | 13:59 |
| 23:23 | 23:58 | | <i>18:39</i> | <i>19:05</i> | <i>19:33</i> | <i>20:01</i> |
| MON 6 | TUE 7 | WED 8 | THU 9 | FRI 10 | SAT 11 | SUN 12 |
| 2:54 | 3:38 | 4:29 | 5:29 | 6:37 | <i>0:09</i> | <i>1:29</i> |
| <i>8:58</i> | <i>9:59</i> | <i>11:08</i> | <i>12:25</i> | <i>13:43</i> | 7:49 | 8:57 |
| 14:35 | 15:17 | 16:08 | 17:18 | 18:50 | <i>14:51</i> | <i>15:46</i> |
| <i>20:33</i> | <i>21:09</i> | <i>21:55</i> | <i>22:55</i> | | 20:22 | 21:35 |
| MON 13 | TUE 14 | WED 15 | THU 16 | FRI 17 | SAT 18 | SUN 19 |
| <i>2:46</i> | <i>3:56</i> | <i>5:00</i> | 0:20 | 1:08 | 1:54 | 2:38 |
| 9:58 | 10:54 | 11:43 | <i>5:59</i> | <i>6:56</i> | <i>7:50</i> | <i>8:44</i> |
| <i>16:32</i> | <i>17:14</i> | <i>17:53</i> | 12:29 | 13:11 | 13:50 | 14:28 |
| 22:35 | 23:30 | | <i>18:31</i> | <i>19:07</i> | <i>19:43</i> | <i>20:19</i> |
| MON 20 | TUE 21 | WED 22 | THU 23 | FRI 24 | SAT 25 | SUN 26 |
| 3:20 | 4:03 | 4:49 | 5:41 | 6:41 | <i>0:16</i> | <i>1:23</i> |
| <i>9:39</i> | <i>10:35</i> | <i>11:37</i> | <i>12:43</i> | <i>13:50</i> | 7:43 | 8:41 |
| 15:08 | 15:51 | 16:43 | 17:54 | 19:23 | <i>14:49</i> | <i>15:35</i> |
| <i>20:56</i> | <i>21:35</i> | <i>22:20</i> | <i>23:13</i> | | 20:39 | 21:33 |
| August | | | | | September | |
| MON 27 | TUE 28 | WED 29 | THU 30 | FRI 31 | SAT 1 | SUN 2 |
| <i>2:28</i> | <i>3:24</i> | <i>4:14</i> | <i>4:58</i> | 0:01 | <i>0:34</i> | <i>1:09</i> |
| 9:31 | 10:15 | 10:54 | 11:29 | <i>5:40</i> | <i>6:22</i> | <i>7:06</i> |
| <i>16:11</i> | <i>16:41</i> | <i>17:08</i> | <i>17:34</i> | 12:03 | 12:36 | 13:10 |
| 22:16 | 22:53 | 23:28 | | <i>18:01</i> | <i>18:28</i> | <i>18:57</i> |

Tidal Streams at the Heads — September 2018

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 27</i> | <i>TUE 28</i> | <i>WED 29</i> | <i>THU 30</i> | <i>FRI 31</i> | <i>SAT 1</i> | <i>SUN 2</i> |
| <i>2:28</i> | <i>3:24</i> | <i>4:14</i> | <i>4:58</i> | <i>0:01</i> | <i>0:34</i> | <i>1:09</i> |
| <i>9:31</i> | <i>10:15</i> | <i>10:54</i> | <i>11:29</i> | <i>5:40</i> | <i>6:22</i> | <i>7:06</i> |
| <i>16:11</i> | <i>16:41</i> | <i>17:08</i> | <i>17:34</i> | <i>12:03</i> | <i>12:36</i> | <i>13:10</i> |
| <i>22:16</i> | <i>22:53</i> | <i>23:28</i> | | <i>18:01</i> | <i>18:28</i> | <i>18:57</i> |
| <i>MON 3</i> | <i>TUE 4</i> | <i>WED 5</i> | <i>THU 6</i> | <i>FRI 7</i> | <i>SAT 8</i> | <i>SUN 9</i> |
| <i>1:46</i> | <i>2:25</i> | <i>3:10</i> | <i>4:00</i> | <i>5:01</i> | <i>6:13</i> | <i>0:06</i> |
| <i>7:52</i> | <i>8:42</i> | <i>9:38</i> | <i>10:41</i> | <i>11:53</i> | <i>13:09</i> | <i>7:31</i> |
| <i>13:45</i> | <i>14:21</i> | <i>15:01</i> | <i>15:51</i> | <i>17:01</i> | <i>18:35</i> | <i>14:16</i> |
| <i>19:28</i> | <i>20:01</i> | <i>20:41</i> | <i>21:33</i> | <i>22:42</i> | | <i>20:08</i> |
| <i>MON 10</i> | <i>TUE 11</i> | <i>WED 12</i> | <i>THU 13</i> | <i>FRI 14</i> | <i>SAT 15</i> | <i>SUN 16</i> |
| <i>1:33</i> | <i>2:52</i> | <i>4:00</i> | <i>5:00</i> | <i>5:54</i> | <i>0:40</i> | <i>1:21</i> |
| <i>8:44</i> | <i>9:47</i> | <i>10:42</i> | <i>11:30</i> | <i>12:13</i> | <i>6:44</i> | <i>7:31</i> |
| <i>15:11</i> | <i>15:58</i> | <i>16:39</i> | <i>17:18</i> | <i>17:55</i> | <i>12:53</i> | <i>13:30</i> |
| <i>21:20</i> | <i>22:18</i> | <i>23:10</i> | <i>23:57</i> | | <i>18:31</i> | <i>19:06</i> |
| <i>MON 17</i> | <i>TUE 18</i> | <i>WED 19</i> | <i>THU 20</i> | <i>FRI 21</i> | <i>SAT 22</i> | <i>SUN 23</i> |
| <i>2:00</i> | <i>2:38</i> | <i>3:16</i> | <i>3:58</i> | <i>4:47</i> | <i>5:46</i> | <i>6:58</i> |
| <i>8:16</i> | <i>9:01</i> | <i>9:47</i> | <i>10:40</i> | <i>11:40</i> | <i>12:47</i> | <i>13:50</i> |
| <i>14:06</i> | <i>14:42</i> | <i>15:20</i> | <i>16:06</i> | <i>17:07</i> | <i>18:35</i> | <i>19:57</i> |
| <i>19:41</i> | <i>20:17</i> | <i>20:56</i> | <i>21:40</i> | <i>22:36</i> | <i>23:47</i> | |
| <i>MON 24</i> | <i>TUE 25</i> | <i>WED 26</i> | <i>THU 27</i> | <i>FRI 28</i> | <i>SAT 29</i> | <i>SUN 30</i> |
| <i>1:04</i> | <i>2:16</i> | <i>3:16</i> | <i>4:06</i> | <i>4:50</i> | <i>5:32</i> | <i>0:03</i> |
| <i>8:07</i> | <i>9:05</i> | <i>9:53</i> | <i>10:34</i> | <i>11:12</i> | <i>11:48</i> | <i>6:14</i> |
| <i>14:41</i> | <i>15:20</i> | <i>15:53</i> | <i>16:22</i> | <i>16:51</i> | <i>17:21</i> | <i>12:24</i> |
| <i>20:55</i> | <i>21:39</i> | <i>22:17</i> | <i>22:53</i> | <i>23:28</i> | | <i>17:52</i> |

Tidal Streams at the Heads — October 2018

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

| October | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>MON 1</i> | <i>TUE 2</i> | <i>WED 3</i> | <i>THU 4</i> | <i>FRI 5</i> | <i>SAT 6</i> | <i>SUN 7</i> |
| 0:40 | 1:19 | 2:00 | 2:45 | 3:36 | 4:37 | 6:50 |
| 6:56 | 7:40 | 8:27 | 9:18 | 10:15 | 11:19 | 13:28 |
| 12:59 | 13:35 | 14:13 | 14:55 | 15:49 | 17:02 | 19:34 |
| 18:24 | 18:59 | 19:39 | 20:27 | 21:28 | 22:47 | |
| <i>MON 8</i> | <i>TUE 9</i> | <i>WED 10</i> | <i>THU 11</i> | <i>FRI 12</i> | <i>SAT 13</i> | <i>SUN 14</i> |
| 1:18 | 2:45 | 4:01 | 5:03 | 5:56 | 0:28 | 1:08 |
| 8:13 | 9:30 | 10:34 | 11:28 | 12:15 | 6:44 | 7:27 |
| 14:33 | 15:30 | 16:18 | 17:01 | 17:41 | 12:56 | 13:35 |
| 20:57 | 22:03 | 22:58 | 23:45 | | 18:18 | 18:54 |
| <i>MON 15</i> | <i>TUE 16</i> | <i>WED 17</i> | <i>THU 18</i> | <i>FRI 19</i> | <i>SAT 20</i> | <i>SUN 21</i> |
| 1:45 | 2:20 | 2:55 | 3:30 | 4:08 | 4:51 | 5:45 |
| 8:07 | 8:45 | 9:23 | 10:02 | 10:45 | 11:35 | 12:32 |
| 14:10 | 14:45 | 15:19 | 15:56 | 16:39 | 17:34 | 18:48 |
| 19:29 | 20:04 | 20:41 | 21:20 | 22:07 | 23:07 | |
| <i>MON 22</i> | <i>TUE 23</i> | <i>WED 24</i> | <i>THU 25</i> | <i>FRI 26</i> | <i>SAT 27</i> | <i>SUN 28</i> |
| 0:23 | 1:46 | 3:03 | 4:05 | 4:55 | 5:40 | 6:23 |
| 6:55 | 8:18 | 9:29 | 10:25 | 11:12 | 11:54 | 12:33 |
| 13:31 | 14:26 | 15:14 | 15:54 | 16:31 | 17:07 | 17:43 |
| 20:07 | 21:08 | 21:56 | 22:37 | 23:17 | 23:56 | |
| October | | | November | | | |
| <i>MON 29</i> | <i>TUE 30</i> | <i>WED 31</i> | <i>THU 1</i> | <i>FRI 2</i> | <i>SAT 3</i> | <i>SUN 4</i> |
| 0:35 | 1:15 | 1:57 | 2:41 | 3:27 | 4:17 | 5:15 |
| 7:05 | 7:47 | 8:30 | 9:14 | 10:00 | 10:49 | 11:44 |
| 13:12 | 13:50 | 14:29 | 15:11 | 15:59 | 16:56 | 18:08 |
| 18:20 | 18:59 | 19:41 | 20:29 | 21:26 | 22:37 | |

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



Angry Cuttlefish—Photo by Peter Beaumont