

DECEMBER 2018 - JANUARY 2019

Cover Photo by Ian Scholey



© lan Scholey Wrecks of Truck Lagoon Pt. 2

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

www.vsag.org.au



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





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

Underwater Explorers Club of Western Australia

Postal Address PO Box 382, Melville WA 6956

Email: info@uecwa.com.au

Meetings Esplanade Hotel The Esplanade, Fremantle, WA Boat Port Coogee Marina Chieffain 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 : <u>www.tudc.org.au</u>



Your VSAG Committee 2018–2019

To email all VSAG committee members: <u>committee@vsag.org.au</u>

President & Travel Co-ordinator Ian Scholey	0439 310 646	president@vsag.org.au ischoley@iinet.net.au
Vice President & Meeting Set-up Co Carol Penfold	D-ordinator 0449 986 473	vicepresident@vsag.org carolpenfold@hotmail.com
Secretary Sherryn Amor	0412 945 985	secretary@vsag.org.au
New Member Co-ordinator John Ashley	0418 535 991	membership@vsag.org.au john_ashley1954@icloud.com
Treasurer & SDFV Representative Peter Galvin	0417 061 564	treasurer@vsag.org.au galvo350@gmail.com
Web Co-ordination Ian Scholey	0439 310 646	ischoley@iinet.net.au
Safety Co-ordinator David Geekie	0419 300 686	safetycoordinator@vsag.org.au dgeekie@bigpond.net.au
Point Scorer Graham Ellis03 9803 0069 (H)	0403 070 920	pointscorer@vsag.org.au graham_ellis@optusnet.com.au
Diving Co-ordinator John Ashley	0418 535 991	divecoordinator@vsag.org.au john_ashley1954@icloud.com
Fathoms Editor Christine Reynolds	0402 214 136	editor@vsag.org.au
Social Secretary Hannah Smeeton	0431 141 918	socialsecretary@vsag.org.au dive_urchin@hotmail.com
Equipment Officer Ian Smith	0409 838 300	ianandrewsmith1@gmail.com
General Committee Members:		
Mark Jeffrey	0412 223 037	mark@mocean3.com



VSAG Jervis Bay Trip, Day 1.

3rd November 2018

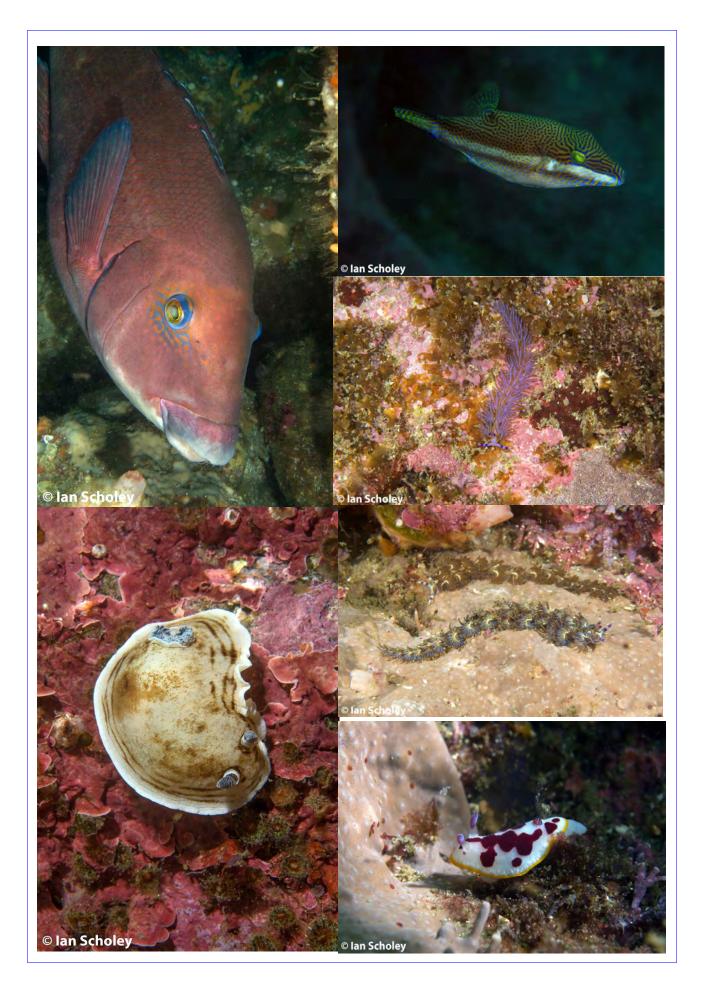
A good start to the diving at Jervis Bay today, despite the wind kicking up some surface chop and making outside of the bay a no go for today, at least. We started with a dive at Point Perpendicular. The DC and Skipper forgot to tell us about the 50minute max dive time, so I enjoyed my 78-minute dive. (I promised to be better behaved from this point on). They were very understanding, so all good. Good to my word, our second dive at The Dock was spot on 50 minutes.

Some nice fish life about including a massive school of Kingfish swirling around us.

Peter Campisano and Stephen Vajda tell me they saw a whale, but I'm not yet convinced. Looking forward to more tomorrow and a Japanese meal tonight which will have to go some to beat last night's curry.







VSAG Jervis Bay Trip Day 2.

4th November 2018

One or two of us were nursing sore heads this morning, after a great night out at the local Japanese Bar & Restaurant. It appears that there is a threshold when it's not good to keep going on the Asahi. Still, nothing a coffee didn't sort out and we were off again for day 2's diving, bolstered by the arrival of Carol Penfold. We were treated to some Whale action on the boat trip out and some wind and rough seas action on the trip back.

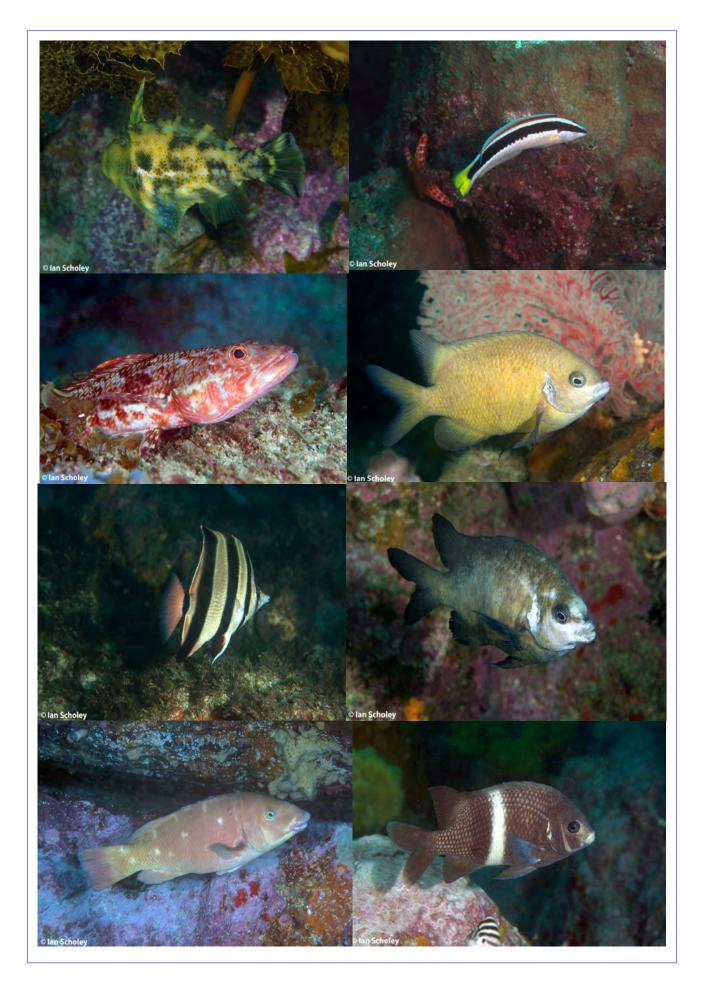
First dive site was a spot called Pinnacle Cave. It was ok but not spectacular. The second dive we headed back to The Dock with a deeper dive plan to stay out of the surge for as long as possible. It turned out to be a good dive with plenty to see. We are hoping for some better conditions tomorrow it's really blowing here at the moment, but the forecast looks good for the morning.

Thanks again to the good folks at Dive Jervis Bay for looking after us.

Divers: Carole Campisano, Stephen Vajda, Louise Campo, Chris Demetrious, Peter Campisano, Ian Scholey, Carol Penfold.







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VSAG Jervis Bay Trip Day 3.

5th November 2018

Today it all came together and we were blessed with beautiful weather. Although there was a bit of swell, we managed to get outside of the bay.

We started at Stoney Creek. This site is touted as Jervis Bay's best dive site and that gets no argument from me. It is truly spectacular. The dive site is located 4km South of the Southern end of Bowen Island about 1.5Km out to sea. The reef top is at 33m and steps down to a wall in a series of steps. The whole place is covered in huge numbers of whip corals, Sea Tulips and Sea Fans. It was a magnificent dive and well worth the deco. There was a significant current running which caused a few issues retrieving the shot.

With a few cases of sea sickness on board, the second dive was back inside the bay at a site off Bowen Island, called The Nursery. This is a pretty shallow site at 11-16m but was loaded with life including Grey Nurse, Wobbegong and Port Jackson Sharks.

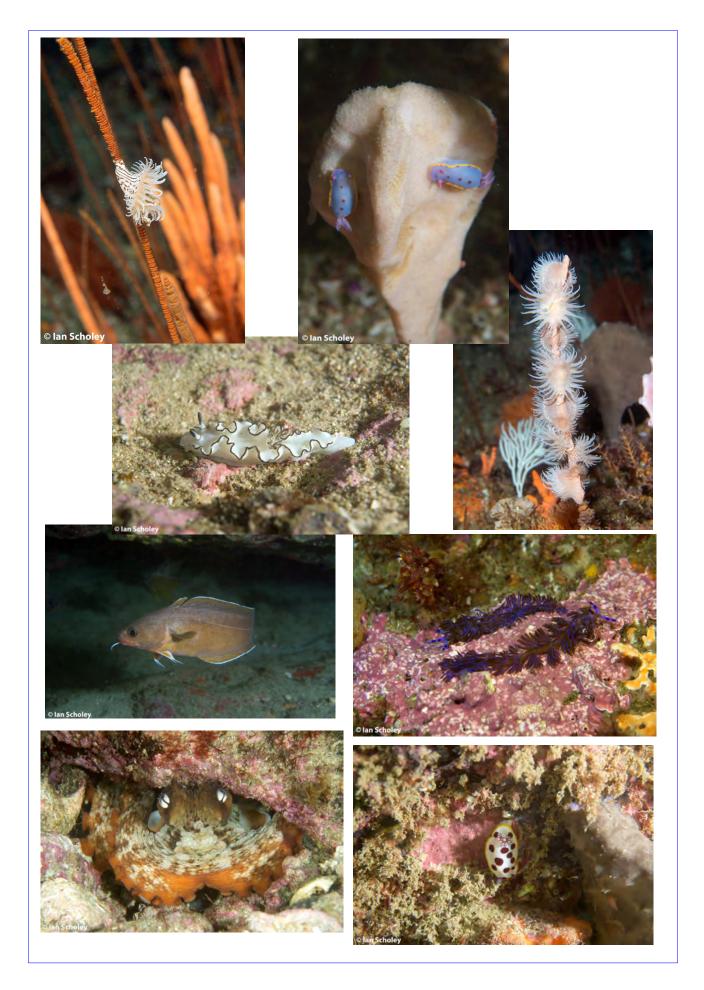
We saved the best for last and the group will head home happy. It's been a great trip with a top group of people. Thanks everyone for making the trip so enjoyable.











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Point Perpendicular Jervis Bay





POINT PERPENDICULAR JERVIS BAY Diving is good, conditions could be better but the company is the greatest!

- Peter Campisano �

Photos: Left, Peter, Carole and Louise Campisano. Below: Left to right Peter Mosse, Matthijs Smith, Dylan Smith.





RED BOATS

29th November, 2018

Ian Scholey with Marcus Campbell and Chris Porter.

Happy VSAG divers out with Redboats last weekend.





DIVE ADVENTURES / AURORA EXPEDITIONS

PRESENTATION

25th October 2018

Greg Richards and I attended the Dive Adventures/Aurora Expeditions presentation on diving in the Arctic and Antartica last night. Looks like a good trip.

I will tell you more about it at the next Club Meeting.



From left: Ian Scholey, Greg Richards and Tracy from Dive Adventures.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS

First - September 2018



1st Place - Dive time, Maldives - Hannah Smeeton

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS

Second - September 2018



2nd Place - Manta, Maldives - Hannah Smeeton

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LATEST PHOTO COMPETITION WINNERS

Third - September 2018



3rd Place - Whatcha lookin' at? Maldinves - Chris Long

SEPTEMBER 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION

September again saw most VSAG photographers heading overseas to a number of different destinations, from the Maldives, Truk, Tawali PNG, Komodo, Bali and let's not forget St Leonards pier. And the winner was.... the Maldives taking out the top three photos. 1st and 2nd was Hannah Smeeton with Chris Long taking out 3rd. There were some very unlucky runners up this month. We're hoping to see a few more local photos in October, so get clicking!! Thank you to everyone who contributed. - Mark �



Jeff Saunders and Friend, Tawali PNG -Ian Scholey



Hannah and Friend, Maldives -Chris Long



Mimic Octopus, Bali -Phil Watson

SEPTEMBER 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION



Oops, Komodo - Peter Campisano



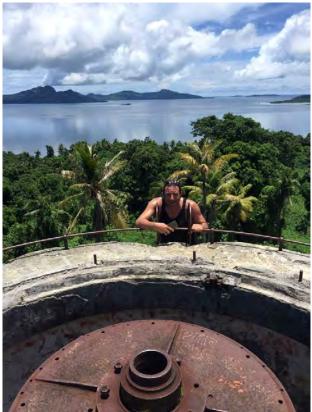
Smooth Ray, St Leonards Pier - Phil Watson



Lion Fish,Tawali PNG - Ian Scholey



Bay view of eastern end of Truk Lagoon from the top of a Japanese machine gun tower, Truk - Arthur Kokkinos



Michael climbing the machine gun tower, Truk - Arthur Kokkinos

SEPTEMBER 2018 PHOTO COMPETITION



Fish life, Tawali, PNG -Peter Beaumont



Are you talking to me? Komodo - Carole Campisano



Fish life, Tawali, PNG -Peter Beaumont



Sea of Spikes, Komodo - Carole Campisano

Bluestripe Snapper, Komodo - Peter Campisano

WRECKS OF TRUK L&GOON

The Wrecks of Truck Lagoon

Part 2

By Ian Scholey



FUMITZUKI MARU

23rd August, 2018

Day 5 of our trip started with a dive on one of the few military shipwrecks in the lagoon.

The Fumitzuki sits upright, listing to port. Extensive marine growth, many schools of fish. Stern uplifted by explosion.

Depth: 30-40m

The Fumitsuki was a Mutsuki Class Destroyer built in 1926, 320ft/97m long with a gross tonnage of 1,913 tons normal, and 1,590 tons light after reconstruction. She was driven by 2-shaft Parsons geared turbines and 4 Kampon boilers. She could carry a complement of 150 officers and crew. She was one of only two real Japanese Navy combat ships sunk in Truk Lagoon. She was

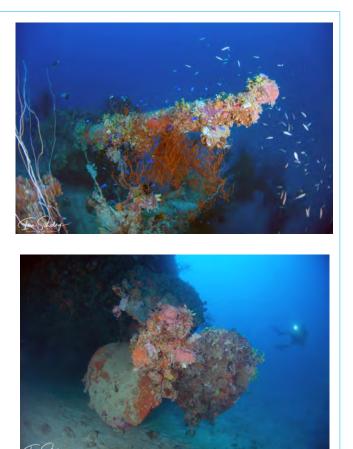




capable of over 33.5 knots fully loaded but was under repair at the time of her demise. The name translates as "the 7th month of the moon calendar when rice/flowers ripen."

The Fumitsuki was one of 12 vessels ordered under the new Reinforcement Program of 1923 as part of the third 'Minekaze' group. These new Kamikaze type destroyers were also as minesweepers rated and minelayers. Following the outbreak of war on December 7th 1941, new Fubuki class destroyers would take over the front line duties as Fleet destroyers and the Fumitsuki was retrofitted as a Mutsuki class fast transport destroyer.

Over the next 3 years, the Fumitsuki played a very active role in Japan's war effort. She participated in the Apparri and Lingayen (Philippines) invasion forces, the Western Java invasion force, the 'Tokyo Express' evacuations from runs troop Guadalcanal, the assault on Rendova Island, landings near Torokina in Bougainville, and numerous troop transport roles in support of various Japanese operations. She suffered numerous attacks and damage from aerial attacks in 1942 and 1943, including April 2, 1942 near Kavieng, October 8th 1942 off Buka, and November 2nd 1942 at Rabaul. On







January 4th, 1944 together with a fellow destroyer, the Fumitsuki shot down 10 enemy planes while receiving only light damage off Rabaul with a loss of 4 men killed and 20 wounded. On February 6th, 1944 she arrived in Truk for repairs.

At approximately 1430 hours on February 17th, a USS Enterprise TBF plane piloted by Ensign Jewell dropped four 500-lb bombs on her as she tried to evade. The TBF crew reported 2 direct hits and a probable third hit. The ship was engulfed in flames and began to sink and list to port. She dropped anchors but went down by the next morning. She rests on an even keel with a slight list to port, with the deck being at 100ft/30m and the sea bottom at 125ft/38m. There is a bow gun near the forecastle, Long Lance torpedo launchers between the forecastle and bridge, and aft gun and winches, cables and depth charge throwers are on the stern. With a beam of just 30ft/9m it's easy to imagine this sleek fast Japanese attack warship cutting through the ocean.











KIYOSUMI MARU

August 25th, 2018

The second dive today was on the Kiyosumi Maru. She is a passenger cargo ship converted to Merchant Cruiser lying on her port side with large torpedo holes. AA guns, gun turrets, bicycles, shells and other artefacts can be seen.

Depth: 12-33m

The Kiyosumi Maru was a 453ft/137m, 8,614-ton Passenger Cargo Ship built in 1934 for Kokusai Kisen K.K., which was a Tokyo-based shipping major company that employed large numbers of both motor and steam vessels. It was a standard practice to christen its motor ships with the letter 'K'. The Kiyosumi Maru was named after a famous shrine in Kyushu. The word 'Maru' designates a merchant vessel. It provided passenger service to New York from the Orient, and cargo services to ports in the United States, Europe, Australia, India, China and Africa. The ship's final voyage as a regular liner was on June 1st, 1941.



Following her requisition for wartime use by the Japanese Navy in August of 1941, she was converted into an armed auxiliary cruiser with four low-angle deck guns, several light anti-aircraft guns and two pairs of twin-mount torpedo launchers. The Kiyosumi Maru was to have a distinguished wartime career serving as: (1) a coordinator for German and Italian merchant cruiser raiding operations in the Java-Indian Ocean; (2) in the Japanese offensive to take Midway Island; (3) in Solomon Islands operations one time carrying as many as 2,931 infantrymen, 119 soldiers of a mountain gun battery, soldiers of an engineering 153 battalion, and 78 communication officers; and (4) numerous troop carrying responsibilities to China, Palau, Singapore and Rabaul. On November 4th, 1943 she was bombed and strafed by 19 Liberators while enroute from Truk to Rabaul. On 2nd. 1944 the USS January Submarine Balao attacked the Kiyosumi Maru with a half dozen torpedoes, three of which hit her, but she didn't go down. A sister cruiser, the Oyodo Maru, towed her to Truk Lagoon with 71 injured crewmen, where she was being repaired at the time of Operation Hailstone. Douglas dive-bombers from the USS Yorktown scored a direct hit on the bow by the no. 2 hold SE of Fefan Island. SBDs from the USS

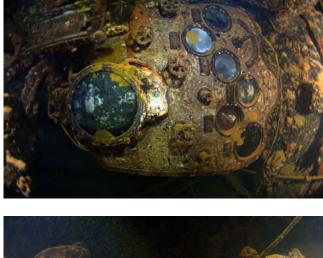


Enterprise scored two direct hits both sides of her bridge. Planes from the USS Yorktown made the final attacks against the ship. 43 of her complement of 62 crewmen died in the attacks.

Following the air attacks, she took on water with a list to the port, and ultimately sank resting evenly on her port side in 120ft/36m of water approximately 600 yards from Fefan Island. The bow rests at 70ft/21m, the deck starts at 40ft/12m with the sea bottom ranging between 100-120ft/30-36m. The super structure has several staterooms, baths and a large galley; there are shells packed inside metal boxes and remains of a bicycle to be found inside the holds.











MOMOKAWA MARU

24th August 2018

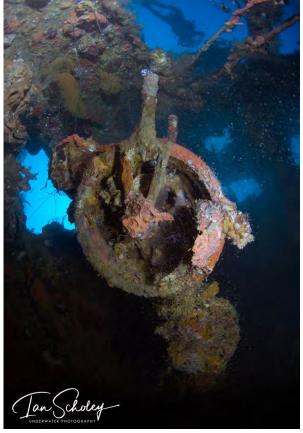
First dive today was the Momokawa Maru a passenger cargo ship lying on her port side. The forward hold is full of plane parts, trucks and shells. it also has an interesting bridge and galley.

Depth: 27-40m

The Momokawa Maru was а 354ft/107m, 3,829-ton passenger cargo ship built in 1941 bv Kawasaki Dockyard Co. Ltd., Kobe, for the 'K Line' shipping company. They provided cargo services from Japan to European ports via the Suez Canal, and to the US via the Panama Canal. The word 'Maru' designates a merchant vessel.

In 1943 the Momokawa Maru was requisitioned by the Japanese Navy to serve as a Navy auxiliary, with ties to the Yokosuka Transportation Section. During 1943 she transported cargoes of concrete, fuel drums, bunker coal, aviation fuel drums, sampans and landing barges between Japan and Micronesia.





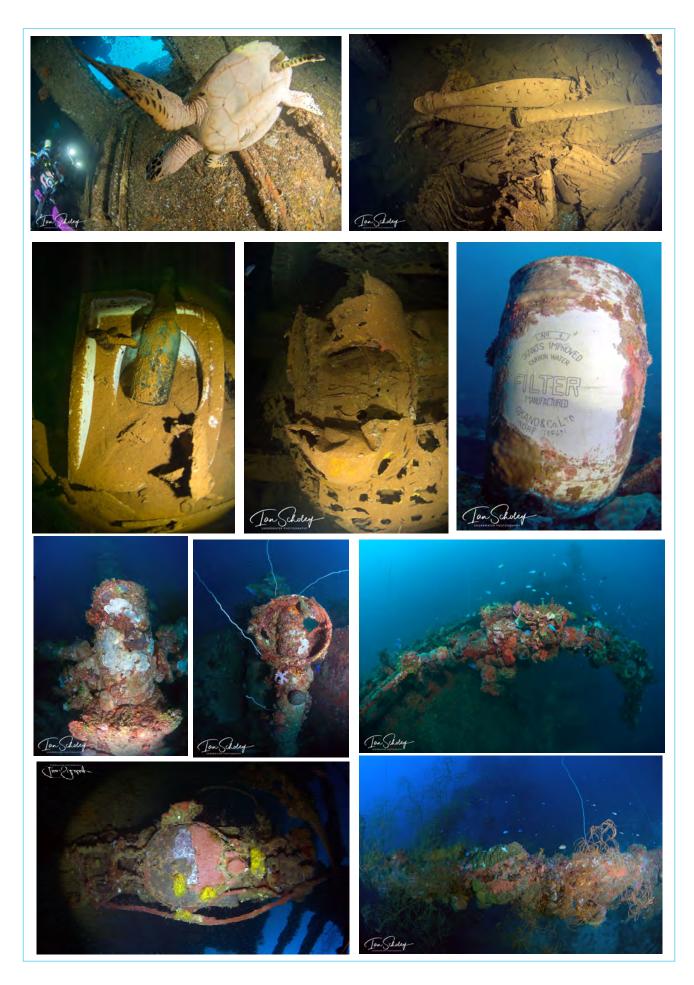
On February 17th, 1944, the Momokawa Maru was anchored at the northern end of the 4th fleet anchorage. She sustained light damage from plane attacks (Bunker Hill, Yorktown and Essex). The following day Bunker Hill SB2Cs attacked a cargo ship 1/4 mile off the SE tip of Doublon. The 1000lb bomb hit amidships causing a huge fire and explosion, leaving only the tip above water by the time the planes retired. Japanese reports describe the ship burning for a long time before finally sinking. Only one crewman was listed as killed.

The Momokawa Maru lies on her port side in 130-150ft/40-45m of water only a ¹/₂ mile from Tonoas (Doublon). Inside the forward holds you can find fuel drums, aircraft parts such as radial engines, wings, propeller blades, wing/belly fuel tanks as well as a disassembled entire plane! At least 3 trucks can be found in the second hold, with more trucks and plane parts in hold No 3.

The telegraph, speaker tubes and rudder stand can still be found in the bridge.

The aft holds are mostly empty, and up on the poop deck there's a 75mm field gun.







FUTAGAMI MARU

23rd August 2018

Our third dive today was the Futagami Maru.

The Futagami Maru was a 625-ton Hashima Class Salvage Tug. She sits upright on a steep incline. It has a very nice engine room and bridge. The engine room was tight to penetrate and the conditions were pretty silty due to some careless fins.

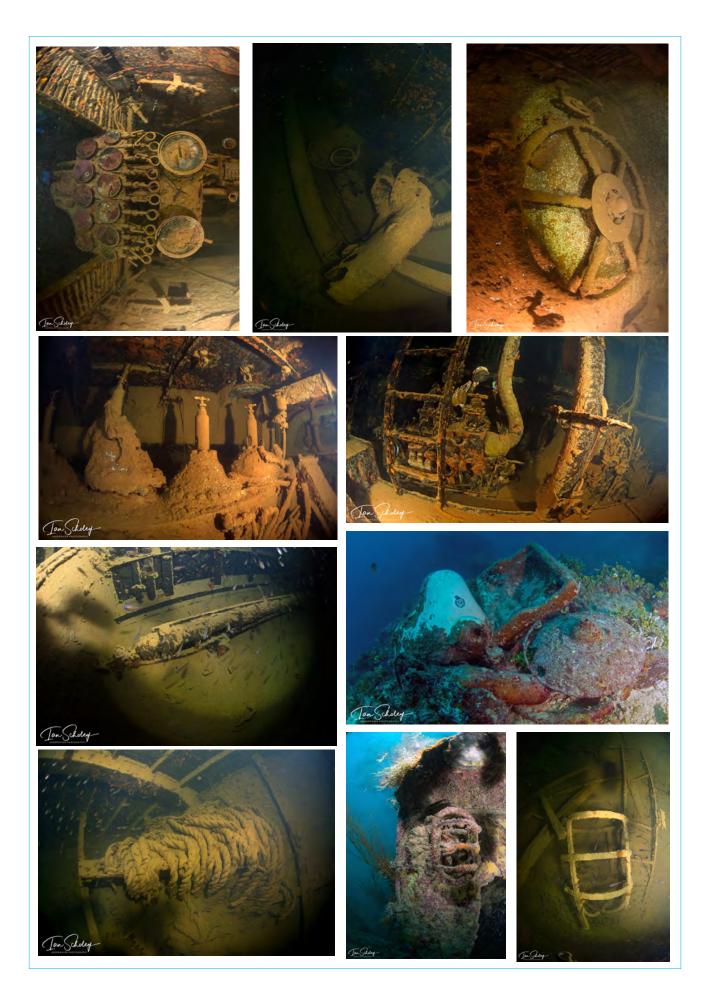
Futagami survived the war and during September 1945 was surrendered in serviceable condition.

Sometime after September 1945 she was sunk or scuttled for unknown reasons, roughly 500 yards off Doublon Island.

Depth: 10-30m









SAN FRANCISCO MARU

25th August 2018

Our first dive today was the million dollar wreck, the San Francisco Maru. The passenger cargo ship sitting upright. There is much to see – bow gun, trucks, tanks, mines, shells, bombs, aircraft engines, ammunition, china and depth charges on stern.

Depth: 42-64m

The San Francisco Maru was a 385ft/117m, 5,831-ton Passenger-Cargo ship built in 1919 for Yamashita Kisen Kabushiki Kaisha as part of its fleet involved in world trade operations in minerals such as coal, bauxite, and phosphate for transportation to the Empire. The word 'Maru' designates a merchant vessel. Following requisition by the Japanese Navy, it was assigned to convey Japanese Navy Branch between military cargoes the Japanese homeland and the Inner South Seas.

On May 4th, 1943 Allied intelligence intercepted a damage report from the San Francisco Maru's commander









saying that she had received minor damage from attacking aircraft at Wewak, New Guinea. Following repairs, later prisoner interrogations revealed that she arrived at Truk Lagoon on February 5th, 1944. Aerial photos show her lying at the 4th Fleet anchorage South East of Doublon.

Following early bombing attacks against ships in that anchorage on the first day of Operation Hailstorm, the San Francisco Maru was observed on fire with smoke arising amidships. On February 18th, 1944 air groups from the USS Yorktown, USS Bunker Hill and the USS Essex attacked her. She was hit by six 500-lb bombs dropped by aircraft from the USS Essex and was reported to be burning furiously and sinking stern first. Five crew members were killed as a result of these air attacks.

This wreck is loaded with war materials and one of Truk Lagoon's most fascinating. She lies very deep, and rests on an even keel with the superstructure at 140ft/42m, deck at 165 ft/50m, and the sea bottom at 210ft/64m. There is a beautiful bow gun, and 3 armored 3-man light tanks and a flatbed truck are located on the main deck. Two large trucks are located in Hold No. 2 and the other holds are filled with interesting war material, such as fuel drums, hose sections. ammunition crates and artillery shells, torpedo bodies,



aircraft bombs, depth charges, aeroplane engines and aircraft wheel assemblies. Hold No 1 is crammed with hemispherical mines, cordite containers, crates of artillery shells and aircraft bombs. Much of this material was brought to Truk Lagoon by the San Francisco Maru in anticipation of expected amphibious landings by U.S. troops.









Deco Stop Selfies

Angus Stuart-Adams

Walter Medenbach



THE PINNACLES, GEORGE KERMODE AND SPEKE

THE PINNACLE, GEORGE KERMODE & SPEKE.

14th October 2018

Finally, we managed to get the right weather and our act together to get 3 boats on the water. We headed down to Phillip Island and headed to our usual spots of The Pinnacle and the George Kermode. With residual gas in the tank and good sea conditions we also dropped in on the Speke for a look. Not much left of it and a lot of what was seen last time we dived it, is now covered in sand again.

We had 2 great dives although the vis wasn't the best on the George Kermode. I know I said this last time, but boy is it deteriorating fast. Large parts of the ship are now totally collapsed. Thankfully, there is still some good penetration although you must be very careful.

Diving today were:

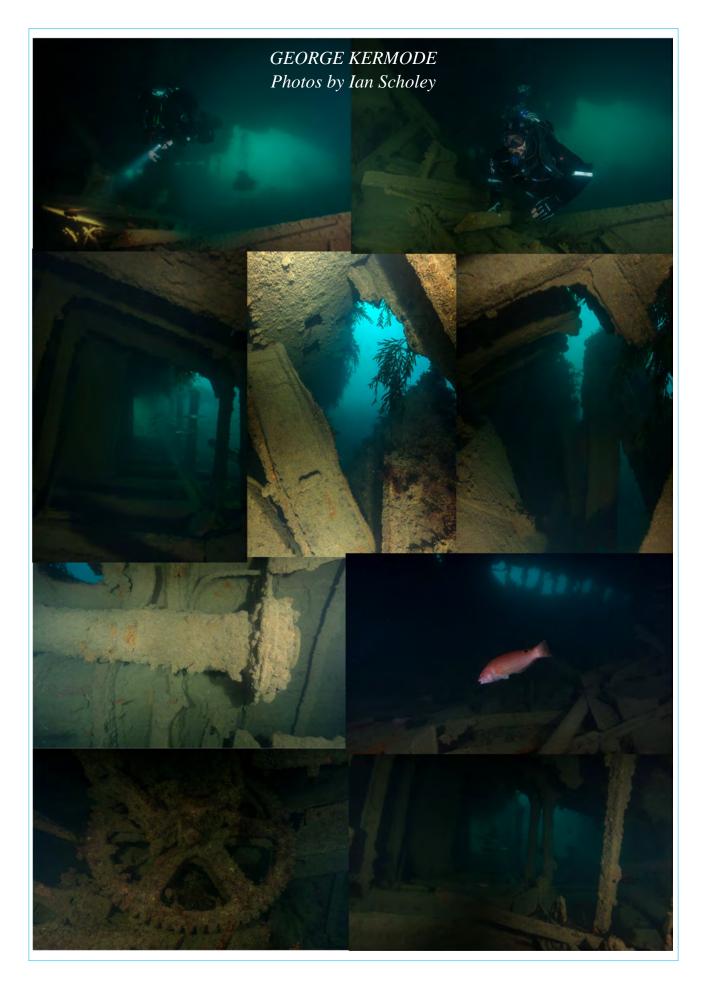
On Sea Eagle, myself and Tony Hood

On Toucans, Peter Beaumont and Keith

On Narcosis, John Ashley, Darren Pearce and Sonny Voss.

THE PINNACLES Photos by Ian Scholey





SPEKE Photos by Ian Scholey



THE PINNACLES

VSAG midweek dive 13-11-18

Today we had two boats and 5 divers heading down to Phillip Island for a double dive on the Pinnacles and what a day it turned out to be. All the other traffic was going the opposite way, no swell and very little wind plus 10-12m viz on the bottom. For those newbies to the club that haven't done this dive, put it on your list.

It's a mini underwater mountain range where you can look up in 38m of water and see the magnitude of colour and fish life everywhere. Many thanks to Peter Beaumont for organising the day and to the other divers for their company. On Toucans today was Peter Beaumont and Keith Dawson and onboard Narcosis was David Geekie, Darren Pearce and yours truly.

- John Ashley�

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SS Rotomahana

SS ROTOMAHANA & HANGING GARDENS.

25th November 2018

With both a planned trip to the SS Glenelg cancelled due to the weather and our plan B dive on the SS Courier knocked out by shipping movements, we ended up on the SS Rotomahana this morning for our first dive.

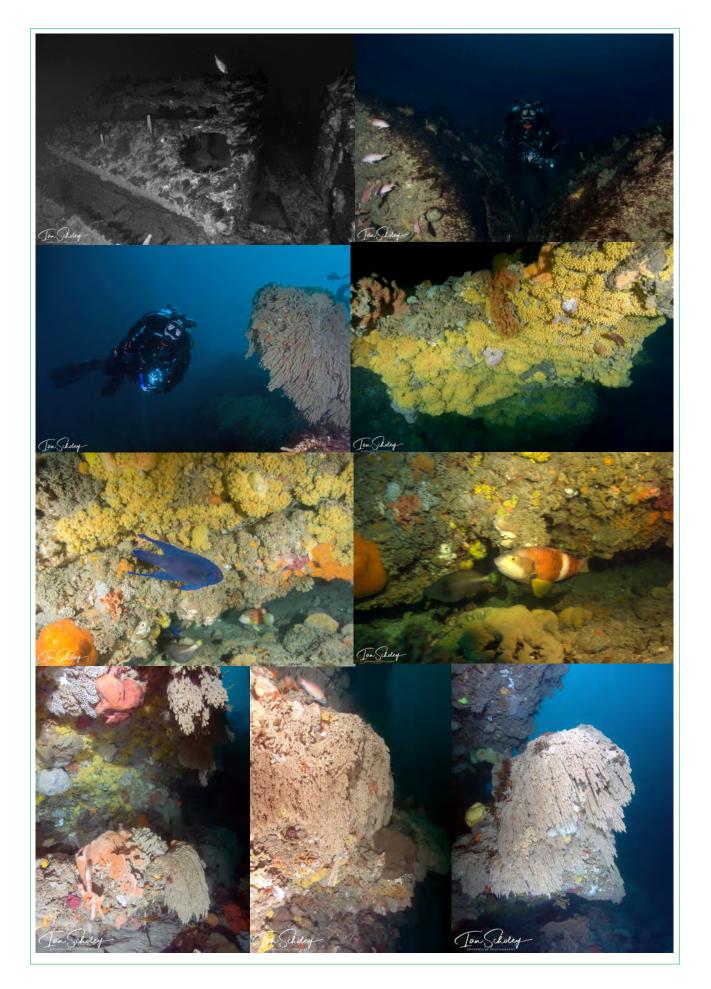
Chris Porter and I hopped on Redboats and as usual, Luke English gave us a good day's diving. The vis on the Rotomahana at 20-25m was surprisingly good, given all the rain of late. We were given plenty of time, so enjoyed a nice long dive.

For our second dive, we were joined by Marcus Campbell and headed out for a slack water on Hanging Gardens. This dive is a little bit different, with all the hanging growth it is quite spectacular. If you haven't dived it, then you should add it to your list. Once again, we had a good amount of time. We splashed at the end of the ebb and then rode the flood back in. With the current picking up, we had quite a ride as we cleared our deco.

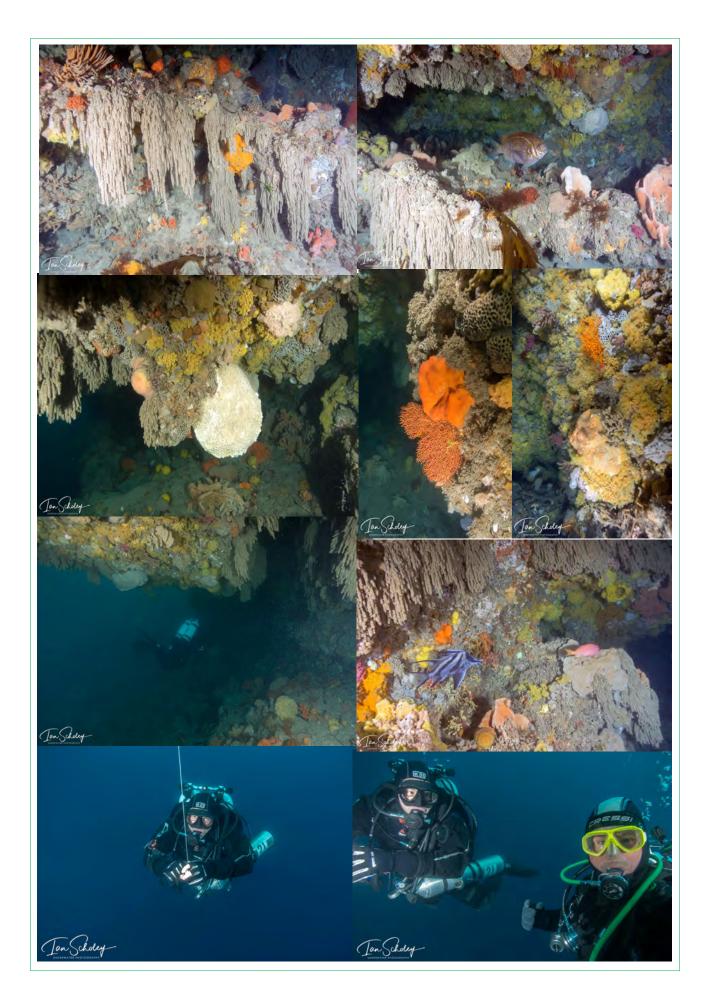


SS Rotomahana. Photo courtesy of Ian Scholey





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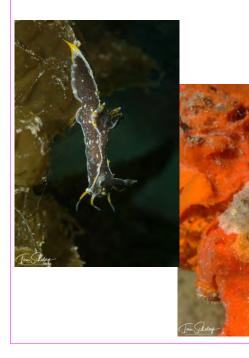
Blairgowrie

BLAIRGOWRIE SHORE DIVE.

10th November 2018

After the warmer waters of Jervis Bay, it was back to business as usual for me today with a nice long dive at Blairgowrie.

As usual, I had a very happy time slug hunting. I managed to find a few crackers today. Perhaps the most interesting was the last one I found 'Aegires exeches' which is a new one for my collection. Still trying to work out how I managed to see it, as it really blends into the sand. There is plenty of egg laying going on right now, so hopefully plenty more Nudibranch on the way.





















The first new one for me, I think this is Trinchesia sp RB14









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NIGHT DIVE, BLAIRGOWRIE.

12th October 2018

Last night I was joined by Dave Baxter and Elena Markushina for a Blairgowrie Night Dive to participate in the Melbourne Sea Slug Census. I was planning a 3-hour dive but ended up beating that by 15 minutes. As usual there were loads of critters about. I didn't find any new species for my own survey but found 16 species which I thought was a good effort. Photography wasn't easy once it got dark with massive swarms of little shrimp and Isopods getting in the way after being attracted by my lights. They have made it into many of my shots. The highlight of the night was what I believe is a Mantis Shrimp and a cluster of 20 Flabellina Nudibranch.











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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:



- Prohibit the take or possession of sting rays, skates or guitarfish greater than 1.5 metres in width;
- Reduce the combined daily bag limit for rays, skates and guitarfish from 5 to 1, which are smaller than 1.5 metres in width;
- Prohibit the take of these species within 400m of any pier, jetty, wharf or breakwater;
- 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.

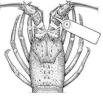
Rock Lobster Tagging Program

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-recreationallycaught-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 <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.

Mid Week Boat or Shore Dives

If interested in mid week boat or sho11re 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

DIARY DAIES

Eaglehawk Neck, Tas, 9-11 March 2019 Ocean Film Festival 23 March 2019 Yasawa Island Fiji 2019 Tawali 2020

www.vsag.org.au | 53

OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL ROSEBUD



Ocean Film Festival World Tour - Rosebud Peninsula Cinemas 23 March 2019

Hi all

A date for your diaries. Always a great event. Tickets are on sale now, visit <u>http://oceanfilmfestivalaustralia.com.au/tickets/#wa</u>



VSAG DIVE TRIP

9-11 March, 2019

Hi all,

Once again, we will be heading down to Tassie to dive at Eaglehawk Neck over the Labour Day Public Holiday weekend (Saturday 9th March - Monday 11th March). Spaces are limited so first in best dressed.

There are plenty of choices to get down there. I will be flying down on the evening of Friday, 8th March and back on Tuesday, 12th March. There are flights with Qantas, Virgin and Jetstar Melbourne-Hobart. The return fair is \$300-\$450.

Alternatively, there is the Spirit of Tasmania option.

We will be diving with Eaglehawk Dive Centre. Double boat dives are \$115 per day with a small extra charge for the longer runs. Diving options include the SS Nord, Cathedral Cave (Australia's biggest sea cave system), The Sisters (an



unbelievable dive) and a great spot for Sea Spiders.

There is dorm accommodation available at the Dive Centre for \$30 per night or hotel accommodation close by at The Luffa Hotel at \$150 a night.

If you are interested in making the trip, then please reserve a spot with me ASAP.

YASAWA ISLANDS FIJI 2019





Hi all

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

- Ian Scholey �



VICTORIAN SUB-ADDA BRUDP VASAWA ISLANDS FIJI

Get ready for magic reach, healthy ten He and more importantly some great pelagic action. This fantastic shark dive offers a treame to get up dose with an array of sharks. Buil, White, Silver , Black tip reet, Nurse, Lemon and Grey reet sharks are seen frequently slipping through the water amongst nearly 300 species of fish. Including Grouper and Happleon wrasse. Other sites include large pinnades, swim-throughs covered in soft cores, wrects, macro sites and incredible wate.

FLY

VIRGIN AIRLINES Return flights Melbourne to Nadi Airlines taxes & fuel surcharges

SLEEP

GATEWAY HOTEL NADI 1 Night Deluce room twin share Return aliport transfers BAREFOOT KUATA RESORT, FDI 2 Nights Beach Safari room All meals ending with breaktast on the last day Return Ferry transfers from Denarau Port Marina Transfer from Barefoot Kuata to Mantaray Resort MANTARAY ISLAND RESORT 7 NIGHTS Reef Bure or Beachfront Villia Compulsory meal package \$99 FJD pp per day paid locally FDI GATEWAY HOTEL 1 Night Deluce room twin share Included transfers

INE

BAREFOOT KAUNTA DIVING 3 Bull Shark dives 3 Reaf dives 2 FREE shore dives per day Tanks, weights 8 air-fill The use of a professional dive guide Non Diver-Includes 2 x shark shorkel trip MANTARAY ISLAND RESORT DIVING To Dives per diver Tanks, weights, air-fill Professional diveguide

THAVEL DATES 184 24 JUNE 2010 Diver \$4,635 Non Diver \$4,235

DISES4

DIDUST VILLORIAN SUB- ABOA GROUP FOR MORE INFORMATION

Info@vsag.org.au | 0439310 646 or 0414 922 916 | vsag.org.au

NAVS OUT: EXPEDITIONS

res gallwaysdive.com.au | 1600 338 239 | allwaysdive.com.au na Eugmentemal right des. Note: Stations michepatrice recipieded - (2050) Fer dayor des

VSAG Dive and Meeting Calendar

By John Ashley, Dive Roster Coordinator (DRC), 01 Jan 2019 - 30 Dec 2019 VSAG Dive Coordinator (DC) Roster listed below.

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

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 <u>'editor@vsag.org.au'</u>.

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

If any boat dives DC is unavailable for any of the allocated dates, please contact David Geekie 0419 300 686, as he is our back up DC.

Thank you, best regards,

John Ashley

D 1/2	D + D' = DC = C = 1 D = C = 1 + 0.440 + 0.00 (-4.72)
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
Jan 5/6	Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Jan 12/13	Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
	Shore Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Jan 15	General Meeting - The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Jan 19/20	Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Jan 26/27/28	
Australia Day Week-	Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
end	Shore Dives DC - Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881
Jan 28	
Feb 2/3	Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Feb 9/10	Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Feb 16/17	Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Feb 19	General Meeting- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm Guest Speaker –
Feb 23/24	Boat Dives DC - Carol Penfold 0449986473
Feb 24	Shore Dive DC - Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881
Mar 2/3	Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Mar 9/10/11	Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Labor Day Weekend	Eaglehawk Neck TAS Trip
	Organiser - (TBA)
Mar 16/17	Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Mar 19	General Meeting- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Mar 23/24	Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Mar 24	Shore Dive DC - Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881
Mar 30/31	Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684

Apr 6/7Daylight saving ends 07 Apr – retard clocks 1hrBoat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920	and the second se
BOALDWEST = Granam Fills (1403-070)	
Apr 13/14 Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646	
Apr 16General Meeting- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm	
Apr 19/20/21/22 Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403410725	
Easter	
Apr 25Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403410725	
Anzac Day	
Apr 27/28 Boat Dives DC - John Ashley 0418 535 991	
Shore Dive DC - Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881	
May 4/5Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684	
May 11/12 Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920	
May 18/19 Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646	
May 21General Meeting- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm	
May 25/26Boat Dives DC - Carol Penfold 0449986473	
Jun 1/2Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684	
Shore Dive DC - Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881	
Jun 8/9/10 Queens Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920	
B'day WeekendJun 15/16Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646	
Jun 18 General Meeting- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm	
Jun 22/23 Boat Dives DC - John Ashley 0418 535 991	
Jun 29/30Melbourne Boat Show 28/29/30 -TBC	
http://www.melbourneinternationalboatshow.com.au	
Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684	
Jul 6/7Christmas in July (TBC)	
Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920	
Jul 13/14 Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646	
Jul 16General Meeting- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm	
Jul 20/21 Boat Dives DC - John Ashley 0418 535 991	
Jul 27/28 Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684	
Aug 3/4Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920	

Aug 10/11	Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Aug 17/18	Boat Dives DC - Carol Penfold 0449986473
Aug 20	Annual General Meeting & Awards Night- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00pm
Aug 24/25	Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Aug 31/Sep 1	Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Sep 7/8	Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Sep 14/15	Boat Dives DC - John Ashley 0418 535 991
Sep 17	General Meeting- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Sep 21/22	Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Sep 28/29/30	AFL Grand Final Holiday (TBC)
	Boat Dives DC- Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Oct 5/6	Daylight Saving starts 06 Oct – advance clocks 1hr Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Oct 12/13	Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Oct 15	General Meeting - The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Oct 19/20	Boat Dives DC - John Ashley 0418 535 991
Oct 26/27	Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Nov 2/3	Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Nov 5 Melb Cup	Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
Nov 9/10	Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Nov 16/17	Boat Dives DC - Carol Penfold 0449986473
Nov 19	Christmas Party TBC/General Meeting- The Water Rat Hotel, 8.00 pm
Nov 23/24	Boat Dives DC - Michael Ngai 0414 894 684
Nov 30/Dec 1	Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725
Dec 7/8	Boat Dives DC - Graham Ellis 0403 070 920
	Shore Dive DC - Walter Medenbach 0408 899 881
Dec 14/15	Boat Dives DC - Ian Scholey 0439 310 646
Dec 21/22	Boat Dives DC - John Ashley 0418 535 991
Dec 28/29/30/31	Boat Dives DC - Peter Beaumont 0403 410 725

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. \clubsuit

Tidal Streams at the Heads — December 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 Sayings

Times have been adjusted for Daylight Savings						
MON 3	TUE 4	WED 5	THU 6	FRI 7	SAT 8	SUN 9
4:56	0:11	1:36	2:54	3:59	4:51	5:36
11:10	5:59	7:18	8:43	9:56	10:54	11:42
18:03	12:01	12:58	13:57	14:53	15:45	16:31
	19:10	20:15	21:13	22:03	22:49	23:30
MON 10	TUE 11	WED 12	THU 13	FRI 14	SAT 15	SUN 16
6:15	0:08	0:44	1:18	1:51	2:24	2:56
12:24	6:50	7:23	7:54	8:25	8:55	9:25
17:14	13:01	13:35	14:09	14:43	15:18	15:56
	17:54	18:32	19:11	19:51	20:34	21:22
MON 17	TUE 18	WED 19	THU 20	FRI 21	SAT 22	SUN 23
3:31	4:09	4:56	0:45	2:06	3:19	4:20
9:57	10:31	11:10	5:58	7:23	8:56	10:09
16:38	17:25	18:20	11:56	12:50	13:50	14:51
22:20	23:27		19:19	20:19	21:17	22:12
MON 24	TUE 25	WED 26	THU 27	FRI 28	SAT 29	SUN 30
5:12	5:58	6:42	0:45	1:33	2:19	3:04
11:07	11:57	12:44	7:23	8:02	8:40	9:18
15:51	16:47	17:43	13:31	14:19	15:08	15:58
23:05	23:56		18:39	19:36	20:36	21:40
Dec	Dec January					
MON 31	TUE 1	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4	SAT 5	SUN 6
3:49	4:36	0:04	1:21	2:35	3:40	4:35
9:56	10:36	5:30	6:38	8:02	9:25	10:32
16:50	17:44	11:21	12:12	13:09	14:09	15:08
22:49		18:42	19:41	20:38	21:32	22:21

Tidal Streams at the Heads — January 2019

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**

Dec	January					
MON 31	TUE 1	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4	SAT 5	SUN 6
3:49	4:36	0:04	1:21	2:35	3:40	4:35
9:56	10:36	5:30	6:38	8:02	9:25	10:32
16:50	17:44	11:21	12:12	13:09	14:09	15:08
22:49		18:42	19:41	20:38	21:32	22:21
MON 7	TUE 8	WED 9	THU 10	FRI 11	SAT 12	SUN 13
5:19	5:58	6:32	0:24	0:59	1:31	2:03
11:24	12:06	12:44	7:03	7:31	7:58	8:24
16:02	16:50	17:34	13:18	13:51	14:23	14:56
23:05	23:47		18:16	18:56	19:37	20:19
MON 14	TUE 15	WED 16	THU 17	FRI 18	SAT 19	SUN 20
2:35	3:08	3:43	4:22	0:06	1:24	2:44
8:51	9:19	9:49	10:21	5:11	6:19	7:50
15:30	16:07	16:48	17:35	11:00	11:50	12:56
21:06	21:58	22:57		18:30	19:34	20:41
MON 21	TUE 22	WED 23	THU 24	FRI 25	SAT 26	SUN 27
3:53	4:50	5:38	6:21	0:35	1:24	2:09
9:25	10:38	11:37	12:29	7:00	7:38	8:15
14:12	15:27	16:36	17:39	13:19	14:07	14:55
21:46	22:47	23:43		18:40	19:39	20:37
January	February					
MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU 31	FRI 1	SAT 2	SUN 3
2:52	3:34	4:16	5:02	0:48	1:58	3:07
8:51	9:27	10:05	10:45	5:58	7:11	8:43
15:42	16:29	17:16	18:05	11:31	12:23	13:26
21:37	22:37	23:41		18:59	19:57	20:57

Tidal Streams at the Heads — February 2019

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**

January				February		
MON 28	TUE 29	WED 30	THU 31	FRI 1	SAT 2	SUN 3
2:52	3:34	4:16	5:02	0:48	1:58	3:07
8:51	9:27	10:05	10:45	5:58	7:11	8:43
15:42	16:29	17:16	18:05	11:31	12:23	13:26
21:37	22:37	23:41		18: 59	19:57	20:57
MON 4	TUE 5	WED 6	THU 7	FRI 8	SAT 9	SUN 10
4:08	4:56	5:35	6:07	0:07	0:42	1:15
10:03	11:00	11:44	12:22	6:36	7:02	7:27
14:34	15:38	16:34	17:23	12:55	13:27	13:58
21:54	22:44	23:28		18:06	18:47	19:27
MON 11	TUE 12	WED 13	THU 14	FRI 15	SAT 16	SUN 17
1:47	2:18	2:51	3:24	4:00	4:42	0:43
7:51	8:17	8:44	9:12	9:44	10:20	5:39
14:29	15:02	15:36	16:14	16:58	17:50	11:11
20:08	20:52	21:39	22:31	23:33		18:54
MON 18	TUE 19	WED 20	THU 21	FRI 22	SAT 23	SUN 24
2:02	3:18	4:18	5:08	5:50	0:24	1:13
7:02	8:46	10:11	11:15	12:10	6:30	7:07
12:22	13:51	15:18	16:34	17:41	13:01	13:48
20:08	21:24	22:32	23:31		18:41	19:38
February			March			
MON 25	TUE 26	WED 27	THU 28	FRI 1	SAT 2	SUN 3
1:56	2:38	3:17	3:56	4:37	0:05	1:08
7:44	8:20	8:57	9:33	10:12	5:24	6:25
14:33	15:17	15:58	16:40	17:23	10:54	11:44
20:31	21:24	22:16	23:09		18:11	19:08

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
"2 DIVE 4"	"2 DIVE 4"
E BIVE I	2 DIVE 4
Give position-(see GPS for co- ordinates), nature of the problem, num- ber on board plus any other relevant information	Give position-(see GPS for co- ordinates), nature of the problem, number on board plus any other rele- vant information
Give position-(see GPS for co- ordinates), nature of the problem, num- ber on board plus any other relevant	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

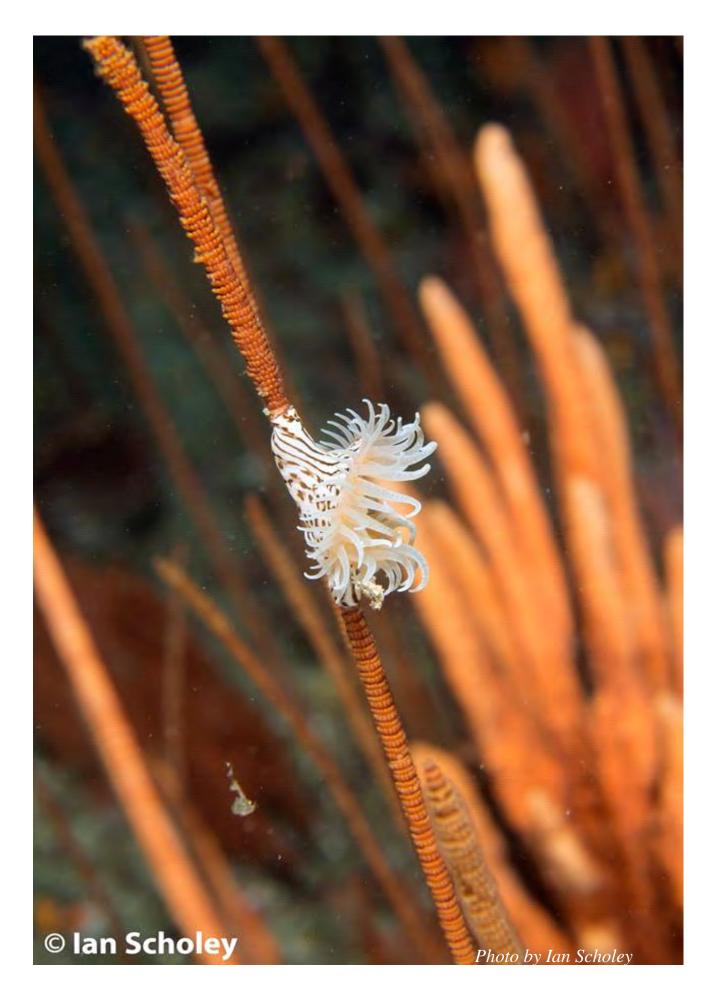
Water Police no longer use the 1800 088 200 number

The new 24/7 No is : 03 9399 7500

DAN International Emergency Hotline:	+1-919-684-9111 (from mobile)
	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	o) 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



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