



# Fathoms

*Cover Photo : Blue Devil Fish  
- by Ian Scholey*

**FEBRUARY - MARCH 2020**



*Ian Scholey*  
UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY

**Narooma, H.C. Pigott, Eliza Ramsden,  
Sea Slug Census January 2020, Pete's Reef,  
Cape Woolamai and more...**

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

[www.vsag.org.au](http://www.vsag.org.au)



The destination for next year's club overseas trip is Dumaguete in the Philippines. This will be a great trip to bring the family along, as there is plenty for them to do while we are out diving.

If anyone is interested please contact me for a booking form at:  
[President@vsag.org.au](mailto:President@vsag.org.au)

While we are in the Philippines, it seems silly not to take the opportunity to extend the trip in Palau. Koror is just a 2 hour flight from Manila and has some of the best diving anywhere.

If anyone is interested please contact me for a booking form at:  
[President@vsag.org.au](mailto:President@vsag.org.au)

Details pages 46-48.





# Fathoms

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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**



**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

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

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](http://www.tudc.org.au)



# Your VSAG Committee 2019–2020

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# NAROOMA

## NAROOMA

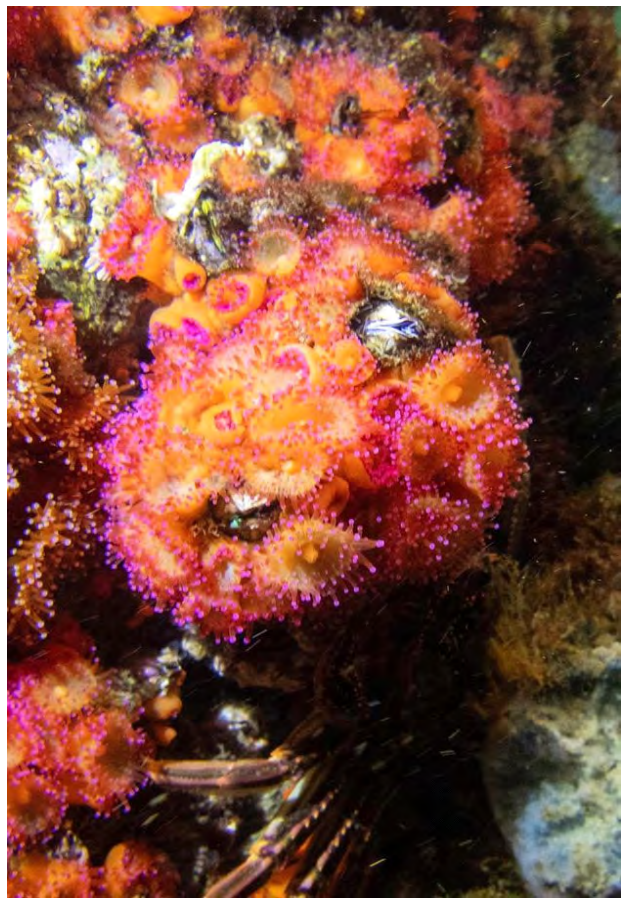
4th January, 2020

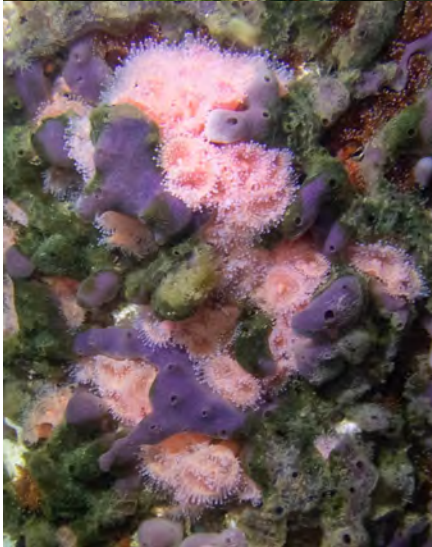
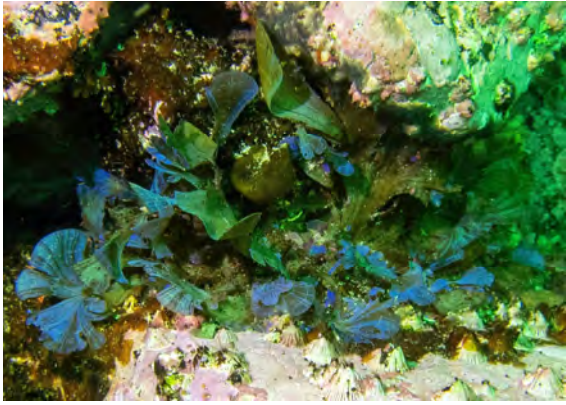
A couple of photos from two dives and one snorkel around Narooma, before the fires struck on News Years Eve.

Another great Snorkel under the Narooma pier, one boat dive at Montague Island, which had pretty bad vis again this year (the day before had 30 metre vis) and a shore dive off Broulee which ended up being the better of the two dives.

- *Brian Heatherich.* ❖









# ELIZA RAMSDEN & NORTH WALL DRIFT

## ELIZA RAMSDEN & NORTH WALL DRIFT

8th December 2019

Beautiful weather today and great conditions for diving.

Two boat loads of VSAGers out and about:

On Toucans - Peter Beaumont, Keith Dawson and myself

On Barcrusher - David Politakis, Greg Richards, Brian Heatherich and Claudio Pluchino.

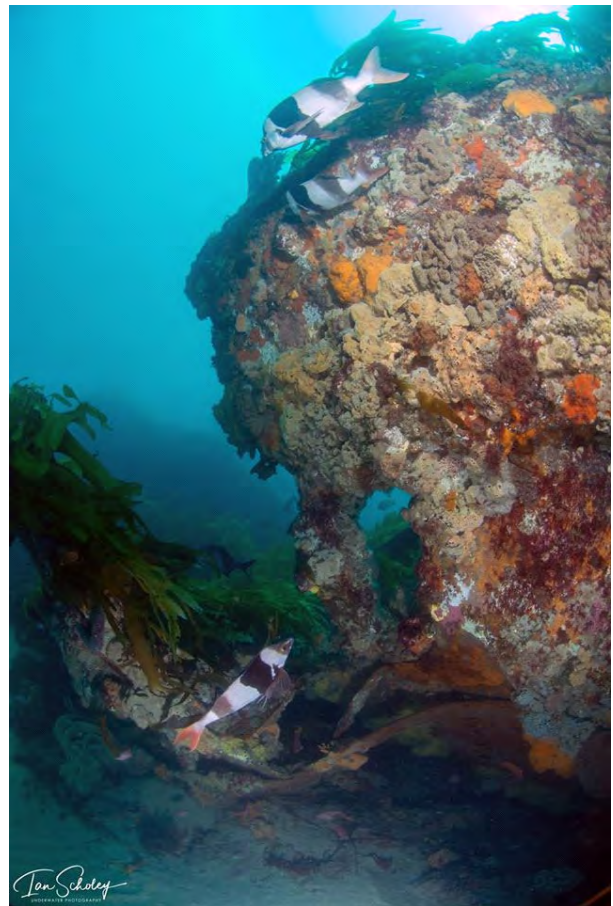
We started with a drift, starting at North Wall Corner. With the drift line in, we could tell that the 2.6 knot current forecasted was a pipe dream. Once in, we took an adrenalin-filled fast drift. I went for an hour and finished up on Boarfish Reef, you can tell it's fast when the kelp is flat and stopping for pics just wasn't an option.

For our second dive we got lucky, with a radio call to Lonsdale confirming there were no shipping movements to get in the way during slack water. So, we headed over to the Eliza Ramsden. It's been a long time, indeed, since I managed to dive



it and most of the others hadn't previously been on the wreck. All the pics that look like Reef here are in fact the structure of the wreck which is absolutely covered in growth and fish life.

The Eliza Ramsden was regarded as the finest vessel of the Port of Melbourne in 1875, built to order by S. Ramsden at a cost of £10,000, and named after his wife. The vessel was badly damaged in 1875, when it ran aground and was trapped on Corsair Rock, on its voyage from Melbourne to Newcastle. The owner's son was the only passenger aboard with the 13 crew. The ship was evacuated by a lifeboat sent by the steam tug Warhawk, when it was assessed that the ship would go down once the tide rose. Most personal effects were left on board. When the tide rose, the vessel floated off Corsair Rock and eventually sunk in the South Channel. It was being sailed by a skeleton crew, consisting of the cutter Ben Bolt's captain, Richard Legget and two passing fishermen, Shapter and Batchellor, who were attempting to bring it to Queenscliff. Dynamite was used on the wreck to clear the passage for larger vessels. Capt. Steuart, although highly regarded, was found guilty of negligence and his certificate was cancelled for six months. The auctioneer reluctantly knocked down the wreck to him for £1000. The



lifeboat superintendent claimed Steuart's desertion of vessel was premature. The captain and crew lost most of their personal effects.

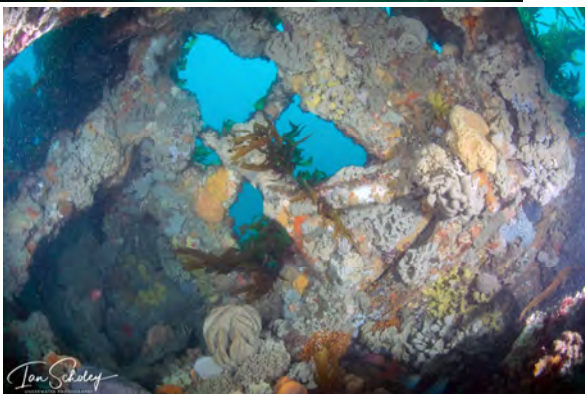
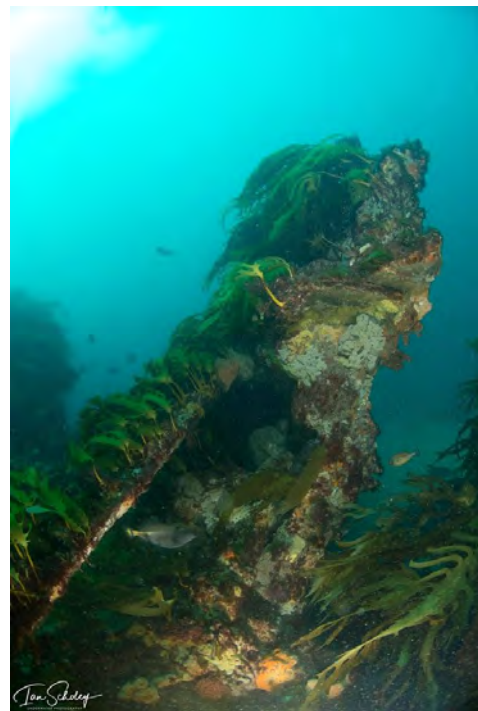
- Ian Scholey. ❖

Story courtesy of Australasian Underwater Cultural Heritage Database.

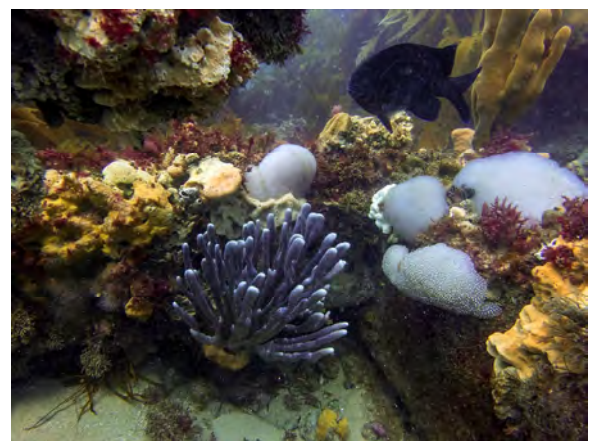
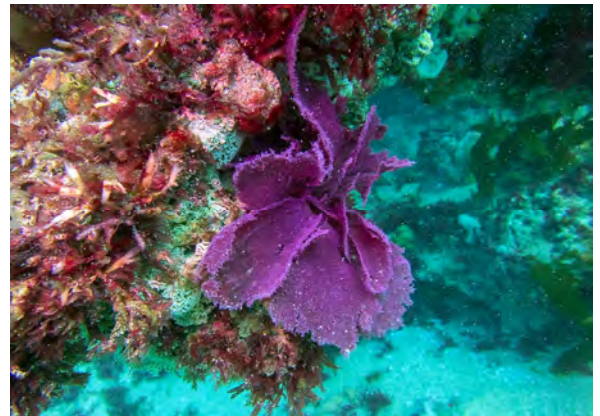
[www.environment.gov.au/](http://www.environment.gov.au/)

Full Story, The Loss of The Eliza Ramsden is available from Trove, National Library of Australia, Wed 28 July 1875

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/>



*Photos by Brian Heatherich.*



# SEA SLUG CENSUS 2020

## SEA SLUG CENSUS 2020

19th January 2020

I took a trip to Blairgowrie this morning to take part in the 6th Melbourne Sea Slug Census. I finished up with a disappointing 13 species, although there were plenty of the ones I did find. Either the smaller varieties are past their peak or I lucked out today.

Also there, were Peter Beaumont and Matthijs Smith. Considering the recent weather, the conditions were good with the vis being pretty good. Peter and I tried for a dive there Friday night and didn't go in as it was pretty rough.

- Ian Scholey. ❖





# PINNACLES

## THE PINNACLES

29th December 2019

What a day today, the diving was epic! Best local dive of the year for me, without a doubt.

Conditions on the Pinnacle were perfect, if a little choppy topside. With 50% Nitrox for decompression, I had plenty of bottom time and made the most of it, covering a lot of ground. This really is a strong contender for best dive site in Victoria. I had 30 mins of stops to do and was joined by a massive school of Trevally, the largest I have ever seen. They swirled around, with me at the centre for the full 30 minutes, following me to the shallows as I ascended. It was a mind blowing experience and a great way to end my boat diving for the year.

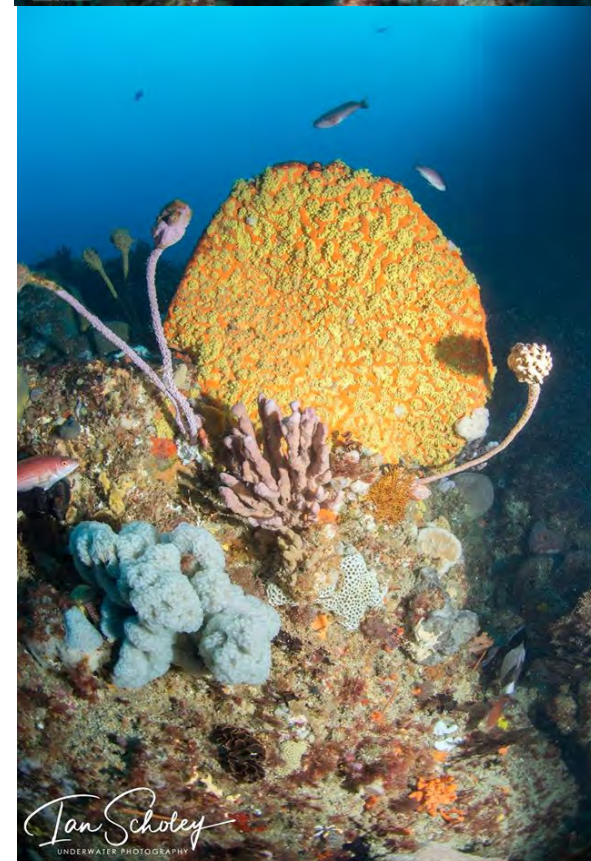
We had 3 boats out today, all at Phillip Island.

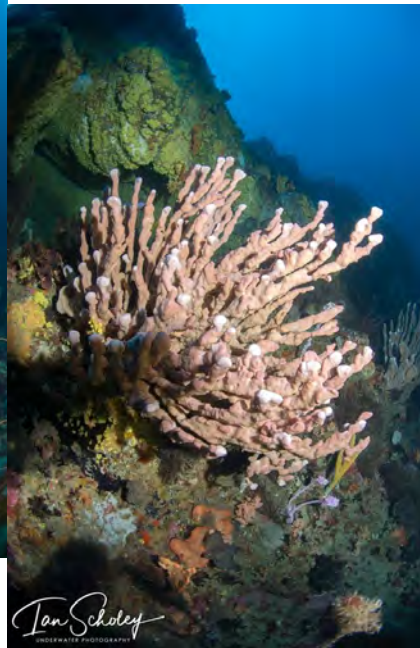
With me on Sea Eagle, was Peter Beaumont.

Also out were Angus Stuart-Adams and crew on Mistress and Tony Hood and crew on his new Barcrusher.

Can't wait to get back in the water.

- Ian Scholey. ❖







# HURRICANE

## NIGHT DIVE ON THE HURRICANE

25th January 2020

A night dive was the perfect solution to beat the January boat ramp chaos. We had two boats in the water at 9.00pm for a slack water dive on the Hurricane. The conditions were perfect on the water and pretty good underneath. With our shot right on the wreck, we didn't have to worry about navigation and enjoyed a very nice dive. There was plenty to see, including a cheeky Seal using our lights as a fishing aid. I have to admit, it scared the hell out of me, the first time it shot into my torch light, out of the black.

The only downside of the night was the lack of divers. We went with two spaces on the boats, which is a real shame.

Tomorrow I am heading out to the ships graveyard for a dive on the Pigott, before hooking up with a few more VSAGers and if shipping allows, a dive on Spectacular Reef.

Out tonight were: On Toucans - Peter Beaumont and myself.

On Carmine - Peter and Carole Campisano.

- Ian Scholey. ❖





# North Wall Corner

## NORTH WALL CORNER

7th December 2019

Chris Porter and I were out with Redboats today. We were booked on for Ripbank, but the swell outside with the Westerlies put paid to that and we headed to North Wall Corner instead. It wasn't a bad substitute, at all and we had a great dive. We were asked to keep our deco down to avoid coming up in the Rip, where the waves would have made a pick-up tricky. So, we jumped in while the Flood was still running and road it along the wall until slack water, keeping our depth to 33m and deco to just 10 minutes. Vis was pretty good and there was plenty of colour and fish life. Hoping for more of the same tomorrow.

- Ian Scholey. ❖





# LONSDALE WALL

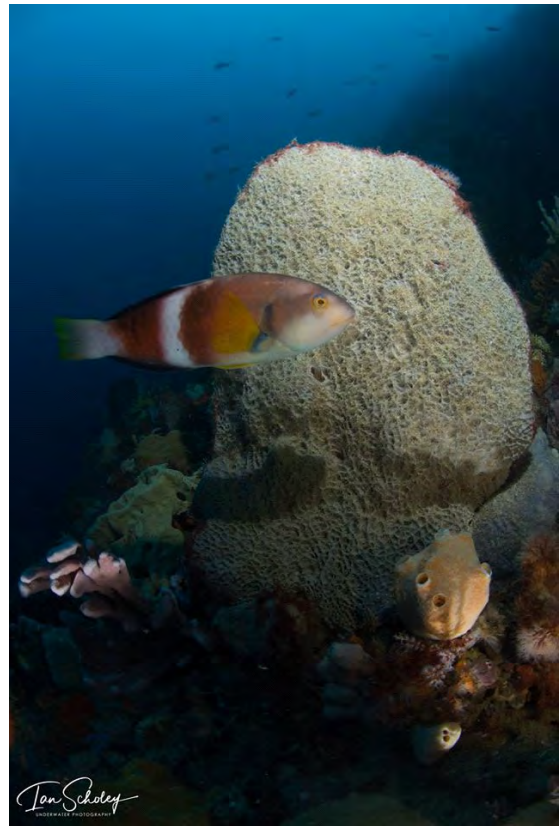
## LONSDALE WALL

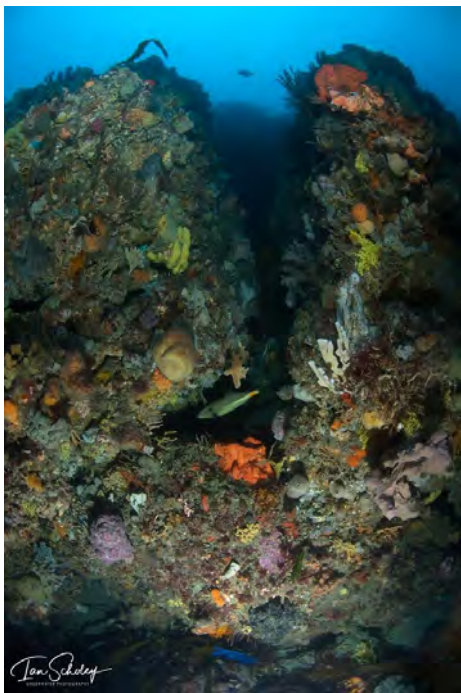
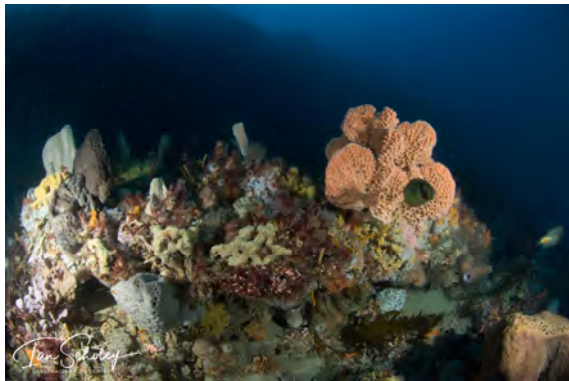
5th January 2020

The weather put the kibosh on plans to dive Ripbank this morning, for Chris Porter and I. It didn't feel much like summer in the rain. Lonsdale Wall is an awesome alternative and got no complaints from the divers on board Red Devil. Despite the ebb following slack and the nasty looking conditions in the Rip, we were given a 60 minute run time by skipper, Luke English, on Redboats and gratefully made the most of it. The vis was very good and Luke dropped us onto some great territory.

We followed up with a second dive, our planned back-beach Cray hunt turning into an exhilarating drift across Sponge Gardens. We covered over 2km for a pretty good dive, given the limited options.

- Ian Scholey. ❖



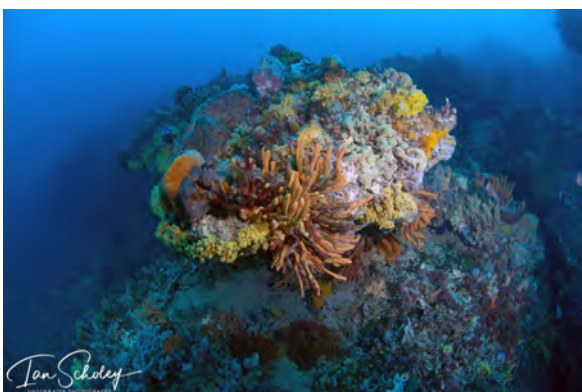
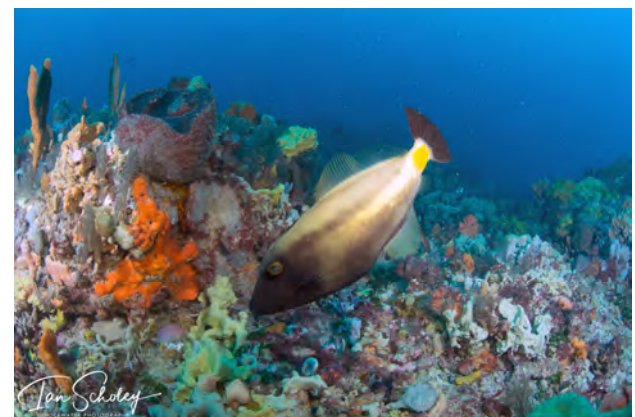


## LONSDALE WALL & CASTLE ROCK

12<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Pretty ordinary conditions today, particularly outside the heads. Chris Porter and I jumped on Redboats for a double dive. We started with a slack water on Lonsdale Wall and backed it up with a dive on Castle Rock. I was able to make a contribution to the Weedy Sea Dragon project, finding 5 individuals around Castle Rock. The poor creatures were desperately trying to stay out of the wicked surge by getting as far under the rock as they could.

- Ian Scholey. ❖



# Hanging Gardens & Portsea Wall

## HANGING GARDENS & PORTSEA WALL

27th December 2019

David Politakis and I jumped on board Redboats yesterday, for a couple of dives. We were booked on for Lonsdale Wall but switched last minute to Hanging Gardens, with the promise of a longer run time very enticing and a ride on Luke's new boat clinching it. I opted for macro and set out to chase Blue Devils. There were plenty about and we had a great first dive. Our second dive was a Cray hunt but we didn't even see one, let alone catch one. It was a little surgey, but nice nevertheless.

- Ian Scholey. ❖





# H C PIGOTT

## WRECK OF THE H. C. PIGOTT

27th January 2020

I'm posting these not for their merit, but to prove that there was a wreck down there today.

A full boat of Tech divers headed out with Redboats under the, as usual, superb skippering of Luke English, for a dive in the Ships Graveyard on HC Pigott.

It was looking good as we splashed in, with the water a lovely clear, deep blue. It wasn't to last, sadly, and as we passed the 30-35m mark the vis went to absolute muck. We hit the bottom at 48m with no wreck in sight, but fortunately we remembered Luke's instructions and headed North into a surprisingly feisty current. Eventually, we were fortunate to bump, literally, into the wreck. The vis was pretty bad, so not sure how the water came out so blue in the pics - it really was ordinary. Back on board after a 67-minute dive, we found that only 5 out of the boat full had actually found the wreck. I felt pretty bad for the guys that missed out, but they took it in good spirits.

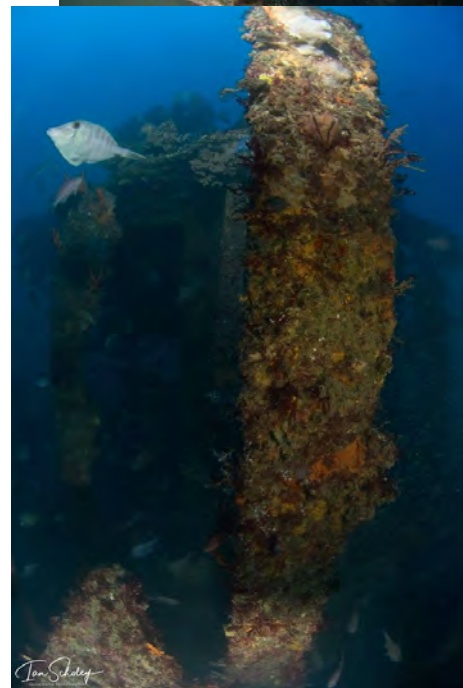
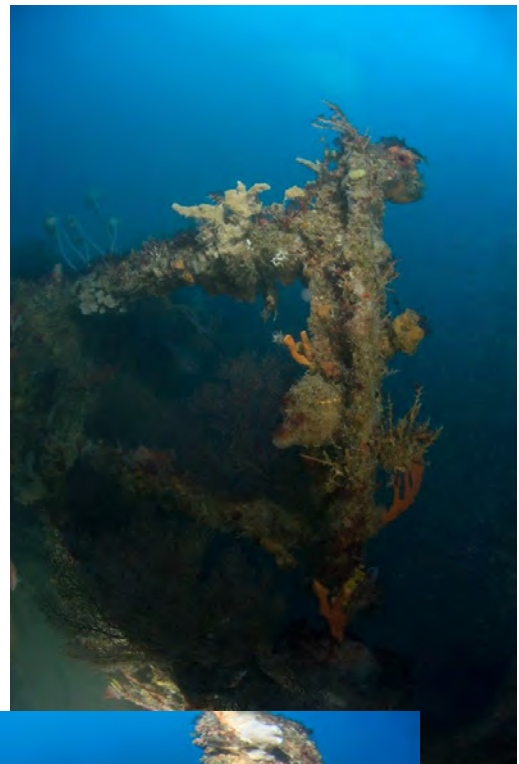
The steam hopper barge, H. C. Pigott was one of three such vessels



commissioned in 1912 by the Melbourne Harbour Trust, as part of the proposed improvements to Port Melbourne and the Yarra. The H. C. Pigott was the third vessel to be launched on 07/03/1912 yard no: 406. The two sister vessels, the Charles Duckett, yard no: 404, launched 17/01/1912 and Edward Northcote, yard no: 405, launched 08/02/1912. All three vessels were of similar dimensions: 495 grt, 160'x28'x12'6". The Edward Northcote is recording as being fitted with a 2-cylinder Compound Engine of 54 H.P. The H. C. Pigott was dismantled and scuttled on October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1935. The hull of the H C Pigott shipwreck is listing onto her port side. The superstructure is still recognisable and there is a large anchor sitting on the bow. The prop shafts are visible but there are no props to be found.

We didn't see her at her best and will try to go back in better conditions at some point, I'm sure.

- Ian Scholey. ❖



*Claire Cooper*



# VSAGers on Redboats



*Mick Young and Peter Campisano*

*Graham Ellis and John Lawler*



# PETE'S REEF

## PETE'S REEF

26th December, 2019

Boxing Day dive at Phillip Island, just down the coast from Seal Rocks. Peter Beaumont and I put Toucans in at Flinders today. A master stroke to avoid the chaos on the peninsula boat ramps. We headed across to Phillip Island and found a spectacular spot that PB had come across, by accident, a few weeks back. We are naming the spot Pete's Reef, it's a really nice wall. We then shifted a bit and landed on an even better spot. Two huge bommies with nice walls and plenty of Crayfish holes, now named Pete's Bommies, both sites are at 22m. A few Ab's were grabbed but no luck with the Crays, which were either too small or too clever. Hopefully better luck next time.

- Ian Scholey. ❖



# Cape Woolamai

## CAPE WOOLAMAI PHILLIP ISLAND

SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
2019

**DIVERS:** Angus STUART -  
ADAMS, Matt BICE, Rowan  
SALGER, Dave SIMPSON (Deck  
Hand), Arthur KOKKINOS

**Dive Report:** Arthur KOKKINOS

### DIVE:1

Weather conditions were perfect today, for my first dive of the 2019/2020 cray season. I was anxious to hit the water and see what I could find. Being a weekend, it was also an Abalone take-day, so I was eager to get a cray or two and bag out on Abs (limit 2 greenlip and 3 black lip).

We safely launched Mistress from Newhaven boat ramp and within 30 minutes, we had anchored on our first dive location. We started gearing up for our first dive of the day. Angus and Rowan were on a Hookah set up, giving them a comfortable 1-hour dive, while Matt was on a 15 litre tank and I was on a 12 litre tank. In succession, we all hit the water at 9.55 am and made our way down to a depth of 17.4 metres. Water temp was at 18 degrees and visibility around 8



*Angus getting Mistress ready to launch.*



*Angus STUART-ADAMS getting ready to dive.*

to 10 metres. The current at the bottom was quite strong at times but manageable. Angus and Rowan went off in one direction and Matt and I went the other way. Within minutes, we had bagged out on abs, with some nice green lips in the mix. After 34 minutes of diving, I signalled to Matt that I was done and I was going up. Matt had a bigger tank and stayed under for another 10 minutes. At 11.10 am, everyone was safely back on board. We had no crays but heaps of abs.

We raised the anchor and decided to dive one of the large Bommies located near Cape Woolamai. After a nice lunch and completing our safety surface interval, we were ready to anchor the boat at our next dive location.

## **DIVE :2**

The weather was still good, so we were able to anchor right up close to a large Bommie. The surface conditions were calm, with a slight swell.

We all geared up and at 12.13pm we hit the water and went down towards the base of the Bommie. On this dive, we hit a depth of 20.9 metres. Almost immediately, we spotted some beautiful sized abalone. We continued the search for crays, but we were unable to find a decent sized cray. I alone spotted around 5 crays, but they



*Rowan SALGER all smiles before going in for his first dive.*



*A nice catch of abalone, with a few greenlips amongst the blacklips .*

were all under size. The fish life was abundant, with many species of all sizes congregating in and around the Bommie. After a total of 36 minutes of diving, including the safety stop, I resurfaced about 100 metres away from Mistress. I slowly finned my way back to the boat with my BC fully inflated.

A short time later, everyone was safely back on the boat. We had no crays but more than enough abs to keep everyone happy. Overall, today's dive was a great way to start the cray season. With no one catching a cray, we were more than eager to do this all again on Sunday.

- Arthur Kokkinos. ❖



*Rowan SALGER, Arthur KOKKINOS, Angus STUART-ADAMS, Matt BICE.*

## **CAPE WOOLAMAI PHILLIP ISLAND**

**SUNDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019**

**DIVERS: Angus STUART - ADAMS, Matt BICE, Frank VAN PELT (Deck Hand), Arthur KOKKINOS**

**Dive Report: Arthur KOKKINOS**

### **DIVE:1**

Today's weather was just about perfect. The sun was out and not a cloud in the sky. The wind was not blowing and as we came around through the channel, past the point towards Cape Woolamai, the Northerly wind had significantly dropped down to a calm breeze. This was a good sign that today's diving was going to be special.

As we approached our first dive location, we were all anxious to get in the water. Within minutes we had anchored, set up the compressor for the Hookah and we were getting our dive gear on. Angus and I were on Hookah and Matt on tank. We hit the water at 10.100 am and within a minute, we were on the bottom searching for crays. We reached a depth of 21 metres and the visibility was around 8 to 10 metres. Water temp was 17 degrees and there was no bottom current. The fish life in this area is quite healthy, with large

schools of sweep and snapper and small schools of pike, leatherjackets and parrot fish passing through. The rock formations are quite diverse ranging from small to large with some extending up to around 12 metres. There are ledges and small dive chambers that are quite enjoyable to dive into. After 58 minutes of diving and a bag full of crays and abalone, we resurfaced and safely entered the boat.

## **DIVE :2**

The weather was very calm, virtually no wind and the water surface was just flat as a tack. We had our lunch break and after an hour and a half of surface interval, we were all itching to get back into the water.

The second dive was at another location, not too far from our first dive. With the weather still looking good we geared up and entered the water. Within a minute, we reached the bottom. We reached a depth of around 21.9 metres and the visibility was around 6 to 7 metres. Water temp felt a bit colder, but it was still 17 degrees, just like the first dive. We dived around the many rock formations and searched in every little hole we thought a cray might be in. Again, we managed to get a nice cray and a few more abalone. After 30 minutes of diving, Angus was feeling cold and I was feeling it too,

so we signalled to each other to end the dive. After 34 minutes of diving, which also included our safety stop, we safely ascended to the surface and entered the boat.

Today's diving was just another amazing diving experience that this region so often produces.

- Arthur Kokkinos. ❖



*Not bad for a day's catch.*

## **CAPE WOOLAMAI PHILLIP ISLAND**

**FRIDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020**

**DIVERS: Rowan SALGER,  
Andrew RAWLING, Peter  
GALVIN (Deck Hand), Arthur  
KOKKINOS**

**Dive Report: Arthur KOKKINOS**

### **DIVE:1**

An early morning start today, meeting at Newhaven boat ramp at 8.00am, for a first up dive at around 9.00am. We launched STROKER safely into the water and powered



off to our first dive location at Cape Woolamai. No Hookah diving today, due to compressor malfunction.

At 9.00am, we were all geared up and anxious to hit the water. As scheduled, one by one we entered the water at 9.12 am. Peter stayed on board to man the boat. The surface conditions were not the best, with a slight strong northerly blowing. Once in the water, we all descended down to the bottom, only reaching a maximum depth of around 11 metres for the entire dive. We were diving close to the edge of the rock face along the many ledges. The swell at that depth was quite strong, making the search for crays hard work. Water temperature was 17 degrees and visibility was a nice 10 to 12 metres. After diving close to an hour and covering a large area, I signalled to Andrew, who was my dive buddy, that it was time to finish the dive. I released my surface marker buoy and slowly ascended to the surface, stopping at 5 metres to do our safety stop. Once we resurfaced, Peter had already spotted the SMB and it was within a minute or two that we were safely back on board.

Not many crays sighted on this particular dive, however there were plenty of fish and many varieties of colourful sea vegetation to see and enjoy.



*Andrew RAWLING, Peter GALVIN  
and Arthur KOKKINOS.*



*Nice day's catch with  
a bit of everything.*

## **DIVE :2**

During our surface interval, we all had lunch and a discussion on where to dive next. The consensus was unanimous. We all agreed to dive the pinnacle for our second dive. The wind slightly picked up and it was decided for the boat to drop us off close to the pinnacle, giving us extra time underwater.

We entered the water at 11.25 am. As we all descended down to a depth of 20.1 metres, we all went in different directions. The water temperature was a comfortable 18 degrees and the visibility was still around 10 to 11 metres. After diving for close to 30 minutes and not much air left in my tank, I decided to finish the dive. After completing my safety stop, I surfaced about 60 metres away from where the waves were smashing onto the pinnacle. Peter was not too far away and spotted me almost immediately. Within a short time, I was safely back on board Stroker.

This dive had everything you could wish for, we found a few crays, spotted many abalone and we came across large schools of sweep, bream and pike. A large stingray came past and many large sized leather jackets were also spotted. The abundance of fish life and the healthy state of the kelp and multi coloured sea

vegetation made this dive very pleasurable.

- *Arthur Kokkinos.* ❖

## **CAPE WOOLAMAI PHILLIP ISLAND**

**WEDNESDAY 22nd JANUARY  
2020**

**DIVERS: Angus STUART -  
ADAMS, Rowan SALGER, Frank  
VAN PELT (Deck Hand), Arthur  
KOKKINOS**

**Dive Report: Arthur KOKKINOS**

### **DIVE:1**

We all met at Newhaven Boat ramp at a scheduled time of 9.00am. After launching Mistress and reaching our first dive location, we safely anchored. We then started to set up our diving gear and at 9.48 am I entered the water, 5 minutes after Angus and Rowan.

The weather was not perfect and there was a slight northerly rocking the boat. Since I was diving solo, my plan was to head straight for the anchor to work out the current. The bottom current was immensely strong and the surface current was even stronger. The boat was drifting towards the north. With this in mind, I made a dive plan while observing the anchor line. At a depth of 22.5 metres and the water temperature at

17 degrees, I used my compass and kept diving towards the north, knowing full well, that on my return I would have the current pushing me towards the anchor line, if I kept a straight profile. Diving in a strong current and at the same time looking for crays, dragging a big catch bag with you and keeping an eye on your compass, is extremely difficult diving. The centre reef location is a beautiful dive spot, with plenty of dive throughs, ledges and large openings to stick your body in and discover many different living organisms. This small reef is frequently visited by many species of fish life and covered with many types of colourful underwater vegetation. Whilst diving this reef, you can't help but notice how healthy this piece of natural environment is and how lucky we are to dive it. At that depth, it was starting to get cold, so I decided to make my way back. Following my compass, I eventually found the anchor line. I used the line to slowly ascend and do a 5-metre safety stop. After a total of 38 minutes in the water, I safely made it back on the boat without a cray. After 20 minutes, Angus and Rowan surfaced with 2 nice sized crays in their catch bag.

This was the second time I've dived this particular reef and again it didn't disappoint. We all agreed that this reef is a great dive location and a must do dive.



*Arthur KOKKINOS with the Bommie in the background.*



*Rowan SALGER and Arthur KOKKINOS with a nice catch.*

## **DIVE :2**

After having a long lunch break, we all decided to change the dive location. We headed off to the first bay inlet to get some shelter from the strong winds that seemed to be picking up. The plan was to get the boat as close as safely possible to the rocks edge. This would provide a safe spot for the boat and divers. The surface conditions appeared to be ok, however, there was a slight swell picking up. We anchored at a safe distance from the rock cliff and we were about 50 metres from the edge. We were all eager to get in again and look for crays.

The diving at this location is just superb. The underwater rock formations and large openings, which extend into and under large rock boulders, are a pleasure to dive. The fish life in this location is super healthy, with schools of bream, sweep and many single varieties all over the place. The long kelp, which in many instances acts as a curtain to many large openings, is growing out of control on every rock ledge. A testament to how healthy this whole area really is. When diving in this location you have to forcefully push your way through the kelp and in many places, you will find yourself in and under large tunnel like openings that lead to the other side of these large ledges. Some ledges extend

down to about 14 metres and roll around, up out of the water. The underwater current in this dive location is quite strong and when you get to around 5 metres, it can get quite dangerous. On this dive, I reached a depth of 13.3 metres and generally stayed at this depth for most of the dive. The water temperature was 18 degrees and visibility around 13 to 15 metres, which made this dive so enjoyable. After 42 minutes of diving, I finally made my way up and safely back onto the boat. A short time later, Angus and Rowan surfaced and within 10 minutes we were all ready to head back to Newhaven.

Both dives were excellent. To sum it all up, it was just another day of great diving and I was fortunate to be part of it. Thank you.

- *Arthur Kokkinos.* ❖

# Phillip Island

## PHILLIP ISLAND

December 30, 2019

We've had 3 days of diving at Phillip Island. Mistress did all 3 days, with Stroker and Goofy 2 also putting in a day each. The viz was pretty good but the 17°C water temperature was noticeably cooler than at the same time last year. A few crays were had, with the biggest being 3.6kg. A humpback whale was also spotted breaching in the vicinity. Overall, it's been a great couple of days and a lovely way to round out the year.

- Rowan Salger. ❖



# Blairgowrie

## BLAIRGOWRIE

19th January, 2020

Blairgowrie Pier today. Vis 5-6m at 7am, deteriorating to 3-4 by 9.30am. Temp 21C. Unlike Ian Scholey, only got a few nudis, but found some shrimps, a hermit crab and a banjo ray that were all willing to model for me.

- *Matthijs Smith*. ❖



## BLAIRGOWRIE

21st December 2019

An end of week dive at Blairgowrie for me yesterday - anything to get away from the heat. 3 hours at 18 degrees trumping an extra 3 hours at 42 anytime!!!

There are still heaps of Nudibranch about which is great. I managed to find a good selection with a new Tritonia sp to add to my ever-expanding list of species found there.

Looking at the long-range forecast, it seems I may be there a bit over the Xmas break, 3-5m swells forecast outside next week, which is ridiculous.

- Ian Scholey. ❖







## BLAIRGOWRIE

31st December 2019

I hooked up with Peter Beaumont and Keith Dawson for the last dive of the year this morning. It was a fitting dive to bring the year to a close, with another two new Nudibranch species added to my collection.

What a year it's been. I finally stood down as VSAG President, after 5 years in the chair, had fantastic trips to Lembeh, Indonesia and Dumaguette, Phillipines, where I filled my boots with more macro than you can shake a stick at, I also found time for Liveboards on the Red Sea and GBR and did the annual club Tassie trip. I also popped to Sweden to see the Vassa and cross that off my bucket list.

All up, I logged 176 dives, so I'm going to take tomorrow off and put my feet up.

Happy New Year to you all, I hope you have enjoyed the photographic record of my diving. Finally, a huge thanks to all those that have dived with me - particularly Peter Beaumont, Chris Porter and David Flew.

- Ian Scholey. ❖







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](http://www.danasiapacific.org)**

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

# Rock Lobster Tagging Program

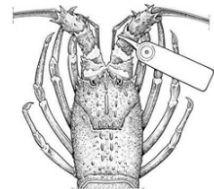
Tagging of recreationally caught rock lobsters commenced on 1 July 2017

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>



## Save the Rays

### REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING ACTIVITY

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

You can report illegal fishing activity to 13 3474.

### 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.

## 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](http://www.coastguard.com.au/SafeTrx)

## BOAT RAMPS

Better Boating Victoria has been working with boating asset managers to remove all fees and make it cheaper and easier for all people to get out on the water.

To find a free boat ramp please visit this link

<https://betterboating.vic.gov.au/>

## DIARY DATES

Philippines & Palau—June 2020



The destination for next year's club overseas trip is Dumaguete in the Philippines. This will be a great trip to bring the family along, as there is plenty for them to do while we are out diving.

If anyone is interested please contact me for a booking form at:  
[President@vsag.org.au](mailto:President@vsag.org.au)

While we are in the Philippines, it seems silly not to take the opportunity to extend the trip in Palau. Koror is just a 2 hour flight from Manila and has some of the best diving anywhere.

If anyone is interested please contact me for a booking form at:  
[President@vsag.org.au](mailto:President@vsag.org.au)





# VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP

## DUMAGUETE- THE PHILIPPINES

 **8**  
DAYS

 **7**  
NIGHTS

 **< 12**  
DIVES

Join the Victorian Sub Aqua group on this memorable trip to the Philippines, with the option to extend further and dive Palau too! Diving in Dumaguete can take place on either the magnificent Marine Sanctuary of Apo Island or the amazing Dauin Coastline. Find walls densely covered with hard and soft corals, schooling fish, turtles and crystal clear waters. In contrast, the Dauin coastline is home to exquisitely rare macro critters. Spot wonderpus, hairy frogfish, mandarin fish performing their mating dances at dusk and the extremely rare clown frogfish.

### FLY

#### PHILIPPINE AIRLINES & CEBU PACIFIC

Return Flights Melbourne to Dumaguete via Manila  
All airline taxes & fuel surcharges

### STAY & DIVE

#### ATLANTIS DUMAGUETE RESORT

7 nights standard room twin share  
Breakfast daily  
Return airport transfers  
10 dives per person  
Apo island day trip including 2 dives pp  
Oslob whale shark snorkel day trip  
Tanks, weights, airfills

### UPGRADE OPTION

Eat Sleep Dive package  
Includes all meals  
Unlimited diving  
Free nitrox  
Add \$900pp

05-12 JUN 2020

\$3189 PP

REF ADE 1724



### CONTACT VSAG FOR MORE INFORMATION

ischoley@iinet.net.au | 0439 310 646 | vsag.org.au

### ALLWAYS DIVE EXPEDITIONS

res@allwaysdive.com.au | 03 95316818 | allwaysdive.com.au

Lic # 32311



# VICTORIAN SUB AQUA GROUP

## PALAU EXTENSION



8

DAYS



7

NIGHTS



9

DIVES

Following on from diving Dumaguete in the Philippines, come along with Victorian Sub Aqua Group to dive Palau! This destination offers some of the most diverse waters in the world. Its marine ecosystems include barrier and fringing reefs, lagoons, sea grass beds, marine lakes and mangrove forests. Palau's waters boast some of the world's best reefs and concentrations of the most spectacular marine life in the world. Inquisitive sharks, friendly dolphins, manta rays, tuna and barracuda - all are prolific in the rich Palau waters and every dive holds something new and breathtaking. There are dive sites to suit all levels of experience with the two best sites being "Blue Corner" and "Blue Holes".

These pristine habitats support some of the world's richest populations of marine life. With over 1,500 species of fish, pelagics, corals and a number of WWII wrecks, Palau should be on every diver's bucket list.

### FLY

#### PHILIPPINE AIRLINES

Return Flights Manila to Koror  
All airline taxes & fuel surcharges

### STAY & DIVE

#### PALAU CENTRAL, KOROR

7 nights standard room twin share  
Breakfast daily  
Return airport transfers

#### SAM'S TOURS PALAU

8 dives per diver onc Tanks, weights and airfills  
Third residual air dive Chandelier Cave  
Jellyfish Lake snorkel stop  
Unlimited diving on Sam's macro wall  
FREE Sam's water bottle  
FREE nitrox for certified divers.  
Excludes :  
Dive permits including Jellyfish Lake \$100USD paid locally



12 - 19 JUN 2020

ADDITIONAL  
\$2989 PP

REF ADE 1724

### CONTACT VSAG FOR MORE INFORMATION

ischoley@iinet.net.au | 0439 310 646 | vsag.org.au

### ALLWAYS DIVE EXPEDITIONS

res@allwaysdive.com.au | 03 95316818 | allwaysdive.com.au

Lic # 32311



# VSAG Dive and Meeting Calendar

## Diving with VSAG:

Each week the nominated Dive Captain will issue an email on or close to the Wednesday advising if there are any boats available and, if known, where the locations.

If you are interested in booking on one of the boats for a dive weekend, you should Email the Dive Captain ASAP after receiving the notification email with the following information:

Full Name;

Mobile Number;

Emergency Contact Information;

Preferred boarding location (if different locations are offered e.g. Sorrento/Queenscliff)

Date/Details of last dive; and

Gear configuration.

Available boat owners will be confirmed by email prior to the weekend.

Dive site(s) and dive day will be determined by the DC in consultation with the Boat Owners, depending on the forecasted conditions.

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

The boat owner and /or one of the divers will prepare and forward a Fathoms Dive Report to: [editor@vsag.org.au](mailto:editor@vsag.org.au)

**You must confirm your intention to dive with the Dive Captain and the boat owner by 6:00pm the day prior to the dive.**

**Failure to confirm your intention to dive may result in the boat owner allocating your spot on the boat to a confirmed diver and placing your spot on the “standby diver list”.**

## Additional Informationd:

**Tidal Stream Information for Port Phillip Bay Heads is location 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**

## Definitions

**TBA – To Be Advised**

**TBC – To Be Confirmed**

See VSAG Dive and Meeting Calendar 01.01.2020 – 31.12.2020. Please note that the calendar is subject to change when circumstances require. – VSAG Committee.

Date	Day	Event	Dive Captain
04-01-20	05-01-20	Sat-Sun	David Geekie
11-01-20	12-01-20	Sat-Sun	Ian Scholey
07-01-20	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	
18-01-20	19-01-20	Sat-Sun	Graham Ellis Walter Medenbach
21-01-20	Tuesday	General Meeting	
25-01-20	26-01-20	Sat-Sun	Andrew McKernan
27-01-20	Monday	Australia Day	
01-02-20	02-02-20	Sat-Sun	David Politakis
08-02-20	09-02-20	Sat-Sun	Carol Penfold Walter Medenbach
11-02-20	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	
15-02-20	16-02-20	Sat-Sun	John Lawler
18-02-20	Tuesday	General Meeting	Hannah Smeeton
22-02-20	23-02-20	Sat-Sun	Carol Penfold
29-02-20	01-03-20	Sat-Sun	Andrew McKernan
07-03-20	08-03-20	Sat-Sun	David Geekie
10-02-20	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	
14-03-20	15-03-20	Sat-Sun	Ian Scholey Peter Galvin
17-03-20	Tuesday	General Meeting	
21-03-20	22-03-20	Sat-Sun	Graham Ellis
28-03-20	29-03-20	Sat-Sun	David Politakis
04-04-20	05-04-20	Sat-Sun	John Lawler
11-04-20	12-04-20	Sat-Sun	Michael Ngai
14-02-20	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	
18-04-20	19-04-20	Sat-Sun	Andrew McKernan
21-04-20	Tuesday	General Meeting	
25-04-20	26-04-20	Sat-Sun	David Geekie Walter Medenbach
02-05-20	03-05-20	Sat-Sun	Ian Scholey
09-05-20	10-05-20	Sat-Sun	Graham Ellis
12-05-20	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	
16-05-20	17-05-19	Sat-Sun	David Politakis
19-05-20	Tuesday	General Meeting	
23-05-20	24-05-20	Sat-Sun	Dive Club Event N/A TBC
30-05-20	31-05-20	Sat-Sun	Hannah Smeeton
06-06-20	07-06-20	Sat-Sun	Michael Ngai
09-06-20	Tuesday	Committee Meeting	
13-06-20	14-06-20	Sat-Sun	Graham Ellis
16-06-20	Tuesday	General Meeting	
20-06-20	21-06-20	Sat-Sun	John Lawler Walter Medenbach

Date	Day	Event	Dive Captain
27-06-20	28-06-19	Sat-Sun	Michael Ngai
04-07-20	05-07-20	Sat-Sun	Ian Scholey
11-07-20	12-07-20	Sat-Sun	Red boats Carol Penfold
14-07-20		Tuesday	Committee Meeting
18-07-20	19-07-20	Sat-Sun	David Politakis
21-07-20		Tuesday	General Meeting
25-07-20	26-07-20	Sat-Sun	Carol Penfold
01-08-20	02-08-20	Sat-Sun	Graham Ellis
08-08-20	09-08-20	Sat-Sun	Red boats Carol Penfold Walter Medenbach
11-08-20		Tuesday	Committee Meeting
15-08-20	16-08-20	Sat-Sun	Michael Ngai
18-08-20		Tuesday	General Meeting Hannah Smeeton
22-08-20	23-08-20	Sat-Sun	Dive Club Event TBC
05-09-20	06-09-20	Sat-Sun	Red boats Ian Scholey Carol Penfold
08-09-20		Tuesday	Committee Meeting
12-09-20	13-09-20	Sat-Sun	Graham Ellis
15-09-20			General Meeting
19-09-20	20-09-20	Sat-Sun	Red boats Carol Penfold Walter Medenbach
26-09-20	27-09-20	Sat-Sun	Michael Ngai
03-10-20	04-10-20	Sat-Sun	David Politakis
10-10-20	11-10-20	Sat-Sun	Carol Penfold
13-10-20			Committee Meeting
17-10-20	18-10-20	Sat-Sun	Ian Scholey
20-10-20			General Meeting
24-10-20	25-10-20	Sat-Sun	Graham Ellis
31-10-20	01-11-20	Sat-Sun	John Lawler
03-11-20			Melbourne Cup
07-11-20	08-11-20	Sat-Sun	David Geekie Carol Penfold
10-11-20			Committee Meeting
14-11-20	15-11-20	Sat-Sun	Hannah Smeeton
17-11-20			General Meeting
21-11-20	22-11-20	Sat-Sun	Dive Club Event N/A TBC
28-11-20	29-11-20	Sat-Sun	David Politakis
05-12-20	06-12-20	Sat-Sun	Ian Scholey
08-12-20			Proposed Christmas Party
12-12-20	13-12-20	Sat-Sun	Graham Ellis
19-12-20	20-12-20	Sat-Sun	Red boats John Lawler Walter Medenbach
26-12-20	30-12-20		TBA

# 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                      Better Boating Victoria

◆ 1 Oxygen Medical Kit                      To find a free boat ramp please  
visit this link:

◆ 2 Scuba Tanks.

<https://betterboating.vic.gov.au/>

# Tidal Streams at the Heads — February 2020

**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	
<b>MON 27</b>	<b>TUE 28</b>	<b>WED 29</b>	<b>THU 30</b>	<b>FRI 31</b>	<b>SAT 1</b>	<b>SUN 2</b>
6:06	0:03	0:42	1:17	1:48	2:19	2:50
12:16	6:40	7:10	7:37	8:02	8:26	8:51
17:10	12:56	13:31	14:04	14:36	15:08	15:41
	17:58	18:42	19:24	20:05	20:47	21:32
<b>MON 3</b>	<b>TUE 4</b>	<b>WED 5</b>	<b>THU 6</b>	<b>FRI 7</b>	<b>SAT 8</b>	<b>SUN 9</b>
3:22	3:55	4:34	0:27	1:44	3:02	4:06
9:17	9:46	10:17	5:22	6:31	8:11	9:45
16:17	16:56	17:41	10:55	11:46	12:58	14:22
22:23	23:20		18:35	19:39	20:48	21:54
<b>MON 10</b>	<b>TUE 11</b>	<b>WED 12</b>	<b>THU 13</b>	<b>FRI 14</b>	<b>SAT 15</b>	<b>SUN 16</b>
4:57	5:39	6:16	0:38	1:24	2:08	2:50
10:50	11:42	12:30	6:51	7:25	7:59	8:34
15:41	16:50	17:52	13:17	14:03	14:49	15:34
22:53	23:48		18:50	19:47	20:44	21:41
<b>MON 17</b>	<b>TUE 18</b>	<b>WED 19</b>	<b>THU 20</b>	<b>FRI 21</b>	<b>SAT 22</b>	<b>SUN 23</b>
3:31	4:13	5:00	0:47	1:58	3:09	4:10
9:11	9:50	10:33	5:57	7:15	8:55	10:15
16:20	17:07	17:58	11:24	12:26	13:42	15:00
22:40	23:41		18:56	20:00	21:08	22:10
February						March
<b>MON 24</b>	<b>TUE 25</b>	<b>WED 26</b>	<b>THU 27</b>	<b>FRI 28</b>	<b>SAT 29</b>	<b>SUN 1</b>
4:59	5:37	6:09	0:26	0:59	1:30	2:01
11:11	11:54	12:31	6:35	7:00	7:23	7:47
16:10	17:06	17:53	13:03	13:33	14:02	14:32
23:02	23:47		18:35	19:13	19:51	20:29

## Tidal Streams at the Heads — March 2020

**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**

February						March
<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 1</i>
<i>4:59</i>	<i>5:37</i>	<i>6:09</i>	<i>0:26</i>	<i>0:59</i>	<i>1:30</i>	<i>2:01</i>
<i>11:11</i>	<i>11:54</i>	<i>12:31</i>	<i>6:35</i>	<i>7:00</i>	<i>7:23</i>	<i>7:47</i>
<i>16:10</i>	<i>17:06</i>	<i>17:53</i>	<i>13:03</i>	<i>13:33</i>	<i>14:02</i>	<i>14:32</i>
<i>23:02</i>	<i>23:47</i>		<i>18:35</i>	<i>19:13</i>	<i>19:51</i>	<i>20:29</i>
<i>MON 2</i>	<i>TUE 3</i>	<i>WED 4</i>	<i>THU 5</i>	<i>FRI 6</i>	<i>SAT 7</i>	<i>SUN 8</i>
<i>2:31</i>	<i>3:01</i>	<i>3:33</i>	<i>4:07</i>	<i>4:49</i>	<i>0:51</i>	<i>2:07</i>
<i>8:12</i>	<i>8:39</i>	<i>9:08</i>	<i>9:39</i>	<i>10:16</i>	<i>5:47</i>	<i>7:18</i>
<i>15:04</i>	<i>15:37</i>	<i>16:14</i>	<i>16:56</i>	<i>17:47</i>	<i>11:09</i>	<i>12:31</i>
<i>21:10</i>	<i>21:55</i>	<i>22:44</i>	<i>23:42</i>		<i>18:52</i>	<i>20:10</i>
<i>MON 9</i>	<i>TUE 10</i>	<i>WED 11</i>	<i>THU 12</i>	<i>FRI 13</i>	<i>SAT 14</i>	<i>SUN 15</i>
<i>3:17</i>	<i>4:11</i>	<i>4:55</i>	<i>5:34</i>	<i>0:24</i>	<i>1:11</i>	<i>1:55</i>
<i>9:02</i>	<i>10:16</i>	<i>11:14</i>	<i>12:05</i>	<i>6:12</i>	<i>6:49</i>	<i>7:26</i>
<i>14:08</i>	<i>15:36</i>	<i>16:50</i>	<i>17:54</i>	<i>12:53</i>	<i>13:40</i>	<i>14:25</i>
<i>21:27</i>	<i>22:35</i>	<i>23:32</i>		<i>18:52</i>	<i>19:46</i>	<i>20:38</i>
<i>MON 16</i>	<i>TUE 17</i>	<i>WED 18</i>	<i>THU 19</i>	<i>FRI 20</i>	<i>SAT 21</i>	<i>SUN 22</i>
<i>2:37</i>	<i>3:17</i>	<i>3:58</i>	<i>4:43</i>	<i>0:11</i>	<i>1:15</i>	<i>2:23</i>
<i>8:05</i>	<i>8:44</i>	<i>9:25</i>	<i>10:11</i>	<i>5:37</i>	<i>6:51</i>	<i>8:27</i>
<i>15:08</i>	<i>15:52</i>	<i>16:36</i>	<i>17:22</i>	<i>11:03</i>	<i>12:08</i>	<i>13:30</i>
<i>21:30</i>	<i>22:21</i>	<i>23:13</i>		<i>18:15</i>	<i>19:20</i>	<i>20:35</i>
<i>MON 23</i>	<i>TUE 24</i>	<i>WED 25</i>	<i>THU 26</i>	<i>FRI 27</i>	<i>SAT 28</i>	<i>SUN 29</i>
<i>3:26</i>	<i>4:16</i>	<i>4:53</i>	<i>5:23</i>	<i>0:05</i>	<i>0:40</i>	<i>1:12</i>
<i>9:46</i>	<i>10:40</i>	<i>11:21</i>	<i>11:55</i>	<i>5:50</i>	<i>6:15</i>	<i>6:40</i>
<i>14:57</i>	<i>16:09</i>	<i>17:03</i>	<i>17:48</i>	<i>12:26</i>	<i>12:56</i>	<i>13:25</i>
<i>21:45</i>	<i>22:41</i>	<i>23:27</i>		<i>18:26</i>	<i>19:02</i>	<i>19:38</i>
March		April				
<i>MON 30</i>	<i>TUE 31</i>	<i>WED 1</i>	<i>THU 2</i>	<i>FRI 3</i>	<i>SAT 4</i>	<i>SUN 5</i>
<i>1:43</i>	<i>2:13</i>	<i>2:44</i>	<i>3:15</i>	<i>3:50</i>	<i>4:32</i>	<i>0:07</i>
<i>7:07</i>	<i>7:36</i>	<i>8:05</i>	<i>8:35</i>	<i>9:10</i>	<i>9:53</i>	<i>4:31</i>
<i>13:56</i>	<i>14:28</i>	<i>15:01</i>	<i>15:38</i>	<i>16:20</i>	<i>17:10</i>	<i>9:59</i>
<i>20:14</i>	<i>20:51</i>	<i>21:32</i>	<i>22:17</i>	<i>23:08</i>		<i>17:14</i>

## Tidal Streams at the Heads — April 2020

**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.

March		April				
<b>MON 30</b>	<b>TUE 31</b>	<b>WED 1</b>	<b>THU 2</b>	<b>FRI 3</b>	<b>SAT 4</b>	<b>SUN 5</b>
<i>1:43</i>	<i>2:13</i>	<i>2:44</i>	<i>3:15</i>	<i>3:50</i>	<i>4:32</i>	<i>0:07</i>
7:07	7:36	8:05	8:35	9:10	9:53	4:31
<i>13:56</i>	<i>14:28</i>	<i>15:01</i>	<i>15:38</i>	<i>16:20</i>	<i>17:10</i>	<i>9:59</i>
20:14	20:51	21:32	22:17	23:08		17:14
<b>MON 6</b>	<b>TUE 7</b>	<b>WED 8</b>	<b>THU 9</b>	<b>FRI 10</b>	<b>SAT 11</b>	<b>SUN 12</b>
0:12	1:17	2:14	3:03	3:47	4:30	5:11
<i>5:57</i>	<i>7:31</i>	<i>8:44</i>	<i>9:44</i>	<i>10:37</i>	<i>11:26</i>	<i>12:12</i>
11:31	13:11	14:40	15:52	16:53	17:47	18:38
<i>18:34</i>	<i>19:59</i>	<i>21:12</i>	<i>22:14</i>	<i>23:06</i>	<i>23:54</i>	
<b>MON 13</b>	<b>TUE 14</b>	<b>WED 15</b>	<b>THU 16</b>	<b>FRI 17</b>	<b>SAT 18</b>	<b>SUN 19</b>
<i>0:38</i>	<i>1:21</i>	<i>2:02</i>	<i>2:44</i>	<i>3:30</i>	<i>4:23</i>	<i>5:33</i>
5:53	6:35	7:19	8:04	8:52	9:47	10:57
<i>12:56</i>	<i>13:39</i>	<i>14:21</i>	<i>15:02</i>	<i>15:44</i>	<i>16:32</i>	<i>17:32</i>
19:25	20:12	20:57	21:43	22:32	23:26	
<b>MON 20</b>	<b>TUE 21</b>	<b>WED 22</b>	<b>THU 23</b>	<b>FRI 24</b>	<b>SAT 25</b>	<b>SUN 26</b>
0:25	1:23	2:13	2:53	3:26	3:57	4:27
<i>6:54</i>	<i>8:04</i>	<i>8:55</i>	<i>9:36</i>	<i>10:11</i>	<i>10:45</i>	<i>11:17</i>
12:24	13:52	15:02	15:54	16:36	17:13	17:48
<i>18:50</i>	<i>20:09</i>	<i>21:11</i>	<i>22:00</i>	<i>22:41</i>	<i>23:18</i>	<i>23:52</i>
April				May		
<b>MON 27</b>	<b>TUE 28</b>	<b>WED 29</b>	<b>THU 30</b>	<b>FRI 1</b>	<b>SAT 2</b>	<b>SUN 3</b>
4:58	<i>0:25</i>	<i>0:57</i>	<i>1:29</i>	<i>2:03</i>	<i>2:41</i>	<i>3:28</i>
<i>11:49</i>	5:29	6:02	6:35	7:12	7:55	8:51
18:23	<i>12:22</i>	<i>12:56</i>	<i>13:32</i>	<i>14:10</i>	<i>14:53</i>	<i>15:42</i>
	18:59	19:36	20:14	20:55	21:39	22:28

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



*Photo by Brian Heatherich.*