
Club Boat Dives
Weekends Away

Social Outings
Wreck Diving

Reef Diving
Boat Diving

Shore Diving
Night Diving



South Pacific Divers Club

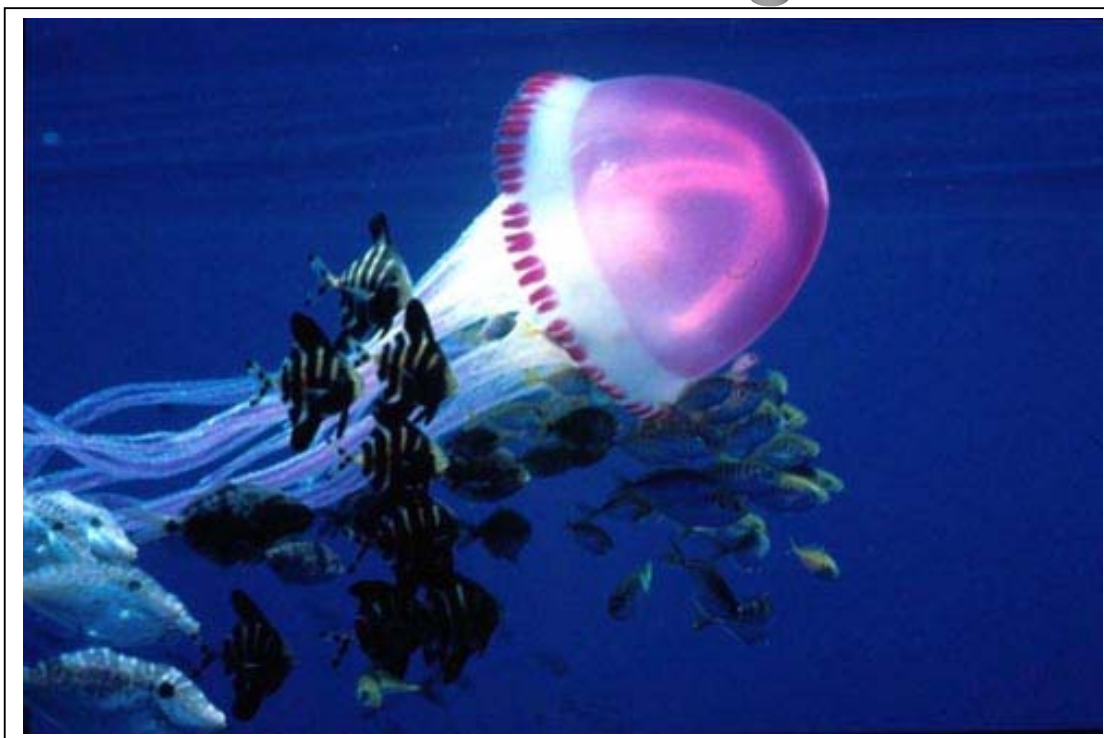
www.southpacificdivers.com



Established 1960

Wet Rag

July 2006 Edition



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The South Pacific Divers Club Newsletter "WETRAG" is published by South Pacific Divers Club. All material submitted to the newsletter should be sent to the Editor, P.O. Box 823 Bankstown, NSW 1885. or geoff@utilize.com.au

President's Report

Well the next meeting is the, as the saying goes, “out with the old and in with the new” team time. SPDC has been around for decades and all going well this is a situation that will remain and move forward for a long time to come.

SPDC started with a history of adventurous soles conducting all sorts of exciting escapades and these were not just limited to the new sport of scuba diving. It then morphed into diving and photography and then, for the officer bearers at least, became a photographic competition club more than any single thing.

This competition became all encompassing with great successes, but alas new technology and to some degree competition burn-out has eroded the where withal for this direction.

The club has suffered much of the ups and downs that all clubs endure from time to time, but hey! It is still here and there are a new team of passionate members striving hard to carry SPDC forward to a new look and hence a serious revitalisation. The aim here is to get the members and all others that have a desire, back to the basics- and this is diving.

With the AGM being held right after our next general meeting, it can only be stressed that it is most important that all financial members participate in the coming elections. If you are not able to be there in person, then use your option of proxy voting. For, full participation at this level of the club's business is the essence to democracy and that is exactly what being a member of such a club as SPDC is. A meeting of people with like minded pursuits amalgamating and jointly providing pleasurable experiences in such pursuits.

The Executive Officers and general office

bearers are not leaders, they are administrators of the business side of the club and these people take their direction from you, the members. They are at all times answerable to you the members as a collective and are there to achieve a satisfactory response for that which the members collectively require.

To enable your new Executive to provide that which they selflessly attempt to administer, needs you, the member, to participate. Both frequently and congenially, for without such participation your office bearers lose the way forward for a collective satisfaction.

We congratulate the old Executive for their tenacity in maintaining the Club's integrity over very trying times and their foresight in bringing the club's dire situation to a head instead of allowing it to just drag on. We congratulate Geoff Cook and now the others helping him to step up and get in up to their elbows and take the initiative to move the club forward and again upwards.

To the members and prospective members, as President, I can only ask, that you all muck in and support the new team soon to be in office by being present at meetings, attending events where possible, but more important than all else, be positive, even in the face of adversity.

One last thing. Politics is not only part of a legal organisation such as SPDC, it is necessary, as that is what democracy is about, 51%. The percentage that passes an issue. If a situation arises that needs addressing, handle it swiftly, concisely and with decorum. In the years I have been involved with SPDC, most of the problems that have occurred have arisen because of either procrastination over issues, or the failure of some to accept the will of the majority and hence discontent. The first step in fixing a problem is to face it, then address it constructively and definitively, thereby getting it out of the way, so the fun continues. The Club has

some serious responsibilities to uphold, but fun is why people join clubs and only the members can achieve this by pleasant participation.

Thank you to all

Duane Langley
Acting President

Secretary's Report

From my position as Secretary, firstly I would like to thank my fellow committee members (including our past President of many years Bernie) for their hard work and belief in the Club as it struggled along over the past few years, coming to a head just recently and the re-gaining of members support - both with old members and of course the new.

I will be stepping down from my position of many years for some new blood and much needed enthusiasm, but will remain among the members sitting on the other side of the room/ desk for a change. At last, a chance to observe from the back of the room!

I feel the coming AGM and new committee thereafter will just be the type of injection that South Pacific Divers Club needs to keep the Club being successful in so many ways. The Club's Constitution has been modified over the years, so the Club's "Bible" is ready to guide the new committee into the future.

I am now looking forward to the Club's bright and successful future - as the light at the end of the tunnel which was dimming, now shines bright.

Susan Tate
Secretary

Dive Organisers Report

G'day folks... The secret is out already that I have fallen into the best position in the whole club as Dive Organiser. Since May I have tried to cater to different levels of Club Diver. The results have been very pleasing with emails going to 170 divers and this has created enthusiasm and a ground swell of participation in Club dives, Private Dives, Mid Week and Weekend Dives are popping up. Clearly it has been fun and generally good diving so far.

Returning to diving in April it was amazing how much dust had gathered on stored dive equipment on some of our divers, mine included. Boats too have been getting a workout. Certainly it was great to see John Fardoulis and Scott Leimroth have both bought new inflatable dive boats in the last month. They say the two happiest days a boat owner experiences is the day he buys a boat and the day he sells it... Well I know that there are a lot of great days in the middle that make it worth while. Diving with the whales off Botany Bay recently proves that point. Other Boat Owners such as myself, Scott Egginton Scott Willan have returned to the club and several other boat owners are heading back our way following the AGM and that should really kick start our winter diving season.

Our Wreck Appreciation Dive Days, they have been a good advertisement for the Club. Attendance of 35 people at our inaugural day was backed up with great support from within the club running boats, bbq's, catering and information.

Paul Stranger, a very capable diver, has also stepped forward to assist by running Shore Dives and Night Dives at some of his favourite spots on a regular basis when his employment allows. John Fardoulis and Scott Leimroth have been happy to support the newer divers in that

transition from the dive shop to the real world.

Looking forward, after the AGM, it would be good to see a number of people fall into the roll of Dive Organisers. Many hands make light work they say. Soon we will be asking people where their favourite dive sites are and what type of diving they want to do. A forward planner will be produced scheduling dives, trips and social functions.

Trips away up and down the coast are being formulated. Overseas Trips too are not that far away. The Scuba Clubs Association of NSW is having a trip away up at Nelson Bay so stay tuned. We have received email supporting the reformation of South Pacific Divers Club inviting us to dive with other clubs on their sites which we will take up as calendars coincide.

My thanks for the support that I have been given so far and for the support that I will call upon in the future to make diving successful, enjoyable and safe with the South Pacific Divers Club.

Geoff Cook



Editors Comment

Just a couple of quotes to dwell on as we approach the AGM.

"Things alter for the worse spontaneously, if they be not altered for the better designedly." *Sir Francis Bacon*

"They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself." *Andy Warhol*

"Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote." *George Jean Nathan*

"Nothing lasts forever." *Anon*

"Everything old is new again" *Peter Allen*

17th July is our AGM so please pay your membership if you haven't already, and get involved. I'll look forward to handing over the job of newsletter editor to one of the 'young guns' in the club.

It's really not that hard to put together and club members are always forthcoming with articles and stories for inclusion. Exciting times are ahead with plenty of enthusiasm amongst the members so make sure you are there on 17th of July to have your say.

See you all in the water.

Scott Leimroth

Welcome to New Members

Ana Sellamuttu
Paul Boyd
Leo Bergagnin
Scott Hansmann
Scott Willan



SPDC WANTS YOU!!!

17th July, 2006
is our AGM

It's important to attend the AGM so be there on the 17th of July to have your say, nominate someone for a position or put your hand up to step into the breach and help the club out. As JFK once said: "Ask not what your club can do for you but

what you can do for your club."...or something like that.

Even more important is the fact that **membership fees are due and must be paid by 30th June**. There is a honeymoon period until the 31st July to continue current membership status but such status is only as an un-financial member and as such, voting rights are not accorded.

Here are the Committee Positions that will be decided upon on the night.

- *PRESIDENT
- *TREASURER
- *SECRETARY
- *PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER
- *SOCIAL SECRETARY
- *DIVE ORGANISER
- *PUBLICITY OFFICER

It's important to note that there may be more than one person occupying each of these positions. In fact the more the merrier so **come along to the AGM and get involved.**



Club Dive 25 June 2006

The location of the Club Dive on the Annie M Miller was shifted to the Wreck of the S S Kelloe off Botany Bay.. Several divers and boat owners scratched in the last three days with the round of flu. As far as I was concerned they could keep their germs well away from me. Myself, Matt Reeves and new member Paul Stranger met at Cooks River Boat Ramp. Cookie, although he was not diving, still turned up at the ramp and gave Paul Stranger a lend of his massive 150 cu foot steel tank and regulator.

Sea Puncher started second go and this was gonna be a good dive. We motored out to the site and the seas were smooth and an off shore breeze blowing. Perfect for the Kelloe, one of my favourite Sydney Dives. We lined up on the marks and picked up in 50 metres of water. Matt geared up and went down the line first only to find the anchor had dislodged and we were out in 360' of sand dive at 52 metres..... To make matters worse when we were ready to move back to the site the battery failed and we had to call for "Thunderbird 2" to tow us back into the bay and get a jump start. Some thing is wrong as it was a brand new battery two weeks before. Oh well... it's been there a long time. It will wait for another dive soon.

As we were waiting to be towed there were several whales on the surface about 50 metres from the boat.

Scott Egginton.

Whale Watching in the Sutherland Shire

Thousands of humpback whales have begun their annual trek along the New South Wales coast with whale watchers hoping to spot record numbers of the giant animals this winter.

Almost 1,000 whales were spotted last year off the coast of Cape Solander in Botany Bay National Park, where the NPWS coordinate an important whale migration study. A team of dedicated community volunteers worked with staff from the NPWS to count 923 humpbacks, seven minkes, four southern right whales, nine pygmy killer whales and 500 dolphins.



On Sunday I watched a pod of 16 or 18 whales heading North about 200 metres from the coast line, passing within 20 metres of anchored boats. Lots of singles and pairs as well. It doesn't take long to spot them. It would seem they are not aware of the exclusion zones between whale and boat...!

Geoff Cook

Two New Boats Join the Fleet



(above) Scott Willan helped christen my new toy – a 4.8m inflatable dive boat.

By John Fardoulis

After much anticipation, our inflatable boats arrived from China. We purchased directly from the factory, meaning quite a few risks. Having to pay upfront was the first risk, what if they weren't shipped? The second thing was getting what was expected, and thirdly quality being up to scratch. Fortunately, everything came off without a hitch, meaning two new boats in the South Pacific Divers Club member fleet.

Inflatables were of interest for a number of reasons. First, they're much lighter than fibreglass or aluminium boats but carry a lot of weight for their size.

This means virtually any car can tow and a much smaller outboard is needed compared to other types of boats of the same length.

Towing them up and down the coast will be easy and launching via smaller, dodgier boat ramps close to dive sites should also be possible.





(above) Here's Scott's boat. It hasn't been diving yet.

Another advantage is they're easy for divers to get in and out of and due to being low to the water.

Scott Leimroth's boat is 14 ft long (4.3m) and can carry 4 divers and mine is 15.5 ft (4.8m)

in length and accommodates 5 divers.

Flexibility is a major advantage, as it's a lot easier to take one of these boats out than some of the larger member boats.

Bigger boats are obviously more comfortable for travelling long distances and carrying extra gear for deep dives, with the inflatables best suited for shallow dives within a couple of kilometres of the coast.

Boeing trailers designed a custom trailer for our boats and we each bought second hand outboards from eBay.

Scott and myself want to take out a lot of the newer members, especially those who are sick of shore dives. I'll be diving on Saturdays and Scott is hoping to be available for mid week outings.

One of the best things about the new boats is they're pretty hassle free to take out even if only a couple of people want to dive. As the number of active club members grows again, we can help provide boat dives for special interests groups such as beginners, photographers – or those involved in a rebreather project that's being talked about.

I've noticed quite a few people have compact digital cameras in housings, maybe we could organise a photography session, with experienced club members as guest speakers. Or perhaps even reach out to past finalists from the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year to offer tutorials.

The Club is Diving the Bombo again on Sunday the 16 July!!

First dive will depart Wollongong about 8am. We can car pool down if necessary.

Breakfast afterwards at a beachfront café

Cost of dive is \$30.00.

Contact Geoff to reserve you spot on the dive or see him at the next club meeting on Monday 19th geoff@utilize.com.au

Club Member Profile: Susan Tate



What's your nickname?

I haven't had a nickname for years. Any version of Sue, Suzie, Susan gets my attention.

How long have you been a club member?

6 or 7 years

What sort of diving do you enjoy most?

It would have to be off a live aboard, like Ocean Trek, where everything is made so easy. No carrying of gear for miles, dive plan of site all ready - just need to jump in and explore, and not to mention the goodies to eat after a 'hard' days diving!

What is the most common misconception that people have about you?

Maybe that I'm quiet!

What kind of music are you into?

My favourites are still the old rock classics from the past. Deep Purple, Bad Company, Richie Blackmore - you get the drift.

Any phobias?

Nothing that I have a real problem with YET!!!

What temptations are you powerless to resist?

Dancing to my favourite music, Mums chocolate chip cookies, trying to get into the sunshine to enjoy it when I'm supposed to be doing something else.

What do you like to do in your spare time when you're not diving?

Spare time there isn't much of; but I like going for a ride on my motorbike, catching up with friends, seeing bands, eating munchies catching up watching video's.

Whats your favourite dive site and why?

In and around Port Stephens - the place seems to have it all. Colour, variety, shore, boat, Island dives etc.

What's your most treasured piece of dive equipment?

My BCD with incorporated weights. No more weight belts for this waist!

What's the most annoying thing someone could do to you on a dive?

A quick buddy - not taking the time to look and explore properly.

If you could go anywhere on the planet to dive where would you go and why?

Diving under the ice on the North Pole.

If you could have a 'celebrity' dive buddy who would you choose?

Keiffer Sutherland

A HISTORY OF SCUBA DIVING

MEN and women have practised breath-hold diving for thousands of years. We know this because scientists found undersea artifacts on land and there are depictions of divers in ancient drawings. This type of diving is still practised today in different variations – free diving and skin diving.

1535 - Guglielmo de Loreno developed what is considered to be a true diving bell.

1650 - Von Guericke developed the first effective air pump.

1667 - Robert Boyle observed a gas bubble in the eye of a diver viper that had been compressed and then decompressed. This was the first recorded observation of decompression sickness or "the bends."



1691 - Edmund Halley patented a diving bell, which was connected by a pipe to weighted barrels of air that could be replenished from the surface.

1715 - John Lethbridge built a 'diving engine', an underwater oak cylinder that was surface-supplied with compressed air. Water was kept out of the suit by means of greased leather cuffs, which sealed round the operator's arms.

1776 - First authenticated attack by military submarine - American Turtle vs. HMS Eagle, in New York harbour.

1823 - Charles Anthony Deane patented a 'smoke helmet' for fire-fighters. This helmet was used for diving, too. It fitted over the head and was held on with weights. Air was supplied from the surface.

1828 - Charles Deane and his brother, John, marketed the helmet with a 'diving suit'. The suit was not attached to the helmet, but secured with straps.

1837 - Augustus Siebe sealed the Deane brothers' diving helmet to a watertight, air-containing rubber suit.

1839 - Siebe's diving suit was used during the salvage of the British warship, HMS Royal George. The improved suit was adopted as the standard diving dress by the Royal Engineers.

1843 - The first diving school was established by the Royal Navy.

1865 - Benoit Rouquayrol and Auguste Denayrouse patented an apparatus for underwater breathing. It consisted of a horizontal steel tank of compressed air on a diver's back, connected to a valve arranged to a mouth-piece. With this apparatus, the diver was tethered to the surface by a hose that pumped fresh air into the low pressure tank, but he was able to disconnect the tether and dive with just the tank on his back for a few minutes.

1876 - Henry A. Fleuss developed the first workable, self-contained diving rig that used compressed oxygen.

1878 - Paul Bert published 'La Pression Barometrique', a book-length work containing his physiologic studies of pressure changes.

1908 - John Scott Haldane, Arthur E. Boycott and Guybon C. Damant, published 'The Prevention of Compressed-Air Illness', a paper on decompression sickness.

1912 - The US Navy tested tables published by Haldane, Boycott and Damant.

1917 - The US Bureau of Construction and Repair introduced the Mark V Diving Helmet. It was used for most salvage work during World War II. The helmet became the standard US Navy Diving equipment.

1924 - First helium-oxygen experimental dives were conducted by US Navy and Bureau of Mines.

1930 - William Beebe descended 1,426 feet in a bathysphere attached to a barge by a steel cable to the mother ship.

1930s - Guy Gilpatric pioneered the use of rubber goggles with glass lenses for skin diving. By the mid-1930s, face masks, fins, and snorkels were in common use. Fins were patented by Louis de Corlieu in 1933 .

1933 - Yves Le Prieur modified the Rouquayrol-Denayrouse invention by combining a demand valve with a high pressure air tank to give the diver complete freedom from hoses and lines.

1934 - William Beebe and Otis Barton descended 3,028 feet in a bathysphere.

1941-1944 - During the second world war, Italian divers used closed circuit scuba equipment to place explosives under British naval and merchant marine ships.

1942-43 - Jacques-Yves Cousteau and Emile Gagnan re-designed a car regulator that would automatically provide compressed air to a diver on his slightest intake of breath. The Aqua Lung was born.

1946 - Cousteau's Aqua Lung was marketed commercially in France. (Great Britain 1950, Canada 1951, USA 1952).

1947 - Dumas made a record dive with the Aqua Lung to 307 feet in the Mediterranean Sea.

1950s - August Picard with son, Jacques, pioneered a new type of vessel called the bathyscaphe. It was completely self-contained and designed to go deeper than any bathysphere.

1954 - Georges S. Houot and Pierre-Henri Willm used a bathyscaphe to exceed Barton's 1948 diving record, reaching a depth of 13,287 feet.

1959 - YMCA began the first nationally organised course for scuba certification.

1960 - Jacques Picard and Don Walsh descended to 35,820 feet in the bathyscaphe Trieste.

1968 - John J. Gruener and R. Neal Watson dived to 437 feet breathing compressed air.

1970s - Important advances relating to scuba safety that began in the 1960s became widely implemented in the 1970s, such as certification cards to indicate a minimum level of training, change from J-valve reserve systems to non-reserve K valves, and adoption of the BC and single hose regulators as essential pieces of diving equipment.

1980 - Divers Alert Network was founded at Duke University as a non-profit organisation to promote safe diving.

1981 - Record 2,250 foot-dive was made in a Duke Medical Centre chamber.

1990s - An estimated 500,000 new scuba divers are certified yearly in the US, new scuba magazines form and scuba travel is big business. There is an increase of diving by non-professionals who use advanced technology, including mixed gases, full face masks, underwater voice communication, propulsion systems, and so on.

July 2003 - Tanya Streeter, a world champion free diver, broke both the men's and women's variable ballast world records. She descended 400 feet (122 metres) to capture the variable ballast record and become the first person to ever break all four deep free diving world records.

Boat Owners & Dive Leaders

Boat Owners

Geoff Cook

Email: geoff@utilize.com.au

Contact Number: 0404 554 554

Located: Barden Ridge

Boat Type: Shark Cat: 4 deep 5 shallow

Favourite Type of Diving: Wrecks

John Fardoulis

Email: john@mobility.com.au

Contact Number: 0400 888 888

Located: Lilyfield

Boat Type: Inflatable: 4 Shallow, 3 Deep

Favourite Type of Diving: Helping novices

Scott Leimroth

Email: scott@dpchip.com.au

Contact Number: 0413 71 71 70

Located: Cronulla

Boat Type: Inflatable: 3 Shallow, 3 Deep

Favourite Diving: Wrecks, helping novices

Scott Egginton

Email: pennynscott@optusnet.com.au

Contact Number: (m) 0403 336 133 (h) 9730 1882

Located: Milperra

Boat Type: 5 metre: 4 divers shallow 3 deep

Favourite Type of Diving: Wrecks and Deep

Martin Kandilas

Email: martin@mdk.au.com

Contact Number:

Located: Dolans Bay

Boat Type: 5.5metre: 5 shallow, 4 deep

Favourite Type of Diving: Wrecks

Scott Willan

Email: swillan@thomascoffey.com.au

Contact Number: 9543 7095

Located: Cronulla

Boat Type: Luxury Yacht ;)

Favourite Type of Diving: Wrecks

Dive Leaders

All boat owners are also Dive Leaders. In addition, the following are also Shore Dive Coordinators and Dive Leaders.

Primary Shore Dive Coordinator

Paul Stranger

Email: paulstranger@hotmail.com

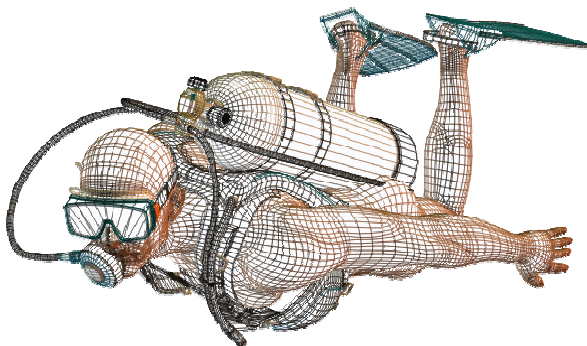
Contact Number: (M) 0432 860 501

Located: Newtown

Favourite Type of Diving: Night dives, Shore Dives

More Dive Leader Volunteers Wanted

Email geoff@utilize.com.au to be added to the list.





THE BIG BLUE, AND SOME WHITE SPOTS TOO!

A Ningaloo Whale shark Adventure.

By Kylie Suttor and Brett Seriani.

Whenever you hear anyone talk about heading West for a dive adventure, the first thing everyone asks is “what is it like diving with whale sharks?”. I can’t really answer this question as it is illegal to dive with them using scuba, and as we discovered when doing the whale shark adventure, pretty pointless to use a tank. The speed at which these peaceful giants swim with little or no effort at all took us all of our might snorkelling along the surface wearing large fins just to keep up.

The whale shark trip is a day long experience that costs between \$300 - \$375 per person, but is absolutely worth it!

The day starts with the spotter plane searching for the elusive spotted beasts as you have a morning dive at one of the many inner reef sites. As soon as the spotter finds the shark it’s all systems go and the boat heads full-steam towards the sharks projected route.

All passengers are told to don their fins and snorkel and form an SAS-style line-up at the back of the boat. It’s very exciting and rather fun. The skipper then angles the boat to be about 100m ahead of

the shark and then the shout of “go, go, go” signals an avalanche of snorkellers off the back of the boat.

Due to Australian wildlife and conservation law, no one is allowed within 4m of the whale shark, so we formed two rows to the left and right of where the whale shark is most likely to pass. Imagine our surprise when the mighty animal appeared about 10m to the right of where it was thought to surface and we were right in it’s path only 2m from it’s large open mouth. (as we all know, whale sharks only eat plankton and other microscopic fish through their many rows of tiny teeth.)



We were able to have 4 separate snorkels with the whale sharks and got some great footage of it on the digital camera. A mind-blowing experience no diver should miss!

BEST SITES TO DIVE

Navy Pier. Max 12m pier/wreckage. A dugong and her pup surfaced just before we did the 2m leap into the water at the Navy Pier. The fish life beneath the pier lived up to the hype, massive schools of jacks, puffer fish, moray eels, angel fish and other tropical fish. You should definitely make sure you head out onto the sand from the South end of the pier to see basking white tip reef sharks and strewn wreckage hiding all kinds of surprises including bashful octopus and colourful nudibranchs.



Blizzard Ridge. Max 12m wall. Aptly named, not because of snow storms, but the swirling maelstrom of fish life. Sea snakes, turtles, massive Queensland Gropers, potato cod and other pelagic fish.

Gullivers. Max 14m reef. A figure 8 shaped reef with plenty of hard and soft corals. This was the best dive of the trip, we finally got to see dolphins swimming beneath the surface. There were about 50 lion's mane jellyfish floating through the crystal-clear water. An ethereal sight indeed.



Central Station. 11m reef. Located on the inner reef. It has over 130 species of coral. Plenty of parrot fish, and the usual tropical suspects. Make sure your underwater camera to video as you may encounter some very curious and quite massive bull rays.

Mandu Wall. 20m wall. Just like swimming through a tropical fish tank. Plenty of hard and soft corals. Vast tracts of anemone, littered with clown anemone fish. Nudibranchs aplenty, parrotfish, banner fish, butterfly fish and massive schools of jacks. Small manta ray swam through heading to nearby cleaning station.

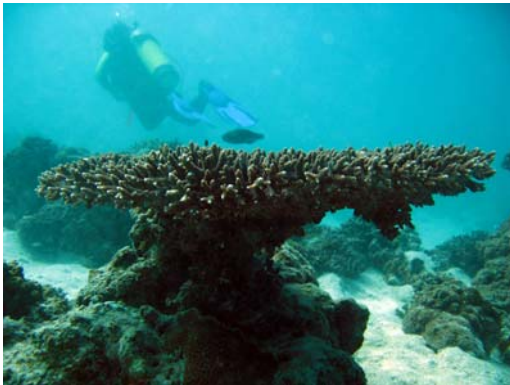
Milyering Wall. 25m wall. It was a much deeper dive than anticipated. The site is on the outer reef and is prone to very big surge. There were massive schools of baitfish. Make sure you look into the nooks and crannies on the site as many an octopus, moray and cleaner shrimp lurks in the shadows.



Beverly Hills. 22m bommies. We found a massive loggerhead turtle hanging out with a white tip reef shark. Fish life - the usual suspects, plus a spotted moray eel and a huge school of butterfly fish.

Nick's Lumps. 15m bommies. Massive 2m Queensland groper. Keep an eye on your fins, bronze whalers are known to be in this area. We caught a glimpse of one in the far distance, and that was definitely close enough for us.

Leopards Lair. 13m swim through gully. Dive crew were feeling a bit adventurous and decided to drop anchor at an unknown location. Luckily for us, it had several swim-throughs, large gulleys and a cleaning station where a 4m bull ray was getting the deluxe wash and wax. Keep an eye out for a pair of leopard sharks, the namesake of the site.



WHO TO DIVE WITH

There are 3 or 4 dive shops in Exmouth, but we found the Exmouth Dive Centre to be the most helpful. We were able to book our entire trip through them from Sydney and they have another shop in Coral Bay, so they can organise Manta Ray dives there as well as part of your dive itinerary. Both Exmouth Dive and Coral Bay Dive were very professional shops, well organised dive days and friendly staff. The owners must have watched Open Water a few too many times – the staff did roll call no less than 10 times a day! Check out their website at <http://www.exmouthdiving.com.au>

WHERE TO STAY:

Pot Shot Resort. We stayed in a self-contained 2 bedroom apartment in the older part of the Resort. There is a backpacker section as well, plus the new and more upmarket Osprey Apartments (part of the Pot Shot Resort, but located across the road). The Osprey should be your first choice should you have the cash required. Our 2 bedroom unit with bbq and self-catering facilities was \$210 a night for three people.

WHERE TO EAT

The Pot Shot staff are very helpful and friendly and can arrange a home delivered pizza to your door should you require it, a very tasty option indeed. If you feel like having a beer and something a bit more substantial, there are several pubs located within walking distance of the Resort. The pool bar at the Pot Shot also has an excellent selection of meal options and on weekends live 'local' music. There is a large supermarket in the centre of town where you can get supplies if you want to self-cater, which is a lucky thing as there are only about 4 or 5 places to eat out, mainly pub food.

HOW TO GET THERE

Flights – Qantas, Virgin, and a variety of Asian based airlines fly to Perth, but the only option to fly from Perth to Exmouth is SkyWest, a small regional airline.

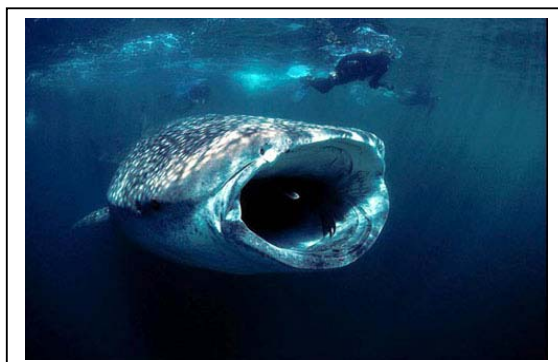
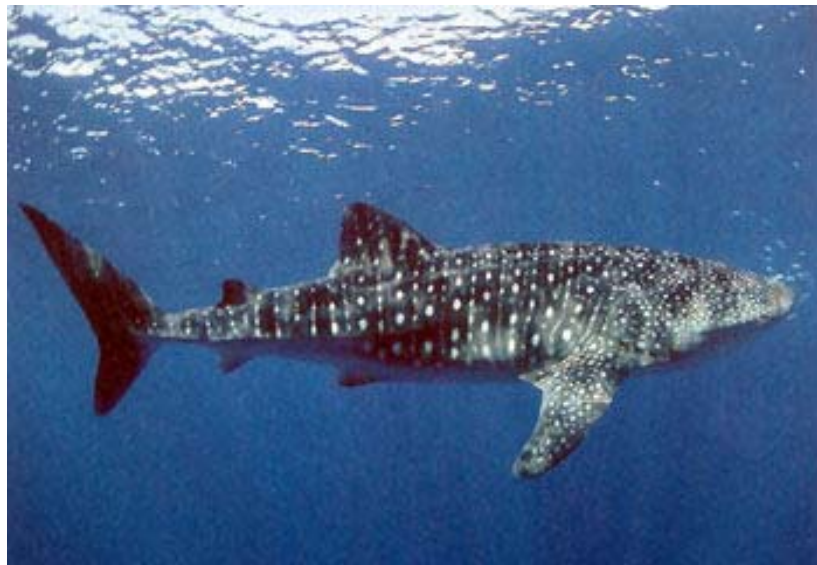


BEST TIME TO GO

Whale shark season is from March to August each year and is closely followed by migrating humpback whales in August.

Overall, Ningaloo Reef is deservedly one of the most praised and coveted dive locations in the world. The reef is as diverse and colourful as the Great Barrier

Reef, with the added bonus of whale sharks, manta rays and migrating humpback whales to push it into a realm of it's own. It's not as developed and sophisticated as some of the East Coast reef operations, but it has the natural, unspoilt beauty that you should go to great lengths to experience before it disappears.





Club Diving and Events Calendar

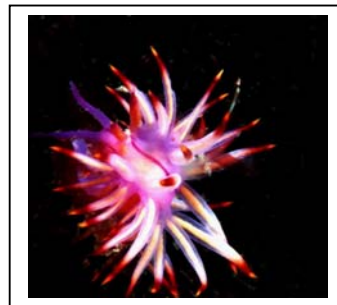
Sunday 16th July Bombo

**Don't Forget!!! 17th July, 2006
is our AGM**

6st August – Birchgrove Park Anniversary Dive

**13th August – Port Hacking
Chicken & Champagne Dive**

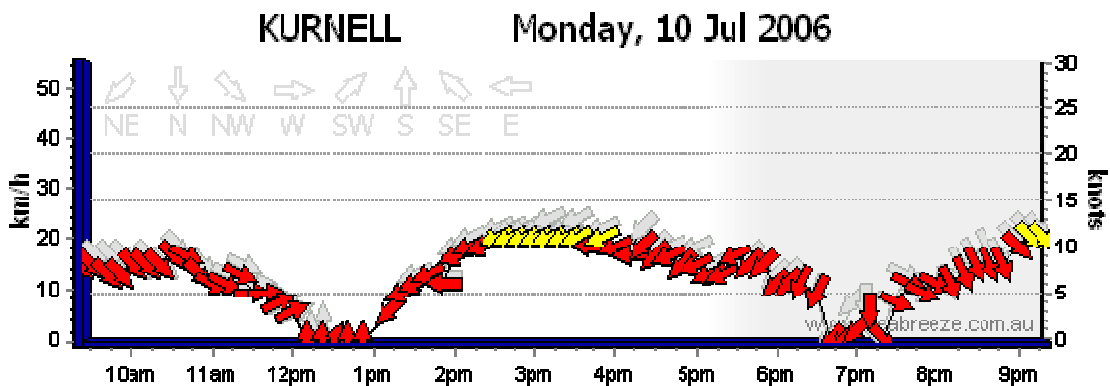
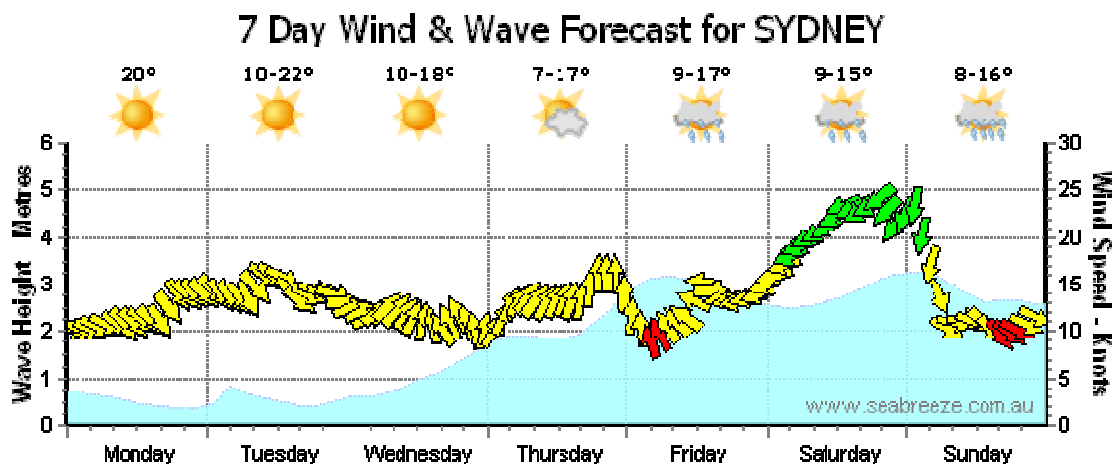
Contact Geoff to reserve you spot on a dive or see him at the next club meeting on
Monday 17th July geoff@utilize.com.au



Website Review

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

seabreeze.com.au is a website with all sorts of graphs, information and forecasts for wind and weather for coastal areas throughout Australia. A great resource for divers and anyone else who uses the water, you can see from the samples below the sort of information available including wind direction and speed. Everything from tides, the phases of the moon, sunrise and sunset times as well as rain radar, sea temperature, satellite images, alerts, maps, wave height and live webcams are available at the click of a mouse.



Buy, Swap, Sell

If you have any equipment or dive gear you'd like to get rid of well this is the place. We'll be running a regular Buy, Swap, Sell section in the Wet Rag. Just contact the editor to have your stuff included.

Glen Percy has the following gear available. Most in Brand New condition and at great prices. Contact Glen on 47352012 or essentialsolar@bigpond.com for more information. If you contact him before the club meeting he can arrange to bring the gear there for you to look at.

Citizen Eco Drive Aqualand New (Done 1 dive) cost \$560 wholesale \$450

Suunto Spyder (Gold) brand new condition. Just had battery change \$450

Apollo Dry Suit (I think you tried that one on ?) size 5 big feet (11) as new \$950

Sherwood Avid BCD XL brand new with accessory kit (Knife, torch and retractable lanyards \$300 worth) \$900
(Note needs one weight pocket)

Mares HUB integrated bcd, reg and occy \$1100. (less than the price of the reg alone)

Also if there's any skiers out there.....

Blizzard Freecarves new ski with Tyrolia ex rental binding (fits most boots) 1 x 170, 1x 190 \$250

Kneissel Ergo Carvers new also with Tyrolia ex rental binding 2 x 180's (beautiful skis to ski on!) \$250

18 pair ski boots Nordica, Dynafit, Head and Tyrolia (mostly sizes 25.5, 26.5, 27.5, 28.5) all new \$50 pair some of these boots sell for \$450+ - I just want them gone!!!!!!



65cf Alloy Tank

In test for another 10 months. Compact size and relatively light weight great for shore dives or good allrounder.

Asking Price: \$120

Condition: Fair

Advertiser: John Fardoulis

Located: Lilyfield

Contact Details: john@unitedpress.com.au



Neptune Semi Dry Suit

Size about 5 extra tall. Bargain if it fits you, need to be around 6'3 but only about 85kg. A must to try on if this sounds like you. Originally cost \$1000 custom made, bought it off eBay but doesn't fit. Extra pocket fitted, excellent condition.

Asking Price: \$165

Condition: Excellent

Advertiser: John Fardoulis

Located: Lilyfield

Contact Details: john@unitedpress.com.au



SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB

P.O. BOX 823 BANKSTOWN 2200

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I wish to apply for membership for one (1) year tick.

NAME:.....
.....

ADDRESS:.....
.....

..... Post
Code.....

TELEPHONE:

Work:.....Home:.....Mobile:.....

E-Mail

Address:.....
.....

Diving Certification:..... Certification
Number:.....

Are You a Boat Owner:..... Type of
Boat:.....

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP FEES: Single \$50.00 Family \$75.00

Please Note that Membership for 2006-07 has been increased to cover Insurances

DIVING MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

I/We..... hereby apply to join South Pacific Divers Club Inc. I/We understand the Club is non-profit, non-affiliated with any training organisation and is for certified divers. South Pacific Divers Club Inc does not offer instruction, advice or supervise its members' divers. It is a condition of Club membership that members exercise their own judgement in accordance with their training in deciding whether and/or how to participate in any particular dive, the technique used, or choice of equipment and that any clarification in regard to these matters should be referred to a qualified instructor or my/our certifying agency.

I/We have read the above conditions and accept same as a condition of membership.

SIGNED.....

DATE.....