

SDF News Sheet, August 2007

This news sheet is provided as a service to members of the
SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF SA

Working to develop the sport of Scuba diving in SA

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If you don't have the time to read through everything in this news sheet, take advantage of the following table of contents (which contains **most** of the headings). Click on any item of interest to proceed straight to that section.

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NEXT MEETING

We will be holding our next meeting at 8pm on Tuesday 11th September at the Marden Senior College on Marden Road, Marden. Please ensure that your club's appointed delegate, or a proxy, attends the meeting.

SA SCUBA DIVERS REUNION

The 2nd SA scuba divers reunion is being held from 12-5pm on Sunday 7th October at West Beach. The reunion is for scuba divers from the 50s to the 70s. Those divers wishing to attend should advise Allen Phillips on 8356 8594. You are required to bring a plate of food to share for lunch on the day. Further details will be advised as they become available.

CLUB NEWS

SEA WOLVES BARN DANCE

The Sea Wolves Scuba Diving Club is holding a Barn Dance night on Saturday 1st September at "The Hill" Recreation Reserve, Candy Road, O'Halloran Hill from 7pm until Midnight. There will be a professional dance caller. Form a group, dress in Country & Western theme and bring a basket supper. There is a licensed bar (so no BYOG). Cost is only \$15 (children under 15 free!). It will be a good family night out and a great chance for you to meet the Sea Wolves club. Call Kevin Newton on 0416 221 001 to arrange your tickets. (Check out the Sea Wolves' website at <http://www.seawolves.org.au/> .)

SHOP NEWS

Underwater Sports Diving Centre recently reported that the mooring buoy for the *Zanoni* had disappeared. This meant that dives planned for the site had to be cancelled recently (since permits to dive there could not be obtained).

Divers Delight were delighted to announce that the major renovations being done at their premises were (almost?) complete. Completion of the renovations will free staff up to concentrate more on diving activities.

APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR MARITIME HERITAGE OFFICER

Both Underwater Sports and Divers Delight were keen to report that Jason Raupp is the newly appointed Senior Maritime Heritage Officer for Heritage SA, the replacement for the late Terry Arnott*. Although we haven't been able to confirm this as yet, we understand that Jason's position is only part-time and it is not permanent. Jason was the SA Tutor at the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology.

* You can read all about Terry Arnott in the March issue of the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology newsletter at <http://www.aima.iinet.net.au/publications/newsletters/docs/NLv26n1y07.pdf> . There are details such as how Terry's ashes were scattered over the wreck of the SS *City of Launceston* in a ceremony that took place on 10th March 2007 (the anniversary of when the Victorian Historic Shipwrecks Act received Royal Assent in Parliament in 1981). We understand that a memorial plaque for Terry will soon be placed at Troubridge Hill on Yorke Peninsula.

SHIPWRECK ATLAS

It is now possible to search for all of South Australia's shipwrecks on the website at <http://www.atlas.sa.gov.au>. To do this, download the website, then: -

Select a region on the Home Page

Select 'Land Management'

Select 'Coastal Management' map topic area

Select the 'Shipwrecks' layer on the left hand side of the screen by ensuring both options are selected i.e. both tick and circle

Around 800 shipwrecks (along our coast and in the River Murray) can be located by zooming in to the map. To find information about a particular shipwreck, select 'i' (identify) button on the toolbar, then click on the shipwreck symbol on the map. A pop-up window with details will appear. (If you have any 'pop-up blocker' tools installed, you will need to either disable them or set them to allow content from www.atlas.sa.gov.au in order to use sections of this site. Some of the user interface features in the mapping interface make extensive use of JavaScript. To use these features, JavaScript must be enabled in your web browser.)

CLEANING OF BOATS & DIVE GEAR

Following the introduction of further water restrictions in SA for winter, SA Water have confirmed that it is quite OK for SA divers to continue hosing down their dive gear following a dive in the sea. All washing of boats, however, must be done via buckets of water only (just like your car) unless you use a carwash. You're still allowed to flush the outboard motor out with a hose.

NEW EPIRBs REQUIRED

From 1st February 2009, only 406MHz EPIRBs will be detected by the COSPAS/SARSAT Satellite Aided Search and Rescue System. From 1st July 2008, the law will require the carriage of a 406 MHz beacon only. Boaties are encouraged to replace their old 121.5 MHz EPIRBs with the new 406 MHz beacon at the time of their next battery change over. There will be high demand for the new 406 MHz beacon leading up to 1st July 2008. These new EPIRBs are said to be faster, smarter & safer than the old beacons. The 'old' analogue signal takes 1.5hrs to get a confirmed detection within a 20km radius whereas a 'new' digital signal can be pinpointed within minutes inside a 5km radius. Register your new 406 MHz beacon at the time of purchase to allow for your beacon to "identify" its owner when it is activated. We understand that you will need to deactivate your old beacon. You may be able to recycle its battery, although these can not be entirely removed from unit. Do not throw the old beacon away. A hand-held Personal Locator Beacon is available for use by divers. It features a built-in Global Positional System receiver combined with a 406 MHz transmitter and 121.5 MHz homing signal. An optional custom designed dive canister is available for use with the unit, which allows it to be taken to a depth of 150m and be ready to use (should the need arise) when you surface. Visit both http://www.painswessex.com.au/Marine/Marine_Frame.htm and http://www.painswessex.com.au/Marine/Fastfind_PlusPLB.htm for more details. Contact the beacon hotline on 1800 406 406 or visit <http://www.beacons.amsa.gov.au/> if you have any queries regarding this matter.

STATE WATER SAFETY PLAN SURVEY

Our Federation was recently asked by the Office for Recreation and Sport (and SARFAC) to complete a survey regarding a State Water Safety Plan. Copies of the survey were also given to delegates of member clubs at our August meeting. The completed survey forms need to be

returned to ORS by 12th September. Please forward them to Mr Chris Maschotta, ORS, PO Box 219, Brooklyn Park SA 5032.

EIGHT MILE CREEK & EWENS PONDS UPDATE

We heard at our August meeting that the bottom of Eight Mile Creek was recently levelled in preparation for dredging. The three ponds at Ewens Ponds are said to be in a bad state with lots of black algal growth in them, particularly the first two ponds. The third pond seems to be starting to recover slightly.

RAPID BAY JETTY UPDATE

Trial piling for the new Rapid Bay jetty is expected to begin in October in readiness for the start of construction in November. Construction could, however, take some 12 months to complete.

SEADRAGON FOUNDATION

The Seadragon Foundation is recruiting new members. There are two types of membership, but becoming a Full Member gives you more rights, including voting rights. Further details, including membership forms, are available at www.seadragonfoundation.org . Call the hotline on 1800 130 952 or visit www.sawater.com.au .

PROTECTION OF BLUE GROPER AND HARLEQUIN FISH A PRIORITY

Groups such as the Marine Life Society of SA and the Seadragon Foundation are lobbying to have both the Western Blue Groper (*Achoerodus gouldii*) and the Harlequin Fish (*Othos dentax*) fully protected in SA waters. Large resident fish such a blue groper and harlequin fish have been shown to be important in reef ecosystems. These two fish also provide improved potential for conservation, diving and ecotourism. Please email any comments on this matter to the Marine Life Society at marinelifesa@chariot.net.au or the Seadragon Foundation at sabluegroper@gmail.com.

STATUS OF AUSTRALIA'S MARINE INVERTEBRATES

In 1999, a contract was awarded to Winston Ponder and Pat Hutchings of the Australian Museum by the then Environment Australia (now Department of Environment and Heritage) to review the status of Australia's marine invertebrates. This report, which was finalised in 2002, is available on the Australian Museum website at <http://www.amonline.net.au/invertebrates/pdf/marineoverview.dpf> . In the report Winston Ponder and Pat Hutchings attempted to summarise what is known, and what is not known, about the marine invertebrates, by major groups, in Australian waters which extend from the tropics to the subantarctic islands.

Source: <http://www.mba.ac.uk/PDF/mbaglobal%20news.pdf>

RECREATIONAL FISHING SURVEY

About 7500 recreational anglers in South Australia (including divers) will be surveyed to get a better understanding of fish stocks. SA Fisheries want information on fishing activity and catch rates, particularly for managed species in metropolitan waters. The survey will involve phone interviews and about 1000 diaries have been handed out for later collection. There are almost 330,000 recreational anglers in SA. The state's managed fish stocks include King George Whiting, snapper, garfish, southern calamari, rock lobster, abalone, blue crabs, mulloway, Murray cod, golden perch and Goolwa cockles.

Source: <http://www.independentweekly.com.au/displayIndaily.php?indaily=10647>
http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries/recreational_fishing/recreational_fish_survey

“SOUTHERN FISHERIES” MAGAZINE IS BEING REPLACED

The forthcoming Spring 2007 issue of “Southern Fisheries” magazine will be the last one published. “Southern Fisheries” was published quarterly by PIRSA Fisheries. It is being replaced entirely by (the already established) “FishFacts”. “FishFacts” is a free, regular (electronic) round-up of SA Fisheries issues. You can arrange to receive your own free copy of “FishFacts” direct from PIRSA by visiting www.pir.sa.gov.au/fishfacts to register.

NEW PIRSA WEBSITE

The PIRSA website was recently upgraded and some things have now changed. There is lots of new stuff to view and some of the ‘old stuff’ has now disappeared. You won’t find, for example, any mention of the “Southern Fisheries” magazine any more due to its being discontinued soon. Visit www.pir.sa.gov.au for more details.

NEED FOR GOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Adventure activities such as scuba diving need good risk management strategies. Do you remember the Westminster School kayaking trip at Victor Harbor which went horribly wrong in July? Fifteen Year 12 students and staff from the school had been circumnavigating Granite Island in kayaks when the weather changed, resulting in a full-scale sea rescue operation. An independent review of the incident, by NSW expert kayaker Ian Dewey, has found that preparations were below standard. The review report found that, although a severe weather warning was issued after the group was on the water, the expedition knew that winds were forecast to reach 30 knots. The report also revealed that there was no formalised risk management process and the students did not have the skills to handle the deteriorating conditions. Dewey found that planning, risk and emergency management and communications systems were below the standards of the Education Department and Australian Canoeing. Bradley Fenner, the Westminster School principal, said no action would be taken against school staff. “Our consideration of the independent report led us to the conclusion that disciplinary action is not required,” he said. “Staff acted correctly in the emergency by focusing on the safety of students. We will be implementing all recommendations and working to improve our procedures to ensure that nothing like this happens again. The school prides itself on student care and safety so this is an obvious concern for us, particularly as our outdoor education program has been widely recognised among the best in the country,” he said.

Source: <http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,22203838-5006301,00.html>

NEW FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 2007

The new Fisheries Management Act comes in to force on 1st September 2007. It replaces the Fisheries Act 1982. The new Act includes new offences and heavier penalties. It gives Fisheries Officers powers to search a person suspected of hiding evidence of an offence. It provides for a more ecosystem-based approach to managing fisheries, with conservation objectives, risk-based assessments of potential impacts on the ecosystem and tools to protect fish habitats. It provides for specific possession limits of fish species, above which a person will have committed an offence. It also establishes a new Fisheries Council to advise the Minister on fisheries issues. A co-management approach will continue under this new Act with the establishment of the new Fisheries Council to provide advice to the Minister on the management of fisheries, whether for commercial use, recreational use or for Aboriginal traditional fishing purposes. The Fisheries Council replaces the previous Fishery Management Committees. It is expertise-based and it consists of nine members appointed by the Governor, plus the Director of Fisheries as an ex-officio member. The nine members are from commercial, recreational and indigenous fishing areas. The Council has a broad advisory role and key responsibility for the preparation and

maintenance of fishery management plans. These management plans will extend the period and tenure of commercial fishing licences from the current one-year period to periods of up to 10 years, providing an improved investment climate for the commercial fishing industry.

TRAILS NEWS

Congratulations to Judy Hani, our Vice-President. She has successfully represented us on the SA Trails Coordinating Committee for five years now. (The trails committee is operated through the Office of Recreation & Sport.) Many thanks for your efforts Judy.

At our July meeting, Judy handed us a set of five SA tourism booklets. These are part of a new series under the "SA – A brilliant blend" banner. They cover SA's coastal regional areas i.e. Fleurieu Peninsula, Eyre Peninsula, Limestone Coast, Kangaroo Island and Yorke Peninsula. These will go in to our library. We have now added a sixth booklet to the collection. It is one for Victor Harbor. Each of these six regional areas has their own websites, which are as follows: -

Fleurieu Peninsula – www.fleurieupeninsula.com.au

Eyre Peninsula – www.tep.com.au

Limestone Coast – www.thelimestonecoast.com

Kangaroo Island – www.tourkangarooisland.com.au

Yorke Peninsula – www.yorkepeninsula.com.au

Victor Harbor – www.tourismvictorharbor.com.au

These booklets and websites include attractions of interest to scuba divers so check them out. For further details, visit www.southaustralia.com.

ANNIVERSARIES

This year marked the 100th anniversary of the paddle steamer PS *Ruby*. The *Ruby* was built in SA at Morgan and launched there in 1907. She is now preserved on dry land at Wentworth in NSW. Her centenary was celebrated in early July 2007.

20th August is the 150th anniversary of the *Dunbar* disaster. The *Dunbar* sank south of Sydney Heads on 20th August 1857.

Work on SA's first reservoir started that same year. The building of Thorndon Park reservoir started in 1857. It went on to become a training site for cave divers. The area is now a beautiful recreational reserve.

29th August 2007 is the 150th anniversary of the commencement of the building of Glenelg's first jetty in 1857. An article titled "The Masonic Ceremonials For The Commencement Of The Construction Of The First Glenelg Jetty In 1857" is being published in the September 2007 issue of the MLSSA Newsletter.

27th July was the 171st anniversary of the arrival of the first fleet of European settlers to SA on 27th July 1836. Eight ships led by the *Duke of York*, landed at Reeves Point on Kangaroo Island (near Kingscote).

13th August was the 215th anniversary of Queen Adelaide's birthday. Adelaide was born Princess Adelheide Luise Therese Caroline Amelia on 13th August 1792. She was the eldest daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Meiningen. Princess Adelheide was also known as Amelia Adelaide and became Queen Adelaide when her husband became King. 18th August was the 189th anniversary of the day that she married Prince William, the Duke of Clarence, on 18th August 1818. Prince William was the third son of George III. He went on to become King William IV in 1830. It was his idea to name the capital of SA after his wife.

DUNBAR'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION

20th August 2007 is the 150th anniversary of the wreck of the *Dunbar*. The 1321-ton sailing ship hit the rocks at the Gap on South Head, NSW at midnight. The NSW Police Rescue Squad has expressed support for a proposal to re-enact the recovery of sole survivor James Johnson from

the cliff top. Possible other events could include a Heritage Office diving survey of the wreck and visitation by a historic vessel from the Sydney Heritage Fleet. The Australian National Maritime Museum will put additional *Dunbar* relics from their collection on display in the Age of Sail gallery. The museum will also hold several seminars and also undertake a dive at the wreck to obtain quality digital footage.

PAST SPLASH PARTIES

The few 'Splash Parties' held by the SDF, some nine years or more ago, were all held about this time of year. Our very first one was held on 29th October 1994. It was called a "Fund Raising Ball" and it was in aid of the Divers Emergency Service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The ball was held at the Airport Club in Sir James Scholfield Drive at the Adelaide Airport. A 60/40 band called "Flashback" provided the music for the evening. Another 'fundraising ball' was held on 15th July 1995. This second ball, which had a masquerade theme, was called "The 1995 SDF Ball". "Flashback" provided the music for the evening once more. The funds raised from this ball were to be used for the production of a dive management system. Plastic diving emergency cards were produced as a result of the money raised. This was our first attempt at producing some DES cards. They featured telephone numbers for the Divers Emergency Service and steps to take in the event of a diving emergency. Another event was held at the Airport Club at the Adelaide Airport on 3rd August 1996. It was called either an 'SDF Ball' or an 'SDF Splash party'. \$1500 was raised through the event. On 20th September 1997 we held another 'Splash party' at the Palais at Semaphore. A band called "Big Squid" provided the music for the evening. On 12th September 1998 the DIASA/SDFSA Ultimate "Splash" Party was held at St Paul's. All proceeds raised at the party were to go towards the new Sink-A-Wreck fund jointly administered by the SDFSA and DIASA. "The Flaming Zambuccas" provided entertainment for the evening.

GRANTS UPDATE

Grants for sports & recreation facilities are currently being made through the Office for Recreation & Sport. They are inviting applications from clubs for funding through the 2007-8 Community recreation & Sport Facilities Program. The program aims to ensure the provision of sustainable sport and active recreation facilities that meet community needs. Applications close on 20th August 2007. Guidelines and application packs are available from the ORS website at www.recsport.sa.gov.au. Phone the Grants Unit on 8416 6708 for more information, or send an email message to ors.grants@saugov.sa.gov.au.

The Volunteer Support Fund provides small, one-off grants to assist volunteers in Community organisations. Grants will be made available to not-for-profit community organisations to a maximum of \$3000 to help provide support for volunteer workers and programs. Only incorporated community-based, not-for-profit organisations are eligible to apply. Applications close 2nd October 2007. To apply visit www.ofv.sa.gov.au or phone 8463 4490 or email to ofv@saugov.sa.gov.au.

2008 CALENDARS OF SA MARINE LIFE

The Marine Life Society's 2008 SA marine life calendars are still priced at \$10 each. They will be available at monthly meetings of the SDF. Enquiries may be made through our Secretary at sdfsa@adam.com.au.

REEF WATCH NEWS

AWARD FOR REEF WATCH

Congratulations to Reef Watch which has won 'The Unsung Hero of South Australian Science' award. The award was presented at the launch of National Science Week 2007. Reef Watch was

one of two winners in the category of 'High Commendation'. James Brook and Alex Gaut accepted the award on behalf of Reef Watch.

REEF WATCH 10TH ANNIVERSARY QUIZ NIGHT

Reef Watch's 10th Anniversary Quiz Night is being held at 7pm on Friday 12th October at the Reedbeds Community Centre, Fitch Road, Fulham (enter via Phelps Court). Cost is \$5 (or \$2 for unwaged) - pay on the night. BYO food & drinks. It will be a night to remember with special guests, raffles and more. Form a table of 8-10 people or let Reef Watch find you a seat. There will be something for everyone. You do not need to be a diver, marine biologist or involved in Reef Watch. There are many different kinds of prizes including lots of diving related gifts, wine, books and more! To book, email: info@reefwatch.asn.au or call 8223 5155. For more info visit www.reefwatch.asn.au/quiznight.

USE OF REEF WATCH METHODOLOGY IN NORTHERN TERRITORY

The September 2006 issue of the AIMA Newsletter (the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology), Volume 25, Number 3, included an article by David Steinberg titled "Cyclone Tracy and the Schooner Booya". In his article, David Steinberg reports that 14 volunteers from the local NT diving community are participating in a project aimed at mapping the wreck and recording its fish and benthic life. These divers will also work towards identifying and interpreting evidence that may tell us about the events surrounding the *Booya's* sinking. The marine survey is based on the methodology developed by the Reef Watch Program of South Australia. He says that the results of the wreck survey will be reported in a future AIMA newsletter. The newsletter is available on the web at <http://www.aima.iinet.net.au/publications/newsletters/docs/NLv25n3y06.pdf>.

DRAFT ADELAIDE DOLPHIN SANCTUARY MANAGEMENT PLAN

The draft Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary Management Plan was released for public comment on 29th June 2007. Submissions towards the draft Plan close on Friday 7th September 2007. A submission form is available at: - http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/ads/pdfs/ads_submission_form.pdf. Copies of the draft Plan may be downloaded at: - http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/ads/pdfs/ads_draft_mplan.pdf. More details were included in the July issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

WHALE SIGHTING SEASON

Whilst the SA Whale Centre at Victor Harbor is temporarily closed for redevelopment, the whale sighting and information services are now operating from the Victor Harbor Information Centre. Whale centre staff and volunteers who provide the public with the latest information on whale sightings are operating a booth within the centre. The old Whale Information Hotline (1900 931 223) has now been replaced by a new, cheaper hotline. Calls to the old number are now being diverted to 1900 WHALES (or 1900 942 537), which is 50% cheaper per minute (38¢). Apart from that, you can phone the centre direct on 8551 0750 or 0401 711 662. They also love taking calls about new whale sightings. If you visit the centre, they will give you a whale information booklet to assist you with your whale watching efforts. Visit www.sawhalecentre.com for more details. Also try www.tourismvictorharbor.com.au.

HMAS CANBERRA UPDATE

"Federal Government Offers to Fund and Sink the ex-HMAS Canberra
(23 July 2007: VARS News Update)

Today, the Federal Government offered to fund and sink the ex-HMAS Canberra as an artificial reef and wreck dive site in Victoria. Dr Brendon Nelson, Minister for Defence, announced that

the Federal Government is prepared to take Project Management responsibility for the ex HMAS Canberra project and make \$7 million in funding available.

Source: <http://www.hmascanberra.com.au/>

Further details are included in the August issue of our SDFSFA Bulletin.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE REEF 2008

2008 is the International Year of the Reef. This initiative is a year-long campaign of events and initiatives hosted by governments, individuals, corporations and schools around the world to promote awareness, conservation action and strengthen long-term constituencies for coral reef conservation. Everyone is welcome to participate. Visit

<http://www.icriforum.org/router.cfm?show=html/login.htm> and <http://www.iyor.org/> for more information.

AGMs

SARFAC

The South Australian Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee's AGM is being held on Monday 10th September.

CDAA

The Cave Divers Association of Australia is holding its AGM in Mount Gambier on Saturday 13th October.

SOCIETY FOR UNDERWATER HISTORIC RESEARCH (SUHR)

The SUHR is holding its AGM at the Institute Building, cnr of Kintore Avenue and North Terrace, Adelaide, on Sunday 2nd September, 2.00 - 4.45 pm. If you are interested in maritime or historic archaeology, history or things nautical, contact Susanne Montana Jones from SUHR on 8363 1552 or at montanas@chariot.net.au.

WORLD'S LARGEST RECONSTRUCTED VIKING VESSEL

A Viking ship has set sail for Dublin from the Danish port of Roskilde, in an attempt to recreate the voyages undertaken by early Norsemen. The 30m-long (100ft) replica, called Sea Stallion, is said to be the world's largest reconstructed Viking vessel. It is based on a ship made nearly 1,000 years ago in Ireland, which in 1962 was excavated from the Roskilde fjord.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/6259760.stm>

JAPANESE MIDGET SUBMARINE FEATURE ON "7.30 REPORT"

Whilst discussing Japanese divers, the "7.30 Report" program on ABC-TV (Channel 2) on 6th August ran a feature about the wreck of the Japanese midget submarine M24. According to the webpage at <http://abc.net.au/7.30/>, "A ceremony has been held to honour the memory of Japanese submariners who died in 1942 during an attack on Sydney Harbour. The submarine disappeared after an attack on Sydney Harbour in 1942 and was found late last year by a group of amateur divers, much to the excitement of maritime archaeologist, Tim Smith." An extended video interview with Tim Smith can be viewed at

<http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2007/s1997551.htm>. The video footage includes a diving 'fly-over' on the wreck of the sub. The March issue of the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology newsletter, Volume 26, Number 1 March 2007, includes an article about the Japanese M24 midget submarine. Details are included in the August issue of our SDFSFA Bulletin.

Meanwhile, the AE2 submarine project team's expedition to Turkey is being made in September 2007.

HMAS SYDNEY DISCOVERY CLAIM

ABC TV's "7.30 Report" on 14th August featured the recent claim regarding the discovery of HMAS *Sydney* in 150m off of Dirk Hartog Island. According to the program, "Almost 66 years after HMAS *Sydney* was sunk by a German raider off the Western Australian coast, its fate remains the greatest maritime disaster and biggest mystery in Australian history. None of the 645 crew (were) seen again on that fateful day. Since then, maritime historians, both professional and amateur, have raced to find its wreckage. But the latest claim is already being disputed and the riddle of the *Sydney* seems no closer to being solved." Although the Australian Navy initially refused to participate in the dispute over the wreckage discovered, they conducted a sonar scan of the wreck and declared that it was much too small to possibly be the *Sydney*. They scanned right around the site to make sure that they had checked it out thoroughly. The Navy now seems to be prepared to help in the ongoing search for the *Sydney*. For a full transcript of the "7.30 Report" program, visit <http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2007/s2005197.htm> .

HMAS *Sydney* was badly damaged during an engagement with the *Kormoran* on 19th November 1941. Some details regarding the incident can be read in the best-selling book "Hellfire" by Cameron Forbes, ISBN 1 40503650 8. Many details about the topic have been published in issues of The Advertiser and on the AdelaideNow website at www.adelaidenow.com.au . Visit <http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,22239860-911,00.html> for one such article.

NOTICES TO MARINERS

SA notices to mariners for 2007 can be viewed at: -

<http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/quicklinks/mariners.asp>

SPONSORS NEEDED

Our Federation needs the support of sponsors. We will recognize the support of sponsors through our news sheet, Bulletin, website, minutes, annual reports, etc.. Although we appreciate all of the support that our Federation has received from organisations recently, we lack the support of any kind of major sponsor. Organisations interested in financially supporting our Federation in any way are welcome to submit a proposal either via email to sdfsa@adam.com.au or via mail to PO Box 360, Goodwood SA 5034.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ROYAL ADELAIDE SHOW

This year's Royal Adelaide Show is being held from 7-15th September. Visit www.adelaideshowground.com.au for more details.

NEW GROUND

The archaeological societies of Australasia are staging a joint conference. Entitled "New Ground", this forum will bring together archaeologists and practitioners from all fields of research and practice to establish a new platform for research interchange in Australasian Archaeology. It will bring educators, researchers, consultants, government archaeologists, students and other practitioners grappling with some of the most topical issues in archaeology today together. The conference is being held at the University of Sydney, 21st – 26th September 2007. It is open to members of the societies, students and all other interested parties. Visit <http://newground.arts.usyd.edu.au/> for more details.

AUSTRALASIAN MASTERS GAMES

The Australasian Masters Games* are being held in Adelaide from 5 – 10 October this year. Phone 08 8202 0000 or visit www.AustralasianMasters.com for more details.

The Australian Masters Games were held in Adelaide in October 2005 but these are now the Australasian Masters Games. It is the first time that the Games have been expanded to include international participants from Oceania and the Asia Pacific. Masters Games are for the over-30s.

Registrations close on 3rd August. Visit www.AustralasianMasters.com to register online, or call 08 8202 0000 to request a copy of the Games Registration booklet.

SA SCUBA DIVERS REUNION

The 2nd SA scuba divers reunion is being held from 12-5pm on Sunday 7th October at West Beach.

AUSTRALIAN CORAL REEF SOCIETY CONFERENCE

The Australian Coral Reef Society's 83rd Annual Conference is being held in Fremantle, Western Australia from 9-11th October 2007. Visit www.australiancoralreefsociety.org for details.

AUSTRALIAN 4WD & ADVENTURE SHOW 2007

This year's 4WD Show is being held at Alan Scott Park (Morphettville Racecourse) from Friday 12th to Sunday 14th October. Visit <http://www.4wdshow.com.au/?page=adelaideshow> for more details.

COASTCARE WEEK

Coastcare Week 2007 is being held from 3rd – 9th December. For more information phone 02 9412-1040 or visit <http://www.landcareonline.com/page.asp?pID=78>.

NATIONAL MARINE SAFETY CONFERENCE

The National Marine Safety Conference is being held in South Australia next year. It is being held at the Hilton Adelaide from 27-29th May 2008. The conference will feature Australian and international experts as speakers. It will deal with a wide range of current issues impacting on the marine industry and it will cover Recreational Boating, Commercial Operations, Seafood, Industry, Engineering, Boat/ship Design and Building, Training, Safety & Environmental Management, Surveying and possibly more specialist topics (depending on papers submitted). Visit <http://www.nmsc.gov.au/> for more details.

OZTeK'09

The next OZTeK Diving Technologies Conference and Exhibition - OZTeK'09 - has been tentatively scheduled for March 2009, and will again be held in Sydney.

SDFSA BULLETIN

Attached along with this *SDF News Sheet* is a copy of the latest issue of our *SDFSA Bulletin*. This is an electronic bulletin separate to our normal monthly *SDF News Sheet*. Items featured in this issue of the Bulletin are: -

Divers Warn On Abalone Disease Threat.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Japanese Midget Submarine M24.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Scuttled & Abandoned Ships In Australian Waters.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
HMAS Canberra Update.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Florida Raises Ill-Fated Artificial Reefs.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Uss Monitor**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
"60 Minutes" Treasure Hunters Feature**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Stone Age Site Surfaces After 8000 Years.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Future issues of the *SDFSA bulletin* will include lengthy articles about matters of interest to recreational divers. We welcome contributions from our readers.

The Scuba Divers Federation of SA is a member of the following: -

Rapid Bay Jetty Design Reference Group

SARFAC (SA Recreational Fishing Advisory Council)

Fleurieu Reef Management Committee (Ex-HMAS *Hobart*)

TRAIL COMMITTEES - SA Trails Coordinating Committee (Office of Recreation & Sport) and Port Noarlunga Reef Underwater Trail South Australian Trails

Contact the Federation's Secretary on sdfs@adam.com.au to be included on the mailing list for this electronic news sheet.

The SDF supports both [Reef Watch](#) & [Dragonsearch](#)

Disclaimer – The opinions expressed by authors of material in this news sheet are not necessarily those of the Federation.