

SDF News Sheet (The monthly news sheet of the Scuba Divers Federation of SA) Dec 2007

This news sheet is provided as a service to our members

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We are the peak body in South Australia, representing all recreational scuba divers.

We act as a voice for all divers and other associations on all diving related matters to other divers, the government and general public.

A merry Christmas and a happy new year to our member clubs and news sheet readers.

Enjoy diving during your Christmas break.

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 are not holding a meeting at all in January. We will be holding our first meeting for 2008 on Tuesday 12th February at 8pm at the Marden Senior College on Marden Road, Marden. Please ensure that your club’s appointed delegate, or a proxy, attends the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Many thanks to those clubs that have sent their membership renewal payments in to us already. Could those clubs that haven’t yet done so please forward their payment as soon as possible?

OCEANIC REGULATOR RECALL

If you have a DX type Regulator First Stage which was either purchased or serviced in the last 20 months, do not continue use of it until it receives a retrofit. Oceanic’s regulator supplier, ROMI, Ent., has initiated a voluntary recall of CDX5 and FDX10 (diaphragm) type regulator First Stages that were shipped to retailers between 1st May and 15th November 2006. A specific batch of High Pressure Seats has been found to be defective. Other model DX type First Stages that received annual service between 1st May 2006 and October 22nd 2007 may also be affected. Oceanic has created a data base on their website that product owners and retailers can access to determine whether a specific first stage is affected and if it has received the retrofit. Visit <http://www.oceanicworldwide.com/dxretrofit/oceanic/default.asp> to determine whether or not you have an affected unit. If you do have an affected unit, you must discontinue further use of it and take it to the supplying retailer, the Oceanic dealer where you purchased it, or an authorized Oceanic Service Centre for a component retrofit at no charge. There is a Recall Help Line that you can contact with any questions, 8am to 5pm, Mon to Fri (Pacific Time). There are two numbers for the help line. These are 1300 30 55 30 and 03 5986 0100. See page 49 of the December issue of Dive Log magazine for more details.

SEADRAGONS AT SEAHORSE FARM

The Seahorse Farm opened in Port Adelaide on 10th February. The address is 20 Divett St. It is open daily from 11am to 4pm. It is located just around the corner from the SA Maritime

Museum. Apart from lots of seahorses, the Seahorse Farm also has other fish, including Port Jackson Sharks and seadragons. They recently acquired a female Leafy Seadragon. She has been placed in a tank with some Weedy Seadragons for company. Visit www.saseahorse.com or phone 8447 7824 for more details.

CITY OF ADELAIDE TALK

If you missed the public meeting about the *City of Adelaide* at Semaphore in November, don't despair. Peter Christopher will present another talk on this popular topic at the February meeting of the Marine Life Society of SA. The meeting is being held on Tuesday 19th February at 7.30pm at Adventure Blue's premises at Glenelg North.

CANVAS PRINTED AND MOUNTED PHOTOS

Paul Macdonald is selling some high quality canvas printed and mounted photos. They will be on display at MLSSA's meeting at Adventure Blue at Glenelg on Tues 19th Feb at 7.30pm. The pictures are generally on display and for sale at the Adventure Blue Port Noarlunga store. Prices range from \$200.00 (12 x 18) to \$620.00 (36 x 36).

KAREN EDYVANE

According to the following report, ex-pat South Australian Karen Edyvane is now working in the NT: -

"Northern Territory Government scientists are working with their East Timorese colleagues to set up their first marine park. Teams of NT scientists have just returned from mapping coral reefs along the East Timor's coast. NT Government principle scientist Professor Karen Edyvane says the research is being done so properly-managed development and eco-tourism can go ahead.

"Timor is remarkably intact in terms of its ecosystems and has shown a lot of promise in terms of developing a very healthy and sustainable eco-tourism industry," she said."

Abridged from ABC News, 18th December 2007. Full text: <http://www.abc.net.au>.

CHECK YOUR SAFETY SAUSAGE REGULARLY

When John and Ellie Coulter spoke at a recent MLSSA meeting about their boat raising operations at Garden Island, they told some interesting stories. One of their stories related to the failure of two separate safety sausages and the lack of a third one. To cut a long story short, three divers surfaced a long distance from their boat and decided to utilize their safety sausages. Each diver took their turn in inflating their own safety sausage. The first two found that their safety sausage wouldn't inflate due to leaks. The third diver thought that they had a safety sausage on them but couldn't find it. The moral here is to check the performance of your safety sausage regularly, and also to be sure that you take it with you and that you know where it is.

So our three divers were stranded some distance away from their boat which couldn't see them. What did they use to signal their location to the boat? They kept firing off the flash on their digital camera until they were spotted by the boat's crew. Good thinking that was. Keep it in mind if you find yourself in a similar position.

HOBART UPDATE

There are only four mooring buoys left at the *Hobart* site now as far as we know. The missing buoys are to be restored and a marine engineer is investigating the method of fixing the buoys.

RAPID BAY JETTY UPDATE

Diving access to the Rapid Bay jetty (by either boat or shore will be OK during the Christmas and New Year holiday period. We recently received the following enquiry re the building of the new Rapid Bay jetty: - "Do you know when the new jetty will commence construction? I am asking because I want to organise some dives on the existing jetty from the shore during the

Christmas break. The new construction work will probably result in the closure of the car parking area, as this will be required for site sheds and standing space for material & equipment. This means that access to the existing jetty from the car park will probably be prohibited during construction of the new jetty.” Antony King from the Friends of Rapid Bay Jetty was able to give this response: - “I have checked with the RBJ project managers, and the reply re access over the Christmas / New Year break is: "There should be no activity on Rapid Bay jetty during that period that will interfere with diving in the area." My understanding is that the results from the recent testing (piling/scans) are being analysed to finalise the jetty design. That is, "hands on" work is yet to commence.” Thanks Antony. The substrate at the site was apparently found to be softer than expected. This means that drilling into the substrate will be easier than anticipated. All of the necessary work should now be able to be done quicker and cheaper than expected and, hopefully, we'll now get the longer jetty that we have been hoping (and praying) for. Christopher Deane inspected the marine life beneath the old jetty in November and declared it to be possibly better than how he remembers it. Robert B Jenkins, Project Director, Office of Major Projects and Infrastructure, tells us that, “Bardavcol presented the results of the geo-technical investigation to DTEI earlier this week. The report is considered to provide all of the necessary information for the short-listed companies to undertake the final design and costing for the project. DTEI plan to have the information to the two companies in the near future so they can prepare final designs and quotes to undertake the work. These tenders will be assessed and the project awarded to the successful company. This is expected to take several months but we still hope to have work underway on site before the middle of the year and completed for the target date of the end of 2008. At this stage DTEI will not be undertaking any work at Rapid Bay over the summer so the site will be available for divers and anglers [including on the existing jetty up to the safety barrier].” Thanks Robert.

A report in The Advertiser on 15th December gave the following details regarding the current situation: - The geotechnical work, which was completed recently, confirms the suitability of the alignment for the jetty and will be used to inform final designs. Tenders from short-listed construction companies for the final jetty design and construction are to be called next week (the week before Christmas) and will close in late February. It is hoped that the construction of the new jetty will commence by the end of April. Everyone is then hoping that it will take less than eight months to build the new jetty and that it will be ready for use by divers and anglers for Christmas 2008. Photos of the floating crane conducting test piling at the jetty site last month can be seen in Christopher Deane's “SA Snippets” column in the December issue of Dive Log magazine.

(23rd December 2007 will be the 3rd anniversary of the final closure of the old Rapid Bay jetty in 2004. The ‘T’-end section of the jetty was closed mid-2003, meaning that there was no access to the divers’ platform on the ‘T’ section. A new divers’ platform was built closer to shore on the remaining open part of the jetty in February 2004. Just 10 months later, this new platform became inaccessible when the rest of the jetty was closed on 23rd December 2004.)

TONY WHITE

Whilst discussing the Rapid Bay jetty, do you recall our letter to Australasia Scuba Diver magazine in 2004? It was printed close to the front of the magazine, immediately following the first ‘letters’ page. A headshot of a Leafy Seadragon taken by Tony White accompanied our letter. Tony White is an award-winning underwater photographer from the UK. Another Leafy head-shot of his appeared in the same issue of the magazine, as part of a promotion for the prestigious Celebrate The Sea Marine Imagery Festival 2004, which was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This second Leafy photo had won the 2003 festival's Best Macro (print) award. The magazine went on to describe Tony as “an internationally acclaimed underwater photographer” who “began shooting professionally while in Britain's Royal Navy”. At that time, Tony

apparently contributed his photos to some 18 magazines. He had also made a National geographic documentary called "Facing Jaws". This was about how he was attacked by a Bronze Whaler (also known as a Copper Shark) while he was photographing a sardine run in Kwazulu-Natal. According to the book "Sharks – savage predators of the oceans" by John McIntyre, Tony had set out to photograph the feeding frenzy that occurs during the migration north along the South African coast of billions of sardines. Tens of thousands of predators such as dolphins, sharks, tuna and seabirds join in the resulting feeding frenzy. Tony almost lost an arm at the beginning of his first dive. He says that the shark didn't actually attack him, it just bit him by mistake. He had positioned himself above a bait-ball of fish when a Bronzie, which had come charging through the fish to feast on them, caught Tony's arm. This happened with such force that he was lifted out of the water by the shark. A speedy transfer to a hospital, which was familiar with shark injuries, saved Tony's arm. He soon managed to return back to the water to carry on his profession.

PORT STANVAC

Port Stanvac was the site of the Mobil Oil Refinery in SA. The site has been closed for some four years and its future is uncertain. There is a long, deep-water jetty at the site, which many divers would love the opportunity to explore. It is said to be >400m long, 21m at its widest point and the water depth is some 12-15m. The jetty is, however, off limits. There is a 500m-radius exclusion zone around the jetty and large fines (\$1250?) apply for breaches. Our Federation had been hoping to gain access to the jetty in the future for recreational diving. Port Stanvac is, however, being touted as the preferred site for Adelaide's proposed 50GL desalination plant. That being the result, then jetty access would be most unlikely. In the meantime, the closest diving site to the jetty is the Stanvac Dump, where surplus equipment from the oil refinery was dumped into the sea. There are trucks, pontoons, barges, kilometres of cable and lots of other stuff, all forming quite a large and pretty artificial reef. The dump-site covers a large area. We understand that the furthest marker marking the refinery exclusion zone is right in the middle of the dump. Access is by boat from the O'Sullivan Beach boat ramp. Some general GPS marks for the site are: S: 35 degrees 6.204 minutes, E: 138 degrees 28.159 minutes (on the north side of the Port Stanvac jetty). Access to the site may become restricted once that work commences on a desalination plant there and it remains to be seen what effect it may have on the area. We suggest that you visit the spot whilst you still can and also whilst it remains unaffected. Meanwhile, Reef Watch's reef monitoring of the Hallett Cove reef may prove to be very valuable for assessing the effects of a desalination plant at Port Stanvac.

ADELAIDE DESALINATION PLANT UPDATE

Whilst discussing the proposed \$1.1b desalination plant, many conservationists have expressed concern regarding issues such as how it will be powered, how the brine will be discharged, what the effects of it all will be, etc.. 81-year old Ben Amadio from Christies Beach wrote to The Advertiser, suggesting that pollution from the plant would unbalance the salinity of coastal waters and affect our coastal fisheries. He also suggested the use of solar power to run the system. Colin Daly of Marino thinks that the plant could at least be built next to a power source and the brine could be provided to those operating saltpan evaporation or caustic soda and chlorine manufacture. Champion cray catcher Wolf Seidel believes that the answer to the public's concern about the discharge of brine (from Port Stanvac) is to mix it with the fresh water that is pumped out to sea from the Christies Beach sewer outlet next door to Stanvac. Problem Solved! Thanks Wolfie, keep up the good work.

OTHER DESALINATION PLANTS

A desalination plant was first opened in SA at Penneshaw on Kangaroo Island about nine years ago. SA's second desalination plant was opened at Marion Bay on the Yorke Peninsula in August this year. According to "Engineers Australia" issue for February 2007, a desalination plant has been proposed at Point Paterson, near Port Augusta. Meanwhile, Spencer Gulf fishermen have expressed low confidence in the proposed BHPP desalination plant at Port Bonython. Also, according to the *Port Lincoln Times* of 8th November, local councilor Mick Bascombe is apparently not convinced that computer modelling will give an accurate picture of how the Port Bonython desalination plant would affect the Spencer Gulf marine environment. In the same issue, Jack and Barb Davies say that the Giant Australian Cuttlefish come into the area to breed in the winter because the salinity is low at that time of year. They say that high levels of salinity would destroy the cuttlefish eggs. A recent article on this topic in *The Australian* is included in the December issue of our SDFS Bulletin. It can also be read at <http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,22859025-30417,00.html> .

DESALINATION PLANT PROPOSED FOR PORT HUGHES

The developers of a multi million-dollar golf course on Yorke Peninsula are now considering a desalination plant to supplement the water supply. It's been estimated that the dunes development at Port Hughes could use up to 1.5ML of mains water a day.

Speaking on radio station 639ABC, the Copper Coast Council's Peter Dinning says it's been agreed with the developer, Quick View, that a site next to the boat ramp is the preferred location for the desalination plant. "Given the restrictions on SA Water and the lack of Murray River water, obviously the developer has got another option with desalination and this is probably an insurance policy in relation to water availability that they're pursuing at this stage. The other two options were in the dunal precinct which is very much native in its natural state and a pipeline through that area, whilst it would be underground, would certainly disturb the vegetation and also the natural environment."

ALDINGA DROPOFF

According to our web page at <http://www.sdfs.net/fleurieu.htm> "The Aldinga drop off is on the edge of the Aldinga reef, lying 1.5kms off the Aldinga beach. Access is via boat, which can be launched from (either) the southern end of Aldinga Beach or from O'Sullivan's Beach ramp. The reef drops away from 5m to 21m, creating a spectacular dive that is a mass of caverns, crevasses and overhangs. The reef is inside an Aquatic Reserve and fish abound, making this a photographer's paradise. The drop off is where the big schools of snapper stay when travelling north to their breeding grounds. *When the snapper are running it is advisable not to dive this area as the snapper school is occasionally followed by white pointer sharks. GPS 36:16:270 S, 138:25:799 E"

* We recently received an enquiry regarding this matter, so we put the question to the author of the statement, Paul Macdonald. Paul's response was as follows: -

"My understanding is that the snapper run past Aldinga around the August to December months on their way up the gulf to breed. Then, in the new year, they run back down the other side of the gulf after the breeding season. They generally keep to the deep water. The obvious concern is regarding creatures higher in the food chain that feed on the large snapper. Not sure if the timings I mention are fact or not, but I have heard this from several different fishermen and divers over the years. When I am in the water, and see large snapper, I generally head back to the boat - I have only had to do this once and it was on the drop off before Xmas. However, I often see the odd small snapper there but don't worry about them." Thanks Paul.

REEF WATCH NEWS

The next Marathon Dive is being held at Port Noarlunga reef on Sunday 6th April.

Reef Watch (& the Conservation Council of SA) are both moving location. Both organizations will be making the move to the 1st floor at 157 Franklin Street from Friday 14th December onwards. They will be operational again from Monday 7th January 2008. (This move also affects MLSSA who have been holding their meetings at the old Conservation Centre, and also have their mail delivered there.)

A group of divers, including Janine Baker and Scoresby Shepherd are working on a project to survey the distribution of uncommonly recorded and cryptic reef fishes at various locations in SA, starting with Gulf St Vincent and the KI area. Some of these are very small and extremely hard to find. The project is aiming to increase knowledge of the distribution within SA and also provide habitat notes for about 50 species, including some of the weedfishes, clingfishes, eel-blennies and snake-blennies, less common syngnathids, anglers, prowlfishes and velvetfishes, amongst others. A few of the less common wrasses and leatherjackets are also included. If you would like to be part of this project, by providing location data and/or photos of these species from your dives anywhere in SA, please contact Reef Watch, who will put you in touch with Janine.

MARINE PARKS BILL PASSED

Charles Maddison, the Media and Public Relations Manager for the Corporate Communications Branch, tells us that the Marine Parks Bill was passed by Parliament on 20th November 2007, following a series of amendments in the Upper House, and now has support from all parties.

MARINE PARKS COUNCIL

The State Government is now seeking members for the new Marine Parks Council of SA. Visit <http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/marineparks.html> for further information.

ENCOUNTER MARINE PARK UPDATE

The Department for Environment and Heritage recently sent us some mail regarding the latest information on marine parks. Further information is available at <http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/marineparks.html>. Charles Maddison also advised us of these six steps remaining in developing the proposed Encounter Marine Park:

1. Revise the park's outer boundary based on the latest information and release for public comment (min. six weeks).
2. Prepare a values statement for the park and release to the public
3. Issue a notice of intent to prepare a draft management plan and invite public input.
4. Revise the 2005 draft zoning map, develop the draft management plan and impact statement and release for public comment (min. six weeks).
5. Revise the zoning map, management plan and impact statement (taking into account comments received) and release to the public.
6. Implement the Encounter Marine Park Management Plan including addressing any displaced commercial fishing and aquaculture effort.

MPA NEWS

Whilst discussing marine parks, copies of "MPA News" are free. You can subscribe to the newsletter by emailing to mpanews@u.washington.edu. Type 'subscribe' on the subject line and include your name, mailing address and daytime phone number in the text of the message. Also, please note whether you would like an electronic copy or a hard copy delivered to you.

DIVE INDUSTRY NEWS

Nicole Strzelecki is now instructing with Elite Dive Academy P/L, which is based at 88a on the Esplanade at Port Noarlunga. Visit www.elitediveacademy.com.au (or <http://web.mac.com/sselbach/iWeb/EliteDiveAcademy/home.html>) for more details.

Nicole's old dive shop, Adelaide Scuba, is now under new management again. It is now owned by a consortium from Divers Delight. The latest issues of Dive Log magazine are now available once again from Adelaide Scuba.

Andrew Carney is back on Adelaide's dive scene now. Andy is the new Operations Manager for Adventure Blue at Glenelg (replacing John Morris?).

It has been suggested that Andy's shop, Adventure Blue at Glenelg, may be changing from being a PADI training agency to an SSI one.

ANNIVERSARIES

The ex-HMAS *Perth*, *Swan* and *Hobart* were all scuttled as dive wrecks about this time of year. The *Swan* was the first of them, going down off of WA 10 years ago on 14th December 1997.

Almost four years later, the *Perth* went down, 6 years ago on 24th November 2001. Our own *Hobart* went down, almost one year later again, on 5th November 2002. On a lesser scale, as mentioned last month, the *HA Lumb* was scuttled 13 years ago on 9th December 1994.

6th December 21 years ago was the day that the SA Maritime Museum opened in Port Adelaide in 1986.

6th December 10 years ago was the day that the newly installed divers' steps on the Port Noarlunga jetty were opened in 1997.

Three years ago, in December 2004, Dive Log magazine started including extracts from our SDF news sheet in each issue.

23rd December will be the 3rd anniversary of the final closure of the old Rapid Bay jetty in 2004. Three days later, on Boxing Day in 2004, a large tsunami hit areas of South-East Asia.

Christmas Day will be the 33rd anniversary of Cyclone Tracy which destroyed Darwin in 1974. 430 years ago, on 13th December, five ships led by Sir Francis Drake left Plymouth, England to circumnavigate the world. It was Drake's second start, having had to return from his first departure the month before.

While I think of it, a "Diving R & R Spectacular" was held at the AMF at Glenside almost 10 years ago on 4th April 1998. I'm not sure what the 'R & R' bit meant 'cept that the two (main?) speakers were Rodney Fox and Reg Lipson. Shark attack survivor Rodney Fox autographed my wife's \$10 ticket for her (and I'm hanging on to it).

RISK MANAGEMENT RESOURCE KIT

Five years ago we received a Risk Management Resource kit from the Office for Recreation and Sport. The kit consisted of 60 pages in a folder, along with a CD. The folder and CD are both an introductory guide to risk management matters. The kit has now been updated and the new 2007 version is available for loan by our member clubs. Let us know if you would like to borrow this item. It should become available as a downloadable document from the ORS website later on. In the meantime, visit http://www.recsport.sa.gov.au/pdf/risk_mngt_and_in.pdf for further information.

GRANTS UPDATE

A visit to the ORS web page at <http://www.recsport.sa.gov.au/resources-publications/resources-publications.html> will assist you in finding grants that are available to assist your club.

FERRY NEWS

Sea SA celebrated the first anniversary of the Wallaroo to Lucky Bay ferry service on 8th December. We say 'ferry service' because their second ferry (*Sea Scape*) replaced the first one (*Sea Way*) during that time. Sea SA celebrated the milestone by announcing plans for an even bigger and better new ferry (*Sea Spirit*) plus new passenger terminal(s). They have received approval from the Franklin Harbour Council for a new two-storey terminal at Lucky Bay. It will include a passenger transit lounge and café, rest rooms and offices. The terminal will be eco-friendly with the use of rainwater tanks, wind turbines and solar collectors (panels?). The new *Sea Spirit* ferry is currently being built in Indonesia and is expected to be ready for service early in 2008. It will have 70% greater vehicle carrying capacity than the *Sea Scape*. It will be a 64m-long drive-through twin-hulled catamaran able to carry 95 vehicles and 300 passengers. It will have all the best in comfort, safety and style, with features such as an air-conditioned café, TV lounges, plasma TVs, play zone for children, Internet area and a tourism booth. We don't yet know what will become of the *Sea Scape* once that the *Sea Spirit* is running. Just for the record, the first two ferries carried some 75,000 passengers, 28,000 cars and 1000 trucks, buses and motorcycles (1000 of each?) during the first twelve months of operation. 10% of the cars carried were towing a trailer. Incidentally, Sea SA was a joint winner, along with Baird Bay Eco Experience, of the SA Tourism Commission Tourism Award presented this month.

M&CCN's WETSTUFF-NEWS

We receive the latest issues of the Marine & Coastal Community Network's "Wetstuff-News" via SARFAC and the Marine Life Society of SA each week. We then forward these on to our member clubs for on-forwarding to their own club members. "Wetstuff-News" is MCCN's electronic news service, providing marine and coastal news of international and national interest. Each edition of "Wetstuff-News" is available for viewing on MCCN's website at http://www.mccn.org.au/weekly_media.php. You can also subscribe and unsubscribe to "Wetstuff-News" there. From January 2008, MCCN will introduce Marine & Coastal News Asia - Pacific Region (free) to interested participants. MCCN's Pacific & East Asia E-News service will report monthly via email, on news stories of marine and coastal issues, covering: Pacific Island nations, including countries in the regions of Melanesia (west), Polynesia (southeast) and Micronesia (north), Eastern Asia (including: China, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan) and Southeast Asia (including: Brunei, Burma / Myanmar, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam). The service will report marine and coastal news in the areas of: Marine and Coastal Legislation, Policy and Planning, Coastal Zone Management, Marine Protected Areas, Fisheries, Aquaculture, Climate Change, Marine Invasive Species, Marine Species, Blue Energy and more. For more information, or to subscribe to this new service please contact Anne Briggs at MCCN E: anne@mccn.org.au or [subscribe now](#). The latest "Wetstuff-News" (12th December 2007) has already been on-forwarded to our member clubs.

MARINE TOXIN HITS SA OYSTER HARVEST

Oyster farms have been shut down for the second time this year. Oyster growers at Cowell on the Eyre Peninsula have been banned from harvesting their oysters because there are unacceptable levels of pinnatoxin in the water. Visit ABC News Online at <http://www.abc.net.au> for more details.

The SA Greens say that the water problems at Cowell on the Eyre Peninsula are symbolic of how aquaculture planning will need to put much greater emphasis on climate change: -

Greens says aquaculture planning will need to put much greater emphasis on climate change

Speaking on radio station 639ABC, Greens MLC, Mark Parnell says that climate change will inevitably trigger new outbreaks: -

"When environmental conditions change, so too do the organisms that live in the environment, whether it be an algae or some other microscopic organism or the higher order animals and

plants. So we need to adapt to climate change, we're going to have to look very carefully at the types of farming methods we use, whether it's on land or in the sea and the types of areas that are appropriate for those activities."

"For aquaculture to be successful they've got to have the right conditions and what climate change means is that water will become warmer in different areas and therefore the depth at which organisms need to be farmed will be different as well. And what that says is that we've got to think very carefully about zoning areas of the ocean for aquaculture because it might turn out that those areas are inappropriate given climate change."

ASIAN GREEN MUSSEL FOUND IN CAIRNS

Also found at ABC News Online, at <http://www.abc.net.au>: - The invasive exotic marine pest, the Asian green mussel, was recently found on an Australian boat docked in Cairns. The boat had visited Darwin several months ago. Marine and offshore industries are now being warned to carefully inspect boats and moorings for any sign of the Asian green mussel. The invasive pest would threaten marine life and the shipping industry if it became established in Northern Territory waters. Divers inspected the Fort Hill Wharf and Darwin harbour for any signs of the mussel.

MORETON BAY MARINE PARK ZONING PLAN REVIEW

At the end of November, we received some details from Thierry Tomczak representing the independent dive clubs of SE Queensland. Thierry was looking to the southern states for support regarding a submission from the independent dive clubs of SE Queensland regarding the Moreton Bay Marine Park Zoning Plan Review. According to the web page found at http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/parks_and_forests/marine_parks/moreton_bay_marine_park_zoning_plan_review/, "The Moreton Bay Marine Park Zoning Plan is being reviewed. The Draft Zoning Plan has now been released and is available for public comment. The closing date for providing submissions is 7th March 2008." Thierry sent us an electronic version of the independent dive clubs of SE Queensland's final paper submitted to the Minister and EPA in respect of the Moreton Bay Marine Park Rezoning. The 16-page paper is titled "Position Paper – Moreton Bay Marine Park". We asked the Marine Life Society of SA to consider supporting the submission. MLSSA members agreed at their November meeting to support the submission. Their Secretary, Neville Skinner sent an email message of support to Thierry. We did likewise, sending the following message to Thierry: -

"The Scuba Divers Federation of SA, representing most recreational dive clubs in South Australia, backs the Position Paper submitted by the independent dive clubs of SE Queensland regarding the Moreton Bay Marine Park. We support their call for the widening of protection zones in Moreton Bay. We agree with their request to have the Flinders Reef, Flat Rock, Manta Bommies, Shag Rock, Smith Rock, Gotham City, China Wall, Hendersons Rock, Cherubs Cave and Curtin Artificial Reef sites included. We also would like to see additional measures to adequately protect the area and its marine life. The provision of additional fixed mooring buoys would assist in this matter." The above-mentioned sites are described in detail in the position paper. There are also some great photos in the paper, and a great (URGQ) map detailing the wrecks of Curtin Artificial Reef. A list of some 32 items comprising the reef can be found at http://www.urgq.org/curtin_artif_reef.htm. Small sample copies of the map of the reef can be viewed at [http://www.urgq.org/images/URGQ_MAP_MAIL_ORDER_FORM_retail\[1\].pdf](http://www.urgq.org/images/URGQ_MAP_MAIL_ORDER_FORM_retail[1].pdf), which is the map mail order form through the URGQ (Underwater Research Group of Queensland). A recent article in The Australian about Moreton Bay is included in the December issue of our SDFSA Bulletin. It can also be read at http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,,22859027-30417,00.html%3Ffrom%3Dpublic_rss. There is also some information about the Moreton Bay

Marine Park in the latest issue (Vol.13, No.3) of “Waves” magazine (www.mccn.org.au). That article suggests viewing some info at www.savemoretonbay.org.au . (Our honorary diver, Trevor Watts, Executive Officer for SARFAC, is taking a well-earned 3-week break in Queensland for Christmas. And where would the well-informed gentleman be staying in Queensland? Moreton Bay of course!)

SPORTDIVING & DIVE LOG MAGAZINE ONLINE

You can view the latest issue of Dive Log magazine as soon as possible each month by doing it on-line at <http://www.divetheblue.net> . You can also arrange to receive each month’s Dive Log magazine in PDF format for only A\$3.00 per issue. (Visit <http://www.divetheblue.net/subscribeDLonline.php> to arrange this.) You are also able to read the major articles from past issues of SportDiving and Dive Log magazine at your computer screen.

There is a forum page. You can also: -

Get a sneak preview of the forthcoming issue of SportDiving magazine

View article archives on a number of subjects,

including dive sites around the country and internationally

Shop for books and videos online

Organise advertising

Link to several conservation organizations

Subscribe to both SportDiving and Dive Log magazine

(You can read my article titled “B-25 Mitchell Bomber” at

<http://www.divetheblue.net/pdf/57p.pdf> . It makes a good advert for the DVD “The Bomber Reef - War In The Pacific”.)

A TIP OR A TRICK?

One tip that I have picked up from the December issue of Dive Log is that urine from divers (peeing in your wetsuit) is an aphrodisiac for (male?) seals who, when affected by the urine aphrodisiac, exhibit “many unforeseen behaviours”. I’m not sure what that means but you can use your own imagination. Better still, check out the cover of Sheree Marris’s book “KamaSEATra – Secrets of sex in the sea” (ISBN 978 0 330 42368 7). You could always read the book if the picture on the front cover doesn’t help you. Sheree Marris was the (Environment) Young Australian of the Year in 2002. So the tip is “Don’t pee in your wetsuit when there are seals around”. Mind you, the same source of this questionable tip suggests that divers can attract the attention of seals by making many barking noises!

NEW FEDERAL MINISTERS & SHADOW MINISTERS

Although we’ve all been subjected to our fair share of federal politics recently, things should get more intense from now on. Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and the new Leader of the Opposition, Brendan Nelson were both quick to select their Ministers/Shadow Ministers following the Federal Election last month. Ministers (& Shadow Ministers) of interest to divers and environmentalists would include the following: - Environment, Heritage & the Arts – Peter Garrett (Shadow Greg Hunt), Climate change & Water – Penny Wong (Shadow Greg Hunt), Resources & Energy and Tourism – Martin Ferguson (Shadow Senator David Johnston), Sport – Kate Ellis (Shadow unknown), Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry – Tony Burke (Shadow Senator Nigel Scullion). To view a copy of the Media Release by Tony Burke, the new Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, visit <http://www.tonyburke.com.au/file.php?file=/news/GCULUWOLU/index.html>.

SHARK SIGHTING SEASON RETURNS

Now that summer is back, the media has renewed its delight in headlines about shark sightings. For example, the recent sighting of an unknown shark by a fisherman 700m from shore made the pages of one newspaper. A bit more concerning was an incident involving the evacuation of aquatic students from the sea at Tennyson. The students were apparently learning to surf when the crew of the Channel 10 helicopter sighted a 4m shark close to the students. The shark was sighted about 300m from shore whilst the students were 20m out. It was apparently the second shark sighting for the day. The crew of the chopper identified the shark sighted at Tennyson as a Thrasher (or Thresher) shark. There are more details about Thrasher/Thresher sharks in the December issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

PORT JACKSON SHARKS

Whilst discussing sharks, Mike and Steph of radio station Nova FM (91.9) were recently discussing how Mike, as an 11-year old, had hand-caught a six foot Port Jackson Shark on a beach in New Zealand. It seems that, after wrestling the shark ashore, Mike let it go again. I wasn't able to phone Mike at the time, but when I got home I sent him this email message: - "Hi Mike (& Steph), That Port Jackson shark that Mike caught when he was 11 years old has probably grown in size over the years. I am a diver and I understand that these sharks (generally) only grow to just over 1m in length - 4½ feet at the most. They do, however, look 1/3rd bigger underwater. They are rare in NZ where Mike said that he caught his on the beach. They are harmless enough but don't like being manhandled. Cheers, Steve, Secretary, Scuba Divers Federation of SA"

'NEW' VESSEL NAMED AFTER TERRY ARNOTT

A 7.5m-long former charter vessel recently purchased (& modified) by the Department of Environment & Heritage has been renamed the *TK Arnott*, in honour of the late Terry Arnott, the Department's former Senior Maritime Archaeologist. The vessel will be used to enable scientists to undertake scientific field assessments in the state's waters. It will travel to Port Lincoln to undertake biodiversity surveys with scientists from DEH and the University of Tasmania.

KI SHIPWRECKS BOOK REPRINTED

Congratulations to Gifford Chapman whose "Kangaroo Island Shipwrecks" book has now been reprinted IN COLOUR! The original 1972 version of the book (with 108 pages and 57 B&W photos) has been updated and now has 317 pages and 140 colour photos (and still has 147 B&W photos!). The book comes in hardcover and there are now two versions to choose from. The ordinary version of the book costs \$60 + \$10 p&p direct from Gifford. The special version is a limited edition (500 copies) leather-bound copy signed by the author himself. This collector's item costs \$90 + \$10 p&p from Gifford. To order a copy of the book from the man himself, send a money order or cheque, made payable to him, to him at PO Box 311, Kingscote SA 5223. For further details, give Gifford a call on (08) 8553 0090 or 0427 799 463.

I met Gifford on the island, through the late Peter Telfer, in the 80s. It is good to see that Gifford, now in his mid-60s, is still involved in his lifetime passion.

NZ SHIPWRECKS BOOK REPRINTED

Whilst discussing shipwreck books, Keith Gordon tells us that the 8th edition of his book "New Zealand Shipwrecks - Over 200 years of disasters at sea" has now been released. Keith co-authored the book, along with Lynton & Edith Diggle. Keith says that this latest edition covers NZ shipwrecks from 1795 to 2007. It includes 245 new entries, as well as updated information on many previous recorded wrecks. There is also an appendix covering "Legal Issues - The law pertaining to wreck" by Piers Davies, a barrister and solicitor specializing in maritime law. The

book now has 576 pages with many images in both black & white and colour. The ISBN for the book is 978-1-86971-093-4. It is a Hodder Moa Book published by Hachette Livre. The recommended retail price in NZ is \$49.99. Keith says that anyone wishing to purchase a copy at a cost of NZ\$45, plus P&P, can arrange this if they email him at searov@xtra.co.nz .

DRAFT STATE WATER SAFETY PLAN

Following the recent State Water Safety Plan Survey by the Office for Recreation and Sport, a Draft State Water Safety Plan 2008-2010 has now been developed by the SA Water Safety Coordinating Committee. The key purpose of the Plan is to minimize water related injury and fatality in SA through the effective planning and delivery of programs, services and resources. Stakeholders such as ourselves were asked to provide feedback on the draft plan by 14th December. Unfortunately, we received the details at late notice and were unable to provide comment by the due date.

PRAWNS OFFER RELIEF FOR HAYFEVER SUFFERERS

More than 3m Australians are affected by hayfever. Sydney-based company Novotech is seeking volunteers to trial a world-first treatment for hayfever made from prawn shells which researchers say is showing promising signs of success. Novotech is seeking hayfever sufferers aged 15 - 60 who are otherwise healthy to be volunteers to trial a nasal spray made from natural ingredients derived from prawn shells. The trial involves the Woolcock Institute of Medical Research. Trials are being held in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney.

Source: <http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,22932519-5005962,00.html>

RECENT INTERSTATE SHARK ATTACKS

A man who was recently bitten by a small shark at South Bondi in NSW was swimming there at night. He felt a shark bite into his arm and managed to make his way ashore where he passed out on some rocks. He lay there until the next morning when his girlfriend found him. The last known shark attack at Bondi occurred 70 years ago.

A surfer at Port Stephens, NSW was bitten on his lower back recently by what was thought to be a Bull Shark. Coastal waters at the time were murky due to runoff from recent heavy rains. An expert from Sydney Aquarium said that murky seas, warmer than normal temperatures and bait fish coming close to shore made perfect conditions for shark attacks. Sharks are blindly foraging for food in the warm, murky waters full of bait fish.

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ISLAND CONSERVATION PARKS

A draft management plan for the Althorpe Islands, Goose Island and Troubridge Island Conservation Parks is available for public comment until 21st March. A copy of the draft plan is available from <http://www.parks.sa.gov.au/parks/management/managementplans/index.htm> .

“THE BOATERS.COM”

I recently visited a website at www.theboaters.com where I searched for any reference to diving (<http://www.theboaters.com/news/?search=DIVING>). There were links to several diving references, including one about diving insurance at <http://scuba.about.com/od/divemedicine/a/insurance.htm> .

CLUB NEWS

ADELAIDE UNI DIVE CLUB

Elizabeth Perkins (Lizzie) is the current president of the Adelaide Uni dive club. She tells us that the Adelaide Uni dive club recently purchased a new set of tanks and so they are selling off the old ones. They have both 75 & 95cu/ft aluminium tanks for sale. Ages vary and they are pricing

them from \$150 - \$200, depending on their age. They are currently in test but only until January. If you or anyone you know is interested, contact Lizzie at president@adelaidescuba.com or 0438 854724.

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF SA

Many thanks go to the UEC for their kind letter of appreciation regarding our DES cards. The UEC's members acknowledged the useful role that the cards could play in the event of a diver emergency. A few of the cards are still available. Let us know if you need any more of them.

MARINE LIFE SOCIETY OF SA

Congratulations to MLSSA on achieving the 350 issue mark for its newsletter in January. The Society publishes 11 issues per year (Jan to Nov) and then publishes its annual journal each December. The 2007 Journal has now been published. It can be viewed at <http://www.mlssa.asn.au/journals/2007Journal.htm>. It would be amiss of me not to mention the inclusion of my article "Cuttlefish Attacks on Divers" in the journal. The Society is now on the move due to the relocation of the Conservation Centre. Their February and March meetings are being held at Adventure Blue at Glenelg.

MILDURA DESERT DIVERS CLUB

The MDDC held its AGM recently and now has a new President in Grant Brown. Kay Phillips was elected as Secretary and the Vice-President is Mick Bobstchinski. Mandy Gowers was re-elected as Treasurer. Also re-elected were Tony Lay as the Social Coordinator, Johnny Boyce and Linden Phillips as Property Officers, Julie Cohrs as Public Officer, Steve Sheedy as Trip Coordinator and Andrew Godfrey as Hall Representative once again.

COASTAL WATERS DIVE CLUB

The CWDC also held its AGM at the Jolly Miller Tavern recently. (The PS *Jolly Miller* was the first iron steamer built in South Australia. According to the web page found at http://www.hotkey.net.au/~jwilliams4/shipsi_k.htm the steamer became 'stuckfast' in the Murray River in 1869.)

MORE ON THE JOLLY MILLER STEAMER

The PS *Jolly Miller* was declared a historic shipwreck in the 1990s. According to the web page found at <http://aima.iinet.net.au/publications/newsletters/news141.html>

"Eight shipwrecks have been recently declared under the South Australia Historic Shipwrecks Act (1981). Seven of the sites are located in the River Murray, being the PS *Mary Ann* (the inaugural paddle steamer on the Murray in 1853), PS *Melbourne*, PS *Jolly Miller*, PS *Corowa*, PS *William Randell*, barges *Crowie* and *Cobar*; the eighth is the ketch *Maid of Australia*, located off Wardang Island in Spencer Gulf." (From Cos Coroneos & Bill Jeffrey, South Australian Department of Environment and Natural Resources.)

DIVE GEAR STILL FOR SALE

Steve Reynolds still has some dive gear for sale. There is a twin tank BCD (Dacor Pro Rig BCD with stainless steel backplate, double steel straps for twin tanks, double-belt straps for single tank. It has 14 D-rings, is in good condition and the airhose is included.) Also selling several other BCDs, regs, wetsuits & accessories, incl.: - Dacor & Oceanic regs, contents gauges, Aladin Sport Plus dive computer, Ocean-Tec Sonar 1-piece female semi-dry wetsuit with front zip and ankle zips, compasses, and much more. These items can be inspected at Largs North by phoning Steve Reynolds on 08 8248 3008.

JAPANESE WHALING RESUMES IN THE ANTARCTIC

"Let Japan know you want action

Don't just wring your hands in despair - YOU can do something to help stop the Japanese killing of humpback whales in the Antarctic. As the Japanese whaling ships head south to start their

hunt, *The Daily Telegraph* has created a petition to send to Japan as part of our commitment to save these gentle and magnificent creatures. Many in Japan have no knowledge of their Government's support of the hunt, or are unaware of the special place humpbacks have in the hearts of Australians. Our petition, created in consultation with environmental campaigners Greenpeace, aims to show Japanese people the intensity of feeling in Australia about the annual slaughter." Source: <http://www.news.com.au/dailytelegraph/story/0,22049,22874082-5014144,00.html> . Other related web pages include <http://www.news.com.au/dailytelegraph/index/0,,5014144,00.html> and <https://www.greenpeace.org.au/secure/appeal/whales/?src=DT?pg=1> . Former "Home And Away" star Isabel Lucas is helping the campaign to stop Japan's slaughter of whales and dolphins. To find out more or to sign her petition, go to www.news.com.au/dailytelegraph . Details of the petition are included in the December issue of our SDFSA Bulletin. There are some links to video footage at www.news.com.au/dailytelegraph . A video of a Channel 9 "Today" show interview with Isabel Lucas can be viewed at http://video.msn.com/?mkt=en-au&brand=ninemsn&tab=m2397&from=39&vid=085F955E-B4B0-429E-A2AC-CC0DCF7836EA&playlist=videoByTag:mk:en-AU:vs:0:tag:AUnews_AUtoday:ns:MSNVideo_Top_Cat:ps:10:sd:-1:ind:1:ff:8A .

DRAFT COMMERCIAL MARINE MAMMAL INTERACTIONS PERMITTING POLICY

Whilst discussing whales and dolphins, the SA State Government's Department for Environment and Heritage has developed a Draft Commercial Marine Mammal Interactions Permitting Policy that provides a framework for permitting tour operators who conduct marine mammal interactions in SA. DEH will be circulating this Draft CMMIP Policy document to stakeholder groups this month. DEH will also hold 2-hour information sessions for stakeholders in key locations next February. Details of these information sessions will be confirmed this month. In the meantime, the early indications are that one will be held in both Port Lincoln and Whyalla during the week beginning 4th February. One will then be held in both Adelaide and Victor Harbor during the week beginning 11th February. One will then be held on Kangaroo Island during the week beginning 18th February.

As reported in our October news sheet, the DEH's [draft National Parks and Wildlife \(Protected Animals - Marine Mammals\) Regulations 2007 \(200Kb PDF\)](#) replaced the previous regulations governing the management of commercial and recreational marine mammal interactions in South Australia. A [draft Regulatory Impact Statement \(100Kb PDF\)](#) was also available. Visit http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/latest_news.html for more details.

SA SHIPWRECK DISPLAY IN SYDNEY

The SA Maritime Museum's travelling exhibition "Wrecked! Tragedy and the Southern Seas" is now on display at the Australian National Maritime Museum in Sydney until 28th January 2008.

MORE PROTECTION NEEDED FOR BLUE GROPER & HARLEQUIN FISH

As reported in our October news sheet, our Federation, in conjunction with other groups such as the Marine Life Society of SA, is lobbying the State Government for greater protection for Western Blue Groper and Harlequin Fish. The present levels of protection for both species are leading to the decline of populations of them both. Letters outlining our concerns were sent to Rory McEwen, the Minister for Agriculture, Food & Fisheries, with copies going out to Gail Gago, the Minister for Environment & Conservation, and Cath Cooper, the Presiding Officer of the new Fisheries Council.

Premier Rann soon took up the matter and advised the Marine Life Society of SA that he remains committed to protecting our state's threatened marine species. He went on to say that the results

of the PIRSA Recreational Fishing Survey will inform a review of the management arrangements for all recreationally caught species and a review might consider measures such as restrictions and education about threatened species. The results of the PIRSA Fisheries survey should be available in December 2008. The Western Blue Groper has already been included in the review for consideration. Mike Rann has personally asked PIRSA to include the Harlequin Fish in the review for consideration. For more information about the survey, visit www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries/home . For further information about the matter, visit <http://www.mlssa.asn.au/issue1.htm> . Be sure to wait for the three fish photos to download.

MARINE PARKS BILL 2007 PASSED

The *SA Marine Parks Bill 2007* was passed in the Lower House on 20th November, bringing the proposed 19 marine parks by 2010 one step closer to becoming a reality. Although the locations and boundaries of these marine parks are yet to be decided, it has been suggested that 11 of them will be established adjacent to the Eyre Peninsula coastline. A Marine Parks Council will be established and extensive public consultation will occur during 2008, giving South Australians the opportunity to comment on marine park boundaries and draft management plans via regional consultative committees. Nominations for membership of the Marine Parks Council have been called for. One member of the Council will be a 'recreational person'. According to the "Whyalla News" (<http://whyalla.yourguide.com.au/news/local/general/marine-parks>), 11 of the 19 marine parks will be adjacent to the Eyre Peninsula. Members of the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association and Whyalla Mayor Jim Pollock have been calling for an economic impact study for the parks. Most recent amendments to the bill include:

- Expanding the range of stakeholders that the minister must consult with on a draft management plan (thereby ensuring direct contact with conservation, local government, commercial and recreation fishing, aquaculture and tourism groups to seek input)
- Release of a full environmental, social and economic impact statement of a proposed park's zoning - to be released with each draft management plan
- An assurance that the government can't delegate responsibilities on a local council without their consent.

Public consultation meetings have already begun around the state. At a meeting held in Port MacDonnell on 29th October, the Department for Environment & Heritage reinforced its commitment to working closely with communities in the South East as SA's marine parks program is developed. They discussed common myths about marine parks, outlined the parks' benefits and gave an update on the progress of the SA program. They then addressed a range of concerns expressed by the attending public, including issues such as the unique underwater habitats that the marine parks would seek to protect. DEH's Acting Manager, Chris Thomas, said that local consultative committees will be set up to help develop draft zoning plans and DEH would welcome further opportunities to talk to local communities, either at public meetings or through smaller group or one-on-one briefings. Further information about the Bill can be found on the DEH website at <http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/marineparks.html> .

THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE REEF 2008

This 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. Anyone is welcome and actively encouraged to participate in this Initiative. Visit either <http://www.icriforum.org> or <http://www.iyor.org/> for more information. The last International Year of the Reef was held 11 years ago in 1997.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DEEP Indonesia 2008

DEEP Indonesia 2008 will be held at the Jakarta Convention Center from the 28th to 30th March 2008. DEEP Indonesia 2008 is the only international Diving, Adventure Travel and Water Sports exhibition to be held in Indonesia. It will incorporate seminars, workshops, special events and more. The event focuses on Indonesia's fabulous ocean life and is designed to promote marine tourism through diving, water sports and adventure travel as well as to encourage people to love the ocean and its resources. Visit the DEEP Indonesia website at <http://www.deepindonesia.com/> for more details.

ADEX 2008

The Asia Dive Expo is being held in Singapore from 18th to 20th April 2008. Visit www.asiadiveexpo.com for more details.

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 is being held at Australian Technology Park in Sydney from 21st to 22nd March 2009. Visit www.diveoztek.com.au for more details.

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: -

Port Development Could Scuttle Giant Cuttlefish.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Anti-Whaling Petition.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Thrasher Or Thresher?**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Catch Cuts 'Bring Bigger Profits'.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Last Laugh**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Victorian Abalone Ganglioneuritis Virus**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
More On Moreton Bay.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**
Pirate Ship Found After 300 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 Advisory Group (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 sdfsa@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