

SDF News Sheet May 2006

A service to members of the SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF SA

Working to develop the sport of Scuba diving in SA

PO Box 360, Goodwood SA 5034 info@sdfsa.net www.sdfsa.net

Our next meeting is being held upstairs at [247 Currie Street*](#), [Adelaide](#) at 8pm on Tuesday 13th June. We will continue to hold our meetings at Currie St whilst the Hilton Hotel is being renovated.

***[It's a stand alone, 130-year old double story building known as 'Darnley House' \(but it's not mentioned on the building yet\).](#) No.247 is almost to West Tce on southern side of Currie Street, just a few houses down from the [Edinburgh Castle Hotel](#). It has [Clifton Place](#) running down the western side. [There is street parking](#) in Clifton Pl, Gray St and [West Tce \(only 150m away\)](#).**

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NRM MEETINGS

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resource Management Board which meets on the second Thursday of each month. The next NRM meeting is being held on Thursday 18th May at 9.30am at the Christies Beach Surf Lifesaving Club, The Esplanade, Christies Beach. At the conclusion of the Board Meeting Reef Watch (Chris Ball, Paul Hastings, James Brook – CCSA) will lead a tour to Port Noarlunga reef to discuss reef issues. This will be followed by a tour to the (Onkaparinga River?) estuary car park at Port Noarlunga,, led by Paul Hastings. Then there will be a tour of coastal on-ground works at Maslins Beach, led by Sarah Bignell and Claire Petherick. Sediment has been flowing into the sea at Maslins Beach. Everyone will then return to the Christies Beach Surf Lifesaving Clubrooms at 5pm to conclude the events of the day. Visit

<http://www.amlnrm.sa.gov.au/nrm/boards/amlr/meetings.html> for more details.

JUNE PUBLIC HOLIDAY

We trust that you enjoyed some good diving over Easter, or possibly on ANZAC Day. The month of May is now devoid of public holidays and holiday long weekends. Our next public holiday is the Queen's Birthday on 12th June. We know that it will well and truly be winter by then but, since it is the last public holiday until early October, try to make the most of it. The June long weekend is the time that many divers head off to Whyalla to check out the Giant Australian Cuttlefish mating season. The whale-sighting season starts again in June.

MANY THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

15th -21st May is National Volunteers Week and the Queen's Birthday public holiday on 12th June is also Volunteers Day in SA. With these dates in mind, we wish to thank our club delegates and the executive committee members for their efforts over the past year. Everything that they have done to assist our Federation is greatly appreciated.

WHYALLA CUTTLEFISH SEASON

Yes, it's on again! The Whyalla cuttlefish season runs until August. Phone the Whyalla VIC on 8645 7900 or 1800 088 589 to enquire about any plans for an expo this year. Here are a couple of web page addresses that you may wish to check out: -

<http://www.whyallacuttlefish.com/cuttlefish/index.htm> ,

<http://www.whyallacuttlefish.com/cuttlefish/Cuttlefish%20A4%20brochure.pdf> and

www.cuttlefishcapital.com.au .

CRAYFISH SEASON CLOSURE

Of course, while the Whyalla cuttlefish season is running, it means the end of the crayfish (Southern Rock Lobster) season. The taking of rock lobster in the southern zone is prohibited between 6pm on 30th April and 6am on 1st October.

The taking of rock lobster in the northern zone is prohibited between 6pm on 31st May and 6am on 1st November.

ROCK LOBSTER FISHERY PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting of the Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery Management Committee is normally held each June. We will try to confirm arrangements regarding a meeting but interested persons could contact Sean Sloan at PIRSA on 8226 0219

RAPID BAY JETTY UPDATE

We are maintaining contact with Transport SA and a meeting of stakeholders is imminent. We hope to hear something definite soon. Dr Scoresby Shepherd is assisting the transport people with their investigations. We understand that the camping ground at Rapid Bay is operating once more. Pat Conlon, the Minister for Transport paid a visit to the jetty site recently. The Friends of Rapid Bay Jetty web site has been updated. Visit <http://www.rapidbayjetty.org/> (see the 'Quick Update' section on the main page).

A "NIGHT OF DIVING" EVENING

The dive industry is planning to hold another free "Night of Diving" evening at AMDEL again soon. The night will feature three speakers including Richard "Harry" Harris. Details will be advised once that they become available.

HOBART UPDATE

12th May was the 6th anniversary of the decommissioning of HMAS *Hobart* in Sydney in 2000. The 'Green Ghost' was commissioned over 40 years ago in 1965. It provided 35 years of naval service. Stories about your *Hobart* diving experiences are still needed for posting to the web site. These should be forwarded to Hank van der Wijngaart at hvander@ozemail.com.au .

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY & WORLD OCEANS DAY

WED is being held on Monday 5th June. WOD is being held on Thursday 8th June. For more details visit www.gdrc.org/oceans/oceans-day.html .

PROPOSED FISH POSSESSION LIMITS THREATEN REGIONAL TOURISM

Gary Clifford, President of the Lower South East Recreational Fishers Association, says that proposed restrictions on the quantity of fish recreational fishers can possess could harm regional tourism. Changes to legislation proposed by the Department for Primary Industries would impose limits to decrease the illegal fish trade. The changes could see specific limits for species such as Southern Rock Lobster, Abalone and King George Whiting. Speaking on Radio 639ABC, Gary Clifford said that the move could spell disaster for fishing tourism. "If people, say from the south

east, are going to drive to the west coast and bring back only a few whiting, they're not going to go, so the tourism and that in those towns will die because people aren't going to go there just for a few fish."

REEF WATCH NEWS

TOUR TO PORT NOARLUNGA REEF

As advised above, Reef Watch is participating in the next meeting of the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resource Management Board which is being held on Thursday 18th May at 9.30am at the Christies Beach Surf Lifesaving Club, The Esplanade, Christies Beach. At the conclusion of the Board Meeting, Chris Ball, Paul Hastings & James Brook from Reef Watch will lead a tour to Port Noarlunga reef to discuss reef issues.

LATEST ISSUE OF "REEF WATCHER"

The latest issue of "Reef Watcher" (9.1) is now out. Topics covered in this issue include: - Reef Watch AGM, Intertidal Monitoring Update and Forthcoming Public Lecture Thursday 8th June, Reef Watch Dive Program for May & June, DEH Coast and Marine Seminar Program 2006, SARDI Open Day Report, Reef Watch Marathon Dive Report, Results from Noarlunga Reef Fish Surveys, About Leatherjackets, Port Rickaby Snorkel Day, Reef Monitoring by DEH on Yorke Peninsula, Seadragon and Pipefish Protection – a Collection of Views, Dirty Business for the Friends of Gulf St. Vincent, Monitoring Aldinga Reef – Past and Present, Native fan worms sought, and Harlequin Fish Records sought.

For further details visit the Reef Watch web site at www.reefwatch.asn.au .

WATERS MURKY STILL

The waters of upper Gulf St Vincent have remained quite murky still. Channel dredging has still been occurring out from Largs Bay and sand carting has been done on beaches near the River Torrens outlet. Sediment has also been flowing into the sea at Maslins Beach. Some of these topics are discussed in the latest issue of "Reef Watcher" (9.1) – see the article titled "Dirty Business for the Friends of Gulf St. Vincent". Visit the Reef Watch web site at www.reefwatch.asn.au .

SPENCER GULF MARINE PLAN

Reef Watch tell us that the Marine Plan (This is like a development plan for on land) for Spencer Gulf will be released shortly.

QUIZ NIGHT

Another quiz night will be held again during winter. Last year's quiz night was well attended.

MISCELLANEOUS / GENERAL

Reef Watch recently held a planning day when it was able to look closely at modifications to the Reef Watch program to increase diver enjoyment and facilitate participation. Reef Watch will continue to schedule dives over the forthcoming months.

PORT WAKEFIELD MARINA PROPOSAL

A \$250m housing and marina development has been proposed for Port Wakefield. A shopping centre is included in the proposal. The dredging of a channel to build the marina could impact on the mangroves there.

NEW MARINA AT ROBE

The Robe breakwater is being repaired and a new \$6m marina is being built.

PIRSA MEDIA RELEASE

Andrew Dalgetty, Manager Community Awareness for PIRSA Fisheries tells us that two men have been given a suspended jail sentence and each fined more than \$9,000 after pleading guilty to taking a quantity of abalone and other assorted shell fish from an inter-tidal reef at Hallett

Cove back in January 2003. Andrew also says that to view all PIRSA media releases go to <http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/dhtml/ss/section.php?sectID=2403> .

ITEMS IN DIVE LOG

The April issue of Dive Log was yet another South Aussie affair what with the usual columns by Christopher Deane, Jo-Anne Klocke and our Federation. Then there was an article (with photos) by Steve Reynolds titled “The Bell of the *Yandra*” and another by Chris titled “Pemuteran Biorock Reef” which is very interesting. This information may be coming too late if you didn’t manage to get a copy of the April Dive Log but Chris’s article did offer a couple of web sites to visit re his topic. These were www.biorock.net , www.wolfhilbertz.com and www.globalcoral.org . The May Dive Log is also an SA affair and there is yet another article by Chris on page 58.

SDFSFA BULLETIN

Attached along with this SDF News Sheet is a copy of the latest issue of our *SDFSFA bulletin*. This is an electronic bulletin separate to our normal monthly *SDF News Sheet*. Future issues of the *SDFSFA bulletin* will include lengthy articles about matters of interest to recreational divers. We welcome contributions from our readers.

VOLUNTEERS NEWS

15th to 21st May is National Volunteer Week. In SA, however, we celebrate Volunteers Day on the Queen’s Birthday public holiday (12th June) since the Adelaide Cup public holiday was moved from May to March this year. A date hasn’t yet been set for next year’s Adelaide Cup holiday though. International Volunteers Day, however, is being held on 5th December this year. Jennifer Rankine has now replaced Premier Mike Rann as the new Minister for Volunteers.

COAST AND MARINE PLANNING, LEGISLATION & POLICY

The Conservation Council of SA's new website hosts up to date information about coast and marine policy planning and legislation. A few more details about the web site are included in our May SDFSFA Bulletin. Visit the website at www.ccsa.asn.au .

BOAT RAMP & JETTY UPGRADES PROPOSED AT VICTOR HARBOR

A concept plan has been developed for an upgrade of the boat ramp at the Bluff at Victor Harbor. The Victor harbourmaster is also looking at funding sources for improvements to the Screwpile Jetty on Granite Island. More details about these two proposals can be read in our May SDFSFA Bulletin.

ADELAIDE DOLPHIN SANCTUARY NEWSLETTER

The Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary has started issuing an electronic newsletter in pdf format. “In Sanctuary” will be used to update and inform stakeholders and interested parties of major initiatives and achievements of the sanctuary. Future editions will be available via a link on the ADS website and those wishing to subscribe will be sent the link via email. Visit www.adelaidedolphinsanctuary.sa.gov.au for more details.

THE WET GAZETTE

Issue 39 of “The Wet Gazette” magazine discusses new scuba hand signals (and MORE). The magazine’s Editor, Mark Phillips says that The Wet Gazette is sent almost exclusively to recreational scuba divers and folks in the scuba industry. “We will continue to build the www.thewetgazette.com web site as funds and time become available. Please feel free to share the site and if you have a web site of your own, please add a link to ours. We value your time as much as our own. If at any time you decide you do not wish to subscribe to The Wet Gazette

anymore, just reply to the email with UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject line. Stay Safe!" Mark also says, "We have been out of commission for a while but are finally back. Our magazine is NOT a discussion group and we do not send out emails frivolously. If you wish to join our discussion group, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SCUBA4Less> ." Issue 39 of "The Wet Gazette" may be downloaded from www.thewetgazette.com . Please note, however, that it is a 849kb pdf file and it requires Adobe Acrobat Reader (version 5.0 or newer) to view it. Acrobat Reader 7 will not run on Windows 98. Updates are available for free by visiting Adobe Online via your old version of Acrobat Reader. Otherwise visit: - <http://www.adobe.com> .

NPA~MARINE NEWSLETTER

Nicky Hammond, Marine Project Officer for National Parks Association of NSW, says that NPA~Marine newsletters are online at <http://www.marine.org.au> . You can also check out their latest campaign news and upcoming events. You can even join NPA~Marine at <http://www.marine.org.au/member.htm> or donate online at <http://www.npansw.org.au/onlineshop/> .

OTHER MAGAZINES ONLINE

And whilst we're listing all of these online newsletters and magazines, the EcoVoice magazine is available online at www.ecovoice.com.au/evonline and the SeaChange magazine web site is at www.seachangemag.com.au .

UNDERWATER PHOTOS IN CHILDREN'S BOOK

Underwater photos by David Muirhead feature in a children's book by Robyn Opie titled "Sea Animals to Avoid" (ISBN 174120105-5). There are other books (in the same series?) with David's photos in them. This particular one is published by Era Publications of Flinders Park. Check out their web site at www.erapublications.com .

CLUB NEWS

GSDC

Whilst on the subject of David Muirhead's photos, David will be the guest speaker at the Glenelg Scuba Diving Club's meeting on Monday 7th August. David says that his presentation of underwater slides will have "plenty of local critter ID focus/interest".

AGMs & ANNIVERSARIES

It's AGM time again for many of SA's scuba clubs. MLSSA's AGM is being held on 17th May. The UEC is holding its AGM on Wednesday 7th June. ASDC is holding its AGM on Tuesday 6th June. AGMs being held in July include Glenelg Scuba Diving Club and NARCD's. Our own AGM is being held on 11th July. Then there are club anniversaries. The UEC celebrates its 52nd year in May. Special congratulations to the Marine Life Society of SA. MLSSA celebrates its 30th anniversary in June. Coastal Waters DC celebrated the 12th anniversary of its name in April. The club became CWDC in April 1994 after having its beginnings in November 1991. This means that their 15th anniversary will be celebrated this coming November.

UEC

The Underwater Explorer's Club of SA is now holding its meetings at the Metropolitan Hotel in Grote St, Adelaide

AGM IN JULY

Our Federation's AGM will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 11th July following our General Meeting. Annual reports need to be in the hands of the Secretary by 4th July. Written nominations for positions on the Executive Committee also need to be received by that same date. Nomination forms have been sent out to our member clubs. Please bring a plate of supper along to the AGM.

BEN CROPP'S LIFE STORY

There is a new book (magazine style) about Ben Cropp's life story so far. The book, written by Mike Colman, is titled "Ben Cropp: Blood in the Water" (ISBN, 1876624671). It is available from Dive Log for \$39.95 plus \$8.50 postage & handling. Email your order to Margaret Bloom at books@motpub.com.au or phone 03 5944 3774. Details about the book were published on page 22 of the May issue of Dive Log. Alternatively, visit http://magshop.com.au/Blood_in_the_Water.htm for more details about the book.

RECREATION SA NEWS

[Recreation SA](#) has a new Board which was elected at their December AGM. Rebecca Avery was elected as the Rec SA President. Rec SA will officially launch the Adventure Activity Standards, including the AAS for Snorkelling, Scuba and Wildlife Swims, at the Belair Country Club in early June.

SAFE DIVING PROTOCOLS

Don't forget that the latest versions of the 'safe diving' documents can be downloaded from our website at http://www.sdfsa.net/safe_diving_guidelines.htm.

TRAILS UPDATE

The next meeting of the SA Trails Coordinating Committee is being held on Friday 8th June. The next trails national conference is being held in Tasmania. The proposed Port Noarlunga foreshore redevelopment is said to be being made more 'diver friendly'. We are endeavouring to obtain details.

TITANIC TALK

Maritime enthusiast (& artist) John Ford will present a talk about the RMS (or SS) *Titanic* at 7pm on Friday 26th May at the Black Diamond Gallery, 66 Commercial Road, Port Adelaide. Phone 8449 3987 for bookings (which are essential). The *Titanic* sank early on the 15th April 1912. She was located by Robert Ballard in September 1985.

MARITIME MUSEUM NEWS

***DUYFKEN* REPLICA'S PORT ADELAIDE VISIT**

The replica of the Dutch ship *Duyfken* will arrive at the Queen's Wharf, McLaren Parade, Port Adelaide on 18th May. She will be there until 28th May. There will also be lots of fun activities around the Port over both weekends that the *Duyfken* is there. After leaving Port Adelaide, the *Duyfken* will sail to Victor Harbor. A planned weeklong stop at Victor has apparently been cutback to just one day only. The *Duyfken*'s current voyage started on 6th April. The voyage is a major component of the Australia On The Map 1606-2006 commemorations. The original *Duyfken* was built over 400 years ago. The 24m-long replica was launched in Fremantle in July 1999. It has since sailed to the Netherlands and back. More details about the *Duyfken* were included in our April *SDFSA Bulletin*.

EXHIBITION

The SA Maritime Museum now has a new exhibition called "South Australia on the Map 1606 to 2006". It traces the history of exploring SA, including European charting of the coastline. The exhibition runs from 13th April to 21st June at 119 Lipson St in Port Adelaide. It marks the 400th anniversary of the first charting of the Australian coast by the crew of the *Duyfken*.

FESTIVAL

The museum is also holding a festival of marine trades on 21st & 28th May. Sail makers, boat wrights, tinsmiths, coopers, model makers and marine painters will be demonstrating their traditional skills 11am to 5pm.

MUSEUMS & HERITAGE DAY

28th May is also Port Adelaide's Museums & Heritage Day. There will be special half price entry to major museums in the Port Adelaide area. There will also be other special events held on the day. Phone Port Adelaide VIC on 8405 6560 for more details.

20th ANNIVERSARY

Incidentally, December this year is the 20th anniversary of the opening of the SA Maritime Museum, which opened its doors in Port Adelaide in 1986.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIKINI

Whilst on the topic of anniversaries, I missed a TV report about 2006 being the 60th anniversary of the development of the bikini. This important piece of swimming attire must have been designed in 1946. I haven't been able to find out much about the topic so a great deal of research into the matter is still required. Any worthwhile leads would be appreciated.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GOLD MINE RESCUE

Next March marks the 100th anniversary of the rescue of one man from a WA gold mine. A miner was trapped in an air pocket in the mine at Bonnievale when it was flooded by rain in March 1907. He was trapped there for some 216 hours (9 days) before being rescued by divers.

FUEL FUNDING FEARS

The SA Sea Rescue Squadron relies on a fuel subsidy from the State Government. Rising fuel costs mean that they have already used this year's subsidy. The next subsidy is not due until 1st July. Volunteers are now paying for their fuel themselves. The squadron may have to close one of its flotillas unless further fuel funding is forthcoming.

CHEAP FUEL CAMPAIGN

Whilst on the topic of fuel costs, if you feel like a trip to our south-east this winter, Limestone Coast Tourism offers a 60c per litre fuel rebate to drivers who stay at any one of 43 participating accommodation providers for three nights. This scheme is known as the "Cheap Fuel campaign". Bookings and vouchers can be obtained through the SA Visitor & Travel Centre at 18 King William St, Adelaide. Phone them on 1300 655 276 or visit www.southaustralia.com .

NOTICE TO MARINERS

SA Government Notices to Mariners are published in The Advertiser. A Notice to Mariners provides information on hazards and changes to navigation in South Australian waters including the River Murray. Apart from The Advertiser, notices are also published in the South Australian Government Gazette. For information on Australian Notices to Mariners please visit the Australian Hydrographic Office site at <http://www.hydro.gov.au/> or visit <http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/quicklinks/mariners.asp> .

BRAKES NEEDED FOR HEAVY BOAT TRAILERS

National Road Regulations were introduced in 1999. These included a regulation that all trailers with a gross mass over 750kg must be fitted with brakes. SA placed an exemption on this at the time for older trailers. The weight rating is based on the weight of the trailer plus the weight of its load, i.e. a boat. This exemption for SA trailers will be expiring at midnight 30th September 2006. Transport SA has said in the news letter "On Deck" (issue 4) that from 1st October they will be checking/patrolling launch locations to ensure that all boat trailers comply. They have

also said that they will give out defect notices and expiation notices to people should their trailers not comply. Dennis Hutson (Scuba D) passed this information on to us. He suggests that people take their boat trailers to a public weigh bridge, or perhaps their local sand and metal supplier, and weigh their trailer to see if they are to be affected by the new regulation. He says that to upgrade to brakes isn't cheap. The cost of a tow hitch is about \$170 and a new axle with braked hubs (5 stud Holden pattern) is about \$650. Cabling will cost about \$100 so there won't be much change out of \$1000. The brakes recommended for boats are mechanical disc brakes. Many thanks go to (Scuba) Dennis for this information. Visit <http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/publications/index.asp> to check out details of "On Deck" published by Transport SA. Issue 4 has not been posted to the site at the time of preparing this news sheet. We are endeavouring to check on the rules regarding tandem axles for trailers, car & trailer weight ratios, towing capacities, etc.. We understand that vehicles or trailers that don't conform to regulations would not be covered by insurance in the event of a claim.

GRANTS NEWS

Applications for the latest round of Active Club Program Grants close on Friday 19th May. For more details contact the Office for Recreation and Sport on 8416 6708 or visit www.recsport.sa.gov.au .

DEH COAST AND MARINE SEMINAR PROGRAM – 2006

This month's seminar is being held on Wed 31st May from 12.30-1.30pm, in the Coorong Boardroom (Level 2) at 1 Richmond Road, Keswick. Dr Bronwyn Gillanders from the University of Adelaide is speaking about population structure and movements of the Giant Australian cuttlefish. All interested persons are most welcome. A list of the remaining 2006 Department of Environment Coast and Marine Seminars is included in our May SDFS Bulletin.

HERBARIUM'S ALGAL COLLECTION NEEDS DATA BASING

The State Herbarium maintains records of local plants, including marine species. The herbarium probably has the largest algal collection in Australia but the bulk of it has not been put into a database. This is a great pity because many marine projects are hampered by the difficulties in accessing data on the distribution of species from the 90,000 individual specimen sheets. A complete database would circumvent this problem. The herbarium had sufficient funding to database all of the terrestrial collections but there was nothing left to database the bulk of the algal collections. About \$400,000 is needed to be able to database the complete algal collection. Our politicians need to inject some cash into the herbarium's work so that our plant records may finally be completed.

EXPLORING IN EWENS PONDS

According to "Guidelines for Scuba and Snorkel Diving in Ewens Ponds", divers are not allowed to explore or dive in caves, cracks or crevices in the ponds.

HIGH LEVELS OF DIOXINS FOUND IN SYDNEY HARBOUR FISHERMEN

Following the discovery of high levels of dioxins in marine life in Sydney Harbour, commercial fishing was banned there in January this year. Dioxins are toxic chemicals which can concentrate in body fat and cause serious skin lesions. Recreational fishing, however, is still allowed in the harbour. According to the "Sunday Times", tests have also been done on Sydney fishermen. Blood samples taken from a group of Sydney fisherman who ate fish from the harbour 3-4 times each week showed high levels of dioxins in their blood. The paper said that ABC TV reported that one fisherman who began fishing full-time in 1946 had more than ten times the Australian average of dioxin in his blood. The son of a fisherman also had dioxin levels seven times higher than the typical Australian child after eating prawns caught from the harbour. Toxicologist

associate professor Chris Winder told the ABC the blood test results were concerning. Further details are included in our May SDFSA Bulletin. For more details visit: -

http://www.sundaytimes.news.com.au/common/story_page/0,7034,18868367%255E1702,00.html

NEWS FROM SAUPS

SLIDE NIGHT

The SA Underwater Photographic Society's slide night held on 27th April was a successful event. Several SDF delegates attended the evening for presentations by Richard "Harry" Harris and Neville Skinner. Even a long-forgotten ex-delegate turned up on the night. The slides presented by both Harry and Neville were great. The subjects for the two presentations were "Vanuatu Shipwrecks & Reefs" and "SA Sinkholes". The whole evening was a membership drive by SAUPS and a few of the non-members in attendance filled out membership application forms on the night. If you are thinking about joining SAUPS you can email their President, David Teubner at dteubner@msn.com.au .

The following information comes to us from the SA Underwater Photographic Society: -

GUIDED UNDERWATER PHOTO DIVE TOURS

Jeff & Dawn Mullins (West Aussie Expats) are running guided underwater photo dive tours from May through to November this year in Bali. Their services may be of particular interest for individuals or couples as they are set-up to cater to the needs of small groups. For those interested in diving in and around the Tulamben area of Bali, Jeff & Dawn are offering personally guided tours of Tulamben's dive sites for underwater photographers and critter hunters, plus photo clinics for small groups. They also offer on-site image download facilities and CD/DVD burning (a first for Tulamben).

They say that they have been diving and visiting Tulamben regularly since 1980 and have recently published a book on the area (see website www.tulamben.i8.com). They place emphasis on exploration, which has led to discovering dive sites visited by very few divers, including caves, sponge gardens and new muck dives. They also dive the world famous Liberty Wreck, the Drop-Off, Seraya Secrets (the new muck diving capital of Bali), Batu Kelebit and the Coral Garden. They own a property just a couple of kms outside of Tulamben where they reside and they can offer secure/private air-conditioned accommodation for individuals or small groups. They have their very own house reefs that are dived only by them. Check out their website at www.reefimages.i8.com or contact them at reefwreckandcritter@yahoo.com for more details.

BOMBER REEF

An American B-25 Mitchell Bomber plunged into the sea off of Papua New Guinea in August 1943 after being hit by ground fire. It now lies at a depth of 25m and it has become a diver's dream. The site is now known as "Bomber Reef" and it features in a DVD titled "The Bomber Reef - War In The Pacific". The B-25 had recently been on a mission over Madang to destroy a fleet of Japanese supply barges. It was all ablaze when it plunged into the sea. Five of the surviving crew swam to safety and were captured by the Japanese. Four of the crew were soon bayoneted to death along with another B-25 crewman. The lone survivor was shipped to Tokyo and remained in captivity until the end of the war. Visit

<http://www.pngbusinessdirectory.com/> for more details about the bomber and the DVD.

NEW MARES WEB SITE

If you are a sea lover and you'd like to stay informed about new products, business initiatives, news, and tit-bits from the world of Mares, check out the new Mares web site at www.mares.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

HIDEAWAY ISLAND DIVE FESTIVAL

The Hideaway Island Dive Festival & Digital Photo Shoot is being held in Vanuatu from 21st to 28th May. Visit www.hideaway.com.vu for more details (or read pages 38-9 of the April Dive Log).

COAST TO COAST 2006

Australia's national [Coast to Coast conference](http://www.iceaustralia.com/coasttocoast2006/index.html) "Coast to Coast 2006" will be held from 22nd-25th May 2006 at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre. For more information on the conference, visit <http://www.iceaustralia.com/coasttocoast2006/index.html> or email coasttocoast@iceaustralia.com.

RESEARCH FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

The Research for Coastal Management Symposium will be held in Melbourne on 26th May to complement the Coast to Coast conference and provide an opportunity for research focussed discussions. It will bring together some of Australia's foremost coastal researchers to present new coastal research and its implications for management.

MANGROVE MACROBENTHOS MEETING

The Mangrove Macrobenthos Meeting II (MMM2) will be held on the Gold Coast between 26-30th June 2006. The meeting, jointly organised by Griffith University and the University of Queensland, will bring together scientists and managers engaged in mangrove research and management from around the world for a week's informal discussion and exchange. The meeting will also provide an ideal occasion for networking with the global community of mangrove researchers. For information about the meeting visit <http://www.griffith.edu.au/conference>. The meeting is followed by a 5-day field trip to the Daintree River, one of the most biologically diverse mangrove habitats in the world. MMM2 and the Workshop are purposely organised just prior to the AMSA-SWS joint 'Catchment to Coast' meeting in Cairns, to facilitate attendance at both meetings by overseas researchers. These two major meetings should provide a great 'package' for wetland researchers. On-line registration will only take a few minutes and links are available for accommodation bookings. Follow the link on the conference web page for registration. Please contact the meeting secretariat at cpp-mmm2@griffith.edu.au for further information and assistance with registration.

UNDERWATER PHOTO CHALLENGE

Malaysia's Layang Layang Island Resort is holding an underwater photo challenge from 25th to 31st July 2006. Details can be found on page 22 of the April Dive Log. Visit www.layanglayang.com for more details.

AUSTRALASIAN AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW 2006

The Australasian Aquaculture Conference And Trade Show 2006 is being held Sunday 27th to 30th August 2006 at the Adelaide Convention Centre, SA. Contact the Australasian Aquaculture Conference Coordinator, Claudia Metti for more details on 8226 2269 or at metti.claudia@saugov.sa.gov.au, or visit <http://www.australian-aquacultureportal.com/austaqua/aa06.html>.

PADI ASIA PACIFIC DIGITAL PHOTO SHOOT-OUT

A digital photo shoot-out is being held in Sydney in early November. Details were given on page 5 of the March Dive Log. More details will be published in the May issue of Dive Log.

2006 AN OCEAN ODYSSEY

This is a special dive promotion evening. It is being held at the Clancy Auditorium at the University of NSW on Friday 17th November. Presentations will be given by Jean-Michel Cousteau, Dr Phil Nuytten, Ron & Valerie Taylor and Reg Lipson. Read pages 60-1 of the April Dive Log for further information.

2007 CORALWATCH WORKSHOP

The 4th Annual CoralWatch Focus on Corals workshop is being held at the Heron Island Research Station on the Great Barrier Reef from Friday 5th to Tuesday 9th January 2007. For more details visit www.coralwatch.org.

OZTeK'07

The OZTeK'07 Australasian Diving Conference & Exhibition is being held 17-18th March 2007 at the Australian Technology Park in Sydney. The OZTeK'07 web site at www.diveoztek.com.au provides news and updates on exhibitors, speakers, prizes, seminars, new products, photo competition, the famous gala dinner and all the events and action that will make OZTeK'07 the highlight of the 2007 Dive Calendar.

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

Sport SA (SA Sports Federation Inc.)

Recreation SA

Recreation SA's Adventure Activity Standards Working Committee for Snorkelling, Scuba and Aquatic Wildlife Tours

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

The SDF's sponsors are: -

Baird Bay Charters & Ocean Eco Tours

SA Tall Ships Inc. § 8341 2004 ✉ office@satallships.com

Contact the Federation's Secretary on info@sdfsa.net 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.