SDF News Sheet, October 2007

This news sheet is provided as a service to members of the

SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF SA

Working to develop the sport of Scuba diving in SA

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

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#### **NEXT MEETING**

We will be holding our next meeting at 8pm on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November at the Marden Senior College on Marden Road, Marden. Please ensure that your club's appointed delegate, or a proxy, attends the meeting.

## **AUSTRALIAN 4WD & ADVENTURE SHOW 2007**

This year's 4WD Show is being held at Alan Scott Park (Morphettville Racecourse) from Friday 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Apart from the obvious displays, there will also be Boats & Accessories, GPS Systems, Live Music and Entertainment. Visit <a href="http://www.4wdshow.com.au/?page=adelaideshow">http://www.4wdshow.com.au/?page=adelaideshow</a> for more details.

#### THE HEALTH OF SOUTHERN ADELAIDE'S REEFS AND SEAGRASSES

Dr. Simon Bryars from Aquatic Sciences, South Australian Research and Development Institute, will discuss The Health of Southern Adelaide's Reefs and Seagrasses at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th October in the Aldinga Library Community Room, Pridham Boulevard, Aldinga Beach. His presentation will be followed by Aldinga Bay Coastcare's Annual General Meeting. For further information, ring Peter Laffan 8556.3915

## SEMAPHORE PARK TRIAL BREAKWATER UPDATE MEETING

A public meeting for an update on the Semaphore Park trial breakwater is being held from 7 to 9.30pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October at the Semaphore Surf Lifesaving Club, Point Malcolm Reserve, Military Rd, Semaphore Park. Refreshments will be provided. Submissions are also invited from the public on the matter. A public submission form is available at <a href="https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/adelcoast.html">www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/adelcoast.html</a>. Select Adelaide Coast Protection on that web page. The closing date for submissions is 9<sup>th</sup> November. Phone Anna Pullen, Communications Officer for Adelaide's Living Beaches, on 8124 4882, or contact her at <a href="mailto:pullen.anna@saugov.sa.gov.au">pullen.anna@saugov.sa.gov.au</a> for further information or to RSVP.

# "INTRODUCTION TO MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY" (AIMA/NAS PART 1) COURSE IN NOVEMBER

The Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology (AIMA) will be offering an "Introduction to Maritime Archaeology" (AIMA/NAS Part 1) course in November 2007 in Adelaide. Details are included in the October issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

#### HYPERBARIC MEDICINE UNIT OPEN DAY

Keep an ear open for details of the next open day to be held at the Hyperbaric Medicine Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The early indications are that one will be held in November this year.

## MORE PROTECTION NEEDED FOR BLUE GROPER & HARLEQUIN FISH

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 have been sent to Rory McEwen, the Minister for

Agriculture, Food & Fisheries, Gail Gago, the Minister for Environment & Conservation, and Cath Cooper, the Presiding Officer of the new Fisheries Council.

#### HOW TO GET POLITICIANS' ATTENTION

The web page at <a href="http://www.efa.org.au/Campaigns/lobby.html#tipsletter">http://www.efa.org.au/Campaigns/lobby.html#tipsletter</a> gives good tips on "How to Get Politicians' Attention". For example, "**Keep it brief:** Letters should be no longer than one page and should be about one issue only. Be as concise as possible. Politicians receive many letters on many topics every day. Long letters are likely to be put aside to read on a less busy day and that day may never come." The contents listed on the web page include Contacting Members of Parliament, Who to Contact (and how to find the names of your Parliamentary representatives), How to Contact & Effectiveness of Methods, Tips for contacting Members of Parliament, Writing Letters, Sending Emails, Telephone Calls, Form of Address & Mail Addresses for Members of Parliaments, Contacting Newspapers (Writing letters to editors and email addresses for newspapers). Much of this will be very useful to all clubs wishing to do some serious lobbying.

#### **MARINA NEWS**

Marina Adelaide at Snowdens Beach on the Port River has now opened. The new marina comprises of 175 berths. 60 yachts moved from the Port Adelaide Sailing Club to the new marina on 7<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **HOBART UPDATE**

Could any divers who visit the *Hobart* please contact us at <a href="mailto:sdfsa@adam.com.au">sdfsa@adam.com.au</a> to report the state of the (mooring, navigation and safety) buoys at the site?

#### RAPID BAY JETTY UPDATE

Robert Jenkins, Project Director for the Office of Major Projects and Infrastructure, has provided us with an update re the Rapid Bay jetty. Details are included in the October issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

# NAUTIGUIDES COMPLETE WATERPROOF DIVE SITE GUIDE

"NAUTIGUIDES" is an underwater map and fish ID chart of your favourite dive site, including conservation concerns. It covers all emergency numbers and includes local hints and tips so you can make the most of your dive. On top of that, it makes a great souvenir for your logbook. Visit http://www.nautiguides.com/index.htm for more details.

### PORT NOARLUNGA REEF NIGHT DIVE

It was a beautiful evening for a night dive at Port Noarlunga reef at 7pm on 20<sup>th</sup> November, but the tide was 'all wrong'. It was coming over the top of the reef, creating a surface current, the kind that rips the close-up lens off of your camera as you descend. We all swam south along the reef until one of the divers suddenly shot to the surface and disappeared completely. He was trying out a new black silicon facemask and it kept flooding. Unknown to the rest of us, he was swept away by the current on the surface. We then decided that we should return to the jetty. We missed the divers' steps slightly and were both caught up in the surface current. We both decided to descend again and work our way back to the shore steps. It was a long swim in the dark, murky conditions. We eventually found the steps and climbed out. We established that our lost buddy was heading back to the same steps and we were both relieved when he made it back to the steps. I reported all of this to Will Scapens of "NautiGuide" so that he could warn people about the danger of the surface current when the tide is pouring over the top of the reef. I said that a later dive may have been much more enjoyable. Will's response was "I was a bit shocked that it was 7pm you were diving, as that was just about dead on high tide, yet you say the current

was still coming in after. The only thing I can think is that, like a sink overflowing, the tide was gathering up behind the reef, and then finally surged over, opening the floodgates so to speak. This might explain why it continued after high tide. I can only presume, as the high tide was just over 1m, then 1m, or just below, is the height of the reef above the tidal datum. I've got friends who live close to the reef, so I'm going to ask them in the meantime if they can check the time on a calm day that the reef submerges. Else I'll try to get the equipment and get down there myself and measure it."

#### **DODGE TIDES**

PDF files of annual plots of the predictions of when a dodge tide is likely to occur in Gulf St Vincent (for Port Adelaide) are available at

 $\underline{\text{http://www.bom.gov.au/oceanography/tides/dodge/oh2008pre.pdf}} \text{ . Further details about dodge tides are included in the October issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.}$ 

## **BUILD-UP OF SILT ON NORMA WRECK**

Did a dive on the wreck of the *Norma* recently. It was during a dodge tide. The viz was poor but quite acceptable. Normally, in the past, there was a sandy bottom there but the bottom is now covered with thick fine silt. The silt behaved itself whilst we were swimming along the bottom but, if we stopped momentarily, it would mushroom up around us and not disperse. The dodge tide kept it suspended around us. It is assumed that this thick silt must be from all the continuing dredging of the Outer Harbor shipping channel. Tides alone will not be enough to clear it away. We'll need some rough stormy conditions with big tides to move the silt away. If it's not moved soon, all of the marine life there will be suffocated. Does the government bother to monitor the impact of all of the dredging? Perhaps the old method of taking the silt elsewhere was better. It may have cost more, but the results were better. The silt may disperse better if it was placed further south where it can be flushed or dispersed with currents. The same goes for a desalination plant.

## **DESALINATION PLANT UPDATE**

The plans to build a desalination plant to supply some of Adelaide's water needs include the conducting of a detailed environmental study of Gulf St Vincent.

## **NEW FISHERIES COUNCIL**

The Hon. Paul Holloway, the Acting Minister for Agriculture, Food & Fisheries, issued a media release on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2007 concerning the 10 positions on the new Fisheries Council. The members of the Fisheries Council will advise the SA Government on the management and administration of marine and freshwater resources. Of particular note is the selection of both Christopher Deane and Trevor Watts (from SARFAC) to the Council.

#### ENCOUNTER MARINE PARK REGIONAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Four new members have been appointed to the Encounter Marine Park Regional Consultative Committee. The new members of the committee are Ms Bec Mussared, Mr Terry Lehmann, Ms Mary-Alice Ballantine and Ms Julianne Williss. Six of the original members of the committee have been re-appointed. These are Mr Tony Geyer, Mr John Lavers, Cr Mary Beckett, Mr John Crompton, Ms Linda Mullan and Mr Brenton Robins.

Source: http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/marineparks.html

## MARINE PARKS UPDATE

SARFAC recently sent us a copy of a map showing the "Focus Locations for SA's Proposed Marine Parks". There are 19 proposed Marine Parks. A similar map to the one sent by SARFAC

can be viewed at <a href="http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/images/keybio-locs-lge.jpg">http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/images/keybio-locs-lge.jpg</a> . Details regarding how the 19 focus locations were identified can be found at <a href="http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/marineparks/locations.html#19\_locations">http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/marineparks/locations.html#19\_locations</a> .

#### RAZORFISH BAG LIMIT REDUCTION

Bag & boat limits for the recreational harvest of razorfish, *Pinna bicolor*, will be halved from 1<sup>st</sup> December. From that date, the recreational daily bag limit for razorfish will be reduced from 50 to 25. Likewise, the recreational daily boat limit will be reduced from 150 to 75. (If three or less people are fishing from a boat, the personal bag limit applies to each person. If three or more people are fishing from a boat the combined boat limit (that is the total number of fish that can be landed onto the boat) is generally set at three times the personal bag limit. Note: for abalone and rock lobster the combined boat limit is set at twice the personal bag limit.)

## LAST ISSUE OF "SOUTHERN FISHERIES" MAGAZINE

Spring 2007 marks the very last issue of "Southern Fisheries" magazine, published by PIRSA Fisheries. This popular magazine had its origins in the "SAFIC Magazine" which started in 1974. It became "SAFish" magazine in 1985 and then "Southern Fisheries" in 1993. PIRSA has now decided to concentrate on "FishFacts", a free electric (on-line) newsletter. Anyone can subscribe to "FishFacts" by registering at <a href="www.pir.sa.gov.au/fishfacts">www.pir.sa.gov.au/fishfacts</a>. A new-look "FishFacts" will be sent to all subscribers in early November. We will forward each "FishFacts" received by the SDF on to our member clubs for on-forwarding to their club members.

## PROPOSED NEW MARINE MAMMAL REGULATIONS

The Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH) has released for public comment <u>draft National Parks and Wildlife</u> (Protected Animals - Marine Mammals) Regulations 2007 (200Kb PDF). These regulations replace the current regulations governing the management of commercial and recreational marine mammal interactions in South Australia. A <u>draft Regulatory Impact Statement (100Kb PDF)</u> has been prepared to facilitate public comment. DEH are contacting identified stakeholders to discuss the permitting arrangements that support the regulations. Greg Leaman, Director, Natural & Cultural Heritage, suggests a call to the Coast & Marine Conservation Branch on 8124 4900 or at <u>marinedeh@saugov.sa.gov.au</u> if we have any comments or queries. Visit <a href="http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/latest\_news.html">http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/coasts/latest\_news.html</a> for more details.

A well-known local marine life photographer says that he can't see any major drama. Regarding artificial light being a no-no, he says that this should hardly worry us, and the best pinniped (seal & sealion) images and other marine mammal images rely on natural light mostly, mainly for practical reasons anyway. He says that the sites where divers like to photograph and video SA's marine mammals are generally shallow, with plenty of natural light, making the use of fill-in lighting unnecessary. He therefore supports "what should hopefully be sensible legislation, including permits for seriously ongoing commercial operators".

## **REEF WATCH NEWS**

The Conservation Council of SA and Reef Watch are celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reef watch program with an event being held at SARDI Aquatic Sciences at 5.45pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Dr Rob Morrison will be the MC for the evening and Prof. Anthony Cheshire will be the guest speaker. There will be drinks & nibbles sponsored by the CCSA. Contact Alex Gaut at <a href="mailto:alex.gaut@ccsa.asn.au">alex.gaut@ccsa.asn.au</a> to book. Arrive at Hamra Ave by 5.45pm for a 6pm start. The gates will be closed after 6pm. The evening should be completed by 8pm (& the gates re-opened to let you out). (Admission appears to be FREE but perhaps a gold coin donation is requested on departure.)

#### **CLUB NEWS**

Congratulations to the SODS's Michael Matthewson whose great Southern Rock Lobster photo from the 2006 MLSSA calendar\* was used by the (Federal) Department of the Environment & Water Resources for their poster about the South-East Commonwealth Marine Reserve Network. Visit <a href="https://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mpa">www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mpa</a> or

http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mpa/southeast/index.html for more details. Michael took his cray shot at Wright Island, Victor Harbor.

\* Michael has actually provided 9 great photos for MLSSA's calendars of SA Marine Life from 2006 to 2008. Unfortunately, Michael (aka Sqeak) has now decided to move up to the warmer waters of Brisbane, Queensland. We wish him all the best.

#### AIR FILLS AT WALLAROO

Gary Johns of G&D Auto is the sole supplier of scuba air fills in the Wallaroo district on the Yorke Peninsula. Gary will usually be present at the G&D Auto site in Thompson St, Wallaroo on working weekdays and able to fill your dive cylinders for you. It would pay to phone G&D Auto on 8823 2078 first to arrange a time for your fills. Gary will do weekend fills for you if he possibly can but you need to ring him on 0438 213 189 to check if he can.

#### **DIVE SHOP NEWS**

Adventure Blue has two dive shops, Glenelg and Port Noarlunga. The Glenelg shop is at North Glenelg, on the Patawalonga Frontage. Phone them on 8294 7744. The Port Noarlunga shop is at 9 Saltfleet St. Phone them on 8186 0066. Neil Beevers is ready to help you with your diving needs at the Glenelg shop. Neil recently arrived here from Leeds in England and he is keen to find out more about South Australians and our State. Call in to see Neil soon. You may contact John Morris, the Operations Manager for Adventure Blue, on 0419 175 203 with any enquiries.

# **ANNIVERSARIES**

5 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2002, the ex-HMAS *Hobart* (DDG39) left No.1 Dock at Port Adelaide and she was scuttled in Yankalilla Bay on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2002. The SDFSA executive committee had first viewed the ship on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2002. A barbecue was held for the committee at the end of the visit. The committee then organized a tour of the ship for members of SDF member clubs on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2002. Another barbecue was held for the club members at the end of the tour.

6 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2001, the decommissioned 133m-long guided missile destroyer HMAS *Perth* (DDG38) was scuttled in King George Sound, WA. Visit <a href="http://www.hmasperth.com.au/home.html">http://www.hmasperth.com.au/home.html</a> for more details, including a photo of the old girl going down.

20 years ago, BSAC member Bill Mildren was in his second year as Secretary of the SDFSA. In 1987, he took on the role of Secretary of the SDFA (Scuba Divers Federation of Australia). It was a position that he held for three years. When he completed his three years as our National Secretary, he resumed the position of Secretary of the SDFSA for another three years. 100 years ago in 1907, Lord Baden-Powell founded the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. Bill Mildren's wife, Olga, has been associated with the Guides for most of those 100 years, having joined the Brownies in England in1940 when she was 9 years old. Now a 77-year old grandmother of two, she is still involved with them, as Leader of the Elizabeth Guides. She recently took 350 young Guides on a "back to basics" camp at Hindmarsh Island to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Guides camp organized by Lord Baden-Powell. Also 100 years ago, the 1242-ton, 3-masted iron barque *Aagot* sank on the west coast of Wardang Island on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1907. The 228' long ship was built in Glasgow, Scotland in

1882 (as the *Firth of Clyde?*). She is the first ship listed in the Alphabetical Listing of Shipwrecks in Peter Christopher's book "South Australian Shipwrecks – A Data Base 1802-1989". There is a photo of her aground on Wardang Island on page 12 of the book. The same photo is featured in the SUHR book "Wardang Island – Graveyard of Ships". It can also be seen at <a href="http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/pdfs/showcasing/aagot.pdf">http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/pdfs/showcasing/aagot.pdf</a>.

23 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> November 1984, a diving medical seminar was held at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The seminar was sub-titled "To Bend Or Not To Bend – What Is The Answer?". It was run by the SA Post Graduate Medical Education Association Inc. in association with the then SDASA\*. It was described as being a practical seminar for divers and the medical profession on the physics, physiology and clinical presentation of diving medicine. Participants at the seminar included Drs Dean Beaumont, Carl Edmonds, Tony Swain and Des Gorman. The decompression chamber was open for seminar participants to visit. The chamber was situated in Dequetteville Terrace at Kent Town back then.

\* The Scuba Divers Association of SA changed its name to become the Scuba Divers Federation of SA at its AGM on 18<sup>th</sup> June 1985.

13 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> October 1994, the SDF held a "Fund Raising Ball" in aid of the Divers Emergency Service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. It was held at the Airport Club at the Adelaide Airport. A 60/40 band called "Flashback" provided the music for the evening. 2007 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the SA Police diving squad, which recovered its first body on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1957. The squad has been through a couple of administrative changes since that year. In 1978 they became incorporated into the new STAR Group and in 1995 they merged with the water police to become the Water Operations Unit.

## SA SHIPWRECK TRAILS

For information on SA's shipwreck trails, visit <a href="http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/shipwreck\_trails.html#Adelaide">http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/shipwreck\_trails.html#Adelaide</a> .

#### **GRANTS UPDATE**

Applications for the next round of Active Club Program Grants close on 12<sup>th</sup> November. Call the Office for Recreation and Sport on 8416 6708, or visit <a href="www.recsport.sa.gov.au">www.recsport.sa.gov.au</a> for further information such as guidelines and an application form.

#### FISH CATALOGUE

Read about a new fish book in The Advertiser on 31<sup>st</sup> August. It was described as "A catalogue designed to prevent retailers labeling fish incorrectly". The "Zoological Catalogue of Australian Fishes" was said to be "the first to list the names of the country's known species of fish". The article directed prospective purchasers to visit <a href="http://www.publish.csiro.au/pid/5474.htm">http://www.publish.csiro.au/pid/5474.htm</a>. The full title of the book is "Zoological Catalogue of Australia Volume 35, Parts 1 – 3 Fishes". The book, published by CSIRO Publishing, is actually 3 volumes and the set (ISBN: 9780643093348) costs AU \$575.00!

#### **BOATING NEWS**

DISPOSAL OF OLD EPIRBs - According to the July issue of *Ondeck* newsletter: - "SAFE DISPOSAL OF 121.5 MHZ EPIRBs

From 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009, only digital 406 MHz EPIRBs will be detected by satellite. All States are considering legislating for carriage of the 406 MHz EPIRB from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008 to ensure sufficient time for changeover. Analogue 121.5 MHz EPIRBs will not be detected by satellite from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009 and will no longer meet mandatory safety equipment carriage requirements. This transition will result in the need to dispose of many unwanted beacons safely in case they accidentally activate and trigger a false alarm. The Australian Maritime Safety

Authority has made arrangements with Battery World for the collection of these beacons and DTEI is currently exploring further options. More information on distress beacons is available at: http://beacons.amsa.gov.au/."

SUBSCRIPTION TO *ONDECK* NEWSLETTER - If you have access to the Internet and an active e-mail address you are able to subscribe to receive the *On Deck* newsletter by e-mail at <a href="http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp">http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>, or you can send an e-mail to <a href="http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp">http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>, or you can send an e-mail to <a href="https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp">https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>, or you can send an e-mail to <a href="https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp">https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>, or you can send an e-mail to <a href="https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp">https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>, or you can send an e-mail to <a href="https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp">https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>, or you can send an e-mail to <a href="https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp">https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>, or you can send an e-mail to <a href="https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp">https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>, or you can send an e-mail to <a href="https://deck.gov.au/personal\_transport/rec\_boating/on\_deck\_form.asp</a>. Please provide your Boat Operator's Licence to verify your details. MARINE SAFETY CONFERENCE - The National Marine Safety Committee is holding its Marine Safety Conference in Adelaide from 27 – 29th May 2008.

Source: http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/pdfs/ondeck\_8\_july07.pdf.

THE WEARING OF LIFEJACKETS (PFDs) - After a 12-month review, the National Marine Safety Committee has backed away from adopting a national policy to make the wearing of lifejackets (PFDs) by recreational boat users compulsory. It is already compulsory to wear a lifejacket on all recreational boats in Victoria and Tasmania. In SA, however, it is only necessary to do so with jet skis, kayaks and small sailboats. Despite warnings from authorities that SA's relaxed standards dramatically increase the likelihood of drowning, the NMSC decided not to enforce the compulsory wearing of PFDs, so SA boaties do not have to wear them at this stage. Wearing a lifejacket is, however, recommended as good safety practice out on the water. It is generally considered though that a wet-suited diver will be sufficiently buoyant without the need for a PFD.

#### RECREATIONAL BOATING UNIT

If you have any recreational boating queries, you can contact the Recreational Boating Unit direct, either by email at: <a href="mailto:Dtei.recboating@saugov.sa.gov.au">Dtei.recboating@saugov.sa.gov.au</a> or by telephone at (08) 8343 2774, 8343 2104 or 8343 2091.

## **FERRY NEWS**

If you are considering a ferry trip to Tasmania, all *Spirit of Tasmania* ferry tickets purchased are subject to terms and conditions. A copy of the terms and conditions is available on request. Call 13 20 10 or contacting your travel agent for a copy. Visit <a href="http://www.spiritoftasmania.com.au/">http://www.spiritoftasmania.com.au/</a> for further details, or read the information reported in the October issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

#### **NEWS FROM VICTORIA**

Neville Skinner recently forwarded details of two stories from Vicoria of interest to divers to us. Firstly, a mortar/artillery shell was found under Portsea pier (which many local divers walk down to get onto dive boats). The complete story, which can be read at <a href="http://www.news.com.au/heraldsun/story/0,21985,22553789-2862,00.html">http://www.news.com.au/heraldsun/story/0,21985,22553789-2862,00.html</a>, is included in the October issue of our SDFSA Bulletin. Secondly, a diver recently died off Flinders on a shore dive. His three buddies surfaced to find him gone and then found him dead, face down, 300m away. Neville says that Flinders is an easy shore dive; typically the depth is 2-5m. "Probably a heart attack would be my guess" he says.

#### EVIDENCE OF EUROPEAN DISCOVERY OF AUSTRALIA'S EAST COAST

Brisbane archaeologist Greg Jefferys has spent more than 20 years researching claims that the remains of a 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>-century Spanish or Portuguese shipwreck lie in the 18 Mile Swamp at the southern end of Stradbroke Island in Moreton Bay. He says that, if this is true, it means that Australia's east coast was discovered by Europeans long before Captain Cook in 1770. Jefferys discovered a 16<sup>th</sup>-century English threepence in a swamp on North Stradbroke Island on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August. He says that this discovery could prove claims that the area was first visited by Europeans.

#### COD GROUNDS COMMONWEALTH MARINE RESERVE

"The Cod Grounds Commonwealth Marine Reserve was declared on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2007 to protect important habitat of the critically endangered grey nurse shark. New management arrangements came into force from 28 May 2007. The Reserve comprises a 1000m radius from a point at 152° 54' 37" East 31° 40' 52" South. It covers an area of about 300ha and will be managed as an IUCN Category 1a (no take) Sanctuary Zone. Under the new management arrangements, all fishing is prohibited in the Reserve. This declaration follows two periods of public consultation and the undertaking of a structural adjustment process for commercial fishing businesses under the Government's Marine Protected Areas and Displaced Fishing Policy."

A map of the Marine Reserve can be viewed at <a href="http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mpa/cod-grounds/map.html">http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mpa/cod-grounds/map.html</a> .

Source: <a href="http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/mpa/cod-grounds/index.html">http://www.environment.gov.au/coasts/publications/grey-nurse-shark-videos.html</a> to view a couple of Grey Nurse Shark videos.

## SUBMERGED ADVENTURES

Submerged Adventures is the name of a new family business in Victoria. They are offering divers trips to Nelson Bay, NSW to see, amongst other things, Grey Nurse Sharks. They recently sent us 4 pages of relevant information about their service and these trips, including prices, etc.. A DVD of several dive sites visited during these trips was included with these details. This DVD is available for loan by our member clubs to view at their club meetings.

#### KAWIKA CHETRON'S COLDWATER IMAGES

The website at <a href="http://www.coldwaterimages.com/">http://www.coldwaterimages.com/</a> tells of the disappearance of lone diver Kawika Chetron who loved underwater photography and produced his own web page featuring his best work. Further details are included in the October issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

The US brand of Xcel wetsuits has been bought by Billabong International. Xcel produced products for water sports, including diving.

The Victor Harbor boat ramp close to The Bluff is to be widened to two double lanes and 26 more car park spaces will be provided.

The Executive Officer for the SA Rock Lobster\* Advisory Council, Roger Edwards says that rock lobsters are back from the brink of collapse. He expects a record yield this season.

## **MARINE LAUGHS**

The Executive Officer for the SA Rock Lobster\* Advisory Council (\* *Jasus edwardsii*) is Roger Edwards (*Jasus edwardsii* is named after someone called Edwards).

"Tie fish skin (Old Wives?) to your feet" is said to be an old wives tale to cure a cold.

### **SPONSORS NEEDED**

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

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS COASTCARE WEEK

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

#### **DEEP Indonesia 2008**

DEEP Indonesia 2008 will be held at the Jakarta Convention Center from the 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="http://www.deepindonesia.com/">http://www.deepindonesia.com/</a> 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 27-29<sup>th</sup> 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 <a href="http://www.nmsc.gov.au/">http://www.nmsc.gov.au/</a> for more details.

#### OZTeK'09

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

#### **SDFSA BULLETIN**

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

PIRSA REMINDER FOR ROCK LOBSTER FISHERS.	Error! Bookmark not defined.
"INTRODUCTION TO MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY	" (AIMA/NAS PART 1) COURSE IN
NOVEMBER	Error! Bookmark not defined.
RAPID BAY JETTY UPDATE	Error! Bookmark not defined.
DODGE TIDES	Error! Bookmark not defined.
NEWS FROM VICTORIA	Error! Bookmark not defined.
KAWIKA CHETRON'S COLDWATER IMAGES	Error! Bookmark not defined.
AE2 EXPEDITION UPDATE	Error! Bookmark not defined.
PHOENICIAN SHIPWRECKS IN THE MEDITERRAN	EANError! Bookmark not defined.
THE RACE TO CLAIM SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE A	ARCTIC REGIONError! Bookmark
not defined.	
FERRY NEWS	Error! Bookmark not defined.

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

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

Rapid Bay Jetty Design Reference Group

**SARFAC** (SA Recreational Fishing Advisory Council)

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

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

Contact the Federation's Secretary on  $\underline{sdfsa@adam.com.au}$  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 those of the Federation.