

## SDF News Sheet February 2008

This monthly electronic 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.

**We trust that everyone enjoyed some diving during the Australia Day holiday long weekend. The next Public Holidays are in March. The Adelaide Cup public holiday is being held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Easter is being held from Friday 21<sup>st</sup> to Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March. These two holiday long weekends ensure more time for diving.**

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**

Our next meeting is being held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 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.

### **CARAVAN & CAMPING SHOW THIS WEEKEND**

The SA Caravan & Camping Show is being held at Wayville this weekend (13 – 17<sup>th</sup> February). Visit [www.caravanandcampingsa.com.au](http://www.caravanandcampingsa.com.au) for more details.

### **2008 CLUB MARINE BOATING EXTRAVAGANZA THIS WEEKEND**

The “On-water Boating Extravaganza” (and Lifestyle Show) is being held at The Marina Hindmarsh Island this weekend - Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February (10am - 5pm) and Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February (10am - 4pm). It will feature boats of all kinds, locally produced food and wine, cooking demonstrations, helicopter rides, fashion parades, fishing and camping exhibits, bands and boat rides. Visit both <http://www.marina-hi.com.au/story.php?storyid=18&galleryid=31> and [http://www.marina-hi.com.au/boating\\_extra.php](http://www.marina-hi.com.au/boating_extra.php) for further information.

### **GREEN CITY FESTIVAL**

Also being held this weekend is the Green City Festival. **Free** to the public, it is being held at Elder Park in Adelaide on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February from 10 am to 5 pm. The Festival has been organised to coincide with the 3rd International Solar Cities Congress (see below). Its purpose is to demonstrate sustainable living practices to people of all ages and to showcase Adelaide as a leader in green living. There will be on how to improve the insulation and shading of your home, how to make your garden more water efficient and how to spend less on transport. The Festival will also feature music, food, a market bazaar and a special area for children to learn while they play.

### **3<sup>RD</sup> INTERNATIONAL SOLAR CITIES CONGRESS**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> International Solar Cities Congress is being held in Adelaide from February 17 – 21. There will be more than 90 specialists from over 30 countries at this conference. For more information visit [www.solarcitiescongress.com.au](http://www.solarcitiescongress.com.au) .

### **CUTTLEFISH TALK**

They don't really talk, but Professor Steve Donnellan will talk about new biological discoveries of the Giant Australian Cuttlefish on 29<sup>th</sup> February from 6.45pm at the Armoury Building, SA Museum, North Terrace, Adelaide. Telephone Joy on 8251 3914 or 0410 502139 for further information.

### **CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY**

This year's clean up day is being held on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Keen dive clubs have nominated a site for their members to clean up. The UEC will be under the Screwpile Jetty whilst the SODS will be beneath Brighton jetty. Visit [http://www.cleanup.org.au/au/Campaigns/clean\\_up\\_australia\\_day.html](http://www.cleanup.org.au/au/Campaigns/clean_up_australia_day.html) for more details.

### **SHOALING IN NAVIGATION CHANNEL AT WIRRINA COVE MARINA**

Shat (?) shoaling has occurred in the vicinity of the ferry berth in the navigation channel at Wirrina Cove Marina. Depths of 1.6m occur at low tide, posing a danger to larger power vessels and deep-keeled yachts. Mariners are advised to exercise extreme caution when navigating in the area. Notice to Mariners No.9 of 2008 at [http://webapps.transportsa.com.au/news/templates/mariners\\_template.aspx?articleid=678&zoneid=5](http://webapps.transportsa.com.au/news/templates/mariners_template.aspx?articleid=678&zoneid=5) gives more details.

### **DEATH OF "CHAPPY" CHARLESWORTH**

Elliott "Chappy" Charlesworth died on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at the age of 81. "Chappy" had been a diver and he had visited Truk Lagoon (in August 1978 or earlier) with three other men, including Dave Burchell who had founded the Adelaide Skin Diving Centre in 1960 and is the current Patron of the Underwater Explorers Club of SA. Chappy's funeral was held at Centennial Park on 9<sup>th</sup> February. Our condolences go to his family and friends.

### **DEATH OF ROY SCHEIDER**

American actor Roy Scheider of "Jaws" movie fame also died in February. He died from complications from a staph infection. He was 75 years old. Roy played the part of Police Chief Martin Brody in "Jaws" (1975) and "Jaws II".

## **MARINE MAMMAL INTERACTIONS MEETINGS**

The final meeting to discuss the Draft Commercial Marine Mammal Interactions Permitting Policy legislation will be held in the Ozone Room, 67 Chapman Tce, Kingscote, Kangaroo Island, 10am to 12noon on 5<sup>th</sup> March. Phone 8124 4873 for more information.

## **EWENS PONDS & EIGHT MILE CREEK UPDATE**

Conditions at Ewens Ponds and Eight Mile Creek are now said to be 'grotty' and DEH are now (finally) concerned. They have been testing the water quality there. It seems, however, that a pathogen has contaminated the water and it is causing skin lesions on anyone who swims there. Wetsuits may offer reasonable protection and drysuits would be even better. It may soon be the case that the ponds will be closed to divers for a while. Further details are included in the February issue of our SDFS Bulletin.

## **HOBART UPDATE**

There are just four mooring buoys, rather than the original nine, on the *Hobart* site at present. Three buoys are on the northern side of the wreck whilst the fourth buoy is on the southern side. These buoys have now been refixed so as to minimize damage. Three of the missing buoys will soon be refixed on the site. Dive permits are available from Aussixtreme at Normanville and also from the boat ramp at Wirrina. Wirrina is under new management once more. We understand that, at present, they won't take any phone bookings. They will apparently only take bookings in person. It may be best to phone them first anyway. Aussixtreme have sold their café and air filling station to new owners. A new Visitor Information Centre at Yankalilla will feature the radar dish from the *Hobart*. There should soon be some signage for the *Hobart* memorial at Lady Bay, near Normanville. A forum to discuss diving possibilities on the southern Fleurieu Peninsula will be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April from 11am to 4pm. Speakers at the forum will include Dave Gordon from Underwater Sports Diving Centre and our own Hank van de Wijngaart.

## **RECENT MEETINGS**

We held our first meeting for this year on 12<sup>th</sup> February. It was thankfully much better attended than our December General Meeting. For that meeting we actually had more apologies for non-attendance than we had attendees. The meeting in December was a cozy little affair with just five delegates (from just three clubs) to enjoy the lovely cake and wine provided by the two female delegates present. It was a nice little way to end the year just prior to Christmas. Generally, it's the same few delegates who attend our meetings regularly. Only four or five clubs, however, have been represented at our recent meetings. This amounts to less than half of last year's member clubs. Although we had eight delegates at our February meeting, only three member clubs were represented. Believe it or not, we actually need more delegates from more clubs to help us to do the work that we attempt on your behalf. A few clubs have either dropped out of the SDF or disappeared altogether. We need to all work together to remain strong, both united and individually. Please help by making sure that your club has: -

1. Renewed its SDF membership
2. Appointed an SDF delegate to represent you
3. A representative attending every monthly meeting
4. SDF matters on its meeting agenda each month

5. Input into matters of interest to its members

### **LOST DIVE GEAR**

Two divers lost some gear on Australia Day (26th Jan). A Sea & Sea MX10 wide-angle lens was lost under the Port Hughes jetty and a BCD weight pocket (with weights) was lost at the Glenelg Blocks during the Australia Day spud hunt. If any one has found these items, could you please let Steve Reynolds know?

### **RAPID BAY JETTY UPDATE**

Both Bardavcol and Yorke Civil have been asked for a final quote on the design and construct contract for the new Rapid Bay jetty, based on the geotechnical work undertaken recently.

### **SEAWEEK 2008**

This year's Seaweeek is being held from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> March. The theme for this year is "Extinction-a Saw point". Seaweeek is the Marine Education Society of Australasia's (MESA) major national public awareness campaign. It is conducted annually to focus community awareness, provide information and encourage an appreciation of the sea. For more information visit <http://www.mesa.edu.au/seaweeek2008/default.asp>.

### **“SA ANGLER” MAGAZINE**

Visit <http://www.saangler.com.au/> to view the new website for “SA Angler” magazine which is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **REEF WATCH NEWS**

#### **REEF WATCH MARATHON DIVE**

The next Reef Watch Marathon Dive is being held at Port Noarlunga reef on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **JANINE BAKER'S SA FISH AND SHARK 'E-BOOK'**

The first chapters of Janine Baker's SA fish and shark 'e-book' (Status of Marine Species at Risk in South Australia\*) can now be viewed on the Reef Watch web site at

<http://www.reefwatch.asn.au/pages/bin/view/Publications/SamsccHome>. Further details are available in the February issue of our SDFSAs Bulletin.

### **MPA UPDATE**

Whilst discussing Reef Watch, James Brook was shown diving at Lassiters Reef in The Advertiser on 1<sup>st</sup> February. James is now a research diver with the Department for Environment and Heritage. James featured in a large underwater photo by Greg Adams. The photo was part of an article regarding planning for SA's 19 marine parks. Marine biologists are dissecting SA's marine environment, mapping distinct habitats and looking at the diversity of life in preparation for the release of the 19 marine park boundaries. The outer boundaries for the protected areas will be released mid-year. Management plans for the protected areas will not come into effect until 2010.

### **PROPOSED DESALINATION PLANT FOR PORT HUGHES**

A proposed desalination plant on the Yorke Peninsula at Port Hughes may be built on the foreshore next to the boat ramp there. Some of the residents there have begun a fight to stop it

from being built. Port Hughes' Beverly Schulz says, "The big concern is the environmental impact on the marine life and the bay."

### **HARLEQUIN FISH & BLUE GROPER UPDATE**

The January '08 issue of "Go Fishing" magazine features a Harlequin Fish on the front cover. The cover picture, which is in relation to an article on charter fishing at Wedge Island, can be seen at [http://www.isubscribe.com.au/title\\_info.cfm?prodID=19702](http://www.isubscribe.com.au/title_info.cfm?prodID=19702) . The Wedge Island article shows photos of captured Harlequin Fish, Blue Groper, King George Whiting, Southern Blue Morwong and many other fish species. Janine Baker points out that Harlequin Fish are of conservation concern in SA, and part of Reef Watch's 'In Peril' list. Our February SDFSA Bulletin gives more details about what Janine and others have to say on this topic.

### **OCEAN JACKETS**

The fish that SARDI refers to as "Ocean Jacket" is actually a species of leatherjacket, previously known as the Chinaman leatherjacket. The scientific name for the species has changed (in recent times) from *Navodon ayraud* to *Nelusetta ayraudi*. According to <http://www.amonline.net.au/FISHES/fishfacts/fish/nayraudi.htm> , the Ocean Jacket, *Nelusetta ayraudi* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1824), "has a brownish-yellow body. The skin is velvety to touch. Juvenile Ocean Jackets have 4 or 5 brown stripes along the sides of the body. This species grows to 1m in length and is reported to live for 9 years. Adults inhabit continental shelf and slope waters. Juveniles are more commonly seen in coastal bays. Ocean Jackets are found in depths from 1 m to 350 m. This species feeds on salps, crustaceans, molluscs and fishes. The teeth are very strong and adults are able to bite through large fish hooks. The Ocean Jacket is considered to be endemic to Australia. One specimen however has been collected from New Zealand. It is known from the central coast of Western Australia, around the southern coast of the country, including the Tasmanian coastline and up the east coast to southern Queensland. For many years this species was called the Chinaman Leatherjacket."

### **RESULT OF ON-LINE POLL RE DREDGING IN PORT PHILLIP BAY**

In an on-line poll conducted by The Age on 17<sup>th</sup> January, 87% of 1376 voters answered Yes to the question "Should dredging be postponed (in Port Phillip Bay, Victoria) until more research has been undertaken?" Read our February SDFSA Bulletin for more details regarding the dredging of Port Phillip Bay.

### **DEEP DIVING IN VICTORIA**

Helena Wescombe-Down reports that it is a requirement under Victorian law that any diver conducting a dive over 30 metres in depth must dive with a redundant air supply. If you don't have twin cylinders, and are only diving with a single cylinder, you may need to hire a pony bottle and spare regulator. Helena also says that a Victorian dive shop asked her for a qualification card (other than her NASDS card) that showed what depth she was certified to dive to. The NASDS system apparently does not have this (indication of depth).

### **HMAS ADELAIDE DECOMMISSIONED**

The frigate HMAS *Adelaide* was decommissioned on 19<sup>th</sup> January in preparation for its scuttling as a dive wreck off of the central coast of NSW. Further details regarding HMAS *Adelaide* were

included in the September 2007 issue of our SDFSFA Bulletin which can be viewed at <http://www.sdfsfa.net/pdf/Sept%2007%20SDFSFA%20Bulletin.pdf> .

### **NSW SCUBA DEATH**

A 70-year old scuba diver died at Bushrangers Bay, near Shell Harbour on the NSW south coast on 19<sup>th</sup> January. The Sydney man had got into some kind of trouble and had to be pulled from the water. He could not be revived and police were to investigate his death and will prepare a report for the NSW coroner.

Source: <http://news.theage.com.au/scuba-diver-dies-on-south-coast/20080120-1mzc.html>

### **HARDHAT DIVING AT THE AGE OF 86**

A WWII veteran who was apparently saved by a shark is still hardhat diving at the age of 86. Visit

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/player/nol/newsid\\_7210000/newsid\\_7218800/7218816.stm?bw=nb&mp=wm&news=1&nol\\_storyid=7218816&bbcws=1](http://news.bbc.co.uk/player/nol/newsid_7210000/newsid_7218800/7218816.stm?bw=nb&mp=wm&news=1&nol_storyid=7218816&bbcws=1) to view a short video about Jim Hutchinson, an 86-year old hardhat diver who won't give up his hobby. In the video, Jim reflects on his diving career and WWII experience. He says that he was actually saved by a shark during the war.

### **FLOODS MAY THREATEN REEF**

Recent floods in Queensland may have resulted in agricultural chemicals affecting corals on the Great Barrier Reef. Scientists are checking the reef for signs of any problems.

### **DEEP SEA RESEARCH**

The CSIRO research vessel *Southern Surveyor* recently collected coral samples from deep in the Southern Ocean. The research team also took lots of photographs using a remotely operated submersible vehicle. They captured images of life found on deep-sea pinnacles and valleys up to three kilometres down. During a three-week voyage, scientists retrieved samples of live and fossilized deep-ocean corals from a depth of 1650 metres near the Tasman Fracture Zone, south-east of Tasmania. The team then moved to SA's south-east coast to continue their work. The Advertiser of 4<sup>th</sup> February featured several photographs. Visit

<http://www.news.com.au/adelaidenow/story/0,22606,23154501-2682,00.html> for more details.

According to the web page found at <http://www.marine.csiro.au/nationalfacility/>, ex-South Australian girl Karen Gowlett-Holmes was onboard the *Southern Surveyor* as a taxonomist. The web page says that, "Karen is a recognized expert in the identification and classification of benthic invertebrate animals, particularly molluscs, and is an internationally recognized expert on chitons (a class of molluscs). She has been pursuing underwater photography professionally since 1991, specializing in macro-photography, particularly invertebrates, but also plants and benthic fishes. Via painstaking collection of specimens and working closely with other experts in the field, Karen's catalogue of marine photographs are accurately identified down to species where possible, and covers all macro marine invertebrate phyla." Well done, Karen.

### **MARINE LAUGHS**

The name of the man who found a 1.6m-long shark on his fishing line after leaving it out overnight in his backyard saltwater canal on the Gold Coast, Queensland is Mr Findlater. That's exactly what Brian Findlater did late the next morning when he noticed that his forgotten line

was stretched out and tight. After some 15 minutes of struggling to reel in the line, he found an 80kg shark on the hook. He had used a big hook on extra strong line in the hope of catching something big. His initial catch was a large mullet, which he attached to the shark hook and tossed the line back in to the canal. He just left the line there whilst he went back inside his home to watch TV. The rest, as they say, is history. Brian and his wife Barbara were able to eat shark fillets for weeks after the event. Since their home is at Mermaid Waters, Brian's probably trying to catch a mermaid now.

Source: "Take 5" magazine, January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008, No.1.

Dr Nikki King from the University of Aberdeen discovered six new species of fish during a 2007 deep-sea research expedition aboard the Royal Research Ship *Discovery* in the Southern Indian Ocean. Dr King was part of a team on the Benthic Crozet project, a research initiative investigating biodiversity off the Crozet Islands, a small sub-Antarctic archipelago. When a trawl landed a bounty of fish, Dr King singled out six species that she thought were unusual. Since they were in the middle of the Indian Ocean with limited facilities, she decided to pack them into preservative and take them home. It turned out that the six species were completely unknown to science. Dr King was given the honour of naming the new species. One of them was a 'slippery and squat' 42cm-long brown eelpout\* which she named *Pachycara cousini* after her geophysicist fiancé, Michael Cousins, as a token of her love. Dr King also named a little pink fish *Pachycara priedei* after Professor Monty Priede, the director of the Oceanlab centre. (The Professor had already had a two-headed parasitic worm named after him.) Visit

<http://news.scotsman.com/scitech/Scots-scientist-discovers-six-new.3728868.jp> for more details about the expedition, the new fish discoveries and the numerous witty comments from the general public.

\* According to <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eelpout>, "eelpouts are a family (Zoarcidae) of perciform ray-finned fish. As the name suggests, they are somewhat eel-like in appearance, with elongate bodies and the dorsal and anal fins continuous with the caudal fin."

## ANNIVERSARIES

It is now some 5 years since Vicki Richards, Research Officer for the Department of Materials Conservation, Western Australian Museum, conducted the initial corrosion survey of the HMAS *Hobart*. It was on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2003 that the first baseline corrosion measurements were carried out on the *Hobart* by Vicki. She had conducted similar measurements on the *Hobart*'s sister ship, HMAS *Perth* and HMAS *Swan*, both located off the Western Australian Coast. Visit <http://aima.iinet.net.au/publications/newsletters/docs/NLv22n1y03.pdf> for more details.

Vicki then spoke at the inaugural Great Southern Dive Expo, which was held at Wirrina Cove Resort 5 years ago (1<sup>st</sup> –2<sup>nd</sup> February 2003). Her topic was "*Corrosion Monitoring and the Environmental Impact of Decommissioned Naval Vessels as Artificial Reefs*".

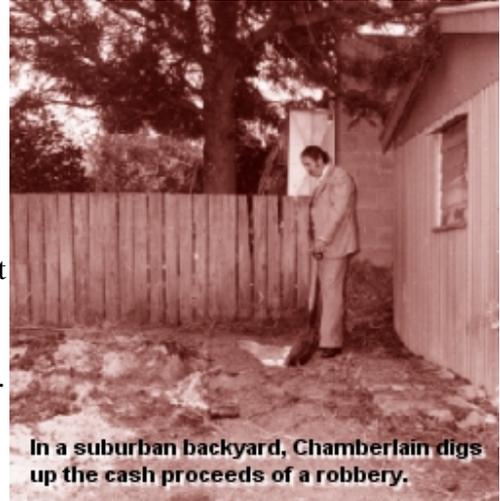
15 years ago, in 1993, divers from SAPOL's Water Operations Unit searched for the body of Cosimo Castelluzzo, the murdered Warlords Motorcycle Club member. The search covered over 2.5 million square metres of seabed more than 4km off the coast at Edithburgh. Although the search lasted 25 days, they failed to recover Castelluzzo's body. He was apparently abducted by two men from Hindley Street on 31<sup>st</sup> December (New Year's Eve) 1992. The men took him out to sea from Edithburgh in a boat, weighed his body down and threw him overboard, still alive. A witness onboard the boat said that the body was weighed down with two metal farm wheels, handcuffs and rope. Even though a search for the body, with the help of the navy and its sonar equipment, was unsuccessful, the two men were given life sentences for Castelluzzo's murder. A memorial to Castelluzzo is located by the Edithburgh boat ramp, just below the *Marion* anchor display. Visit <http://www.policejournalsa.org.au/0004/10a.html> for more information about SAPOL's Water Operations Unit. 16<sup>th</sup> January was the 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the scuttling of the dredge *South Australian* off of Glenelg in 1985. She was scuttled as part of the SA Department of Fisheries' artificial reefs program. She is now known simply as either the 'Glenelg Dredge' or just the 'Dredge'. She is (was?) an old suction dredge built by AF Smulders of Schiedamn, Holland between 1911-14 for South Australian Harbors Board. She sailed out to (South) Australia in 1920 where she was then used to dredge the Port Adelaide River and Outer Harbor.

January 2008 marked the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the raising of the coastal steamer *Jessie Darling* from the site of the wreck of the *Norma*. The barque *Norma* was at anchor off Semaphore at 2am on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1907 when the iron barque *Ardenraig* hit her. She sank in 15m of water with her four masts sticking out of the water. Six hours later, the *Jessie Darling* hit the submerged *Norma* and sank on top her. The two ships lay there, where they were a hazard to shipping, for 12 months. After four later collisions at the site, the *Jessie Darling* was raised in January 1908. The *Norma* herself was blown up with dynamite after a "renowned Victorian wreck diver" had unsuccessfully attempted to raise her in April 1910.

This year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the recovery of the *Norma*'s bell. The Port Adelaide Nautical Museum (or Institute) had unsuccessfully tried to locate the bell after the *Norma* had been dynamited. They had sent a diver down to search for it but it could not be found. It was, however, 'caught' by a fisherman in 1928. The *Norma*'s (headless) figurehead was later found in the mangroves off Gawler Point.

It is now some 56 years since a local diver called John Brooke dived on the *Norma* in 1952. It was the first recorded 'modern sport dive' on a South Australian wreck. John wore a military surplus mask and fins, a hand-made dry suit manufactured from car tubes and a home-made oxygen re-breather unit. He described the *Norma* as 'an enormous heap of old fishing boat anchors', a description which still applies to this day.

17<sup>th</sup> February is the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the US Navy's "Operation Hailstone" at Truk Lagoon in 1944. According to the web page found at <http://www.pacificwrecks.com/provinces/truk.html>, "On the morning of February 17, 1944 a surprise United States Navy air attack code named "operation hailstone" caught a fleet of Japanese Merchant vessels and warships by surprise in



In a suburban backyard, Chamberlain digs up the cash proceeds of a robbery.

Truk Lagoon. 400 tons of bombs and torpedo rained down on the lightly defended base. After a day of attacks, forty ships and thousands of men went to the bottom. Ten weeks later, a second successful raid added a score more ship to the bottom. For more than two years after the war, oil from the sunken ships covered the beaches and reefs.”

100 years ago the RMS *Arubra* became the first ship to dock at the newly-built Outer Harbor on 16<sup>th</sup> January 1908.

## **VRFISH NEWS**

Below are some details taken from the monthly report from the VRFish\* Office - December 2007: -

\* (VRFish is the Victorian Recreational Fishing peak body. The Scuba Divers Federation of Victoria is a member of VRFish.)

### **FISH AGGREGATION DEVICES**

Fish Aggregation Devices (FAD) have been installed at Portland and Barwon Heads through a new one-year trial being conducted by the Association of Geelong & District Angling Clubs and Southern Freedivers. The FADs have been installed with the aim of increasing the availability of pelagic sportfish. If the trial is successful, it is planned to expand the program across the State.

### **PORT OF MELBOURNE CHANNEL DEEPENING PROJECT**

Dredging of the Port of Melbourne channel is set to commence on 1<sup>st</sup> February. The Bluewedges Coalition attended the Federal Court on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2008, stating their case that the Channel Deepening Project, approved by Environment Minister Peter Garrett in 2007, is not the same project submitted by the Port of Melbourne Corporation in 2002. Counsel for Minister Garrett argued that the amendments made to the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Act in 2006 allowed the Project to change in scale, location and activities but is still the same project. The Federal Court Judge, however, dismissed the Bluewedges Coalition application on 15<sup>th</sup> January to overturn the approval.

Visit [www.vrfish.com.au](http://www.vrfish.com.au) for more details about VRFish.

## **DEATH OF ISOBEL BENNETT**

Isobel Bennett, author of marine life books such as “The Fringe of the Sea”, and the reviser of WJ Dakin’s classic study “Australian Seashores”, died on 12<sup>th</sup> January at the age of 98. Our condolences go to her family and friends.

## **“ADVENTURE BOUND”**

Channel 31's "Adventure Bound" is a recreational fishing and diving program which screens (in Adelaide) on Thursday nights at 7.30pm. It is also repeated later on Saturdays at 1pm and on Tuesday at 5pm. Visit <http://www.adventurebound.com.au/> for more details. You will be able to view some diving (YouTube) videos. To see some diving on some Bass Strait wrecks such as the Coogee and the J1 submarine, try visiting [http://www.adventurebound.com.au/news/latest/youtube\\_wreck\\_dive\\_bass\\_strait.html](http://www.adventurebound.com.au/news/latest/youtube_wreck_dive_bass_strait.html) for example. To discover more about Bass Strait wrecks, such as the *Coogee* and the J Class submarines, read the latest issue of Sport Diving magazine or visit <http://www.divetheblue.net/pdf/126backyard2.pdf>

## **'ROAR OF THE WILD'**

'Roar Of The Wild' was a TV series between October 2006 and February 2007. Lin Sutherland (ex-writer of Dive Log articles) hosted the 13-segment series, which was an epic voyage of animal discoveries and featured many marine creatures. The entire series is available on DVD (as set of 4). The series, plus several other wonderful DVDs, may be ordered at [http://www.belowh2o.com.au/order\\_dvds/form.htm](http://www.belowh2o.com.au/order_dvds/form.htm). Lin's "Living Graveyard" DVD is about three tragic shipwrecks that have transformed over time into a mecca for marine life - the *Batavia*, *Yongala* & the *President Coolidge*. Visit Lin's BelowH<sup>2</sup>O website at <http://www.belowh2o.com.au/> for more details. Some of Lin's photography may be viewed at <http://www.belowh2o.com.au/photography/slideshow.htm>. Lin's most recent series to be featured on TV is "Travel Wild". The next episode of "Travel Wild" will be on TV on Channel 9 on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

Lin sent me the following response to an email query about the show: -

"Hi Steve, Thanks for your note. The next episode for Travel Wild on channel 9 will be March the 9<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. We only had three initially but there will be plenty more. We are in the process of launching the TV online network so the best thing is check back on the website ( [www.envirotaveltv.com](http://www.envirotaveltv.com) ) and you will see all sorts of programming starting to unfold online and we will also keep updates on our scheduled broadcast programming, new releases and DVD programs. Also we will run played episodes online that you can watch. Hope you enjoyed the show... I promise more is coming. Warmest regards, Lin Sutherland"

In a subsequent message, Lin said "Roar of the Wild is also playing on Travel Channel through Europe, Ocean Network USA, Hong Kong and Serbia.... and we have just made a tentative sale into a new massive territory but I can't say till it's signed. I hope to be doing a "Roar of the Wild series 2" so I'll let you know."

## **"OPEN WATER" 1960s, 1998, 2003 & 2007**

1960s

It could have been any year really, but several decades ago, one of Adelaide's oldest dive clubs would organize boat dives on the *Clan Ranald* off Troubridge Point, Yorke Peninsula. It seems, however, that there wouldn't be enough boats to accommodate the number of divers participating. This problem was solved by ferrying groups of six divers from Troubridge Point out to the wreck site. As the first group dived, the boat(s) would return to shore to pick up the next group. The first group of divers would be finishing their dive as the boat(s) arrived back at the wreck site. The second group would start their dive and the first group would be picked up and taken back to shore where a third (last?) group would then be picked up to make the trip out. The second group of divers would be finishing their dive as the boat(s) arrived back at the wreck site. The third group would start their dive and the second group would be picked up for returning back to shore. This all works fine in theory but something was bound to go wrong. On one occasion, the third group had been dropped off at the wreck site and the second group had been picked up for returning to shore. As the boat started back to shore, one of the second group in the boat noticed some bubbles from an ascending diver. The boat returned to the site to greet the diver who was actually from the first group. He had stayed down through the entire diving duration of the first two groups and almost missed the boat, as it were, containing the second group. If it hadn't been for the chance sighting by one of the second group, he

(yes, he) would have been stuck on the surface until the boat returned to pick up the third group. I dare say that he could well have drifted away from the site during that time. (A role call system was apparently used but it had somehow failed on this particular trip.) Hopefully, this kind of wreck diving is now a thing of the past.

1998

It is now some 10 years since the American tourists, Tom and Eileen Lonergan, were accidentally left behind off Port Douglas during a dive trip in 1998. The tragedy became the basis for the movie "Open Water".

2003

The "Open Water" movie starring Blanchard Ryan and Daniel Travis was produced in 2003. It told how two divers were accidentally left behind during a diving trip.

2007

Since the tragedy concerning the Lonergans in 1998, all diving trips are said to be subject to tight safety procedures and endless headcounts. It has been suggested, however, that young trainees are often left to keep an eye on divers. Check out the Maritime Union of Australia web page titled "Open Water" which can be found at [http://www.mua.org.au/journal/spr\\_2007/dive.html](http://www.mua.org.au/journal/spr_2007/dive.html). The web page is undated, but obviously pre-dates the 2007 Federal Election. It concerns young dive industry workers on the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park e.g. "Under the Howard Government's IR laws there is no safety net and industry sharks are making a killing. This is one woman's story of mass exploitation in the (diving) industry." Hopefully, things have improved somewhat since the election. If not, hopefully they will improve. Since many of our members either go out on interstate and overseas dive trips or become involved in the dive industry interstate and overseas, we will endeavour to keep an eye on developments.

### **MORE ON "OPEN WATER" 2003**

The 2003 movie "Open Water" recently featured on TV in SA. It was on at the SA cinemas during 2004. We wrote a report about the movie in our December 2004 news sheet. In that report we explained the hazards of just doing a quick 'head count' of divers present and then counting divers as they return. We mentioned the dangers of wandering away from the designated area and diving beyond the stipulated time frame. Having just seen the movie again, I can suggest using a dive mask to try to reflect the light of the sun in an attempt to signal your location to a distant boat. The two divers in the "Open Water" movie, who didn't have a safety sausage on them, tried using their masks, albeit unsuccessfully. Even though they had a camera with a built-in flash between them, they didn't think to try using the camera's flash to signal to their boat (as suggested in our December 2007 news sheet).

### **CITY OF ADELAIDE TALK REMINDER**

Peter Christopher's talk on the clipper ship *City of Adelaide* is being held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm at a meeting of the Marine Life Society of SA held at Adventure Blue's premises at Glenelg North.

### **CANVAS PRINTED AND MOUNTED PHOTOS**

Paul Macdonald's high quality canvas printed and mounted photos will be on display at MLSSA's meeting at Adventure Blue at Glenelg on Tuesday 19th February 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).

### **HMAS GLENELG OPEN DAY**

HMAS *Glenelg* will be open to the public on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February 10am to 2pm at Dock 1, Port Adelaide. Dock 1 will be accessible via Todd St, Port Adelaide. HMAS *Glenelg* is the last of 14 new Armidale Class Patrol Boats to be commissioned into the Royal Australian Navy. Being only a patrol boat, only 60 visitors will be allowed onboard at any one time. It is anticipated that the 4 hours that the ship will be open to the public will allow some 2000 visitors only. There may be some delays for people waiting to board the ship. It may be that the last group of 60 visitors to be able to board the ship will be allowed on at say 1.30pm because the “viewing timeframe cannot be extended past 2pm”. The patrol boat was officially named NUSHIP\* *Glenelg*, in a ceremony at Austal Ships Facility, Henderson, Western Australia on 6th October 2007.

\* NuShip in the RAN is a designation given to ships not commissioned yet. (A ship that has been decommissioned must be called an OldShip.) The official commissioning of HMAS *Glenelg* will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

Ships of Australia's Armidale class patrol boat fleet are named after Australian cities and towns with close links with Navy heritage. The Armidale class were named to coincide with the 60th commemoration of the sinking of the original HMAS Armidale. The boats are; *Armidale*, *Bathurst*, *Bundaberg*, *Albany*, *Pirie*, *Maitland*, *Ararat*, *Launceston*, *Larrakia*, *Wollongong*, *Childers*, *Glenelg*, *Maryborough* and *Broome*. The Armidale class provide Navy an improved capability to intercept and apprehend vessels in a greater range of sea conditions than the earlier patrol boat classes; the Fremantle Class and the Attack Class.

Sources: <http://www.navy.gov.au/news/last-armidale-named-nuship-glenelg> ,  
<http://www.navy.gov.au/fleet/patrol/> and <http://www.austal.com/index.cfm?objectid=7C44EE53-65BF-EBC1-2147B4705B172BAD> .

If ships of the Armidale Class are ‘ships’, why do they call them ‘Patrol Boats’? And what is the difference between a ship and a boat? According to <http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-the-difference-between-a-ship-and-a-boat.htm>, “The distinction between a ship and a boat varies depending on regional definitions, but as a general rule, a boat can fit onto a ship, but a ship cannot fit onto a boat. A ship, in other words, is a very large ocean-going vessel, while a boat tends to be much smaller. Additionally, a ship usually is defined as having a displacement larger than 500 tons. During the age of sailing, a craft with three or more rigged masts was considered to be a ship, but this definition has been superseded, as different methods of power generation are used on modern ships.” The new patrol boats apparently have a displacement of 270 tonnes.

### **CRUISE SHIP VISITS**

Three cruise ships will be visiting Outer Harbor during March, including the 294m-long *QE2* on her final global voyage before becoming a floating hotel (and entertainment centre) in Dubai in November 2008. The *QE2* will be here on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, the *Oriana* on 4<sup>th</sup> March and the 77,400-gross tonne luxury liner *Sun Princess* on 30<sup>th</sup> March.

### **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 21<sup>st</sup> March. A copy of the draft plan is available from <http://www.parks.sa.gov.au/parks/management/managementplans/index.htm> .

## **QUEENSLAND FLOODWATERS THREATEN GBR**

The freshwater flowing out onto the Great Barrier Reef from the flooded Fitzroy River in Queensland may cause some damage to coral on the reef. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's David Haynes says that the situation will be closely monitored. "What we're concerned about in the longer term is minimizing the loss of sediments and nutrients and pesticides from rivers up and down the Queensland coast. What we're on about is encouraging best possible land management practices to minimize the loss of these sort of pollutants into the future", he said.

Source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/01/29/2148868.htm>

## **YEAR OF THE REEF**

As reported in our January news sheet, 2008 is the International Year of the Reef. 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. Both the Project AWARE and Reef Check foundations have formally partnered together to protect coral reefs around the world. The partnership was announced at the launch of the International Year of the Reef 2008 campaign in Washington. Visit <http://www.projectaware.org/asiapac/english/default.asp?o=ap> for further information.

## **DON'T TRY THIS YOURSELF**

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2008 a 4m-long Great White shark approached a New Zealand dive boat. There were four divers on board the 6.5m-long boat, which was near Kapiti Island, near Wellington. The divers spotted the Great White just as they were about to enter the water for their dive. They erred on the side of caution and stayed in the boat whilst the Great White continuously circled them. The shark was apparently attracted by the outboard motor of the boat. "He'd go around the back of the boat and then circle it, and come right up to the side of the boat. You could touch him if you wanted to", Gary Porter said. "We threw him a fish but he wasn't really interested in it, he was a pretty docile shark", he said. Encouraged by the shark's apparent lack of aggression, Porter dipped his arm in the sea to take underwater photos with a waterproof digital camera. He could not get a good shot so he got his friends to grab him by the ankles and dunk the top of his body in the water to help him to get the shots he wanted. Porter snapped away whilst the shark was less than two metres away. Luckily, the Great White did not snap back at him. "I just wanted to get some photos of this amazing creature. I've got a few regrets about not hopping in with it and having a good swim with it." Porter told Radio New Zealand.

Source: <http://cooltech.iafrica.com/science/767766.htm>

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **SHARK WEEK 2008**

The Micronesian Shark Foundation and Fish 'n' Fins are holding Shark Week 2008 in Palau from 27<sup>th</sup> March to 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Shark Week is specially planned to take place during the shark mating season. Dr Mark Meekan from AIMS will be returning for the 2008 week and he is planning to start the first shark satellite tagging research program in Palau. Participants will get the opportunity to dive world famous sites like Blue Corner, Peleliu Corner and Shark

City. There'll also be a full evening programme of seminars, talks and films, all with a Gala Dinner to finish the week off. Visit <http://www.fishnfins.com/> for more details.

### **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 <http://www.deepindonesia.com/> for more details.

### **REEF WATCH MARATHON DIVE**

The next Reef Watch Marathon Dive is being held at Port Noarlunga reef on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April.

### **ADEX 2008**

The Asia Dive Expo is being held in Singapore from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April 2008. Details are available on page 57 of the February issue of Dive Log magazine. Visit [www.asiadiveexpo.com](http://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 27-29<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 <http://www.nmsc.gov.au/> for more details.

### **MALAYSIA INTERNATIONAL DIVE EXPO 2008**

MIDE '08 is being held from 4-6<sup>th</sup> July at the Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur. Details are available on page 27 of the February issue of Dive Log magazine. Visit [www.mide.com.my](http://www.mide.com.my) for more details.

### **AUSTRALIAN REGIONAL TOURISM CONVENTION**

The next Australian Regional Tourism Convention is being held at the Novotel Barossa Valley Resort from 10-12<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

### **OZTeK'09**

The next OZTeK is being held at Australian Technology Park in Sydney from 21<sup>st</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2009. Visit [www.diveoztek.com.au](http://www.diveoztek.com.au) for more details.

### **FISH KILL PROTOCOL**

SARFAC recently sent us some information about the (federal) Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) fish kill protocol from "Animal Health Surveillance", Vol.12, Issue 3.

Visit [http://www.daff.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/439323/fish-kill-protocol.pdf](http://www.daff.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0006/439323/fish-kill-protocol.pdf) to download a copy of the fish kill protocol. The protocol includes a "Checklist for responding to a fish kill incident" (Figure 1). Visit [http://www.daff.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/439324/incident-log-forms.pdf](http://www.daff.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0007/439324/incident-log-forms.pdf) for a fish kill log form.

## OTHER NEWS FROM DAFF

Apart from the above information regarding the (federal) Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) fish kill protocol, the DAFF website at <http://www.daff.gov.au/fisheries> has links to topics such as “Developing a National Strategy to Address Adverse Human-Seal Interactions” at <http://www.daff.gov.au/fisheries/environment/bycatch/seals>. (A copy of the National Seal Strategy can be downloaded from [http://www.daff.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/159401/seal-strategy.pdf](http://www.daff.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/159401/seal-strategy.pdf) . The “National Assessment of Interactions Between Humans and Seals” may be downloaded from [http://www.daff.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/159381/sealassessment.pdf](http://www.daff.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/159381/sealassessment.pdf) .) Then there is a link for a “National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (Shark-plan)” at <http://www.daff.gov.au/fisheries/environment/bycatch/sharkplan> , “Marketing names for fish and seafood in Australia” at <http://www.daff.gov.au/fisheries/environment/marketing-names> and “Invasive Marine Species” at <http://www.daff.gov.au/fisheries/invasive> .

## 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/](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 7<sup>th</sup> March 2008.” A recent article in The Australian about Moreton Bay can be read at [http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,,22859027-30417,00.html%3Ffrom%3Dpublic\\_rss](http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,,22859027-30417,00.html%3Ffrom%3Dpublic_rss). The article was also included in the December issue of our SDFS Bulletin. There is also some information about the Moreton Bay Marine Park in Vol.13, No.3 issue of “Waves” magazine ([www.mccn.org.au](http://www.mccn.org.au) ). That article suggests viewing some info at [www.savemoretonbay.org.au](http://www.savemoretonbay.org.au) . You can also visit the Queensland Environmental Protection Agency’s website at <http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/moretonbay> . The Underwater Research Group of Queensland was planning to hold a meeting with the EPA in February. We were able to confirm our support for their (URGQ) submission paper re the draft zoning plan. We told the URGQ that we support their latest submission, especially re: -

1. Artificial reefs which "are a valuable habitat for many species, and as such, should be afforded at least as much protection as natural reefs"
2. The proposal to create no anchoring zones in 3 of the *Marine National Park Zones* (Green Zones) to help protect corals in these areas.
3. Adequate resources be given to allow Rangers to properly enforce the restrictions.

We added “Other than that, we put our faith in your local knowledge on all the other matters, which we support in principle.”

## SDFS BULLETIN

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

Pseudomonas In Ewens Ponds.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**  
SA Fish And Shark ‘E-Book’ .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**  
Harlequin Fish & Blue Groper Update .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**  
Search For *Casuarina*’s Lost Anchor .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**  
Port Phillip Bay Channel-Deepening Project Update.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Dredger Enters Bay Amidst Protests .....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**  
The Raising Of A Junkers Plane Near The Island Of Leros..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**  
Only U-Boat In U.K. To Be Split In To Four Pieces.....**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](mailto: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.**