

SDFSA Bulletin March 2018

This bulletin is provided as a service to members of the

SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF SA

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The SDF is the peak body in South Australia, representing all recreational scuba divers.

The SDF is also the 'Safe Diving' Federation. We promote Safe Diving.

We are publishing this electronic bulletin as a separate publication to our normal monthly SDF News Sheet. Future issues of this "SDFSA Bulletin" will include lengthy articles about matters of interest to recreational divers. We welcome contributions from our readers.

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MARINE LITTER BREAKFAST SEMINAR

A breakfast seminar titled “Marine Litter: Local, National & International Perspectives” is being held from 7.15-9.15am on Wednesday 14th March at the Adelaide Pavillion, Cnr. South Terrace & Peacock Rd, Adelaide. Cost: WMAA members: \$60, non-members: \$80. RSVP by Friday 9th March. You would have no doubt seen pictures of animals caught in discarded fishing nets, bird carcasses filled with marine plastic they have eaten, and maybe you have heard of microplastics that are found in increasing numbers in the world's oceans. Marine litter presents a huge problem in our oceans, with some scientists warning that, by 2050, the quantity of plastics in the oceans will outweigh fish. It is no coincidence that at this time it has been estimated that 95% of all marine bird species will have ingested some marine plastic. These numbers may seem to paint a grim picture, but things can be done to clean up and more importantly stop the problem at its source so we can start turning the tide on marine litter. Join us at the WMAA SA Branch Breakfast to learn more about the marine litter challenges. Hear from experts on key volumes and sources of marine litter in South Australia and the South East Asian region. At the seminar you will have the opportunity to take part in the discussion on what actions South Australians can take to address marine litter. It will also touch on measures that can be taken at many levels - be it individual, educator, council, regulator, participants in the international arena, and the like.

PROGRAM

WELCOME & HOUSEKEEPING - KAT HEINRICH
Chair, WMAA SA Young Professions Group

PRESENTATION - VAUGHAN LEVITZKE PSM

Chief Executive, Green Industries South Australia - International perspective

PRESENTATION - WARWICK NOBLE

Marine Scientist, SA Environment Protection Authority - Asia Pacific Region perspective

PRESENTATION - DR KRISTIAN PETERS

Scientific Officer, Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges - South Australia/National perspective

PANEL DISCUSSION WITH Q&A

Panel discussion with presenters, plus additional panellist Malcom Doyle from Our Coast, Our Mission and Q&A

SPEAKERS

VAUGHAN LEVITZKE - Chief Executive, Green Industries SA

Vaughan has more than 35 years' experience in government, project management and leadership. He is responsible for a multitude of programs and projects carried out by Zero Waste SA and its partner organisations that has seen SA establish its leadership credentials in waste management and recycling in Australia and internationally. Vaughan spent 10 years with the South Australian EPA in a number of roles, including regulation of tyres, and composting, overseeing and expanding container deposit legislation, and industry resource efficiency programs. In 2015, he received a Public Service Medal for outstanding public service in the area of waste management reform and policy.

WARWICK NOBLE - Marine Scientist, SA Environment Protection Authority

Warwick began working in the marine environment in 1997, as an aquarist at Dreamworld on the Gold Coast. In 2014, Warwick completed a PhD in aquaculture for bioactive compound recovery and product alternatives for plastics. During this career, Warwick has been on expeditions to the Antarctic, conducted studies on plastic marine debris in Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia and numerous coasts of Australia. In 2010, Warwick was asked to join the SA EPA as a marine scientist. He has written and co-authored a number of scientific papers, articles, industry publications and government reports. Warwick enjoys working with other professionals and educating citizens through specific projects to benefit the environment for future generations.

DR KRISTIAN PETERS - Scientific Officer, Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges

Dr Kristian Peters is a marine ecologist currently working as Scientific Officer for the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources in the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Natural Resource Management region. Kristian's background stems from a range of research disciplines including investigative studies on different threatened marine species in South Australia, Antarctica and internationally. Over the last 6 years, Kristian has led one of the largest marine debris projects conducted in Southern Australia, aimed to identify the types and key sources of marine debris impacting marine systems and their wildlife. Findings of the project have been incorporated into

the Commonwealth Government senate inquiry investigating the threat of marine plastic pollution in Australia.

For further information, please contact WMAA events on 02 8746 5000 or info@wmaa.asn.au. Brian Johnston, Branch Support Officer - SA Waste Management Association of Australia, 0419 018 806, sa@wmaa.asn.au www.wmaa.asn.au .

“DIVERS FIND UNDETONATED WORLD WAR II BOMB IN SYDNEY HARBOUR

Two divers scouring the ocean floor for old bottles and glassware made an unexpected discovery at the bottom of Sydney Harbour on Wednesday: an undetonated bomb from World War II. The find prompted police to block off an area near Jones Bay at Pyrmont as military personnel seized the device. Dive instructor Tony Strazzari said he'd plunged into the water for a routine dive with friend Paul Szerenga when he detected the bomb's cylindrical shape and dart-like end nestled on the floor. "We do a lot of diving in old war areas up and down the coast, mostly looking for old bottles, black glass, embossed bottles, glassware," Mr Strazzari said. Newcastle diving enthusiasts Tony Strazzari and Paul Szerenga often search for old glassware in waters up and down the NSW coast. "We were just swimming there and poking around the silty bottom. I reached in and felt something heavy and pulled it out and it was a bomb." Fearful that the device might be disturbed by a boat anchor if it stayed beneath the water, Mr Strazzari tucked the 40-centimetre-long bomb into his diving gear. His mate wasn't so unfazed: "When he handed it to me under the water I said, 'Holy s---,' " Mr Szerenga said. "We sat there and coddled it up so no one got worried. One man did ask what it was and when I told him it was a bomb he just shrugged and walked off," Mr Strazzari said. "It wasn't until the cops showed up they realised it was a bomb." Police set up a 100-metre exclusion zone in the area, near Pirrama Park, as they called in military personnel to inspect the device. They later reduced the shut-off area to 20 metres. A NSW Police spokeswoman said the bomb was "unable to be detonated" and not deemed a safety risk. It was taken by military personnel by about 2pm. Mr Strazzari said friends had guessed the bomb was a three-inch mortar shell. "I've found bullets before and I found a rifle once, but never a live artillery shell. This was a first for me." A Defence Department spokeswoman said the mortar would be disposed of safely on a military range. "If a member of the public should find a suspicious item that may be unexploded ordnance, do not touch or disturb it," the spokeswoman said. "The local police should be contacted who will arrange for military experts to attend and dispose of it.""

(Source: www.smh.com.au/nsw/this-was-a-first-for-me-divers-find-undetonated-world-war-ii-bomb-in-sydney-harbour-20180221-p4z16g.html)

The Scuba Divers Federation of SA is a member of the following: -
RecfishSA (SA Recreational Fishing Advisory Council)
TRAIL COMMITTEES - SA Trails Coordinating Committee (Office of Recreation & Sport) and
Port Noarlunga Reef Underwater Trail [South Australian Trails](#)

If you wish to be included on the mailing list for this electronic bulletin, contact Steve Reynolds, the Federation's Secretary, on sdfsa@adam.com.au for more details.

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