

G'day from Scuba Dive SA

SDF News Sheet – May 2018

Monthly newsletter of

Scuba Dive SA

(The SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION of SA)

Contact us via:

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Major sponsor - Mile End Office Furniture

We also acknowledge the support of the Rob Roy Hotel,

Dell'Uva Wines Estate and Aussie Divers Phuket

Scuba Dive SA is the peak body in South Australia,

We represent all recreational divers in SA.

We have helped to protect the ocean environment.

We have been instrumental in preserving jetties, sharks, etc..

We need your support to continue to serve all divers.

This monthly electronic news sheet is provided as a service to our members. Our monthly newsletters (and any bulletins) can be downloaded from <http://www.sdfsa.net/newsletters.htm>.

Just as we are able to start using the name SCUBA DIVE SA, there is now a push to call 'South Australia' just 'Adelaide' instead. The city of Adelaide (not the clipper ship) would become known as Adelaide, Adelaide (as in New York, New York).

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Scuba Dive SA is being held in the Conference Room on level 2 in The Braggs building (see <https://www.adelaide.edu.au/ipas/images/the-braggs/map-the-braggs.png>) at the University of Adelaide at 7pm on Tuesday 22nd May. The address is Victoria Drive, Gate 8. Car parking is available on Victoria Drive. Walk in Gate 8 and through the big double doors in The Braggs building.

ScuBAR

Our next ScuBAR is being held at 6pm on Friday 11th May at the Rob Roy Hotel. The speakers will be Tullio Rossi (Marine biologist and science communicator) and Emma Daly (Project Officer for both Experiencing Marine Sanctuaries and Reef Watch). Carey Harmer, Anita Nedosyko and Mark Tozer each gave a talk at our last ScuBAR in April. Our ScuBARs are sponsored by the Rob Roy Hotel, Mile End Office Furniture and Dell'Uva Wines Estate. Dell'Uva Wines are at Freeling in the Barossa Valley where they have the largest range of imported Spanish, Italian, Portuguese & French alternate wine varieties. They have now got their cellar door open at Greenock. Our thanks go to the Rob Roy Hotel, Mark Tozer of Mile End Office Furniture, Darren Gaspari of Aussie Divers Phuket and Wayne Farquhar at Dell'Uva Wines for their generous support of our Federation.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

World Environment Day is on Tuesday 5th June this year. It is a fantastic opportunity to inspire friends and colleagues to act to reduce, reuse and recycle plastic waste.

WORLD OCEAN DAY

This year's World Ocean Day is being held on Friday 8th June. Once again, it is a fantastic opportunity to inspire friends and colleagues to act to reduce, reuse and recycle plastic waste.

\$500M FUNDING PACKAGE TO PROTECT THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

The Federal Government says it will deliver a \$500m funding package to protect the reef from climate change. According to the web page found at [http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-04-29/great-barrier-reef-\\$500m-package-to-preserve-area/9708230](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-04-29/great-barrier-reef-$500m-package-to-preserve-area/9708230) , "A \$500m package to help deal with the problems facing the Great Barrier Reef has been announced by the Federal Government. The funding will go towards improving water quality, tackling the crown-of-thorns starfish, and expanding reef restoration. It will also help develop coral that is more resistant to high temperatures and light stress. The investment comprises a new \$444m partnership with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation and \$56m for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and the Department of the Environment and Energy. Environment Minister Josh Frydenberg said the reef was under a lot of pressure, but those challenges could be overcome. "We'll be improving the monitoring of the reef's health and the measurement of its impacts," he said from Cairns in Far North Queensland.

"The more we understand about the reef, the better we can protect it."

PORT JACKSON SHARKS SLAUGHTERED AT EDITHBURGH

Last month, we shared Chelsea Haebich's video footage showing a group of Port Jackson sharks that had been caught, butchered and thrown back alive at Edithburgh jetty during March. They had hooks in their mouths, stab wounds to their heads and they were left to die slowly over the next few days. The footage can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yO3SYBhEBE4&feature=share> . Many thanks go to Chelsea for sharing the horrific footage with us.

WINTER IS SPIDER CRAB SEASON

According to David Attenborough's Blue Planet II, spider crab aggregations occur on the first full moon of winter. The crabs moult their hard shells during the aggregation. The moulting allows them to grow larger without the hard shell. The new soft shell takes a few days to harden. Predators such as smooth stingrays will eat newly moulted crabs during this time. As reported in our June 2011 Bulletin (http://www.sdfsa.net/newsletters/2011/2011-06_Bulletin.pdf), "Now that the water is getting a little bit cooler, it is time to keep an eye open for spider crab gatherings. Such incidents seem to be occurring around June & July each year. Alexius Sutandio once discovered hundreds of spider crabs gathering together to the left of the Edithburgh jetty in July..... Jason Graefling had also seen them mating at Edithburgh some 5 weeks earlier. In June 2006, a large crab-gathering event was witnessed by 3 divers at Rapid Bay." Further details are included in the May issue of our Scuba Dive SA Bulletin. Meanwhile, video footage is available on the Pink Tank Scuba Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/pinktankscuba/videos/vb.232516870272124/760973737426432/?tpe=2&theater&comment_id=761855257338280¬if_t=video_reply¬if_id=152318081

[2999085](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8RVg6dsQ0w) and also on Pang Quong's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8RVg6dsQ0w> .

WINTER IS ALSO WHALE & CUTTLEFISH SEASON

Winter is also the season for whale spotting and cuttlefish viewing. Many divers and their clubs have made plans to visit Whyalla to swim with cuttlefish.

BLANKET OCTOPUS SWIMS INTO SHARK VIEWING CAGE

On Good Friday, a female blanket octopus, *Tremoctopus violaceus* swam into the Calypso Star Charters shark viewing cage at the North Neptune Island marine park. It was most unusual that the octopus swam into the shark viewing cage where it was able to be photographed. The photos can be seen in a Marine Life Society of SA article at <http://mlssa.org.au/2018/04/04/the-blanket-octopus-tremoctopus-violaceus/> .

FAREWELL

Tim Hoile will be retiring from his position as Director of the Marine Discovery Centre at the Star of the Sea School at Henley Beach on 6th July. Tim has been a member of staff at the Star of the Sea School since 1985 and he was appointed Director of the Marine Discovery Centre in 1995. Artist Alison Harvey is also retiring. Alison has completed over 50 signs across Australia, providing outstanding coastal and marine information, and empowering people with greater knowledge. Her artistic works have always been first-class. Farewell to both Tim & Alison.

SHOP NEWS

Port Lincoln Diving Services is now called The Dive Shop. The Dive Shop Port Lincoln Pty Ltd at Unit 4, South Quay Boulevard, Port Lincoln is now owned by Steph & Leo Stewart.

ANOTHER NAME CHANGE

DEWNR (the Department for Environment, Water and Natural Resources) has now been renamed DEW (the Department for Environment and Water).

NO MORE SNUBA

The SNUBA tours at Port Noarlunga jetty and reef have now ended after some seven years. Many thanks go to owner Ben Walker for introducing many people to the marine life to be found there.

SA SCUBA WEEK

We invite all SA dive shops to participate in our SA Scuba Week from 22nd-28th November. 2018 is the 50th anniversary of scuba diver representation in SA, some 10 years before the SDF was formally incorporated. We will hold our Scuba in the Pub at the Rob Roy Hotel on Friday 23rd November and we will have equipment & vintage dive gear on display. We've got the Coffee Plungers regular Thursday dive to start it off. The Scubar on the 23rd, is to be attended by the Tourism & Recreation Minister. We hope to have Reef Watch on board with a

state-wide fish survey over the week and have a RecLink dive to celebrate diving changing people's lives for the better.

NEW COLD-WATER ENDURANCE RECORD

According to the web page found at <http://www.divernet.com/home-diving-news/p322111-karabay-doubles-coldwater-endurance-record.html> , 46-year-old Turkish diver Cem Karabay has doubled the cold-water endurance record. He has not only succeeded in his bid to set a new Guinness World Record for the “Longest Open Saltwater Scuba Dive (Cold-Water)”, he managed to double the previous record of 15 hours 10 minutes set by Norwegian Nils-Roar Selnes in 2016. The new mark set by Karabay is 30 hours and 20 minutes. To do that, he had to fight off hypothermia in water temperatures below 15°C at a depth of 6m in Gokceada Island Marine Park, Canakkale in the Aegean Sea. Karabay was monitored by a Guinness World Records representative.

ADELAIDE SKIN DIVING CENTRE TRAINING TANK

Our March news sheet (and the April issue of Dive Log) incorrectly reported that the Adelaide Skin Diving Centre training tank is now located at the rear of Divers Service at Welland. This is not the case at all and we apologise for any confusion caused by our report. Neville Grovermann tells us that it “Was removed for scrap by new owners back in early 2000s after ASDC was closed down”. Christopher Deane says that the “Training tank at Divers Service was installed in the 70's when Greg Fail was manager... It was swung over shops with crane.” Neville Grovermann added, “Correct Chris, (the Divers Service tank had a) different depth (and it was a) wider tank as well. (I) Worked in it when ours was off line many times.” Thanks for your input Neville & Chris.

STAR OF GREECE ANNIVERSARY & ANCHOR

13th July will be the 130th anniversary of the sinking of the *Star of Greece* at Port Willunga in 1888. Four minutes of silent black & white video footage from approx. 1975 by former SDFSA Treasurer, Peter Christopher can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kjx0ejB85gU&feature=youtu.be> . Aerial footage of the wreck site can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3NSCVppHipY> . “Shore Diving at the 125 Year Old Wreck of the Star of Greece” can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVGG6dORopo> . See my article about the *Star of Greece* in the May issue of Dive Log at <http://www.divelog.net.au/dlonline.html> . “Star of Greece” author, Paul Simpson says that the large anchor at Semaphore jetty is the swing anchor from the *Star of Greece*. Further details can be found at <http://mlssa.org.au/2018/03/31/some-anchor-stories/> .

THE LIFESPAN AND MAXIMUM LENGTH OF GREY NURSE SHARKS

According to the web page found at <http://mlssa.org.au/2018/04/04/the-lifespan-and-maximum-length-of-grey-nurse-sharks/> , Dr Nick Otway | Senior Research Scientist | Marine Ecosystems says, “(Re.) grey nurse sharks in NSW. In answer to your questions for the wild population off eastern Australia: (1) grey nurse sharks (males and females) can grow to a maximum length of 3.2 metres (maximum length is measured with the tail in a depressed position [flexed downwards] during a necropsy in a laboratory); and (2) they (males and females) can reach an estimated maximum age of 38 – 40 years, although very few

individuals reach this age.” Further details are included in the May issue of our Scuba Dive SA Bulletin.

THE HISTORY OF THE ‘DIVER BELOW’ FLAG

The International Flag ‘A’ (“I have a diver down – keep well clear at slow speed”) has been around since 1885! Back then, the British Board of Trade introduced the International Code of Signals to be used by vessels at sea. The code consisted of 18 signal flags at the time. The Alpha Flag (Flag A) was a white and blue swallow tail ‘burgee’ (distinguishing flag). Its original use was to let other vessels know that the boat flying it was restricted in its ability to manoeuvre and should be given right of way. It was traditionally flown when helmet divers were operating from a vessel. The International Code of Signals was revised to contain all the letters of the alphabet (consist of 26 flags) in 1902. A recommendation by the Australian Port Officer’s Association on the adoption of the International Code of Signals Flag A, as the flag to be flown by vessels having divers in the water, was accepted by Port and Maritime authorities throughout Australia and came into force on 1st April 1969. There is much more to the story though and further details are included in the May issue of our Scuba Dive SA Bulletin.

AUSSIE DIVERS PHUKET OFFER TO OUR FACEBOOK GROUP MEMBERS

Darren Gaspari at Aussie Divers Phuket is offering our Facebook group members discounts for diving in Phuket. He is offering 10% discount on all PADI Courses, 15% off liveaboards and scuba diving day trips and 20% discount on our luxury day trip speedboat. “We love to see some of the group over here. Happy to take good care of them when they are here,” he says. To take advantage of this generous offer, email info@aussiediversphuket.com and tell them that you heard about special discounts being offered to Scuba Dive SA Facebook group members. Visit either <https://www.aussiediversphuket.com/> or <https://www.facebook.com/AussieDiversPhuket/> for more details.

SCUBA DIVE SA BULLETIN

Attached along with this SDF News Sheet is a copy of the latest issue of our bulletin. We have now retitled it the “Scuba Dive SA Bulletin”. It is an electronic bulletin separate to our normal monthly SDF News Sheet. This issue includes the following items: -

Winter Is Spider Crab Season

The Lifespan and Maximum Length of Grey Nurse Sharks

The History of the ‘Diver Below’ Flag

Future issues of our “Scuba Dive SA Bulletin” will include lengthy articles about matters of interest to recreational divers. We welcome contributions from our readers.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

PARKS & LEISURE AUSTRALIA + RECREATION SA CONFERENCE

The 2018 SA Recreation, Parks and Leisure Conference is being held on Thursday 7th June 2018 at the SA Aquatic & Leisure Centre.

5TH INTERNATIONAL MARINE CONSERVATION CONGRESS

The 5th International Marine Conservation Congress is being held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia from 24-29th June. Organized by the Society for Conservation Biology's Marine Section (SCB Marine Section), IMCC5 is the global gathering spot for presenting and discussing new research and developments in marine conservation science and practice.

MARINE MAMMAL SYMPOSIUM IN ADELAIDE

The Marine Mammal Symposium is being held in Adelaide in July this year, in conjunction with the AMSA 2018 conference. It is being held from 1st-5th July 2018 at the Adelaide Convention Centre. The Symposium theme is "From Sea to Coast - Marine Mammals in a Connected World". It "recognises that marine mammals are covering large areas of the marine environment and connect various habitats throughout their lives. Their migratory behaviour often poses great challenges to study these animals and albeit their often-iconic character, knowledge about their whereabouts is still limited. They are exposed to a range of challenges including impacts from anthropogenic activities such as shipping, fishing, exploration, pollution and climate change but have also found ways of adapting to impacts. New techniques are being used to shed light on the migration, adaptation and behaviour of marine mammals such as seals, sea lions, orcas, southern right and humpback whales in Australian waters setting worldwide standards. Visit www.amsa18.amsa.asn.au/ for more details.

AMSA 2018 CONFERENCE

AMSA 2018 will bring together practitioners involved in marine science ranging from marine biology, conservation to geology and management of marine environments. It is being held from 1st-5th July 2018 at the Adelaide Convention Centre. The conference is relevant to government and non-government scientists, policy makers, environmental scientists, environmental consultants, marine scientists, and students and technicians with an interest in marine science, marine conservation and management. Visit www.amsa18.amsa.asn.au/ for more details. The draft program of the AMSA conference and our symposium. It is going to be the best marine science program so far with outstanding talks on all kind of marine topics AMSA conference Australian Marine Sciences Association <http://amsa18.amsa.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Program-Web.pdf> .

AIDE 2018

The Australia International Dive Expo is being held at the International Convention Centre in Sydney 2nd to 6th August 2018 (in collaboration with the Sydney International Boat Show). Details can be found on pages 63 & 65 of the May issue of Dive Log. Visit www.australiadiveexpo.com for more details.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK 2018

This year's National Science Week is being held from 11 – 19th August 2018. Visit www.scienceweek.net.au for more details.

AIMA/ASHA 2018 CONFERENCE

The AIMA/ASHA 2018 Conference is being held 27-28th September. The joint conference will be held at the UNE Parramatta Campus, located at 211 and 232 Church Street Parramatta, NSW. Visit <http://www.aima-underwater.org.au/> for more details.

4TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ANCHIALINE ECOSYSTEMS

The 4th International Symposium on Anchialine Ecosystems is being held Lanzarote, 1st to 7th October 2018. (An anchialine pool is an enclosed water body or pond with an underground connection to the ocean. Lanzarote is a Spanish island in the Canary Islands.) According to the web page found at <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/anchialine.html> , “Anchialine pools form some of the longest submerged caves structures on Earth. These typically small pools, which form in limestone or volcanic rock, are located throughout the world but are most common in the Hawaiian Islands and on Mexico’s Yucatán Peninsula. Anchialine pools have their own unique ecosystems populated by tiny and often rare species of crustaceans, fish, and eels.” The Symposium “aims at gathering researchers from throughout the world who dedicate their research on all aspects “anchialine”. The sessions of the symposiums cover various fields of Biology, Systematics and Evolution, Biogeography, Geomicrobiology, Ecology, Geology, Hydrology, Paleontology, and Archeology.” Visit <http://www.4isae.es/> for more information. WoRCS (@CaveSpecies), the World Register of marine Cave Species aims to create a comprehensive taxonomic and ecological database of species from marine caves and anchialine systems. Visit <https://t.co/7WO918DmZx> for more details.

PORT ADELAIDE WOODEN AND HERITAGE BOAT FESTIVAL

The inaugural Port Adelaide Wooden and Heritage Boat Festival will be held in Port Adelaide from 13-14th October 2018.

OZTek2019

OZTek2019 will be held at the International Convention Centre Sydney, Darling Harbour on March 16/17, 2019. Visit www.oztek.com.au for more details. Some details can be found on page 61 of the May issue of Dive Log.

2019 FESTIVAL FLEURIEU

Next year’s Festival Fleurieu is being held from Saturday 13th April to Monday 22nd April (just 10 days) which includes the Easter holiday long weekend.

Details for many forthcoming events can be found at <http://www.divelog.net.au/news-events/>. Visit the web page found at <http://www.tourism.sa.com/events/event-news-edition-two.aspx> to see the latest from Events South Australia.

Scuba Dive SA www.sdfsa.net (The Scuba Divers Federation of SA) is a member of the following: -

RecFishSA (SA Recreational Fishing Advisory Council) <https://recfishsa.org.au/>

SA Trails Coordinating Committee* <http://www.southaustraliantrails.com/>

* (Office of Recreation & Sport) <http://www.ors.sa.gov.au/>

Recreation SA <http://recreation.sa.gov.au/>

If you wish to be included on the mailing list for this electronic news sheet, contact Steve Reynolds, the Federation's Secretary, on info@sdfsaustralia.org.au for more details.

The SDF supports both Reef Watch & DragonSearch

http://www.conservationaustralia.org.au/reef_watch

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