

SDF News Sheet – May 2019

Your SA Scuba diving news

Monthly newsletter of
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, Stubbys Ink (Wetsuit Coolers)
Dell’uva Wines Estate and Aussie Divers Phuket

SDFSA 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 diving access, facilities, 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>.

Our ‘April’ meeting is being held on 1st May. It’s almost winter and time to want to watch whales at Victor and cuddle cuttlefish at Whyalla.

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NEXT MEETING

Please note that our next meeting is now being held at 7pm on Wednesday 29/5 (5th Wed). Keep the Rob Roy Hotel in mind for your next function (8223 5391).

EDITHBURGH JETTY STEPS UPDATE

The northern steps at the Edithburgh jetty have now been fixed thanks to the District Council (and the Ratepayers) of the Yorke Peninsula. The DC Yorke Peninsula says that a new support beam has been installed at the bottom end and one step replaced. We are still pursuing the installation of a platform at the bottom of the southern steps to aid in extracting injured people.

AGM

We are considering a suggestion that we hold our July AGM on Tuesday 16th July.

DIVE SHOP NEWS

The Dive Shack has adopted Port Noarlunga reef, with the aim of taking good care of it.

PERMIT NEEDED FOR EWENS PONDS,

“New snorkelling and diving permits for Ewens Ponds Conservation Park will be introduced in the coming months. The Department for Environment and Water is introducing a permit system and says it's to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of the ponds. Thousands of recreational divers and snorkelers visit the ponds each year, and underwater vegetation is being damaged due to the increasing number of visitors. The new permit system will limit the number of people allowed in the water at any given time. According to the department, permits will be available to purchase via the National Parks SA website, and will allow visitors to be in the water for up to one hour. Snorkelling permits will be \$15 per adult, \$13 concession, and \$10 for children 15 years and under. Annual permits will also be available. "Permit fees will go towards the ongoing management of Ewens Ponds, ensuring that this unique local gem is kept intact for years to come," Senior Ranger Aidan Laslett said. Ewens Ponds are closed each spring to let the ponds rejuvenate.” (Sources:

https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/find-a-park/Browse_by_region/Limestone_Coast/ewens-ponds-

[conservation-park#see-and-do](#) and
https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/files/sharedassets/parks/parks/limestone-coast/ewens-ponds-conservation-park/parks_pdfs_ewensponds_guide.pdf)

PERMIT NEEDED TO POSSESS ANY SYNGNANTHIDS IN SA

As reported last month, all seahorses, pipefish and seadragons were declared, protected species under the South Australian Fisheries Act regulations in 2006. The Fisheries Management Act 2007 section 72 specifies that you are not permitted to be in possession of a protected species (i.e. no matter the circumstance or when it was taken), unless pursuant to a permit issued by the Minister. This same section also indicates that the Minister must not issue a permit unless the opinion that is in the public interest to do so. Please note that each Ministerial permit is assessed on its merits and a prerequisite/requirement for possession of a protected species would be a registered research provided such as a museum, university etc. to support education, research and protection of the species. There is a Ministerial permit application (Possess or Control Protected Species) you can apply for on the PIRSA website, here is a link to the form: https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/fishing/permits_and_exemptions . You can either complete the form by paper or online.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Terry Johns and Wally Pillen on the successful release of a Port Jackson shark caught in fishing line at Port Noarlunga Jetty as shown at

<https://www.facebook.com/TezzaMcJ/videos/10218785008473969/?t=36> .

The members of the SA Whale Disentanglement Team who successfully disentangled their first whale near Victor Harbor in early April. See

<https://departmentforenvironmentandwater.cmail19.com/t/r-l-jinwc-urhhiimhh-i/> for more details.

The team from AusOcean (Australian Ocean Laboratory) on the release of their report of their recent expeditions to Smith Bay on Kangaroo Island. The Smith Bay Marine Ecology Report can be found at

https://www.ausocean.org/s/doc/2019_AusOcean_Smith_Bay_Marine_Ecology_Report.pdf .

Chelsea Haebich, Jamie Hicks and the Reef Life Survey team on being featured in The Advertiser on 10th April. Check it out on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/ReefLifeSurvey/photos/a.572982492728040/3238674469492149/?type=3&theater> or on Twitter at

<https://twitter.com/i/topics/news/e202754746?cn=ZmxleGlibGVfcmVjc18y&refsrc=email> .

The AusOcean team also featured on Ch. 7 TV's 6pm news on a Sunday night in April. See it at <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2221830691410767> .

The team from Experiencing Marine Sanctuaries' Inclusive Snorkel Program who demonstrated how wheel-chair bound people can snorkel via the aid of the team's Mobi-chair. ABC TV's footage shown on the National News bulletin can be found at

[\[my.sharepoint.com/personal/nielsen_benelliot_abc_net_au/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fnielsen%5Fbenelliot%5Fabc%5Fnet%5Fau%2FDocuments%2FABC%20News%5Fsnorkel%2Emp4&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Fnielsen%5Fbenelliot%5Fabc%5Fnet%5Fau%2FDocuments&cid=b414bd14-53ce-4d62-9afa-04decbee37c2\]\(https://my.sharepoint.com/personal/nielsen_benelliot_abc_net_au/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fnielsen%5Fbenelliot%5Fabc%5Fnet%5Fau%2FDocuments%2FABC%20News%5Fsnorkel%2Emp4&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Fnielsen%5Fbenelliot%5Fabc%5Fnet%5Fau%2FDocuments&cid=b414bd14-53ce-4d62-9afa-04decbee37c2\) .](https://abcportal-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

AWARE WEEK

Domino Albert, Project AWARE Associate Director Global Communications says, “the 2nd edition of AWARE Week is scheduled to take place globally the week of September 14-22, 2019. In celebration of Life Below Water - the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal focused on the ocean - this year's AWARE Week theme is Building Bridges.”

ANNIVERSARIES

77 YEARS AGO, HMAS *Vampire* was sunk off Sri Lanka on 9th April 1942, whilst she was protecting the aircraft carrier *Hermes* during WWII. The precise location of the *Vampire* (D68) has remained uncertain until now, but searchers think that they are close to pinpointing her resting place. *Vampire* was part of the V & W Class of destroyers with HMAS *Voyager* (D31).

49 YEARS AGO, Ron Bellchambers started diving with the competition club called the Lefevre Spearfishing Club. The club dis-banded 3 years later, so Ron started a freediving club in Port Adelaide called the SA Dolphins Freediving Club. Ron hasn't done any spearfishing for many years now. He is now an avid conservationist for the marine environment and for all biodiversity.

MYSTERY OF ANOTHER MISSING SHIP SOLVED

I have long wondered why the pennant numbers for the ex-HMAS *Perth*, *Hobart* and *Brisbane* were 38, 39 & 41 respectively, with number 40 absent. I now see that the ex-USS *Goldsborough* became DDG 40 when she was transferred to the RAN but was only used for spare parts for the rest of the fleet. According to Wikipedia, “*Goldsborough* was sold to Australia on 17 September 1993 The Royal Australian Navy intended to remove equipment from the ship to establish training facilities for maintenance personnel from their Perth-class destroyers (derivatives of the Charles F. Adams class). At the time, most training was conducted in the United States; it was expensive to continually fly sailors between the United States and Australia, and with the Charles F. Adams class phasing out of service, was likely to be terminated anyway. *Goldsborough* would also be used as a source of spares for the Perth class. The ship was towed from Hawaii to Australiaand was berthed at Fleet Base East. A four-man team set about removing equipment for installation at the new training facility, and for the Australian destroyers. While in Australian hands, the team painted the number 40 on the bow, filling a gap in the pennant number sequence for their three destroyers. After all usable equipment had been stripped, *Goldsborough* was sold to an Indian company in August 1994, and towed away for ship breaking.” (The new series of Air Warfare Destroyers (Hobart Class) bearing the *Hobart* and *Brisbane* names have stuck with the same pennant numbers – DDG 39 & DDG 41. The third vessel in the Class is HMAS *Sydney* – DDG 42. She is expected to be commissioned this year.)

“CAN WE SAVE THE REEF?”

ABC TV recently replayed the documentary titled “Can We Save The Reef?”. It had first aired in 2018. It can be found on iView at <https://iview.abc.net.au/show/can-we-save-the-reef>. The documentary features the late Dr Ruth Gates quite a bit. Unfortunately, Ruth died late last year.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Many events are listed on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/> . Details for many other forthcoming events can be found at <http://www.diveblog.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.

SA SCUBA WEEK - SUN 17-SAT 23 NOVEMBER

We are holding a SA Scuba Week from Sun 17th to Sat 23rd November. We're starting with a dive with a spud hunt at Port Noarlunga early on Sun 17th November, followed by a BBQ. We are also looking at getting shops, clubs & related organisations to set up display booths. On Saturday 23rd November, we're holding an evening event at the Barcoo Function Centre. More details will be provided as they come to hand.

SUBMERGED - STORY OF AUSTRALIA'S SHIP WRECKS.

The exhibition "Submerged- Story of Australia's Ship Wrecks" is running until 6th May at the Signal Point Gallery in Goolwa. Entry to the exhibition is free.

DAVID ATTENBOROUGH'S GREAT BARRIER REEF DIVE VR EXHIBITION

David Attenborough's Great Barrier Reef Dive VR Exhibition is being held at the South Australian Museum 11am, 12pm, 1pm and 2pm daily until 14th July 2019. Admission is \$16 (\$12 Museum Members). Further details can be found in our SDFSA Bulletin for April 2019.

COMBINED DIVE CLUBS WEEKEND 2019

The 15th anniversary Combined Dive Clubs Weekend is being held in Tasmania over the June long weekend.

MIDE 2019

The Malaysia International Dive Expo is being held in Kuala Lumpur from 3rd to 5th May 2019. See www.mide.com.my or page 63 of the April issue of Dive Log for more details.

RECREATION SA AND PARKS AND LEISURE AUSTRALIA SA/NT 2019 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Recreation SA with Parks and Leisure Australia SA/NT will again be co-hosting an annual conference in Adelaide on Thursday 9th May 2019. The conference theme will focus on community well-being. Mark Aiston will be the Master of Ceremonies and the program will include guest speakers and presenters. To keep updated with details of the conference, visit www.recreationsa.org and <https://www.facebook.com/RecreationSA/> .

UNDERWATER TOUR 2019

The Underwater Tour 2019 presents an evening with David Doubilet, Jennifer Hayes & William Tan at the Space Theatre at the Adelaide Festival Centre at 7pm on Monday 13th May. Visit <https://underwatertour.us17.list-manage.com/track/click?u=3fb64f94d726775164076a97d&id=b921b5b92b&e=ff14df6e0e> to

book your tickets (\$80 - \$160 (+ \$8.95 per transaction). See <http://underwatertour.com.au/> or pages 28-29 in the April issue of Dive Log.

AMSA 2019 CONFERENCE

The AMSA 2019 conference is being held in Fremantle, WA from 7-11th July. This year's theme for the conference is "Marine Science for a Blue Economy". More information on the conference can be found at <http://amsa19.amsa.asn.au/> .

AIDE 2019

The Australia International Dive Expo is being held at the Exhibition Convention Centre (level 1, Hall 3) in Sydney from 1st to 5th August 2019. Visit www.australiadiveexpo.com or see page 59 of the May issue of Dive Log for more details.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

This year's National Science Week is being held 10 – 18th August 2019. See www.scienceweek.net.au .

2019 WORLD WHALE CONFERENCE AND WHALE HERITAGE SITES SUMMIT

The 2019 World Whale Conference and Whale Heritage Sites Summit are both being held in Hervey Bay, Queensland in October (2019). The World Whale Conference is being held from 7-9th October and Whale Heritage Sites Summit is being held from 10-11th October. The event will be hosted by Fraser Coast Tourism and Events and the World Cetacean Alliance.

2019 ASFB CONFERENCE

The Australian Society for Fish Biology conference is being held 14–17th October at the Australian National Library in Canberra, ACT. ASFB 2019 will showcase and celebrate the many ways we can illuminate the wonderful world of fishes in the hearts and minds of people spanning a range of cultures, backgrounds and perspectives. The conference program includes workshops, special events and sessions that will explore how effective communication via the visual arts, digital media, and the spoken and written word can bring new understanding and inspiration to the millions of people who value and depend on fishes for their wellbeing. See the conference website at <http://asfbconference.org/> for more details.

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://recreationsa.org/>

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

The SDF supports both Reef Watch & DragonSearch

http://www.conservation.sa.gov.au/reef_watch

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