

# SDFSA Newsletter – January 2020



Monthly newsletter of the  
**SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF SA Inc.**

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SDFSA is a non-profit, incorporated membership association dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of our unique underwater world.

**JOIN US FOR FREE:** <https://sdfsa.net/membership-categories/>

The more members we have, the stronger our influence. We serve as a peak body representing the interests of South Australian recreational scuba divers and the related sports of freediving and snorkelling, including the provision of information to government and the general public.

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## OUR LEAD STORY: SOUTH AUSTRALIA CONSULTATION ON JETTIES

### We need your input!

The Federation has been asked by the South Australia Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) to prepare a submission to the State government's consultation on jetties. DPTI has recognized the need for a statewide jetty management plan and investment in jetty infrastructure. They are looking for guidance on a priority action list for addressing the state of SA jetties. They seek to understand as well what are the key impediments to growth in jetty use by local, interstate and international divers. How can SA's jetties be a more significant tourism draw than they currently are?

We would like your comments on two issues:

1. Which jetties should be priorities for DPTI (what would be on your top 10 jetties list?)?
2. What are the main concerns/challenges for the diving community with the jetties and related infrastructure (eg, lack of benches for gearing up; jetty surfaces that block light from the marine habitat underneath, etc.)?

Please send your comments to [comms@sdfsa.net](mailto:comms@sdfsa.net) by January 18 or post your thoughts on our Facebook page.

*And send us your best photos too, reflecting both the beauty of SA jetties, and also the problems.*

We will incorporate comments and photos into the SDFSA submission to DPTI at the end of January. Our submission will also be posted on our website and Facebook pages.

## IMPORTANT NOTICES FOR SA DIVERS

### Port Noarlunga Jetty Steps

Work on rebuilding the divers' steps at the Port Noarlunga jetty has now been postponed until February, due to unexpected delays faced by the contractor on another project near Ceduna. For details on the proposed schedule of work in February, go to:

<https://www.onkaparingacity.com/Council/News-articles/Port-Noarlunga-jetty-divers-stairs-project-update>.

A notice is posted at Port Noarlunga jetty advising divers, snorkelers, swimmers and fishers of the pending exclusion zones on either side of the jetty that will be implemented once work on replacing the jetty stairs begins.

### SA Shark Patrols

SA shark patrols are operating daily over metro beaches until mid-March. These patrols include choppers, planes and drones. Surf Life Saving operates a helicopter and drones. Hartwig Air operates fixed-wing aircraft. Patrols cover beaches from North Haven to Rapid Bay every day. This is extended to the coast from Victor Harbor to the Murray Mouth on weekends, public holidays and school holidays.

## 2020 Events

### DIVE FOR CANCER 2020

The 2020 Dive for Cancer is being held at Port Noarlunga on Sunday 23rd February. See <https://www.diveforcancer.com.au/event/dive-for-cancer-south-australia-the-festival-state/> for more information.

### AUSTRALIAN SHELLFISH REEF RESTORATION NETWORK MEETING

The Australian Shellfish Reef Restoration Network meeting & 11th International Conference on Shellfish Restoration is being held at Port Stephens, NSW from 17-20th March 2020

### 2020 OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR

The 2020 Ocean Film Festival World Tour is being held on Saturday 21st March 7 – 10pm at the Capri Theatre, 141 Goodwood Rd, Goodwood.

### 6TH INTERNATIONAL ECOSUMMIT CONFERENCE

The 6th International EcoSummit Conference will be held in Gold Coast, Australia, June 21-25, 2020. There will be a session on "Restoring coasts, estuaries and wetlands: large scale science, big data and embracing technological advancement".

## Congratulations to ...

Carl Charter of Experiencing Marine Sanctuaries on qualifying as a PADI Adaptive Techniques Specialty Instructor.

Sebastien and Karolyn Lander, for the publication of their winning photos from the SA Scuba Week photo competition in the January issue of Scuba Diver ANZ.

Fellow DiveLog writer PT Hirschfield of Pink Tank Scuba ([www.pinktankscuba.com](http://www.pinktankscuba.com)) on having done 1000 dives since her cancer was diagnosed as 'incurable' in 2014.

## Science Story for the month

### **EXTREME TEMPERATURES CAUSE OF MARINE LIFE DEATHS IN W.A.**

The December issue of the SDFSA's newsletter reported that scientists were warning that marine heatwaves were threatening the oyster industry and affecting the Great Barrier Reef. Peter Harman, who told us about the marine heatwaves threat, now points out that extreme temperatures have caused the death of marine life in Western Australia. Recent 'fish kills' are being linked to a changing environment. "A combination of high temperatures and low tide is believed to have contributed to the deaths of tiny crabs in Karratha mudflats, wild oysters at the mouth of the Fortescue River on the Pilbara Coast and krill at Town Beach in Exmouth in the state's north-west in recent weeks." See <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-12-18/marine-heatwave-kills-fish-as-australia-faces-record-temperature/11808268> for more details.

Of general interest ...

### **SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE'S FIRST MUSEUM OF UNDERWATER ART**

More than 20 sculptures have been submerged off of Townsville on the north Queensland coast as an underwater dive attraction. The sculptures are from the Great Barrier Reef Museum of Underwater Art. See <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-12-19/underwater-art-museum-off-townsville-qld/11809272> for more details.

### SDFSA Committee Business

Our next meeting is scheduled for 7pm on Wednesday 22nd January at the Arab Steed Hotel, 241 Hutt St, Adelaide.

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