

# SDFSA Newsletter – November 2024

Editor: Heather Creech



## SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF SA, Inc.

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Sea Wolves Successful Swap Meet

## *In this issue....*

SHARK DETERRENT UPDATE	2
RAPID BAY NAVIGATION TRAIL	2
SEA STAR NOMINATIONS	2
MARINE CONSERVATION NOTES	2
IMPORTANT NOTICES	3
SDFSA COMMITTEE BUSINESS	4
NEWS FROM SHOPS AND CLUBS	4
IN MEMORIUM	5
CONGRATULATIONS TO...	6
IN THE MEDIA	7
HISTORY NOTES	7
STEVE'S SCIENCE STORIES for the month	8
FOR YOUR CALENDAR: FORTHCOMING EVENTS	10

## SHARK DETERRENT UPDATE

Since Ocean Guardian went into receivership, your Committee has been investigating what options for a shark deterrent might become available in the future. We are aware that another company has purchased Ocean Guardian but we have no further details about how they may handle servicing for Shark Shields that have stopped working, whether they will continue to manufacture the Shark Shield off shore or how they will address concerns over quality control.

The WA-based company RPELA makes well-reviewed shark deterrents for surfers and fishers. We have been in touch with them, and they have informed us that they have been “developing a dive system for the past 4 years” and “are working on ... finalising the design now; our field testing shows the diving device electromagnetic field is the same as our other systems that are scientifically proven. The research will hopefully be completed by mid next year prior to release.” RPELA has asked whether SDFSA might assist them possibly with a short survey of our diving community to help with their market research and pricing. We will follow up with them to see what might be involved. We will keep you informed as we look further into this important safety issue.

## RAPID BAY NAVIGATION TRAIL

Disappointingly many of the star droppers have fallen out & moved from their original position. The SDFSA Committee are considering options for replacing the star droppers. If you would like to be involved in coming up with a solution please contact the SDFSA president, Helena Wescombe-Down at: [president@sdfs.net](mailto:president@sdfs.net)

## SEA STAR NOMINATIONS

The Scuba Divers Federation is searching for an outstanding “Sea Star” and we need your help! We are looking for all those quiet achievers. We know they are out there doing an amazing job.

You are invited to nominate an individual who is making or has made an outstanding effort to diving, snorkelling or freediving and/or a wide range of other activities concerned with the protection & promotion of our marine and freshwater environments & cultural heritage in South Australia. If you wish to nominate someone, please fill in the form sent separately with this Newsletter. If you have any questions just email us and we will endeavour to answer them.

**Nominations Close Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024. Please send to [project@sdfs.net](mailto:project@sdfs.net)**

The award will be presented at an SDFSA Splash Inn early 2025.

## MARINE CONSERVATION NOTES

### PROTECTING SOUTH AUSTRALIA’S GIANT CUTTLEFISH SANCTUARY

Government officials (The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Minister for the Environment and Water, The Hon Susan Close MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, and Senator Karen Grogan, Senator for SA) have announced that “The Albanese Labor Government is investing \$400,000 to help manage and protect South Australia’s Cuttlefish Coast Sanctuary Zone, recently included on Australia’s National Heritage List. The funding will help to develop a conservation management and tourism plan for the site, which sees thousands of giant Australian cuttlefish congregate along four kilometres of shallow rocky reef each year. Led by the South Australian Government in partnership with Whyalla City Council, this project will ensure the site is prepared for increased visitation and minimise impacts on the surrounding region.”

## HEARD & MCDONALD ISLANDS MARINE PARK

Fiona Maxwell from Save Our Marine Life says that the Australian Government has revealed its plan for the Heard and McDonald Islands Marine Park following months of consultation. The marine park will ensure the bulk of the waters around these islands will be free from mining and new, damaging pelagic fisheries. The park will now include increased protection for part of the Gunnari Ridge – an important foraging ground for penguins, albatrosses and seals. The expanded marine park and sanctuaries will help protect and preserve this unique and special part of the world.

The government has, however, decided to leave important undersea canyons, highly biodiverse seamounts and the Williams Ridge outside of sanctuaries despite leading scientists calling for increased sanctuary protection around these critical seafloor habitats and foraging areas. The marine park's management plan will soon be open to consultation. A strong management plan is needed, covering issues such as ocean surveillance and scientific research.

## IMPORTANT NOTICES

### NEWS FROM PIRSA FISHERIES

According to the first issue of PIRSA's new recreational fishing newsletter, The Quarterly Catch (formerly FishFacts), "[Southern Rock Lobster season opening soon](#) - In South Australia, the recreational Southern Rock Lobster fishery is divided into two zones, the Northern and Southern Zones. The Southern Zone opens from 1 October, while the Northern Zone opens from 1 November this year."

Also, "[Rock lobster tail marking changes](#) - From 1 October, recreational fishers in South Australia can **mark the middle tail fan of rock lobsters with a hole punch** (not less than 10mm)."

And, "[Measure your crab catch](#) - Crabbing is a popular pastime for many and as the waters warm up this spring, Blue Swimmer and Sand Crabs will be more readily available. **Brush up on the rules before the season begins.**"

### 2025 SCHEDULE FOR SEALINK KANGAROO ISLAND

Sealink KI have announced their upgraded 2025 service with the introduction of the two new larger state-of-the-art ferries, Wanggami and Ruwi. Increased daily departures as follows:

- Peak season (September to April): 22 departures per day (11 trips each way)  
Monday to Friday; and 18 departures per day (9 trips each way) Saturday to Sunday.
- Off-peak season (May to August): 14 departures per day (7 trips each way).

Note there will be expanded capacity on the ferries: Around 150 metres more vehicle lane space per departure and easier vehicle loading: drive-through loading, with drive on and off in the same direction, allowing quicker turnarounds, along with a more comfortable ride, free WIFI, device charging stations, and secure pet lounge.

### Ewens Ponds and Piccaninnie Ponds remain closed

to the public for water-based activities until further notice. Check the current situation before making any plans to visit the ponds. According to <https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/parks/ewens-ponds-conservation-park>, "The ponds are currently closed to water-based activities due to very low water levels resulting in the connecting channels being too shallow to navigate without damaging the delicate aquatic vegetation and site natural values." And according to <https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/parks/piccaninnie-ponds-conservation-park>, "Piccaninnie Ponds is remaining closed for immersive water activities until further notice to allow for the regeneration of

aquatic vegetation and fauna species following an outbreak of filamentous algae. The conservation park remains open to the public, however entry into the water for diving and snorkeling is not permitted and permits are not being issued.”

## SDFSA COMMITTEE BUSINESS

And a reminder that our **next Splash Inn is Friday, 15 November, 6:30 pm** at the Rob Roy, with guest speaker Dr Chris Acott AM FANZCA on The History of Decompression Sickness. Book on Eventbrite at [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/splash-inn-003-tickets-1044589373937?aff=emailordconf&utm\\_campaign=order\\_confirm&ref=emailordconf&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=eventbrite&utm\\_term=viewevent](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/splash-inn-003-tickets-1044589373937?aff=emailordconf&utm_campaign=order_confirm&ref=emailordconf&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eventbrite&utm_term=viewevent).

Our next meeting is at the Arab Steed Hotel, 28 November 7pm in the upstairs meeting room. This will be the last meeting for 2024, with the next meeting to be in January 2025.

## NEWS FROM SHOPS AND CLUBS

### Sea Wolves SCUBA Swap Meet proves popular

Before the weekly Tuesday night meeting at the Sea Wolves Dive Club in Morphett Vale, some 75+ divers gathered at a Swap meet for SCUBA gear. The tag line was “Move along the spare and working gear filling your wardrobe.” The result was some 14 trestle tables chock-a-block full of gear. Tec gear, Rec gear, cameras, new used, wet suits galore, an oxygen revival kit, a dive scooter, lights and even a RIB boat were presented for sale.

Two former dive shops, a service technician, members and non-members alike arrived at 06:30 with gear for sale, or with a shopping list. After set up, people cruised the gear, chatted, purchased, swapped and networked. A lot of catching up with old dive mates seemed to happen, along with heaps of networking. A free BBQ kept the energy levels up.





The swap meet was followed by the weekly 8:00 pm club meeting that was attended by over 60 members and visitors, many of whom stayed well after the normal finish time. In all a great time was had, and the planning is already underway for the next Sea Wolves SCUBA Swap Meet being planned for October 2025. Stay tuned for more!

Sea Wolves club rooms are at 10 Bayford Rise, Morphett Vale and open every Tuesday night from 7:30pm (6:30 for free member air fails) for a meeting at 8:30. New members are very welcome.

### **The Marine Life Society of SA has launched its South Australian Anchor Trail.**

It complements the Port Adelaide Anchor Trail. The South Australian Anchor Trail is a combination of the [Anchors in South Australia Google map](#) and the [Port Adelaide Anchor Trail](#). Some of the anchors on the [Anchors in South Australia Google map](#) are to be found underwater, but the majority of them are readily available to view on dry land. Although those anchors underwater can only be viewed by divers and snorkellers, the majority of the anchors on the South Australian Anchor Trail can be viewed by the general public without getting too wet. The [Anchors in South Australia Google map](#) currently features more than 100 sites covering much more than 100 anchors. There are photos of most anchors, and (approximate only) coordinates for most locations.

## **IN MEMORIUM**

### **VALE ALAN HALE**

On a sad note, one-time SDFSA President, Alan Hale passed away on Kangaroo Island back in March, aged 86 years. He was President of the SDFSA from June 1987 to April 1989. Alan had been a member of several dive clubs, including the Underwater Explorers Club of SA, the Society for Underwater Historical Research (now SA Archaeology Society), the Nautical Archaeological Association of SA and the Marine Aquarium Research Institute of Australia (SA Branch) (now Marine Life Society of SA). Alan also had his own dive shop at Aldinga (in Ocean Street). Our belated condolences go to his family and friends.

### **VALE GREG FAHILL**

Our condolences also go to the family and friends of Greg Fahill (Divers Service) who died in September. Greg was known for his passion for diving. He was once a UEC member and ran the Divers Service shop at Welland prior to Barry Marsland. His dedication and enthusiasm for the underwater world have left a lasting impact.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO...

- Dean Spraakman whose film “A Dragons Dance” came in 6th place in the Cimasub - Ciclo Internacional de Cine Submarino de Donostia - San Sebastián Spanish underwater film festival.
- The award winners in the inaugural edition of the [Underwater Awards Australasia](#) (UWAA) 2024 photo competition. The “Best of Show” award (overall competition winner) went to Gabriel Guzman for his collection of sunburst images that took top spot in the Portfolio category. The other category winners were Talia Greis (Sydney), Jenny Stock (Over-Under), Selanie Waddilove (Smartphone), Emma Turner (Environmental), Lewis Burnet (Australian), Luc Rooman (International Waters), and Ste Everington (Reels Showcase).
- Scott Portelli on winning the 2024 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year competition with his drone image of two humpback whales “bubble-net feeding” near Antarctica. Congrats also go to Portfolio Winner, David Dahlenburg and Maya Hughes who won the junior section of the award. (See <https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/photography/2024/08/winners-2024-australian-geographic-nature-photographer-of-the-year/> for more details. South Australians were prominent in the finalists.)
- The awardees of the 2024 Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology Scholarship:
  - Muslim Dimas Khoiru Dhony, Gumilang Cahyaning Dityo, Dwi Kurnia Sandy and Fairuz Azis for their fully funded project entitled Dynamics of the Cultural Landscape on Bawean Island, Gresik Regency, East Java: Cultural Landscape Approach
  - Wrecksploration Inc. for their partially funded project entitled Key Biscayne – Photogrammetry survey of a sunken oil rig
  - Andy Viduka via GIRT for his partially funded project entitled 2019 – 2024: A comparative GIRT Scientific Diver condition survey of the Rainbow Warrior (1987), Cavalli Islands, New Zealand.
- The Friends of Port River whose "Potato mats" from The Netherlands are being trialled for seagrass restoration on the Torrens Island shoreline; and The Future Coast Lab, University of Adelaide for securing a Blue Carbon Futures Grant, from Green Adelaide, making the “Potato Mats” trial and other research possible. (See [https://portriver.au/can-potato-starch-structures-assist-seagrass-recovery/?fbclid=IwY2xjawFl6gtleHRuA2FlbQixMAABHTx-eVriBKK0Gmbw4h47xPqTroAT0DltFG3nUpJLWbFpSgojWCPTPeZtsg\\_aem\\_SAI5PzbPbpE7JiQD7dTpUg](https://portriver.au/can-potato-starch-structures-assist-seagrass-recovery/?fbclid=IwY2xjawFl6gtleHRuA2FlbQixMAABHTx-eVriBKK0Gmbw4h47xPqTroAT0DltFG3nUpJLWbFpSgojWCPTPeZtsg_aem_SAI5PzbPbpE7JiQD7dTpUg) for more information.)
- The school students who released 132 baby seahorses to live in 15 'seahorse hotels' off Little Beach near Nelson Bay, NSW as part of the state government's program to support the recovery of the endangered White Seahorse. The hotels start as artificial habitats, and rapidly become covered in algae, sponges and corals, The program has now seen a thousand captivity-bred seahorse babies released in Port Stephens.
- The 2024 inductees into the [International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame](#) (based in the Cayman Islands). John Thet, Claudio Guardabassi, Margo Peyton, Enric Sala, Capt. Ertis Ebanks, Barbara Macdowell, Joanna Mikutowicz and Andrew Ebanks were all inducted into the Hall of Fame in a ceremony on 28<sup>th</sup> September. Some details can be found at [https://www.deeperblue.com/new-hall-of-fame-members-honored-at-induction-ceremony/?mc\\_cid=85569d5d13&mc\\_eid=d4cc43123c](https://www.deeperblue.com/new-hall-of-fame-members-honored-at-induction-ceremony/?mc_cid=85569d5d13&mc_eid=d4cc43123c).

## IN THE MEDIA

Check out the ABC story about Canadian Cave Diver Jill Heinerth:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-10-24/cave-diving-pioneer-jill-heinerth-on-diving-into-the-darkness/104485942>. Read the story about her experience cave diving inside an iceberg in Antarctica!

And for \$15.00, you can rent the 2024 Ocean Film Festival, at <https://www.adventurereelstv.com/>.

## HISTORY NOTES

By Steve Reynolds

### THE ISLANDS & SHIPWRECKS IN THE NEPTUNE ISLANDS

Île Morency in the South Neptune Islands in South Australia was named after Captain Morency, a French naval officer. It was named by the French explorer Nicolas Baudin during his expedition to map the southern coast of Australia in the early 1800s. The nearby Ile Villars, also named by Baudin, is named after Jean-Baptiste de Villars, a French naval officer and explorer who was part of the Baudin expedition. The southern island doesn't seem to have a particular name, but apart from being referred to as 'the southern island', it is also known as Lighthouse Island. The small islet located nearby doesn't seem to have a particular name either. It is not known who, or what, Ile Valbelle in the North Neptune Islands is named after. The small islet located nearby doesn't seem to have a particular name at all.

The *Yandra* sank at Île Morency in the South Neptune Islands in January 1959. The *Frances* sank in the Neptune Islands in 1840. The *Venus* sank at the North Neptune Islands in 1946. The *Saint Michele* sank at the Neptune Islands in 1965. The *Glordia V* sank at the North Neptune Islands in 1977.

The MFV *Cinderella* has also been mentioned as another shipwreck in the Neptunes. According to <https://www.wrecksite.eu/wreck.aspx?51953>, the *Cinderella* was a small fishing boat which foundered in Spencer Gulf on 24/05/1982, Lat: -35.33 Lon: 136.12. That puts it in the Neptunes too. Matthew Flinders named the Neptune Islands in 1802. They were so named by Flinders because he considered that they seemed to be 'inaccessible to men'.

Captain Stokes charted the islands in HMS *Beagle* in 1840. Captain Howard of the Admiralty Survey visited the islands in 1873-74.

Rodney Fox Shark Expeditions has been using the Neptune Islands for shark cage diving since the early 1970s. They say that the Neptunes are a group of four islands 40 nautical miles (60 miles?) south of Port Lincoln and that they are "A natural feeding ground for Great White Sharks", adding that "they form the world focal point for shark cage diving". According to <https://rodneyfox.com.au/great-white-shark-central/the-neptune-islands/>, "Their rocky-cragged coves are home to Australia's largest colony of Fur Seals. High up on their granite promontories, you'll see White Breasted Sea Eagles hunting and hear the conversational twitter of Rock Parrots and marvel at the fabled Albatross. .... The island is full of wonderful species of mammals, reptiles and birds; some of them unique to the Neptunes. One of the many highlights is watching the rare and elusive Australian Sea Lions interacting on the rocks." Then there are, of course, the Great White Sharks. "Male Great Whites (up to 5-m) inhabit the islands all year round. The seal pups are born in summer (December to January), but don't start entering the ocean until winter (April to August). That's when the giant female Great Whites (up to 6m) come to the Neptunes."

## STEVE'S SCIENCE STORIES for the month

By Steve Reynolds

### **DOLPHIN SMILES**

We may not be terribly aware of it, but we tend to grin whilst we are having fun. This grinning is apparently shared by dolphins. Scientists have discovered that dolphins have their own way of grinning during playtime amongst themselves. Termed a 'smile', their 'grin' is described as "an open-mouthed expression to convey "playfulness" and show a companion that their actions are not malicious." These 'smiles' are then said to be mimicked by their playmates, who returned the gesture much of the time.

### **THE MAUGEAN SKATE, *ZEARAJA MAUGEANA***

According to the Australian Marine Conservation Society at

<https://www.marineconservation.org.au/maugean-skate/>, "The Maugean skate, or Port Davey skate (*Zearaja maugeana*), is a ray found only in Tasmania. It is heading for extinction and may soon become the world's first marine fish extinction in modern times because of human activities."

The AMCS give the skate's Threatened Status in Australia as being "listed as endangered under both Tasmania's Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999."

The Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) reported via Facebook that a baby Maugean skate had hatched from an egg laid in captivity, and scientists are looking forward to more arrivals soon: -

"For the first time ever, a baby Maugean skate has hatched from an egg laid in captivity – and scientists are looking forward to more arrivals soon. It's an exciting time for our IMAS marine ecologists! They've been working around the clock since an adult female skate was brought into captivity in December last year, and laid her first egg shortly after.

"The eggs take around seven months to develop, with the first healthy female skate hatchling arriving on July 10," said IMAS Maugean skate captive breeding program leader, Prof Jayson Semmens.

The adult female has been laying eggs since her arrival last December – two at a time, every four days on average – and has produced over 100 eggs to date. So our scientists are expecting more hatchlings to make their appearance any time now.

It's an exciting and important step towards conserving the species! Dive in to discover more:

<https://tinyurl.com/mutyximp>

The IMAS captive breeding program was established in response to significant declines in the Maugean skate population in Macquarie Harbour, Tasmania – their last known habitat.

It is supported by funding from the Australian Government's Saving Native Species and Natural Heritage Trust Programs, through the Cradle Coast Authority, and funding from the Tasmanian Government's Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas)."

Much more information, including photos, can be found at <https://www.utas.edu.au/about/news-and-stories/articles/2024/new-arrival-baby-maugean-skate-hatches-from-captive-laid-egg-in-world-first-for-the-endangered-species/> [nocache](#) – information such as "“We also have a captive male, but interestingly it is not the father of the new hatchling. Instead, the female is fertilising her eggs with sperm she's stored from previously mating in Macquarie Harbour, so this sperm could come from several males.”"

More details again can be found at <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-08-13/maugean-skate-captive-breeding-program-celebrates-hatchling/104216926> .



According to [https://www.frdc.com.au/breathing-life-macquarie-harbour?\\_cldee=o4YtHozN7W75fwnvZ7OoP0IZhvcJt4iojk-tqWJvPsLDOsPKvq17orlZmCq0hpAp&recipient=contact-4f1be600109eed11b4b1002248148e6c-3fa56fb3f8a944fc86f27c524485eb7e&esid=60ebbd40-d27e-ef11-b4cd-002248148e6c](https://www.frdc.com.au/breathing-life-macquarie-harbour?_cldee=o4YtHozN7W75fwnvZ7OoP0IZhvcJt4iojk-tqWJvPsLDOsPKvq17orlZmCq0hpAp&recipient=contact-4f1be600109eed11b4b1002248148e6c-3fa56fb3f8a944fc86f27c524485eb7e&esid=60ebbd40-d27e-ef11-b4cd-002248148e6c), "Pilot trials injecting oxygen into Tasmania's Macquarie Harbour show promising results that could provide a lifeline for the endangered Maugean Skate"

### **"BUBBLE-NET FEEDING" BY HUMPBACK WHALES**

Scott Portelli's winning drone image in the 2024 Australian Geographic Nature Photographer of the Year competition features two Humpback whales, *Megaptera novaeangliae* "bubble-net feeding" near Antarctica. According to The Advertiser report about Scott's win, "Humpback whales cooperate to create streams of bubble which disorient and corral schools of small fish, which they then feed on by swimming up with open mouths,"

(See <https://www.australiangeographic.com.au/photography/2024/08/winners-2024-australian-geographic-nature-photographer-of-the-year/> to see Scott's photo, or visit the SA Museum before 3<sup>rd</sup> November to see the exhibition of finalists being held.)

### **EVEN MORE ABOUT WHALES**

Our whale spotting season has now come to an end for this year. But why does a whale spout water? What happened to their legs? Which whales have teeth? When do they feed? Where is the belly button? How do they nurse their young underwater? Find out why, what, which, when, where, and how in this lecture on the many unique adaptations that allow whales (including dolphins and porpoises) to survive as mammals in an aquatic environment. Several whale specialisations will be presented from the perspective of a comparative anatomist who studies the anatomy (body structure) of many different animals.

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of November, the Adelaide Supernovas & the Meteoritics Association of South Australia (MASA) presents *The Science Event of 2024!*

Professor Joy S. Reidenberg, star of 'Inside Nature's Giants', is presenting "Why Whales are Weird and Wonderful". It is being held 7 to 8.30pm in The Braggs Lecture Theatre, University of Adelaide.

Professor Joy S. Reidenberg Ph.D. is a comparative anatomist, specialising in cetacean anatomy. She is a Professor in the Center for Anatomy and Functional Morphology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, NY, USA. Her degrees are from Cornell University (B.A. 1983) and Mount Sinai's Graduate Program in Biomedical Sciences (M.Phil. 1986, Ph.D. 1988). Dr. Reidenberg also held appointments as Guest Investigator at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and Associate Scientist at National Museum of Natural History (Smithsonian Institution). She is an inaugural Fellow of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, and a Fellow of the American Association for Anatomy.

Dr. Reidenberg teaches Structures (Human Gross Anatomy, Histology, Embryology, Imaging) to medical and graduate students, and participates in several anatomy courses for surgeons. Her reputation as a teacher extends beyond Mount Sinai: she was awarded both the Basmajian Award and the Henry Gray Distinguished Educator Award of the American Association for Anatomy for excellence in research and outstanding teaching. She regularly engages with the public through outreach educational programs (e.g., two TED talks, numerous television documentaries). Dr. Reidenberg is best known on television as the comparative anatomist for the BAFTA award winning documentary series **Inside Nature's Giants**. She is the lead scientist (comparative anatomist) in many national and international science documentaries (e.g., PBS, BBC, SBS, NatGeoWild, Discovery Network, Science Channel). Most recently, she was featured in several new documentaries: **Lost Beasts Unearthed** (6 episodes) on SBS (Australia) and National Geographic (US), **When Whales Could Walk** on PBS NOVA (US), and **The Mystery of the Walking Whale** on CBC (Canada).

Dr. Reidenberg does research in comparative anatomy of animals adapted to environmental extremes, particularly focusing on marine mammals (e.g., underwater sound production mechanisms). Studying such "natural experiments" helps uncover basic biomechanical relationships that affect all animals, including humans. She hopes to mimic these adaptations to develop protective/preventive technologies or new medical treatments for injuries and diseases. Her work has been funded by: ONR, DOD, NOPP, NOAA. Dr. Reidenberg is often sought out as a whale expert for interviews in scientific and popular press (e.g., Nature, New York Times-Science Times, O the Oprah Magazine). She is an active member of U.S. national whale stranding necropsy teams. Dr. Reidenberg has written over 100 publications, guest-edited three special issues of the Anatomical Record, created digital and video media projects, and continues to present at multiple scientific and educational conferences annually.

All are welcome to attend this public lecture. **BOOK ONLINE HERE!** All general & media enquiries contact - Paul Curnow: [starmanzone@adam.com.au](mailto:starmanzone@adam.com.au) or 0402 079578.

## FOR YOUR CALENDAR: FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### ***South Australia***

**Sunday 10th November:** Mangrove clean-up at Port Gawler (10 am start). Join Friends of Adelaide International Bird Sanctuary and friends from Conservation Volunteers Australia for a rubbish clean up along roadside and through the mangroves of Port Gawler. Meet at the launch ramp at the end of Port Gawler Road. Morning tea will be provided. Please wear closed shoes, or rubber boots if you have them, suitable clothing, water and sunscreen.

**Friday, 15 November 2024** at 6:30 pm (ACT, Rob Roy Hotel. : SDFSA's third Splash Inn! Featuring Dr Chris Acott AM FANZCA on The History of Decompression Sickness. Book on Eventbrite at [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/splash-inn-003-tickets-1044589373937?aff=eemailordconf&utm\\_campaign=order\\_confirm&ref=eemailordconf&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=eventbrite&utm\\_term=viewevent](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/splash-inn-003-tickets-1044589373937?aff=eemailordconf&utm_campaign=order_confirm&ref=eemailordconf&utm_medium=email&utm_source=eventbrite&utm_term=viewevent).

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November:** Lecture "Why Whales are Weird and Wonderful" by Professor Joy S. Reidenberg (USA), The Braggs Lecture Theatre, University of Adelaide, 7 to 8.30pm. [Book online here.](#)

### ***Interstate/International***

Until 8<sup>th</sup> December: The free admission Fantastical Sharks and Rays display is being held at the Australian Museum, Sydney.

15th-18th November: The Archaeology of Waterways Conference is being held in Durham, England see [https://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/annual-conference?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZWQCMTAAR1u1FRafIVdwNSa9BHiTGbG8ghNL08Y01oKaJd6qQ3IUXOfiOrretlGgSQ\\_aem\\_AU0xE1hbTIH-wtcU0N9eH4okB29piKGqjED2bCbC73NxWU9noufxui2J1Idtk9Plo-yhL15qYbf2GD5PT5P3mhA](https://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/annual-conference?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZWQCMTAAR1u1FRafIVdwNSa9BHiTGbG8ghNL08Y01oKaJd6qQ3IUXOfiOrretlGgSQ_aem_AU0xE1hbTIH-wtcU0N9eH4okB29piKGqjED2bCbC73NxWU9noufxui2J1Idtk9Plo-yhL15qYbf2GD5PT5P3mhA) .

19 – 22 November 2024, Hobart TAS. **Australian Antarctic Research Conference.** [MORE INFO](#)

19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> November: This year's DEMA Show is being held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> November: The Australasian Mangrove and Saltmarsh Network Conference will be held at the University of Queensland in Magandjin (Brisbane).

3 – 5 December 2024, Brisbane QLD. **International Conference on Research Infrastructures.** [MORE INFO](#)

18-21 February 2025, Wellington New Zealand. **eDNA Environmental DNA Conference.** [MORE INFO](#)

15-16th March 2025: ADEX Australia, incorporating OZTek Advanced Diving Conference 2025 is being held at the Sydney International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour Hall 2. OZTek Advanced Diving Conference will be celebrating 25 years whilst ADEX celebrates 30 years this year. See <https://diveoztek.com.au/> for more details.

4-9<sup>th</sup> May 2025: The 25<sup>th</sup> International Seaweed Symposium is being held in Victoria, BC, Canada.

2025: According to [https://www.deeperblue.com/2025-world-games-to-include-freediving-as-part-of-its-program/?mc\\_cid=2a9b8e09dd&mc\\_eid=d4cc43123c](https://www.deeperblue.com/2025-world-games-to-include-freediving-as-part-of-its-program/?mc_cid=2a9b8e09dd&mc_eid=d4cc43123c), “The 2025 World Games in Chengdu, China will include dynamic freediving and para-freediving as part of its athletic program, according to the World Underwater Federation (CMAS). The 12th edition of the World Games will take place between August 7 to 17, 2025, and Freediving and Para-Freediving will join Finswimming and 35 other sports.”

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