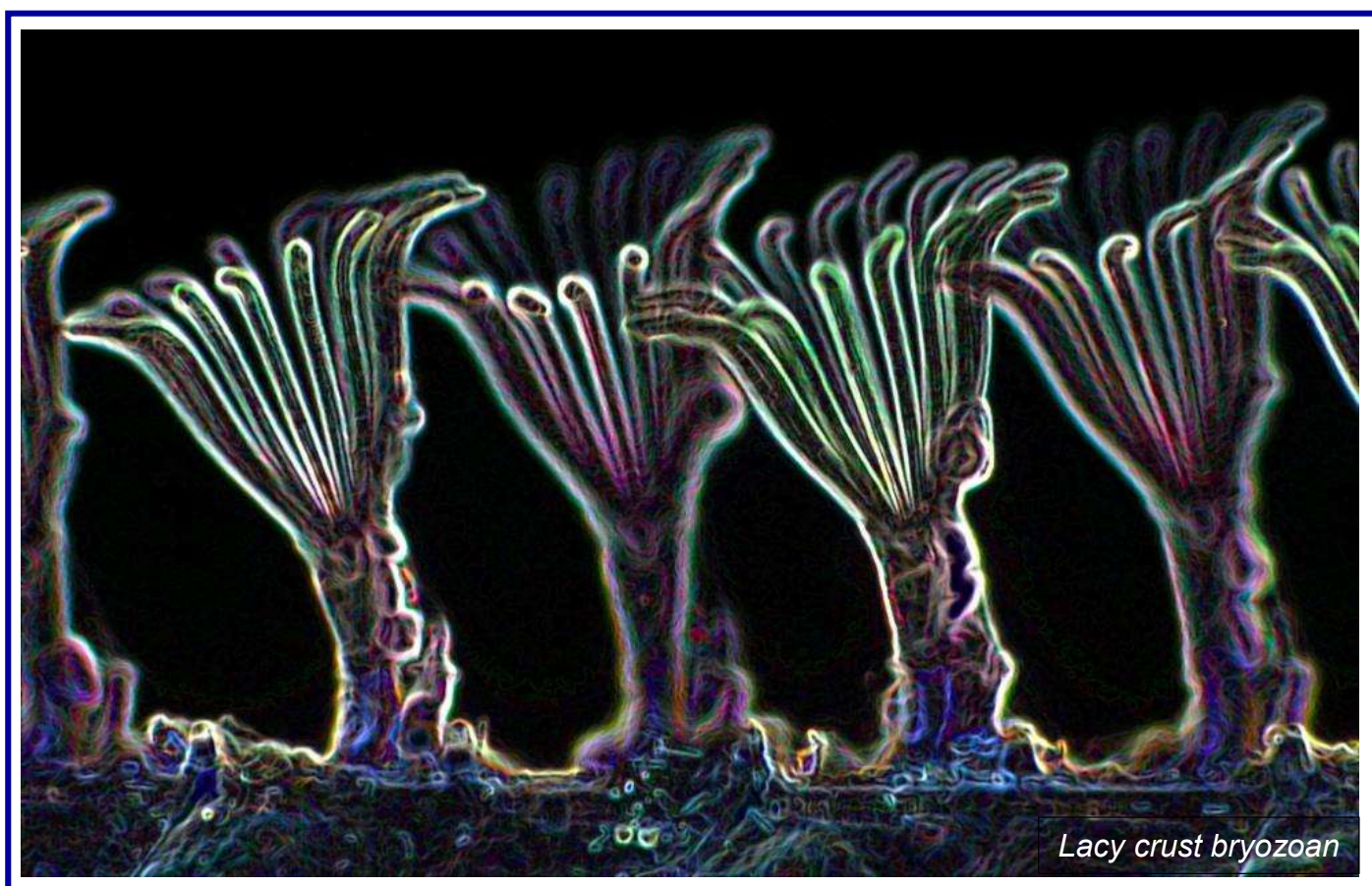


Underwater Explorers Club of SA Inc

# NEWSLETTER

APRIL-2019





# GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday – 3rd

# April

1945 for 2000



**Nailsworth Community Club**, 31 Derlanger Avenue, Collinswood  
All members, past members and potential members are invited to attend.

*Lying to the northeast of New Zealand in the South Pacific Ocean are the idyllic and beautiful Cook Islands. Consisting of fifteen islands, which are coral atolls and volcanic islands, they spread over a large area of 849,425 square miles, but have a land mass of only 91 square miles. The Cook Islands has a population of 14,974 people with more than 10,000 of them living on the main island of Rarotonga. The people of the Cook Islands are mostly Māori. Our Guest Presenter for this meeting will be **Ken Smith** who will speak about Cave Diving at locations on the islands*

Prior to the meeting, you are invited to join with those members enjoying a meal at the Hampstead Hotel on North East Road, Collinswood. Meet there at 1815.

## COMMITTEE 2018-2019

Treasurer..... Robyn BUTTERFIELD  
Secretary..... Keith LOCKWOOD  
Safety Officer ..... Sue CUCCHIARELLI  
Committee Person..... Mary HOOD  
Committee Person..... Ian LOUTH  
Newsletter Editor..... Peter MANSFIELD

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# Waters to be Explored



APRIL

**PP** Sun 14

## ex-HMAS Hobart

**Tide times** — [L] 0417 **0.78** [H] 0648 **0.82** [L] 1149 **0.67** [H] 1951 **1.37**

The ex-HMAS Hobart, a destroyer known as the 'Green Ghost', was sunk as an artificial reef for divers in 2002, and is a protected wreck. It is a popular site in Yankalilla Bay which now has plenty of marine life but it's attraction are the many rooms to explore. Divers can access a large part of the ship including laundry and engine rooms. There are tales of strong currents and the depth of the dive to 32M, but there is something for all levels of diver. We will be diving on a day of a small tide change so hopefully the current will be minimal. The interesting bridge and decks are at 18M. Decks have gun mounts, and funnels which rise to 5 and 7M depth. These can often be viewed from the surface. Experienced divers can enter rooms that have been 'opened' for easy access but they lie in 29M. Do not enter 'penetration' hallways on this day. Remember to do the deepest part of your dive first. Be alert to monitor your depth and time and especially watch air closely. Do a safety stop on ascent.

It is a requirement that all divers have a torch, knife, and safety sausage. Boats must have a look-out. Permits are also mandatory for anyone entering this protection zone. All must read and adhere to the Code of Practice.

**PP** Thu 18 > Thu 25

## Away — Edithburgh

There are plenty of dive sites around Edithburgh and this area is a photographer's dream.

The town jetty is an easy entry dive from steps close to the carpark. The dive to 9M is a riotous mix of colourful sponges on the pylons as well as nudibranchs, starfish, and seahorses. Close observation may reveal cowries or anglerfish, and a large school of kingfish frequent the end of the jetty. It is interesting to enter from the ocean 'swimming pool' further along the coast to finish at the jetty.

Pt Giles, just north of Edithburgh, is an interesting dive to 12M, which has huge growths of hard coral on the pylons. Large nudibranchs as big as plates, the side-gilled slugs, have been seen here in abundance. Leafy seadragons may be spotted closer to shore. A trolley is useful to reach the entry from the carpark. Permission is needed to dive here.

The less-dived Klein's jetty(8M) is reputed to have leafy seadragons and the shallow Wool Bay jetty (4M) has plenty of seagrass & algae to hide various invertebrates. There are plenty of interesting sites along the south coast where you'll find swim-throughs and even a seal to entertain you. Care must be taken with entries and exits but you'll be rewarded with good dives.

If a boat dive is possible, the wreck of the Clan Ranald is worth it., but be wary of strong currents here.

**Tide times** — given for Edithburgh

THU 18 Apr	FRI 19 Apr	SAT 20 Apr	SUN 21 Apr	MON 22 Apr
▲ 3:55 am 1.98m	▲ 4:15 am 1.95m	▲ 4:28 am 1.88m	▲ 4:40 am 1.81m	▲ 4:57 am 1.76m
▼ 10:01 am 0.45m	▼ 10:12 am 0.49m	▼ 10:19 am 0.51m	▼ 10:27 am 0.5m	▼ 10:40 am 0.47m
▲ 4:14 pm 2.02m	▲ 4:18 pm 2.12m	▲ 4:26 pm 2.24m	▲ 4:42 pm 2.36m	▲ 5:03 pm 2.43m
▼ 10:15 pm 0.49m	▼ 10:35 pm 0.42m	▼ 10:54 pm 0.38m	▼ 11:17 pm 0.38m	▼ 11:41 pm 0.42m
TUE 23 Apr		WED 24 Apr		THU 25 Apr
▲ 5:16 am 1.71m	▼ 10:57 am 0.46m	▼ 12:04 am 0.48m	▲ 5:39 am 1.67m	▼ 12:27 am 0.54m
▲ 5:27 pm 2.44m	▼ 11:16 am 0.47m	▲ 5:53 pm 2.41m	▲ 6:02 am 1.65m	▼ 11:37 am 0.51m
			▲ 6:18 pm 2.35m	

## ► *Comment*

### MELTING SEA ICE

Global warming and climate change are very much on people's minds. Some believe it but others deny it is taking place. However, there is troubling proof in the Polar Regions. Many studies in the northern Arctic have found that the sea ice is melting.....and at alarming rates. In the past thirty years sea ice has reduced by 770,000 square miles. Ice is breaking up sooner in spring and forming later in autumn. Ice is shrinking 13% each decade. Greater technology and the use of satellites as well ship movements have made observations in the Arctic more detailed.

Wildlife is suffering. Polar bears are starving. Melting of seal ice threatens polar bears survival. Disappearance of ice makes hungrier bears. The impact is much greater than previously thought. Bears must walk or swim long distances to find food, so burn more energy. They are high energy beasts, burning 12,000 calories a day. They need 60% more food than previously known, but are losing 10% of their body mass. They are totally reliant on seals. They wait by seals' breathing holes, stun them when they emerge, and drag them onto the ice. Studies have projected that decline in sea ice will reduce bear population by two thirds. If bears have to travel further they will burn more energy and lose more weight which will mean smaller bears, reduced reproduction rates, and increase death rates. This has been already seen in western Hudson Bay and the Beaufort Sea.



Disappearing ice puts much of the region under stress. Sea ice supports a wide range of species and zooplankton feeds fish and whales. The fish feed bears, seals, and sea birds. Seals are under stress. Walrus cannot haul catch onto ice and caribou fall through thin ice. Killer whales, not seen before, are entering the region. Fish and seafood industries are declining because of sea temperature rise. Illegal fisheries find it easier to enter the Polar Regions. And indigenous peoples are finding hunting grounds disappearing.

Melting sea ice is a complex issue. We must address climate change now!

### Leafy Seadragons at Rapid Bay —

With the steps at the Noarlunga jetty out of commission, the number of divers and diver training courses using the Rapid Bay jetty has increased. Concerns have been expressed that the leafy seadragons may be disturbed by diver traffic.

We would kindly remind all divers and instructors using Rapid Bay to not disturb the sea grass beds and to refrain from actions such as following seadragons or inadvertently touching them as that would cause them stress.

We recognize that the high number of divers at Rapid Bay may be temporary until the Noarlunga steps are repaired, but in the meantime, we hope that every effort will be made to minimize our impact on South Australia's iconic species.

With thanks for your consideration

**Scuba Divers Federation of South Australia**



## ► *Safety Officer*

### WEATHER FOR DIVERS

#### *At sea — the wind is the weather*

It is essential to know the **SPEED** and **DIRECTION** of the wind before you go diving!

#### WIND SPEED

- This is measured in *knots*. You should note a maximum of 10-12 knots to go diving offshore (boat diving). Greater than this will mean heavier seas.
- Descriptors used in forecasts:  
*Smooth* or *Slight seas* – it's ok to go  
*Moderate* or *Rough seas*– don't go.
- If it is too rough you can plan an alternative site.
- Extra considerations: Beware of *Wind Gusts* and *Wind Squalls*.  
*Gusts* may be strong but short-lived. *Squalls* are very strong, often greater than 80 knots. They are intermittent and may include rain. They are usually confined to local areas.



#### WIND DIRECTION

This is of utmost importance as much as or more than wind speed.

On a positive note, a dive site with a high wind speed may still be a suitable choice. For example, when you choose a jetty or shore site, with winds blowing offshore (from the land), you will often find the waters fairly calm. The land acts as a shelter to the shore and waters immediately nearby.

This is also important according to the seasons. In *winter*, winds usually come from the *west* or *southwest*. In *summer*, winds usually come from the *east*. Again you can plan an alternative site.

#### *Extra considerations:*

- *Sea breeze*. A sea breeze comes up in the afternoon and creates a 'chop' moving onshore (toward the land).
- *Land breeze*. A land breeze occurs in the evening or night where the wind blows offshore, so sites at a jetty or shore are often calm.

#### So how do you get a weather forecast?

Access the Bureau of Meteorology website —

- 1) Go to [www.bom.gov.au/weather](http://www.bom.gov.au/weather)
- 2) Click on **MetEye** in the Search box
- 3) At the top, *type in the name of the place* where you want to go.
- 4) A box will pop up with dates. Go to the bottom and click on 'details'.

The wind direction and speed come up. (Make sure you have chosen 'knots' to the left of the page.)

This box overlays an excellent map which shows you the wind direction and speed. So you can see the exact 'lay of the land or shore' to determine which direction your site faces. Did you know the Rapid Bay and Edithburgh jetties face more north not west or east as we would expect. Sites may be sheltered in bays.

*Remember to 'read' the weather forecast before you go diving. There are alternative sites that you can choose if your first choice is predicted to have unfavourable weather.*

This month we have a deep dive to the ex-HMAS Hobart. Review important points to remember when doing a deep dive. And Edithburgh may see a few divers doing a night dive. Make sure you have all your required equipment.

## ► *Past Dives*

### Normanville — 16 > 17 February

Great weather enabled the club to have a variety of dives over the weekend, three of these were —

**Ex-HMAS Hobart** – Jeanette, Michael, Ian and I dived through the numerous cabins, galley and passageways passing many Blue Devils, Old Wives and Bullseyes. The decks were festooned with marine growth while schools of Whiting and Snook patrolled around the wreck, Snapper swam up to us looking for any snack that we might have brought, a pleasant dive was had by all.

**Rapid Head** – The same four divers explored the cliffs of Rapid Head and swam past a harem of Australian Sea Lions basking on the rocks, we then dived and headed south. We were delighted when a raft of Sea Lions suddenly appeared out of the blue to swim about us, leaping into the air, twisting around and diving back underwater, their display was a brilliant display of synchronised ballet.

**Rapid Bay** – Linley, Mary, Hugh and I dived at Rapid Bay, we were all delighted to see both of the Weedy Sea-dragons near the old jetty, they have been in-residence now for 2 weeks and are a great hit with all of the divers. Continuing under the jetty we were able to see a couple of Blue Devils and a lonesome Cuttlefish sheltered under a fallen pylon while the normally aggressive Scaly Fins ignored us completely as the breeding season has finished, and they no longer see divers as intruders. The emblem of the Fleurieu Peninsular the Leafy Sea Dragon waited at the end of the jetty for all to see. A leisurely swim back enabled us to examine Nudibranchs and small crustaceans that clung to the pylons. A great weekend was enjoyed by all.

*Keith Lockwood*

#### **Second Valley —**

On the weekend of the 15th to 17th February, a number of us had settled in to the rented house at Normanville with the primary object of diving The Hobart. On Sunday Keith, Hugh, Linley and myself, decided to dive at Second Valley.

The weather was warm and sunny with no wind. The surface of the water was like glass. We arrived early enough to get parks, as families filled the area as the day progressed. Another dive group which included Anita, who some of you have met, was gearing up as well.

We entered the water at the jetty and snorkeled across the bay to the point. Visibility was not as good as hoped from the surface, about 8 metres. Unfortunately the other dive group of five with big cameras had reached the point at the same time and were hugging the wall, so our group went slightly further out and moved ahead more quickly. There were the usual fish in the weed but all fairly flighty. Apart from one Blue Devil I did not see any 'special' creatures to report. At the far end of the wall, we surfaced and decided to head across the second bay to the "big cave". All had a good look in there at lots of bull eyes and schools of other small fish. On exiting that we began to look for the second smaller cave to the south. Hugh and Linley decided to turn back after a while and Keith and I continued around to a small curve-back in the cliff and found the second cave. My memory is that you could do a swim-through to, at least look, but perhaps wriggle, out of another hole, but decided not to try looking for that. It was so calm on the surface that snorkeling was a pleasure as we made our way back and explored a little of the cliff underwater as well before making our way back to the jetty.

I had not been able to explore the caves for many years, so really enjoyed having a good look at them again. The other group said they had seen a Harlequin fish on their dive.

*Mary Hood*



- **Scubar —** Fri-12-April Rob Roy Hotel
- **UEC AGM —** Wed-5-June Nailsworth Community Club
- **UEC Annual Dinner —** Sat-22-June Venue TBA
- **Skills Day—** Sun-30-June Thebarton Aquatic Centre

# PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Display your skills and submit 3 photographs for consideration in our on-going competition which runs tri-monthly

New themes have been decided for future competitions –

The current theme is \* **Big-Uns**  
(Sharks, Dolphins, Rays etc)

and will be followed by \* **Wrecks**

Photographs should be 7”x 5” which is 2100 x 1500 pixels when resolution is 300 pixels/in

File should be **jpeg**, with a size less than 400 Kb

Forward to [secretary@uecofsa.org.au](mailto:secretary@uecofsa.org.au)  
by 15-May-2019



## Seafood Sensation

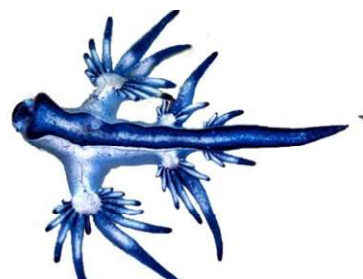
### Parmesan Crusted Baked Fish with Potatoes

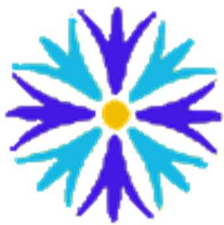
#### INGREDIENTS

- 1/2 cup multigrain fresh breadcrumbs
- 1/4 cup fresh flat-leaf parsley finely chopped
- 1/3 cup parmesan finely grated
- 1 tsp lemon rind
- 3 tbs olive oil
- 4 white fish fillets
- 1 olive oil spray
- 2 potatoes medium thinly sliced

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Preheat oven to 200C
- Place the potatoes in a baking dish lined with baking paper. Spread potatoes out evenly and drizzle with half the oil and a little salt and pepper if desired. Bake the potatoes for 15-20 minutes or until just tender
- Meanwhile, combine breadcrumbs, parsley, parmesan, lemon rind, and salt and pepper in a bowl. Stir to combine. Drizzle mixture with oil and stir until breadcrumbs are coated in oil
- Press breadcrumb mixture onto flesh-side of fish fillets to form an even topping
- Remove potatoes from oven. Place the fish fillets skin-side down, on top of potatoes. Bake for a further 15 minutes or until crumbs are light golden and fish is just cooked through.





# CALENDAR



📅 All Sunday dives to be booked **on the Website**  
by the **Thursday** before the dive 📅

(Dive **departure** times as shown)

## APRIL

DL – Keith Lockwood (0466 399 360)

SO – Mary Hood (0427 716 938) / Bob Butterfield (0417 838 387)

➤	Wed 3rd	General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood	2000
📅	Sun 14th	Ex HMAS Hobart Worrina	1000
➤	Mon 15th	Committee Meeting	1000
➤	Fri 19th	<b>Newsletter items due</b>	
📅	Thu 18th > Thu 25th	Easter Anzac Week- Edithburgh	
➤	Wed 24th	SDF Meeting — Rob Roy Hotel	1900

## MAY

DL – Ian Louth (0412 783 528)

SO – Sue Cucchiarelli (0438 882 509)

➤	Wed 1st	General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood	2000
📅	Sun 19th	Glenelg Tyre Reef Adelaide Shores	0830
➤	Tues 21st	Committee Meeting	1000
➤	Wed 22nd	SDF Meeting — Rob Roy Hotel	1900
➤	Fri 24th	<b>Newsletter items due</b>	
📅	Sun 26th	Second Valley	1000

## JUNE

DL – Robyn Butterfield (0419 866 460)

SO – Sue Cucchiarelli (0438 882 509)

📅	Sun 2nd	Ardrossan Jetty	1000
➤	Wed 5th	<b>Annual General Meeting &amp;</b> General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood	2000
➤	Wed 19th	SDF Meeting — Rob Roy Hotel	1900
➤	Thu 20th	Committee Meeting	1000
➤	Fri 21st	<b>Newsletter items due</b>	
➤	Sat 22nd	<b>Annual Dinner</b> – Venue to be Decided	
📅	Sun 30th	<b>Skills Day</b> – Thebarton Aquatic Centre	

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Send them **by the date shown** in the calendar to —

Peter Mansfield, 4 Delange Avenue, Banksia Park SA 5091 or email to [petermsf1@bigpond.com](mailto:petermsf1@bigpond.com)

