



NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER-2019

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday – 5th

December

1800 for 2000

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

This is the final meeting for the year, and will follow a different format for this occasion.

Initially, a barbeque will take place prior to the meeting.

It will be held in the park outside our meeting venue, beginning at 6:00 pm

Bring yourself (and partner), meat, something to drink. and a chair (not much available outside)

Dessert will be supplied by the club

*The judging of the Photo Competition theme “**Stripes**” will follow,
prior to a brief formal meeting to deal with any necessary business.*

We look forward to seeing you and celebrating the coming festive season.

COMMITTEE 2019-2020

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

CONTACTS 2019-2020

Email..... secretary@uecofsa.org.au
Website..... www.uecofsa.org.au
Postal Address..... Underwater Explorers Club of SA Inc
P.O. Box 74
Kent Town SA 5071

DISCLAIMER - The opinions expressed by authors of material in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the UEC






Waters to be Explored



DECEMBER

 Fri 6th > Sun 8th

Fleurieu Peninsula - Hobart

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------|-------------|
| Tide times — [L] | 0312 | 0.84 | [H] | 0928 | 1.11 | [L] | 1803 | 0.67 | | Normanville | | |
| | [H] | 0229 | 1.02 | [L] | 0835 | 0.90 | [H] | 1012 | 0.91 | [L] | 2007 | 0.67 |
| | [H] | 0327 | 1.21 | [L] | 1020 | 0.70 | [H] | 1609 | 0.93 | [L] | 2111 | 0.60 |

This is a weekend of boat diving to the ex-HMAS Hobart (30M) and shore diving to local sites close by, such as Rapid Head, a shallow (6M) boat dive where you'll see seals and an interesting rocky bottom, Rapid Bay jetty (11M) to see Leafy Seadragons, and Second Valley jetty and point (9M) to see Blue Devils. Permits are required for the Hobart. Bring your camera and trolley for shore dives.

Ex-HMAS Hobart

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.

Lasseter's Reef

This reef is actually a 2M high bommie offshore at Second Valley. It is relatively shallow at 8M and is covered in brown algae. It rises suddenly from the bottom and is an ideal hiding place for blue devils. Abalone cling to the rock and you might see a crayfish. We'll access the site by boat.

Second Valley

The new steps are in place on the jetty, a short walk from the carpark. There a few options here. Snorkel or dive to the point where you'll find, in 9M, plenty of large brown algae, colonial anemones, herring kale, a blue devil or two, or even a leafy sea dragon! Further around the point there are shallow caves to inspect; bring a torch but be wary of swirling seagrass. Wrasse and old wives pairs will greet you. On a calm day, try a snorkel and dive to Lassiter's Reef, a 2M interesting bommie about 150M from shore, that has abalone or even a crayfish. Bring a compass.

 Sun 15th

Rapid Bay Jetty

Tide times — [H] 0620 **1.83** [L] 1336 **0.13** [H] 1954 **0.96**

You'll be rewarded with a spectacular dive with often brilliant visibility. The old 11M deep jetty is accessed by an easy entry from the new jetty platform. Renowned internationally for the leafy seadragons, the site also shows off various types of nudibranchs, colourful sponges and crabs on the pylons, with massive schools of old wives, big trevally and other species at the "T". Look for brittle stars or blue-ringed octopus under rubble, but be wary of turning things over and make sure you have gloves on. Huge stingrays have been seen here too. Bring your camera! The jetty is a long walk: bring a trolley or walk out first with your weight belt. If hot, refresh in the sea with your wetsuit first


 Fri 27th > Tue 31st

Port Victoria

Tide times —

Pt Victoria is a pleasant site on the west side of Yorke Peninsula. We'll look to do daydives here between Christmas and New Year. The jetty(6M) has an easy entry via a ramp and visibility is usually good. There is plenty of algae to hide curious invertebrates. You'll see nudibranchs and perhaps some cowfish. An interesting dive, so bring your camera and a trolley if you wish. There is a possibility of diving other sites on the peninsula. Members will be contacted to find when they would like to dive, and a date (or dates) set from that response.




 Sun 12th

Seacliff Reef

Tide times — [H] 0612 **2.25** [L] 1307 **0.02** [H] 1909 **1.40**


Seacliff reef is a small rising reef of about one metre, in 14M, but has a bounty of sealife. You'll spot blue devils, old wives, scaly fin, parrot fish, and schools of bullseyes. There are big cup sponges too. On the sandy bottom near the reef, we've seen weedy and leafy seadragons, and huge rays. A pleasant dive of often good visibility. Bring your camera!

 Sun 19th

Noarlunga Reef




















Tide times — [L] 0420 **0.97** [H] 0910 **1.33** [L] 1522 **0.71**

This ever popular site in 9M provides a sheltered dive along the reef. Entry and exit is from the centre steps or shore. At the reef head north or south, remembering to swim into the current at the start of your dive. You'll see hundreds of sweep, zebra fish, and moonlighters. The north may reward you with the recently spotted blue devil, cowry or stingray, but velvet starfish and large silver drummer are common. The south has the marine trail cairns, fiddler rays, sea urchins, and the large anchor and encrusted chain. Silver drummer will meet you at the pylons on your return. Inside the reef is the safest, but on a calm day, it is possible to enter outside the reef, swim south, through the Gap(18M) and return inside. Monitor your air closely. This is a marine reserve, so it is a no-take zone. It may be a good day for a boat dive. Stay tuned.

 Fri 24th > Tue 28th

Limestone Coast

Tide times — Robe (Kingston -1 min, Beachport -20 m)

| FRI 24 Jan | SAT 25 Jan | SUN 26 Jan | MON 27 Jan | TUE 28 Jan |
|---|--|--|--|--|
|  1:26 am 1.05m |  1:51 am 1.08m |  2:18 am 1.1m |  2:44 am 1.12m |  3:07 am 1.12m |
|  9:21 am 0.41m |  9:08 am 0.4m |  9:10 am 0.4m |  9:18 am 0.41m |  9:30 am 0.43m |
|  12:31 pm 0.46m |  1:10 pm 0.53m |  1:43 pm 0.61m |  2:12 pm 0.68m |  2:40 pm 0.75m |
|  6:05 pm 0.18m |  6:48 pm 0.15m |  7:26 pm 0.15m |  8:00 pm 0.19m |  8:30 pm 0.25m |

This is boat diving to fairly shallow depths of sandy or rocky bottom. You might see big rays but it's chiefly to find crayfish. An interesting snorkel is at Nora Creina, a rocky outcrop close to shore. Our base will be near Kingston.



SEASON'S GREETINGS

The year is almost at an end and summer is approaching. Haven't we been anticipating good weather!

There are plenty of dives and weekends away planned for the coming months so keep your Club calendar and Newsletter close-by. There is no newsletter published in January so don't miss out. It's important to book all dives and events as early as possible.

We'll have booking deadlines for weekends away.

Keep an eye out for social events too. There is a BBQ planned for the December meeting. There is no general meeting in January but we have a Beach Picnic on the 8th of January. It would be nice to see Social members or Life members there as we don't see you at dives.

The festive season is upon us. Enjoy your celebrations with family and friends but take care with over-indulging. We want to see you back in 2020 safe and well.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at the UEC

► *Safety Officer*

DEEP DIVING

A deep dive is usually considered to be any dive deeper than 18M. We'll talk about accepted practice in deep diving and also how to avoid *Decompression Illness* (DCI). *DCI is a result of staying too deep for too long or ascending too quickly.*

It is important to dive conservatively

Have a full tank and be vigilant with gear checks before you dive. Do buddy checks. Monitor your air and that of your buddy's frequently during your dive. Stay close to your buddy and use signals frequently. Be careful to indicate changes of direction. Know your maximum bottom time for your planned depth in case of computer failure.

Do not be complacent

- R *Dive the deepest part of your dive first. Progressively work shallower*
- R *Avoid multiple ascents. If you do this, reduce your dive time*
- R *Ascend the anchor line and use as a reference*
- R *Ascend slowly. Hold your computer in your hand and monitor ascent rate constantly*
- R *Do a safety stop, conservatively 5 minutes at 5 metres*
- R *If doing repetitive dives, each subsequent dive should be to a shallower depth*
- R *Maximise your surface interval if doing repetitive dives*
- R *Account for pre-disposing factors to DCI such as fatigue, exercise, age, lack of fitness,*
- R *dehydration, obesity, cold water, or alcohol. Computers do not account for these factors but it is possible to program a safety factor into your computer*
- R *Be aware of the dangers of Nitrogen Narcosis which may affect your concentration*

Divers who have DCI may show any of these mild to severe *signs or symptoms* —

Extreme fatigue, joint pain, poor balance or confusion, skin rashes, pins and needles, difficulty breathing, nausea or vomiting.

If any of these are present, lay the person down, keep them warm.

Give 100% oxygen and call 000 or the Diver Emergency Service (DES) 1800-088-200.

So, to be safe at depth —

- ***Be well prepared.***
- ***Arrive without fatigue.***
- ***Hydrate.***
- ***Have good buddy communication***
- ***Be vigilant***
- ***Dive conservatively***

[All of this information is essential when diving the ex-HMAS Hobart](#)

And on a final note.....after any dive, no matter how deep or shallow, you have latent nitrogen in your body. A common symptom is fatigue. So, take care over these festive holidays.

*Remember, **Diving, Drinking, and Driving don't mix.***

We want you back safely as our buddy in the New Year.

Safe Diving

Sue

► *Past Dives*

Rapid Bay Jetty — 10 November

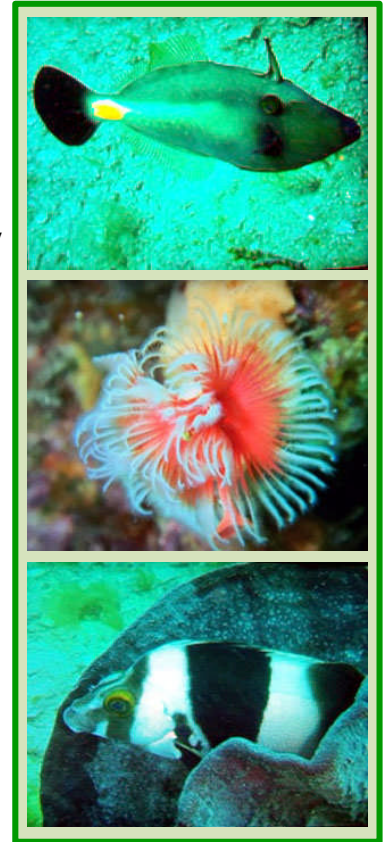
Our Club dive was scheduled for Second Valley, but since the days of the previous week had had ferocious winds we thought the visibility around the point would be quite poor, so we decided to change our site to Rapid Bay.

The day dawned superb: lovely sunshine and calm winds predicted. And we were not disappointed. Mary and I arrived and were keen to gear up as many of our dives in the past few weeks had been cancelled due to poor weather. We were the first to enter, other diver groups arriving later. We descended at the jetty and followed the star-droppers to the old jetty. The visibility was about 6-8m and just a slight current running from the west.

We saw magpie perch lazing in cup sponges, rainbow wrasse that couldn't swim away. We thought they were enjoying having their photo taken. There were adult and juvenile scaly fin, one following us thinking it would permanently shoo us away from its' territory. There were the usual colourful sponges and ascidians on the pylons and crabs hiding nearby in the rubble. We spotted a number of the common orange nudibranchs, and looking under discarded metal plates we saw hiding brittle stars. At the 'T' there were large schools of zebra fish, old wives, and trevally. Moonlighters swam by. We turned right and headed for the large fallen piles to seek out leafy sea dragons. After scouring the area carefully and the sandy bottom nearby today we saw none. Perhaps they are somewhere else this early in spring? We didn't see any at the start of our dive either. And other divers didn't see them as well. But on our return we saw a number of brightly coloured mosaic starfish and biscuit stars. Leatherjackets tried to intimidate us, and strongies slept in the seagrass.

The dive was very enjoyable. We were down to 11M for 85 minutes. After the dive we headed to the Yankalilla Bakery for a welcome hot lunch.

The water is warming up and summer is approaching. So we hope to see you get wet soon!



Sous Marin



Photography by Sue Cucchiarelli

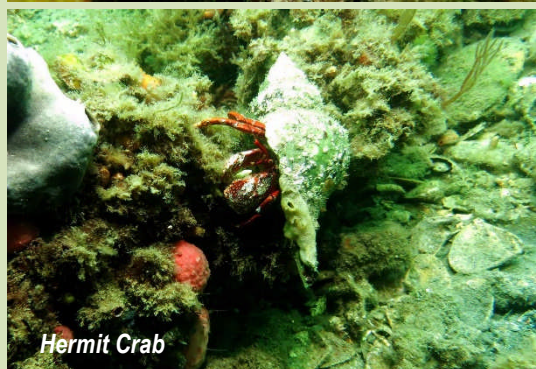
Kangaroo Island



Squirts



Nudibranch



Hermit Crab



Decorator Crab

Photography by Bob Butterfield

Friday 22nd November

Gary and Keith dived together whilst Bob and Jeanette waited on the boat and then the pairs swapped over. This dive at Kangaroo Head was 8m. With water visibility of 8m and temperature of 18 degrees, the search was on for crayfish. Many were seen but none of size, so we had to be happy with seeing Zebrafish, Magpie Perch, Wrasse, Banded Shrimp, Horseshoe Leatherjackets, Scalyfin and Moonlighters. There was lots of growth and sponges interspersed with Brown Algae. Gary caught an undersize crayfish which he released.

Saturday 23rd November

A trip to Kingscote Jetty in search of scallops, at a depth of 4m and temperature of 20 degrees with visibility of 10m, was more profitable than the crayfish hunt. Gary found unusual bottles and Jeanette and Keith caught a blue swimmer crab between them at a depth of 7m. Bob found many types of Nudibranchs under the jetty along with Moonlighters, Magpie Perch, Sweep, Southern Hula fish, Sponges, Hermit Crabs, Decorator Crabs and Sea Cucumbers. Robyn photographed colourful growth on the pylons, squirts and baby crabs. The most common Nudibranch was *Hypselodoris Infucata*.

Alan and Pauline were successful catching squid back in Penneshaw and a trip to the fish shop in American River to get prawns, oysters, abalone and Mullet, supplemented the scallop catch for tea. Once we finished eating, we realised the scallops had been left in the fridge so they would become tea for Sunday.

Sunday 24th November

Gary, Bob, Keith and Jeanette set out in the boat in calm seas and headed in front of Baudin Conservation Park and in 13m of water with visibility of 10m. Bob and Gary entered first and found the water temperature to 18 degrees whilst the others were lookout. We were hunting for crayfish again and Gary caught one sized cray whilst Bob saw one other cray which was obviously undersize. A male Herring Cale, Banded Sweep, Wrasse, Blue Groper, Moonlighters, Truncated Coral fish, Magpie Perch, Scalyfin, Senator Wrasse, Bore fish, Dusky Morwong and a Harlequin fish with a large chiton attached to its body, were seen. Its obviously a very healthy reef, evidenced by the number of fish present and the amount of growth, dominated by Brown algae among the sponges, squirts and sea grasses.

Keith and Jeanette headed in a westerly direction looking for further crayfish and stayed down for an hour without finding any. Bob and Gary then dived the breakwater at Penneshaw terminal to finish off their previous 30 min dive looking for crays. Gary caught an undersize one which was released. They dived to a depth of 6m for 23mins in water temperature of 17 degrees and 10m visibility. Bob saw the largest Globe fish (Pufferfish) he has ever seen. They also saw Old Wives, Bulls Eyes, Banded Sweep, Zebra fish, Scalyfin, Senator Wrasse, Abalone and lots of Brown Algae on the rocks.

Pauline caught the biggest squid whilst Alan caught two.

Diving was suspended for the rest of the week due to poor weather conditions. Gale force winds on Monday night made the visibility poor.

Robyn

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 * **Faces**

and will be followed by * **Yellow Orange Pink**

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 by **15-February-2019**



Seafood Sensation —

Christmas Seafood Share Platter

INGREDIENTS

- 100g packet sliced prosciutto, finely chopped
- Rock salt, to serve
- 24 natural oysters in half shells
- 32 cooked King prawns (1.3kg)

Puttanesca dressing

- 1/3 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/3 cup finely chopped pitted kalamata olives
- 1 ripe tomato (200g), deseeded, finely diced
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh basil
- ½ teaspoon dried chilli flakes

Capsicum dipping sauce

- 1 cup whole egg mayonnaise
- ½ cup chopped roasted red capsicum
- ¼ cup tomato sauce
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon horseradish cream
- ¼ cup finely chopped fresh parsley
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped capers

INSTRUCTIONS

- To make dressing, place all ingredients in a jug. Mix well.
- To make dipping sauce, blend mayonnaise, capsicum, sauces, juice and cream in a blender until smooth. Transfer to a serving bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Stir in parsley and capers.
- Heat an oiled, medium frying pan over a medium heat. Add prosciutto. Cook, stirring occasionally, for about 2 to 3 minutes, or until crisp. Drain on absorbent kitchen paper.
- Just before serving sprinkle rock salt over a serving platter. Arrange oysters over salt. Place dipping sauce and prawns on platter. Spoon dressing over oysters. Sprinkle with prosciutto.

Serves 8

TIP — If the weather is very hot, keep oysters cool by serving the platter on top of a large bowl filled with crushed ice. Dressing and dipping sauce can be made up to one day ahead. Store in the fridge

Beach Picnic —



Semaphore South
Wednesday **January 8** — 2020
1800



Meet near the barbecue
opposite South Terrace
Entry to the car park is just north of
the Hart Street roundabout

BYO Food, Drinks, Chairs etc



Sign up at the general meeting or book via the website.





CALENDAR



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

(Dive **departure** times as shown)

DECEMBER

DL – Gary Doubleday (0417 886 942)

SO – Sue Cucchiarelli (0438 882 509)

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---|------|-----|
| ä | Wed 4th | General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood | 2000 | BBQ |
| | Fri 6th > Sun 8th | Fleurieu Peninsula - Hobart | | |
| | Sun 15th | Rapid Bay Jetty | 0830 | |

JANUARY

DL – Keith Lockwood (0466 399 360)

SO – Mary Hood (0427 716 938)

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|------|
| ä | Wed 8th | Beach Picnic | Semaphore | 1800 |
| | Sun 12th | Seacliff Reef | Adelaide Shores | 0830 |
| ä | Tue 14th | Committee Meeting | | 1930 |
| | Sun 19th | Noarlunga Reef | O'Sullivan Beach | 0830 |
| ä | Fri 24th | Newsletter items due | | |
| | Fri 24th > Tue 28th | LWE Limestone Coast | | |

FEBRUARY

DL – TBA

SO – TBA

| | | | |
|---|----------|---|-----------------------|
| ä | Wed 5th | General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood | 2000 |
| | Sun 9th | Aldinga Reef | O'Sullivan Beach 0800 |
| ä | Tue 11th | Committee Meeting | 1930 |
| | Sun 16th | Milkies Reef | Adelaide Shores 0800 |
| ä | Fri 21st | Newsletter items due | |
| | Sun 23rd | Rapid Bay Jetty | 1000 |

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

