

Underwater Explorers Club of SA Inc

NEWSLETTER

MARCH-2020



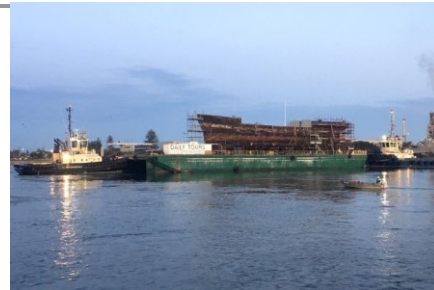


GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday – 4th

March

1945 for 2000



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

*Early in the morning of 29-November 2019, the clipper ship
City of Adelaide made her final voyage from the initial Port Adelaide position
to the area known as Dock Two.*

*Our guest speaker **Peter Christopher**, Club Patron and a director of Clipper Ship City of Adelaide Ltd,
will elaborate for us the plans ahead for the Clipper, and the area that she is now located in.*

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 2019-2020

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

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

Port Noarlunga Jetty Works

Onkaparinga Council advises that an 80 metre exclusion zone is in place
around the end of Port Noarlunga jetty while works to replace the stairs are going on.
No diving or swimming in the zone are permitted while work is underway. Exclusion applies until all work is
completed. *No date of completion is given at this stage.*



Waters to be Explored



MARCH

PP Sun 1st

Seawolf/Lumb

Tide times — [L] 0220 **0.49** [H] 0810 **1.83** [L] 1410 **0.35** **Port Noarlunga**

Both these sites lie in 22M. The Lumb, formerly a tug then a fishing trawler, was sunk in 1994. It is a small structure, 28M long. Look for sponge growth, bryozoans and nudibranchs. The Seawolf was sunk in 2002 and is a bigger structure. It lies on its' starboard side with many holes and hatches to explore. It is 50M west of the Pt. Noarlunga Tyre Reef so you may have a bonus dive site. There are plenty of fish to find including boarfish and blue devils, It may be possible to swim between the two wrecks via star droppers. Remember to monitor your air closely and do a safety stop. This could be a double dive so bring 2 tanks.

PP Fri 6th > Mon 9th

Mt. Gambier

This weekend there is a commercial guided dive to Kilsby's sinkhole. This is a pristine freshwater dive with incredible visibility. We are diving at the optimum time of day when sunlight puts on a spectacular show. Make sure you have a strong torch. A dive or snorkel is also planned in Ewen's Ponds, a series of three freshwater ponds of about 8M depth joined together by a stream. Clear water will show you unusual weed, perch, and perhaps some native marron. Springs bubble from the bottom. The bottom is soft and silty so be vigilant with buoyancy; stay well away from the bottom and fin gently. Remember, this is fresh water so less weight is required, only about 50-60% of what you would use in seawater. A snorkel is also possible in Piccaninnie Ponds. All sites require bookings.

PP Fri 20th > Sun 22nd

Fleurieu Peninsula - Hobart

There are various dive sites here: a dive on the jetty at Rapid Bay (11M) to see large schools of fish, and the allusive leafy sea dragon.. Bring a trolley. The jetty at Second Valley (9M) with a swim around the point provides plenty of sea life, blue devils, herring kale, and interesting anemones. Be mindful of any current at the point. It's possible to snorkel out to Lassiter's Reef at Second Valley, a bommie about 200M from shore. A boat dive is to the ex-HMAS Hobart (30M). Special care with dive planning here and you need a permit to dive. Another boat option is a shallow dive(6M) at Rapid Head to swim with seals or to Lady Bay with various crabs and small fish hiding in the seagrass. Lots of choices. Bring your camera..

Tide times — Worrina (Rapid Bay -1 min)

FRI 20 Mar

▼ 12:28 pm
0.55m

▲ 7:05 pm
1.07m

▼ 10:18 pm
1.02m

SAT 21 Mar

▲ 4:26 am
1.32m

▼ 11:46 am
0.47m

▲ 6:04 pm
1.17m

▼ 10:48 pm
0.78m

SUN 22 Mar

▲ 5:02 am
1.49m

▼ 11:39 am
0.37m

▲ 5:57 pm
1.3m

▼ 11:14 pm
0.58m



► *Safety Officer*

MAN OVERBOARD

What would you do if you are out in a boat and someone fell overboard?

There is a protocol to follow to make the retrieval of the person safe and successful.

- * **Shout “*Man Overboard*”, extend your arm and point at the person.**
- * **Keep them in sight at all times.**

Keep pointing. Appoint a lookout to do this so the boat operator can steer the boat.

The boat operator should pull the boat away from the person by swinging the stern away from them (i.e., if they fall onto the port side, turn the boat to the port side which will keep the propeller away from them.)

Throw some floating material to them, like a lifejacket.

- *Approach on a straight course into the wind, and if possible on the port side. Take care not to get them under the bow.*
- *Cut the motor near them and throw them a line as soon as possible.*
- *Recover them over the stern, to maintain stability.*
- *If the person is exhausted or injured and you have someone who can help, tie a line to the helper who is wearing a lifejacket. They can go overboard to assist the person back onboard.*

We are fortunate that this situation is rare. However, in rough seas anything can happen. When in a boat, always maintain good balance. Distribute people and equipment evenly on both sides of the boat. Hold onto something solid when the boat accelerates. Don't all rush to one side to assist a diver. And a buddy pair should always enter from opposite sides of the boat when entering together. When entering alone, warn everyone when you are going in so they can maintain stability.

A final note on Dive Leaders and Safety Officers:

We are always looking for these dive officers to assist on dives. If you can help out, let me know. And present dive officers, let me know as soon as possible if you are unavailable for your duties.

Safe Diving

Sue

► *Past Dives*

Rapid Bay Jetty — 19 January

Mary and I found a calm day with little current at Rapid Bay jetty.

We started to look for leafy sea dragons at the star droppers near the old jetty but were out of luck. However, moving along we were rewarded with such colourful pylons with a variety of sponges, ascidians, and blennies. We saw a small blue flatworm that we had not seen before sitting on some brown algae. There were plenty of goatfish feeding on the bottom and lots of leatherjackets of all colours, shapes, and sizes. Magpie perch were lazing in cup sponges. So many conspicuous sea stars and biscuit stars were easy to photograph. Hula fish, talma, scaly fin, rainbow and blue-throat wrasse, and ornate cowfish were in abundance. Arriving at the 'T' we saw schools of old wives, bullseyes, and yellowtail along with two long-snouted boarfish. Then Mary spotted a good sized ray under some rubble.

On our return, we saw a cuttlefish, velvet stars, and found brittle stars under sheeting. There were big lazy strongies on the bottom. The common orange nudibranchs were clinging to pylons, and crabs hid under rubble. Some squid appeared near the star droppers as we were about to end our dive. This made me hungry for lunch!



Photography by **Sue Cucchiarelli**

In spite of not seeing any dragons, the dive was most enjoyable: so much variety and colour. We were down to 11M and stayed for 90 minutes. The viz was about 8M and the water was a balmy 21 degrees. We stopped at the bakery in Yankalilla after the dive for a well-deserved lunch.

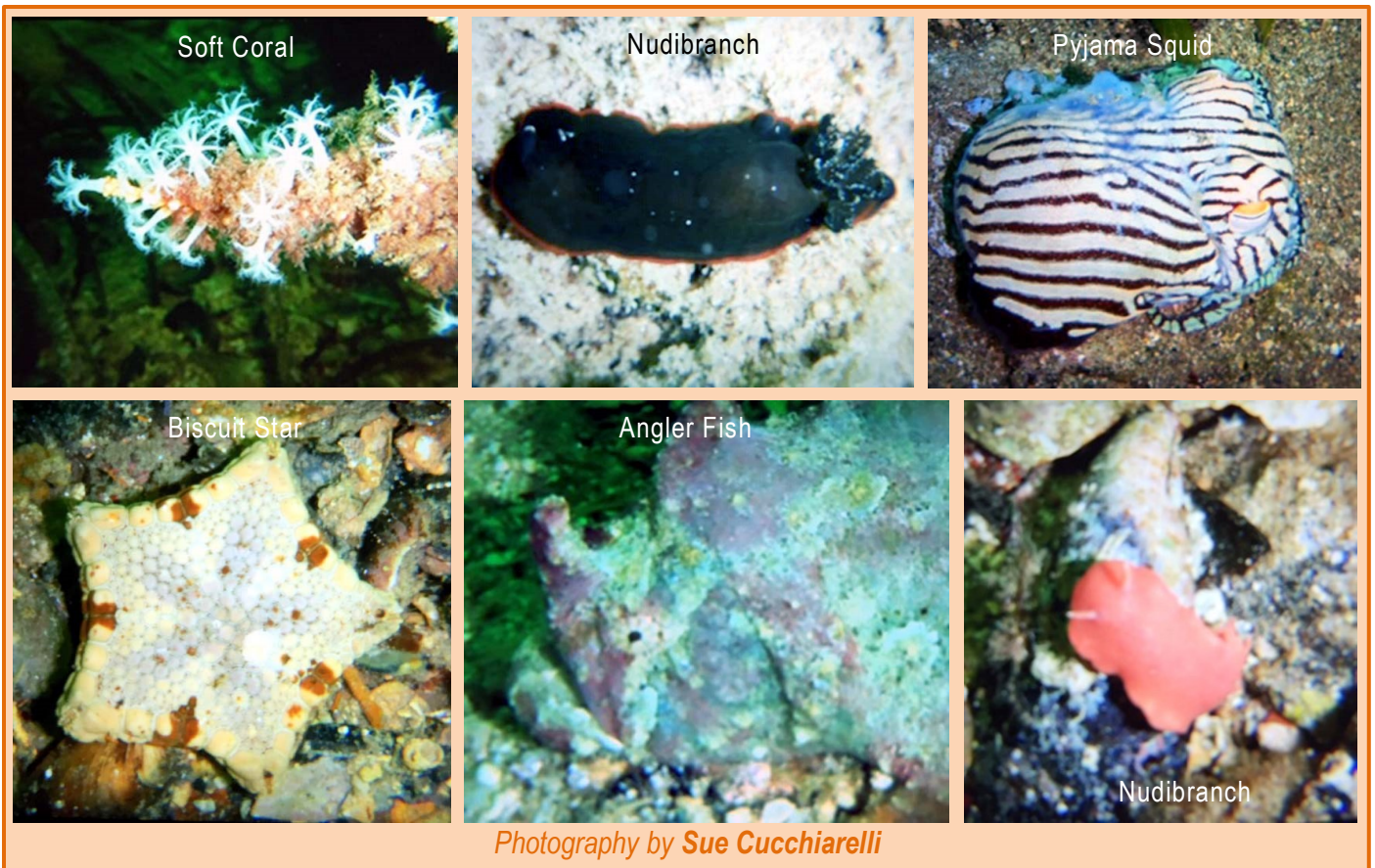
Sous Marin

PT Hughes Jetty — 25 January

Mary and I headed to Port Hughes to dive the jetty. I hadn't been here in a while so was anxious to see what was there. The new steps were great in spite of being a bit steep. We could see the bottom from the top of the jetty and it seemed quite clear but we found it a bit murky on entry. However, the visibility improved as we headed out, perhaps due to the greater depth (6M). Visibility was also 6M.

There seemed to be lots of growth or silt on the weed so we were only able to spot one pipefish. The beautiful soft coral on the pylons was still there putting on a show as it was extended out feeding. There were lots of feathery hydroids on the pylons, colourful worms, as well as the bright green algae, caulerpa. There were tiny pygmy leatherjackets hiding in the brown algae and crabs under rubble. We saw various sea stars and biscuit stars too. There were a few cowfish toward the end of the jetty and the huge school of resident scad. There were magpie perch, strongies, and blennies but we saw some treats....creatures I had rarely seen before. There were four types of nudibranchs: plenty of the common orange ones, pink (so well-camouflaged on the pink sponge), a red one, and another black and orange. Then we spotted a dumpling squid, quite content to sit and be photographed, no wish to bury itself in spite of our presence. The real treat was a small angler fish sitting on the sand being guarded by a blennie. If another diver hadn't spotted it first, we probably would have missed it.





It was a great dive, so terrific we spent 115 minutes under. Certainly worth the drive to dive this jetty. Afterwards, we had a welcome lunch at the jetty kiosk.

Sous Marin

PT Noarlunga Jetty/Reef — 8 February

Today's dive was supposed to be on Aldinga Reef, but as Keith Lockwood and I were the only divers to book in, we decided to change the dive site to Port Noarlunga Jetty/Reef. Later, Michael Heinjus joined us. We arranged to meet in the carpark and be ready for a 9.00am entry.

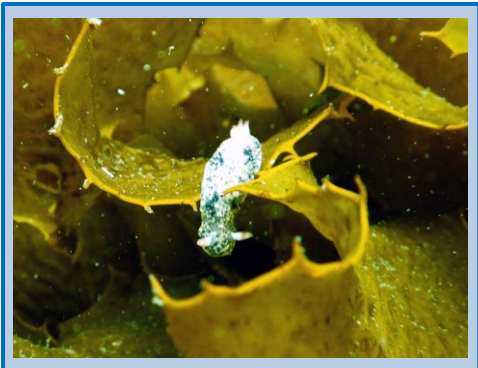
There were a lot of people around with at least 2 Dive Courses in progress., a Veteran Car Muster in the carpark near the roundabout, lots of people on the beach, snorkelers in the water and fishermen on the jetty.

The breeze was offshore but dropped off by the time we entered. There is a sign at the shore end of the jetty advising that jetty maintenance is in progress. We were advised by fishermen that 4 pylons had been driven in at the reef end of the jetty in preparation for replacing the stairs by the end of the month. There are 3 pylons on the northern side of the jetty and 1 on the southern side.

We entered via the shore end stairs and finned to the end of the jetty. It was nearing mid tide. We had discussed the tide before entry and planned to fin into any tide that we detected. There was no tide effect, so we headed south, toward The Gap.

The viz wasn't great under the jetty, about 7 metres but improved the further we got away from the jetty. We went as far as the 3rd trail plinth.





We saw a lot of marine life under the jetty and along the reef including Goatfish, Shaw's Cowfish, Magpie Perch, Fern like Pylon growth, which I haven't identified but it may be Caulerpa Racemosa (there is a lot of it on pylons at Pt Victoria) Ascidians, Sponges, Squirts, Clingfish, Nudibranchs which I think are Dendrodoris Negra and Hypseclodoris Infucate, Pt Jackson Shark, Dusky Morwong, Southern Hulafish, Horseshoe Leather Jackets among other LJ's, Truncated Coralfish, Sand Crabs feeding on fish carcasses, Bullseyes, Scalyfin, Moonlighters, varieties of Wrasse, Banded Sweep, Zebrafish, Bullseyes, Silver Drummer, a school of good size Yellowfin Whiting at the end of the jetty.

In between plinth 2 and 3 the viz improved to 10+ metres. We turned around at plinth No. 3 and headed back. We also saw Barnacles, Sea Snails, Old Wives, Hermit Crabs, Sea Cucumbers, a 6 arm Seastar with Velcro like covering on the top of its arms, Spidercrabs and Keith found a Catfish about 70 cm's in length. (the first Catfish I can remember sighting when diving). Brown Algae was plentiful on the reef and pylons along with a burgundy plant that I haven't identified. I think the flora on the reef has re-generated over recent years, improving the health of the reef.

We surfaced back at the shore end stairs after a bottom time of 90 minutes. The water temperature was a pleasant 21 degrees C, I got a maximum depth of 7 metres. There was a log jam at the exit, divers, jetty jumpers and snorkelers. The replacement stairs at the end of the jetty won't be completed too soon.

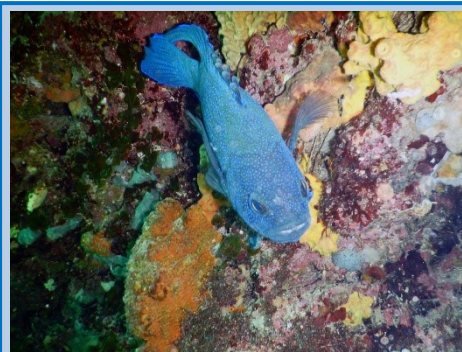
After we packed up, we enjoyed lunch and a coffee at Beck's Café. It was as enjoyable a dive as I have had at Pt Noarlunga in a long time and it would have been even better had it not been for the noise pollution generated by jet skis on the surface.

Thanks Keith and Michael for your company.

Bob Butterfield.

Second Valley — 16 February

Good visibility, calm waters and no tidal movement ensured Sue and I enjoyed a very pleasant dive at Second Valley. The flora was thick the Brown and Warty Seaweeds along with the Kelp predominated, while large swathes of Zoanths filled in any bare patches. Fish abounded along the shoreline including numerous Leather

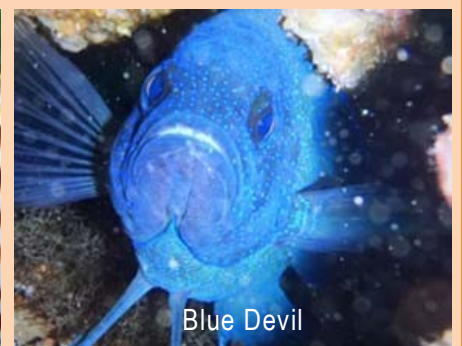
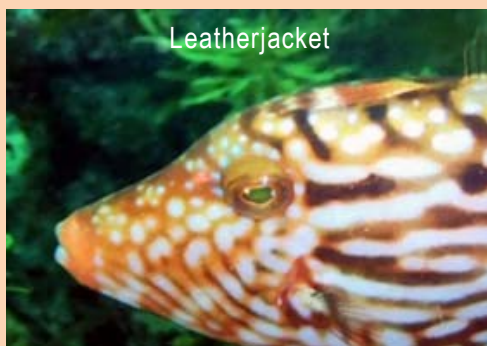
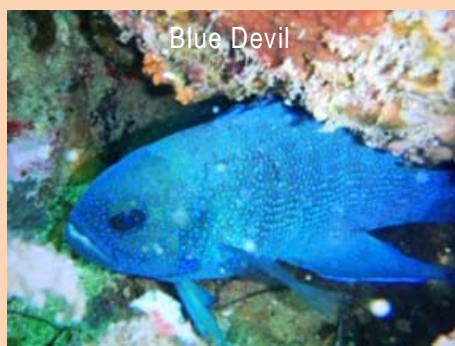


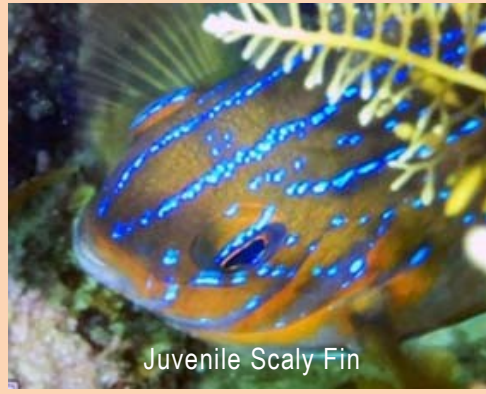
Photography by **Keith Lockwood**

Jackets, Silver Drummer, Whiting and Sweep. Yellowhead Hulafish hung under ledges where Bullseyes sheltered. Southern Blue Devils cringed within the sheltering caves as nosey divers disturbed their solitude. Scalyfin, Herring Cale and Blue Groper patrolled the bay looking for any offerings.

Well worth the trip and a great dive.

Keith Lockwood





Photography by Sue Cucchiarelli

Rapid Bay Jetty — 18 February

“Fortune favours the Brave”, that saying applies in particular to the Retired People and People who take Tuesdays off. Marianne Chi and I have been monitoring the weather over the past week, debating whether we could dive Rapid Bay Jetty today. The Willyweather forecast at 5.30am this morning predicted 27.7 km/hr SW winds at 6.30 hrs, rising to 42.1 km/hr SW at 9.30am. We had reasoned that if we had an early start, we might be lucky enough to get in early and out before the winds picked up.

Keith Lockwood and Ian “Camo” Louth had already committed to the plan, arranging to meet at Rapid Bay at 8.00am for an 8.30am entry. As stated in Ian’s booking in email, “What could possibly go wrong!”. I’m not sure whether he was supremely confident or a doubting Thomas. Marianne met at Robyn’s and my place shortly before 6.00am and she and I were on our way. We watched the wind in the trees on our journey to Rapid Bay and were amazed how calm it was. Marianne and I arrived at Rapid Bay about 7.40am, Keith was already there, hardly any breeze and flat seas. Keith had already been out and checked the viz from the surface and he was very pleased with what he saw.

Shortly after Ian arrived and by 8.20am we were entering the water. Marianne and I buddied up as did Keith and Ian, but we dived as a foursome. I reckon the viz was 10+ metres. It was as good any dive

I have had there. We took the 90-degree trail to the old jetty and headed for the T.

Today must have been the Humpback Boxfish convention, I saw heaps of them along with Goatfish, Magpie Perch, Southern Hulafish, a *Ceratosoma brevicaudatum* (orange) Nudibranch, Wrasse including Senator and Blue Throated varieties, Scalyfin, Western Talma, Moonlighters, Dusky Morwong, Zebrafish, Leather Jackets including Horseshoe and Mosaic types, Old Wives, Bullseyes, Biscuit Seastars, Conspicuous Seastars, Truncated Coralfish, Yellowtail Whiting or Longfin Pike, I’m not sure, Scallops, Cuttlefish, Blue Devils, Boarfish, Ascidiars, Brown Algae, Sponges of many types, including a quite a few Dish Sponges, Squirts, Ribbon Grass and Sea Tulips, plus a Green ceramic Frog.

We proceeded out to the fallen Grid structure on the outer side of the “T” but could not find any Leafy’s. Later, Marianne said she hasn’t seen any Leafy’s there for quite a while. As usual the greatest concentration of fish were under the “T”.

I had a bottom time of 87 minutes, maximum depth of 11 metres, water temperature of 21 degrees C with viz of 10+ metres. During the dive, I kept looking up to see if the storm had hit but no, the surface appeared reasonably clam. By the time we got out and walked back to our cars, the breeze had picked up but still nothing like 42 km/hr. Although, we could see white caps further out to sea, rolling in around Rapid Head.

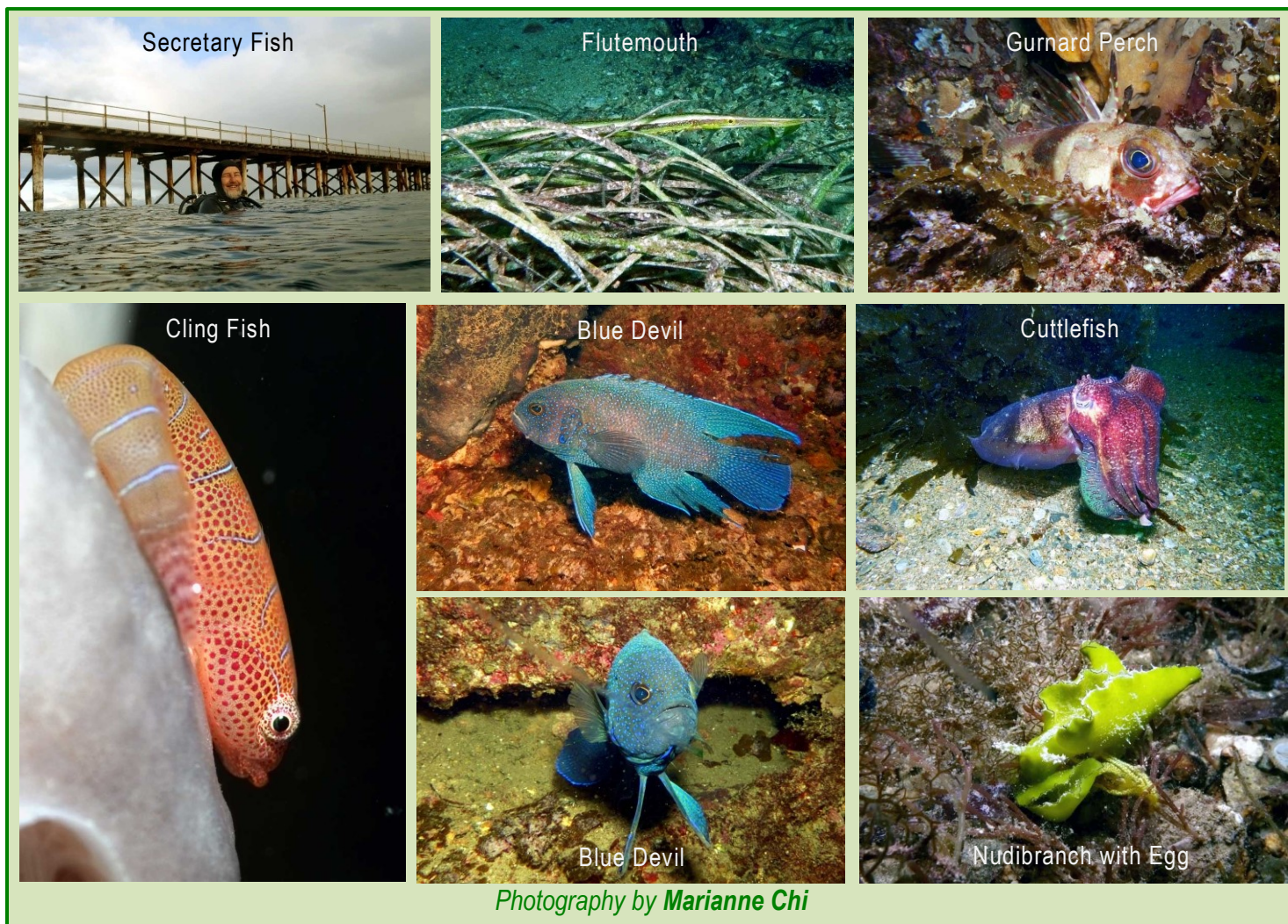
We all agreed, we had a great dive and were pleased we had made the effort getting up at “Sparrows” to achieve it. Still, it is such a pity that the state of the carpark is so poor and the absence of facilities. This dive site could be such a great tourist attraction.



Photography by Keith Lockwood

Many thanks Marianne for persevering with the Tuesday dives. Thank you to Keith and Ian for your company. We made our usual stop at the Yankalilla Bakery for an early lunch on the way home.

Bob Butterfield



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

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-May-2019



Fish and prawn pasties

INGREDIENTS

- 30g butter
- 30g plain flour
- 1 cup (250ml) milk
- 1 red onion, cut in thin wedges
- 1 fennel, very thinly sliced, fronds reserved and chopped
- 1 potato, peeled, cut into 1cm pieces
- 75g frozen peas
- Pinch of cayenne pepper
- 2 lemons, rind finely grated, juiced
- 4 thyme sprigs, leaves picked
- 6 flat-leaf parsley sprigs, finely chopped
- Pinch of sea salt flakes
- 200g white fish fillets, cut into 2cm pieces
- 100g skinless salmon fillet, cut into 1cm pieces
- 100g peeled prawn meat, cut into 2cm pieces
- 4 sheets Pampas Puff Pastry, just thawed
- 1 egg, lightly whisked

INSTRUCTIONS

- Melt the butter in a saucepan over medium heat. Add the flour and cook, stirring, until the mixture bubbles. Gradually add the milk, in 3 batches, stirring constantly. Cook, stirring, for 5 mins or until sauce boils and thickens. Remove from heat. Gently stir in onion, fennel, reserved fennel fronds, potato, peas, cayenne pepper, lemon rind, lemon juice, thyme, parsley and salt. Set aside until cooled to room temperature. Stir in the white fish, salmon and prawns and place in the fridge to cool completely.
- Preheat oven to 200C. Line a baking tray with baking paper.
- Using a dinner plate as a guide, cut four 21.5cm discs from the pastry. Place one-quarter of the filling over one-half of each pastry disc, leaving a 2cm border. Fold the other half of the pastry over to enclose. Fold in the edge and press to seal. Place on the lined tray. Brush with egg. Cut a slit in the top of each pasty to allow steam to escape.
- Bake for 25-30 mins or until puffed and golden. Set aside for 5 mins to cool before serving

* Hippocampus

Shown above as the next theme for the Photography Competition



The hippocampus or hippocamp, also hippokampus is a mythological creature shared by Phoenician, Etruscan, Pictish, Roman and Greek mythology, though its name has a Greek origin.

In English, this creature is often called a seahorse, so this subject can be found a little easier and in many shapes and varieties. Below are some examples.





CALENDAR



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

(Dive **departure** times as shown)

MARCH

DL – Hugh Sparrow (0418 814 735)

SO – Sue Cucchiarelli (0438 882 509)

Sparrow

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|------------------|------|
| 📅 | Sun 1st | Seawolf/Lumb | O'Sullivan Beach | 0800 |
| ➤ | Wed 4th | General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood | | 2000 |
| 📅 | Fri 6th > Mon 9th | Mt. Gambier | | |
| ➤ | Tue 10th | Committee Meeting | | 1930 |
| ➤ | Fri 20th | Newsletter items due | | |
| 📅 | Fri 20th > Sun 22nd | Fleurieu Peninsula – Hobart | | |

APRIL

DL – Robyn Butterfield (0419 866 460)

SO – Mary Hood (0427 716 938)

| | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|--|------|
| ➤ | Wed 1st | General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood | | 2000 |
| 📅 | Thu 9th > Mon 13th | Port Hughes | | |
| ➤ | Tue 14th | Committee Meeting | | 1930 |
| ➤ | Fri 24th | Newsletter items due | | |
| 📅 | Fri 24th > Mon 27th | Edithburgh | | |

MAY

DL – Jeanette Smith (0436 007 459)

SO – Hugh Sparrow (0418 814 735)

| | | | | |
|---|----------|---|-----------------|------|
| ➤ | Wed 5th | General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood | | 2000 |
| 📅 | Sun 10th | Glenelg Dredge/Barge | Adelaide Shores | 0800 |
| ➤ | Tue 12th | Committee Meeting | | 1930 |
| ➤ | Fri 22nd | Newsletter items due | | |
| 📅 | Sun 24th | Norma | North Haven | 0800 |

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

