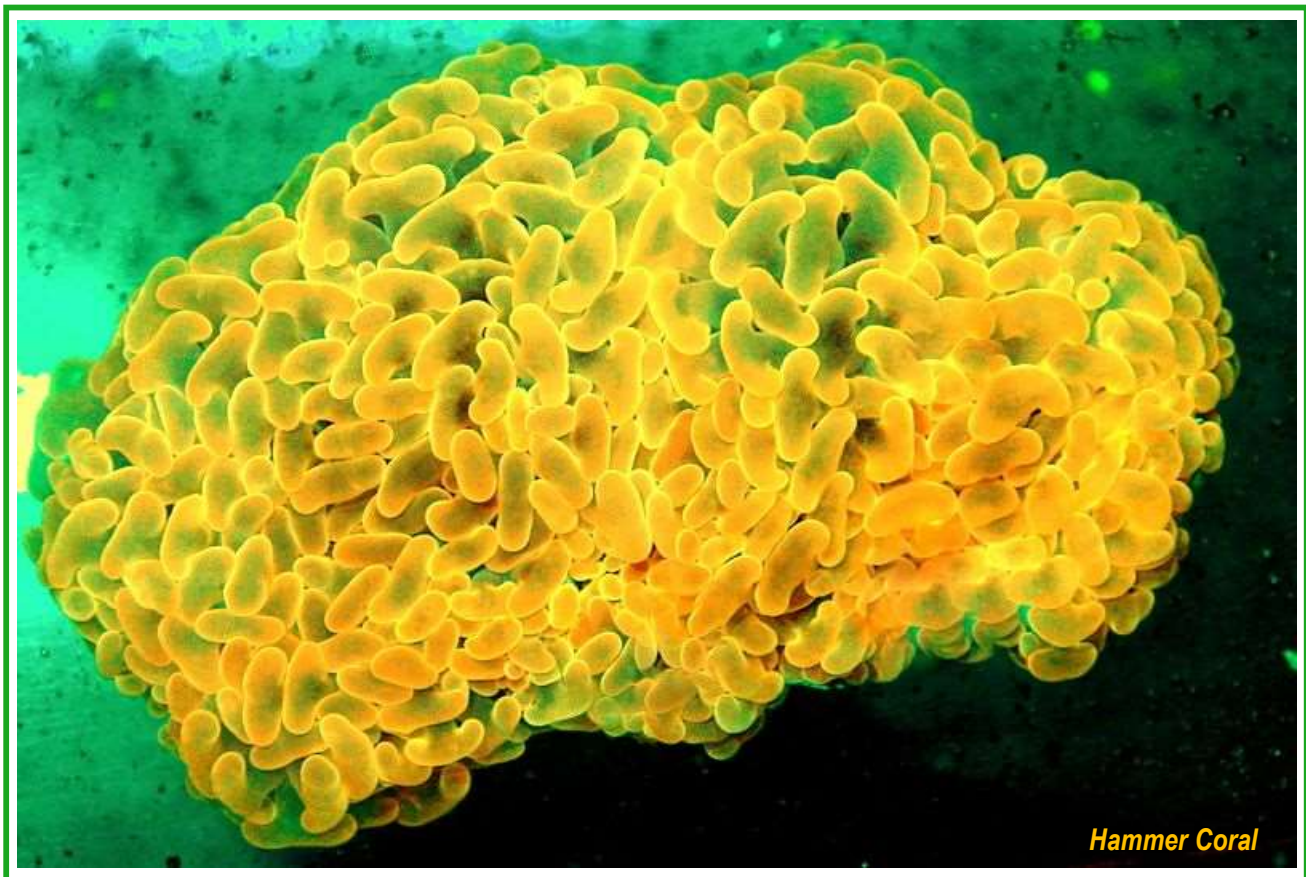


Underwater Explorers Club of SA Inc

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER-2020





GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday – 7th

October

1945 for 2000



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

*As a result of the cancellation of the previous meeting due to a change in restrictions
the Agenda for that meeting will be carried over for this meeting*

*The first part of the meeting will focus on the judging of the "Hippocampus" theme
of the photo competition.*

Following this, our guest speaker will be Nick Cundell.

*Recently, Nick and Di visited Gibraltar, and this trip will be the topic of their presentation
as they take us through the history and attractions of this location.*

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 2020-2021

Treasurer..... Robyn BUTTERFIELD

Secretary..... Peter MANSFIELD

Safety Officer Sue CUCCHIARELLI

Committee Person..... Mary HOOD

Committee Person..... Jeanette SMITH

Web Manager..... Hugh SPARROW

CONTACT 2020-2021

Email..... secretary@uecofsa.org.au

Website..... www.uecofsa.org.au

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



ASIAN DINNER



Saturday-17-October

7:00 pm

Viet Thai Restaurant

427 Henley Beach Rd, Brooklyn Park SA 5032

Book in as soon as possible, either at the meeting or via the website



Waters to be Explored



OCTOBER

Sun-11

Rapid Bay Jetty

Tide times — [L] 0124 **0.54** [H] 0850 **1.37** [L] 0032 **0.6**

The home of the Leafy Sea Dragon is a comfortable dive in 11M. Plenty of colourful sponges, nudibranchs, and starfish too. Huge schools of Old Wives congregate at the T. Leafies haven't been seen here in a while but they may have moved to the seagrass or further along the jetty so look in new places. Bring your camera. A trolley is useful.

Sun-25

The Bluff Jetty

Tide times — [H] 0733 **0.9** [L] 1919 **0.47**

The Bluff is a fairly shallow dive off the point at the 'Bluff' at Victor Harbor, 5 km west of the town centre. Meet at the jetty. The dive is in 4-6M but to deeper depths if you move away from the shore. There are a variety of fish with plenty of bullseyes, moonlighters, and some crinoids. Crayfish and leafy seadragons have even been spotted along this rocky and weedy coast. Be wary of any current or surge, stay close to shore, and keep close buddy contact. Entry may be from the beach. The vertical jetty or rocks would make the entry a challenge.

NOVEMBER

Sun-15

Second Valley – Navigation

Tide times — [H] 0519 **1.7** [L] 1202 **0.14** [H] 1806 **1.16**

Entry will be specified once the navigation task has been outlined. Wrasse which hide in the brown algae and blue devils in overhangs, Scaly fin protecting their lairs and Leafy seadragons may provide some of the attractions during the activity. Depending on your entry and progress, be aware of any fishermen on the jetty.

Fri-27 > Mon-30

Edithburgh

Tide times — Values are for Port Giles. Edithburgh is -9 mins

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, and a large school of kingfish frequent the end of the jetty.

Pt Giles is no longer open to divers. The less-dived Klein's jetty(8M) is reputed to have leafy seadragons and there are plenty of interesting sites along the south coast where you'll find swim-troughs and even a seal to entertain you. Care must be taken with entries and exits but you'll be rewarded with good dives.

Wool Bay is a short jetty walk and a weedy shallow bottom in 4M. Leafy seadragons were spotted here some time ago.

Point Turton jetty is a good alternative site, perhaps to dive on the way home. It is shallow to 5M and boasts Verco's nudibranchs and cowfish. Al's Reef is worth a look west of the jetty.

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	1005	0.55		1036	0.37		1103	0.26		1128	0.22
FR	1601	1.63	SA	1635	1.71	SU	1702	1.72	MO	1726	1.70
	2144	0.61		2211	0.57		2233	0.56	○	2252	0.56



- Pt Hughes jetty is closed until further notice. There is no access to divers and no SCUBA diving is allowed underneath the jetty.
- The Wirrina boat ramp has been taken over by SA Govt. No fees are currently being charged for use of the ramp.

► *Safety Officer*

NAVIGATION

How does one find their way underwater? The visibility is certainly not like it is on land and sites may not be familiar. Wouldn't it be great if someone invented a GPS for underwater navigation!

There are two ways to navigate underwater, natural navigation (sometimes called *pilotage*) or navigation with compass.

Natural Navigation or Pilotage —

Pilotage involves using underwater features to guide your way. You need to hone your powers of observation. When diving, sometimes take the lead instead of always relying on your buddy. Just following along makes you become complacent in being alert to your surroundings. And poor visibility can make navigation more difficult. When diving deeper, maintain sight of your depth gauge and use a reference such as a jetty pylon or anchor line to be aware of your vertical direction. When arriving at the bottom on any dive, have a good sense of position and direction firmly established in your mind. Take a few minutes to look around.

Note any *identifiable natural features or landmarks*:

- a large rock, sheer wall, large coral or sponge formation. Then swim a few metres and look behind you to recognise your starting point on return. Keep looking for specific features on your way
- on a sandy bottom look for sand ripples; these lay parallel to shore
- direction of any current
- note the time taken on your dive at the turn around point; allow for any current
- in shallow water, direction of the sun's rays
- on jetty night dives, lights from the jetty can mark your direction



Natural navigation is probably used more extensively than a compass for navigation.

Navigation using a Compass —

Navigation using a compass takes practice. You might take a bearing on the surface away from shore surge, descend, and then follow the bearing to shore. It is a good idea to use a compass in poor visibility, and even under a jetty at night. All those pylons look the same do they not!



Your compass, whether wrist mounted or as part of your gauges, should be held at eye level and horizontal to the bottom, with the fixed arrow on the compass base pointed straight ahead in your direction of travel. With a wrist type, grasp your other elbow to keep the compass straight; with gauges, hold it with both hands.

The compass is divided into 360 degrees. To travel to a particular point, turn the bezel on the compass so the floating North needle lines up with the fixed arrow direction on the compass. Numbers (degrees) increase clockwise. You travel in your chosen direction by keeping the two arrows aligned. When you want to return, set your compass with a reciprocal bearing, or 180 degrees.

All of this takes practice and experience. Currents and surge will be a challenge to judge distance. And a compass can be affected by other metals, such as dive knives or metal pylons. All of this is just a summary but good compass use takes practice and experience.

SO.....Come along and join in to our

Navigation Practice on November 15th
Second Valley 1000 hours
Bring your compass and dive gear

GEARING UP AND BUDDY CHECKS

An Important reminder—

Arrive at the dive at the scheduled time for a briefing. You will be told who your buddy is. Then gear up assisting your buddy.

The following is fool proof but doesn't work if you don't do it!

And it's no good doing it at the jetty steps or on the boat; it's too late then!

Check your gear and then *do it again with your buddy. Use the KISS method.*

Remember ABC

- | | | |
|---------------------|--|---|
| A — Air | Turn on your air. Inhale and exhale through your regulator <i>while looking at your gauge. If the gauge moves, your air is NOT on!</i> | Repeat with your octopus |
| B — Buoyancy | Inflate and deflate your vest | <i>If not connected it doesn't work!</i> |
| C — Clips | All gear clipped in place | Octopus, weight belt, BC belt, gauges etc |

Safe Diving

Sue

► *Past Dives*

PORT NOARLUNGA JETTY — 13 SEPTEMBER 2020

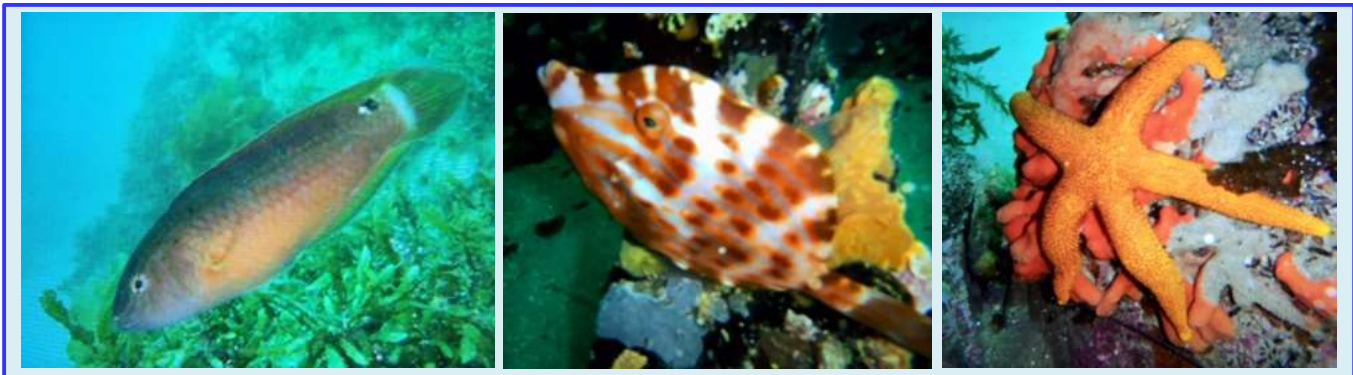
Port Noarlunga was predicted to be a clear day with fairly light winds. We arrived at the jetty early on a sunny Sunday. Jeanette, Bob, our friend and visitor Phil and I were keen to get wet. After a few adjustments to some divers' new geardry suit, reg, BC, we headed off. Entry at the new platform at the end of the jetty is terrific but we had quite a swell coming over the reef as it was making for high tide. (I think the new platform is placed too close to the reef, being buffeted by strong wave action at high tide.....will it eventually succumb to too-soon wear and tear.....?)

At the steps, sweep met us, and we encountered the resident mosaic leatherjacket at the reef. There was a slight current so we headed south. Visibility was about 6-8M. There were pairs of magpie perch, curious scaly fin, and large silver drummer shooting through between gaps in the boulders. There were numerous small shells attached to the large brown algae and congregations of limpets on the rocks near the bottom. There were numerous pink sponges and bright yellow colonial ascidians. And we spied a huge bright orange sea star clinging underneath a rock.

We made it to the Gap with lots of fish swimming in the current. Then we turned around and headed back. Sweep had accompanied us at times the entire dive. Back at the jetty a friendly, colourful wrasse insisted on being photographed. We could sit under the jetty at the reef the entire dive and be entertained!

The water is warming up as we were underwater to 8M for just over an hour. A dive to anticipate some good summer diving. After the dive, we headed to the bakery for a well-earned lunch..

Sous Marin



ARDROSSAN JETTY — 27 SEPTEMBER 2020



It was a pleasant sunny day with blue skies and no wind. Nevertheless, we were unsure whether the winds over the previous days would have impacted the visibility.

Sue Cucchiarelli and I met at the Ardrossan Jetty at 10am and took a walk down the jetty to check out the conditions. The visibility looked good from above.

We had a pleasant dive for 75 mins with a maximum depth of 4.6 metres. The water temperature was 13 degrees Celsius. Even in a dry suit I was a bit chilly near the end of the dive. Part of was probably due to a valve leak in the dry suit. This will need to be serviced.

Between us we spotted 3 seahorses, although I did not manage to get a photo as it was obscured by the plants and a fluffy substance that was covering much of the vegetation. There were a few very large nudibranchs (the common orange variety) and I spotted a tiny pink nudi on a plant. There were lots of blue crabs about, a very large ornate cowfish, Western Talmas, Magpie perches and the other usual suspects. As usual the pylons were full of colourful sponges and sea squirts etc.

Where we entered, by the far steps, there were tons of tiny baby fish swimming around. They were still here at the end of our dive.

Overall, it was a very enjoyable dive with good visibility despite the previous winds. Sue stated that the visibility was better than when she had dived here a few days ago.

Jeanette Smith



Photography by

Sue Cucchiarelli



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 * **Location – Jetty** and the following theme is to be decided.

Photographs should be **8”x 6”** which is **2400 x 1800** 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-Nov-2020**



Launch of new community-science project



SeadragonSearch



Dear Seadragon Supporters,

Hope that this message finds you safe and healthy during these strange times!

We are writing to invite you to participate in a new community-driven research project called SeadragonSearch! Our project collects photographs of seadragons taken by anyone who wishes to send them for analysis, and uses artificial intelligence tools to assist matching photographs of individual seadragons. We plan to use this data to track seadragons through time and space over the next 10 years across all the Australian states where they occur, to improve conservation and management actions.

SeadragonSearch is being co-led by the Western Australian Museum in Perth and Scripps Institution of Oceanography in California, and has connected and partnered with locally-based projects and people across southern Australia, including Dragon Quest in Victoria, Dragon Search South Australia, and the Dragons of Sydney Citizen Science Project in New South Wales. Through this national network of partners, we hope to share photographic data, exchange seadragon research updates, and collaborate in improving conservation outcomes for all seadragon populations.

We hope that you'll join us and let your community know about this project! We are attaching a small poster as a PDF, and will be sending magnets to interested dive shops and organizations. Anyone who is interested in participating can find lots of information on our website: www.seadragonsearch.org, and also join us on social media through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Photos can be shared through the website or by contacting us directly at admin@seadragonsearch.org.

Please reach out with any questions, or just to chat seadragons and marine conservation. Thank you very much for taking a moment to learn about our work, and we hope to connect and collaborate with you going forward!

Best wishes

people's choice

COMMUNITY LOTTERY

*Due to the effects of covid-19. The 2020 lottery will be conducted differently.
There will be no booklet distribution with all ticket sales occurring **on-line**.
Go to our specified location on the web-site to make a purchase –*

<https://communitylottery.peopleschoice.com.au/collections/sporting-club/products/underwater-explorers-club-of-sa-inc>

Important Dates

Sales Begin	Wed-30-Sept
Early Bird Closes	Tues-3-Nov
Early Bird Draw	Tues-10-Nov
Sales Close	Fri-19-Feb 2021
Main Draw	Fri-26-Feb

*Sales have commenced, and you can purchase **any number** of tickets
As in previous years there is an extended number of prizes,
with three motor vehicles up for grabs.*

*These can be seen when you make a purchase or by visiting
<https://communitylottery.peopleschoice.com.au/pages/prizes>*

*Encourage Relatives and Friends to also visit our site and make a purchase.
Remember, 100% of the sales made is returned to the club*



Early Bird



First



Second

Scuba Gear and Dive Equipment continues to change as new technologies are developed.

The list of equipment includes —

- BCD
- Regulators
- Wetsuits
- Drysuits
- Dive Masks
- Full Face Dive Masks
- Snorkels
- Scuba Fins
- Dive Computers
- Dive watches

and more

As new designs come into the market, it is difficult to keep up.

A visit to the following location will take you through many of the items available, and give an appraisal of them

<https://www.divein.com/scuba-gear/>

Oysters 8 ways

INGREDIENTS

- Rock salt, to serve
- 24 fresh oysters
- Lime wedges, to serve
- Lemon wedges, to serve

SPANISH-STYLE DRESSING

- 1/2 chorizo sausage, finely chopped
- 1 chargrilled pepper (capsicum), drained, finely chopped
- 1 tbs sherry vinegar

PONZU DRESSING

- 1 tbs soy sauce
- 1 tbs mirin seasoning
- 2 tsp lemon juice
- 2 tsp orange juice
- Spring onion curls, to serve
- Orange zest, to serve
- Toasted sesame seeds, to serve

MIGNONETTE DRESSING

- 2 shallots, finely chopped
- 2 tbs white wine vinegar
- 2 tbs red wine vinegar
- 1/2 tsp caster sugar
- 1/2 tsp salt

CUCUMBER & LYCHEE GRANITA

- 1/2 cup pitted lychees in syrup
- 1 Lebanese cucumber, chopped
- 1/4 cup (60ml) lime juice

SALSA VERDE DRESSING

- 1/2 garlic clove, crushed
- 2 tsp finely chopped dill
- 2 tsp finely chopped mint
- 2 tsp finely chopped baby capers
- 2 tsp finely chopped chives
- 1 1/2 tbs lemon juice
- 2 tsp olive oil

KILPATRICK DRESSING

- 2 streaky bacon rashers, finely chopped
- 2 tbs Worcestershire sauce
- 1/4 tsp chipotle sauce

GIN & TONIC DRESSING

- 2 tbs gin
- 2 tbs tonic water
- 1/2 Lebanese cucumber, seeded, finely chopped

APPLE CIDER DRESSING

- 1/2 Granny Smith apple, cut into matchsticks
- 1 tbs apple cider vinegar
- 1 tsp honey
- 1/2 tsp salt

INSTRUCTIONS



- Spread the rock salt evenly over a large serving platter. Arrange the oysters over the salt, then prepare your favourite dressings.
- To make the Spanish-style dressing, cook the chorizo in a frying pan over medium heat, stirring, for 5 mins or until crisp. Transfer to a plate lined with paper towel. Combine with the capsicum and sherry in a bowl. Season. Spoon over 6 of the oysters on the platter.
- To make the ponzu dressing, combine the soy sauce, mirin seasoning, lemon juice and orange juice in a bowl. Spoon over 6 of the oysters on the platter. Sprinkle with spring onion curls, orange zest and sesame seeds.
- To make the mignonette dressing, place the shallot in a bowl with the combined vinegar, sugar and salt. Stir to combine. Season. Set aside for 15 mins to soak. Spoon over 6 of the oysters on the platter.
- To make the cucumber and lychee granita, place the lychees, syrup, cucumber and lime juice in a blender and blend until smooth. Pour into a shallow metal container. Cover with foil. Place in the freezer for 2 hours or until set. Scrape and stir with a fork until crushed. Spoon over 6 of the oysters on the platter. Serve immediately.
- To make the salsa verde dressing, combine the garlic, dill, mint, baby caper, chive, lemon juice and olive oil in a small bowl. Season. Spoon over 6 of the oysters on the platter.
- To make the kilpatrick dressing, cook the bacon in a frying pan over medium heat, stirring, for 2-3 mins or until the bacon is crisp. Transfer to a plate lined with paper towel. Combine the Worcestershire sauce and Tabasco sauce in a small bowl. Add the bacon and toss to combine. Spoon over 6 of the oysters on the platter.
- To make the gin and tonic dressing, place the gin and tonic water in a small bowl. Add the cucumber and stir to combine. Season. Spoon over 6 of the oysters on the platter.
- To make the apple cider dressing, place the apple in a bowl with the vinegar, honey and salt. Stir to combine. Set aside for 5 mins to soak. Spoon over 6 of the oysters on the platter.
- Arrange the lime wedges and lemon wedges around the oysters on the platter. Serve immediately.





CALENDAR






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

(Dive **departure** times as shown)




OCTOBER

	Wed 7th	General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood	2000
	Sun 11th	Rapid Bay	1000
	Sat 17th	Asian Dinner – Viet Thai Restaurant	1900
	Sun 25th	The Bluff Jetty	1000

NOVEMBER

	Sun 15th	Second Valley - Navigation	1000
	Fri 22nd	Newsletter items due	
	Fri 27th > Mon 30th	Edithburgh	

DECEMBER

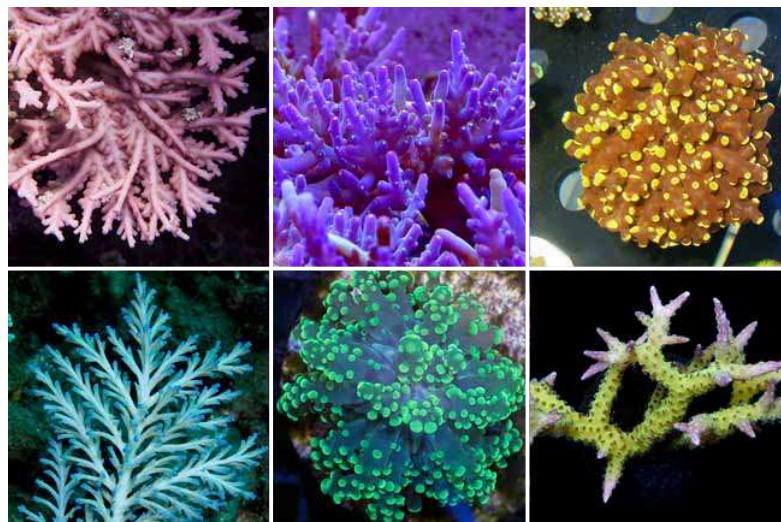
	Wed 2nd	General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood	2000
	Sun 6th	Port Noarlunga Jetty	0800
	Sun 13th	Rapid Bay Jetty	1000

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

Meet 6 of the corals that are in danger of becoming illegal



Find out more at

<https://reefbuilders.com/2014/09/18/meet-5-corals-danger-illegal/>