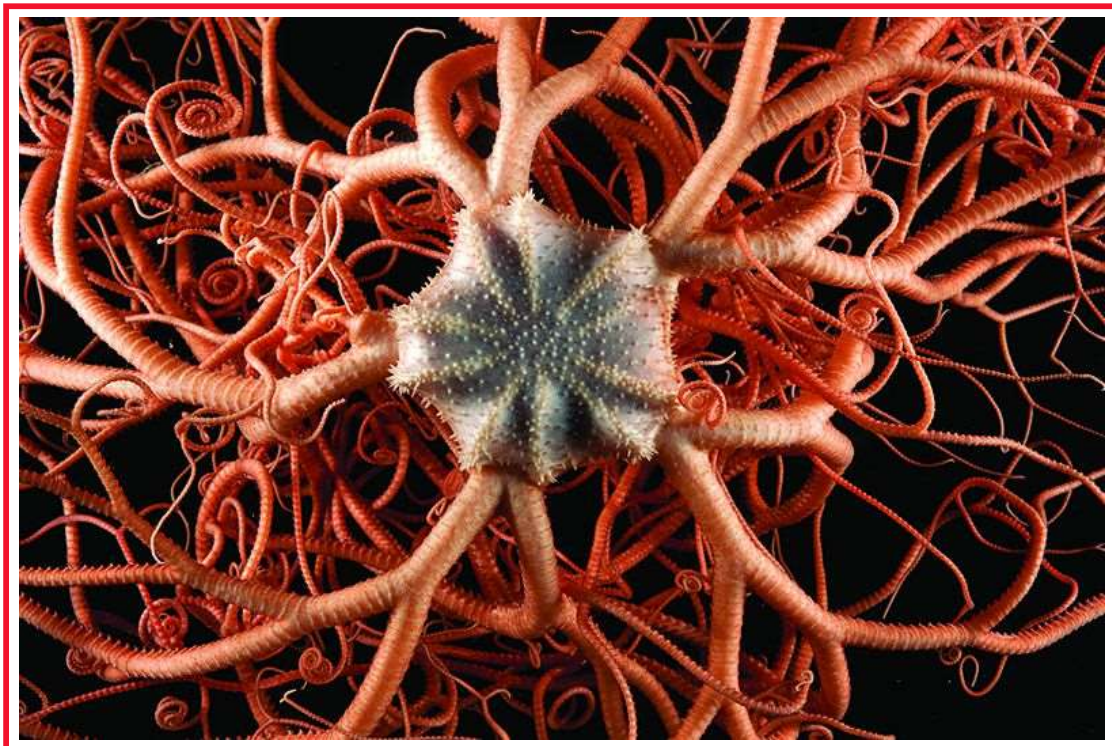


Underwater Explorers Club of SA Inc

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY-2021



ISSN: 2209-590X



GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday – 3rd

February

1800 for 2000



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

*Most people have a list of places that they would like to visit and experience first hand.
However, more often than not this never eventuates.
Our guest presenter for this meeting, **Marianne Chi**, is going to take us to one such place.
In 2013, she went trekking into the rugged and inhospitable Himalayan Mountains.
Based on this experience, her topic will be “**Everest Base Camp Trek**”*

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



Photography by Sue Cucchiarelli



Waters to be Explored



FEBRUARY

Sun-7

Glenelg Dredge / Blocks

Tide times — [L] 0320 **0.71** [H] 0853 **1.64** [L] 1455 **0.47**

The “South Australian”, known as **the Dredge**, lies in 22M. It is relatively easy to anchor right on the site, so entry and exit is comfortable. Dive the deepest part of the dive first, so swim around the hull where you will see cuttlefish. The stern has large schools of bullseyes and other fish. Talma meet you at the bow, where you can ascend the 'dredge' to the deck or go up over the side. Holds and the deck cabin have masses of bullseyes and big strongies lie on the deck. Bring a torch to check out the holds, but don't venture farther than the ladders as silt stirs up easily. Bring your camera. Remember to do a safety stop on ascent.

The Blocks are actually remnants of the old original Glenelg jetty. It is a sunny, shallow dive site in 6M. These large concrete, hollow caissons are an ideal hiding place for a myriad of fish and may even house a wobbegong. They are covered in sea urchins.

Sun-21

Aldinga Reef

Tide times — [L] 0414 **0.79** [H] 0917 **1.31** [L] 1505 **0.65**

Aldinga is a Reserve and is special so you may see a leafy seadragon or a cowrie. We will dive the Drop-off or Arches, sites to 22M. Follow the reef, huge formations and bommies and you will see nudibranchs, starfish, perhaps the illusive Harlequin fish, and some huge gorgonia fans. Remember this is a no-take zone but do bring your camera. Monitor your air closely and do a safety stop on ascent.

It may be possible to do any additional dive on the 'Star of Greece'

The Star of Greece, sunk in 1888, is a possible site to finish off your tank on the boat trip back. It lies in 6M and is possible to snorkel. Wreck remains break the surface at low tide. Surge and shifting sands expose skeleton and parts of the wreck. Every visit is different. It is protected under the Historic Shipwrecks Act.

MARCH

Fri-5 > Tue-9

Port Victoria

Tide times —

FRI 5 Mar

1:00 am
0.49m

6:12 am
0.86m

12:04 pm
0.17m

7:06 pm
1.16m

SAT 6 Mar

2:01 am
0.62m

5:46 am
0.7m

12:02 pm
0.15m

7:45 pm
1.08m

SUN 7 Mar

11:45 am
0.12m

9:15 pm
0.99m

MON 8 Mar

11:24 am
0.08m

TUE 9 Mar

1:59 am
1.11m

11:16 am
0.07m

The boat dives here are to Wardang Island, a 'graveyard' of 9 ships. Pt. Victoria was an old important grain port so square-riggers were common. The deepest wreck is the Songvaar, a three-masted iron ship sunk in 1912 in 10M depth. Others include a steamship and, a French barque. Many of the remains of the wrecks are spread out extensively in shallow water and are surrounded by plenty of fish. Some can be snorkelled. Goose Island nearby is a reserve and the home of a seal colony. It is worth a snorkel.

The Pt. Victoria jetty in 6M has lots of brown and green algae to hide crabs, and hermit crabs. Look for nudibranchs along the way. The entry and exit is a ramp.

Tide times — [L] 0304 0.55 [H] 0827 1.13 [L] 1356 0.41

Rapid Bay jetty must be one of the best jetty dives in SA. Waters are usually quite clear with depth to 11M and an easy entry from the platform. A haven for photographers, the old jetty has been home to leafy and weedy seagrass. Look in a variety of places to find them. There are large schools of old wives, drummer, and trevally at the "T". Colourful sponges, ascidians, and crabs cling to the pylons. Nudibranchs are found on the bottom too.. You may even see boarfish, a large stingray, colourful wrasse, leatherjackets, or a blue devil. Large brown algae hides crabs and scaly fin, and weed attracts curious cowfish. Look under fallen debris for the blue-ring octopus, but only if you have gloves on, and do not touch or annoy them. Brittle stars live there too. You are having so much fun, remember to monitor your air and that of your buddy's. It is a long jetty so a trolley would be useful. Bring your camera.

► Safety Officer

WHY DO I ENJOY BEING A MEMBER OF THE UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB ?

I love my diving and the comraderie of the members, of course. But over the years I have been impressed that nothing too serious goes wrong. Sometimes someone will arrive with an empty tank or missing fins, but we all pitch in to help out. Our safety record in water is very good. Why is this so?

COMMUNICATION

PLAN YOUR DIVE AND DIVE YOUR PLAN

I guess we've all heard this before

Before our dives, we have a newsletter that tells us about the dives. We discuss details at our meeting. We book in so the dive officers know who wants to dive.

The dive leader and safety officer talk to each other.....about the conditions, whether it's safe to dive, and organise safety gear.

At the dive site, we attend a briefing where the dive officers tell us details about the dive.....the conditions, where the safety gear is, details of entries and exits (this is where most incidents or accidents occur), any hazards of which we need to be aware, and who will be our buddy.

Then we communicate with our buddy, do buddy checks, and help our buddy with their gear. We help each other at the entry.

During the dive, we continually 'talk' to our buddy using hand signals: Are you OK? How is your air? Which way are we going? Wow, look at this! Swimming beside our buddy makes this easier. Then we help our buddy out at the exit. And then help them off with their gear.

After the dive, we debrief; we chat about the dive.....always about the wonderful creatures and sea life we've seen. But how about our diving! Did we chat about anything that went wrong or could be improved and fixed? This is how we learn and continue to be safe divers!

Communication is so important

**PLAN YOUR DIVE
AND
DIVE YOUR PLAN**

Safe Diving

Sue



Photography by Sue Cucchiarelli

► *Past Dives*

EDITHBURGH — 27>30 NOVEMBER 2020

UEC had a great weekend of diving with a good turn-out: divers Robyn, Bob, Marianne, Gary, Mary, Keith, Jeanette, visitor, Jenny, and I as well as Sue D and Kim as support crew. The weather and seas were good to us and the visibility was outstanding for the four days. We dived every day, sometimes twice. The jetty was the popular site but we also dived Wool Bay, and the jetty and Al's Reef at Point Turton. And we all saw new creatures for the first time.

In addition to the diving, we shared some great meals and BBQ's, and had a meal at the pub one night. We are never short of food on a UEC weekend!

Thank you to all of you who made the weekend enjoyable...the dive leaders, Bob and his helpers who spent many hours filling tanks, and to Kim and Sue who assisted up above.

Sous Marin

Edithburgh Jetty Afternoon 27-Nov

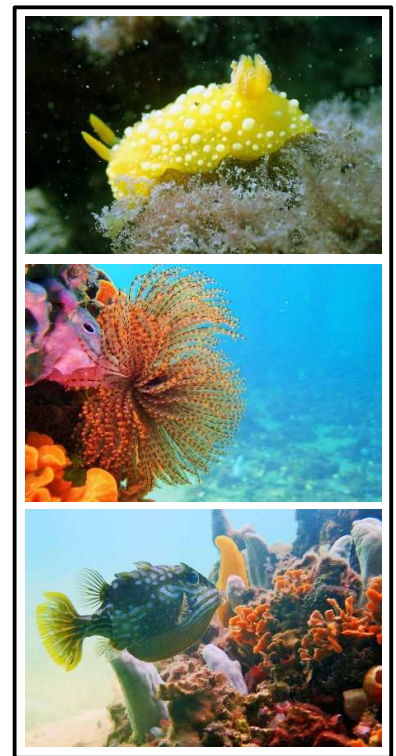
There were a few different divers on this dive who entered the water with their buddies at different times. I buddied with my friend Jenny Cunningham and we entered the water around 12.30pm. Other divers who I can recall that did this dive were Marianne Chi, Keith Lockwood, Bob and Robyn Butterfield, Mary Hood, Sue Cucchiarelli and Gary Doubleday.

The sun was shining and it was around 42 degrees Celsius on land, so we did not want to hang around too long before getting into the water. It was an awesome dive and as usual Edithburgh delivered. I dived for 2 hours and 3 minutes and despite a water temperature of 21 degrees Celsius, I was a bit chilly for the last half hour. The maximum depth was 7.6 metres.

Critters spotted on this dive were seahorses, rays, lots of nudis of many different varieties, both big and tiny, ornate cowfish, magpie perch, moonlighters, large schools of yellow tails and zebra fish, leatherjackets, strongies, king fish, many cowrie shells, clingfish, Frog fish, flatworms, blue ringed octopus, red octopi, hermit crabs, decorator crabs, blue swimmer crabs and a very cooperative cuttlefish who hung around for photos at the end of the jetty.



It was nice to get out of the water into warm sunshine and not to be cold. Everyone enjoyed this dive. There were lots of critters to see with good visibility of around 10 metres.



Photography and Text by Jeanette Smith

Edithburgh Jetty Night 27-Nov

After such a great dive earlier in the day, a few of us were keen to do a night dive. We arranged to meet at the jetty at 8pm, however, we rescheduled to a bit later and entered the water around 8.40pm. Divers included myself, Jenny Cunningham, Marianne Chi and Keith Lockwood.

My and Jenny's dive was 1 hour and 22 minutes duration and a maximum depth of 7.1 metres. Marianne and Keith dived slightly longer. The water temperature was 21 degrees Celsius and visibility was around 10 metres.



I am a huge fan of night diving on the Edithburgh Jetty. Prior to the dive, the 3 girls had dinner at the Location Café where we discussed our wish list which was well and truly satisfied. Shortly after descending, Jenny spotted a bobtail squid and it was a critter fest thereafter. Never have I seen so many pyjama squid – we saw at least 15, possibly more. We also spotted at least 5 red octopi. There were a number of seahorses and I also spotted a young blue devil at the end of the jetty – I have never seen a blue devil at Edithburgh before.



We even spotted what appeared to be a sea snake around a metre long. Jenny also spotted a Sea Hare. Other critters included a variety of different types of crabs, nudis as well as the usual suspects listed in the dive earlier on the day.

When we finished the dive, it was very blowy on the jetty.

After packing up we arrived back at the accommodation around 11.15pm where everyone was in bed. A very enjoyable dive for all involved

Jeanette Smith



Photography by Jeanette Smith

Wool Bay

Afternoon 28-Nov

After an earlier dive at Edithburgh Jetty, Marianne, Mary and I decided to go to Wool Bay from Edithburgh. I hadn't dived here in years. The jetty has been updated and has an easy entry. Plenty of fishermen were trying to catch something. We were disappointed when confronted with poor viz, likely the shallow water of 4M. It is reputed to be a home for leafy sea dragons but they had disappeared for some time. I had seen a recent report that they were to be found here. Unfortunately, no dragons this time, but plenty of lush, healthy seagrass and schools of old wives in the brown algae. There were colourful sponges on the pylons, similar to Edithburgh. Our dive was 30 minutes. A fisherman caught a huge bream as we got out. It is worth stopping by even if you are not diving. There is a huge lime kiln at the lovely beach (with swimming platforms) and it is an interesting place in Yorke Peninsula history.

Sous Marin

Edithburgh Jetty

Morning 29-Nov

We met at the jetty at 9.30am and got into the water around 10am. It was not so hot today and the conditions looked good. Buddy pairs were Bob and Keith, Sue and Marianne and myself and Mary.

Mary and I dived for 1 hour and 27 minutes. Marianne and Sue stayed in the water for significantly longer than the rest of us. The water temperature was 20 degrees Celsius and I dived to a maximum depth of 6 metres.

We decided to look for seahorses and "bubbly green" nudis and other green nudis on bubble weed, both of which we were able to find. Species of fish spotted were moonlighters, magpie perch, Western Talmas, yellow tail whiting, zebrafish, leatherjackets, ornate cowfish and clingfish. There were also different varieties of nudis and crabs spotted.

At the end of the jetty, there was a dead Bronze Whaler Shark lying on a pylon which had been hooked. It was a fair size of 5-6 feet long.

When it was time to exit, it was low tide and was not the easiest to get out using the steps which were not blocked off with wire but I managed. Fortunately, it is still possible to exit using the other steps which have been blocked off due to a missing rail on the outside.

Yet another enjoyable dive with good visibility.

Jeanette Smith



Photography by Jeanette Smith and Keith Lockwood

Jetty —Mary and I dived at the Point Turton jetty in the afternoon after we had done a first dive on the Edithburgh jetty in the morning. Marianne and Keith dived Al's Reef at Turton at the same time. I hadn't dived here in years so was keen to see what it was like. It's such an easy dive, safe entry and exit and shallow water to 4M. On this day the sea was flat and the viz was a superb 10M. Near the steps, there are some large boulders covered with lush green and brown algae. As you go out the jetty it changes to a sandy bottom. Nudibranchs were there as I remember, pink ones and black and white ones, and the common orange ones. Sadly, there was no Verco's nudibranch which was prolific years ago. The blue green algae it fed upon seems to have disappeared as well. But we were rewarded with Shaw's and Mosaic cowfish, a globefish, lots of crabs, and colourful pylons. Then we spotted 3 large eagle rays active on the bottom. We found out later why they were there. Fishermen throw them goodies so they hang around looking for a feed. But they were competing with the majestic pelicans to see which was quick enough to stomach a treat. Some divers think that the jetty is not worth a dive, but we must have seen something as we under for 130 minutes! It was a very relaxing dive. I'm glad I had returned. Thanks to Kim for being our lookout.



Sous Marin



Photography by Sue Cucchiarelli

Al's Reef — Marianne and I snorkelled out about 100 metres from the jetty to explore a reef covered with masses of seaweeds, seagrasses and sponges. Marianne was able to find a diverse range of colourful nudibranchs, but the highlight of the dive was the return trip to the jetty.

We were fortunate to come across a few jellyfish which provided a great spectacle pulsing through the water, with their barbed harpoon-like threads flowing in the water ready to inject a toxic adhesive into its hapless victim.

The marine life under the jetty produced some surprises, with a pair of Razorfish providing sanctuary to two octopi crammed into their shells. Black throated Threefin popped from crevasses to watch Nudibranchs strolling up the pylons, while decorator crabs strolled along the sandy bottom. Stingrays patrolled the shallows as we exited from a great dive at Point Turton.

Keith Lockwood





Photography by Keith Lockwood and Marianne Chi

► *Seafood Sensation*

BBQ seafood skewers with Romesco sauce

INGREDIENTS

- 12 medium green prawns, peeled (tails intact), deveined
- 8 small squid hoods, halved lengthways
- 450g firm, thick white fish fillets, cut into 2cm pieces
- 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves
- 1 1/2 cups Romesco Sauce
- 1 lemon, cut into wedges
- Mixed salad leaves, to serve
- Crusty bread, to serve

Romesco Sauce

- 2 red capsicum
- 1 tomato
- 5 garlic cloves, unpeeled
- 1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 2 slices white bread, crusts removed
- 1/2 cup natural almond kernels
- 1 tablespoon sherry vinegar
- 1 tablespoon smoked paprika
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)
- 1 teaspoon salt



Other Equipment


12 pre-soaked bamboo skewers

INSTRUCTIONS

- Thread prawns onto 4 skewers. Thread squid onto 4 skewers and fish onto remaining 4 skewers. Drizzle with oil. Season with salt and pepper.
- Heat a barbecue grill or chargrill pan on medium-high heat. Cook skewers, turning, for 3 minutes or until lightly charred and just cooked through.
- Sprinkle seafood skewers with parsley and serve with Romesco Sauce, lemon wedges, mixed salad leaves and crusty bread.

Romesco Sauce

- Preheat barbecue grill on high heat. Cook capsicum, turning, for 10 minutes or until skin is blistered and blackened all over. Transfer to a bowl. Cover tightly with foil. Stand for 1 hour.
- Meanwhile, preheat oven to 200C/180C fan-forced. Place tomato and garlic on a sheet of foil. Drizzle with 2 teaspoons oil. Fold up sides of foil to enclose, twisting foil at top to secure. Place on a baking tray. Place bread and almonds on tray. Bake for 5 minutes or until golden and toasted. Remove bread and almonds. Bake tomato and garlic for a further 25 minutes or until tomato is tender and garlic is soft. Open up foil. Set aside to cool for 10 minutes or until cool enough to handle.
- Peel and discard skin from capsicum. Remove and discard seeds. Peel and discard tomato skin. Squeeze garlic from skins. Tear bread into pieces. Place capsicum, tomato, garlic and bread in a blender or food processor. Add almonds, vinegar, remaining oil paprika, cayenne pepper (if using) and salt. Season with pepper. Blend until smooth. Serve.



Welcome to our Newest Member

DEBBIE HEINJUS

*We hope that you will have
a long and enjoyable stay with the U&C*

HAPPY DIVING



PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Display your skills and submit 3 photographs for consideration in our on-going competition which now runs every four months, with judging occurring in April, August and December

New themes will be decided for future Competitions and will be advised when that decision is made.

The current theme is * **Location – Jetty**

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-Mar-2021**





CALENDAR



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

(Dive Site **meeting** times as shown)

FEBRUARY

➤	Wed 3rd	General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood	2000
📅	Sun 7th	Glenelg Dredge / Blocks	Adelaide Shores 0800
📅	Sun 21st	Aldinga Reef	O'Sullivan Beach 0800

MARCH

📅	Fri 5th > Tue 9th	LWE — Port Victoria	
➤	Fri 19th	Newsletter items due	
📅	Sun 21st	Rapid Bay Jetty	1000

APRIL

➤	Wed 7th	General Meeting — Nailsworth CC, 31 Delanger Ave. Collinswood	2000
📅	Fri 9th > Mon 12th	Away — Port Hughes	
📅	Sun 25th	Seacliff Reef	O'Sullivan Beach 0800

ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER ARE ALWAYS WELCOME
Send them by the date shown in the calendar to the Newsletter Editor
Email: newsletters@uecofsa.org.au

people's choice

COMMUNITY LOTTERY

*Ticket sales on-line will conclude during this month
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 Began	Wed-30-Sept
Sales Close	Fri-19-Feb
Main Draw	Fri-26-Feb

*From 1 to whatever, you can purchase **any number** of tickets
As in previous years there is an extended number of prizes,
with two motor vehicles still 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*