

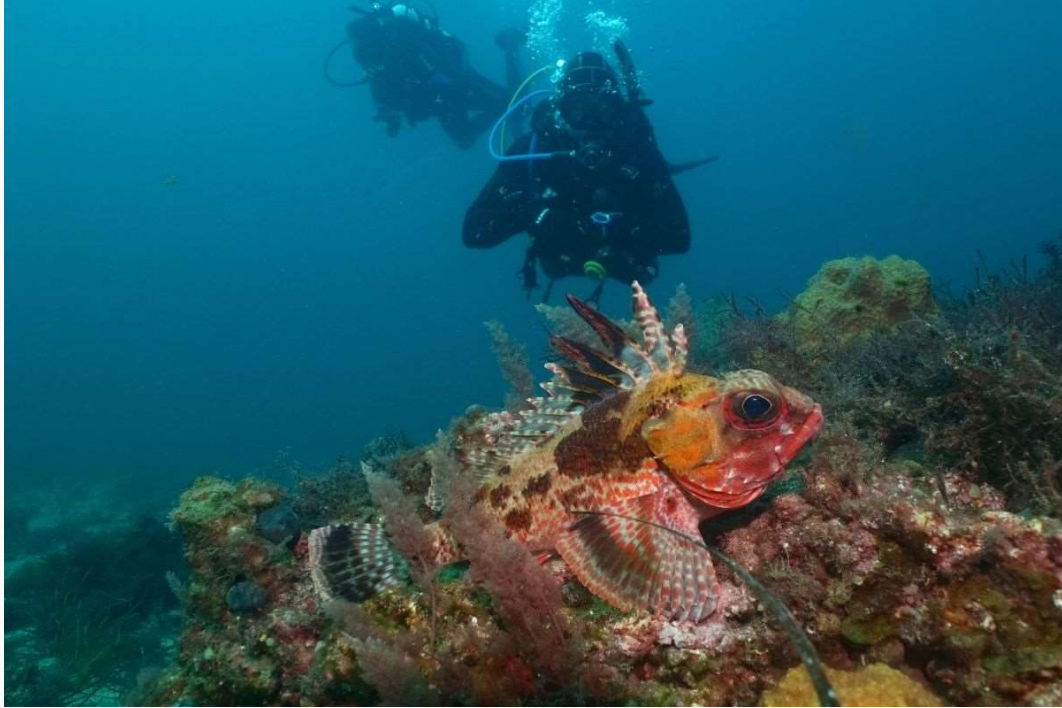


OCTOBER–NOVEMBER

2021

[View this email in your browser](#)

Welcome to the new look Underwater Explorers newsletter! We hope you enjoy the new format although it may change as it hopefully improves with time. Your feedback is welcome. Many thanks to Peter Mansfield for the many years creating the newsletter. Your work is much appreciated.



With winter behind us and spring upon us the water is warming up and it's time to dust off the wetsuits and jump back into the water! In addition this month there is the Asian Banquet and quiz night for non diving members to join in the fun. Details later in the newsletter. It's a jam packed issue this time as the club has been busy!

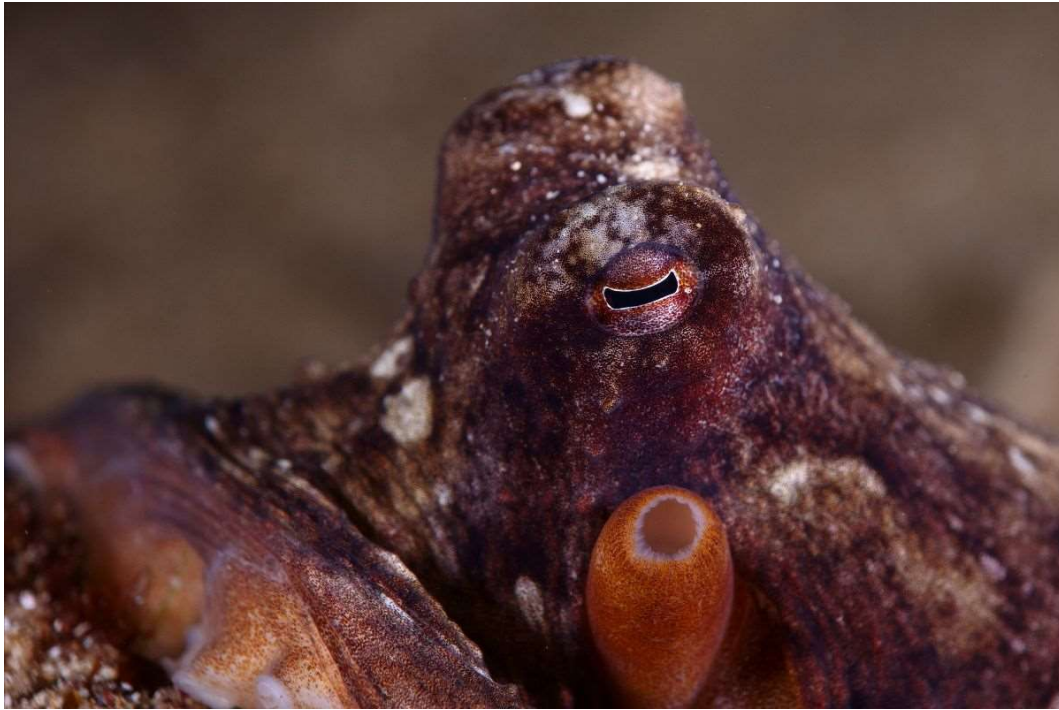
OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

Nailsworth Community Club
31 Derlanger Ave, Nailsworth

7.45 for 8pm Wednesday 6 October

We will be discussing some important issues relating to the club at this meeting so please attend and have your say

If you would like to have dinner prior to the meeting at 6.15pm at the Hampstead Hotel, please book [here](#)



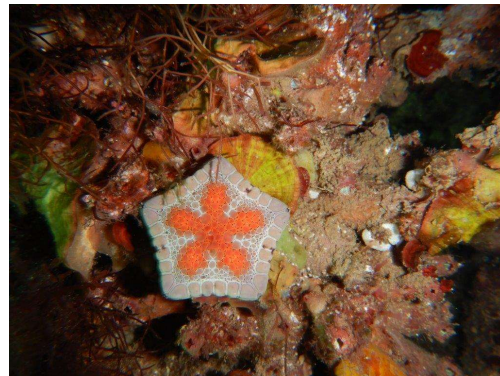
PAST DIVES

ARDROSSAN TOWN JETTY August 8

Phil and I arrived in Ardrossan on a sunny and and were welcomed with calm seas and clear water! In spite of the low tide we had an easy entry and exit. We made our way to the end of the jetty at a leisurely pace in 5m. There were plenty of decorator crabs in all their finery and the common orange nudibranchs, as well as the Shaw's and mosaic cowfish.

There were biscuit stars, colourful ascidians, blennies hiding in the pylons, and bryozoans in the weed. We saw 3 seahorses in the weed near the steps in very shallow water. In spite of the water being a bit chilly we were in for an hour as the great visibility of 10-15m kept us interested. Ardrossan is such a good dive site in winter because of the calm water and exceptional clarity. It is amazing that there is so much life in just 1-2m of depth. Wonderful to see Jan there as well and after the dive we had a good chin wag with Leon, a former UEC member who lives locally.

Sous Marin



photos Sous Marin

PORT NOARLUNGA JETTY

September 26

The breeze was chilly, the viz poor, and enthusiasm waning when Jeanette, Sue, Bob and

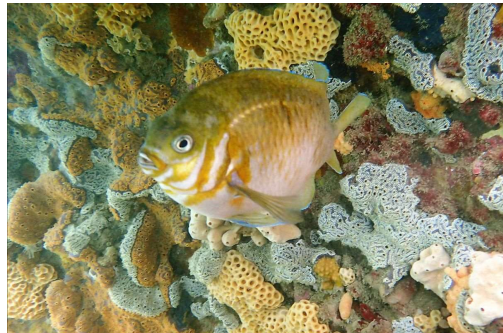
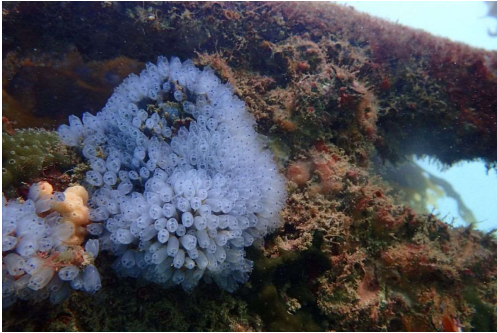
I dropped into the waters of Port Noarlunga. Our spirits soared when Jeanette spotted a large cuttlefish and we set off exploring. The swell buffeted the tenacious kelp and sea grasses that clung to the rocks while sweep, magpie perch and zebra fish patrolled the reef. Sue spotted a stingray searching amongst the nooks and crannies seeking a meal, silver drummer and large dusky morwongs sheltered in the cavities. A few sea cucumbers, a bright orange starfish and sea urchins joined the numerous molluscs in their very slow but steady hunt for food. The new pylons by the steps were densely coated with a light grey sponge, while the sandy bottom abounded with horseshoe leather jackets and goat fish hoovering the sand with in their relentless search for worms. A refreshingly chilly dive was rewarded with interesting marine life which bodes well for the coming season.

Keith Lockwood





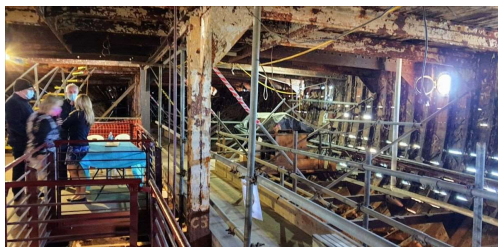
photos Sous Marin



photos Jeanette Smith

PATRON'S DAY *City of Adelaide Clipper Ship*

We had a great day visiting the *City of Adelaide* clipper ship at Port Adelaide. Our patron, Peter Christopher, took us on an informative tour, and we were pleased to see the progress on the development of this SA icon, all work being done by volunteers. We had a good turn-out and we were able to share lunch together. Thank you to Peter for hosting UEC on the day. *Sous Marin*



photos Dave Muirhead and Hugh Sparrow

SAFETY OFFICER'S REPORT

DIVE BRIEFS

WHY ?

A dive brief ensures that divers are safe. It should *take place at a designated time* so all divers are present. It gives *information and provides safety details*. This organisation ensures *that everyone knows what is going on and what they are supposed to do*. It sustains a degree of order, ensures the safety of the group, and prevents chaos. It is also eases the minds of the dive officers (dive leader and safety officer).

RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of the dive officers to keep the group safe. They must be aware of their responsibilities. They are *responsible for divers under their care*. Dive officers must be pro-active and *prevent situations from occurring*. The best dive officers never have to make a rescue!

Dive officers select buddy pairs, considering the abilities of the divers. They plan the dive *with reasonable care* so that it results in the execution of a safe dive. Rescue and first aid kits must be available. *Records* must be kept, the minimum having the names of the divers and emergency information.

WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED

There must be a *dive plan with clear directions*.

The dive officers must '*read the group*' in order to recognise any *potential problems* (capabilities, health, equipment, etc.) and indicate *buddy pairs*.

The dive officers give the group a *site description* – depth, waves, currents, entries and exits, *and potential hazards*, as well as specifics for wreck, deep, night, or boat dives.

Details about *buddy checks, lost buddy procedure, termination of the dive, and location of safety equipment* should be reinforced.

Finally, divers should have the opportunity to *ask questions*.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Where a dive club arranges a diving activity, *those responsible* for the activity will owe a *duty of care* to the club members and guests who participate in the activity.

The people in charge (the dive officers) must exercise the care regarded as *normal in the diving community*. They must *not be negligent* in their *duty of care*.

A definition of *Negligence = Carelessness*

Sins of *omission* are just as important as commission, that is.....omission is forgetting to do something you *should* have done.

Supervision must be defensive. This means if a person is acting as a supervisor (dive officer), then they must, in fact, *supervise*.

And secondly, by *maintaining records* (dive plan, checklists, etc.) this becomes the *proof* that you have actually supervised. *It stands you in good stead*.

Safety has been described as the recognition, understanding, and controlling the potential of hazardous aspects of diving.

Therefore be *well-organised* - *Planning and Prevention are paramount*



Join the UEC team for a fun evening

Tuesday 12 October at the Kentish Hotel, 23 Stanley St,
North Adelaide
6pm dinner 7.30pm quiz
book [here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 6 October **General meeting** 8pm *Nailsworth Community Club*
book [here](#) for dinner at 6.15pm *Hampstead Hotel*

Sunday 10 October **Dive Rapid Bay Jetty** (time TBC) book [here](#)

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.

Tuesday 12 October **Quiz night** 7.30pm (dinner 6pm) book [here](#)
Kentish Arms Hotel, North Adelaide

Saturday 16 October **Asian Banquet** 7pm book [here](#)

Moonsoon Modern Asian Cuisine, North Adelaide

Sunday 24 October Dive the Dredge wreck (time TBC) book [here](#)

One of our favourite sites near Adelaide because of its ease of access: a marked artificial reef in 22M. Explore the bottom first and spot the cuttlefish under the hull and prolific schools of fish at the stern. Then you can safely ascend the 'dredge' at the bow with the cheerful talma or go up the side. Be greeted by the massive schools of bullseyes. Look for nudibranchs in the growth on the sides, explore the deck cabin, or follow the strongies. Bring your camera. Remember your safety stop on ascent.

Sunday 7 November Dive Port Noarlunga Jetty (time TBC) book [here](#)

This 8M dive has easy access from steps at the end of the jetty. Schools of old wives, zebrafish, and bullseyes swim round the pylons. After reaching the bottom, head into the current and follow the reef. You may spot the new-found resident blue devil, a cowry, or a stingray. Stay clear and do not startle it. And remember, this is a marine reserve so nothing can be taken. The marine trail markers lead to the south. You'll also see hermit crabs, magpie perch, and scaly fin. This dive is usually very relaxing so watch your air so you do not have too long a swim to return. Sweep will follow you as you ascend.

19-21 November Dive Edithburgh weekend book [here](#)

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 side-gilled slugs, and a large school of kingfish are sometimes seen at the end of the jetty. It is possible to dive from the swimming pool to the jetty and sea dragons have been seen here.

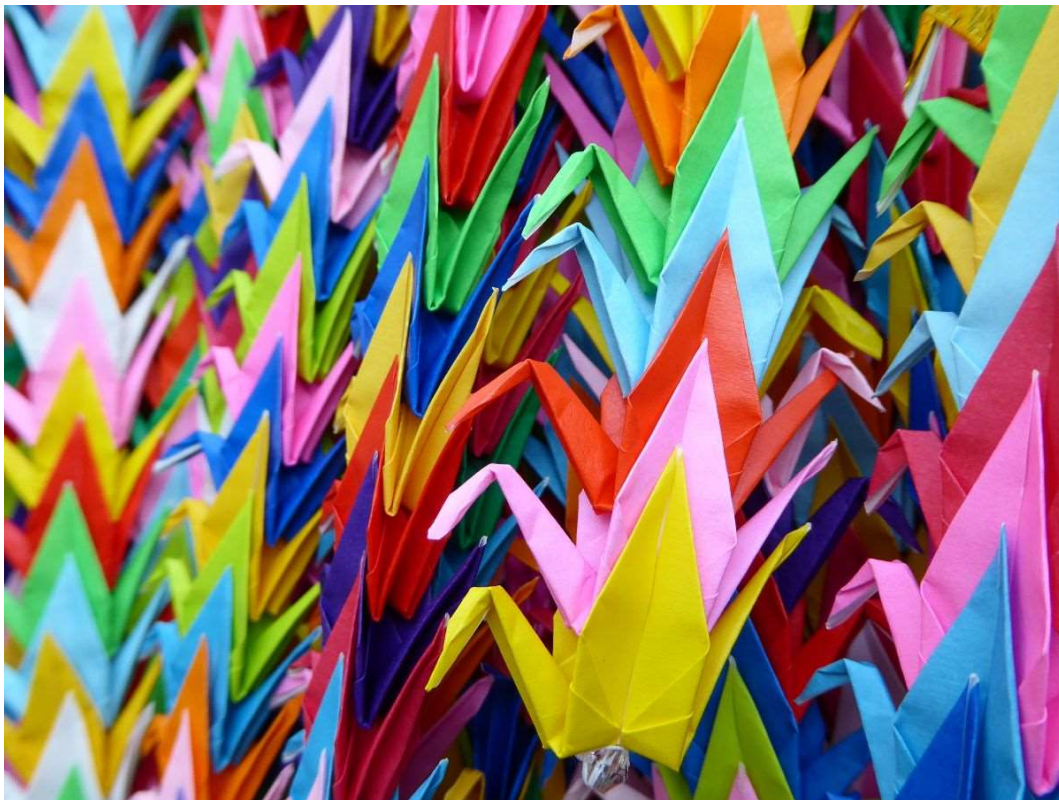
The less-dived Klein's jetty (8M) is reputed to have leafy sea dragons and there are plenty of interesting sites along the south coast where you'll find swim-troughs and even a seal to entertain you. Care must be taken with entries and exits but you'll be rewarded with good dives.

A short drive north, at Wool Bay, you'll find a shallow site with jetty to 4M. Plenty of seagrass and brown algae to hide a variety of critters. Leafy sea dragons were found here previously. Look to see if they have returned.

If the weather warrants or on the trip home, a dive on the Pt Turton jetty is a good choice. Shallow to 5M, you should look for tame cowfish and pink nudibranchs. Fishermen often feed the stingrays and pelicans.

Any night dives require a minimum torch, and cyalume or light for your tank.

**For general information or enquiries about any of the above
please visit our website <https://uecofsa.org.au/>
or email secretary@uecofsa.org.au**



ASIAN BANQUET

7pm Saturday 16 October

Moonsoon Modern Asian Cuisine

141 O'Connell St

North Adelaide

book [here](#)



EYRE PENINSULA TRIP 2022

A trip is planned for 4-13 February 2022 to dive the Eyre Peninsula. As well as being well known for shark cage diving, the Eyre Peninsula also has several interesting shore dives with quite different marine life to the Fleurieu and Yorke Peninsulas. An email will be sent out to members to gauge interest for this trip as well as a brief discussion at this month's general meeting. Planning will need to commence

soon in order to secure accommodation etc. Please register your interest with one of the committee or by email

secretary@uecofsa.org.au

COMMITTEE 2021-2022

Treasurer.....Robyn Butterfield
Safety Officer.....Sue Cucchiarelli
Events Organiser.....Mary Hood
Web Manager.....Hugh Sparrow
Facebook/Newsletter.....Marianne Chi

CONTACT

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