



NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 453 Hurstville South 2221 NSW

October 2007

Photo Competition

26th August 2007

By David Casburn

This first St George Photo Competition was organised by Peter T, and after some last minute changes the location was set a Bare island. The rules were simple but clear. "There were NONE !!"



Group Photo Before Entering

The final judging due to many club events will be conducted by independent club members at November's club meeting.

Sunday morning we all met at Bare Island and we had our contingent of divers – Michael, Peter T, John P, Ron W, Heinz, Mark, Theo (blow in from Frog dive) and Me. After the initial delay with Peter trying to borrow a mask from other divers, we all geared up and headed down to the western corner where we all entered to dive the deep wall. Heinz and Mark came along as models to pose for the cameras

The weather was sunny with only a light breeze, however it was a run out tide and this affected the overall visibility. The water was rather green with a maximum visibility of 5-8m. We all dived the deep wall and saw a variety of things to take photos of - Red Indian fish, Blue devil fish, cuttlefish, gobies and nudibranchs. After a range of dive times of 50-65 minutes we all exited having had a great dive.

ROSE GETS LIFE!



Phil at the Solitary Islands September 2007

Phil joined St George Scuba Club in February 1976 and has been a member ever since. He was a 16 years old school kid who had just learnt to dive. In the early days Phil was very actively involved in the Club's activities, going on dives and weekends away and also these events at times. During this period Phil was President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Club. In the 1990s most of Phil's time was taken up with his family, but since 2002 as his children have gotten older, Phil has become more active again being Vice-President from 2000 to 2007. He has also been organising regular dives to Shellharbour and Wollongong and some weekends away.

Phil indicated that he would not be restanding as Vice-President this year and at the Annual General Meeting, the Club voted to present Phil with Life Membership in recognition of his outstanding service to the Club over the past almost 30 years. I am sure that everyone in the Club will join in congratulating Phil on receiving this great honour.

Phil, your time and efforts over the period since you first joined the Club have certainly been appreciated and we hope that you continue to dive for another 30 years with the Club. By Michael McFadyen

After the dive we all gathered around Heinz's car, the back flap which made a good table where we all gathered eating cheese, salami, buns and drinking coffee and soup.



With the weather being so nice and no one wanting to head home so early Mark, Heinz, John, Peter, Ron and I went around and had a nice coffee at the Wharf Restaurant overlooking the water at the back of Bare Island, before heading home.



Monday night some of the competitors met at Peter's place to play with Photoshop and to review each other's photos of the day. The three best photos of each competitor are posted on the St George website. A good time was had by all.

APEC Weekend – Norah Head 6th - 9th September 2007 By Ron Walsh

To escape the city closedown during the APEC weekend Michael McFadyen organised for diving on the Central Coast at Norah Head. Never having dived in this area I thought I better volunteer to go!

Car pooled with Dave Casburn we left North Sydney around 3:30pm on the Thursday afternoon, negotiated the heavy traffic to Hornsby, and arrived at Norah Head Caravan Park at 5:30pm.

After settling into one of the two cabins we headed over to the adjacent club for dinner and a couple of ales. The weather was showery with SE winds so the forecast was not that good for diving.



By Saturday morning we had our contingent of divers – Michael, Kelly, Dave B, Heinz, Robbie, Corinna, Dave C, Paul W, Jason, Bram and me. After an early 7:30am start and viewing the conditions (overcast with wind and seas choppy) a vote was taken and we decided to dive on the lee of a close-in protected rock called The Bull. We also decided that a second dive that day would not be happening.



Back at the cabins they soon resembled a dive shop – washed dive gear hung everywhere! A lazy afternoon followed with some doing some shopping, others sightseeing to the lighthouse, before we headed to the BBQ area for nibbles and pre dinner drinks. Dave C and Kelly cooked a fabulous BBQ dinner, good wine was consumed and tall tales told. Back at the cabins we watched some TV, drank more alcoholic beverages, and assisted Kelly with her crossword.



Kelly asked “it is squid like, 10 letters, first letter C, last letter H”! After much merriment a sheepish Kelly was advised cuttlefish would probably be the answer. And this from the Prez of the club!

Sunday's double dive was planned for 12 noon. Conditions early Sunday were reasonably favourable but by the time of our 11am phone call that the boat was back at the boat ramp, had deteriorated. We loaded the boat in the pouring rain and headed to sea, deciding after a short distance that a dive at the Lighthouse Bommie would be as far as we would be going and a second dive would be out of the question.



Back at the cabins we again washed gear, had a relax (a sleep for me!) before another nibbles and drinks and BBQ session. Saturday night we split the cabins between the Cowboys/Bulldogs and Manly/Souths NRL games and the France/Argentina and All Blacks/Italy Rugby World Cup games.

It was decided that no shore dives were going to be had on the Sunday as the seas had come up throughout the afternoon so members started heading for home from early Sunday morning.

Although conditions were not at their best the two dive sites we visited showed considerable promise and I think a return trip would be in order. A big thank you to Michael for organising and to all for making it a fun weekend.

Special Occasions

Barbara Sweetman, who has been a member of the club for 10 years recently became engaged to Tim Hunnan. Barb and Tim, tie the knot on 12th April 2008.

Les and Elly Caterson celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with family and close friends on Saturday 1st September.

Planning Night

It's that time of year again, where we get together and plan the events for the coming year. This years planning night will be held on Wednesday 24th October at 7:30 pm at the St George Rowers Club. The club will be providing hot finger food for the meeting. By the end of the planning night, we should have a comprehensive list of each months diving and social activities (monthly dive days, week-ends away, overseas trips, social dinners and BBQ's). Before the meeting, have a think about the locations you wish to dive and when and any social events you may like to attend. If each member, organised just one event, we would have a very full calendar and the load would be shared. So please consider, what event/s you may be able to organise. If you can't make it on the night, please send the details of the event (locations and potential dates) you would like to organise by e-mail to Kelly McFadyen.

SS Tuggerah Deep Dive**15th September 2007****By Michael McFadyen**

This month the deep dive was delayed a couple of weeks due to various major events. On Saturday 15 September, Les, Kelly, Paul Watkinson and myself headed out on Le Scat. It was a little choppy but the run down to the wreck was not too bad. We anchored first go, despite a slight current that was opposite to the wind.



I couldn't resist including this photo for the 2nd month in a row - the Tuggerah basking in 30m+ vis – by Michael McFadyen

Les and Paul went down first and Kelly and I followed after Les returned to the boat. The visibility was not as good as out last dive here but it was still very good. I got some nice photos and Kelly found a door lock. She showed it to me but I did not realise what it was so she left it behind. A very good dive.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held after the September General Meeting, with about 35 members in attendance. The AGM saw some changes to the committee. The new committee for the 07/08 year is:

President, Kelly McFadyen
 Vice President, Peter Flockart
 Treasurer, Mark Ridsdale
 Secretary, Sheila Baldock
 Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, David Casburn
 Newsletter Editor, Jason Coombs.

Thank you to the outgoing committee members, Phil Rose, Eddie Ivers and Elly Caterson.

Please welcome the new committee and endeavor to support them in their roles on behalf of the club. By Kelly McFadyen

Bare Island – Night Dive**13th September 2007****by Michael McFadyen**

For the first time since January, we were able to cross the Bare Island Bridge and start a night dive from the island. There were about nine members in attendance. We walked to the south-east corner of the island and entered the water here. We headed south and then west, dropping over to the Deep Wall on the incoming tide. The visibility was very good, at least 20 metres. We found lots of decorator crabs, sea dragons and the first of a few red Indianfish.

**Pygmy Pipehorse by Ron Walsh**

Cameras were carried by a few divers and there were lots of strobes firing all over the place. Back on the 15 metre level we found another red Indianfish. I also found a pygmy pipehorse east of sea horse rock. I think that we all did at least 60 minutes on this dive. It will be great when the bridge is finished and we can dive again regularly from the island.

**Yellow Brittle Star by Dave Casburn**

Afterwards, we had pizza at Matraville. All up, an excellent night dive.

Ladies Reef South West Rocks - Shore Dive

1st October 2007

By Michael McFadyen

While most of the South West Rocks crew headed off early on the Monday, Jason, Rox, Kelly and I decided to do a shore dive. Ladies Reef is a small reef located 250 metres off the main swimming beach at South West Rocks. It is easy to find and we started exploring it. As well as a couple of eagle rays, there were lots of large crabs, some decorator crabs and many nudibranchs. Unfortunately, Jason and Rox's camera housing leaked and they had to cut short their dive in a vain attempt to save the camera (it died).

Kelly and I spent about 55 minutes on the dive, with whales singing so loudly we were sure we were going to see them underwater (we didn't). A very nice, easy dive, suitable for when southerly winds make boat diving unavailable.



Fortunately we managed to save the memory card. Here's a shot of Michael and Kelly (above) and an interesting egg cowrie (below). Shots by Roxanne Fea



REGULAR EVENTS

Monthly Meetings

The next meeting of the St George Scuba Club will be held on 17th October 2007 at the St. George Rowing Club, 1 Levey Street Wooli Creek at 8.00 pm. Come along about 7 pm and enjoy a meal at the bistro.

Thursday Night Dives

After some poor weather night dives are back.

Details for all upcoming dives are on the calendar on the right side of the Club's web site. Full details will be available from this location about the proposed dive.

Other Dives

Many other dives are advised in the news section of the Club's web site. If you are interested in a dive, have a look at the news section a few days before a weekend and you may find others already planning a dive. You can also place your own news item there (but remember it may take time to appear as it needs to be authorised by a web site administrator).

UP AND COMING EVENTS

Undersea Explorer –
***live aboard**
October 2007

ULLADULLA AWAY TRIP

ULLADULLA WEEKEND COMING UP
27TH & 28TH OCTOBER. DOUBLE DIVES
BOTH DAYS AND 2 NIGHTS'
ACCOMMODATION APPROX. \$170-\$180
PER PERSON (DEPENDENT ON
NUMBERS). MEMBERS CAN BOOK
ANYTIME NOW. CONTACT PHILIP ROSE
ON 9543 0748 OR 0423 771486 FOR
MORE INFO.

SCAN Day Boat Dive and BBQ 4th November 2007

The SCAN picnic/dive day will be held this year at Frechmans Bay, La Perouse.

Boat diving for St.George Scuba Club members will be free and will commence at 8am.

For bookings please contact Les Caterson on 9520 9421 or at <lescat2@bigpond.net.au>

A free sausage sizzle will be provided by SCAN and drinks will be available for purchase, but we need to know numbers to facilitate the purchase of the food.

For those who are not aware, SCAN stands for the Scuba Clubs Association of NSW and this group is made up of the majority of independent clubs in NSW. That is clubs who have no affiliation with any dive shops or any other commercial diving organizations.

OTHER NEWS

Public Liability Insurance

The club purchased a Public Liability insurance policy with QBE commencing on 30th September. Please be reminded that our public liability insurance does NOT cover members whilst they are scuba diving. The policy covers the club for liability arising from activities such as BBQ's, meetings and the newsletter. The policy also fulfills our obligations under the Incorporations Act.

ACMA Protection zones

As you may recall, in July 2007 the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) declared two protection zones off the Sydney coast. Within the protection zones, certain activities that present a potential risk of causing damage to a cable are restricted or prohibited.

Both protection zones will commence on 1 October 2007 as follows:

- 1) The Northern Sydney Protection Zone, extending from Narrabeen Beach to 40 nautical miles offshore covering northern branches of the Australia Japan Cable and the Southern Cross Cable and including the area between these branches; and
- 2) The Southern Sydney Protection Zone, extending from Tamarama and Clovelly Beaches and extending 30 nautical miles offshore covering the southern branches of the Australia Japan Cable and Southern Cross Cable and including the area between these branches.

Attached to the newsletter is a copy of the Sydney Submarine Cable Protection Zones information brochure. Full details of the zones are contained in the zone Declarations and accompanying Explanatory Statements. Copies of these documents, as well as maps and zone coordinates, are available on the ACMA website (www.acma.gov.au/subcables) or can be obtained by calling 1300 856 337.

Sydney Tides October 2007

Day	High	Low	High	Low	High
Mon 1		4:46 AM EST / 0.42 m	11:17 AM EST / 1.74 m	6:06 PM EST / 0.32 m	
Tue 2	12:04 AM EST / 1.21 m	5:39 AM EST / 0.52 m	12:17 PM EST / 1.66 m	7:19 PM EST / 0.37 m	
Wed 3	1:17 AM EST / 1.10 m	6:43 AM EST / 0.60 m	1:26 PM EST / 1.58 m	8:40 PM EST / 0.41 m	
Thu 4	2:43 AM EST / 1.06 m	8:03 AM EST / 0.64 m	2:43 PM EST / 1.52 m	9:54 PM EST / 0.40 m	
Fri 5	4:01 AM EST / 1.09 m	9:26 AM EST / 0.63 m	3:57 PM EST / 1.51 m	10:53 PM EST / 0.39 m	
Sat 6	4:59 AM EST / 1.16 m	10:34 AM EST / 0.57 m	4:56 PM EST / 1.51 m	11:39 PM EST / 0.37 m	
Sun 7	5:44 AM EST / 1.25 m	11:29 AM EST / 0.51 m	5:44 PM EST / 1.52 m		
Mon 8		12:16 AM EST / 0.36 m	6:21 AM EST / 1.34 m	12:15 PM EST / 0.46 m	6:25 PM EST / 1.52 m
Tue 9		12:47 AM EST / 0.36 m	6:55 AM EST / 1.44 m	12:56 PM EST / 0.43 m	7:01 PM EST / 1.51 m
Wed 10		1:15 AM EST / 0.35 m	7:27 AM EST / 1.52 m	1:34 PM EST / 0.41 m	7:35 PM EST / 1.49 m
Thu 11		1:42 AM EST / 0.36 m	7:59 AM EST / 1.58 m	2:10 PM EST / 0.40 m	8:09 PM EST / 1.46 m
Fri 12		2:10 AM EST / 0.38 m	8:30 AM EST / 1.62 m	2:47 PM EST / 0.40 m	8:44 PM EST / 1.41 m
Sat 13		2:39 AM EST / 0.41 m	9:02 AM EST / 1.63 m	3:25 PM EST / 0.41 m	9:20 PM EST / 1.35 m
Sun 14		3:08 AM EST / 0.46 m	9:35 AM EST / 1.61 m	4:05 PM EST / 0.43 m	9:59 PM EST / 1.27 m
Mon 15		3:39 AM EST / 0.51 m	10:10 AM EST / 1.56 m	4:49 PM EST / 0.46 m	10:42 PM EST / 1.19 m
Tue 16		4:13 AM EST / 0.57 m	10:48 AM EST / 1.51 m	5:38 PM EST / 0.50 m	11:30 PM EST / 1.11 m
Wed 17		4:53 AM EST / 0.62 m	11:33 AM EST / 1.45 m	6:34 PM EST / 0.52 m	
Thu 18	12:26 AM EST / 1.05 m	5:42 AM EST / 0.67 m	12:26 PM EST / 1.40 m	7:37 PM EST / 0.53 m	
Fri 19	1:33 AM EST / 1.02 m	6:45 AM EST / 0.69 m	1:30 PM EST / 1.38 m	8:44 PM EST / 0.50 m	
Sat 20	2:47 AM EST / 1.04 m	8:02 AM EST / 0.68 m	2:41 PM EST / 1.40 m	9:44 PM EST / 0.44 m	
Sun 21	3:50 AM EST / 1.12 m	9:19 AM EST / 0.62 m	3:46 PM EST / 1.46 m	10:33 PM EST / 0.37 m	
Mon 22	4:41 AM EST / 1.24 m	10:24 AM EST / 0.52 m	4:43 PM EST / 1.53 m	11:17 PM EST / 0.30 m	
Tue 23	5:27 AM EST / 1.39 m	11:21 AM EST / 0.41 m	5:35 PM EST / 1.58 m	11:59 PM EST / 0.24 m	
Wed 24	6:12 AM EST / 1.54 m	12:16 PM EST / 0.30 m	6:26 PM EST / 1.61 m		
Thu 25		12:41 AM EST / 0.20 m	6:56 AM EST / 1.68 m	1:10 PM EST / 0.20 m	7:17 PM EST / 1.59 m
Fri 26		1:22 AM EST / 0.20 m	7:40 AM EST / 1.80 m	2:03 PM EST / 0.14 m	8:08 PM EST / 1.54 m
Sat 27		2:04 AM EST / 0.22 m	8:26 AM EST / 1.87 m	2:58 PM EST / 0.11 m	9:00 PM EST / 1.45 m
Sun 28		3:48 AM EST / 0.28 m	10:13 AM EST / 1.88 m	4:54 PM EST / 0.12 m	10:55 PM EST / 1.34 m
Mon 29		4:33 AM EST / 0.35 m	11:04 AM EST / 1.84 m	5:55 PM EST / 0.16 m	11:55 PM EST / 1.22 m
Tue 30		5:24 AM EST / 0.44 m	11:59 AM EST / 1.76 m	6:59 PM EST / 0.23 m	
Wed 31	12:59 AM EST / 1.13 m	6:23 AM EST / 0.52 m	1:00 PM EST / 1.66 m	8:06 PM EST / 0.30 m	

The Committee for 2007 – 2008 is:

PRESIDENT:	Kelly Jandik	9558 8181	President@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au
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Please send items for the Newsletter to me by the 28th of the month