



P.O. Box 453 Hurstville South 2221 NSW

Visit our web page at

<http://www.ozemail.com.au/~diving/stgeorge/stgeorge.htm>

---

## July 2005

---

Fellow club members this article was in last Thursday's Daily Telegraph.

### **MAN CHARGED OVER WOMAN'S DEATH**

*June 29, 2005*

*A SYDNEY man has been charged with the murder of a 34-year-old woman after he turned himself in to police and directed officers to her body.*

*Police had to call in the fire brigade to break down the door to a unit on Slade Road, Bexley North, about 10.30pm (AEST) last night.*

*The woman's body was discovered inside, police said.*

*The 32-year-old Bexley North man, who turned himself in to Marrickville Police Station, was taken to Prince of Wales Hospital where he was treated for post-traumatic stress.*

*He was charged with the woman's murder and refused bail.*

*A post-mortem examination is being done on the woman's body to determine the cause of death.*

*The man will face Kogarah Local Court tomorrow.*

The young woman was Kelly Hudson. Kelly was a close friend and work colleague of club member Barbara Sweetman and was known to Carina, Russell and myself.

The article fails to mention that Kelly leaves behind 3 children, a 15 year old boy and 2 girls aged, 10 & 5. Unfortunately the unit has been sealed (most of the contents have been or will be destroyed) leaving these 3 children in a desperate situation. When something such as this happens so close to home one must go cap in hand and seek help from anyone and everyone.

My reason for submitting this article is twofold. Firstly The Marrickville Bowling Club will be holding a benefit night next Saturday Night

(9<sup>th</sup> July) to raise funds for these 3 kids so we are asking fellow members to come along and support us. Secondly if attending is not possible we ask you all to pledge a donation through Russell on 0412963527 or myself on 0419517285. The fate of these 3 kids is uncertain and they need every bit of help we can give them, so please help.

As Barb is not aware we are seeking your help and is understandably distressed at the moment please communicate through Russell or myself with regards to this tragedy

With respect

**LEO B.**

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

Just a reminder, membership renewal fees are now due. If you haven't already renewed, please fill out the form attached and forward it with \$25 to the PO box, or better still, bring it to the next meeting

### **COMING UP**

#### **THURSDAY NIGHT DIVES**

##### **Thursday Night Dives**

Remember, the regular Thursday night dives are still on. Some have been cancelled lately due to the weather and people being away, but they will still be held over winter.

If you are not on the email list for these, contact Michael McFadyen by email

[michael.mcfadyen@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:michael.mcfadyen@environment.nsw.gov.au)

and he will ensure you get advised of each and every dive. Starting time is normally about 7 pm.

---

## JULY

Sunday 10th.

Wreck Dive SS Hilda

Contact Les Caterson on 9520 9421

**Sunday 24th.**

Wreck Dive Royal Shepherd

Contact David Vandervelden on 0414 240 992

**Saturday 30th.**

### Social event

St. George Rowing Club Xmas in July

Contact Les Caterson on 9520 9421

## AUGUST

### Monthly Deep Dives

The August monthly deep wreck dive will be held on Saturday 6 August. There is no plan yet for what wreck will be dived. If you are interested (and equipped and experienced), please contact Les Caterson on 9520 9421.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>**

Shore Dive at Terrigal.

Contact Steve Shaw on 9868 4056

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>

A Picnic and Shore Dive at Bass Point

Contact Philip Rose on 9543 0748

## NOVEMBER

**Solitary Islands - Mid week Diving Adventure  
Week Commencing Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November  
2005**

### Diving with Dive Quest at Mulloway

**Divers:** Cost: \$420.00 Includes: 4 double dives, Second tank free, all air refills included, 5 night's accommodation with continental breakfast – cereals, milk, coffee, tea

**Non Divers:** Cost: \$25.00 per night accommodation – includes breakfast

**Washout:** If either of the days Monday to Thursday is a wash out, then either of the following applies:

Dive Friday at no extra cost of extended stay and depart Saturday, or

1. A rebate of \$80.00 against package cost of \$420.00

**Additional Diving:** Should you wish to stay longer and do additional diving then the additional cost is: \$100.00 per day. (\$20.00 accommodation, \$80.00 double dive).

Dive sites will be organized based on the weather conditions but will include the North West and North Solitary Islands with more experienced dive sites on request.

This is the best diving in NSW with blue water, 24 – 26 degree water and 15- 25 metre visibility – so don't miss out on this great opportunity.

The suggested itinerary is to arrive Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November in the afternoon, dive Monday through Thursday, with flexibility for further diving or departure on Friday.

This dive adventure is being organized by Mark Ridsdale (0419 243 717). Deposits of \$50.00 are preferred to be paid at the September Meeting or sooner to St George Scuba.

## LAST MONTH

### Deep Dive - SS Tuggerah - 4 June

By Michael McFadyen



For this month's deep dive Le Scat headed out of Port Hacking on Saturday 4 June 2005. This was the third attempt to dive the Tuggerah as a Club dive, the other's being thwarted by bad weather. For this day, the weather was perfect, with a sunny sky and a long, flat, rolling swell.

On board were Les Caterson, Kelly Jandik, Laurie Klippel, Ray Moulang and Peter Flockart. When we arrived at the wreck, our friend Peter Fields and his crew were already there, having been invited to come south and dive away from their normal diet of the Long Reef wrecks. They had trouble anchoring and we ended up in the water before them.

What a dive! The visibility was in excess of 20 metres and as usual the fantastic fishlife was all over the wreck. I ended up with some great photos. There were a few wobbeongs and a very large bull ray near the prop.

Afterwards we headed back to Jibbon and moored up together and had our usual feast.

### **Barren's on Osbourne. Saturday 18th June.**

By John Conolly.

Two boats set off from Yowie Bay, Ian's with Heinz, Rob & Carol, Steve el Capitan and Paul Pacey on board and Les's with Joanne E, Graeme L, Louise F (making a comeback) and John C. We were to go to Osbourne Shoals, which was immediately ignored as the conditions on Bate Bay were idyllic and we turned South. Ian lit out at a brisk pace - for the Bomba I think - when he noticed Les had stopped over the gutters off Barren's, so he came back.

Le Scat anchored over the NE corner of the gutters and IG 25 m to the SW of us. On Le Scat, Joanne, Graeme and Louise descended first and toured the area. When they came back to the anchor they were lucky to see an Indian fish (or 2?). There was not a lot of fish around in the gutters but Les did point out to me a Pike Eel buried in the Sandy bottom. An Eastern King Wrasse made an appearance but I think it must have been a prince as it wasn't very big.

The six on IG did the cave and swim-throughs circuit but details I don't know.

After a pleasant journey back to Dark's Bay we all tucked in and gave our cholesterol a good boost. Bries, cakes, pullaparts, meatballs, little boys, custard tarts – we had it all.

I don't know how St. George Scuba divers stay so thin !!!

A lovely morning. Thank you Ian and Les.

### **Osborne Shoals (NOT) Boat trip report**

Saturday 18th June by Paul Pacey

What a magnificent day to be alive and going diving was a bonus.

11 divers met at the Yowie Bay ramp for an 8:00am departure.

Ian Gowan had a crew of five (Carol M, Robert M, Steve S, Heinz B and Paul Pacey - author)

Les Caterson had a crew of four (Joanne E, Louise F, John C, Graeme E)

The original plan was to dive the Osborne Shoals but our helmsman, Rob, had no sooner motored away from the ramp when unrest developed among the crew. The problem seemed to be that the crew didn't want to waste a glorious day like this on a dive site like the Osborne Shoals and began mumbling about Baron's Hut and other such diver tempting treats. Captain Gowan quickly realised he was in difficult situation as flogging a few recalcitrant crew members in the middle of Yowie Bay was going to be a problem - better to wait until we hit Bate Bay then flog them! Once we nosed into Bate Bay however the decision among both boats was unanimous - head south for bluer pastures.

Team Scat decided that Baron's Hut was the go whilst we headed further south to the Marley Sponge Gardens and we would have made it too - if it were not for the big ugly waves making it uncomfortable for the crew. OK, back to Baron's Hut for us too.

I was told to hit the water with Steve and Heinz as the first team. Once in the water I realised that the viz was not as good as one would hope but on the bottom it turned out to be nearly 15 metres which was quite acceptable. I hadn't dived Baron's Hut for years and as the bottom appeared I remembered what a beautiful dive site this really is. I also remembered that my camera was still at home - dang! Baron's Hut is a great dive site because it's far enough from the cliffs and deep enough to avoid damage from the huge seas common along this coastline and yet it's shallow enough for an amazing array of sea life to colonise it. Sea Whips, sponges, ascidians, and some fantastic gorgonians are just some of the treats awaiting you here and the fish life ain't

too shabby either. 66% of our team also had the treat of seeing a Seal who came in for a quick look at the strange bubble blowing creatures before himself disappearing in a blast of bubbles. We did the chimney (it's either getting smaller or I am) and then wandered over to check out the split, passing Team Scat along the way. Carol also spotted a Pink Indian Fish near Les's anchor (there may have been two of them before the anchor arrived). I think a Pink Indian fish is a Red Indian Fish to a diver without a torch.

After the dive we had a quick run back to Shark Bay for morning tea. I was unprepared for this as this was my first boat dive with the club (it's also why I'm writing this report). As a Dive Club you guys would make great caterers, I was amazed at the variety and quality of the nosh. I'll definitely have to lift my game in the vittles department. Thanks to the kindness of the crew I didn't go hungry though.

I think everyone had a great day - I sure did.

### **Club weekend at Forster**

By David Vandervelden

The long weekend in June saw 8 club members head to Forster for some great diving kindly organised by Les & Elly. Others included were Rob & Carol, Geoff and Margaret, Peter T & myself. Saturday morning was a little cold while we waited at Seal Rocks for the boat to arrive but not enough to deter us from our diving adventure.

We made the swim to the boat and headed off for Big Rock. This dive was interesting with the main attraction being the Grey Nurse Sharks. We saw a turtle, numerous wobbies and rays amongst numerous fish types.

Our second dive was at Labyrinth where we were confronted by so many fish throughout the dive we could barely see through them. I thought this dive was amazing and a rather relaxing dive compared to the first.

At the end of the diving day we headed back to the shop at Forster to clean our gear and prepare for the following days dives. Later that evening we all got together for a bbq, but this was a bbq with a difference. Because it was cold and wet outside we set up the gas bbq inside one of our units. After 8 people had cooked their meat we had to open the doors to let the smoke out. It didn't seem to worry anyone to much but we

probably won't be invited back in a hurry. There seemed to be an endless amount of food. Even Peter T had some left over for lunch the next day.

On the Sunday we headed back to Seal Rocks as the diving around Forster was not suitable due to the conditions. Les had been hassling Ron Hunter to take us somewhere worthwhile since we couldn't dive Forster as we hoped. Ron agreed to take us to Jimmy's Caves at Edith Breakers. We were happy to hear that. The dive was fantastic. We spent a while at a depth between 30 – 35 metres squeezing through tight spots here and there. I'm not sure how long the cave was but we entered and swam through it for a about 10 minutes before exiting in a different place. This was a really good dive very well worth doing but I think you will need to go with Ron Hunter or else you won't find it.

Our second dive was back to the Labyrinth. But this dive was nothing like the relaxing dive we did the day before. Ron gathered the St George group together and promised us something special.



He lead us through what felt like a commando style combat dive. We went up, down, around, under and through anything in our path. I don't think any of us had time to stop and catch our breath. It was an excellent dive and had all the usual sights of Grey Nurse, wobbies and unknown amounts of fish everywhere. I know a few of us surfaced with less air than we normally would due to the heavy workload. It was a great alternative to the usual relaxing dive even though I was a bit sore the next day.

All in all the weekend was very successful. Special thanks to Les and Elly for putting it all together.

**COMMITTEE****The committee of the Club for 2004 - 5 is:**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Steve Shaw -	9868 4056	<a href="mailto:srcshaw@au1.ibm.com">srcshaw@au1.ibm.com</a>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b>	Phil Rose -	9543 0748	<a href="mailto:pvrose5@bigpond.net.au">pvrose5@bigpond.net.au</a>
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Carol Mapstone -	9531 1467	<a href="mailto:cmartin@doh.health.nsw.gov.au">cmartin@doh.health.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Les Caterson	9520 9421	<a href="mailto:lescat@dot.net.au">lescat@dot.net.au</a>
<b>ASSISTANT SECRETARY:/TREASURER:</b>			
	David Vandervelden	0414 240 992	<a href="mailto:davidvan@tpg.com.au">davidvan@tpg.com.au</a>
<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR:</b>	Russell Stoker -	0412 963 527	<a href="mailto:rstoker@optusnet.com.au">rstoker@optusnet.com.au</a>

**INFO OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS**

Many members are still enjoying “*Le Scat*” boat dives on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays, with Wednesday being the most popular by far. Don’t forget that to book a boat dive aboard “*Le Scat*” it is only a matter of contacting Les by phone on 9520 9421 for Wednesday or Saturday dives or Michael by phone on 9558 8181 for Sunday dives. (Of course St.George Scuba Club members take preference.)

The June meeting raffle of a bottle of port was won by Peter Flockhart.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the St George Scuba Club will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2005 at the St. George Rowing Club, Levy Street Arncliffe at 8.00 pm. Come along about 7 pm and enjoy a meal at the bistro.

**NEWSLETTER**

Please send items for the Newsletter to me by the 28<sup>th</sup> of the month [rstoker@optusnet.com.au](mailto:rstoker@optusnet.com.au)T.  
Please note that if you want to send any digital photographs for the newsletter, they be resized to about 150 dpi and a size of about 75 mm wide or high. Change them to black and white and save as a jpg file. This will make the file much smaller and quicker for you to e-mail but still good enough to print.