SDF News Sheet – April 2015
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The SDF is the peak body in South Australia, representing all recreational scuba divers. The SDF is also the ‘Safe Diving’ Federation. We promote Safe Diving.

This monthly electronic news sheet is provided as a service to our members. Our monthly newsletters (and bulletins) can be downloaded from http://www.sdfsa.net/newsletters.htm.

NEXT MEETING
We apologise for any recent confusion regarding our meeting nights. Our meetings are now CURRENTLY* being held on the THIRD Tuesday of each month. We are holding our next meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 21st April. It is being held in room J6-13 in the Jeffrey Smart Building at Uni SA’s City West Campus in North Terrace, Adelaide. Download the campus map at http://www.sdfsa.net/pdf/CW_MAPS-NORTH_JULY_2014.pdf to assist in finding the Jeffrey Smart Building.
*(The change of our meeting night from the second Tuesday or Wednesday of each month to the third Tuesday has inadvertently precluded some of our most ardent delegates and supporters from being able to attend our meetings. We will therefore discuss at our April meeting changing yet again to the fourth Tuesday (or Wednesday) of each month.)

DAYLIGHT SAVING
Daylight Saving ceases this coming weekend, on 5th April (Easter Sunday), and recommences on 4th October.

DOLPHIN DAY
The Adelaide Dolphin Sanctuary is celebrating Dolphin Day 2015 on April 11th.

“SPLASH BALL” – IT’S BACK!
Our “Splash Ball” is coming back. We are planning to resume our “Splash Balls” this year. It is proposed that we start by holding the first one early November. It would be a combined social event for both clubs & shop. We would use it to help us to raise money for artificial reefs. It could be another black tie event. It could be held at somewhere like the Adelaide Sailing Club/Sea Rescue at West Beach. Let us know if you’re interested in helping us to organise it.

WHALE TIME PLAYTIME FESTIVAL
The Whale time Playtime Festival will be run by the SA Whale Centre on Warland Reserve in Victor Harbor on 31st May from 10am to 4.30pm. It will also be held in front of, and inside, the SA Whale Centre.

WORLD OCEANS DAY 2015
World Oceans Day is being held on 13th June this year. World Oceans Day was first declared as 8th June at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Dive for Cancer SA for having raised $18,057 for the Cancer Council this year.

Congratulations also to 13-year old Alex Wallman on becoming the first diver to attain her Master Scuba Diver level since Scott and Lexi took over Divers Delight.

RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY HANDBOOK

STATE GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES SITES FOR SHARK CAGE DIVING
Following the attack on a great white shark by a group of killer whales at the Neptune Islands in early February (see our March news sheet), the shark cage diving industry requested the permission of the State Government to operate at sites other than the Neptune Islands Conservation Park. The State Government is says that it is continuing to work with the shark cage diving industry on this matter. Visit [http://www.portlincolntimes.com.au/story/2969279/state-looks-at-new-shark-spots/](http://www.portlincolntimes.com.au/story/2969279/state-looks-at-new-shark-spots/) for more information. Further details are included in the April issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

STUDY SHOWS THAT GREAT WHITES EXPLOIT THE ANGLE OF THE SUN TO HUNT DOWN PREY
The authors of a new study titled “White Sharks Exploit the Sun during Predatory Approaches” say that Great white sharks exploit the angle of the sun to hunt down their prey, perhaps concealing themselves in the reflected glare. The authors are Charlie Huveneers, Dirk Holman, Rachel Robbins, Andrew Fox, John Endler & Alex Taylor. This is said to be the first time that any animal (non-human) has been shown to use the sun as part of its hunting strategy. Further details are included in the April issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

ANTARCTIC ACIDIFICATION
According to ABC TV’s “Catalyst” program, ocean acidification is directly linked with what's happening in the atmosphere. According to the story titled “Antarctic Acidification” which aired on 24th March 2015, “The last 50 years have seen an accelerating rise in concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide. More CO₂ in the atmosphere inevitably means that more dissolves in sea water, increasing the acidity. Oceans are acidifying more rapidly than at any time in the last 300 million years. When CO₂ dissolves, it reacts with water to form carbonic acid, carbonate and hydrogen ions, which decreases the pH. On average, surface pH has already dropped by 0.1 since 1750.” Further details are included in the April issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

COMMONWEALTH MARINE RESERVES REVIEW
Regarding the Australian Government's Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review, Belinda Jago, Director, Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review Secretariat says, “The Australian Government is committed to a network of marine reserves. The independent review of the Commonwealth marine reserves established in November 2012 is now underway. The review will seek to improve the management arrangements that protect marine ecosystems and accommodate the many activities that Australians love to enjoy in our oceans. Further details are included in the April issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

“THE MYSTERY OF THE NULLARBOR CAVES”
In 1993, ABC TV’s “Quantum” ran a story by reporter Cathy Johnson titled “The mystery of the Nullarbor Caves”. According to the web page found at http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2015/02/26/4179315.htm, “Limestone caves are usually formed by dripping water, so how did these giant caverns come to be created in the middle of a desert? In this 1993 Quantum story, reporter Cathy Johnson joined researchers on their quest to unravel the mystery that is the caves beneath the Nullarbor. Unique in the world, these are big labyrinthine salt water-filled caves, up to 90 metres below the flat, dry desert surface and extending for kilometres underground. Geologists believe that the Nullarbor has been mostly dry since it emerged from the sea 15 million years ago. So are the caves relics of a bygone era, or are the processes that formed them still at work? To find the answer, researchers had to scuba dive deep into a strange almost lifeless world, where the water is so clear, it's almost as if it is suspended in space. A world no human eyes had ever seen before. What they found was a surprise. The caves are massive chemical mixing pots that have been in a constant state of change for hundreds of thousands of years.”

FORTHCOMING DIVE ON HMS EREBUS WRECK
The Canadian Government recently announced that Parks Canada divers will dive on the wreck of the recently discovered HMS Erebus in April. Details were included in the March issue of our SDFSA Bulletin.

2014-2015 AIMA SHIPWRECK PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION
The closing date for entries to the 2014-2015 AIMA Shipwreck Photography Competition is 15th August 2015. Entries must be emailed to photo.comp@aima-underwater.org.au. A list of categories, prizes, terms and conditions are available at www.aima-underwater.org.au.

2015 SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MARINE LIFE SA CALENDAR
The MLSSA 2015 South Australian Marine Life calendar is now available. The price is now just $5 per calendar. The calendar can be seen in its entirety at https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/110478079/MLSSA%202015%20cal.pdf. Email to sdfsa@adam.com.au to place any orders for the calendar. Postage is extra. Copies will be available at SDF & MLSSA meetings. You can now find a slideshow with calendar purchase information on the MLSSA website at http://mlssa.org.au/shop/.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS
Details for many forthcoming events can be found at http://www.divelog.net.au/news-events/. Visit the web page found at http://www.tourism.sa.com/events/event-news-edition-two.aspx to see the latest from Events South Australia.

2015 FESTIVAL FLEURIEU
This year’s Festival Fleurieu (formerly the Leafy Sea Dragon Festival) is being held from 11-19th April. Some details can be found in the January issue of the “Cape Jervis Courier”, available from Fleurieu Peninsula outlets such as the kiosk at Second Valley (Second Valley Jetty Store, ph.8598 4054). Voting for the “Fleurieu Four Seasons Prize for Landscape Photography” people's choice award is now open. Go to http://fleurieuwestconnect.com.au/ffs.php to view the images and to vote. An exhibition featuring the judges' final selection of the best entries for the major prize and the winner of the people's choice award will be on during the festival. Visit www.festivalfleurieu.com.au or https://www.facebook.com/FestivalFleurieu for more details.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE QUARANTINE STATION
The SA Maritime Museum is running a guided tour of the Quarantine Station on Torrens Island. The tour will lead you through the landing and decontamination area, the isolation hospital and morgue. The site is only accessible by the Maritime Museum’s bus tours:
- Sunday 19th April
- Sunday 17th May & 24th* May
- Sunday 28th June

There are four tour times available: 10am, 11:15am, 12:45pm and 2:15pm.

*24th May - 9:30am and 10:45am, 12:45pm and 2:15pm.

Tours are $25 per person (no Concessions available). Enclosed shoes are required. To book please contact the SA Maritime Museum on 8207 6255 or email maritime@history.sa.gov.au.

**CRUISES IN ST YELTA**
The SA Maritime Museum is also offering public cruises in *ST Yelta*. Don’t miss this opportunity to experience this amazing vessel in action. Cruise dates are:
- Sunday 19th April
- Sunday 24th May
- Sunday 27th September

Tickets are $20 per person (no Concessions available). Cruises leave the wharf at 1pm sharp and return at 3pm. Boarding commences at 12.30pm. Price includes entry to the SA Maritime Museum. No Passengers Under 5 years of age are allowed. To book, please contact the Museum on 08 8207 6255 or email maritime@history.sa.gov.au.

**SPUMS 44TH ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING 2015**
The South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society (SPUMS) is holding its 44th Annual Scientific Meeting 2015 from 16th-23rd May. It is being held at the Nikko Palau Royal Resort, Malakal, Palau, Micronesia. SPUMS Annual Scientific Meetings (ASM) provide “a forum for presentations and discussion of Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine papers, cases, research, and information updates. Attendees include doctors, nurses, chamber technicians, engineers, scientists, students and divers who work or share an interest in the fields of diving and hyperbaric medicine, as well as representatives from the recreational and occupational diving industries and military diving organisations. The meeting combines an academic program, with a daily diving program for delegates who are also interested in participating in recreational diving at the designated location. Locations are therefore selected with regard to what they can offer in terms of dive sites and experience. For the non-divers and accompanying delegates, a selection of other activities is usually on offer at the venue. In 2015 the Keynote Speaker, Dr Neal Pollock, whose academic training is in exercise and environmental physiology, will provide a dynamic and interesting framework around which the academic program will be constructed. Visit http://www.cvent.com/events/spums-44th-annual-scientific-meeting-2015/event-summary-163da0762304845b7be165ebb47f74b.aspx?i=2301c525-695e-47c2-81d9-4ed94368470d for more details.

**ASIA DIVE EXPO 2015**
This year’s Asia Dive Expo is being held from 10-12th April at Suntec City, Singapore. The Expo is dedicated to dolphins and women. Several of the world’s most celebrated female divers will be attending the Expo, including several members of the Women Divers Hall of Fame. Ladies will also be able to attend the Expo for free if they enter between 10am & noon each day. A long list of male divers feature at the Expo, including photographer Mike Bartick who is visiting SA this month. He will be in the Photo Zone where he’ll be discussing the technical and creative aspects of making macro images. Visit www.uw3some.com/ADEX or
see page 45 of the April issue of Dive Log magazine for more details. (Mike Bartick will also be at ADCON-June 12-14 where he will be discussing techniques and strategies to creating better images underwater. Visit http://adcon.com.my/2013/index.php/about-adcon/photography for more details.)

MIDE 2015
The Malaysia International Dive Expo (MIDE) 2015 is being held from 12th to 14th June at Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur. MIDE 2015 combines with the Asia Dive Conference (ADCON) 2015. “ADCON is a recreational dive conference initiated to cater for New Divers and Professionals to broaden the scope of recreational scuba diving and to give dive professionalism a further boost. MIDE and ADCON are jointly organized to bring visitors and participating delegates closer to an innovative and creative display in promoting the dive tourism industries in this region.” Details can be found on page 47 of the April issue of Dive Log magazine. Visit http://www.mide.com.my/index.html http://www.mide.com.my/mideexpo/ for more details.

CITIZEN SCIENCE CONFERENCE
A citizen science conference, supported by the Australian Academy of Science, is being held in Canberra 23rd-24th July 2015. Entitled ‘Maximising the Capacity of Citizen Science for Science and Society: a Fenner Conference on the Environment’, this conference is being coordinated through the Australian Citizen Science Association (formerly Citizen Science Network Australia). The event will include the first Annual General Meeting of the ACSA. The two main themes for the conference will be:

1. The practice of citizen science in Australia
2. Capacity building to enhance the scientific and societal outcomes of citizen science

The conference will provide a forum for organisations and individuals to share and promote their projects and perspectives on citizen science, through a number of interactive poster sessions and speed talks at targeted workshops. International speakers will be paired with Australian experts to deliver keynote speeches and convene the workshops, sharing global perspectives and good practice, designed to enhance capacity of Australian practitioners to deliver successful citizen science programs.

SCIENCE ALIVE 2015
Science Alive 2015 will be held on 7th to 9th August at The Showground, Wayville. This is South Australia’s premier event in National Science Week. The event will be celebrating its 10th year, and will be the largest Science Alive ever. An additional attraction will be the Questacon Science Circus travelling roadshow, complete with their hands-on exhibits and enthusiastic Master of Science Communication students presenting a range of science shows.

AIDE 2015
The Australia International Dive Expo is being held 12-13th September at Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park, Sydney. Visit www.australiadiveexpo.com or see page 43 of the April issue of Dive Log magazine for more details.

6TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY
The 6th International Congress on Underwater Archaeology (IKUWA6) is being held at the Western Australian Maritime Museum in Fremantle, WA from 28 November - 2 December, 2016. There is a Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/pages/IKUWA-6Fremantle-2016/120970778007811
SDFSA BULLETIN
Attached along with this SDF News Sheet is a copy of the latest issue of our SDFSA Bulletin. This is an electronic bulletin separate to our normal monthly SDF News Sheet. Items featured in this issue of the Bulletin are:
State Government to Consider Alternatives Sites for Shark Cage Diving
Study Shows That Great Whites Exploit the Angle of the Sun to Hunt Down Prey
Antarctic Acidification
Commonwealth Marine Reserves Review
Future issues of the SDFSA Bulletin will include lengthy articles about matters of interest to recreational divers. We welcome contributions from our readers.

The Scuba Divers Federation of SA is a member of the following:
Rapid Bay Jetty Design Reference Group
RecFishSA (SA Recreational Fishing Advisory Council)
Fleurieu Reef Advisory Group (Ex-HMAS Hobart)
TRAIL COMMITTEES - SA Trails Coordinating Committee (Office of Recreation & Sport)
and Port Noarlunga Reef Underwater Trail South Australian Trails

If you wish to be included on the mailing list for this electronic news sheet, contact Steve Reynolds, the Federation’s Secretary, on sdfsa@adam.com.au for more details.
The SDF supports both Reef Watch & DragonSearch

Disclaimer – The opinions expressed by authors of material in this news sheet are not necessarily those of the Federation.