

March 2014  
to April 2014

**DOWN UNDER  
WITH THE  
B. R. U. D. G.**

*Official  
Bulletin*

**OF THE**



**BLACK ROCK  
UNDERWATER DIVING GROUP INC**



## ***Hi Everyone***

There's a mountain of material contributed by members, noting that half of the club is venturing out shortly to Africa or other locations, I've bundled together so that Brudgers have some diving material to read on the trip to Africa.

I think the variety of diving the club has been doing and the accompanying reports have really pumped some life and variety into the magazine. Thanks Michael and Lena Sesin for their New Zealand articles and thanks Jon and Saskia for your New Zealand articles. The expanded locations of Victorian diving of Phillip Island, Refuge Cove, the Seal Island Groups and ongoing return to the Hogans Island Group have continued to provide variety of diving that I constantly here favourable feedback from members who have attended. Great that we're going to the effort of attending, but special thanks to the drivers of these visits to other locations as it takes a enormous amount of effort to organise, thanks to Grant for driving the Refuge Cove/Seal Island Group/Hogans Island Group trips, thanks to Jen and Alan Conley for bringing their boats to Port Welshpool so that more divers could partake in the excellent diving there. thanks to Wayne for organising the Apollo Bay Trip and then leading the club out to Phillip Island that all who attended enjoyed so much.

I was fortunate enough to be invited to the Hogans Island on the recent Easter trip. We all had a great time, thankfully Grant led

construction of a shed to counter the strong winds that blew for 3 of the five days, out of the weather we had a remarkable complete break from the electronic word that now surrounds us. Many thanks Grant for the invite and Mike and Dave for your company. Any members who get the opportunity to go to the Hogans Island would no doubt be impressed with the isolation the depth of fish life (absence of crays unfortunately) and breathtaking diving, I understand we discovered a new diving location on this trip, clearer water condition would have highlighted the amazing caves, bommies and underwater walls and swim throughs.

Welcome back Gary from the Galapagos, Michael, Lena, Jon and Saskia from New Zealand, Ton, Steve and Tom from the Phillipines and safe trip to all those travelling to Africa. Meanwhile, I'm sure we'll have some excellent diving in the cooling but magnificent Victorian Autumn conditions. Noting the absence of so many boat owners in Africa, suggest we just take it week by week during their absence.

Below I have attached some wildlife and assorted photos from the recent Hogans Island Group trip.

Safe diving.

***Hilary Ingram***

***Editor***



Boundary Island Seals.





## *Dive Calendar*

### **BRUDG DIVE CALENDAR**

Divers should contact Dive Captain on Thursday if they are interested in going diving on the weekend. Members are also reminded that boat availability is limited at present as S.S Bell and S.S Payoff are currently working interstate while S.S Lye is holidaying at Port Welshpool. The Committee apologises if any BRUDG member misses out on a dive due short term boat space restrictions.

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- **ALWAYS TAKE A COMPASS BEARING THAT NAVIGATES YOU FRONTWARDS OF THE BOAT.**
- **MINIMUM JESUS LINE LENGTH 150 M WHEN DIVING IN CURRENT PRONE AREAS**

#### **Short Dive Calendar for the month when so many boat owners are away in Africa.**

**Weekend of the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2014 Grant Callow.**

**Weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014 Gary Pahoff.**

**Weekend of the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2014 John Griffith.**

**Weekend of the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2014 Graeme Lye.**

- Notes:
1. The gazetted dives are subject to change at short notice as winds, swell and tides on the day will either allow or disallow the dive.
  2. The boat skipper is responsible for safety of the vessel and the crew so its his / her judgement that will determine the day's activities including dive cancellation.
  3. With ocean diving, the swell has a huge impact on safety and dive quality. Ocean swell is pushed by gale force winds many thousand of kilometres to the south west in a region stretching from the Indian Ocean to Great Southern Ocean near Antarctica. We can have perfectly good weather conditions in Melbourne but a massive swell. For ocean diving, swell height will determine the most comfortable and safe depth. Guidelines are given below:

**> 2 m ..... Forget it! - Stay in the Bay** – Rip drop-off will be OK but swells can break near Queenscliff so be careful! Expect dirty water on the flood tide. Ebb tide could be better prospect on days of heavy swell?



- 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> m** ..... Minimum recommended dive depth is 15 – 20 m (expect visibility of around 5 - 6 m at 15 m and may be 8 - 10 m visibility at depths greater than 20 meters)
- 1m** ..... Minimum recommended dive depth is 8 – 10 m (visibility should be around 10 m)
- ½ m** ..... Dive anywhere – expect perfect conditions except after rainy period that can make the water dirty due to run off from the cliffs.

## Famous Quotes

SCUBA diving is sensual. To breathe underwater is one of the most fascinating and peculiar sensations imaginable. Breathing becomes a rhythmic melody of inhalations and exhalations. The cracks and pops of fish and crustaceans harmonize with the rhythmic chiming of the bubbles as you exhale. Soon, lungs act as bellows, controlling your buoyancy as you achieve weightlessness. And, as in your dreams, you are flying. Combine these otherworldly stimuli and you surrender completely to the sanctuary of the underwater world.

TEC CLARK, forward, Karen Berger's Scuba Diving

### Life Members

- John Davis
- Ron Dunlop
- Max Graham
- Bob Hurst
- Lionel Martin
- Dave Perry
- Bill Silvester
- Mike McCrae
- Trevor Heath

### 2013/2014 Committee

President	Graeme Rees
Treasurer	Joe Arlove
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Social Secretary  
Dive Co-ordinator  
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Luke Conley  
Wayne Salisbury  
Dan Wahrenberg  
Hilary Ingram

Public Officer  
Equipment Officer  
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Joe Arlove  
Alan Conley  
John Griffiths and Steven Snow

## *Member News*

ARTICLE PROVIDED BY IAN COWARD

# REMOTE DIVE SITE DECOMPRESSION ILLNESS – HOW TO SAVE A DIVERS LIFE

POSTED ON: MARCH 20, 2014



By Bret Gilliam





As secret agent James Bond once sagely observed to Q, who supplied his special equipment and was complaining that he was bringing it back damaged, "It's hell out there in the field."

Divers aren't dealing with jet-packs, ejection seats in Aston-Martin sports cars, or the best way to use the strangling wire released from the stem of a Rolex. But it can get a bit dicey in the field for us as well. I'm talking about the hard and grim reality of dealing with medical injuries in the middle of nowhere when facilities are not available and evacuation is not an option. If you are on a live-aboard, expedition vessel, or remote island when emergencies arise, you will have to be prepared to deal with them on-site and with the equipment on hand.

There are scores of scenarios that may present, from tropical viruses and severe stinging organisms, to lethal bites from sea snakes. But the most prevalent danger over the years has been decompression illness (DCI). If you pick up just about any diving text, medical reference, or even read DAN's protocol for what to do when DCI manifests in a diver, the first directive will be to administer 100% oxygen by demand mask and transport the patient to a recompression chamber. Great advice. Good luck if you happen to be anchored in Chatham Bay at Cocos Island... 380 miles offshore. In Costa Rica there are no helicopters or seaplanes that can travel the distance, let alone do it round-trip, without refueling. And there is no fuel on Cocos Island. No Starbucks either, for that matter. The same is true in the Komodo Islands, Raja Ampat, or the Banda Sea in Indonesia. Think you can get to a chamber in the Solomon Islands? Oh yeah, it's right next to the IMAX theater on Guadalcanal.

Reality is a bitch. If you or a member of your team gets bent in a remote area you will have to deal with the treatment yourself. This not only takes special training, it requires onboard-specific special equipment and trained support staff. A couple of D-cylinders in your nice little oxygen case aren't going to get the job done.

Let's take a quick review of DCI and what must take place to get a satisfactory outcome. First and foremost, you need oxygen. And lots of it. Secondly, you need pressure. That what's going to crush the inert gas bubbles and let them be absorbed back into blood and tissue without occlusions and permanent physiological deficits. Time is the critical issue: the window for the most effective treatment is about one hour from the first presentation of symptoms. Tick, tock...

It must be ingrained in divers to recognize and report DCI symptoms as early as possible. Unless you are dealing with extreme exposures and incomplete decompression, symptoms will usually not present while the diver is still underwater. But upon surfacing the clock is running. This article does not have the space for a treatise on symptomatology but DCI will present as pain in the limbs or joints, or as more subtle neurological deficits initially; but central nervous system (CNS) issues will progress and can include paralysis.

Many texts distinguish DCI symptomatology into Type I (pain only) or Type II (serious symptoms, CNS involvement). To the layman or diver in the field, this distinction is not of great importance and requires special training in many instances to classify presentations. Most importantly, we want our readers to be able to recognize any symptoms or signs of DCI quickly and take immediate action.

At the first sign or symptom, the patient should immediately be placed on 100% oxygen... via demand mask. Don't waste your time even putting a free flow mask in your gear package. You need to get the



patient oxygenated. Free flow masks are wasteful of the gas, inefficient in their delivery, and you only have so much inventory of oxygen available. The therapeutic effects of 100% oxygen to a DCI victim cannot be overstated. In a significant number of cases, immediate oxygen breathing will arrest symptom progression and achieve relief without the need for recompression. But the key word here is “immediate”. Every minute lost allows for more inert gas bubbles to form and aggregate. By flooding the victim with 100% oxygen and eliminating any further intake of nitrogen from atmospheric air, you are creating a gradient for bubble size reduction and elimination. Cross your fingers and hope the victim begins recovery. You should be trained in field neurological exams and go through the checklist as soon as the diver suggests they may have DCI. Do a re-exam after the first hour of O<sub>2</sub> breathing. If the patient’s symptoms have stabilized or improved, continue O<sub>2</sub> administration with hourly reassessments. If you’re lucky, they may have dodged a bullet.

But you have to have an available inventory of oxygen onboard. I recommend a minimum of three H cylinders and a transfer method to the smaller cylinders commonly used with DAN O<sub>2</sub> kits and to O<sub>2</sub>-cleaned scuba tanks because you’re going to need a lot of gas. If you’re getting results with demand mask oxygen, continue the patient’s breathing for two hours, then a 10-15 minute air break, then back on for two more hours. Follow this regimen for 12 hours and then make a complete assessment. If the patient is symptom-free, it’s probably okay to take them off O<sub>2</sub> and confine them to a bunk for another 12 hours or so. Check urine output as well for volume and color. Cease all diving activity for 72 hours, or completely, unless they have a specific skill necessary to the project.

Now comes the tricky part: if the victim does not get better within the first hour on oxygen they probably need to be recompressed. The only way to do this is to get them in the water. This requires an in-water oxygen delivery system. Ideally, there should be an oxygen clean full-face mask available but an oxygen clean scuba regulator will do. (Full-face masks are preferred since the patient is less likely to lose their airway in the event that an oxygen induced convulsion event occurs.) Obviously, it is not desirable to attempt to place an unconscious unresponsive patient underwater. But as long as they can breathe on their own, I’d even risk this since the alternative is so dire.

In-water recompression has been around for five decades but it requires very specific training and equipment. You cannot attempt such a treatment without training. There are a variety of treatment tables that work extremely well. Some have evolved over years of experimentation and commence at shallower depths than conventional tables used in dry chambers. Other experienced contingency experts like to proceed with Table 5 that begins with a direct descent to 60 feet. But all this is predicated on oxygen supply, an oxygen clean delivery system, a conscious patient that is aware of what is happening, and several divers to rotate as underwater tenders with the patient. Most treatments will run two hours or more.

Ideally, a surface supply hose system to the patient is safest and most efficient. Air breaks also have to be factored in since a patient cannot breathe oxygen exclusively at depth. So the supply system underwater must allow for gas switches either from the surface supply hose or by changing scuba cylinders underwater.

You’re going to be underwater for a while. Proper thermal insulation for the patient is necessary as well as a fresh water hydration delivery bag or bottle. Most DCI cases manifest toward the end of the diving day and so it’s likely that a good portion of the treatment will be conducted in the dark... after sundown.





Lights need to be available and the tender may also have to deal with patient anxiety. You also need to be prepared for marine life encounters. It's unlikely that a shark will decide to chow down but the presence of predators is also a reality and the team should be prepared to ward off aggressive threats.

It all sounds more than a bit daunting. And it should. But the alternative is almost certain serious physiological damage including paralysis and death. You have to plan well in advance to have the necessary support equipment onboard and this is not easy in most third world countries. First and foremost, you have to have enough oxygen and the average live-aboard barely carries enough O<sub>2</sub> for more than about a four-hour surface breathing period. If the operator cannot provide the other breathing delivery equipment, you may have to bring it with you. For the vessel operators that I provide operations consulting to, I recommend that they be fully prepared with all gear and staff trained to do the treatments if necessary. But these operators are few and far between. Do your advance due diligence, get proper training in field treatment contingencies, and expect to be called on to perform.

Remember: Evacuation is not an option. Without sufficient oxygen the patient has no chance. And if they don't respond to surface oxygen breathing, there is no choice but to proceed with in-water protocols since you have to get the hyperbaric effect of pressure for inert gas bubble compression.

That's the straight talk. Now you decide to what level you want to be prepared. There are no short cuts. TDI Headquarters can refer you to proper training professionals. This is not a dumbed-down meaningless dive specialty card. This is dead serious. I intend no pun with that last sentence...

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Bret Gilliam is the founder of TDI, SDI and ERDI. He is credentialed as a Recompression Chamber Supervisor and an Instructor Trainer for Diving Medical Technicians and Physicians. He has been widely published on diving emergency medical procedures including in-water recompression. Professionally diving since 1971, he authored the diving medicine section of the reference text "Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support" and has treated or consulted on over 200 diver treatments in his career.



## CAMPING AT REFUGE COVE – AND GREAT DIVES (from Saskia Hansen)

Grant Callow organised for BRUDG to go camping down at Refuge Cove for a long weekend in late February. However, only the Breaker crew ended up actually camping at Refuge Cove, with others hiring a cottage at Port Welshpool instead.

The Breaker crew met up for an 8 am launch at Port Welshpool on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. It was a smooth one hour sailing to get down to Refuge Cove and it then required a focused effort to offload all of our camping gear and important provisions, before the compressor was parked on a nearby beach for the refilling of cylinders as required. Apart from a few hikers staying at the nearby hikers campground, we were the only people camping at the campground reserved for 'boaties'.

This meant this most gorgeous beach was for Breaker and its crew only. How much closer can you get to paradise on earth....?



As the wind was pretty strong on the Saturday and the beach so alluring, we literally only set up camp, enjoyed lunch and then spend the rest of the afternoon chilling and sampling the beer and wine provisions while enjoying the beautiful views from the beach. As the sun set, we moved up to the campground and Mike organised dinner before everyone had an early night. The only slight interruption was when Grant had to get out of bed to tell a possum, who was very attracted to our food and drinks, to leave the premises.

We had an early start the next morning and set off to dive Notch Island, or rather a pinnacle close to the island. Rainer, Jon and Saskia dived as a group and had a nice and relaxing dive, though for the cray-hungry BRUDGERS there weren't many crays to be seen. Instead, there was plenty of fish life, and it was just nice to dive something different and pinnacle dives are always great. SS Conley and SS Ch'ng dived this area as well so three BRUDG boats met up for diving on this day.





*Rainer diving pinnacle*

*SS Conley (Luke, Hillary and Alan)*

For the second dive, we moved back to the mainland and dived 'Sealer's Cove' not far from Refuge Cove. It was a shallow dive and we had a ton of fish all around us and it was a bit of a special atmosphere in the water given the milky conditions. There was a lot of small life, though, not least a number of small sea ferns.



*A small ray that followed us for a bit*

*Sea fern*

*Scorpion fish*

Back at camp, it took a couple of hours to organise the air fills which turned out to be a job for the men in the crew, whilst Saskia enjoyed a couple of hours on the beach in the company of a few tour boats, one or more glasses of chilled rose, and a few hikers who stopped by. Once again, it was an early night after an Italian inspired dinner – in time for a 6 am start the next morning.

We dived Seal Island and a few different spots around Seal Island and just enjoyed the beautiful scenery. Such a beautiful place! And then it was back to pack up camp and to sail back to Port Welshpool before the drive back to Melbourne.

It was a beautiful weekend, and for those who missed out on the camping, you missed out on the most beautiful couple of days at Refuge Cove Paradise.

Thanks to Grant, Mike and Rainer for a great trip.



*Saskia and Jon after the first dive (the pinnacle)*



## DIVING THE POOR KNIGHTS – ‘TAKE TWO’ (from Saskia Hansen)

We last visited the Poor Knights Marine Reserve on New Zealand’s North Island in December 2012, but the diving was affected by the remnants of the big typhoon that had hit Samoa and Fiji just a week before we arrived. Over a beer on the last night we were there, we asked the owner of Dive Tutukaka when would be a good time to come back, and he said that late February and early March typically was the best time of year for diving the marine reserve.

So when one night in August last year Emirates came up with a great deal for flights to New Zealand, we bought two return tickets departing Melbourne early in the morning on Thursday 27 February 2014 and returning at night on Monday 3 March. We booked accommodation at the Tutukaka Holiday Park and hired a car at the airport – and finally, it was time to go back to the Marine Reserve. After getting lost in the traffic around Auckland, we made it to Tutukaka just after 20.30 on the Thursday night and had a good night’s rest before turning up at Tutukaka Dive Centre at 8 am on the Friday morning for our first day of diving.

Tutukaka Dive centre is an incredibly professional set up: there is friendly, service-minded and really skilled staff both in the centre itself and on the different boats that head out to the Poor Knights. The skipper on the boat we were heading out on recognised us from the year before, and wanted to hear which dives we had done last time around to if possible avoid repeat dives. Once again, it was just great to experience skippers and dive guides who were so enthusiastic about their work, which came across in the briefings on the way out to the Poor Knights (about an hour’s sailing) and in the specific dive briefings.



*Crystal clear waters*



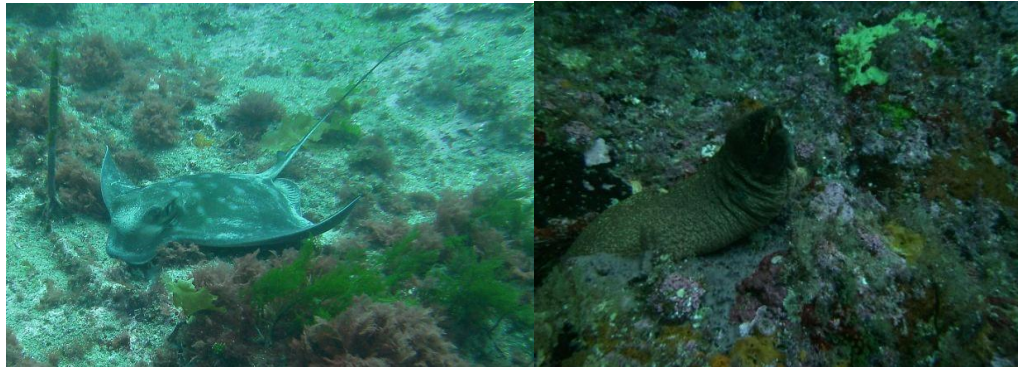
*Moray Eel*

On the first day, the wind was up so we dived some of the more sheltered but less exciting sites. Thankfully, the weather improved for the Saturday and we experienced what is called ‘blue water’ – i.e. great visibility and just fantastic dive conditions. We started out diving a wall just outside of the world’s largest sea cave, and ended up diving the cave itself. It was pushing it doing both of these dives sites in the same dive, so we ended up with very little time in the sea cave. However, as the water was crystal clear, it was just amazing swimming into the cave and sensing the light, the





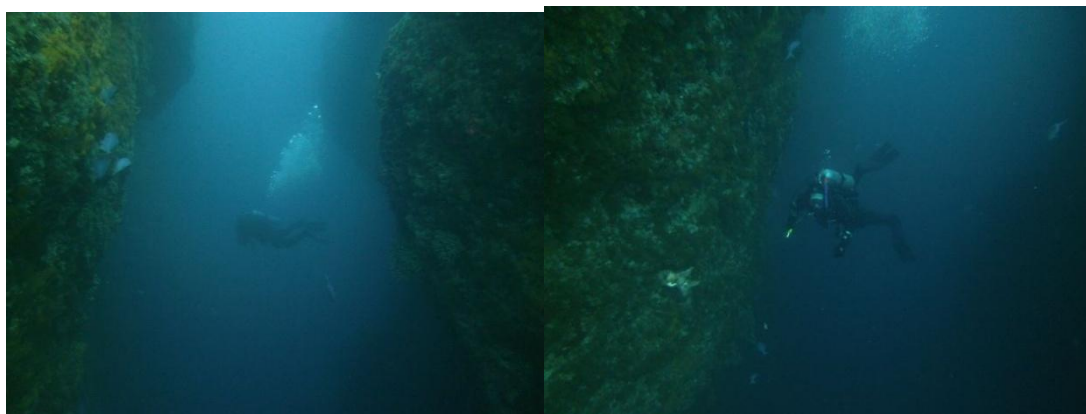
darkness and the rich life at the entrance of the cave and the gradual change to just white sand when the light no longer reach the bottom of the cave. An absolutely fantastic dive and max dept at about 25 metres.



*Eagle Ray*

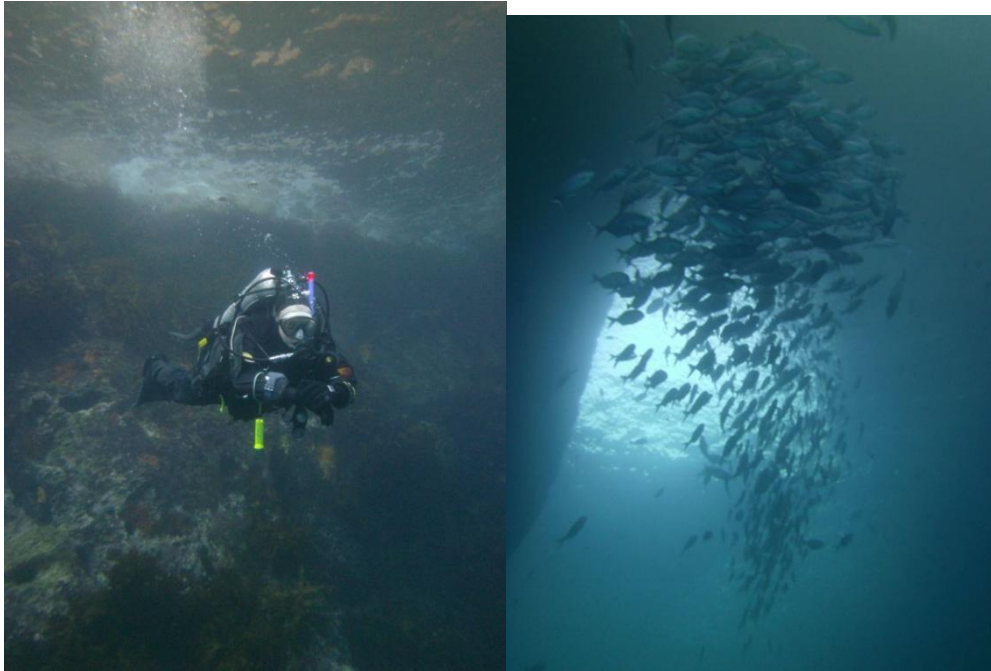
*Moray Eel showing teeth*

What was surprising diving the Poor Knights this time was that there were Moray Eels everywhere (mosaic as well as the normal yellow eel). We saw many on every single dive and often Moray Eels would follow us during the dives.



*Jon finning through Northern Arch*

The most amazing dive we did, though, wasn't the sea cave, but Northern Arch. This is a very weather dependant dive at the most northern point of the marine park, so we were lucky to make it there on the Sunday – our last day of diving. It was a good sign to see two off-duty dive guides on the boat – it was their last weekend in Tutukaka before going back to University the next day, but they had seen the weather forecast and heard that the skipper might attempt diving Northern Arch, so sneaked along. And it was indeed an absolutely amazing dive. The arch started at probably 18-20 metres and if one was persistent and happy to fin through very strong currents, one could get through the Arch and do a dive on the other side. Jon made it all the way through, whereas I had to give up half way – the current was jus too strong. So I hung in the archway and just watch the amazing marine life and the sponges on the two walls.



*Jon exiting the Northern Arch dive*

*Fish hanging close to the surface*

We had 6 great dives at the Poor Knights and could easily have stayed on for another week of diving (but as it isn't cheap to head out to Poor Knights, there's a limit to what one can do).

We would love to be back though, possibly in the middle of winter to see what the marine life is like at that time of year.

For anyone wanting to go, we can warmly recommend Tutukaka Dive Centre – the crew is fantastic and most stay on for many years and just want to go back diving the Poor Knights whenever they can - which should be an indication that the Poor Knights is a great place to be!

PS. And we should mention a great seafood dish we ate on our last night in Tutukaka: green lip mussels in a rich Thai coconut sauce with lots of lemon grass and coriander. It was just yummy and something that we'll try to recreate at home.

*Saskia and Jon, Mach 2014*

[Dive Report Labour Day weekend Apollo Bay from Wayne and Helen Salisbury.](#)

[Attendees: Wayne Salisbury Graeme Rees & Craig Stairat](#)



After a ring around Friday night Craig decided to go down in his own car. Graeme came over Saturday afternoon and went down in the one car and boat. After several hold ups on West Gate, we were under way. We arrived at 'Merengo' late in the afternoon. To our surprise the site was quite small. Graeme and Craig set up on one site and me with the boat on the other. We hastily set up the tents then went down to the pub for dinner.

On Sunday after 'breaky' we drove to Cape Otway lighthouse to check on the sea- not too good, but we thought the next day would be good. We all decided on a little bit of bushwalking, then back to camp. Later we went out again for some flattie fishing. After a fabulous meal and a few ales, bedtime was calling. The sea looked good the next morning, so after an easy launch we headed for Cape Otway Lighthouse to dive the bay side of the light. It was a very nice dive. We had crayfish, flathead and abs for dinner.

New Zealand      8<sup>th</sup> March    2014      Michael Sesin

Diving New Zealand in the Bay of Islands, dive site the Rainbow Warrior, originally blown up by the French and sunk in Auckland harbour, then later raised and scuttled in the Bay of Islands to become an artificial reef and a great dive site.

The dive boat approx. 23ft RIB carrying 12 divers all doing a double dive, and all helping with a tractor beach launch and retrieve. The dive operator very well organised and relaxed, a good dive brief, then for the experienced diver pretty much do what you want.

I found the Rainbow Warrior a most enjoyable dive, the wreck lies in a very comfortable depth of 26 m allowing plenty of time to swim around the outside and then spend time with numerous easy penetrations, there's plenty of fish life and heaps of colour.

Water temp was 20deg c and Viz 15m with no current.





The second dive was a spot called Neptune's reef, lots of kelp with some current, the reef is made up of boulder shape rocks similar to parts of Wilsons Prom, however still an abundant amount and variety of fish.

If you out that way this is worth doing

Beach launch



Rainbow Warrior





## Neptune's reef



## Byron Bay Dive April 2014 by Hilary Ingram

The Ingram family travelled up to Brunswick Heads for a family holiday and to visit Corrie sister who's conveniently located in paradise (Brunswick Heads, NSW), so as usual I took the opportunity to nip out for a quick single dive at Byron Bay Dive Centre. I have dived with Byron Bay Dive Centre every couple of years for the last 12 years, there the largest of the two operators (the other is Sun Dive) and I have always had a great dive. I booked two days in advance and unfortunately developed a cold as the day of the dive came closer (courtesy of Wet and Wild), within 48 hours there are no cancellation of dive, as I could still equally I opted to still dive.



Rather large Stonefish.

Leopard Shark.

The first dive was at 8.00AM (vis is normally best on the first dive and as so many divers dive there I would recommend the first dive), it's a ten minute minibus ride, a beach launch of the zodiac and a 10 minute boat ride and then straight into the dive. Our group was a group of four and we stayed in the shallow (12 metres) where vis was better (15 metres), water temperature was a warm 24C. There always lots of Wobbegongs, rays and turtles. Of note was a painted cray, a large stonefish (it had to be pointed out to me) and lazy leopard shark. Great dive the shallows suited my cold, the deeper water was noticeably murkier, I had a minor nose bleed on the surface, which I linked to the head cold, I was happy to have just the one dive.

For those considering a dive up at Byron Bay, please note the colder months have the Grey Nurse Sharks (and White Pointers if you're lucky). There also a new operator out of Brunswick Heads with a 30 foot Kevlcat, that goes out for double dives, they advertise that they dive other locations not just Julians Rock and they were \$160- for a double dive include all gear.

## Port Phillip Heads Dive April 25<sup>th</sup> 2014 by Hilary Ingram

Captain: Graeme Lye.

Crew: John Griffith, Steve Snow and Hilary Ingram.

Graeme Lye sent out an invitation to the club for diving and there were three acceptances, low attendance noting the recent trip to Hogan's by the Breaker and many of the club getting ready for the trip to Africa.





The new SS LYE.

Graeme about to dive in the heads.

Graeme, John and Hilary all travelled down together and met Steve at Sorrento, a well organised launch and we were away. Graeme gave advise the boat operator who had the cover off the motor and was trying to pull start his motor, I thought John would have given advise but we wisely wished him the best at the boat ramp and set forth to catch the slack water at the Heads. John and Steve dived first enjoying a pleasant and productive dive, Hilary and Graeme dived second with the current starting to pick up in this dive. All divers were safely retrieved and we headed to the sponge gardens to do a drift dive after lunch, murky dive with a few large dusky morwong and hundreds of hugs greenlip abalone sighted. On the trip back to the boat we sighted numerous pods of bottle nose dolphins that appeared to be actively feeding, the dolphins swam in the boats wake, appearing to be just centimetres from the bow. As usual Brudg followed the strict approach rules for dolphins, the dolphins were unusually welcoming and followed us for some way, we saw a few other pods closer to Sorrento.

Thanks Graeme for taking us out, thanks Steve and John for your company on such a glorious and better than predicted Autumn 21C blue sky day.



Sorrento bottle nosed dolphins.

Hilary Ingram



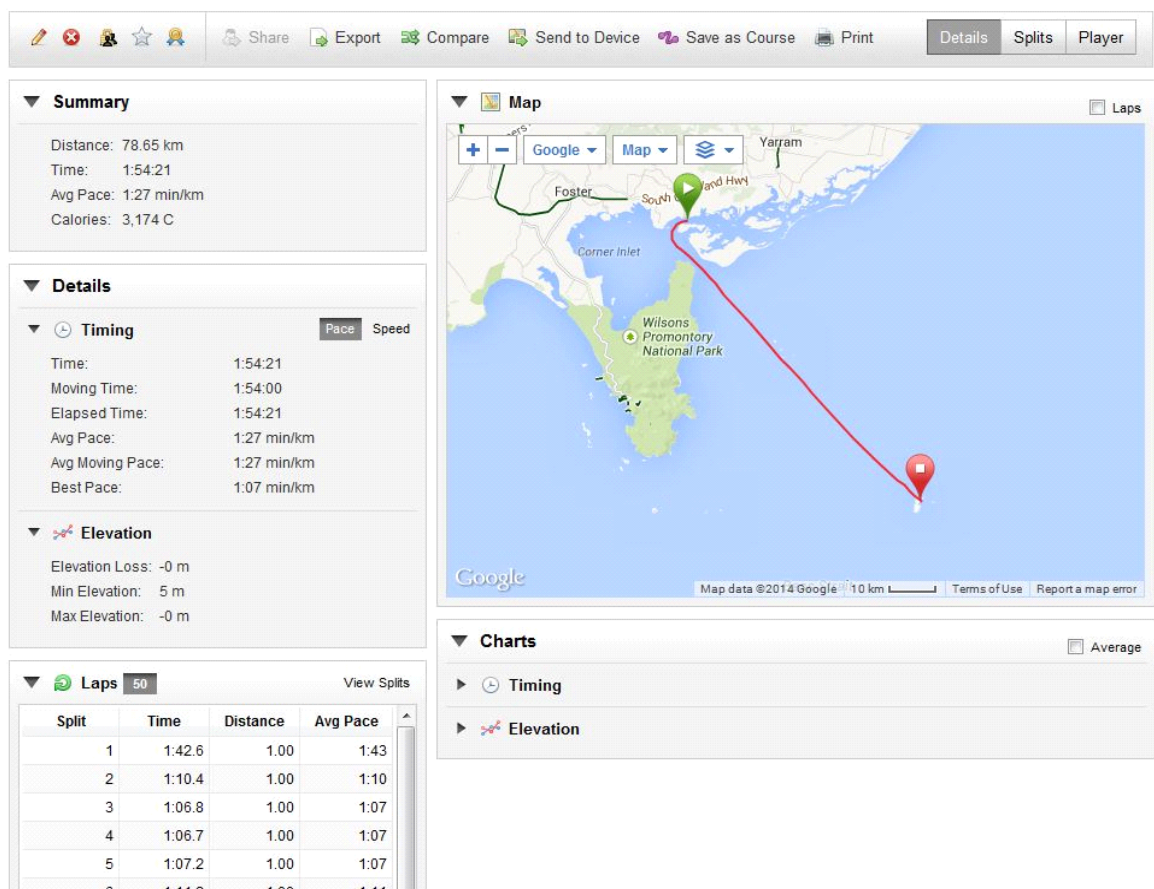
## Dive Report – SS Breaker Hogan Island Trip 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014

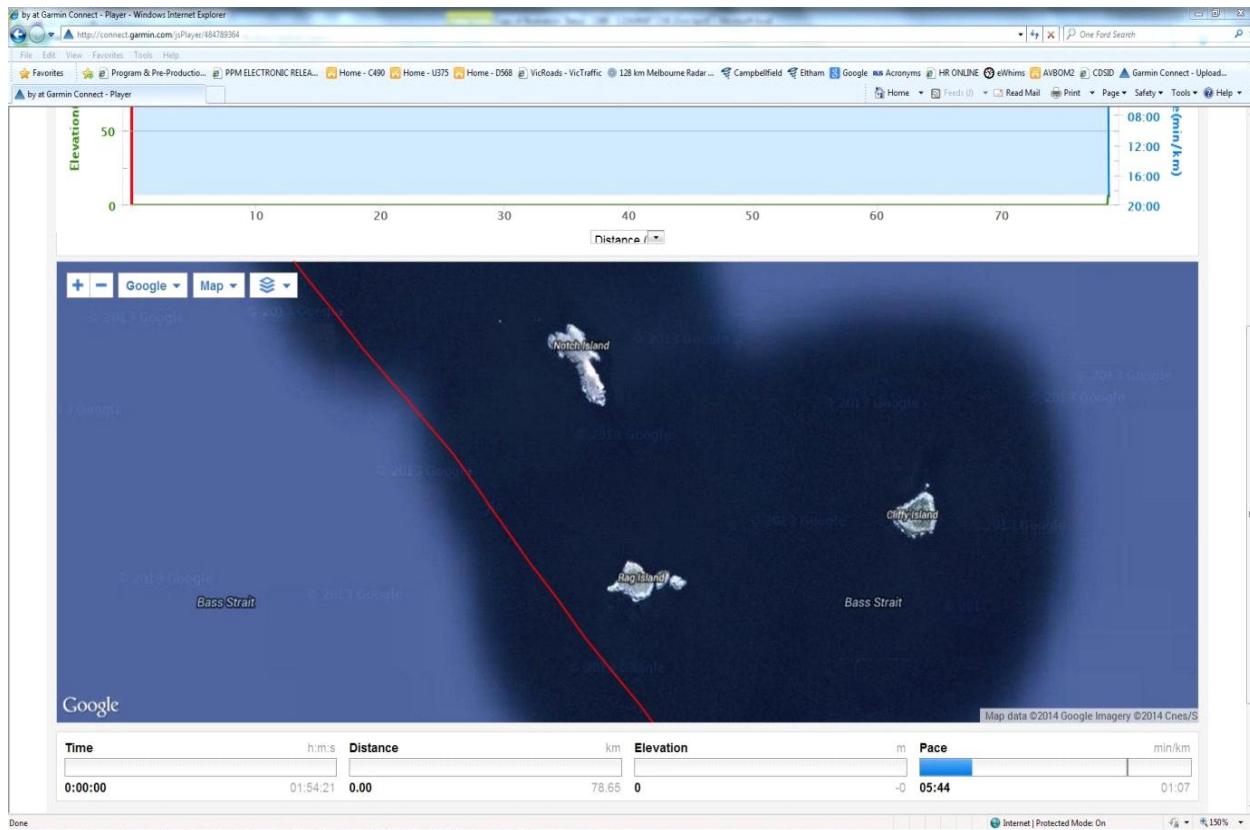
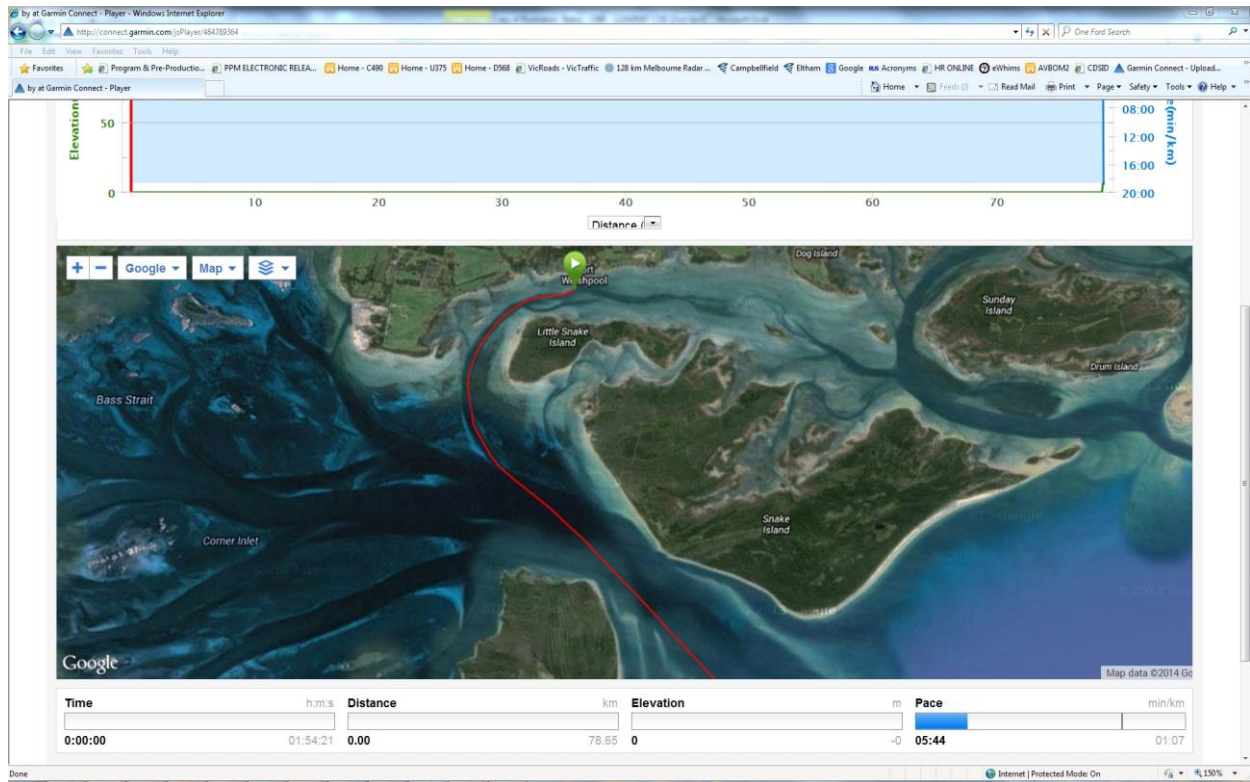
**Skipper:** *Grant Callow*

**Crew:** *Dave Stow, Hilary Ingram & Mike Mosseveld.*

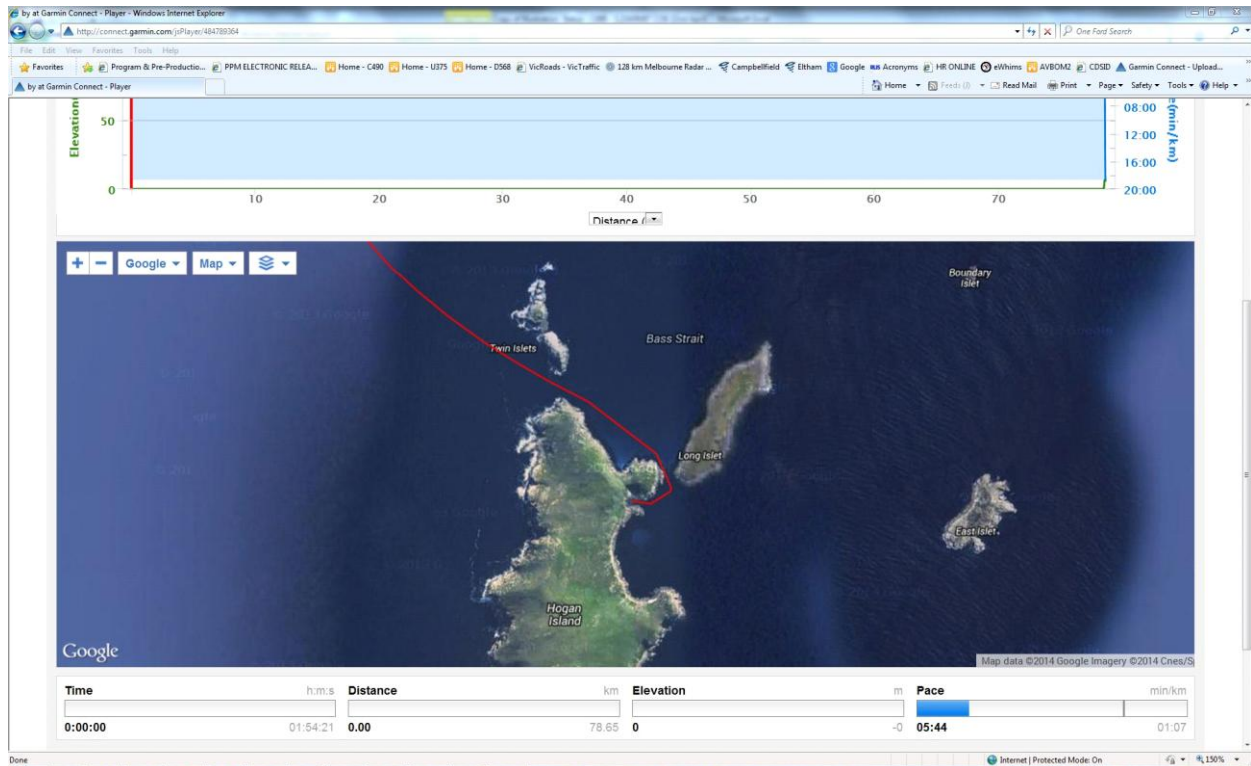
To ensure an early arrival at Port Welshpool the crew stayed at Grant's house on the Wednesday night. After leaving Hurstbridge at 3.30am we arrived in Port Welshpool to find the Petrol station closed..... luckily we didn't have to wait too long as he opened at 6.30 ensuring a prompt departure from the boat ramp (which we were very happy about considering the early start and a weather window for our outgoing trip. Getting off to a great start I managed to slip on the boat ramp while releasing the boat from the trailer - luckily I landed flat on my back in the putrid smelling mud with no injury apart from my pride - fortunately I had a very sympathetic Skipper and crew who managed to top laughing long enough to take photos.

The outgoing trip was very smooth and easy, we made it from Port Welshpool to Hogan Island in less than two hours. I bought my running garmin gps watch which is a bit nifty and syncs upto Google maps - I was very pleased to see that Breaker burnt over 3000 calories on the outgoing trip!







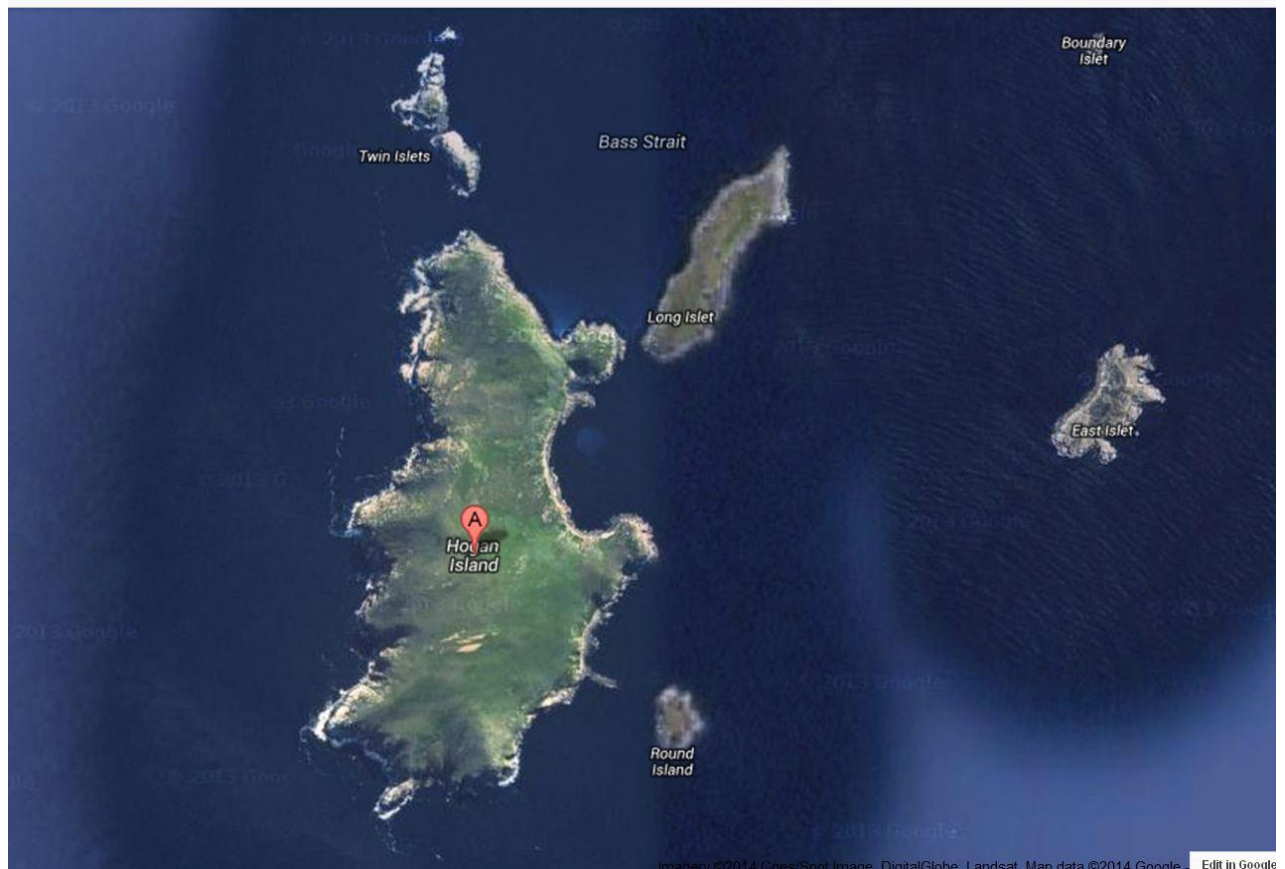


On arrival we secured the boat, we could see that the old hut as expected was burnt to the ground. We were quite surprised by the amount of grass re-generation with just a few burnt tufts of grass indicating the extent of the blaze. The super heroes who decided to burn it down certainly did a proper job, no doubt used fuel to assist thier arson. During our stay we heard but didn't really see too many penguins (although I did see some flying on the trip home until the guys tactfully pointed out the penguins can't fly.....) The rats were plentiful as were the geese who were pretty annoyed at us disturbing them - they managed to poo pretty much every square foot of the island which made pitching tents a messy affair.





We set up camp just North of the beach where the boat was anchored, tents and a camp kitchen/sitting area cobbled from material from the burnt hut, fence posts and tarps. We then headed out for our first dive early afternoon.



Hilary and Mike were first in at a spot on the East side of Twin Islands (nick named the Honeypot) They were down for a conservative 40 minutes at 26m came up with one legal size cray and were back in the boat getting ready to drop Grant and myself in the same spot. Mike had literally taken the helm for 1 minute when he complained something was wrong and collapsed on the floor complaining of lower back pain and numbness in his legs. Grant and I quickly shed our dive gear and went to Mikes assistance while Hilary took the helm. Mike was immediately given Oxygen and I motored us slowly back to camp. The dilemma of making return trip to the mainland before dark was looming plus the forecast was due to deteriorate. Fortunately Mike quickly made a full recovery - the Oxygen worked its magic but as Grant quoted we dodged a bullet that afternoon. We sought further medical advice over the phone and the general consensus was a medical evac was not needed on this occasion - but it meant no more diving (or drinking) for Mike this trip. Overall this was a real wakeup call for us ie. we were over 75km from the nearest boat ramp and this had occurred without pushing any dive limits.

Friday the weather came in as expected, we used the time to modify our kitchen hut and clean up the existing burnt hut. Grant had borrowed a tent from Mike, it was a bit tall and didn't stand up to the wind so we took it down and Grant slept in the kitchen hut in his swag - he had the Hogan rats running over him most of the night though....









Saturday Mike was the boat driver (as per medical advice and no doubt to poor Mikes frustration). Grant, Hilary and I dropped in at the North Cove on Hogan, good dive a pleasant 18deg water Temp with good vis.

Sunday morning we dived the West side of Long Island, this was superb dive with fantasic vis, swim throughs, trenches and caves. We vowed to return to this site as there we were down at 26m and saw much more to be explored below us. In the afternoon Hilary and I dived the South Cove on Hogan, it was quite a surgy shallow dive with carpets of abalone but not one cray to be seen.

Monday came around all too quickly, we decided to dive the Honeypot on Twin Islands to start with. Lots of vegetation, crevices and rock shelves - plus a fair current shooting the three of us along the trenches. I had trouble equalising my left ear so I decided to err on the side of caution and sit out the last dive of the trip whilst Hilary and Grant dived the West side of Boundary Island. They came up with one cray and boarded the boat safely.

I took the helm on the way back to the camp and could hardly believe my eyes when I spotted a boat blasting towards us - he must of been only 200m from us before we even realised he was there. We stopped and had a friendly chat with Victorian Fisheries Officers who then asked us to return to camp for a "proper chat". To cut a long story short we were boarded and searched and licenses were checked, but as always Breaker always behaves by the book regardless whether we are in Victorian or Tasmanian waters. We suspect the campsite had already been searched which was fine, from the outset I think the Fisheries found it hard to contemplate that we were a group of divers on a recreational dive trip doing the right thing - not a rag tag gang on a poaching excursion.

The trip back was good, we had to stop and open the scuppers as we had a bit of swell initially but as we got near the mainland it got flatter and flatter and we made the return trip in less than two hours.

The boys kindly pointed out the sign on the boat ramp that stated "Danger - Slippery Surface" I was delighted knowing the next time we are at the ramp I will be safe.

This was my second trip to Hogans and certainly won't be my last - the convenience of having the boat already in the water and dive sites five minutes away make the logistics of the trip well worthwhile. Many thanks to Grant for doing the lions share of organising as usual and to Mike and Hilary for great company.

Dave Stow.



Although there is no article from Gary Pahoff, after his extensive tour of the Atlantic and Pacific, he promises the link below is worthwhile. I hope you enjoy.

Hi Guys,

The summary of my dive trip to the Galapagos islands was captured by one of my dive buddies, Its a 4 minute video on youtube.  
He did a great job of filming for me..  
The link is below, enjoy

1. Galapagos, un paradiso sottomarino!!! Ecco le nostre immersioni...  
<http://youtu.be/ClgNRlq74wk>

From Gary Pahoff.

## Article from Grant Callow worth reviewing again.

Brudgers,

the Hogan trip all went well but we had 2 events that could have changed things.

1: **Dive incident:** First dive exceeded no limits, no deco required and safety stop completed. After 5 minutes of boarding Mike was driving and said some thing is wrong. He had strong lower back pain and was on the floor with in 30 seconds. He has no history of any past back complaints. His mid section lost feeling and this was moving down his legs. At this point he could not move his legs. I put him straight on to the oxygen. Dave motored us back to camp. I decided best treatment option was on shore at camp. We had to fire man lift Mike to a chair and maintained oxygen therapy. After 35 minutes he regained the feeling and use of his legs. With the oxygen gone I decided to make a 000 call for further medical advise.

Mike was advised to contact the Alfred on his return which he did. The doctor said it was dive related and that the oxygen prevented a more serious out come. He asked how we managed to get him on to oxygen so fast and he informed him that is was part of the first aid carried on the boat in our club. He was impressed. A good out come only because of the club supplied a fully serviced and operational oxy viva.

2 :**Victorian Fisheries visit:** On day 4, our day of return we had just finished our second dive at Boundary Island and were on our way back to camp to pack. We were intercepted by a twin engine Fisheries shark cat. It was on us in a blink. They stopped us and checked our crays for clipped tails and asked questions about if we new where we were and what licenses we had. The instructed us to go back to our camp and they followed us there filming us from behind!. In the bay they boarded our boat and searched us thoroughly. The lifted the floor, went through the cabin and searched bags. They were looking for abs. The Hogan group is closed to ab collection since the virus. We passed with flying colours



and held up the Brudg reputation.

More details to be discussed at the next meeting.

Grant Callow





#### FISHING FILL-ITS

FISHING MONTH BY APRIL 2014

## Illegal equipment seized

Fisheries Victoria has expressed concern over the increased use of illegal snares, hooks and spears to take Southern Rock Lobster.

Fisheries Victoria Officer Ian Westhorpe said over the summer Fisheries Officers had seen a number of Southern Rock Lobster (crayfish) taken through illegal methods.

"With the great summer weather we have been experiencing we have

also noticed an increase in people taking more than their daily catch limits by diving or drop netting several times over the course of a long, hot day," Mr Westhorpe said.

"Spears and snares seem to be the weapons of choice and unfortunately this means they can target rock lobster that would normally be uncatchable and we have had several offenders found with undersize rock lobster, as

well as having more than their allowed daily catch limit.

"Rock lobsters show obvious signs when taken illegal and spears leave puncture wounds and snares can also partially crush the animal.

"We are also aware of the use of hooks, which will often kill or damage the rock lobster regardless of the size.

*Continued page 39*

◀ From page 38

"When taking part in any form of diving for rock lobster, only hands are to be used to take them.

"By taking only by hand or drop net this acts as a control measure to conserve our valuable stocks.

"Divers need to respect the rules around catch limits to ensure

there are healthy levels of rock lobster into the future for everyone to enjoy along this part of the coast."

Mr Westhorpe said snares were classed as commercial fishing equipment and there were severe penalties for their possession and use.

"Rock Lobster is a priority species under the Fisheries Act of 1995 and

people can be fined up to \$30,000 or face jail time – or both," he said.

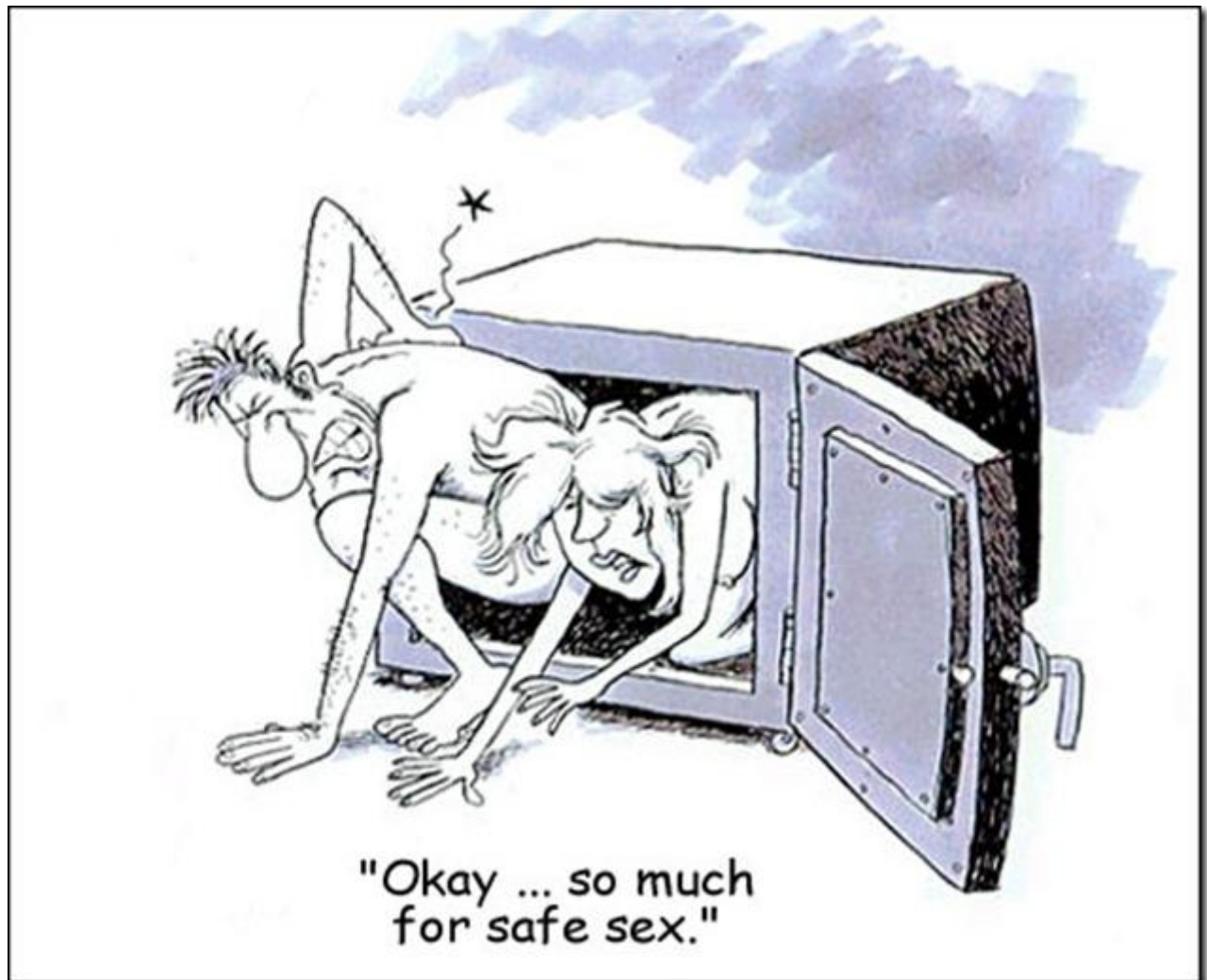
"Fisheries Officers can also seize cars, boats, dive gear and any other equipment used."

Anybody who see or suspects illegal fishing activity is urged to call the 24 hour fisheries offence reporting line 13 FISH (13 3474).

– DEPI Fisheries

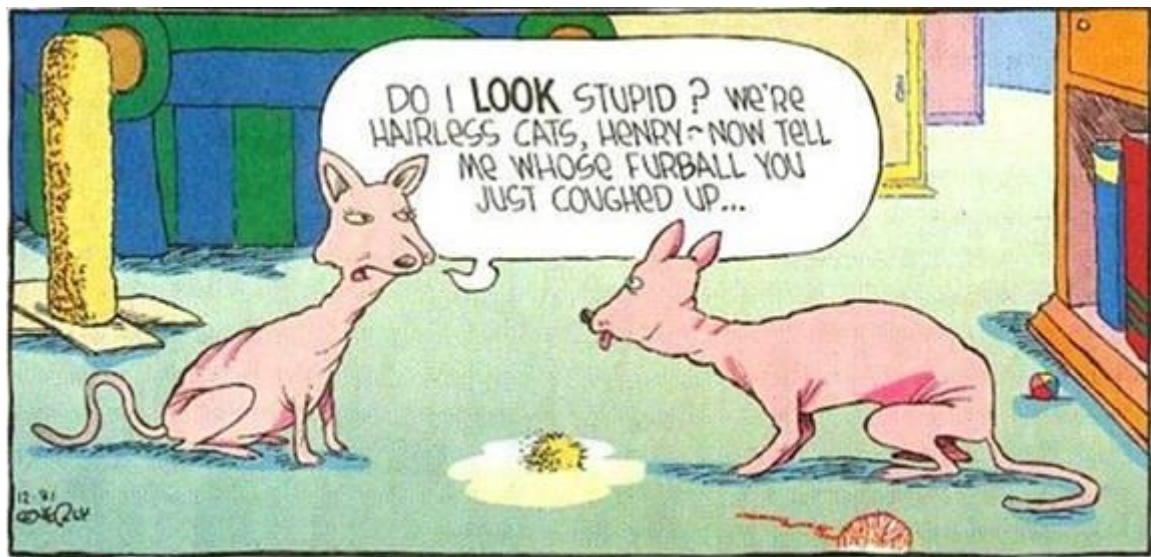


## **"Sealed Section"**

















Men's room in AdventureLand





# **I'M NOT SINGLE MINDED I HAVE LOTS OF INTERESTS!**



**RECYCLING**



**ANTIQUES**



**PHOTOGRAPHY**



**NATURE**



**WEIGHT LIFTING**



**TEACHING**



**HUNTING**



**HISTORY**



**COLLECTING**



# Presidents Report



**April, 2014**

## **President's report**

The expectation of good diving conditions for the autumn session has been full-filled and so far we've had some excellent diving at Apollo Bay, back of Philip Island and around our beloved Cape Shank and even inside Bush Rangers Bay. Yes, there have been a few bad days but fortunately the weather has been good for the most-part.

One concerning point was the poor attendance to the Labour Day Weekend at Apollo Bay with only three (3) BRUDG members bothering to show up. The Group actually lost money on the trip as booked camp site went empty. Those who did attend had a mixed bag of diving ranging from un-diveable on day one to sensational by day four and I look forward to reading Dive Captain Wayne Salisbury report. But I think in future, BRUDG should only make bookings for those who provide deposits and not by show of hands.

The dive on the back of Philip Is on 30<sup>th</sup> March was certainly a 10/10 day. The dive was well attended and we had two excellent dives – one half-way between the Nobbies and Pyramid Rock and the second on Pyramid Rock itself. Our two guest divers – Yarra and Phil joined in and demonstrated their competencies in the water.

The traditional Easter weather switch from predominately Easterly pattern to predominately Westerly pattern again occurred this year on cue but the threatening weather map did not deter Grant from making the carefully and meticulously planned trip to the Hogan Group. I believe they had perfect weather conditions for the trip down but then it swung fresh Westerly and although posing no threat to the safe haven in the eastern cove, may have produced uncomfortable living



conditions in the hike tent accommodation? I'm sure we all look forward to reading the detailed dive report.

The BRUDG members that went to the Philippines – Tom Dreyer (D.C), Steve Snow and Ton Van Den Blink returned unscaved and from all accounts had a terrific time and enjoyed some splendid diving on the live-aboard boat with the only downer being Steve's forced early departure due to work issues that caused him to truncate the trip by a week – Bad luck mate but I guess that's why you're paid the "big bucks", however, I feel for you! – Ed.

Gary Payoff has just returned from diving the Galapagos Islands and I'm sure all of us will be extremely interested in the de-brief and in reading the dive report complete with photo, I hope? Yours truly is extremely envious but I hope to have my day when the Dive Group goes to Africa (Krueger + Mozambique) next week.

One subject that I would like to touch on here is dive meeting place punctuality. **Please – If, anyone is going to be late to the dive, would you kindly phone the Dive Captain?** If dive captain doesn't answer your call, it's probably because he's driving so you must leave a short message on the answering machine. Similarly, could all D.C's please check message bank on arrival to the meeting place to see if there are any messages from the participants? This way, no one will be left guessing!

With regard to monthly meetings at the Celtic Club, I would like to thank all members and guests for their continued support. The Committee feels like it is administering a really active and interested dive group with the continued excellent attendance.

The on-going and somewhat tiring subject of compressor allocation came to head last month and the Committee unanimously agreed to allocate one of the 5.5 cfm machines to Allan Balmer residence in Camberwell. An availability notice will be released shortly advising when and how members can access air fills. Members should also note that the 5.5 cfm compressor currently housed at Wantina at Graham Lye's residence will be shortly moved to John Griffith residence (also in Wantirna) as Graham is moving to Rosebud for his semi-retirement period. We wish Graham all the best and sincerely thank him for hosting the compressor and making us all feel at home when we came around to fill tanks. With Graham's bubbly personality and Donna's charm I'm sure they'll settle well into their new abode and make friends really quickly as they move into the next phase of their life together.

On the safety front and subject to the outcome of the investigation into a potential DCI incident at Hogan's at Easter, it's pleasing to note that despite the huge amount of diving taking place there has been no incidents to report and I must personally thank our Safety Officer's efforts in steering us down the safety front because his strategies are certainly working. Safety is no accident!

Please remember:

- Always deploy a long Jesus line (200 m in current affect areas).
- Always set your compass and follow it to steer yourself ahead of the boat.
- Always surface with ½ tank of air and check your proximity to the boat.





- When you look at yourself in the mirror each morning, remind yourself that you're looking at the person responsible for your safety.

On a closing note, it's a pleasure to report that the boat shortage issue has improved a little now that comrade Jen Ch'ng has his boat on a trailer and is available for action. We still have spasmodic availability of S.S Bell, S.S Payoff and S.S Arlove due to interstate and overseas work commitments so the issue of placing divers on boats on good days when interest is high could still prove to a bit of a problem but the availability S.S Ch'ng is a grateful inclusion.

I'll be trekking around Africa in the first half of May so I must Tender my apologies for being unable to attend the next meeting.

Yours in safe and fantastic diving.

Graeme Rees

BRUDG President

# Safety Officers Report

## Dive Computers

*How well do you understand yours?*

First a step back...

Many, probably most, of the divers at BRUDG learned to dive using decompression tables. US Navy, PADI, NAUI, SSI it doesn't really matter which flavour your learned with, the basic principle is the same with all of them. Take your planned maximum depth → round up for safety, scan across for your planned time → round up for safety and confirm you are within no decompression limits (No Stop Limits). You'll also get a residual nitrogen value or pressure group that can be used to work out required surface intervals for repetitive dives and to adjust down the no decompression times available on subsequent dives.



We were (or should have been) taught to be conservative and think carefully if we were approaching the limits of the tables. After all tables don't take into account the ½ bottle of scotch



you drank round the campfire last night, the 10 degree water temperature, the extra kilos you've added over the years or the fact you're not 20 years old any more. So we learned to stay away from the maximum pressure groups if there were any factors present likely to aggravate DCS. In addition, you'll notice that when I described using the tables at the start I noted that you should always round both depth and time **up** to the next value in the table. This is just another way of increasing the safety margin of the table in use.

We also learned that you needed to follow **all** of the assumptions made by the particular table we were using, these include making recommended or mandatory safety stops, observing minimum surface intervals, maximum ascent rates and the like. Failure to obey any of these rules invalidated the assumptions the rest of the table was based on and made the tables misleading and possibly dangerous.

These days very few recreational limits divers plan their dives with tables any more. It's the 21st century after all and computers are everywhere. Computer diving has become the norm for all but a few luddites and those in the Tech diving community who plan their dives down to the nth degree and prefer to cut custom tables and run the dive from bottom timers instead of computers.

But do you really understand what your dive computer is trying to tell you?

A dive computer is not a magic box that knows what is going on inside the tissues of your body. It doesn't know about the ½ bottle of scotch you drank round the campfire last night, the extra kilos you've added over the years or the fact you're not 20 years old any more, though potentially it just might be smart enough to adjust for the 10 degree water temperature. It all sounds remarkably like good old fashioned tables right? That's because a dive computer really is just an electronic dive table combined with a pressure sensor to monitor depth and a clock to measure time by.

The computer will crunch the numbers for you, but it won't keep you safe unless you understand the underlying assumptions the algorithm (Table) makes and what the computer is trying so hard to tell you at any given time.

The first thing you need to do is RTFM or Read The Friendly Manual. Don't have it anymore? Download a copy, Google is your friend here and there'll be manuals for just about every dive computer made out there somewhere. Read the manual, front to back and back to front. You need to know the maximum allowable ascent rate, what the display looks like if it goes into deco, how to alter the conservatism settings and what they do, and what that bar graph on the side means - and no it's not a speedometer!



*Some computers pack a lot of information into a very small screen.*

Now you'll need to ensure you abide by the assumptions the dive computer's algorithm is based on, note that these are not necessarily the same as what was taught to you using tables many years ago. You need to follow the recommendations for the dive computer you are currently using in order to get the best results.

Have a think for a moment about why we now prefer diver computers over tables. They're certainly easier to use and there is less chance of making calculation errors. They also give credit for multi level dives both extending the no decompression time and allowing for more complicated dive profiles than would be otherwise possible. But we need to be careful with this feature, for it also reduces one of the main points of conservatism present in printed tables. That caused by the common practice of rounding up both depth and time to the next value. With a dive computer the displayed no decompression or no stop time is equivalent to the last pressure group on the dive table for that depth. Remember how we learned to be cautious of the maximum pressure groups with tables? Well that should apply equally to the last few minutes of your no decompression time on a dive computer also.

This loss of conservatism is present in the depth variable as well as the time, when using tables we take the maximum planned depth and round up to the next depth on the table. A dive computer is constantly taking your depth reading and recalculating your NDL, but you've traded the safety of conservatism for the benefit of more bottom time.

What can we do to re-establish this safety margin?

Firstly you can set your computer to more conservative settings if available and when you think there is reason to do so. For example, my computer has three levels of conservatism available.

Secondly if you run into deco, remember that 'clearing your computer' is only the absolute minimum deco the computer 'thinks' is required to get you out of the water safely. You should consider padding that last stop by a few extra minutes unless there are valid safety reasons not to.



Finally, don't allow your dive computer to replace planning or your brain. The computer screen should be a confirmation of what you already expect, not a shock when you realise you've now got 15 minutes of mandatory deco and only 30bar left in the tank.

### **Are some computers safer than others?**

At this time there is insufficient evidence to say that any one brand of dive computer is objectively any 'safer' than any other. Many companies are using proprietary (secret) algorithms so it is doubly difficult to assess computer safety.

My recommendation is simply to stick with well established brands and look for a computer that you can both read easily and adjust intuitively.



*Simple displays can be better for some people.*

It also doesn't hurt to try to match the brand of computer that your regular dive buddies have, this will mean you're all using the same algorithm and should have similar NDL's unless you set different levels of conservatism pre dive. Additionally if you need to show a buddy your computer display during the dive they will read and understand the information much faster if they are already using the same model as you.

I lean toward for a big, easy to read display in preference to wristwatch sized units. I made the mistake of buying a wristwatch sized computer and now every time I use it I regret now going for a computer with a larger display. A quick internet search will also reveal the new generation of computers using OLED displays just like a smartphone screen, big, bright and easy to read. The only drawback in comparison to a standard LED display is the increased battery draw, necessitating either a rechargeable battery or in some instances (eg:Sheerwater Petrel ) easy change AA alkaline battery's.





Whatever you use don't forget that the best computer is the one between your ears.

Dive Safe

Dan Wahrenberger

## Treasurers Report

The state of affairs is as follows:

Main account: \$3175.03

Maxi account: \$5096.60

Cash: \$286.80

Total: \$8540.43

Still owing as per below:

Blackrock Underwater Diving Group

Analyse Receivables [Summary]

24/04/2014

24/04/2014

Page 1

9:39:06 AM

Name

Total Due

Rowan Cleary

\$72.09

Various goods

Gary Spencer

\$130.00

60th Birthday bash

Total: \$202.09



*Joe Arlove*

## Minutes.

-----MINUTES OF THE  
MEETING OF THE BLACK ROCK UNDERWATER DIVING GROUP HELD AT THE CELTIC CLUB ON  
TUESDAY, 11 MARCH 2014.

Meeting Opened: 8.10pm

Hillary Ingram, acting as Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Those Present: Hillary Ingram,  
Joe Arlove  
John Griffiths  
Greg Sauter  
Peter Altis  
Dan Wahrenberger  
Jen Ch'ng  
Allan Conley  
Tony Van der Blink  
Tom Dreyer  
Alan Bulmer  
Graeme Lye  
Joe Jakubczyk



Visitors: Yarra Di Martino  
Phillip De Bono

Apologies: Saskia Loer Hansen, Jon Halland, Graeme Rees, L. Conley,  
W. Salsbury, S. Snow, G. Pahoff,

#### Incoming

Correspondence: Presented by Dan (Acting as Secretary) : None Presented

Treasurer's Report: Presented By Joe Arlove:

Main Bank Account balance : \$3067.00

Maxi Account:	\$5096.57
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Total Funds on hand	<hr/> \$8163.57
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Outstanding accounts receivable \$655.00

Estimated amount owing for compressor maintenance approximately  
\$1000.00

Insurance for the club compressor trailer has been paid.

Approved: Allan Conley, Seconded: Jen Ch'ng

Safety Report: Presented By Dan Wahrenberger



No Accidents or incidents reported.

Allan Conley reported on another club failing to use any trailing lines from their boats whilst diving and anchored and reminded members that a trailing line at least 100m - 200m is necessary.

Alan Bulmer reminded the meeting that it is good practice to keep the boat manned at all times in order to keep a lookout and be in a position to be able to assist surfacing divers who may not be able to make it back to the boat on their own.

Joe Arlove reported that the BRUDG AED currently in his possession has been returned following servicing for a recall notice and is back in safe working order. This AED is to be transferred to Graeme Lye's boat to see more efficient utilisation.

Accepted: Joe Arlove, Seconded Alan Bulmer

Social Report: Not Presented

S.D.F.V. Report: Did not meet this month.

John Griffiths reported that the S.D.F.V. have taken up the public liability insurance deal that was being negotiated over recent months. BRUDG has not taken up this insurance deal.

Dive Calendar: Was published in the latest Dive Magazine.

Noted that the dive calendar needs to be extended ASAP until the end of April.





Action: Dan Wahrenberger to contact Wayne Salsbury with request that he do this and forward result to Hilary for the next BRUDG Down Under edition.

General Business:

Greg Sauter: Reported he has uploaded the contents of the existing BRUDG website to an editable Google Docs page. This will enable any member to edit this page and contact to request he upload the changes. The address for this page is <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AvB1rl6J55A86YzWFZMSoPwp9qydB48JlOfnt1TZh8o/edit> . Greg will look into the viability of a members only section of the page to enable dive calendars, and contact details to be published securely, this is expected to have increased cost and maintenance overhead associated.

Members are encouraged to submit fresh website content to Greg, photos, and any other information not considered a personal security issue will be appreciated.

Africa Trip: Members planning on joining the forthcoming trip to Africa are reminded to consult their GP regarding appropriate vaccinations. Hepatitis and Typhoid were mentioned in particular.

The extreme difficulty in obtaining visa's for Mozambique and the need to post passports away for this was raised. The result is that members participating will pay for the needed visa's at the border at the point of entering the country.

Compressor Allocation: Unresolved at this time.

Action: Committee to resolve this issue at earliest opportunity, preferably prior to next general meeting.

Raffel: Drawn by guest, Yarra

Won by Dan Wahrenberger (Rigged Editor, but he has done so many of the minutes he probably deserves it.)



Meeting Closed: 9:00pm

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BLACK ROCK UNDERWATER DIVING GROUP HELD AT THE CELTIC CLUB ON TUESDAY, 8 APRIL 2014.**

**Meeting Opened:** 8.30pm

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Those Present:** Graeme Rees  
Joe Arlove  
Joe Jakubczyk  
John Griffiths  
Greg Sauter  
Dan Wahrenberger  
Jen Ch'ng  
Allan Conley  
Graeme Lye  
Phillip De Bono  
Wayne Salisbury  
Grant Brittain  
Grant Callow  
Stephen Snow  
Micheal Mosseveld  
Michael Sesin  
Ron Dunlop

**Visitors:** Phillip De Bono  
Ben Barnewell

**Apologies:** Saskia Loer Hansen, L. Conley, G. Pahoff, Ton van Den Blink,  
Tom Dreyer, Alan Bahmer, Conley.J, Hillary

**Incoming Correspondence:**

**Committee Compressor Allocations**

*Committee Compressor Allocations*  
*The Committee met on 26 March and discussed the allocation of the club's current compressors and agreed on the following decisions/ recommendations for the club:*



- 1) A compressor to be allocated to Alan B for a three month trial period*
- 2) Support in principle for the club to purchase another 5 cu ft compressor, subject to identification of a suitable home for the compressor*
- 3) And the committee reserves the right to review the compressor allocation at any point in the year if required, and otherwise will ensure that there is an annual review of the club's compressor allocation.*

**Grant Callow** announced he is Dive Captain for April 18/19th.

Is planning Hogan island trip with Mike Mosseveld, Hilary Ingram and Dave Snow. Will be taking 3.5cf compressor, and diving 15l tanks.

**Hilary Ingram** sent apologies for this meeting. Is hoping to dive Julian's rocks at Byron Bay. Requests material for BRUDG Down Under and would like to publish by the end of this month. Also requests the Wayne submit his Apollo Bay report.

**Hilary Ingram** reported that two women were recently kidnapped by South Philippine pirates/terrorists/extortionists from the Singamata reef resort in Sabah. Same group as responsible for kidnappings in 2000.

**Lorien Holley from Travel2Mozambique** Reported that our group traveling there in May can expect water temps in the 22-24 Deg C range with possible thermocline to just below 20Deg C.

**Melanie from Diverse SCUBA Mozambique** reported that water temperature is currently 26 – 27 Deg C with thermoclines to 24 deg C. She suggested that we should expect water temperature to fall to 24 - 26 deg C next month.

**Ra Hunter our dive leader** for Mozambique advised us to rig for 24 deg C water temperature

**Gary Pahoff** announced he is the dive captain for the coming weekend. Won't be in Melbourne until Saturday but was looking at Hogan with Grant Callow and crew..

### **Enquiries**

Craig Saunders expressing interest in the club and asking if we're still active (as the web page hasn't been updated lately).

Craig's qualifications are: PADI Open water & Advanced open water

- Graeme Rees has replied to his inquiry.

Approved: Dan Wahrenberger

Seconded: Ron Dunlop



**Treasurer's Report:** Presented By Joe Arlove:

Main Bank Account balance : \$3157.03

Maxi Account: \$5096.60

Total Funds on hand \$8253.63

Outstanding accounts receivable \$267.93

Approved: Grant Callow

Seconded: Steven Snow

**Safety Report:** Presented By Dan Wahrenberger

No Accidents or incidents reported.

**Safety Issues Raised during meeting:**

Joe Arlove Reported on two divers rescued drifting off of Wilsons Promontory recently. They were picked up by helicopter and released dye marker to facilitate their location by search and rescue. It is uncertain how the authorities were initially alerted to the incident also there is some question as to the fate of the divers boat.

There was a reminder that for those boat owners who replaced their EPIRB's after the change in frequencies a few years age should check the expiry dates on their units. They will be coming up on battery replacement very soon.

Graeme Rees again reminded on the need for long Jesus lines and diving up current of the boat. He commented that he had been caught in a strong current and though he surfaced in front of the boat, still needed a generous Jesus line to make it back safely.

Greg commented on the possibility of a too long Jesus line getting fouled around a nearby island and the float not being able to follow the changing tide to properly stream behind the boat.

Accepted: Joe Arlove,

Seconded: Graham Lye

**Social Report:** Not Presented

**S.D.F.V. Report:**

John Griffiths reported that the S.D.F.V. have taken up the public liability insurance deal that was being negotiated over recent months. BRUDG has not taken up this insurance deal.

Commercial Abalone quota have been increased in the Western Area, no change for recreational fishermen. Note that there is a possession limit of 10 Abalone per vehicle in the western area.

Parks at Wilsons Promontory are looking for people to assist with U/W species stocks measurement.





Fishing Licences for seniors card holders may increase in cost to compensate for “loss of revenue.”

**Dive Calendar:** Was published in the latest Dive Magazine and updates sent to the members mailing list..

Note was made during general business that for the duration of the Africa trip several boats will be unavailable due to the captains being away.

There was a request to revisit the ex HMAS Canberra again and this was generally well received by those present.

Also proposed for possible consideration by members is a future trip to Timor.

**General Business:** Grant Callow discussed his upcoming visit to Hogan island noting the logistical difficulties, the changeable nature of Bass Strait and the need to launch at dawn for the best chance of a smooth run out. He mentioned that he attempts to take out new members whenever possible but requires people along who can manage the boat, radios and are first aid trained due to the very remote nature of the location. He also spoke about the unknown state of the supply of fresh water on the island after the arson at the island recently. Until this is rectified all boats visiting Hogan should take enough fresh water with them to last the expected trip plus adequate reserve for dealing with bad weather.

**Joe Arlove:** Suggested websites like homeaway.com.au or stayz.com for renting houses for dive trips as a cost effective option to renting camp sites in some instances.

**Compressors:** Graeme Rees will contact Alan Balmer regarding the protocol and address for accessing the 5cfm compressor now located at his residence. This will be published in due course. Also noted was the need to repair/replace the pop off valve on this compressor. This maintenance issue is being dealt with.

Graeme Lye has his house on the market and this means that the compressor currently located there will probably need to be relocated soon. Thanks to John Griffith who has indicated that he would host this compressor if required.

**Greg Sauter:** Commented on the general apathy exhibited by club members in supplying updated content for the website.

He has uploaded the contents of the existing BRUDG website to an editable Google Docs page. This will enable any member to edit this page and contact to request he upload the changes. The address for this page is

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1AvB1rl6J55A86YzWFZMSoPwp9qydB48JlOfnt1TZh8o/edit> .

Members are encouraged to submit fresh website content to Greg, photos, and any other information not considered a personal security issue will be appreciated.

**Grant Callow:** Noted the good service offered for his drysuit by DKG drysuits. Dan

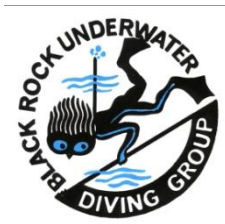


Wahrenberger also noted a good experience from there.

**Micheal:** Noted that diving from RIB's in New Zealand did not require life jackets for every person on the boat. Apparently if wetsuits are being worn this constitutes an exemption...

**Raffel:** Drawn by Grant  
Won by Joe Arlove

**Meeting Closed:** 9:30pm



## Application for Membership

# BLACK ROCK UNDERWATER DIVING GROUP

*'Victoria's Oldest Diving Club'*

Name of Applicant\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address\_\_\_\_\_

Partner (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers, Home\_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile\_\_\_\_\_

(Do not provide a number you do not wish used)

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth\_\_\_\_\_ (Applicant's must be 18 years old to join.)

Diving Certification: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



(At least one basic qualification is needed for full membership.)

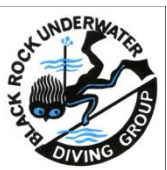
There is a 3-month probationary period and applicants must fulfil at least one dive with the Safety Officer or his nominee not exceeding 20 meters to demonstrate competency. All applicants must have as a minimum Open Water certification and be medically fit to dive. Social (non diving) members do not require certification. All applicants must complete a separate *waiver of liability* which will be provided by a committee member. The joining fee for full members is \$75 plus an additional annual fee of \$100. (Total initial cost \$175 for the first year.). A quarterly prorated annual fee will be assessed if the applicant joins late in the year. Diving members and guests contribute to the boat running costs (based on current fuel prices) and are not included in annual fees.

The information you provide will be added to the membership list, which is available to all members. Membership information is for club use only and applicants agree not to provide it to non-members or to use it for any purpose other than club business.

The information provided by me is true and correct and I agree with the conditions above.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_







**Address All Correspondence:**

**BRUDG/Black Rock Underwater Dive Group**

**c/o Celtic Club**

**320 Queens Street**

**Melbourne, 3000**



**[www.brudg.org.au](http://www.brudg.org.au)**