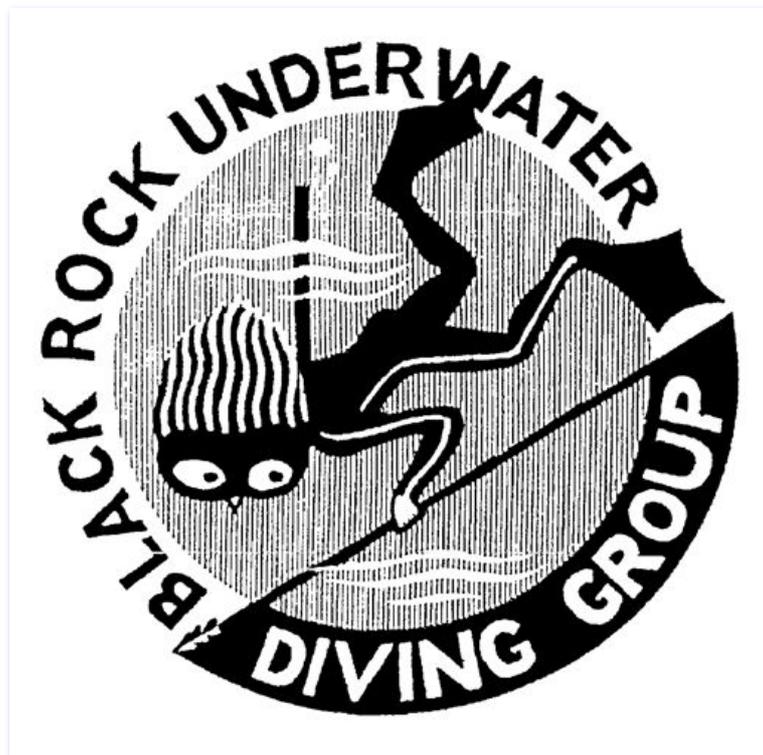


June 2010

# DOWN UNDER

WITH THE

**B. R. U. D. G.**



*Official Bulletin*

OF THE

# BLACK ROCK

**UNDERWATER DIVING GROUP INC**

# EDITORIAL

## HI EVERYONE

### Not a bad Autumn ...

Conditions seem to have been reasonable of late with a fair bit of diving going on and some good crays taken.

The sad thing happening at the moment though is that the formal structure of the Club seem to be coming apart ... we've had no Secretary all year, dive co-ordination is in a state of flux and email list and website (!) are still in disarray. Given that every year a few of the existing and in some cases long-serving Committee members stand down we are going to need some 'new blood' to step up to ensure the Club continues in its current form.

And late breaking news is that our well-respected President is stepping down for reasons that may go beyond his study workload - and senior members are resigning.

Speaking personally I came to the Club as a newly minted diver with a basic open water certification that I gained just after turning fifty - so I was very green (although I looked old enough to be experienced!) and many club members have helped me to become a reasonably competent diver the last few years - and sincere thanks to all that have. It is this aspect of the club we risk losing, if personality issues stay at the fore.

This is a very active Club - its greatest strength is doing lots of diving - but if we can't find members to serve on Committee positions then the Club itself comes into question. Are we a Club or just collection of individuals?

Hoping to see some new faces on the Committee post the AGM.

***Ian***

**Future Club Member  
bathing in Cray Pot  
(the younger Stow)**



### In this Issue

- *This month's humour*
- *President's Report*
- *Dive Calendar*
- *Minutes for May*
- *Report from Gypsy Rose*
- *Local Dive Reports*

**THANKS TO ALL  
CONTRIBUTORS**

***Ian Coward***  
**Editor**

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## THIS MONTH'S HUMOUR

Thanks to Bill Sandford for this month's humour ...

### The Tunnel

Sitting together on a train traveling through the Swiss Alps, were a Kiwi guy, an Australian bloke, a little old Greek lady, and a young blonde Swiss girl with large breasts.

The train goes into a dark tunnel and a few seconds later there is the sound of a loud slap.

When the train emerges from the tunnel, the Kiwi has a bright red hand print on his cheek.

No one speaks.

*The old lady thinks:*

The Kiwi guy must have groped the blonde in the dark, and she slapped his cheek.

*The blonde Swiss girl thinks:*

That Kiwi guy must have tried to grope me in the dark, but missed and fondled the old lady and she slapped his cheek.

*The Kiwi thinks:*

The Australian bloke must have groped the blonde in the dark. She tried to slap him but missed and got me instead.

*The Australian thinks:*

***I can't wait for another tunnel, just so I can smack the Kiwi again***

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## PRESIDENTS REPORT

### Divers

Our AGM is fast approaching and we are looking for a President, Secretary and dive coordinator. As this will be my last report I would like to thank the other committee members individually for their outstanding support to the club and myself. Starting with Gary Pahoff (Vice President and Social Secretary) has done an amazing job organising the Prom SDFS barbeque and all of the other social club events. I have always said this is an important role to keep the social activates on the go when the diving drops off and he has done this exceptionally well. He has had allot of input on the decisions of the committee and his experience is well respected at all levels.

David Simpson (Safety Officer) has taken the club to new levels. The club has most Level 2 First Aid trained divers in its history with more on the way. He has organised numerous safety talks and we will have an AED soon in the club. I would have to say this is the clubs greatest achievement and this is thanks to David's determination.

Ian Coward (Magazine Publisher and Editor) has done an exceptional job. Just when you don't think it can get better he raises the bar to new levels. The clubs mag is the first thing we forward to a new or potential members, it truly reflects the club and the "goings on" in a professional and humorous manner.

Hilary Ingram (Treasurer), took on this role after being in the club for a little over a year. His short time in the club has meant there had the steepest learning curve and he has still managed to keep the high standards required the Treasury position. His efforts reflect his commitment to the club.

So we need your support so we can keep moving forward. I found when I took on the role as President there was no shortage of support for me when I was finding my feet and during my time. This not only came from the committee but members as well. So you won't be on your own. It is important to have a change to bring fresh ideas to the club.

All members need to keep in mind that Brudg is a social club and our energies should be directed to our common interest which is diving, this alone will keep Brudg strong for the next 50 years.

***Dive Safely***

***Grant***

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## **Life Members**

John Davis  
Max Graham  
Lionel Martin  
Bill Silveste

Ron Dunlop  
Bob Hurst  
Dave Perry  
Mike McCrae

## **2008/2009 Committee**

President Grant Callow  
Vice President Gary Pahoff  
Treasurer Hillary Ingram  
Secretary <TBD>  
Social Secretary Gary Pahoff  
Dive Coordinator <TBD>  
Safety Officer Dave Simpson  
Newsletter Editor Ian Coward



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## DIVE CALENDAR

1st June	End of Cray season for girls Inclusive
8th June	Club Meeting Celtic Club
12th to 14th June	Queens Birthday Long Weekend
13th July	Club Meeting Celtic Club
30th July	Booking for Tidal River Weekend CLOSE:
10th August	Club Meeting Celtic Club
14th September	Club Meeting Celtic Club
15th September	End of cray season for boys inclusive
12th October	Club Meeting Celtic Club
30th October to 2nd November	Cup weekend Tidal River
9th November	Club Meeting Celtic Club
16th November	Start of the Cray season
5th December	Club Christmas Party Venue TBD....
14th December	Club Meeting Celtic Club
26th Dec to 7th January	Christmas trip Warnambool..... Contact Grant Callow Robe .....Contact Gary Pahoff Eden .....Contact.....
22nd to 25th April 2011	Easter Open to Suggestions

# MINUTES OF CLUB MEETING AT THE CELTIC CLUB ON TUESDAY 10th MAY

**Meeting Opened: 8:10pm**

<b>Apologies:</b>	Ian Coward, G Britain, John Griffiths, Daryl Avery, Craig Starrit, Darren Bell, Eddie Van Maanen
<b>Correspondence in:</b>	No correspondence in
<b>Business arising from previous minutes:</b>	
	<b>Brudg Secretary required.</b> Radio calling channel to be changed to 72 for calling station. Not eligible for Marine Safety Grant for AED
<b>Safety report:</b>	David Simpson-invited VSAG to join Brudg on the next First aid training cost approx \$150. Distributed Hazard Minimization Procedures and discussed implications as a group. Through discussions with Worksafe it was determined Brudg was a legal entity as we collected fees and provided services and this had Liability implications. Members were reminded to dive with in their certified qualification and to follow the guidelines in the Brudg Diving Manual. Peter Galvin raised the motion to Purchase an AED, Seconded By Stephen Snow Unanimous positive vote from members. David will follow up with Mick Jackson to purchase and organise training.
<b>Treasures Report:</b>	We have \$6052, \$720 owing. The Shame file had a good result and will continue until it is cleared.
<b>Diving:</b>	Ton, Stephen Snow and Gary P dived the Canberra, reported a foot of weed and fish starting to take residence. Also dived Barwon heads and Diamond Bay in Beautiful conditions. Callow,Stow,Brittain, Freitag, went off flinders, only Brudg boat out last weekend, good day had by all. Had no sounder but found some great ground, plan on going back to the same spot.
<b>SDFV:</b>	No report
<b>Social Report:</b>	Night out planned for 24 <sup>th</sup> July in Richmond \$25- 30 per head. Sites are filling for Christmas, Emails to go out this week to finalise bookings.

<p><b>General Business:</b></p>	<p>Anne Brown offered to make covers for compressors. Locking system discussed for compressors while they are out on loan.</p> <p>Members voted and dive reports will come out on Thursday, P Galvin has stepped down, No replacement found, G Callow to fill position until there is a volunteer.</p> <p>Web guy sacked, new one to be sourced.</p> <p>Dive coordination to go out on Thursdays.</p> <p>July AGM approaching, committee nominations are required. Compressor allocation has been reviewed and there are no changes.</p> <p>Annual fees/dues to be reviewed at the next meeting.</p> <p>Dive manual is up for review for tuning. Members reminded that if they dive outside the guidelines this should not be considered a club dive for liability reasons.</p> <p>Feed back from members on the magazine was very positive and continued support required for the magazin</p>
<p><b>Raffle won by:</b></p>	<p>Stephen Snow</p>



**BRUDG'er on  
the mast of  
wreck Emily off  
Portland**

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## ACTION LIST FROM MAY MEETING

Responsible	Action
Ian Fleet	To update radio procedures to show 72 as our calling station.
David Simpson	To organise purchase of AED and training through Mick Jackson.
David Simpson	To send out email regarding the next course for level 2 first aid training.
Hilary Ingram	To forward check to SDFV for Prom BBQ takings
Gary Pahoff	To send out invitation for Restaurant night on 24 <sup>th</sup> July.
Grant Callow, Gary Pahoff	To send out info on Christmas trip to finalise bookings.
Anne Brown, Alan Conley, Grant Callow	Anne kindly offered to make covers for compressors for when they are out on loan.
Alan Conley	To organise trailer locks and compressor lock for when compressors are out on loan
Joe Arlove	To source new web provider
Grant Callow	Review club dues at next meeting.
All Members	More articles for the mag, anything dive related as well as dive reports
All members	To follow the guidelines set out in the club Diving Manual
Stephen Snow, Peter Galvin.	To assist in review of the dive manual
All members	Read the code of conduct and ensure it is followed at all times including monthly meetings.



Homeward bound ...

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## GYPSY ROSE ADVENTURES 2010

*Dear Friends,*

Rounded Cape York yesterday, 25th May 2010 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon – the most northern part of Australia!!! From that you will have guessed that we have departed – so called cut the umbilical cord (that is, the power lead to dock side). On the 12th of May we left Blue Water Marina, Cairns, and on our very first day the Wind God was very kind to us, I'm sure to ease us into the constant battle we will have with him (her?) during our time on the water. We had a gentle 10-15 knots of wind from behind and at a leisurely pace we made our way to Low Isles where we were lucky enough to pick up a mooring. Well, I ask you, how good is that for our first day.

Second day saw us starting our battle with the Wind God, sailing goose-winged we were getting gusts to 27-30 knots as we approached Cooktown. A great and fast sail – Gypsy Rose loves the wind from her 'behind', nautical term 'aft'. Via via we had heard about a mooring we could hire for a slab of beer, so once again, we picked up a mooring. How good is that...so far we did not have to dirty our freshly painted anchor. However, in the river at Cooktown, when the wind and tide were opposing, we were shearing at the mooring – NOT GOOD – and some sudden jerks put a nasty scratch or two in our freshly painted hull from the shackle on the mooring chain. Bummer.

Leaving Cooktown we had a forecast of 20-25 knots SE which meant initially we would have the wind on our beam and with the seas biggish, rolling towards shallower waters, the butterflies were having a good old time in my stomach. Got ourselves sorted with two reefs in the main and hey, this wind was actually pretty good and once we were able to lay our course more to port the wind was more aft and at that point we decided that those 20-25 knot breezes are actually pretty great sailing winds from the right angle.

Off to Lizard Island we went, great speeds. Now, in this cruising business everybody seems to go north – from Melbourne to Sydney and back, from Sydney to Brisbane and back, from Brisbane to Whitsundays and back, or as far as Cairns and back, and the really keen 'going north mob' goes to Lizard Island, does a u-ee and goes south again. We have now realised there is more 'north' after Lizard Island and beyond – another mob of sailors sail from Cairns to Cape York, where one really runs out of 'going north' – then it'll be west to go to Darwin or the Kimberleys. At Lizard Island we climbed Cooks Look-out from where Captain James Cooke tried to figure out how to get out of the reef.

The coast from Cairns north becomes very isolated and remote, nothing much at all in the way of civilisation, although we have been buzzed three times so far by Customs (2x by plane and 1x by helicopter), wanting to know who we were, where we've come from and where we're going.....our taxes at work! The area is full of reef, islands

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and rocky bits and navigation got to be spot on, but, wow, the reef does make for calm waters – no swell, just wind waves and those 15-20 and 20-25 South Easterly are a great sailing wind, mostly from aft, and only every so often we have to do a gybe when we make course changes.

An hour or so out from Morris Island, a small sand island with surrounding reef in the middle of the ocean (our spot for the night – so weird, nothing around you but water and this small island) we heard two loud bangs followed by an alarm from the auto pilot ‘rudder failure’. Of course, things happen just as the wind had picked up to 25-30 knots, gusting 33 – and with Carla now hand-steering Peter tried to sort out the problem. Long story short, at Brisbane we had the tube replaced on the rudder shaft and the arm on the rudder shaft to the auto pilot had obviously not been put back the same way as it had now slipped on the shaft resulting in the bolt on the rudder arm to the auto pilot snapping as well as the chain on the quadrant. Not happy Jan.... And what is it with this Wind God (anyone know his name?? – I know it is not Murphy because he does other ‘things’ to us) – when we have a system failure or when I start cooking the hot lunchtime meal, the wind pipes up.

Our travels took us to some great anchorages – beautiful bays, islands and we even went up the Escape River. That was awesome, but a little nerve-wrecking trying to make our way up the river passed shallow patches, pearl farms and a rock ledge just inches below the surface – but the reward was worth it. So calm and peaceful, not a motion.... AND, to date we have not seen a crocodile, are they really here? Although, a very kind local, we think the pearl-farmer, came over by run-about to say g’day and wish us a pleasant stay at Escape River with the added comment ‘don’t go for a swim’.... Also offered to get the grinder out to take our sign-written homeport of Melbourne off the stern of Gypsy Rose, what is it with these Queenslanders – us Victorians are considered ‘Mexicans’ and are looked down upon, never mind that half the Queenslanders originate from Victoria. The Queenslanders also like to save their energy, names like Thursday Island become TI, Great Keppel Island becomes KI and if they feel really really energetic it’s GKI. Hamilton Island is Hammo – just to name a few. They have trouble spelling as well as they call their beer XXXX.

Don’t forget to check our position on : [www.pangolin.co.nz/yotreps/reporter\\_list.php](http://www.pangolin.co.nz/yotreps/reporter_list.php)

Peter has also done a new blog update, and for that go to : <http://gypsyrose2.blogspot.com>

We’ve rounded Cape York and are presently anchored at Seisa, a lovely spot, from where we will depart to Gove across the Gulf of Carpentaria some two and a half day’s sail away, i.e. two overnights at least. Today’s weather report shows very light winds for the next few days and as we don’t want to motor across the Gulf we’ll just have to be patient for the right wind – we’ll keep you posted.

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At Seisia we finally have internet and mobile phone access again, we so called surfaced from no-mans land. This email will be sent via our normal email address, but once departed from Seisia we are well and truly out of range again for a while, but – you can always reach us via our sailmail address, and yes, we love to hear from all of you. Our sailmail address is : VLV3904@sailmail.com. But, here are some do's and don't's in relation to our sailmail address, the reason being that we are only allowed limited access and as we use our HF radio for the sailmail we are reliant on atmospheric conditions and with possibly other people occupying the frequency it can be cumbersome to get 'on line'. The sailmail system also has certain limitations :

- do not send attachments
- no fancy writing or signatures/logo's
- if you must press the Reply button, PLEASE make sure you delete the original message
- absolutely do not put our sailmail address in your Outlook address book for obvious reasons

Wonna know our weather here? Well, I can tell you hot is the word – nothing under 30 degrees so far. If we have a breeze it's fine but no breeze and you feel the heat – so shorts and flimsy tops (for Carla) and no tops (for Peter). Saves on washing, that I like!

Anyway, boys and girls, greetings from the Gypsy Rose Adventurers. Hopefully the next issue will be from the other side of the Gulf.

***Peter & Carla Vermey***

**Sailing Yacht "Gypsy Rose 2"**



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## TREASURERS REPORT

*Hilary wishes to report that the Club is solvent - his treasurers report is as follows:*

\$5,985.40 in the combined bank accounts, broken up as follows:

Deposit Bearing Interest account \$2,847.59

Maxi Direct account \$3,137.81

Apologies for delay here is my list of outstandings from club members.

Ian Christianz \$20.00 Social.

Rohan Cleary \$96.00 Apollo Bay.

R. Goudie \$20- Social subs.

J. Griffiths \$120- Apollo Bay.

M. Griffiths \$120- Apollo Bay.

S. Heath \$44- Tanks.

L. Hearne \$100- Subs.

D. Kelly \$20- social

F. Reynen \$100- Subs.

W. Salisbury \$100 Subs

Can all members please pay outstanding accounts.

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## COMPRESSOR LOCATIONS

*Please respect the private lives of compressor holders and call before turning up - a visit may not always be convenient ...*

Item	Unit No	Insured value (\$)	Page Ref.	Contact, location and general availability (You <b>MUST phone first to confirm</b> )
Compressor	C - 01	xxxx	6	<b>Allan Conley</b> Ph 97013944 C.V Tooling Pty Ltd Fowler Road, Dandenong Week days only: Mon – Thurs: 7.00 AM – 3.30 PM Fri: 7.00 – Noon
Compressor	C - 02	xxxx	7	<b>Joe Arlove</b> ph 9700 6630 51 William Hovell Drive, Endeavour Hills Week-days : 5 PM – 8 PM Weekends:: 10 AM – 8 PM (Careful of dog).
Compressor	C - 05	xxx	8	<b>Graham Lye</b> ph 9729 5495 5 Cheviot Close Wantirna Week-days : 5.30 PM – 7.30 PM Weekends:: 9.00 AM – 6.30 PM
Compressor	C - 04	xxx	9	<b>Grant Callow</b> 9718 1616 19-23 Valley View Rd Hurstbridge Week-days 5.30 PM – 8.00 PM Weekends 9.00 AM – 8.00 PM
Compressor	C - 03	xxx	10	<b>Darren Bell</b> 0421 172 131 18 Centre Dandenong Rd Cheltenham Week-days : 4 PM – 8 PM Weekends:: 9AM – 6PM

## Local Dive Reports: March and April

**Divers:** Galvin, Simpson, Vandenblink, Glenda Grainger, Hilary Ingram

**Boat:** Galvin.

**Location:** Sorrento, 21st March

Conditions outside, and probably close to the Heads, were not going to be too flash, with a 15 knot SW wind and large swell, and we planned a scallop dive near Rye, at Allan Conley's secret location. Hadn't done a scallop dive for years.

Conditions were quite good at Sorrento but as made our way to Rye the wind picked up a bit and was a nuisance as while we drifted it pushed the boat in the opposite direction to the tide. So we were constantly motoring to keep the bow into the wind.

Initially, Ton poohoed Allan's secret location, "Conley would not know poop from clay", and claimed he knew Pahoff's secret location and there were huge numbers of dinner plate sized scallops there. Ton and Dave geared up first and we dropped them in. Within minutes they had resurfaced. "No scallops here. You put us on the wrong spot". So in they go again, this time on the "right spot". Same story again, "No scallops". But Ton has a plan, he knows Pahoff's other secret location, so we go there. You guessed it, 5 minutes into the dive and they re-surface. "Let's go to Allan's secret location. Pahoff wouldn't know poop from clay", says Ton. And so we did.



After quite some time Ton surfaced with a bulging catch bag of scallops and as Dave hadn't quite filled his we gave him another bag and off he went again. Then Dave came back with a bulging bag and we re-bagged him and off he went again. Just as they were surfacing along came a Fisheries boat, but no problem we are completely kosher.

The Fisheries guy looks at the box of scallops and Ton and Dave's bags and asks how many scallops we have and who caught them. We tell him we haven't counted them yet and Dave and Ton caught all of them. They asked us a couple of times who caught them and we responded with Dave and Ton each time. "Well we had better count them, then", says the Fisheries man. 398. Only then did they explain the regs that each diver is only allowed to catch 100 scallops, it isn't 500 for the boat. Bugger. So they gave us one fine of \$350 instead of two fines of \$350. We will know next time. Expensive scallop dive.

They threw back the extra 198 scallops, someone will get a bonus, and we took off to complete our dive.

That night after several hours cleaning the scallops I decided this would do me for scallop diving for another couple of years.

***Peter Galvin***

## DOWN UNDER

**Divers:** Galvin, Simpson, Vandenblink, Glenda Grainger, Hilary Ingram

**Boat:** Galvin.

**Location:** Sorrento, 28th March

The forecast looked fairly reasonable about a one meter swell and light Easterlies and Northerlies building to 20 to 30 knot Northerlies late in the morning. And it was spot on.

The trip from Flinders was a little choppy as we had a following Easterly breeze and the swell at times was over a meter, it was a true long period groundswell. And the water looked quite dirty. But once we rounded Cape Schank the sea was quite calm except for the meter groundswell. We motored a few kms down the Schank and found some reasonable reef in about 18 meters. I was amazed at how deep blue the water was and when Dave and Ian went in we could see them quite clearly at 18 meters. They found fantastic reef, lots of fish life but no crays. When they came back the water was still very clear but the Northerly was starting to pick up and we were taking a bit of a belting, but the chop was quite small. Ian had a bit of ear pain on the way down, stopped and cleared his ears and then continued on. Unfortunately he had burst an ear drum.

We moved further North along the Schank to about 15 meters depth but by now the water was quite dirty. Joe had some problems getting down and Dave and I did the dive. The reef at first was quite reasonable but near the end of the dive we found a four meter wall that was quite spectacular and then an inquisitive seal decided to spend some time with us. Only saw one cray that was just size, but I felt guilty taking the only cray in the area so put him back into his ledge.

On our return the wind was fair howling and the water was filthy so we decided to call it a day.

### *Peter Galvin*

**Divers:** Galvin, Simpson, Glenda Grainger, Ingram, Allan and Luke Conley, John Griffiths, Altis, Jakubczyk, Lye, Rate, a bloke who looked a lot like a blast from the past Adam Staines, Pahoff, Snow, Rees, Moore, Starrit, Brown

**Boats:** Galvin, Conley, Griffiths, Lye, Pahoff, Rees.

**Location:** Sorrento, 18th April

The wind forecast was perfect, light Northerlies, but unfortunately the swell forecast was for a bit over a one meter long period groundswell. Again the forecast was spot on, there was no chop

## DOWN UNDER

at all and you could clearly see the long period swells at time up to near two meters but mostly around one meter.

We headed out of the Heads with Hilary skippering and went to a reef that Dave Kelly had given me the marks for, he called it 20 Meter Reef. It was basically inshore from the Canberra. There was a long line of cray pots running parallel to the shore and the pots marked a line of reef with about three to four meter walls and bomies. We managed to find a spot in between the pots and Dave and Hilary went in first.

On their return they enthused about the reef but they had only seen one cray that Hilary had caught. We moved a few meters along the line of reef and Glenda and I went in. They were right about the reef but again we only found and caught one cray. But the reef and fish life was excellent, biggest sweep I had seen in a long time.

Unfortunately the swell was quite strong and the water fairly dirty but the reef was so good that it took ages to move as you had a large number of hidy holes to look in.

For the last dive Dave Simpson's ear was a bit sore so he decided to sit it out, good decision, and Glenda was cold. So Hilary and I went in, again after moving a short distance along the reef. The reef was again very nice but this time we had an seal play with us for quite some time. She was quite friendly and even went into ledges we were inspecting. On quite large cave I looked had what I thought was an odd looking rock but as my eyes adjusted I could see it was a size big wobbegong, first one I have seen in Victoria. It didn't appreciate my presence and made a lunge at me. I was out of their in no time and decided not to show Hilary.

The trip back was at near enough to full speed, hardly any chop on the Bay or outside. And then back in the car park Glenda got out the home made scones, jam and cream, brilliant. Unfortunately some of the guts aches from the other boats sniffed out the free feed and hung around like bad smells until we threw them a few crumbs.

A great day, except for the swell.

***Peter Galvin***



# DOWN UNDER

## ABALONE RECIPE

*Thanks to Stephen Snow for this - he is informed that it 'reliably works'!*

**ABALONE IN OYSTER SAUCE**

<p><b>Ingredients</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 300 ml Cold Water</li> <li>• 4 slices ginger</li> <li>• 1/2 tsp. salt</li> <li>• 1 tbsp. cooking oil</li> <li>• 10 stalks asparagus, discard the tough lower ends.</li> <li>• 3 slices ginger (finally chopped)</li> <li>• 3 cloves garlic, chopped</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sauce ingredients: Combine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 1/2 tsp fresh chicken stock</li> <li>• 1 1/2 tsp salt</li> <li>• 1/2 tsp. sugar</li> <li>• 1 1/2 tsp corn flour</li> <li>• 1/2 tsp Hua Tiam wine</li> </ul>
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**Method**

1. Remove the fresh abalone from the shell.
2. Trim off the little ruffle around it and slice thinly.
3. Put the abalone in a deep saucepan with water to cover and simmer for about five hours. Proceed with the following recipe.
4. Place the cold water in a saucepan and bring to a boil.
5. Add the ginger, salt and oil.
6. Place the asparagus in the water, cover, lower the heat and cook for six to seven minutes.
7. Remove and arrange the asparagus to a serving dish and set aside.
8. Heat two tablespoons of oil in a wok.
9. Add the ginger and garlic.
10. When lightly browned add the combined sauce ingredients.
11. When it begins to boil put in the abalone.
12. Reduce the heat and simmer for 12 minutes.
13. Turn up the heat to high and add the wine.
14. Pour this over the asparagus.
15. Arrange the abalone delicat neatly and serve at once.

## Local Dive Reports: May

**Divers:** Gary Pahoff (The Hoff), Ton Van den Blink (Dutchy)  
Stephen Snow (Snowy)

**Boat:** Pahoff.

**Location:** HMAS Canberra and Barwon Heads, 3rd May

Conditions outside, and probably close to the Heads, were not going to be too flash, with a 15 knot SW wind and large swell, and we planned a scallop dive near Rye, at Allan Conley's secret location. Hadn't done a scallop dive for years.

Conditions were quite good at Sorrento but as made our way to Rye the wind picked up a bit and was a nuisance as while we drifted it pushed the boat in the opposite direction to the tide. So we were constantly motoring to keep the bow into the wind.

Initially, Ton poohooed Allan's secret location, "Conley would not know poop from clay", and claimed he knew Pahoff's secret location and there were huge numbers of dinner plate sized scallops there. Ton and Dave geared up first and we dropped them in. Within minutes they had resurfaced. "No scallops here. You put us on the wrong spot". So in they go again, this time on the "right spot". Same story again, "No scallops". But Ton has a plan, he knows Pahoff's other secret location, so we go there. You guessed it, 5 minutes into the dive and they re-surface. "Let's go to Allan's secret location. Pahoff wouldn't know poop from clay", says Ton. And so we did.



After quite some time Ton surfaced with a bulging catch bag of scallops and as Dave hadn't quite filled his we gave him another bag and off he went again. Then Dave came back with a bulging bag and we re-bagged him and off he went again. Just as they were surfacing along came a Fisheries boat, but no problem we are completely kosher.

The Fisheries guy looks at the box of scallops and Ton and Dave's bags and asks how many scallops we have and who caught them. We tell him we haven't counted them yet and Dave and Ton caught all of them. They asked us a couple of times who caught them and we responded with Dave and Ton each time. "Well we had better count them, then", says the Fisheries man. 398. Only then did they explain the regs that each diver is only allowed to catch 100 scallops, it isn't 500 for the boat. Bugger. So they gave us one fine of \$350 instead of two fines of \$350. We will know next time. Expensive scallop dive.

They threw back the extra 198 scallops, someone will get a bonus, and we took off to complete our dive.

That night after several hours cleaning the scallops I decided this would do me for scallop diving for another couple of years.

***Stephen Snow***

**Divers:** Captain - Dave Stow, crew - Grant Callow, Rainer Freitag & Hilary Ingram.

**Boat:** SS Breaker.

**Location:** Sorrento, 15th May Hi lan,

The Forecast was looking promising all week and was delivered as predicted, swell less than 1m and very light westerly wind. We made good progress through the Heads, encountered a slight swell until we were clear then travelled on to Sorrento Back Beach using the Band Stand pergola as a landmark as we are still awaiting to receive our replacement GPS.

Rainer & I dropped in first, both on hookah straight onto sand... we came back up immediately and relocated about 200m east. This time we struck gold, beautiful territory 3m bommies carpeted with abalone, saw a few crays but were undersize so of course left them.

Grant & Hilary followed, Hilary braved it in a wetsuit but the temperature was a fairly comfortable 17degrees. Grant had ear problems descending on the first dive so they called it a day and missed their second dive.

Rainer and I went for our second dive bringing up 2 crays, one weighed in at 3.2kg so we were very happy

By this time the water was completely calm we blasted back at 60kmh slowing to 55 through the Heads, very good days boating and diving.

***Cheers  
Dave***



***Skipper showing off..***

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