

# *Sea Braggin'*



## **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

**- SEPTEMBER 2010 - Edited by Ray Moulang -**

*INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE ARE DIVE REPORTS FROM :..*

**PETER FLOCKART, PAUL PACEY AND NATASHA NAUDE**

**PICTURE PRESENTATIONS FROM :..  
GARY PERKINS**

**A BIG THANK YOU GOES TO THEM.**



**Queensland Groper by Gary Perkins at Nth Haven.**

# WHAT' S HAPPENING IN YOUR CLUB

## ***- SEPTEMBER 2010 -***

WHEN	WHAT AND WHERE	CONTACT	WHEN	WHAT AND WHERE	CONTACT
Saturday 4th	Boat Dive - Yellow Rock From Botany Bay	Jason Coombs 9345 4599	Saturday 18th	Deep Dive Rose Bay	Peter Flockart 9371 0265
Sunday 12th	See Food and Sea Food at Ship Rock Port Hacking	Paul Pacey 9527 2501	Sunday 19th	Shore Dive and BBQ Shellharbour	Jason Coombs 9345 4599
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting at Rowers Club	Jason Coombs President	Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Boat Dive Rifle Range Malabar from Botany Bay	Peter Flockart 9371 0265

# – OCTOBER 2010 –

WHEN	WHAT AND WHERE	CONTACT	WHEN	WHAT AND WHERE	CONTACT
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> to Monday 4th	Away Long Weekend Boat Dives Kiama.	Ray Moulang 0403437974	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> To Sunday 24th	Weekend Trip to Port Stevens	Kelly McFadyen 9545 5596
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Deep Dive SS Tuggerah/ SS Undola from Yowie Bay	Gary Perkins 9533 6869	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> To Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Overseas Trip Palau	Dave Casburn 9527 6279
Sunday 17th	Boat Dive Red Flag / Magic Point Botany Bay	Jason Coombs 9345 4599	Saturday 23rd	Double Boat Dive Rose Bay to SS Duckenfield and Dee Why Wide	Ray Moulang 0403437974
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Club Meeting Rowers Club 8pm	Jason Coombs President	Sunday 31st	Boat Dive to Blue Fish Point from Rose Bay	Peter Flockart 9371 0265

## **St. George Scuba Club Annual General Meeting**

The AGM was held on the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2010 marking 37 years for the club.

All committee members stood down at the meeting.

The committee remains stable for the 3rd years in a row with all office holders returning to their positions:

**President - Jason Coombs**

**Assistant Secretary/Treasurer - David Casburn**

**Vice-President - Peter Flockart**

**Newsletter Editor - Ray Moulang**

**Treasurer - Mark Ridsdale  
McFadyen**

**Web Master - Michael**

**Secretary - Eddie Ivers**

Also at the meeting **Steve Shaw** one of our longest serving members, incidentally celebrating 30 years with the club this year, was voted a life member of the club. Steve is a former president of the club (2002 – 2006) and has been very active with the club for many years. Steve is now our 7<sup>th</sup> life member.



The one without the shirt is Steve

Members will be pleased to know that membership fees remain at \$25 a year. A bargain!

The club is only as successful and enjoyable as it is due to the voluntary contributions of members.

## **Palau Trip Organised by Dave Casburn.**

**15 Days /14 Nights Ex. Cairns \$2765 Ultimate Wreck & Reef**

**Diving Expedition 15 Days /14 Nights Ex. Cairns \$2765 Ultimate Wreck & Reef - Diving Expedition**

**- 21 October - 05 November 2010 –**

### **TOUR COST INCLUDES: .**

Return flights Cairns to Palau - (flying with Continental Airlines) - Day Use of room at Ohana Bay View in Guam

. Return airport transfers in Guam

. 13 Nights Twin Share Acc. West Plaza Hotel - Palau

. 12 boat dives (6 days of 2 dives/ day) incl. tanks, weights, belts, dive guide services, lunch and refreshments on diving days - Nitrox for nitrox certified divers

. Snorkel Jellyfish Lake during diving surface interval

. Return Airport Transfers in Palau

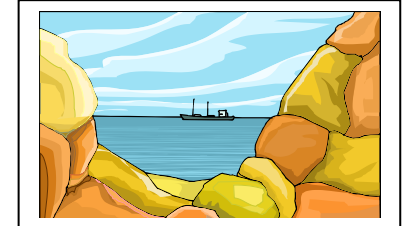
. Day Use of room at Ohana Bay View in Guam

. Australian departure and applicable airline taxes (\$240.00 and subject to change)

Optional Upgrade - Extra 10 boat dives - \$685

**See Dave for more info and to book.**

## Yellow Rock Boat Dive – 4<sup>th</sup> September



**Going out of Botany Bay to Yellow Rock (Northern headland at Long Bay).  
We will leave some air in our tanks to drop in on the Sharks at Magic Point  
for a second dive.**

**If you are interested please e-mail Jason ([j.coombs@unsw.edu.au](mailto:j.coombs@unsw.edu.au))**

### **Stockton Beach Dive and Drive.**

A trip is planned for a Shore Dive at Swansea and a Four Wheel Drive and camp on Stockton Beach on Saturday and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> November.





## **2010 President's Report**

St George continued its record run of membership with 125 members in 2010 up from 111 the year before. It made it difficult to put names to faces and tested the treasurers receipt book.

In 2010 the club is 37 years young. For almost all of that time Steve Shaw and Judy Morris have been members. This year they both celebrate 30 years of membership with the club. Congratulations to them both!

1995 was a popular year for joining the club and we have a number of members who celebrate 15 years with the club this year - Sue Shaw, Mike Scotland, Glenn Townsend, Robyn Hewitt, John and Sue Fowden, Eda DiCamillo and Mark Ridsdale. Congratulations all!

We have busy year with 73 activities on the calendar for 2010. This excludes regular night dives, deep dives and Wednesday boat dives taking the total annual activities to well over 100.

Our diving activities continue to be supported by the generosity of the boat owners.

A special thank you to; Les Caterson, Michael McFadyen, Dave Casburn, Ian Gowan, John Beddie, Ray Moulang and Michael Wright.

Special thanks also goes to our committee members; Peter Flockart as Vice-President, Mark Ridsdale as Treasurer, Eddie Ivers our secretary, Dave Casburn our Assistant Treasurer / Secretary, Ray Moulang Newsletter Editor and Michael McFadyen our Webmaster.

The last year was also a busy year for consultations. We made submissions on the Cabbage Tree Bay reserve managements plan, La Perouse Road upgrade at Bare Island and the upgrade to the Ship Rock reserve.

Additionally there are revisions to the protection of Jervis Bay and the Solitary Islands marine parks which are ongoing. And of course how could we forget - the on again off again sinking of the HMAS Adelaide.

Each of these initiatives has the potential to positively impact our diving and access to diving. Whether your interest is in the environment or wrecks I urge you to engage on these consultations. There are many squeaky wheels out there and divers need to be heard if we want to see a positive outcome.

Our club owns no assets other than a few shirts, hats and coolers. It's true value is in the active contribution and participation of our members which is what makes St. George so successful. As with many clubs it is the contribution of a few members that benefits all club members.

Please contribute to the activities of the club even if it's just organising a single dive.

A big thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of the club over the past year.

Remember to keep safe and enjoy your diving.

Jason Coombs

President

## **Philippines Trip**

A flyer is being prepared for this trip by Dive Adventures.

Depart Saturday 12th February arrive back Saturday 26th February.

Sydney - Manila - Cebu - Legaspi - Manila - Sydney.

Thresher Sharks, mantas, Whale Sharks

Indicative is as follows:

13 nights / 14 days

Malapascua (6 days) 18 - 24 dives, Ticao Island (3 days) 9 dives, 2 days snorkelling with the whale sharks. All accommodation, transfers, airfares including Excess baggage for Cebu - Legaspi leg, nitrox at Malapascua, all brekkies, full board Ticao, Lunch and dinner at Malapascua -- allow say \$100.00.

All up cost \$2950 - \$3000 minimum 8 divers

**See Mark Ridsdale for more details.**





# Thresher & Whale Sharks PHILIPPINES

15 Days / 14 Nights ex. Sydney **\$2950-\$3000**

*This package is based on group rates with a minimum 8 divers - exact price will be reviewed with final numbers*

**Malapascua & Donsol 12th - 26th Feb 2011**

## Includes:

- Return low season flights ex. Sydney to Cebu & from Legaspi - with Philippine airlines - Conditions apply
- 1 nights twin/double share Accommodation in Cebu
- Return Transfers to Malapascua by road (air con Van/Car) and Private boat
- 6 nights twin/double share accom - Tepanee Resort
- Breakfast daily in Malapascua
- 15 Dive package in Malapascua includes - Tanks Weights and Dive Guide with Thresher Shark Divers
- Bonus Special \*\*\* Free Nitrox \*\*\* Free Wi-Fi \*\*\*
- Sunset Cruise for the Group on the last day
- Flights ex.Cebu to Legaspi - with Cebu Pacific air
- Return Transfers, Legaspi to Donsol and to Ticao Is.
- 4 nights at Ticao Island in a beachfront Cabana
- All Meals at Ticao
- 9 Dive pkg at Ticao - Tanks Weights & Dive Guide
- 1 night twin/double accom Elysia Beach Resort Donsol
- 2 x Whale Shark Interaction
- 1 night twin/double share accom at Venezia Hotel - Legaspi
- Australian departure and applicable airline taxes (approx. \$360 & subject to change)



**NOT INCLUDED: \*\* departure/terminal fees in Philippines \*\*  
Meals (unless specified) \* Travel Insurance \* Spending Monies  
Conditions apply. Prices Subject to change without notice.  
\$300 Deposit required to secure a spot!**

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0736000010



St George Scuba Club



**MARK RIDSDALE Mob: 0419 243 717**

Email: [mrsrconsulting@aol.com](mailto:mrsrconsulting@aol.com)

FOR BOOKINGS AND MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

## **-Recent Club Happenings-**

### **Christmas in July**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> July the club attended Christmas in July which was once again put on by Club Heathcote. Members had only to pay \$20 a head for a sumptuous 3 course meal. (The committee subsidized the price by \$10 to encourage more people to attend).

The night was to be attended by 20 club members but only 19 partook of the festivities, as one was unable to attend due to work commitments.

We had another great night socializing with both old & new club members while enjoying a great meal.

First course was either chicken in filo pastry or smoked salmon on lettuce with capers & hollandaise sauce.

This was followed by a plate with a slice of ham / turkey & beef plus roast veggies.

All washed down by a few cleaning ales or wine.

For dessert there was the obligatory plum pudding & custard plus plates of coconut ice & lollies.

Santa came later & handed out lollies to all present.



The “girls” at the function were then invited to have their photos taken on Santa’s knee & quite a few participated.

There wasn’t a great deal of dancing done by the group this year we were just content to watch the other groovers up on the floor.

Les & Elly Caterson where there with the 4WD club& as in the past were up on the dance floor for almost every number.

The music was a mixture of tunes from the 50's 60's and 70's & although quite loud at times generally made for pleasant background music.

By 11pm most people had had their fill of food, wine & talk, leaving only a few die hard members to carry on into the wee hours.

To everyone who attended I know you enjoyed yourselves & hope to you there again in 2011.

By Peter Flockart





Shark shots from Gary Perkins.



Shark shots from Gary Perkins.



## **Jervis Bay weekend Fri 20 – Sun 22 August 2010**

Trip report – Paul Pacey (added to by Natasha Naude)

The house, located in Vincentia, was tricky to find – but the search is worthwhile as it's a great house for groups such as ours. Fifteen people were accommodated quite comfortably, with a great kitchen, fireplace, and giant spa bath we neglected to make use of.

Dinner on Friday night was at the local Vincentia bowling club, conveniently located in the same street as the house and inconveniently located at the top of the hill! The food is Chinese and Thai and was delicious and the service fast and friendly – highly recommended. To top it all off, Mark won a meat tray which provided all the ingredients for bacon and egg rolls for lunch on Saturday.

Saturday morning arrived with a clear blue sky but a strong north westerly wind. This was perfect for our requirements as we wanted to dive outside the bay and the small swell (1 metre) and westerly winds make it perfect for diving the caves and other sites close in to the cliffs outside the bay.

There were 10 of us diving – sadly Michelle, Carol and Tricia all couldn't make it into the water.

We arrived on time to meet the boat at Murrays Beach boat ramp - the only problem was that the boat wasn't there.



Figure 1 courtesy of Ron Walsh

The Murrays Beach boat ramp was closed for maintenance and Steve (from Ulladulla Dive Centre) had planned to launch the boat at Hyams Beach and then drive across the bay to meet us at Murrays. This was a great plan until Steve discovered that there was no way he could get the boat in at Hyams boat ramp and then had to drive all the way back to Curambene Creek near Huskisson to launch the boat.

Whilst waiting for Steve to arrive we were able to enjoy the full force of the cold gale blowing in from the North West. Once Steve arrived the boat was quickly loaded, the paperwork was completed and we were on our way to dive with the seals at Steamers Head. When we arrived there were about 25 seals sitting impatiently on the rocks as they obviously hadn't heard about our late arrival. Whilst we geared up, Steve and Jason (our DM) whooped and hollered which the seals obviously didn't like listening to as they jumped into the water for some peace and quiet. We then jumped in to enjoy the show. Actually I think we



put on the show as there were divers doing somersaults, twists, rolls and other goofy manoeuvres which the seals easily copied, only with speed and grace. This is one of life's great experiences which should be on everyone's "bucket list". The whole trip was worth doing for this dive alone. Ron has put some great photos on the club website. After the dive we motored in to Steamers Beach for morning tea and to try and get out of the wind which had swung south and the wind chill had dropped to below freezing.

For our second dive we headed to Spider Cave which we do not often get a chance to dive due to sea conditions. No problems this day, as the conditions were perfect (except for the water

temperature being 15 degrees). The visibility was also excellent at 20 metres.

Off to the cave we went – alas, no spiders were seen but it was a very pleasant dive in there anyway. There were three huge Wobby's sleeping on the bottom inside the cave. After the cave experience we cruised the gutters, grottos and swim throughs in the cove. Once the icicles started to form we returned to the boat for a quick ride back to Murrays.

Once we had all returned to the house the main terrestrial event began – the great Jervis Bay curry cook up! On Lamb Saag we had Natasha, Debbie on Cardamom Chicken, Carol on Veggie Curry and Paul on Beef Rendang. Edward made a South African Kwa-Zulu Natal speciality – bunny chow (that's curry served in loaves of bread, for the uninitiated) and provided banana and coconut, roti and naan. Michelle couldn't dive but she and Olivier came for the Saturday night to meet everyone and brought along pappadums, chutney and made a great raita. Sarah brought along a case of wine to share. The support act was Mark cooking the pappadums and wine supplied by the great winemakers of Australia. A fine meal wouldn't be the same without dessert – Tricia had brought a huge cheesecake and of course there was chocolate mudcake to celebrate Natasha's birthday. The real and biggest thanks go to the clean-up team!

Sunday morning was looking even better as the wind had dropped considerably. Even better, we had a late start! After a lazy breakfast we again headed out to Murrays Beach and after loading the boat we were off to dive Smugglers Cave on the north side. As we loaded the boat and started off from the jetty we were joined by a whale, who waved a pectoral fin at us before disappearing. It was a great start to the morning. Although the swell had increased, the conditions were still excellent. After anchoring it wasn't long before we all were headed into Smugglers Cave, which was only 20 metres from the boat! The viz was awesome – over 30 metres! After perusing the cave for a while we cruised outside to enjoy the awesome visibility. Inside the cave the divers positioned themselves around the natural underwater

amphitheatre and looked as though they were watching some submerged ballet.

While back on the boat a huge pod of dolphins cruised past at a small distance, jumping out of the water and giving us an aerial display as they travelled down the coast.



Figure 2 courtesy of Brian Byrnes

After a pleasant morning tea in one of the small coves at Drum and Drumsticks we headed back south to dive The Labyrinth, stopping to chat with some more seals along the way. Steve and Karen (our DM for the day) were not sure exactly where the dive site was (they are from Ulladulla and are still learning) and they were using GPS coordinates. Some divers thought the site was north of where we anchored and some thought it was south. Despite our shotgun approach to finding The Labyrinth, only Ron found it, as it was quite a way north of the boat. It's actually just on the point and in 23 metres of water. We had a good dive anyway as there are lots of swim throughs and crevices to be explored around this area. Once again the visibility was fantastic and there was lots to be seen.

Many thanks to Natasha and Digby for organising a great weekend away for us – special thanks for organising the great diving conditions. Thanks also to the Master Chefs for providing the banquet dinner on Saturday night.

## For Sale

I have a brand new in box OCEANIC ATOM 2.0 dive computer \$500 nice and compact looks like a dive watch.

Selling because I need BIG numbers to see these days

Debbie COOK



**The Committee is:**

<b>PRESIDENT:</b>	Jason Coombs	9345 4599	<a href="mailto:President@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au">President@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au</a>
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT:</b>	Peter Flockart	9371 0265	<a href="mailto:pjflockart@speednet.com.au">pjflockart@speednet.com.au</a>
<b>SECRETARY:</b>	Eddie Ivers	0403 014 241	<a href="mailto:Secretary@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au">Secretary@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au</a>
<b>TREASURER:</b>	Mark Ridsdale	0419 243717	<a href="mailto:Treasurer@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au">Treasurer@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au</a>
<b>ASST SEC / TRES:</b>	David Casburn	0405 186 184	<a href="mailto:dcasburn@iinet.net.au">dcasburn@iinet.net.au</a>
<b>WEBMASTER:</b>	Michael McFadyen	9545 5596	<a href="mailto:Webmaster@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au">Webmaster@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au</a>
<b>EDITOR:</b>	Ray Moulang	04034 37974	<a href="mailto:Newsletter@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au">Newsletter@stgeorgescubaclub.org.au</a>

**Please send items for the Newsletter to me *as you do them during the month.***