



Surface Interval

June 2010

www.ruc.org.au

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RYDE UNDERWATER CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEES for 2010-2011:

Single \$85 Family Concession \$130 Social \$30

Membership renewals are due 30th June each year.

Pro rata membership fees are available for new members joining during the year.

EMERGENCY & INFORMATION PHONE NUMBERS

Diving Emergency Service (DES) within Australia	1800 088 200
Diving Emergency Service (DES) outside Australia	61 8 8373 5312
Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick	(02) 9382 3575
Westpac Rescue Service	(02) 9311 3499
Coast Guard Sydney	(02) 9337 5033
Coast Guard Sydney Boating Weather	(02) 9337 5455
Coast Guard Sydney Boating Weather at 6.50 am and at 2 hour intervals	Radio 27 MHz
NSW Maritime Authority - Sydney Boating Weather	(02) 131 236 (opt 3)

IF IN DOUBT - ALWAYS RING 000

BOAT LAUNCHING RAMPS

Map Reference (2003 Editions)

	UBD	Gregory's
Bayview	118 H13	169 B12
Tunks Park	216 H3	316 C3
Kyeemagh	275 C12	404 C12
Gunnamatta Bay	334 P13	493 J13

From the PRESIDENT

Hi everyone,

The bad news is the weather gods have definitely NOT been looking after us lately. The last 3 or 4 week-ends have just been too rough to venture out with the RUC tub. Such is the life of a scuba diver.

However the good news is its still 2 weeks away before the June long week-end away to Port Stephens with all this bad weather having a real chance of being gone by then. It's turning out to be bigger than Ben Hur with 11 units being booked at last count. If you still want to come, better hurry and tell Wanda because there may not be many available units left. On a lighter note guess who got a great Mothers Day gift from her children, namely a Texas Hold'em Poker set with almost real 'pretend' poker chips and I am not talking about the edible type. We also intend to bring the multimedia projector so photo's can also be seen after the dives.

As you probably know the committee has decided it's time to increase the dive fee's from \$25.00 to \$30.00. Membership fees are not affected. To come to this conclusion several important factors weighted into our decision. Firstly, it's been about 7 years since the last increase. Costs particularly of petrol have risen considerably in that time. We also have to take into consideration the fact that our beloved boat will not last forever. In about 6 or 7 years when our present motor reaches 800 to 1,000 hours we will have to think about replacing the motor. Depending on the state of the current boat it may well be a good time to replace the boat, trailer & motor. The committee believes we will need somewhere in the vicinity of around \$25,000 to be able to do this. We need to start planning for this now.

Last night Ylva & I attended the 29th Anniversary dinner with 12 other members at the Okori Teppan-Yaki restaurant in Harris Park. It was a great night and definitely great food. I would like to thank Penny Trickett for again organising a great night.

This leads me to my next item. We are just 4 weeks away from the end of the financial year. This also means a new RUC year is approaching. This is your opportunity to help move the club forward into its 30th year. So come on, it would be good to see some new faces on the committee, don't just let someone else do it.

At the next general meeting Wanda, Richard & I intend to show some of the highlights from our trip up north to the Barrier Reef. We hope you can all make it as it will be a good showing.

We also have 4 new members keen to join the club. 3 from 1 family and one other person. It's great to see some new faces.

Wanda is presently sorting out club clothing so we should have some good news on that front in the not too distant future.

Please note that – after a relocation for the last General Meeting – the June meeting and onwards are back to the usual venue namely Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club.

That's enough for now. See you all at bright, sunny Port Stephens.

Safe diving,
Peter Hardman
President

From the EDITOR

The end of May showed some serious rain in Sydney. Hopefully viz clear soon enough for the club's annual trek to Port Stephens as this location has some of the best shore dives of Australia. Nelson Bay is home to over 100 species of Nudibranch, but I have set my eye (and camera) on the Nembrotha rosannulata which has only been found around Cabbage Tree Island just out of the Bay. Last year I had a failed attempt, so the pressure is on.



Rob van der Zalm.

From the DIVE OFFICER

Dive Officers Spiel, June 2010

Rubber lovers,

It's been a very quiet month of May, dive wise. Early in the month saw a boat dive on the wreck of the Duckenfield, which was reported to be a bit over grown with seaweed. Of course the engine and the boiler were still the main attraction. For the rest of the month the weather has been ordinary to say the least.



It seems obvious that we are heading into the June long weekend, as the last few years we have had some very wet weekends at Nelson Bay.

The June long weekend has the biggest attendance in our dive calendar for the trip to Port Stephens, over 12 units have been booked. A great social weekend if nothing else.

Ken Jackson
Dive Officer

From the SOCIAL OFFICER

	Date	Activity	Location	Contact
May	29 th	RUC Anniversary Dinner	Okori Teppan-Yaki 14/20 Station St, Harris Park	Penny Trickett
June	12 th – 14 th	Queen's Birthday Long Weekend going North	Nelson Bay Port Stephens	Wanda Whittaker
June	26 TH	10 Pin Bowling Competition	7:00pm at Castle Hills Bowling Centre	John Chadd
October		October Long weekend	TBA	Ken Jackson
December		Christmas Holiday Break	Currarong	Peter Hardman

Penny
Social Officer

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

NSW Marine Reserves:

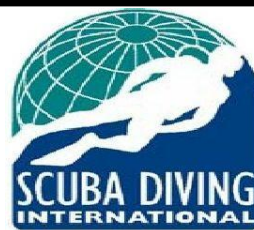
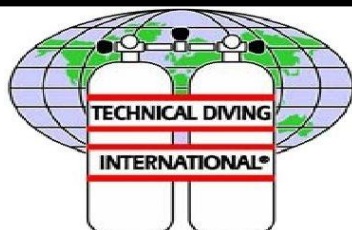
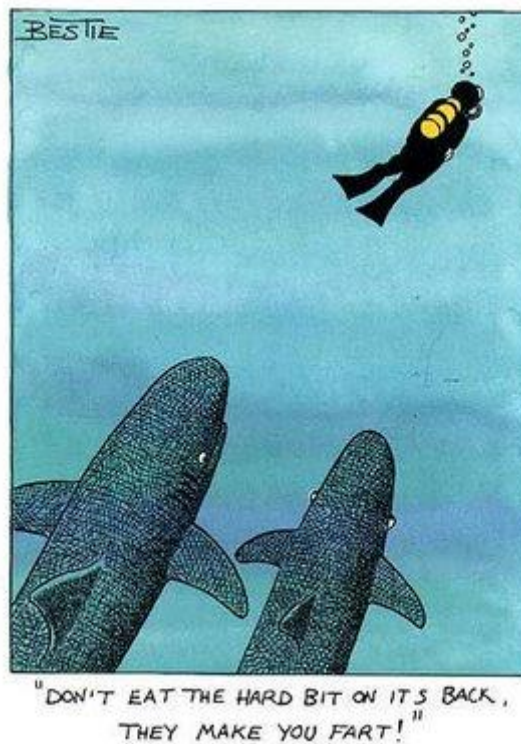
<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/marine-reserves-win-backing-of-scientists-20100522-w2y0.html>

Did you know 149 ships sank on June months along the NSW coastline?

http://maritime.heritage.nsw.gov.au/public/search_ship.cfm

M24 Midget: <http://m24maritime.heritage.nsw.gov.au/>

Port Stephens shore dives: <http://www.daveharasti.com/nelsonbay/divesites.htm>



Extend the range of your diving with courses from TDI/SDI. Email info@tdisdi.com.au

RUC TEN PIN BOWLING COMPETITION

Dear RUCites,

I am currently organising this year's Annual RUC Ten Pin Bowling Competition on John's behalf.

For: RUCites and their guests



Annual RUC Ten Pin Bowling Competition, (winner of the Annual RUC Ten Pin Bowling Competition must be a fully registered RUC member in order to be awarded the trophy). Four lanes have been tentatively booked - max. six bowlers per lane

Please email me (Dale) to book your spots/lanes. [dale.john@jaid.id.au]

Dale's mob: 0414234898

Hm Ph: 02 96790313

Cost:

Adults: \$14.95 per game payable on the night

Concession/students: \$ 13.50 per game payable on the night

Donations for maintaining the tub \$??? Check your piggy banks

When: Saturday, 26th June 2010 @ 7:00pm

Where: AMF Bowling Castle Hill, New South Wales

Address 3 Salisbury Road

Castle Hill NSW 2154

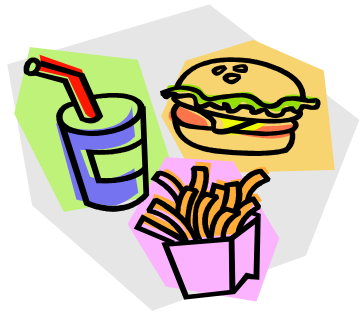
Entry: via Hudson Avenue, Castle Hill

Parking: Free customer parking

Venue Phone : 02 9680 7677 (in case of unexpected delays to your arrival, staff can be asked to pass on a message)

Why: To have a fun time and perhaps raise dollars towards maintaining the club tub.

Food: Restaurant/cafe style food available which is not included in games price.



TWO MYSTERY LUCKY DOOR PRIZES WILL BE OFFERED TO RUC BOWLERS

(1X JUNIOR AND 1X ADULT)

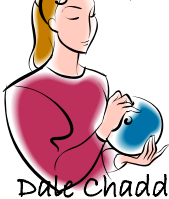
Lucky door tickets will be issued once bowling has commenced

Draw will take place at time of Trophy presentation

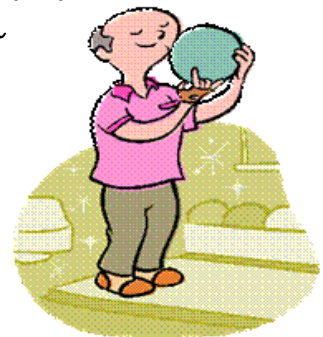
Attached is a link for your information.

<http://www.amfbowling.com.au/centres/NSW/Castle-Hill.aspx>

Regards,



Dale Chadd



DIVE REPORT – ONE MILE GUTTERS/BENNETTS HEAD BOMMIE

*Heather Armour
Mid North Coast Correspondent*



It was the Anzac Day public holiday and nine members of The Great Lakes Underwater Group met up at the Forster marina to load up the boat from Action Divers. Typical of long weekends the weather was inclement with brisk southerly winds whipping up the seas. The original plan to dive Seal Rocks was revised and we opted for local dives close to the shore.

Isabelle and Peter undertook reef life surveys whilst the other members recorded fish life on slates and on digital cameras. The water temperature was still pleasantly warm and due to the southerly the visibility was good. As soon as the divers hit the water at One Mile Gutters they were surrounded by an enormous school of yellow tail scad. Hundreds moved as one circling the divers and often blocking their line of sight. The depth was only 12 metres enabling rays of sunlight to pierce the water and shine on the fish and create brilliant flashes of silver as they darted through the shallow waters.

Also recorded were herring cale, bronze old wives, Moorish idols, turtles, one spot pullers, girdled parmas, crimson banded wrasse, Maori wrasse, boxfish, moray eels, nudibranches, wobbygongs, luderick, mado, toadfish, pipefish, goatfish, stripeys, flounder, red morwong, neon damsel, pineapple fish and Gunthers butterfly fish. At the entrance to the cave at Bennets Head bommie was a large blue grouper waiting for a handout of urchins. Only one item of debris, an electrical insulator, was found. A pod of dolphins followed the boat through the bar back to the marina.



schooling yellow tail scad

DIVE REPORT – MAGIC POINT – 17 April 2010

Ken Jackson

18 April 2010 dawns bright and clear.

The club boat heads out to Botany Bay to see if there are any sharks out at Maroubra. Nine people have booked on the dive and not enough places are available and only one tower ready to tow. It was decided to use a 2nd private boat.

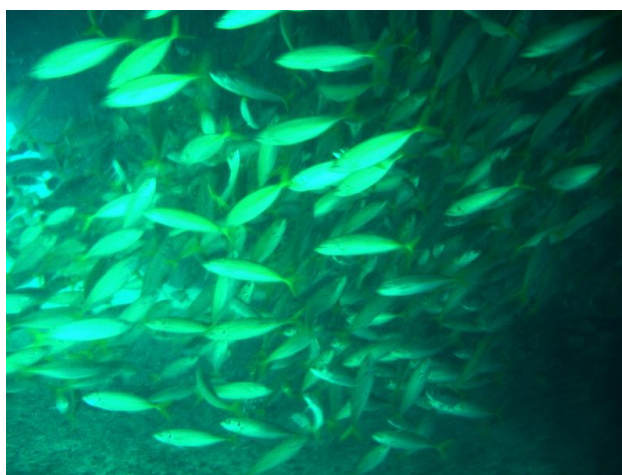
Everyone was on time and the boats launched and as we left the boat ramp, silence struck and the club boat engine went quiet. After some checking the boat was pulled back to the wharf and many more check done. After a few phone calls and some more check it was found that the deadman's switch, a small clip was found to have come loose and ignition the boat started.

Finally we were off. We crossed the bay and headed north, in a very minor swell and slight wind.

Arriving at the spot in the GPS and using a sounding we dropped the anchor. The reef dropped from 8 metres to 14 metres in front of the cave. We had anchored in about 18 metres, clear of the cave.

We descended the anchor rope and headed South, across some rocks and then the kelp and arrived at the sandy entrance to the cave. The plan is always to stay outside the cave and clear of the entrance. The best position is on the edge of the sand. The Grey Nurse sharks are very inquisitive sharks and they will come out of the cave and check you out, if you are far enough away. If too close you can push the sharks into the cave and there they stay. Entering the cave is definitely a no-no.

With 9 divers in the water it got a little crowded but we all got a good look at the sharks. There were 3 of them, the most active was a smaller female which circled all the divers. The water was clearish but did have a lot of suspended matter and had a bit of a green tinge to it. There were plenty of photos taken and hopefully some good ones, mine were questionable, but I liked them. After 20 mins kneeling on the sand it was time to a change of view. I headed East and looked for the second cave which was about 100 metres away, which I found. There were no sharks but the cave was filled with thousands of yellow tail and hiding under the rock ledges is usually a blue devil fish, which was absent this time.



With a short swim back to the first cave and another attempt to photograph the sharks. All too soon our air was getting low and our bottom time up. Swimming back to the anchor I saw the one and only nudibranch, but my picture was out of focus. A very enjoyable dive anyway. If you haven't been there yet you should go very soon.

2 boats, 9 divers, 3 GNS = 1 beautiful day.

Susan had never dived with sharks and I'd never been to this well known site. I rang Peter late in the week only to be told that the boat was already full (note to self, book in early for dives) but a couple more calls secured a second boat (thanks to Ken) so we were off to join the motley crew of RUCites on another adventure under the briny.

Finding the Kyeemagh boat ramp was our first challenge. The road to the ramp was closed for repairs but we found Richard standing beside his car talking on his mobile phone receiving detailed directions to the alternative entrance to the car park. Ken's boat was already in the water and the RUC tub was on the ramp by the time we had donned our wet suits so it looked good for our scheduled departure at 8:00 am. Pushing off from the pontoon we thought we'd be able to beat the commercial boats to the site before they had a chance to stir up a cloud of silt obliterating the majestic view of the sharks. Then the engine stopped.

Captain Bruce hit the starter again but no joy. Pumping the fuel bulb, closed throttle, open throttle, much advice from crew but not even a cough of life was heard from the motor. Ken towed the RUC tub the 20m back to the pontoon and out came the tools to check the spark but there was none. It was now close to 9am.

At this point the female crew were becoming tired of listening to the male crew telling each other everything they ever knew about boat motors and spark plugs. It was time for another view. A phone call to Clinton eventually resulted in a simple suggestion, "have you checked if the red curly cord on the ignition is still in place?". Two minutes later the engine was roaring into life. Putting gear under the consol must have almost dislodged the safety cord which must have finally popped out as we pulled away from the ramp.

Arriving at the site we were careful not to anchor in front of the shark cave which meant we would have a short swim once on the bottom. Bruce, Richard, Natalie and Kurt headed off first while Susan and I jumped in 10 minutes later.

Following the come back line laid out by the first group made navigation easy. The vis was not terrific but it made the sighting of the sharks more dramatic as they came out of the gloom to appear right in your face. Three small (1 to 2m) GNS swam in and out of the cave. Kurt reported seeing a larger GNS with a hook in its mouth which stayed inside the cave. Sighting a large cuttle fish rounded off the dive as we headed back to the anchor to end another great dive.



WET CALENDAR – JUNE 2010

DATE	LOCATION	CODE	DEPTH (approx)	MEETING TIME & PLACE	DIVE ACTIVITY LEADER (DAL)
Sat 5	Long Reef	R	20m	8.30am Tunks Park	Richard Ling
Sat 12	Queen's Birthday Long weekend Nelson Bay, Port Stephens	R + S	varies	Nelson Bay, Port Stephens From Friday 11 th	Wanda Whittaker
Sun 13					
Mon 14					
Thu 17	Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club	M		Denistone Room @ 7:30 pm	General Meeting
Sun 20	Barrens Hut	R	20m	8.00am Gunnamatta bay	
Sat 26	The Valiant	R	28m	8.00am Bayview	Ken Jackson

CODES: C = Commercial Operator M = Meeting N = Night Dive R = RUC Tub S = Shore Dive

Member Please Note:- If there is no Dal for a particular day or there is no scheduled dive on a day you would like to dive then Please contact the Dive Officer – Ken Jackson and arrangement can be made to get the DIVE happening.

JUNE TIDES

		Tue 1		Wed 2		Thu 3		Fri 4		☾ Sat 5			
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht		
		0526	0.49	0608	0.53	0650	0.56	0043	1.50	0135	1.43		
		1124	1.26	1208	1.25	1257	1.26	0735	0.58	0821	0.58		
		1645	0.69	1730	0.73	1822	0.77	1348	1.28	1444	1.33		
		2315	1.66	2356	1.58			1922	0.80	2030	0.80		
Sun 6		Mon 7		Tue 8		Wed 9		Thu 10		Fri 11		☉ Sat 12	
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
0234	1.37	0335	1.33	0432	1.31	0527	1.31	0031	0.54	0117	0.45	0203	0.37
0907	0.58	0952	0.58	1036	0.57	1118	0.55	0617	1.33	0706	1.34	0756	1.36
1536	1.40	1626	1.48	1711	1.58	1754	1.68	1201	0.53	1245	0.51	1330	0.49
2141	0.78	2245	0.71	2342	0.63			1837	1.78	1921	1.87	2007	1.94
Sun 13		Mon 14		Tue 15		Wed 16		Thu 17		Fri 18		☾ Sat 19	
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
0250	0.31	0338	0.27	0428	0.26	0519	0.27	0611	0.30	0019	1.76	0117	1.63
0845	1.37	0936	1.39	1030	1.39	1123	1.41	1219	1.42	0702	0.34	0754	0.39
1419	0.48	1510	0.47	1603	0.48	1700	0.51	1800	0.55	1316	1.45	1415	1.50
2054	1.98	2143	1.99	2233	1.95	2325	1.87			1905	0.59	2015	0.62
Sun 20		Mon 21		Tue 22		Wed 23		Thu 24		Fri 25		☉ Sat 26	
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
0221	1.50	0328	1.39	0434	1.32	0537	1.29	0048	0.45	0137	0.41	0220	0.39
0845	0.44	0937	0.48	1028	0.51	1118	0.53	0634	1.28	0725	1.29	0810	1.30
1515	1.56	1614	1.63	1709	1.70	1801	1.76	1207	0.54	1253	0.55	1337	0.55
2131	0.61	2246	0.57	2352	0.51			1850	1.80	1935	1.83	2016	1.83
Sun 27		Mon 28		Tue 29		Wed 30							
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht						
0300	0.38	0337	0.39	0414	0.41	0449	0.44						
0852	1.30	0931	1.30	1011	1.30	1049	1.30						
1418	0.56	1458	0.57	1537	0.59	1617	0.62						
2055	1.81	2131	1.78	2207	1.72	2243	1.66						

Time in 24 hour clock, height (Ht) in metres above Chart Datum, *red for low tide* and *blue for high tide*.
Times stated are Australian Eastern Standard Time. During **Daylight Saving Time** (when in force) one hour needs to be added to the times stated.

WET CALENDAR – JULY 2010

DATE	LOCATION	CODE	DEPTH (approx)	MEETING TIME & PLACE	DIVE ACTIVITY LEADER (DAL)
Sat 3	Royal Shepherd	R	28m	8.30 Tunks Park	
Sun 11	Long Reef	R	20m	8.30 Tunks Park	
Thu 15	Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club	M		Denistone Room @ 7:30 pm	General Meeting
Sat 17	Dee Why Wide	R	30m	8.30 Tunks Park	Ken Jackson
Sun 25	The Colours	R	28m	8.30 Tunks Park	
Sat 31	Henry Head	R	25m	8.30 Kyeemagh ramp	

CODES: C = Commercial Operator M = Meeting N = Night Dive R = RUC Tub S = Shore Dive

Member Please Note:- If there is no Dal for a particular day or there is no scheduled dive on a day you would like to dive then Please contact the Dive Officer – Ken Jackson and arrangement can be made to get the DIVE happening.

JULY TIDES

														Thu 1		Fri 2		Sat 3	
														Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
														0524	0.46	0600	0.49	0638	0.52
														1129	1.31	1212	1.32	1258	1.34
														1700	0.65	1747	0.69	1841	0.73
														2319	1.57	2359	1.48		
Sun 4		☉ Mon 5		Tue 6		Wed 7		Thu 8		Fri 9		Sat 10							
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht						
0045	1.39	0138	1.30	0241	1.24	0349	1.20	0454	1.21	0009	0.51	0059	0.39						
0719	0.54	0804	0.57	0853	0.59	0945	0.59	1038	0.57	0554	1.24	0647	1.29						
1347	1.37	1440	1.41	1534	1.48	1629	1.56	1720	1.66	1130	0.53	1222	0.47						
1943	0.75	2054	0.75	2207	0.70	2313	0.62			1811	1.78	1901	1.89						
Sun 11		☉ Mon 12		Tue 13		Wed 14		Thu 15		Fri 16		Sat 17							
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht						
0146	0.29	0233	0.21	0320	0.16	0407	0.15	0454	0.17	0541	0.23	0000	1.67						
0739	1.34	0830	1.39	0919	1.44	1011	1.48	1102	1.51	1155	1.53	0629	0.31						
1314	0.42	1405	0.37	1459	0.35	1553	0.35	1650	0.38	1749	0.44	1249	1.55						
1950	1.97	2039	2.02	2128	2.02	2217	1.96	2308	1.84			1853	0.50						
☉ Sun 18		Mon 19		Tue 20		Wed 21		Thu 22		Fri 23		Sat 24							
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht						
0057	1.50	0200	1.34	0310	1.22	0424	1.17	0530	1.17	0040	0.46	0123	0.41						
0716	0.40	0808	0.48	0904	0.54	1002	0.57	1100	0.58	0626	1.20	0712	1.24						
1346	1.56	1446	1.57	1550	1.60	1652	1.63	1747	1.67	1152	0.56	1239	0.53						
2004	0.56	2123	0.58	2241	0.56	2347	0.51			1836	1.71	1919	1.73						
Sun 25		☉ Mon 26		Tue 27		Wed 28		Thu 29		Fri 30		Sat 31							
Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht	Time	Ht						
0201	0.38	0235	0.36	0308	0.35	0339	0.35	0410	0.37	0441	0.39	0513	0.42						
0751	1.27	0829	1.30	0903	1.32	0938	1.34	1014	1.36	1049	1.37	1128	1.39						
1321	0.51	1400	0.49	1438	0.49	1515	0.50	1554	0.52	1634	0.55	1718	0.59						
1957	1.75	2032	1.74	2106	1.72	2139	1.67	2212	1.60	2246	1.52	2323	1.42						

Time in 24 hour clock, height (Ht) in metres above Chart Datum, *red for low tide* and *blue for high tide*.

Times stated are Australian Eastern Standard Time. During **Daylight Saving Time** (when in force) one hour needs to be added to the times stated.

YOUR COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Peter Hardman
president@ruc.org.au

SECRETARY

Wanda Whittaker
secretary@ruc.org.au

TREASURER

Richard Ling
treasurer@ruc.org.au

DIVE OFFICER

Ken Jackson
dive@ruc.org.au

EQUIPMENT OFFICER

Garry Bronatowski
equipment@ruc.org.au

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Rob van der Zalm
editor@ruc.org.au

SOCIAL OFFICER

Penny Trickett
social@ruc.org.au

WEB MASTER

Andrew Weeks
rucwebmaster@ruc.org.au

MEMBER ONLY CONTACTS

Email Groups:

All Members: ruc01@yahoo.com
Committee: rucom@yahoo.com

Yahogroups:

ruc01: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ruc01/>
rucom: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rucom/>

CONTRIBUTE TO SURFACE INTERVAL

Regardless of whether you have been on an exciting dive lately or just been surfing on the internet, if there is something you would like to share with your fellow club members, why not contribute to the next edition of Surface Interval.

Just e-mail your contribution to the editor either as an attachment, or in the body of the message. A page is around 1,000 words and the closer you get to that (or 500 for a ½ pager), the better. There's a word count function in MS Word under the "tools" pull-down menu, which does the job for you.

Remember articles submitted may be posted to the Club's website.

SURFACE INTERVAL DEADLINE

The deadline for each issue of Surface Interval is the third Wednesday of the preceding month. That means

The deadline for the July edition is 25th June.



Frog Dive Scuba Centres

395 Guildford Road, Guildford

9892-3422

539 Willoughby Road, Willoughby

9958-5699



Our members have a common interest in SCUBA diving. Dives are organised and conducted nearly every weekend around Sydney using the club boat and sometimes boats owned by club members.

Our club also organises weekend and holiday trips to interesting dive locations north and south of Sydney. A variety of social activities are organised throughout the year for members and their families.

Our club conducts meetings at **7.30 pm** on the **3rd Thursday** of each month at:

Ryde-Eastwood Leagues Club
117 Ryedale Road, West Ryde

New members are always welcome to attend our meetings and join in with our activities.

RYDE UNDERWATER CLUB INC.

PO Box 144 West Ryde NSW 1685

Website: <http://www.ruc.org.au>

Email: info@ruc.org.au

Ph: 0422 504 553