



30 years young

Surface Interval

May 2011
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

Dear Rucites,

We have just arrived back from our Easter trip to Ulladulla. Everyone had a great time even with the rain. Seas were very flat and we managed to get two great dives in before the rains set in on Sunday. Unfortunately Monday did not improve so we decided to head back a day early. I would like to thank the Moore family, the Corduke family, Arien, Anne-Marie & kids and our newest member Les Lovasz for their company. I would also like to thank Michael Moore & family for towing the boat down for us.

On Saturday 21st May we have our 30th Anniversary Dinner and are keen to get as many **members both past and present** to come and join us in what promises to be a great night. If you know any past members please feel free to contact them and see if they would like to come along also. As is befitting a dive club we have booked the South Steyne ferry which is now permanently moored at Darling Harbour. We have our own function room with a buffet dinner provided. This will be followed by fireworks obviously organised by *ourselves* to help celebrate this special night. Come on we want to see everybody there but don't forget to RSVP to Wanda by the 9th May 2011.

In about 6 week we have another great trip away. We are off to Port Stephens for our annual June long week-end away. This year we are also combining it with a Twilight Dinner Cruise on Saturday night with Moonshadow Cruises providing live entertainment with a buffet dinner. If you don't want to miss out please contact Wanda Whittaker ASAP.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to get their votes in for the annual photo competition. We have decided your vote is the most important when deciding a winner so get your votes in now. Remember to vote for the top 5 photos with the winner being announced at the June long week-end. Just another reason to come to Pt Stephens don't you think!

We have our next general meeting on Thursday 19th May. We are also having the presentation by Alex Schnell on cuttlefish so please put that date in your diaries now. It would be great to see a large turnout of members.

See you all on the water.

Safe Diving,

Peter Hardman
President

From the EDITOR

April was a good month for diving in Sydney were I saw 2 green turtles, plenty of dusky whalers (juvenile), plenty of juvenile tropical fish brought down by the EAC and of course the scuttling of the ex-HMAS Adelaide of Terrigal. You had to be lucky with the weather as it was a bit 'on/off'.

May is the month for judging the entries of the Photo Comp which this year is left up to the members. For more info see further in the magazine.



Rob van der Zalm.

From the DIVE OFFICER

Dive Officers Spiel, May 2011

Rucites,

Well the Last month has been interesting weather wise, but we still managed to get the boat wet with a dive on North Head and of course the trip to Ulladulla. The weekend started off quite nice and then the rain returned. A few dives were done though.

If we can fill the calendar with DAL's when we get a dry weekend we would be able to get out and dive, so come on and get your name on the list.



The Photo comp is also being judged, and needs some input from members.

The annual trip to Port Stephens in June is approaching and a great weekend to get to know new members and vice versa. It may not be too late to join, so get your name onto the list.

Ken Jackson,
Dive Officer

SOCIALISING

Month	Date	Activity	Location	Contact
April	22 nd – 26 th	Easter Break	Ulladulla Headland, Tourist Park	Ken Jackson
May	21 st	RUC Anniversary Dinner	South Steyne, Darling Harbour	Wanda Whittaker
June	10 th – 13 th	June Long Weekend	Port Stephens	Wanda Whittaker
June	12th	Annual 10 Pin Bowling competition	6.30pm at Super Strike, Salamander Bay	Dale Chadd
June	25th	Barefoot Bowling & Dusit Thai	Dundas	Dale Chadd

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Why dive when you can do it the Branson style:

<http://www.smh.com.au/technology/sci-tech/billionaire-richard-bransons-next-frontier-virgin-oceanic-20110406-1d3bh.html>

Scuttling of the ex-HMAS Adelaide: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F3JydKL-4K0>

Whale Shark spotted in Botany Bay:

<http://www.facebook.com/media/set/fbx/?set=a.10150220736965476.343719.127005245475>

SUMMER PHOTO COMPETITION

The photo comp is closed and it is now up to the RUC members to decide which entries are the winners. Here are the 96 to choose from:



You're Invited

*On the 18 May 1981 the Deep Six Dive Club changed its name to
Ryde Underwater Club ...*

So in 2011, Ryde Underwater Club is celebrating its 30th Anniversary ...

- TO:** *RUC Members, Family & Guests*
- DATE:** *Saturday 21st MAY 2011*
- TIME:** *7.30 pm*
- LOCATION:** *South Steyne Floating Restaurant
Harbourside Jetty, Cockle Bay, Darling Harbour
www.southsteyne.com.au*
- COST:** *\$50 per person (3 Course BBQ Buffet, Drinks extra)*
- RSVP:** *to Wanda Whittaker by 9th May 2011
Wanda.Whittaker@internode.on.net or Mob: 0414 584 795*
- PAYMENT:** *to Ryde Underwater Club account
Account name - Ryde Underwater Club
BSB # 032091
Account # 114674
(Don't forget to email the Club Treasurer Richard Ling
and let him know that you have paid)*

Please Join us for this Special RUC Event

An Office Dive

Most people in my office are very aware of my scuba activities due to screen savers, Dive Logs and talks about the weekend. What surprised me was the number of colleges telling that they also had a dive certificate – but hadn't dived in the last few years – or always wanted to try it. When I finally offered to organise a Dive Day for the office, around 15 people showed interest. After the first date was rained out, 8 could make it on the second planned dive day. For the newbie's, I asked Frog Dive Willoughby to organise a Discover Scuba Course, while for the certified divers gear hire was organised.

I opted for Shelly Beach as it caters for all levels of experience, is easy to navigate, sheltered from most seas, has great facilities for after the dive and as a marine reserve has an abundance of fish life.



The weekend before the planned date, I made a final dive at Shelly to check everything out and was treated to a beautiful 29°C day and good conditions. On the Thursday I had a final go-ahead call with Frog Dive as it was important to give the Discover Scuba Divers a good first experience.



We started at 8am in the early morning sun at Shelly Beach with the Discover Scuba theory followed by donning the gear, always fun. When they started the in-water exercises, I jumped in to make some underwater shot/video. The usual blue groper, bream, wrasse and goatfish were all having a look. Then it was off to the East wall of Shelly for a little tour.



When they emerged from the water, the big smiles said it all. Luckily I had brought some fish books to make the ID's easier when the questions flooded in.



Now that the Discover Scuba Dive was out of the way, I had time to do a quick dive with the air remaining in my tank with one of the certified divers. In spite of a short dive we saw 4 (times a) juvenile Dusky Whaler, a huge ball of juvenile striped catfish and to top it off my first encounter with a turtle at Shelly. It seemed very comfortable and will hopefully hang around for while....



After the dive, we were a bit cold and hungry so it was great to see that the sausages and unions were almost ready on the BBQ. A quick rinse of the gear and then we enjoyed the sausage sizzle and a drink while exchanging our experiences. Much later it was time to go home.

The next Monday, I provided the divers with a CD with the photos and video I took. This helped them to explain the dive day to their colleagues and I have since been asked twice when the next dive day is. It seems that sometimes people just need a little push.

A big thank you to **Frog Dive Willoughby** for helping to make the Office Dive a memorable day.

DIVE REPORT – PORT STEPHENS

Ross Di Bartolo

Port Stephens (Ladies?) weekend 19/20th Mar 2011

The highlight of the weekend for me was getting out of the water on Sunday. As we emerged into the sunshine (it was overcast when we went in) from a beautiful dive we met Heather and Natalie who were talking to snorkelers excited about an octopus they had just seen in the shallows. Whether diving to twenty meters or snorkeling in the shallows, this is a terrific place to be. This was the second dive at Fly Point since Halifax has been inundated with sand. The additional sand should make the goat track between the boat ramp and the dive site a little easier to navigate but was still a bit soft for non-four wheel drive vehicles on the weekend we were there. The guy at Feet First dive said that the underwater topography at Halifax has changed and the familiar land marks (sea bed marks?) have changed. So when we dive there again on the June long weekend it will be like a new dive site.

We had eight divers and one child come along to what started out as a ladies weekend. Natalie from Queensland, Heather from Cundletown (Taree), Ylva and Peter from Mittagong, Wanda, Mal, Blake, Susan and I from Sydney. Wanda organized for us to all stay in a four bedroom house which contributed to the social aspect of the weekend. The house was perfect, fully equipped and modern with enough living space to ensure we weren't in each other's way. Of course there was a double garage to aid in the washing and drying of dive gear. The house is actually a semi with the other half (also sleeping eight) available for rent which would be great for a weekend away for up to sixteen people. Everyone arrived on the Friday with the last people rolling in at about 7:30pm. Take away for dinner then a night cap ready for a dive on the 8:30am.

Saturday dawned with everyone keen to get in some diving. Down to Fly Point and there was barely a place to park. All geared up when we realised that I was the only one with a non-electronic car key so I untied my car key from my BC so everyone could lock their keys in my car. Then into the water. A slight current greeted us but this soon fell off and left us gliding over the sponge gardens spotting octopus, lobsters, carpet sharks and pigmy leather jackets as we went.



At lunch time some went into town for a bite and a group went on for a guided shopping tour. The male contingent retired to the verandah of the house to read and tell tall stories over a cleansing ale or two. Just as Blake was asked "when will the women be back" they arrived home triumphantly just as wine time was about to start. Although all had a good go at the shopping, Susan was declared the winner with two new handbags as well as other assorted items. Later we walked off to the RSL club for dinner.

Sunday's dive was a repeat on Saturday's followed by a leisurely lunch and packing for the drive home.

See you on the June long weekend.



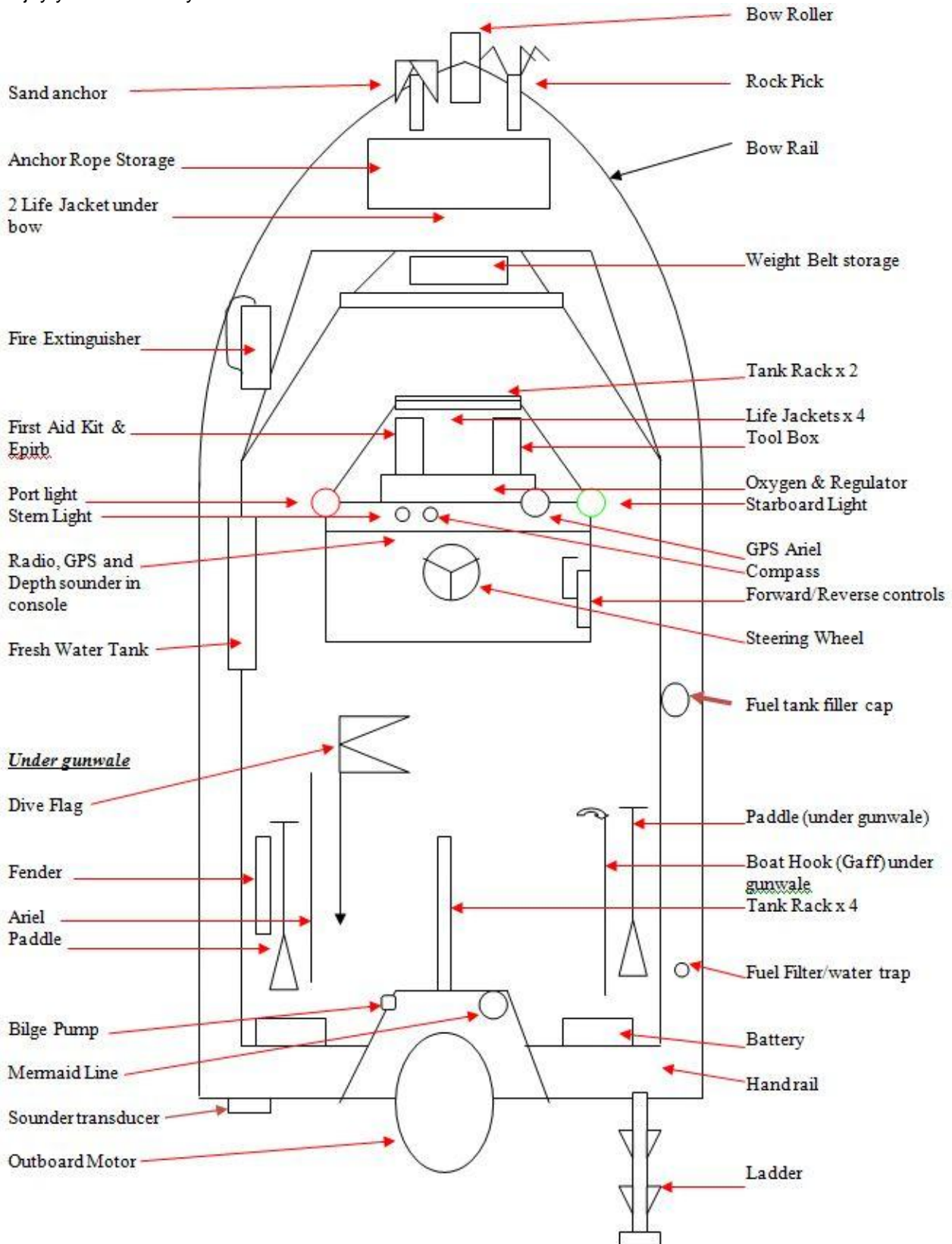
Extend the range of your diving with courses from TDI/SDI. Email info@tdisdi.com.au

CLUB BOAT LAY-OUT

Ken Jackson

The club boat carries many things that can make your Dive trip Comfortable. Anyone who gets on the boat should have some idea of WHAT is there and where to find it. Below is the position of where items can be found, under the gunwales or in compartments or up the bow of the boat. If you're not sure about where things are please talk to the Dive or Equip Officer. It is important to know the boat you dive from.

Enjoy your dive safely.



GEAR FOR SALE

Sea Kayak For Sale

I have for sale a brand new sea kayak along with all of the accessories you would need to get started. It is a Wilderness Systems Tsunami 165. Also included are 2 sets of adjustable paddles. Cockpit skirt, Bilge pump, Deck bag, 2 dry bags, Life jacket, Boating gloves. The retail value is \$3,600. This has never been in the water. It's brand new and unused. The kayak alone cost \$2,400 without all the other stuff. Asking \$1,950. Call Les on 0422 937 105.



Fins For Sale

Cressi Frog Fins. These are size M/L and are about a year old. They have light surface scuffing. Adjustable straps with quick release buckles. I think I paid about \$140 for these. Asking \$70. Call Les on 0422 937 105



WET CALENDAR – MAY 2011

DATE	LOCATION	CODE	DEPTH (approx)	MEETING TIME & PLACE	DIVE ACTIVITY LEADER (DAL)
Sun 1					
Sat 7					
Sun 8	The Duckenfield	R	24m	8.00am Tunks Park	
Sat 14	Long Reef Wall	R	24m	8.00am Tunks Park	
Thu 19	Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club	M		Denistone Room @ 7:30 pm	General Meeting
Sat 21	Maroubra Sharks	R	16m	8.00am Kyeemagh Ramp	
Sat 28					
Sun 29	Osbourne Shoals	R		8.00am Gunnamatta Bay Ramp	

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

MAY TIDES

Sunday 1		Monday 2		● Tuesday 3		Wednesday 4		Thursday 5		Friday 6		Saturday 7	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0100	0.55	0138	0.50	0215	0.46	0253	0.44	0332	0.44	0413	0.45	0458	0.46
0654	1.43	0732	1.42	0811	1.41	0849	1.38	0929	1.35	1011	1.32	1057	1.29
1253	0.51	1325	0.51	1357	0.52	1430	0.54	1506	0.56	1545	0.59	1627	0.63
1916	1.65	1949	1.71	2023	1.75	2058	1.78	2135	1.78	2215	1.76	2259	1.73
Sunday 8		Monday 9		Tuesday 10		☉ Wednesday 11		Thursday 12		Friday 13		Saturday 14	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0546	0.49	0640	0.50	0043	1.64	0145	1.61	0253	1.59	0359	1.59	0500	1.59
1146	1.27	1243	1.26	0738	0.49	0836	0.47	0931	0.43	1024	0.39	1114	0.37
1715	0.67	1813	0.70	1345	1.29	1450	1.35	1552	1.46	1647	1.59	1740	1.73
2347	1.69			1919	0.71	2033	0.68	2147	0.62	2256	0.52		
Sunday 15		Monday 16		○ Tuesday 17		Wednesday 18		Thursday 19		Friday 20		Saturday 21	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0000	0.42	0059	0.32	0154	0.26	0248	0.23	0341	0.25	0433	0.30	0525	0.37
0559	1.59	0656	1.56	0751	1.52	0846	1.48	0940	1.43	1032	1.37	1124	1.33
1202	0.35	1250	0.36	1338	0.39	1426	0.44	1515	0.49	1603	0.56	1652	0.63
1830	1.85	1920	1.95	2010	2.00	2059	2.01	2147	1.97	2235	1.89	2322	1.78
Sunday 22		Monday 23		Tuesday 24		☾ Wednesday 25		Thursday 26		Friday 27		Saturday 28	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0615	0.44	0010	1.66	0100	1.55	0154	1.45	0252	1.39	0350	1.35	0445	1.34
1215	1.29	0705	0.51	0753	0.56	0839	0.59	0925	0.59	1009	0.59	1051	0.58
1744	0.69	1309	1.28	1403	1.29	1458	1.33	1551	1.39	1639	1.46	1723	1.54
		1838	0.75	1938	0.79	2045	0.80	2152	0.78	2256	0.73	2349	0.66
Sunday 29		Monday 30		Tuesday 31									
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height								
0535	1.33	0036	0.59	0117	0.52								
1130	0.57	0621	1.34	0704	1.34								
1804	1.62	1209	0.56	1246	0.56								
		1842	1.69	1919	1.76								

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 – JUNE 2011

DATE	LOCATION	CODE	DEPTH (approx)	MEETING TIME & PLACE	DIVE ACTIVITY LEADER (DAL)
Sat 4	Henry Head botany bay	R	25m	8.30 Kyeemagh ramp	
Sun 5					
Sat 11	Nelson Bay	R+S	varies	Port Stephens	Wanda Whittaker
Sun 12	Nelson Bay	R+S	varies	Port Stephens	Wanda Whittaker
Mon 13	Nelson Bay	R+S	varies	Port Stephens	Wanda Whittaker
Thu 16	Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club	M		Denistone Room @ 7:30 pm	General Meeting
Sun 19	Shelly Reef manly	R	16m	8.30 Tunks Park	
Sat 25					
Sun 26	The Royal Shepherd	R	28m	8.30 Tunks Park	

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

JUNE TIDES

		Wednesday 1		● Thursday 2		Friday 3		Saturday 4					
		Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height				
		0157	0.47	0235	0.43	0315	0.40	0358	0.39				
		0746	1.34	0828	1.34	0911	1.34	0956	1.34				
		1324	0.55	1402	0.55	1444	0.55	1528	0.56				
		1957	1.81	2036	1.84	2116	1.86	2159	1.85				
Sunday 5		Monday 6		Tuesday 7		Wednesday 8		☾ Thursday 9		Friday 10		Saturday 11	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0443	0.39	0530	0.39	0618	0.40	0024	1.69	0122	1.61	0227	1.54	0334	1.48
1043	1.34	1133	1.34	1227	1.36	0710	0.41	0801	0.42	0855	0.43	0948	0.43
1615	0.58	1706	0.60	1803	0.63	1324	1.40	1423	1.47	1523	1.55	1621	1.66
2244	1.82	2331	1.77			1907	0.65	2018	0.64	2133	0.61	2246	0.53
Sunday 12		Monday 13		Tuesday 14		Wednesday 15		☽ Thursday 16		Friday 17		Saturday 18	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0441	1.44	0545	1.42	0053	0.36	0147	0.30	0238	0.27	0326	0.28	0412	0.31
1042	0.44	1134	0.44	0644	1.41	0740	1.40	0832	1.39	0922	1.38	1010	1.36
1717	1.77	1812	1.86	1226	0.45	1316	0.46	1406	0.48	1454	0.50	1541	0.54
2353	0.44			1904	1.93	1954	1.97	2042	1.97	2128	1.93	2212	1.85
Sunday 19		Monday 20		Tuesday 21		Wednesday 22		☽ Thursday 23		Friday 24		Saturday 25	
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
0455	0.37	0537	0.43	0617	0.48	0015	1.52	0100	1.42	0153	1.33	0254	1.27
1056	1.35	1141	1.33	1225	1.33	0657	0.53	0738	0.56	0822	0.59	0910	0.60
1627	0.60	1713	0.65	1800	0.71	1313	1.34	1402	1.36	1455	1.40	1547	1.46
2253	1.75	2333	1.63			1854	0.75	1955	0.78	2104	0.78	2215	0.74
Sunday 26		Monday 27		Tuesday 28		Wednesday 29		Thursday 30					
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height				
0358	1.23	0458	1.23	0010	0.59	0055	0.51	0136	0.44				
0959	0.61	1046	0.60	0551	1.24	0639	1.27	0724	1.29				
1639	1.52	1727	1.60	1131	0.58	1215	0.56	1258	0.53				
2318	0.67			1811	1.68	1853	1.75	1934	1.82				

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

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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 June edition is 25th May.



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

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Email: info@ruc.org.au

Ph: 0422 504 553