



Surface Interval

September 2011

www.ruc.org.au

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RYDE UNDERWATER CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEES for 2011-2012:

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,

Well the diving hasn't improved lately but the weather is starting to settle down so maybe with the approach of Spring, our forays to the deep may improve. Here's hoping...

As some of you know a few lucky ones are off the Solomon's soon for a short holiday so they should be able to come back with some great photo's and stories for our magazine. In the meantime if you do a dive don't be afraid to share your story with us and send this in so we can include it in the next magazine.

Having said that, do not forget we still need a magazine editor, so come on. Don't just leave everything up to others. Get involved and put up your hand.

Christmas is not far away so if you would like to have a great diving holiday up the North Coast at North Haven better let me know as soon as possible. 7 sites have been booked but I need to know your coming and for what dates. You do not have to stay the full 7 nights but I do need to know what dates you would like to be there so I can juggle sites to accommodate everyone. We do require a deposit of \$20.00 per night which covers 1 site for 2 people to book your space. Please email me with copy to Richard Ling (treasurer) with payment details.

Anyway time to go and pack our bags. See you all at the next general meeting on 15th September at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club.

Yours in Diving,

Peter Hardman
President

From the EDITOR desk

All is quiet, too quiet. At least I have been able to get a dive in last month. Next is the Father's Day Dive (best pressie from my kids 😊)



Rob van der Zalm.
(caretaker)

From the DIVE OFFICER

Dive Officers Spiel, September 2011

R U C ites,

The month started off well with a dive on the Royal Shepherd near South head with reasonable seas and visibility. Its always a good spot to take photo's. The rest of the month was a little quiet. Aria had sorted a shore dive at Shelly beach later in the month, which went well.



The calendar is full for the next month. We just need to fill in the DAL's box. Call me if you can organise any of the dives.

Some forward planning has been done by Peter for the Xmas break. We are heading North to North Haven, just South of Port Macquarie. It is a great spot and there is a good Grey Nurse dive spot that can have great visibility so come along, and collect some teeth from the bottom.

Ken Jackson,

Dive Officer

Month	Date	Activity	Location	Contact
September	31/8 – 7/9	Overseas dive trip	Uepi	Peter Hardman
October	Sunday 16	Charity Bike Ride	Sydney to Homebush	Natalie McCallum
December	26/12 – 2/1	Christmas away trip	Beachfront Holiday Park North Haven	Peter Hardman

APRES DIVE

Social Officer – Natalie McCallum

While you are reading this, I am moving from Queensland back to Sydney. So please be a little patient with your new Social Officer as I will soon have some social events back on the agenda.

Here is one for starters:

Sunday 16 October: Bike Ride for Charity

<http://www.everydayhero.com.au/event/springcycle2011>

You can join Natalie & Herb for a 55km ride from North Sydney via the city to Homebush or opt for a shorter ride.

Whatever we plan to do we aim to have some fun and I would love to have some suggestions from you all as to what you would like to do. Here are some to name a few:

- Family picnic day combined with dives from Chinaman's Beach or Botany Bay.
- Social BBQ at my place, 7 Yeramba Place, Rydalmere.
- Winter warmer Curry night at Avari Indian Restaurant Baulkham Hills.
- 3D movies at the IMAX theatre. Darling Harbour where you can wear those fab 'mickey mouse glasses' – preferably some sea creature action movie, followed by dinner at Chinta Rai Thai underneath the walkway bridge to Darling Harbour or at the food court.
- Lunch at the Yacht Club near Southern Cross Divers (near Spit Bridge).
- Walk from Spit Bridge to Manly.

Look forward to seeing you all soon ☺

ALERT!

SHIPROCK AQUATIC RESERVE NO ACCESS FOR DIVERS 29 AUGUST 2011 ONWARDS

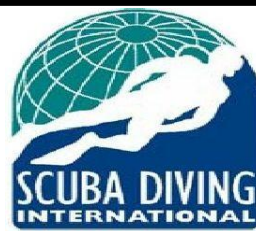
Divers will be unable to access Shiprock Aquatic Reserve from 29.8.2011 for approximately four months, however this timeframe may vary due to the sensitive nature of the site.

The adjoining Council reserve will be closed to facilitate the construction of access stairs through the Council reserve and re-building of the platforms at the water's edge. There will be no land-based access to the aquatic reserve at all.

Divers intending to access the aquatic reserve from the water are strongly advised not to do so due to the following construction activities creating a **SIGNIFICANT RISK** environment for divers:

1. Boom and silt curtain being located across the aquatic reserve and constantly being moved in line with construction activities
2. Construction barges with limited mobility moving across the aquatic reserve may not be able to avoid divers in the water.

Any questions relating to the proposed works should be directed to Council's Parks Project Officer on 9710 0201 (Mon/Tues)

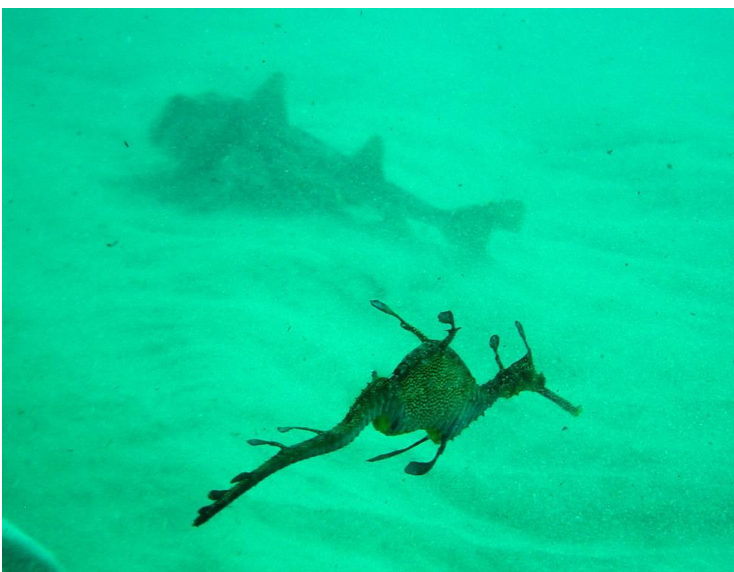
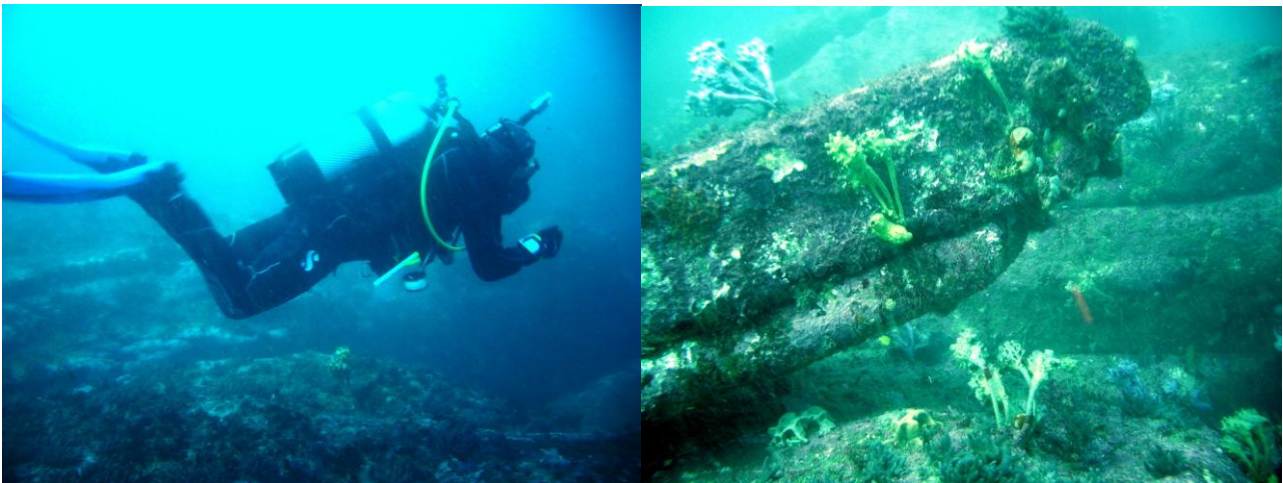


Extend the range of your diving with courses from TDI/SDI. Email info@tdisdi.com.au

DIVE REPORT – THE GAP (MID WINTER)

Ken Jackson

OK, so it's the middle of winter. At 6.30 in the morning I have to scrape the ice off my wind screen prior to picking up the boat. Yes, I am thinking what the H*** am I doing. At the boat ramp in the shade of the rocks and tree's we shivered getting our gear on. Once on the water and out in the bay and in the sun it became quite pleasant. We motored to the spit and onto the heads. With only 3 people on board, Clinton, Tom, and myself, we flew along. Some thought the wind and sea were going to be awful but in fact it was sunny, not too windy and only a small swell. We rounded south head which had a few waves breaking there and onto The Gap. We dropped the anchor on the southern end of the gap in about 18m, out of any wind and choppy sea. On the bottom we found the vis quite good, around 8-10m and a bit of surge was noticed. We headed south to deeper water. The bottom slowly became more barren the deeper we got. There were areas that had coral and sponges and fish life and some barren areas. At one point we ended up on the sand and found a 2ft Port Jackson shark just sitting on the sand, which I tried to blind. I had the only camera. Later we even found a weedy Sea Dragon and chased a few old wives.



The water was a balmy 19c and quite clean. All too soon our bottom time was over and we returned to the anchor, which had a return line thoughtfully attached, allowing us an easy return. After a short deco stop we surface and headed back for an air fill at the spit. After a coffee and a few biscuits, and some lollies we motored home. I thought it was an interesting dive as I think the others did too, and the pics I took weren't too bad either???

So come on, all those arm chair divers get wet in winter. The vis is by far the best. TRUST ME!!!

DIVE REPORT – FAIRY BOWER (21 August)

Rob van der Zalm

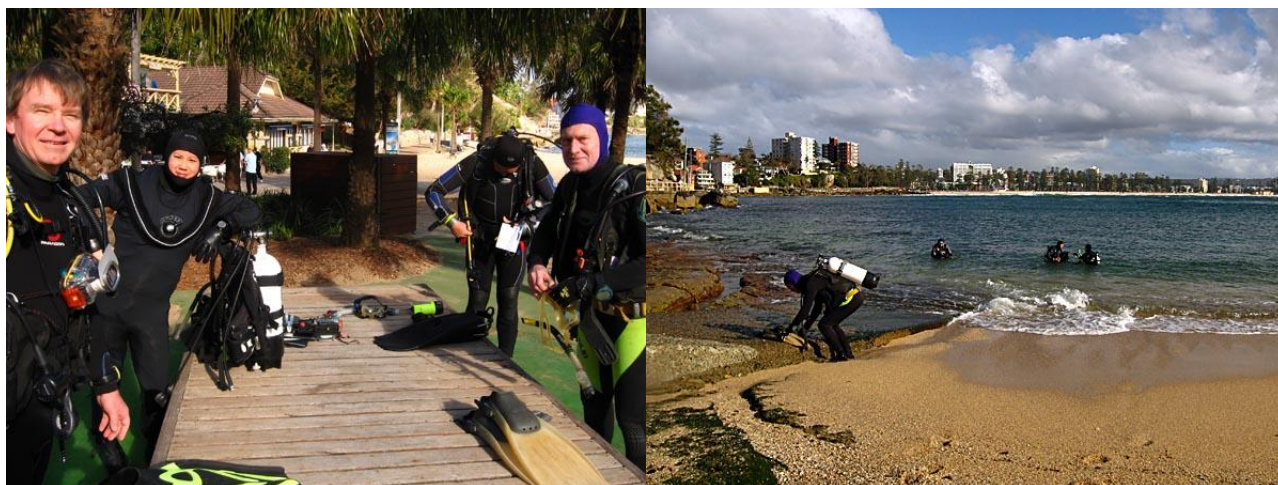
During the General Meeting the general concensus was that the weather wasn't doing divers any favours in the next couple of days, strong wind and chance of heavy rain. Luckily this didn't discourage Aria to announce a shore dive for the next Sunday, while dive operators were pulling their dive boat to safer shores).

On the Sunday, Aria, Tom K., Dave W., Michael L. and myself arrived at sunny Shelly Beach and wondered what all the fuss was about. 8:30 was still too early for the dive shops, so we had the beach to ourselves. Aria was trying out her new wetsuit, which helps – just like a heatpack in your wetsuit – when the water temperatre is 17 degrees. After some limited visibility at the entry point, it cleared to around 5 – 6 meters. This appeared to be enough as all 5 divers stayed together for most of the dive.



While we were heading West, I didn't spot any nudibranchs or turtles. Luckily there was plenty of other stuff to keep our interest. Aria even spotted an juvenile Lionfish hiding under a ledge. Several large Wobbies were spotted as well as two big PJ's. At the 7 meter mark, we also spotted a large school of Old Wives which had company of half a dozen large Three-bar Porcupinefish.

After the dive, we had time to enjoy a coffee before heading home to those that had a sleep-in.



Here are some of the things we saw.





Some divers look down on shore dives, but at least we had 65 minutes bottom time this weekend.

Photos courtesy of Aria, Michael, Tom and Rob.

WET CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER 2011

DATE	LOCATION	CODE	DEPTH (approx)	MEETING TIME & PLACE	DIVE ACTIVITY LEADER (DAL)
Sat 3	The colours	R	26m	8.00am Tunks Park	
Sun 11	Long reef wall	R	24m	8.00am Tunks Pk	Ken Jackson
Thu 15	Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club	M		Denistone Room @ 7:30 pm	General Meeting
Sat 17	Henry Head	R	20m	8.00am Kyeemagh ramp	
Sat 24	The Maroubra Sharks	R	14m	8.00am Kyeemagh ramp	Natalie McCallum

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

SEPTEMBER TIDES

														Thursday 1		Friday 2		Saturday 3	
														Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
														0407	0.15	0451	0.24	0539	0.34
														1024	1.71	1115	1.70	1209	1.66
														1637	0.22	1736	0.29	1842	0.37
														2245	1.59	2339	1.43		
Sunday 4		Monday 5		Tuesday 6		Wednesday 7		Thursday 8		Friday 9		Saturday 10							
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height						
0039	1.28	0148	1.17	0309	1.12	0425	1.14	0525	1.20	0015	0.37	0055	0.33						
0631	0.45	0733	0.54	0845	0.58	0957	0.57	1101	0.53	0613	1.28	0654	1.35						
1309	1.61	1416	1.56	1530	1.55	1638	1.56	1735	1.59	1155	0.48	1242	0.43						
1956	0.43	2115	0.46	2228	0.45	2328	0.41			1822	1.61	1902	1.62						
Sunday 11		Monday 12		Tuesday 13		Wednesday 14		Thursday 15		Friday 16		Saturday 17							
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height						
0129	0.31	0200	0.30	0229	0.31	0257	0.33	0325	0.36	0355	0.40	0427	0.46						
0730	1.40	0804	1.45	0837	1.49	0909	1.52	0942	1.53	1015	1.53	1052	1.51						
1323	0.40	1400	0.38	1437	0.37	1514	0.38	1551	0.40	1631	0.44	1714	0.49						
1939	1.60	2014	1.57	2046	1.53	2120	1.47	2154	1.40	2230	1.32	2311	1.24						
Sunday 18		Monday 19		Tuesday 20		Wednesday 21		Thursday 22		Friday 23		Saturday 24							
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height						
0501	0.51	0544	0.57	0052	1.10	0201	1.06	0318	1.09	0427	1.17	0520	1.28						
1133	1.48	1220	1.44	0635	0.63	0741	0.65	0856	0.63	1005	0.56	1105	0.46						
1802	0.54	1900	0.58	1317	1.41	1423	1.41	1532	1.46	1634	1.55	1729	1.64						
2357	1.16			2010	0.59	2122	0.55	2225	0.47	2316	0.36								
Sunday 25		Monday 26		Tuesday 27		Wednesday 28		Thursday 29		Friday 30									
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height								
0001	0.26	0045	0.17	0127	0.12	0209	0.11	0252	0.14	0337	0.21								
0608	1.41	0653	1.55	0738	1.67	0824	1.77	0912	1.83	1000	1.84								
1200	0.34	1252	0.23	1345	0.15	1438	0.11	1531	0.10	1629	0.15								
1819	1.72	1907	1.77	1957	1.76	2046	1.70	2138	1.60	2232	1.48								

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 – OCTOBER 2011

DATE	LOCATION	CODE	DEPTH (approx)	MEETING TIME & PLACE	DIVE ACTIVITY LEADER (DAL)
Sat 1	Dee Why Wide	R	28m	8.00am Tunks Park	
Sat 8					
Sun 9	Thursday Reef	R	24m	8.00am Tunks Pk	
Sat 15	Minmi Trench		20m	8.00am Kyeemagh ramp	Ken Jackson
Thu 20	Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club	M		Denistone Room @ 7:30 pm	General Meeting
Sat 22	Osbourne Shoals	R	20m	8.00am Gunnamatta Bay	
Sat 29					
Sun 30	Blue Fish Point		18m	8.00am Tunks Pk	

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

OCTOBER TIDES

Sunday 30		Monday 31												Saturday 1	
Time	Height	Time	Height											Time	Height
0401	0.38	0454	0.47											0424	0.30
1031	1.88	1125	1.78											1052	1.80
1715	0.20	1815	0.29											1728	0.22
2317	1.32													2330	1.35
Sunday 2		Monday 3		Tuesday 4		Wednesday 5		Thursday 6		Friday 7		Saturday 8			
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height		
0515	0.41	0030	1.23	0140	1.16	0255	1.14	0404	1.18	0500	1.25	0545	1.33		
1146	1.73	0611	0.51	0715	0.59	0829	0.62	0941	0.61	1045	0.57	1140	0.52		
1832	0.31	1245	1.63	1352	1.54	1504	1.49	1612	1.47	1707	1.47	1754	1.47		
		1942	0.39	2053	0.43	2158	0.45	2252	0.43	2337	0.41				
Sunday 9		Monday 10		Tuesday 11		Wednesday 12		Thursday 13		Friday 14		Saturday 15			
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height		
0015	0.38	0047	0.37	0118	0.36	0147	0.36	0216	0.38	0246	0.41	0318	0.45		
0624	1.41	0700	1.48	0732	1.54	0804	1.58	0836	1.61	0909	1.63	0944	1.63		
1226	0.46	1306	0.42	1344	0.38	1419	0.36	1456	0.35	1533	0.36	1612	0.39		
1834	1.47	1911	1.47	1945	1.45	2020	1.42	2056	1.38	2132	1.33	2211	1.28		
Sunday 16		Monday 17		Tuesday 18		Wednesday 19		Thursday 20		Friday 21		Saturday 22			
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height		
0352	0.49	0430	0.54	0514	0.59	0033	1.13	0137	1.12	0248	1.16	0353	1.26		
1020	1.60	1100	1.56	1147	1.52	0607	0.64	0712	0.66	0825	0.64	0938	0.57		
1654	0.42	1740	0.47	1833	0.50	1241	1.48	1344	1.46	1452	1.47	1558	1.52		
2252	1.22	2339	1.17			1935	0.51	2040	0.48	2140	0.42	2232	0.34		
Sunday 23		Monday 24		Tuesday 25		Wednesday 26		Thursday 27		Friday 28		Saturday 29			
Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height		
0448	1.39	0537	1.54	0007	0.21	0052	0.18	0137	0.19	0223	0.23	0311	0.29		
1044	0.47	1143	0.35	0625	1.68	0713	1.81	0800	1.90	0849	1.94	0940	1.94		
1657	1.58	1752	1.62	1239	0.23	1334	0.14	1429	0.09	1523	0.08	1618	0.12		
2321	0.26			1845	1.64	1938	1.62	2031	1.56	2126	1.49	2221	1.40		

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

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YOUR COMMITTEE

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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 October edition is 25th September.



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.

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Email: info@ruc.org.au

Ph: 0422 504 553