



# Newsletter

## WARRNAMBOOL SUB AQUA CLUB

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Pres says
- Recent happenings.
- Club dives
- Members go diving.
- Dive calendar
- Coast guard boat arrives
- Canberra sinking still going well
- Gear for sale

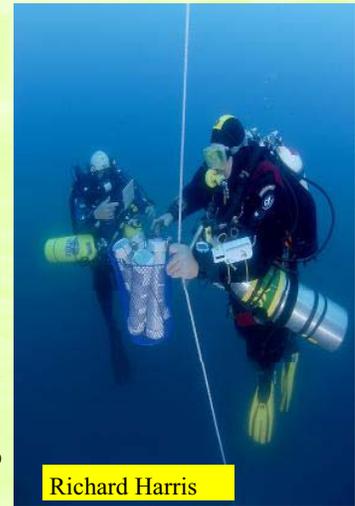
### THE BOTTOM OF THE BIG BLUE LAKE

After many months of planning and paper work we are ready for our dive to the bottom of the big blue lake in mount Gambier .this required mixing of trimix and nitrox gases to do this dive safely

There was two teams of divers Three were on rebreathers and the rest on open circuit (tanks ) the plan was for two dives over the weekend to collect core samples from the bottom and video the dives and also record

still photos of the events .we achieved our set tasks and found the bottom to be 72mt in the dead centre, the vis was good with about 20 mt in most placers .the dive took 85 min with a 20 min bottom time the trimix was 17% o2 and 50% helium with 32 nitrox for deco .After diving the mount for some 20 years it was great to finally get to dive it .Gary

Gary with bottom samples On deco



Richard Harris

### CONTACT DETAILS

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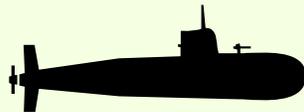
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### Up and coming dives

Hi All some dives that we will be going on soon

14/15 june Will be a Queenscliff dive for scallops and a submarine dive weather permitting Contact t Steve



Emily Dive Portland contact Jeff Cottrill 55624137

Linda Laying line across the bottom of the big blue lake At 68 mt core sample containers ready to go



Richard Harris

Bean Counter [treasurers report]  
After Three Major Purchases So Far This Year The Remaining Balance Is \$689.34.

- 1/. Air Compressor Bauer \$3,400
- 2/. New Scuba Equipment \$2,500
- 3/. Safety Equipment For Boat \$500



## WARRNAMBOOL SUB AQUA CLUB

Linda ,Jeff and Mick at the shaft



Ross climbing out of the shaft after a 40 mt dive



Dive Club Meeting & Meal , With Gary presenting a rebreathers Information Night



There has been a bit of diving lately around Warrnambool, Portland and Mount Gambier. If you any particular dives you would like to do please give me a call and I will do my best to organize them for you,

The latest meeting was very popular with tea and presentation on re-breathers. Thanks must go to Gary for his efforts and time.

Congratulations must go to Ross FITZGERALD who just completed his Padi Open Water Instructor certification, well done Fitzy. I here he gives members a discount!!!

There will be another meeting in July for our annual AGM but will be in touch with the final details of this. Hope to catch up soon for dive or two. PARKO

## Warrnambools New Coast Guard Boat Is Here

### Diving the Breakwater

Diving along the w.bool breakwater can be very rewarding with lots of interesting things to see .

On a recent dive I found two fishing rods and seen a large Stingray lots of small fish and found a lead weight with a stainless catch very happy dive there was lots of abb in all the cracks .on other dives we have seen small Cray and seals And the like .in the past I have found false teeth which I still have and even a gun that was discarded by someone .

Often we find fishing knives and squid jigs and sinkers .

The breakwater is a great spot to hone your skills and is protected from those South/southwesterly winds that we incur along the great southern shores .

So on these winter days get the gear out and go jetty diving . Please note that you must keep clear of the jetties where the fisherman work from ,I find staying close to the wall is the best way to do these dives . Gary

### The teeth I found



### Nitrox

### Enriched Air Diving (Michael O'Brien)

### Nitrox

In the last month I was lucky enough to do my enriched air diving course with Gary Barclay in Mount Gambier. Enriched air diving, also known as Nitrox diving enables you to safely extend your no decompression limits, which means more time under water and shorter surface intervals - so you can get back in the water sooner.

The first day of the course was spent on theory. A lot of the theory focused on dive tables, like your recreational dive planner you got with your open water dive course. To understand enriched air - in short it means more oxygen content in air than normal air (which is approximately 21% oxygen and 79% nitrogen). The two most popular mixes in Australia are 36% and 32% oxygen, but with the enriched air diving course you are allowed to use up to 40% oxygen.

This may seem confusing, but overall, it is a safe way of diving to certain depths which you can learn in the course.

If you descend too deep for the % of enriched air you are using, you can get what is known as oxygen toxicity. But as long as you follow your dive plan, it is a safe way of diving and gives you more time to enjoy your dive. You also learn about oxygen partial pressure, which is an important factor in repetitive diving.

At the end of the first day, we completed our theory test and were all relieved with the result. I was extremely pleased with the way in which Gary conducted the course, his practical and helpful manner makes for a positive and enjoyable learning environment. Overall, it was good to revise tables, as I hadn't looked at them for years, because I use a computer to dive with. I really don't think I understood tables properly when I did my open water course back in 1992, but going over them again has made me very confident using these tables.

Anyway, enough of the serious stuff.... A few days before commencing the course, I put my back out at work, so I spent much of the weekend bent over, not real flash. I found that putting a set of twins on my back seemed to pull me into line somewhat, and we enjoyed some great diving on the Sunday in Kilsby's sinkhole. We took a stage bottle with a 32 mix and tied it off to the bottom of the shot line, then we continued to dive to around 40 meters, vis was about 100 meters (pretty clear). We picked up the stage bottle and did a spiral ascent, approx an hour under water and still had over 150 bar which is really 300 on my manifold twins and 180 left in the stage bottle, but the main benefit is the nitrogen level in my body is a lot less than if I was diving air on its own .

Some people say the effect of enriched air diving makes them more alert, clear headed and not as sore after diving - I don't know about that I just love diving.

Many thanks to Gary and I look forward to doing my Cave Course with Garinda Diving in the near future.



Mick in action



# RECENT CLUB DIVES

Linda And Adam With club boat in background on a portland dive and BBQ



La Bella Wreck



Members in Action



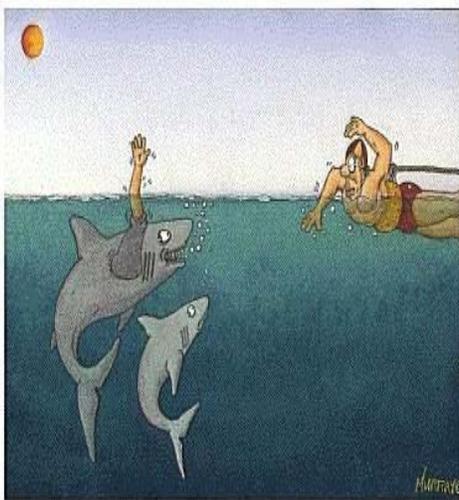
Linda on Scr rebreather



Jeff and Kelvin on charter boat



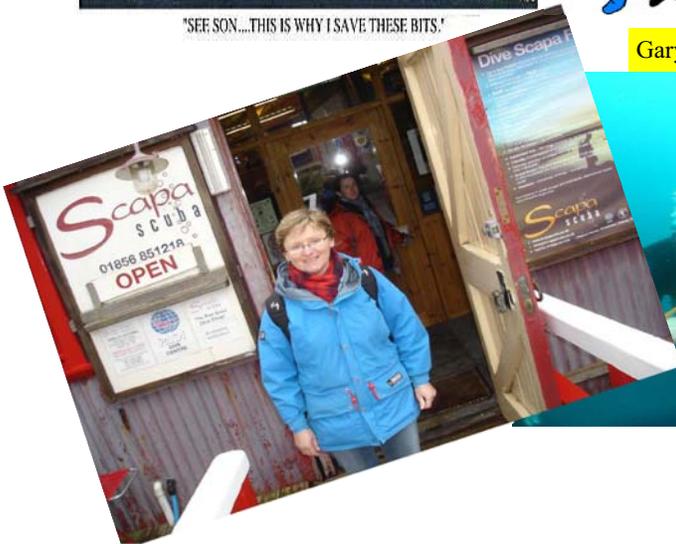
Gary Looking for new dive sites



"SEE SON...THIS IS WHY I SAVE THESE BITS."



Gary And Kelvin off gassing after a dive on the batman



## Bad day at work??

If you don't laugh out loud after you read this you are in a coma!

This is even funnier when you realize it's real! Next time you have a bad day at work, think of this guy. Rob is a commercial saturation diver for Global Divers in Louisiana. He performs underwater repairs on offshore drilling rigs. Below is an E-mail he sent to his sister. She then sent it to a radio station in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, who was sponsoring a worst job experience contest. Needless to say, she won.

Hi Sue,

Just another note from your bottom-dwelling brother. Last week I had a bad day at the office. I know you've been feeling down lately at work, so I thought I would share my dilemma with you to make you realize it's not so bad after all. Before I can tell you what happened to me, I first must bore you with a few technicalities of my job. As you know, my office lies at the bottom of the sea. I wear a suit to the office. It's a wetsuit. This time of year the water is quite cool.

So what we do to keep warm is this:

We have a diesel-powered industrial water heater. This \$20,000 piece of equipment sucks the water out of the sea, heats it to a delightful temperature, then pumps it down to the diver through a garden hose which is taped to the air hose.

Now this sounds like a darn good plan, and I've used it several times with no complaints.

What I do, when I get to the bottom and start working, is take the hose and stuff it down the back of my wetsuit. This floods my whole suit with warm water. It's like working in a Jacuzzi. Everything was going well until all of a sudden, my bum started to itch.

So, of course, I scratched it. This only made things worse.

Within a few seconds my bum started to burn! I pulled the hose out from my back, but the damage was done.

In agony I realized what had happened. The hot water machine had sucked up a jellyfish and pumped it into my suit.

Now, since I don't have any hair on my back, the jellyfish couldn't stick to it.

However, the crack of my bum was not as fortunate.

When I scratched what I thought was an itch, I was actually grinding the jellyfish into the crack of my bum.

I informed the dive supervisor of my dilemma over the communicator. His instructions were unclear due to the fact that he, along with five other divers, were all laughing hysterically.

Needless to say I aborted the dive.

I was instructed to make three agonizing in-water decompression stops totalling thirty-five minutes before I could reach the surface to begin my chamber dry decompression. When I arrived at the surface, I was wearing nothing but my brass helmet.

As I climbed out of the water, the medic, with tears of laughter running down his face, handed me a tube of cream and told me to rub it on my bum as soon as I got in the chamber.

The cream put the fire out, but I couldn't poo for two days because my bum was swollen shut.

So, next time you're having a bad day at work, think about how much worse it would be if you had a jellyfish shoved up your arse.