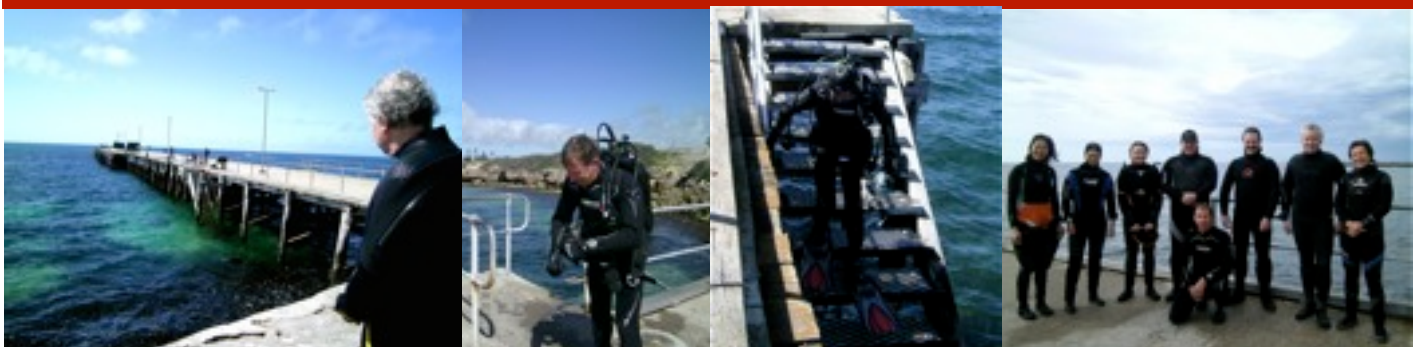




Gunard Perch by Helen Mulders

**EDITHBURGH 20-22 SEPTEMBER 2013
UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP**



Edithburgh is a small town on the south-east corner of Yorke Peninsula in South Australia. Edithburgh is about 50 km west of Adelaide across Gulf St Vincent, but 226 km away by road. On the Friday the 20th of September Paul Macdonald and myself arrived at Edithburgh around lunchtime.

Our first stop was the jetty, so we could check the dive conditions - it was lovely: the ocean was flat, and the water was crystal clear – consistent with the forecast. There is an old saying “A Picture is worth a thousand words”, so it was important for our workshop to have best water conditions for our participants to build on and improve their underwater photography skills and take their best underwater pictures. We stayed at Sultana Point Lodge, a divers lodge overlooking the ocean



Sultana Point Lodge

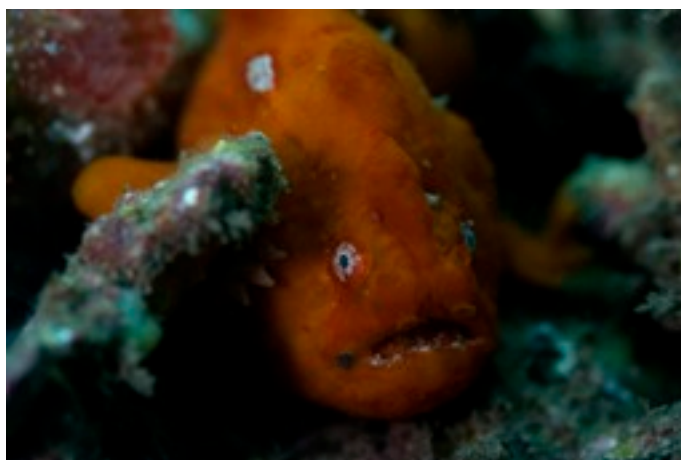
and Troubridge Island and Lighthouse at Edithburgh. This divers lodge provides comfortable pleasant accommodation, divers facilities and a large sun room where we conducted workshops. This spacious lodge is fully furnished and offers accommodation for up to 28 divers. However downunderpix workshops are limited to 8 underwater photographers to ensure that all can get personal attention. So with the workshop area set up and the beds



Paul Macdonald dive briefing by Elizabeth Solich

made, we waited to welcome divers who arrived between 4pm and 8pm. As participants arrived they quickly settled into the lodge and it wasn't long before the underwater photography questions were flowing fast for Paul to answer.

Once everyone had arrived Paul delivered a short presentation, covering the basics of light and some simple underwater photography techniques. Following the presentation the underwater photography talk and excitement continued. Cameras were set up for the following morning and participants got to know each other sharing their individual diving and photography experiences while Paul continued to field questions and share his vast underwater photography knowledge.



Smooth Anglerfish by Paul Macdonald



Sea Horse by Marianne CHI

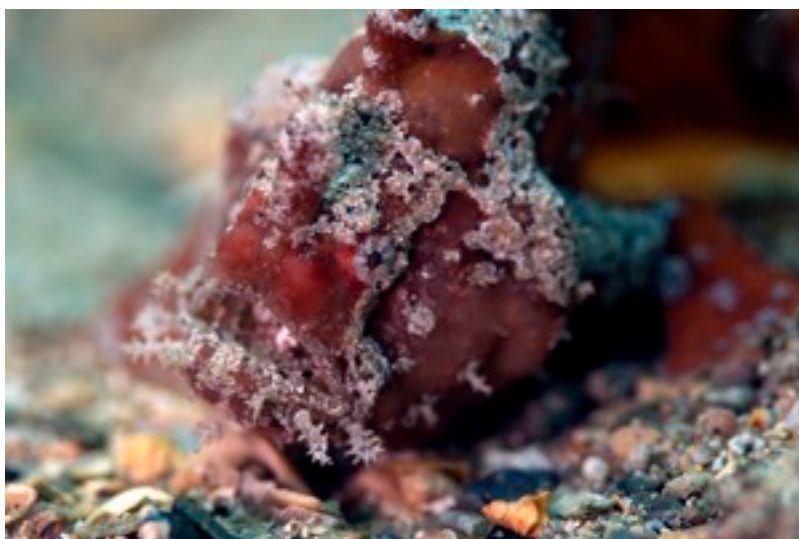
Most were up by 7am the next morning and after the light breakfast provided in the kitchen / dinning area, everyone headed down to the jetty with big smiles of anticipation. Unfortunately the winds had turned northerly and were quite strong, stirring up the water and significantly reducing the visibility. Not knowing what to expect in this dynamic, forever-changing environment adds an element of excitement, adventure and surprise to a dive. But nothing beats clear water for underwater photography.

Divers got everything set up and ready for diving. Macro photography was the order of the day and Paul provided the dive briefing before everyone headed into the water.

As the water was reasonably cold at around 16 degrees I busied myself setting up for the between



Tasseled Anglerfish by Elaine Tham



Smooth Anglerfish by Paul Macdonald

dives break where hot beverages like tea, coffee, soup and hot chocolate was provided to warm divers up. Snacks were also available for those with the munchies. Between dives talk was of Leafy Sea Dragons, Sea Horses, Octopus and Anglerfish, all seen on the dive. Suitably refreshed participants headed out for the 2nd dive. The wind had dropped and visibility was slightly better.



Crab by Lewis Stratton

After the 2nd dive participants had a 2 hour break to have lunch, shower, wash dive gear and download photos ready for the afternoon workshop. At the afternoon workshop Paul provided a detailed presentation on underwater photography which was followed by discussion of selected photographs from participants taken that morning. We also had a short break to sing happy birthday and share a cake for 2 photographers having birthdays on the weekend. This session was very informative all present gained insight on how to capture better images of the various marine creatures they had seen earlier in the day. We all know that underwater photography presents a number of challenges so in the workshop Paul shared some practical underwater photography tips and techniques, equipment considerations and lighting ideas for when divers hit the water the following morning. After the workshop cameras were set up for the morning and all prepared to head down to the local hotel for dinner which turned out to be a lot of fun and most were in stitches of laughter many times as stories were shared.



Pyjama Squid by Klaus Bujok



Tasseled Anglerfish by Helen Mulders

The Sunday morning welcomed us with beautiful sunshine and no wind. All Underwater Photographers: Marianne Chi, Lisa Mclean, Helen



Mosaic Leather Jacket by Mike Rowlands

Mulders, Elaine Tham, Klaus Bujok, Mike Rowlands, Lewis Stratton were up and about again by 7am. And after another light breakfast participants arrived at the jetty around 8.15am to be greeted by a flat sea and very clear water. All divers busied themselves getting ready to dive. Paul again provided the dive briefing reminding all of the tips and tricks discussed the previous day. Then divers made their way to the steps to enter the water.

So as photographers warmed up between dives with hot beverages there was much excited discussion about the various creatures photographed. We were also entertained by a seal that stayed in the water with us on the last dive.

By the end of the 4 dives participants had seen and photographed amongst other things Leafy Sea Dragons, Smooth Anglerfish, Tasseled Anglerfish, Sea Horses, Pyjama Squid, Octopus, Gunard Perch, a seal, Mosaic Leather Jackets, various nudibranchs and crabs.

A fun and informative time was had by all, lots of new diving friends were made and all left with big happy smiles.



Octopus by Lisa McLean



Edithburgh Underwater Photography Workshop participants; from the left: Lisa Mclean, Marianne Chi, Klaus Bujok, Elaine Tham, Helen Mulders, Paul Macdonald, Lewis Stratton, Mike Rowlands by Elizabeth Solich



Leafy Sea Dragon by Marianne Chi

*Author: Elizabeth Solich of DOWNUNDERPIX
email: info@downunderpix.com
Edithburgh, 22nd September 2013
South Australia*



Smooth Anglerfish by Helen Mulders

EDITHBURGH, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Edithburgh is a delightful holiday destination, just 233 kilometres from Adelaide and with a population of around 450. Once the third busiest port in South Australia, today it is a popular tourist destination and fishing village. There are nearly 200 lakes, most of which are salt in the Edithburgh area. It is no wonder that this town was once a major salt provider to South Australia.

The town is known as being an excellent location for keen fishermen, with mullet, yellow fin, whiting and larger fish being found in its waters. Fishing is available off both jetty, beaches - try Sultana Point Beach, which is great for those with kids and boats, as it has an all weather boat ramp.

Edithburgh is the perfect place to take the family for a holiday, with great swimming beaches and a tidal swimming pool with a shallow area. The sandy beaches are perfect for fishing, swimming, scuba diving or snorkelling and sail boarding.

Edithburgh and Troubridge Island are home to a number of shipwrecks, one of the worst being the 'Clan Ranald' where close to 40 lives were lost. Their graves are at the local cemetery.



Smooth Anglerfish by Paul Macdonald



Seal by Lewis Stratton