

October 7th 2003

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

Diving this week at Wolf Rock and surrounding areas has been somewhat murky with the algae and weed now moved in good and proper. Visibility was reduced to only 5 metres and less at other sites, which leads to some disappointment for visiting tourist divers, although one couple from England said it just reminded them of home - 5 metres vis is a good dive there. Finding your way around with only being able to see a couple of metres ahead certainly makes you realise why the compass navigation course at dive school is so important. You can feel the adrenalin pumping and your respiration increase when you don't know what you'll bump into next. Coming face to face with a grey nurse shark, although harmless, can be one of the most exciting experiences you'll ever have!

Water temperature 22 degrees on the surface, 21 degrees on the bottom and 5 metres visibility.

Kev Phillips
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

October 14th 2003

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

To avoid some of the strong winds and big seas over the last week, we've had some very early starts of late. It's been worth it though with divers enjoying the diving at Wolf Rock and other sites.

The eagle rays are starting to fly around in squadrons as their numbers increase with the warmer weather. Gropers are hanging about guarding their territory and making it known this is their back yard. All the other critters are just going about with a 'business as usual' attitude. We ran into **Lily the Loggerhead**, who lives down on Nursery Reef. These loggerhead turtles are so large when they are fully matured that it's hard for them to find a crevice or hole big enough to fit them in when they want to rest. What they often do is put their head inside a hole with all of their body protruding and try to blend in with the rock formation. Quite effectively too. Unless you're experienced at spotting them.

Water temperature 22 degrees and visibility to 15 metres.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

October 21st 2003

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

Fresh northerly winds during the past week have made for some bumpy rides out to Wolf Rock with short sharp waves coming in to the bay very close together. Although once **at anchor** in the lee of the rock, the constant volley of waves posed no problems to the surface supervisor.

For the divers a white water descent was the order of the day. Submersing through a blanket of fizzing foaming seawater is not unlike looking into a white out from a snowstorm. Once below the first metre the visibility opened up exposing a busy community of sub-sea society, demonstrating almost every link in the food chain. Squadrons of eagle rays, zooming barracuda and patrolling grey nurse sharks and visiting divers returning home satisfied that they have broadened their level of experience and witnessed something very special.

Visibility 10 – 15 metres and water temperature still 22 degrees.

Kevin Phillips
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

October 28th 2003

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

Giant bull rays hovering like alien space ships and squadrons of eagle rays flying overhead along with four grey nurse's below in the shark pit. Two girls and two boys resting while in their sleeping swim pattern. What an awesome sight, especially for three student divers completing the last two dives of their Open Water Course.

Wolf Rock, world class diving on the doorstep to Fraser Island.

Water temperature 22 degrees and holding, visibility 15 metres.

Kevin Phillips
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2003

Well, it's been a busy month both in the water and out of it. As the weather warms up more and more divers are making the trek north from Brisbane for weekends of diving, although the Victorians think diving up here in winter is like their summers.

The grey nurse sharks are starting to mate with the males turning up in the last two weeks of the month. The females are showing signs of mating with torn flesh evident around the pectoral fins. The eagle rays are starting to form their summer squadrons and the bull rays are patrolling the area just having a look. **We're still seeing the odd humpback whale passing through but expect we'll be seeing the last of them pretty soon as they make their way back to Antarctica.**

Northerly winds are still making things difficult for launching but worst of all is the weed that comes into the bay with it. We've finished the month with truckloads of weed washing up on the beach. Hopefully some south easterlies will start blowing and rid us of this horrible smelling stuff!

Average visibility over the past month has been around 15 metres and the water temperature is holding at 23 degrees on the surface and 21 degrees in the thermocline.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

October 4th 2005

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

(no reports for 2014)

Diving over the past week has been exceptionally good. As if the tap has just been turned on we are seeing squadrons of eagle rays and more and more bull rays on each dive. Divers are mesmerised as the eagle rays fly overhead and the bull rays undulate towards us turning at the last minute and gracefully manoeuvring around or over us.

The last dive was sensational with the grey nurse sharks, a couple of bull rays resting on the bottom and then an eagle ray swoops down as if to take a closer look at what's going on. We then look above us to see a giant Queensland groper staring down at us as if to say 'what are you doing here?' A perfect shot for the photographer if you're fast enough.

A couple of big wobbegongs have been spotted lying in the crevices waiting patiently for their prey and **something new for me this week has been the continuing presence of a cuttlefish in a small crevice. She is obviously guarding her eggs**, as she hasn't moved all week. Other unusual types of marine animals we see regularly at Wolf Rock are the pineapple fish and nudibranchs, which come in all shapes, sizes and colours. This week I saw the smallest nudibranch I have seen yet, about 8mm long and not much thicker than a needle.

Visibility has been between 10 and 15 metres and water temperature 22 degrees.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

October 11th 2005

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

Diving over the weekend was good but visibility was limited due to more of this weed being blown in from the north. Still plenty to see though, especially if you concentrate on the little stuff.

Plenty of nudibranchs of all shapes, sizes and colours and one exciting find was an animal about 3cm long with what looks like several little branches attached, much like a ribboned sea dragon, although it couldn't be as they have not been reported found this far south. Alternatively, it could be either some species of pipefish or sea horse and was very difficult to spot. It was hiding in amongst a coral which unless you look very closely, and I mean closely, appeared to be just part of the plant. We're not really sure what it was yet and are hoping the photographer will send us a copy of the photo.

Unfortunately, my little cuttlefish seems to have disappeared, I'll keep an eye on the area over the next few weeks and see if we have some baby cuttlefish suddenly appear.

Visibility started off well at about 15 metres but deteriorated to 5 metres and water temperature is still 22 degrees.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

October 17th 2005

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

Well contrary to my report last week, my cuttlefish have not disappeared, in fact they have multiplied with three of them now sheltering in the little crevice. I'll keep you posted on that one.

The conditions have been quite favourable over the last week although some much needed rain put a bit of a dampener on the weekend. However, this did not deter most of our customers, you're going to get wet anyway! It was well worth it, getting up close and personal with about a dozen sharks, giant Queensland groopers, bull rays and eagle rays. One of the groopers was seen enjoying the slight current alongside one of the grey nurse sharks, with the groper the same size in length but a little fatter. An amazing sight indeed!

The algae/weed continues to mass up in the bay, which provides us with some challenges in getting to our launch site, not to mention the aroma. Not much we can do about it though.

Visibility was between 8 and 18 metres, water temperature between 21 and 24 degrees, depending on the thermo cline.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

October 25th 2005

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

A couple of weeks ago I mentioned seeing a little animal which we thought may be some type pipefish and I am able to confirm that indeed it was a ghost pipefish or possibly an **ornate ghost pipefish**. Apparently they are not that common so we were lucky to see it.

The numbers of grey nurse sharks at Wolf Rock are steadily increasing for the season and have started their mating cycle once again with a couple of the sharks covered in

bite marks. The eagle rays have been entertaining us with their acrobatics and the bull rays and gropers continue to amaze and excite the divers with their sheer size.

With a current running from the north over the weekend we had some challenging diving especially when rounding the end of the formation to pass across to the other side. Diving is usually considered to be a sport that can be enjoyed by all age groups but when dealing with current it usually sorts out the fit and not so fit. Cramping can be one of the hazards to contend with so keeping up your fluid intake is quite important.

Visibility this averaged 15 metres and water temperature was 22 – 24 degrees.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2005

Well as we usually do this time of year we have noticed a marked change in the behaviour and numbers of animals out at Wolf Rock. Just like clockwork the grey nurse sharks have again started their breeding cycle with the numbers at Wolf Rock steadily increasing as they all aggregate for the summer. A couple of the sharks are covered in bite marks.

Even though we have been diving at Wolf Rock now for nearly 5 years I am still seeing things that surprise and excite me. When you see a squadron of eagle rays fly overhead as your swimming along, or mesmerised by a group of huge bull rays that measure about 2 metres in width, as they undulate towards you but gracefully manoeuvre away at the last second. These things you can't help but see but sometimes it's the smaller things that can create just as much pleasure.

This month I saw a couple of things that I thought were interesting. One was the continuing presence of cuttlefish in the exact same spot on each dive. I can only assume that they have laid eggs and are guarding them. It started out with just the one always in the same little crevice, sitting patiently stationary. Then I noticed another two in the same little area. One of our divers was of the opinion that they will stay there until the eggs have hatched, dying not long after from starvation.

The other item of interest was the sighting of a ghost pipefish or possibly an ornate ghost pipefish. Apparently they are not that common so we were lucky to see it being that it was probably only about 3 cm long and blended so well with the coral it was hiding in. To most people it would have looked like another piece of weed suspended in the water. Luckily we had a photographer on the dive as without the benefit of a camera to enhance its features it would be very difficult to identify what it was.

A couple of big wobbegongs have been spotted lying in the crevices waiting patiently for their prey and loads of different species of nudibranch seen throughout the site. Nudibranchs are like little garden slugs or snails but don't have protective shells. Nudibranch spotting is a bit of 'thing' for some divers as they come in thousands of different colours, shapes and sizes. Sometimes, this is the only reason they dive, to look for nudibranchs and hopefully discover a new species. I once caught one in mid water that was being blown along in a current. Obviously one of their methods of travel!

Water temperature is slowly starting to climb and is now between 21 and 24 degrees throughout the water column. Average visibility for the month was 15 metres.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

October 10th 2006

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

It looks like someone has opened the gates and let the whales out of Hervey Bay. We have been seeing at least 6 whales each day we have been out as they head south back to cooler waters. The water temperature has climbed to 22 degrees this week and we wonder if that is the signal for the majority of them to start heading home. In the meantime, it's great entertainment while sitting topside during surface interval.

With the change in water temperature we also have noticed the different species starting to appear. The first of the leopard sharks has been spotted (pardon the pun) and a couple of bull rays. **One of the bull rays has had a baby swimming with her on top of her back. Even though they are not touching, no matter which way Mum turns, the baby swims with her in perfect formation.** What the purpose of this is we don't know, perhaps to learn how to swim in different currents or perhaps it's just for protection until it grows bigger. A very large male wobbegong shark seems to have taken up residence in what we call the shark pit amazing divers with his sheer size. Wobbegong sharks have very large heads that are disproportionate to the size of the bodies. From their head their body tapers down quite sharply to the tail. Unlike other species of sharks they do not need to keep moving to stay alive. They lay perfectly still on the bottom and wait for their prey to come to them.

The grey nurse sharks are here in small numbers with only males being seen at present, **we are expecting the females to turn up any day now.**

Visibility has been quite good over the last week averaging 15 metres and water temperature now 22 degrees.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

October 17th 2006

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

At Wolf Rock over the past week a strong current has been developing until it got to the stage where it was just howling. **The current was strong enough to hold the boat stern on into the wind,** a strange sensation to be at anchor and see the waves coming from directly behind you.

After a detailed briefing on how to handle the situation without mishap, some of the divers were understandably feeling a little daunted, all except one, a 60 year old ex royal marine who now supervises teams of divers on the oil rigs anywhere from the North Sea to the Persian Gulf.

After an equipment double check, it was game on and the old dive boss was holding his own right in line with the youngsters every step of the way. You had to be careful

not to turn your head the wrong way or the current would tear your mask off. Once on the bottom you could move around using the rock contour as cover. There we found grey nurse sharks, giant groupers and huge barracudas.

Despite the conditions, everyone really enjoyed the first dive and went back in for a second one. This time a squadron of eagle rays with wall to wall trevally impressed all who saw them.

Visibility 10 metres and water temperature 22 degrees.

Kev Phillips
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

October 24th 2006

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

Some of you may or may not know that **October is the start of the mating season for the grey nurse sharks.** This only lasts until December so if anyone wants a chance to see the action then they had better be quick. **From now onwards we start to see the return of the females. The boys are already here and some of them have been patiently waiting since August. Once the mating season finishes the males bugger off and more and more females turn up.** There must be something in the water here that they like! Summer is when you'll see the greatest numbers of grey nurse sharks.

Schools of barracuda are also regular sights at Wolf Rock. Growing up to over a metre long, some divers are very excited when they see them. Up north they have a bit of a reputation as being aggressive but we have never witnessed this behaviour here. The leopard sharks have also started to show up and the bull rays are starting to make an appearance along with the squadrons of eagle rays.

Visibility finished at about 10 metres this week and water temperature still 22 degrees.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

October 31st 2006

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

The last week of diving has been exceptionally good with all our divers really enjoying their time in the water. A lot of these divers have come up from down south where they regularly dive in low visibility and sometimes very rough conditions.

When they dive at Wolf Rock they are just amazed at the range of marine life we have here and visibility anything over 5 metres is a bonus for them!

Today's photo is of a large loggerhead turtle that swam over to the divers and accompanied them on their descent to about 30 metres. With mating season for the turtles as well we have been seeing quite a few of them out and about, actually catching a couple of them in the act on one of our last dives. We regularly see hawksbill and green turtles as well.

Visibility finished at about 15 metres this week and water temperature still 22 degrees.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive Centre

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2006

Some of you may or may not know that October is the start of the mating season for the grey nurse sharks. This only lasts until December so if anyone wants a chance to see the action then you had better be quick.

From now onwards we start to see the return of the females. The boys are already here and some of them have been patiently waiting since August. Once the mating season finishes the males bugger off and more and more females turn up. There must be something in the water here they like! Summer is when you'll see the greatest numbers of grey nurse sharks. The leopard sharks have also started to show up and the bull rays are starting to make an appearance along with the squadrons of eagle rays.

The last week of diving has been exceptionally good with all our divers really enjoying their time in the water. A lot of these divers have come up from down south where they regularly dive in low visibility and sometimes very rough conditions. When they dive at Wolf Rock they are just amazed at the range of marine life we have here and visibility anything over 5 metres is a bonus for them!

I have included a couple of photos for this month, one of Jeff Davis who was up here on holidays with his wife from Victoria. Jeff completed his Advanced Course while he was here and he enjoyed it so much he and his wife are already talking about returning on their next holiday so his wife can learn to dive. The other shot is of a large loggerhead turtle that swam over to the divers and accompanied them on their descent to about 30 metres. With mating season for the turtles as well we have been seeing quite a few of them out and about, actually catching a couple of them in the act on one of our last dives.

Water temperature has now reached 22 degrees and visibility has averaged about 15 metres throughout the month.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2007

Once again it that time of month to do the report for Tony, where has the time gone! Some good diving over the last few weeks has kept all our divers happy and excited. Lots of action to keep everyone mesmerised, on one particular dive the eagle rays were just everywhere. It's not unusual to see them in large squadron like formations that swim overhead but this particular day it must have been the remnants of a mating aggregation as they were just everywhere we looked. As well as the grey nurse sharks, about 8 bull rays were taking advantage of a bit of current and the giant Queensland gropers have been patrolling the formation as well.

We have noticed that the grey nurse sharks don't seem to be feeding at the moment but we assume that will change as they have now commence the mating season and I am sure will be working up an appetite. One of the female sharks that turned up this month has a very distinctive skin discolouration which we can only assume is a form of dermatitis.

My favourite little animal, The Spanish Dancer, has been seen quite a bit over the month. The Spanish Dancer is a Hexabranhidae, one of the many nudibranch families, so basically a sea slug. They grow much larger than other nudibranchs, up to around 200mm, and have a curled edge to their body that unfolds into a beautiful frill when open, looking much like the skirts of a "Spanish Dancer". This is actually one of their defence mechanisms, making them look bigger and the colours are a warning to predators that they are toxic, so therefore not to be eaten.

Water temperature has now reached 22 degrees and visibility has averaged about 15 metres throughout the month.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2008

After a bit of a slow winter October has really started cranking and we have had some fantastic diving out at Wolf Rock.

With some of the best visibility we have seen for a long time and marine life left, right and centre it was a case of which way do you look first. **The grey nurse sharks have increased in numbers up to about 20 or more and are currently mating. The eagle rays have been flying overhead like they are on some form of mass migration, the grumpy groopers have been patrolling and the first leopard shark of the season has arrived.**

One of the most exciting discoveries this month was the sighting of a trumpet or triton shell still alive and kicking. This is the first time we have seen this animal out at Wolf Rock either dead or alive. The shell measured approximately 30 – 35 cm in length. They are a monovalve with one single foot which they use to inch their way along the bottom composition and are actually a predator of the crown of thorns starfish. The triton shell is protected in Australian waters and is usually found in Indo Pacific waters.

As for exciting discoveries, I wish I could say the same about my new camera! I don't know about anyone else but new technology is a constant source of frustration for me. I'm only just getting the hang of SMS messaging, so it gives you an idea of my "computer/tech savvy". My last camera must have been idiot proof as all I had to do was point and shoot. Anyone know what a "white balance" is? Well you probably do, but after studying the manual from front to back about half a dozen times I am still stumped as to why, when and how much "white balance" I should be using. I have come to the conclusion; it must be the camera so I have sent it back. Hopefully by next month I will be back in action with a new camera.

Visibility for the month has been a crystal clear 20 – 25 metres with a brief dip down to 10 metres. Water temp has climbed from 22 to 23 degrees and I'm starting to eye off that 3mm wetsuit. Hope it still fits!

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2009

After some long frustrating months of indifferent weather and mediocre dive conditions October has been a breath of fresh air so to speak. We finally managed to string together some bookings coinciding with good weather and some fantastic diving.

Strong currents have brought all the animals out in force and we have been rewarded with the whole spectrum of life to be found out at Wolf Rock. Grey nurse shark numbers are between 20 and 25 at present with mating season under full way. Eagle rays have been absolutely everywhere with squadrons of up to 20 rays flying in formation up and down the length and breadth of Wolf Rock. Eagle rays are very strange looking animals with very distinct head features that look I suppose a bit like an eagle. They also have very long whip like tails that can trail up to 3 metres past their body. Every now and then you find one that is not fazed by divers and will calmly nose along the bottom even though you are only metres away from it.

The leopard sharks and bull rays have arrived and we also had the company of a manta ray last week. Lots of turtles out and about and big schools of barracuda are making the most of the current. We're still hearing the whales as they swim past on their way home but assume that will be the last of them.

On our last trip we stopped at Carlo Point to do a few surface exercises with one of our students and were joined by one the local dolphins from over at Tin Can Bay. Obviously she was hoping for a free feed and followed us all the way back to the boat ramp not giving up until the boat was out of the water before moving on.

Water temperature has climbed to 23-24 degrees and visibility has been averaging 15 – 20 metres.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2010

What a great start to our busy diving season. We finished the last weekend of October with some spectacular conditions on and below the water. With visibility of 30 metres in beautiful blue water we were able to see the underwater world in all it's glory.

The grey nurse sharks have been particularly active early in the season, gropers are starting to appear on a regular basis and the eagle rays seem to everywhere you look. One of them has a tear about 5-6 inches long on the front of the left wing which must have been in a tussle with a shark, speaking of which, we ran into a fairly large whaler too. Leopard sharks can be seen lying on the sandy bottom and a couple swimming around. Bull rays taking advantage of the current between the pinnacles and schools of barracuda, kingfish and trevally.

On Sunday we were lucky enough to witness hundreds of pilot whales that were swimming within 30 – 100 metres from the rock for perhaps an hour, an amazing sight to see. We could hear them in the water on the first dive but didn't think much of it until we saw them on surface and realised then.

Water temperature is hovering around 21 - 22 degrees and rising.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2012

(no report for 2011)

Finally we enjoyed a lengthy stretch of good weather that actually included the weekends! Winds from the northwest along with very little swell created some user friendly bar conditions and making for some very enjoyable boating to and from the dive site.

Mating season for the Grey Nurse Sharks (GNS) is now in full swing which has brought a group of scientists aboard Australia Zoo's vessel The Croc 1. When Steve Irwin was still with us we discussed the possibility of tagging using acoustic devices to track pregnant females to where they give birth. Do they go north to pup or do they go south? **Steve and I agreed that any tagging operation should take place after the mating cycle is over, usually January or February.** Carly Bansemer who is a Research Supervisor is also in agreement. All Carly has to do is keep control of her over enthusiastic junior researchers and inexperienced assistants to make sure they don't interfere with the mating cycle and actually tag the right sharks. Carly's research over the past 10 years has indicated that Wolf Rock is a critical aggregation site for pregnant GNS and the only known site on the East Coast of Australia. However they have ascertained that only half the population of pregnant females are present after mating season leading Scientists to suspect that there may be another aggregation site north of Wolf Rock.

Many thanks should go out to Australia Zoo for their generosity in donating the use of their vessel and Master for this project.

Of course the whales are all heading south again which concludes their annual holiday in the north. As they pass Wolf Rock we see the calves learning to breach from their mothers, displaying continuous breaching activity as they arrive in Wide Bay where they sometimes stop to drink some milk.

Finally we would like to express our best wishes to Tony Huxley who will retire as editor of this local publication. We wish you and Mary an enjoyable retirement after your many years of hard work. Good luck and thank you for hosting the Wolf Rock Dive Report and allowing us to have a voice when we needed one.

Kev and Cheryl
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2013

With October drawing to a close we are starting to enjoy the warmer weather above and under the water. Marine life is more active and we are seeing lots more eagle rays, groper, leopard sharks, turtles....basically lots more everything. The following is a description of one of our dives recently.

Imagine seeing about 20 - 30 eagle rays swimming towards you and then putting on a display of turns and somersaults with grey nurse sharks mixed in amongst them, then a giant Queensland groper comes swimming into the middle of the sharks to see what all the commotion is. Just around the corner we come across a massive school of mulloway, then a couple of large leopard sharks. As we keep moving on, out of the deep comes a school of giant trevally headed straight for us. They circle the wagons around us for a couple of minutes before swimming off. All this is happening while we are listening to whales.

Another memorable day was when he could hear the whales singing through the hull of the boat. It turns out the whales were directly beneath us and the sound was travelling up through the structure of the vessel. All you had to do was put your ear to metal and listen!!

Visibility has varied from 8 metres up to 20 metres throughout the month and water temp is 22 degrees.

Kev and Cheryl
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2015

(no report for 2014)

The last month has been a busy one for both recreational charters and our commercial diving area.

We've been experiencing some sensational dives at Wolf Rock – manta rays, bull rays, turtles, some huge barracuda, mullet, leopard sharks, giant Queensland groper and so much more. **The grey nurse sharks have been all males with the last of the pregnant girls leaving for the birth of pups.** As I write this report mating season will be starting out at Wolf Rock and we are looking forward to our dive tomorrow to see what's been happening in week since we were last there.

We had Clive Standen and his lovely wife Francesca join us for a day of diving a few weeks ago. Clive was in Australia to promote the hit series Vikings in which he stars as Rollo. Both Clive and Francesca are passionate divers and we had perfect conditions on the day to show them around Wolf Rock. They have left Rainbow Beach now for Sydney and then on to Los Angeles for further promotion of Vikings and will be spreading the word about what a great spot Wolf Rock is to dive and the lovely beachside town of Rainbow Beach.

Rainbow Beach found itself in the spotlight when a huge **sinkhole**/coastal erosion dramatically developed within minutes at Inskip Point. A few days after the incident we were called for the not so pleasurable task of investigating what was salvageable after people tragically lost their car and caravan. Unbelievably all that was exposed of above the sea bed was the back end of the chassis from the caravan. It is hard to comprehend that a whole car and most of a van can be swallowed up so quickly. The sandy bottom was just a maze of trees and debris and the sand itself was so soft it was like quicksand. To see some underwater footage of what we saw you can go to our Facebook Page or Youtube.

Hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner now but if you are looking for some presents we have range of retail products such as waterproof torches, snorkelling equipment, dive knives and we also stock Guide to Sea Fishes of Australia which is a fantastic comprehensive guide to identifying over 950 species.

Visibility at Wolf Rock has been averaging 10 - 15 metres and water temperature is warming, currently 20 – 21 degrees.

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive

WOLF ROCK DIVE REPORT

October 2016

Since our September report the grey nurse sharks have returned in numbers now and the mating season has begun evidenced by the mating scars on a few of the males and 1 or 2 of the females. **The males still outnumber the females by about 2 – 1 but that will all change very quickly.**

Bull rays have been enjoying the strong currents that have started to run through Wolf Rock and eagle rays are starting to group together in their summer squadron flying formations. As the currents become stronger this brings out more of the marine life but also makes conditions a little challenging for divers unfortunately, but where there is a will there is a way!

For the most part weather has been behaving itself with the odd few days of strong wind before it settles again. Visibility present is around 10 - 12 metres and water temperature is warming, currently 21 degrees.

For more up to the moment information and videos check out our Facebook page on <https://www.facebook.com/wolfrockdive/>

Cheryl Maughan
Wolf Rock Dive