

THE SOUTHERN SPEARO

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WORLD TITLES

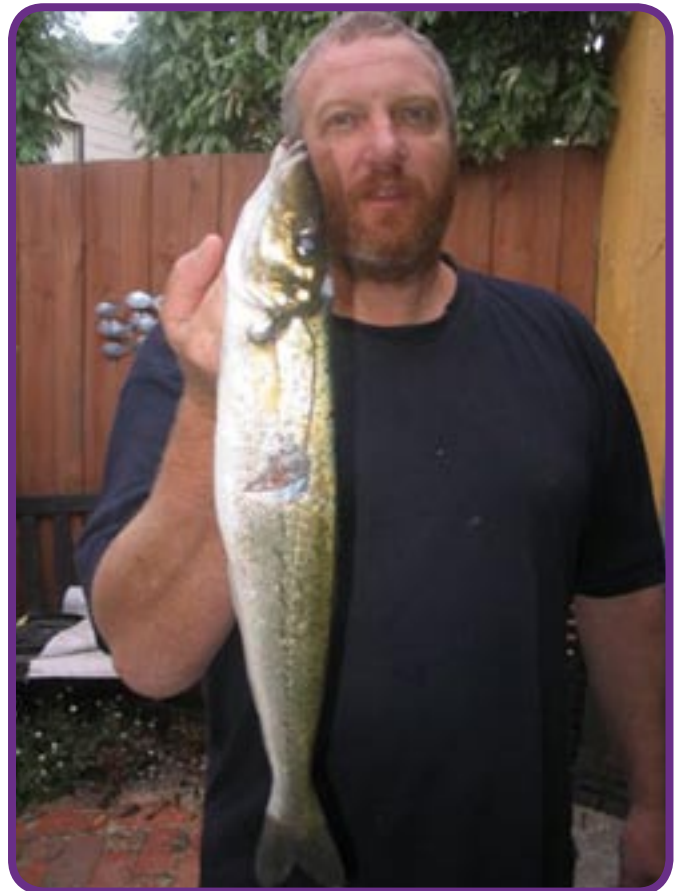
As most of you already know, Southern Freediver, Drew Fenney has recently been in Portugal representing Australia in the world titles, alongside Ian Puckeridge and Alex Lewis. In extremely rough conditions, and against the worlds best, Drew did himself and his club proud by being very competitive in this his first world titles.

Here is a report taken from our website forum:

“Australia did unreal. They came 9th, and were the first of the English speaking Nations. Pucko came 19th; Al 23rd and Drew Fenney 40th. Conditions were terrible: 1m vis on the first day with rough conditions. Pucko only speared one fish! Al had 8. Day 2 saw 3-5m swell and more of the 1m vis. Al Lewis found 3m vis on the bottom in 26m. Pucko got 20 fish, the top diver 32. Divers around the globe are commenting on Pucko’s athleticism against the cliffs.

It is a great result. An example of how good they went can be compared to Italy, who had 40 scouting days, each of the three divers had a boat and driver with two other spearos scouting locations. The Italians finished 6th or 7th. The Aussies had four days scouting, only two with a boat! A team of four against a team of twelve, two boat days against 120! Top Nation was Portugal and top individual diver was a Chilean.

GoAustralia!
trippey”



▲ Brett Illingworth with 890gram Vic Challenge Whiting

Southern Freedivers

Meetings held 8pm 1st Wed of each month at the
Showgrounds, Bennett St Dandenong VIC 3175

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CUP WEEKEND



On the Melbourne cup weekend Pete, Grant, Joseph, dad and I drove down to Eden with the formula for four days.

On the first day, we got to our destination within not even 20 minutes we set off to the chip mill it was a bit dirty there so we moved off to Leonard Island. As we started

driving, the seas started to get angry with the swell being big. We decided to keep going to Leonard Island. Pete and Grant hopped in the water and moved off to the rocks while dad and I stayed in the boat (I was a bit sick). Pete and grant didn't stay long because the water was a bit dirty so we moved back to the boat ramp. It took us about 30 minutes too get back.

We got back and cleaned our fish. Some of the fish we had got were black drummer, some nice sized banded and red morwongs, some trumps and some leather jackets. On the second day, the swell was going every single way so we all said we will go to Merimbula and chill for the day.

On the third day we went out to mowarry point dad, Grant and I went in and started flashing. Dad was flashing and Grant and I were waiting for the kings to come in and with in 3 minutes exactly a school of 25 kings came in it was my first time I didn't know what to do so I followed Grant down. Grant shot a king so I let him up. I didn't know wether to g down or let Grant do what he needs to.

The next day we went to mowarry but there was only 1 king. We went to get crayfish grant went in and got 1 red crayfish and 4 green crayfish it was cool. I went in and shot some fish but there were so many jellyfish everywhere we went so I just got out for a bit. The fish we got today where some trumps, red and banded morwong and some blackfish.

By Mathew miler

CUP WEEKEND PHOTOS



WINTER CRAYS

The idea of winter diving in Victoria was beginning to lose its appeal on me. With the water being a little too cold and the fish being a little fewer, the only diving I was considering was to be far away from home. But that was until last weekend.

The weather had been calm for a few days coming into the Saturday and my wetsuit had been dry for too long. It was my duty as a Southern Freediver to get out there and take advantage of the conditions, and that I did. Ziya and I arrived to a beautiful sight that morning- sunshine, no wind, no swell and blue water blanketing the very visible reef below. Our dreary winter attitudes and the cold water were soon forgotten as we settled into our surroundings.

Fish obviously enjoy calm conditions as we spotted, among the regulars, boarfish, silver drummer, black drummer, trumpeter, banded morwong, and barber perch. The winter plant life was flourishing, there was heaps of fish but

more importantly, plenty of crays. The area we had stumbled upon had crays under almost every ledge we could find. But the challenge isn't just to find them. Females, undersize, or mainly just out of reach, we couldn't seem to secure a decent cray.

I eventually spotted one deep in a cave covered in kelp. It couldn't be reached from the outside so I called Ziya over to have a look. It had now worked its way back into a cosy little hole where it would hope to stay secure. I was feeling fit and this cray was a good size so I was determined to have crack at it. I had Ziya keep watch from beyond the kelp to drag me out if needed. This was about to be the most narrow space I had attempted to dive, so I had to make sure all was right.

I relaxed on the surface for a while before taking my last breath and diving down. Straight through the kelp entrance, I had now fully entered this cave. It was exciting to be completely inside in the darkness with only my torch light showing the way. I had to manoeuvre my body around to face up to the target which was now cornered above me. Upon grabbing its antennae, I realised it had dug its claws in, ready for the tug of war. I could almost see the whites of his eyes and the gritting of his teeth except I was now in darkness with my torch dangling from my wrist. Pushing and pulling as hard as I could in the cramped space, I was running out of steam, but so was the cray. I was still in the darkness and out of breath when I felt the cray come out of the hole. I now had to find my way out with my trophy in hand. There was no way I was going to let this one go. I finally broke the surface and filled the lungs. Ziya assisted me in netting it and allowed me to share the joy. This is the best part of the day.

To catch a crayfish by hand on a breath of air is very satisfying indeed. I have been on a lot of unsuccessful cray dives in the past and I usually have to work hard to land one. But that makes it all the more rewarding when it all falls into place.

Chris Monaghan



CLUB SERIES

SORRENTO BOAT COMP, 8TH OCTOBER

Drew Fenney, 14 Species, 1606.9 pts, 100%
Grant Temple, 10 Species, 1144.5 pts, 71.3%
Chris Monaghan, 10 Species, 1123.1 pts, 70%
Joseph Bednarek, 7 Species, 788.4 pts, 49%
Louie Papadopolous, 6 Species, 691.7 pts, 43%
Jason Horne 6 Species, 688.1 pts, 42.7%
Justin Goss, 6 Species, 685.3 pts, 42.6%
Paul Dorfstatter, 6 Species, 676.6 pts, 42%
Barry Woods, 5 Species, 562.1 pts, 35.1%
Brett Illingworth, 5 Species, 560.9 pts, 35%
Frank DiMartino, 4 Species, 449.8 pts, 28%
Matt Horne, 3 Species, 319.2 pts, 19.9%
Jake Morris, 2 Species, 218.7 pts, 13.6%

MORNINGTON 5TH NOVEMBER 06

Sunday 5/11/06. Sunny. Calm. Viz to 10 metres. Moderate afternoon sea breeze. 16 degree water temp.

Rob Torelli, 10 Species, 1159.6 pts, 100.00%
Drew Fenney 9 Species, 1004.9 pts, 86.66%
Louie Papadopolous, 6 Species, 681.2 pts, 58.74%
Paul Dorfstatter, 4 Species, 449.7 pts, 38.78%
Murray Peterson, 3 Species, 324.5 pts, 27.98%
Tim Fitzpatrick, 2 Species, 261.8 pts, 22.58%
Russel Pickens, 2 Species, 236.9 pts, 20.43%
Alex Vizzer, 1 Specie, 104.6 pts, 9.02%

After 2 competitions the leader board is as follows.

1. Drew Fenney, 186.66%
2. Louie Papadopolous, 101.74%
3. Rob Torelli, 100.00%
4. Paul Dorfstatter, 80.78%
5. Grant Temple, 71.30%
6. Chris Monaghan, 70.00%
7. Joseph Bednarek, 49.00%
8. Jason Horne, 42.70%
9. Justin Goss, 42.60%
10. Barry Woods, 35.00%
11. Brett Illingworth, 35.00%
12. Frank DiMartino, 28.00%
13. Murray Peterson, 27.98%
14. Tim Fitzpatrick, 22.58%
15. Russel Pickens, 20.43%
16. Matt Horne, 19.90%
17. Jake Morris, 13.60%
18. Alex Visser, 9.02%

VIC CHALLENGE (AS OF 16 NOV 06)

1. Tim Fitzpatrick, 2 species, 20 points
2. Brett Illingworth, 2 species, 19 points
3. Matt Koopman, 2 species, 19 points
4. Drew Fenney, 2 species, 17 points
5. Jordan Hill, 1 specie, 8 points

If anyone would like to contribute to our newsletter with stories, pictures, recipes, gear for sale, information, advertising (diving and non-diving products/services), opinions, facts or anything else I havent thought of, please do so by contacting the editor.

Blue Water Hunting International
Producers of spearfishing videos and guided spearfishing expeditions. Supplier of select spearfishing equipment. 10% discount to all Southern Freedivers' club members. Expert advice at the right price! Call Rob Torelli on (03) 5985 4662 or 0417 559 985.

