

**CLUB DIVE AT SECOND VALLEY**  
**A**  
**REEF WATCH TRAINING DIVE**

**20-MARCH 2004**

With all good intentions, we were heading down to Second Valley with the club boat, my boat, "Pressure Down", and 9 divers for the next part of our Reef Watch dive on **Lasseters Reef**. Unfortunately, with a weather forecast of 25 knot winds and 1.5 to 2 meter seas, a decision was made not to take the boats to Second Valley as it would be just a little bit too windy. With the loss of the boats, we were now down to 6 divers and a decision was made to do a shore dive. After a 90 minute drive, arriving at our destination, we found again that the weather forecast was wrong; the water was like a sheet of glass and stayed that way all day. It would have been absolutely perfect for the boats but you never can tell. Those divers who took part for the club dive and reef watch dive were Martin, Elaine, Mark, Dave, I and James from Reef Watch. After a brief on what we were doing, we all geared up for what was going to be a great day's diving in this fantastic weather. We teamed up and as Dave was the only diver who had finished the course, he did the dive as a single with James watching us all. Martin & Elaine and Mark & I teamed up. We all got into the water from the steps of the jetty and swam out to the Point where we did our LTI training. The water temperature was about 20 degrees; visibility was about 12 to 15 meters and with very little water movement. We completed our training which took about 30 minutes. We all agreed that the training was beneficial

in that we learnt from a very capable and knowledgeable person in James. After our training, we finished of the dive by doing our own thing. On the way back James, Martin & Elaine came back together while Mark, Dave and I stayed out for awhile as Mark was doing the things he loves best, diving and taking photos. When we returned to the steps of the jetty it was low tide, so Mark and I decided to get out on the beach. On the way back I spotted a very large “Blue Devil”, it was so nice to watch. Back at the car park we had a debrief and we all passed on our thanks to James for all his knowledge. Both Mark and Dave snorkeled out to the reef to do a dive for a fish count while Martin snorkeled out to the location of the reef from the shore just to see how far it really was. He said it was a long swim from the shore.

The club now has 3 qualified divers who have finished the Reef Watch Survey course and other divers at the club have completed several parts of the course.

***Qualified Reef Watch Divers:***  
**Mark, Dave & Stephen**

***Club Divers at different stages of the course:***  
**Jane, Elline, Martin, Max & Max**

***Report by Stephen***