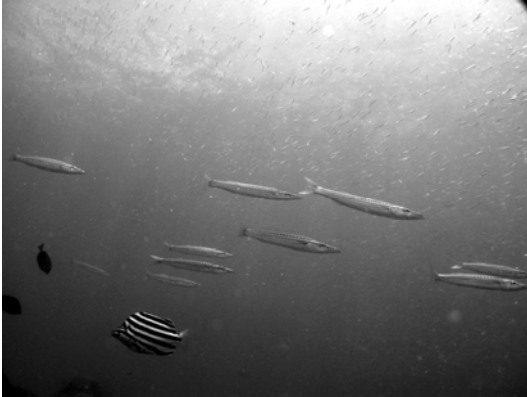


Gold Coast Seaway – Club Dive 18 Dec 05

Divers: Linton Holroyd, Phil Marshall, Graham Fisher & Jean & John Kelley
John Kelley

As there was initially not really enough people for a boat dive a number of keen Club divers decided on a dive at the Gold Coast Seaway.



Sea pike and stripeys



Phil and Linton – “Find the ball”

It was a great day and hot. Four of us kitted up and one came later. We walked seaward for a while and clambered down the large jagged boulders to a reasonable entry point. The sea was calm although the wind got up later and it looked a little rough outside. We dived near the top of the incoming tide but there was still a good deal of current. This was not a spectacular dive but it was good to get wet. A large school of bait fish circled about us and provided some photo opportunities. It was a little more mucky down under than it appeared from the surface but vis was reasonable. Large hydroids (like a small bush) added interest in the algal and sand covered rocks.



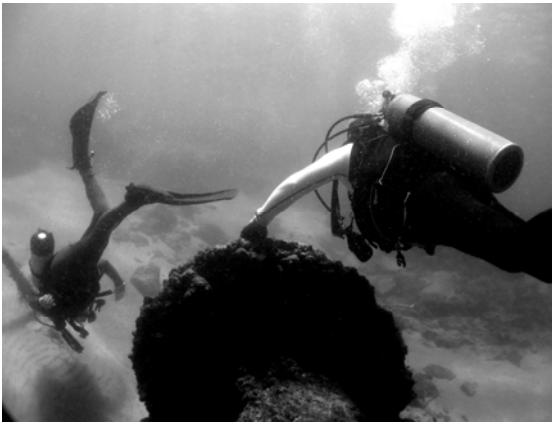
Estuarine Stone fish



Morwong and Stripeys

There were a number of colourful reef fish (Bannerfish, Morwongs, Stripeys) and little crays poked their heads out and leatherjackets fluttered around their little territory. We drifted to the pipeline that goes straight out across the seaway and found a lot more life there. Linton spotted a huge estuarine stone fish near the entrance end of the pipe. Its mouth gaped open with a whitish inner. After the necessary photos, it moved to reveal its huge size and effective camouflage. Other species of Scorpion/stone fish also live on the pipe and I was fortunate

enough not to place my hand on one as I clung to the pipe while inching out into the ever-increasing current trying to get pictures of the small family of spotted scats. I had not seen these fish before and they hung around for photos.



Phil and Linton on Pipeline



Jean with Spotted Scats

Seafood indulgence at the local fish'n'chip shop finished off the day.