

CEMENTCO & FLINDERS – CLUB DIVE 2 Jul 06

John Kelley

It was simply a glorious winter's day – not a cloud in the sky, 23 degrees with a slight fresh wind. The Bay was relatively calm with a little chop, which did produce some spray (on the other side of the boat). It was pleasing to see a couple of new Club members, Patricia and Peter on the trip. The visibility on the CEMENTCO was 15m+ and it's the first time I've really seen the upturned bow in perspective. There was no current and we swam the length and breadth of the boat with ease. Most noticeable was the pair of Lionfish on the upper surface.



One rudder short of a full set



Thinking inside the square
(Peter emerging from CEMENTCO)



Where's me leg? (Patricia & CEMENTCO)



Mike head butts CEMENTCO – it moves



Aerobic Hawksbill Turtle



Fish schools

The NE end of Flinders was the site of the second dive. We used no GPS marks but just local knowledge. It was a magic spot running along an outcrop of rocky reef with swim throughs and plenty of overhangs and crags for habitat variety. I suspect it was a spot that the Club calls Stegosaurus. We were lucky enough to see a lone 2m Blacktip Shark, a Whaler variety. We had seen a school of 100 plus of these sharks pass close by us at Wolf Rock at Easter.

There was an absolute mass of fish life swimming around in various schools in this area. Visibility was reasonable but with a cloudiness that added a mystic atmosphere to those naturally-lit photographs. The Blue Tangs were plentiful but had the habit of wedging themselves in the slit of the rocks when approached.



Lionfish



Mystic fishes

A whale breached while we sat about near Flinders and the trip back was on calmer seas than the morning and it was most pleasant with the odd sighting of dolphins. Thanks to Mike Iveson for hauling the boat and getting us out and back in good time.