





**Object number:**

**00015733**

**Title:** Shark rattle,  
confiscated from  
Indonesian type II  
motorised vessel CAHAYA  
INDAH

**Date:** before 1988

**Medium:** Bamboo, coconut  
shell, tape

**Name:** Shark rattle



**Object number:**

**00032168**

**Title:** Spindle (keduka)  
from the village of

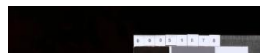


**Object number:**

**00051678**

**Title:** Case for 19th century  
drawing set

from the village of Lamalera  
**Date:** 1980s-1990s  
**Medium:** Wood, shark vertebrae, cotton  
**Name:** Spindle  
**History:** The coastal village of Lamalera is situated on the remote Eastern Indonesian island of Lembata. As the island of Lamalera offers little soil for crop cultivation, the community relies on whale hunting for subsistence. Fishing vessels are integral to local commerce and livelihood and each vessel is owned and managed by a clan. The catch is shared according to a system of rights and obligations which rewards everyone who has had a part in building, equipping, maintaining and operating the boat. Each clan has its own system for each different species. The clans of Lamalera hunt whales and other 'charismatic megafauna', keeping alive sailing and hunting technologies that have vanished elsewhere. Whales and giant manta rays, boats and the sea are interwoven through village life, belief, ritual and art. Genuine subsistence whaling, such as that undertaken at Lamalera, is exempt from the International Whaling Commission's ban, because of the village's cultural, nutritional and economic dependence on



drawing set  
**Date:** Early 19th century  
**Medium:** Wood, shark skin, metal  
**Name:** Case  
**History:** The use of drawing instruments dates at least to the Classical period and the construction of large scale public buildings. Instruments such as dividers and scale rules remained little-changed up until the 18th century when advances in science and technology combined to fuel the Industrial revolution. The development of new drawing instruments is closely linked to the rise of new specialist professions such as engineering, surveying and navigation. The refinement of sextant scales by Jesse Ramsden is just one example of a burgeoning refinement in instruments in the late 18th century. Sometimes referred to as 'gentlemen's travelling cases' or 'etui', pocket instrument cases were designed as a convenient accessory. Often covered in sharkskin, fishskin, leather or turtleshell they could contain a small variety of instruments including folding scale rules, protractors and dividers. In contrast to the larger range of instruments contained in magazine cases, pocket cases were for essential instruments.

economic dependence on it. With no arable land to grow food, Lamaleran's depend on trading dried whale meat and fish for vegetables, fruit, staple cereals and tobacco grown in the hills inland. They also trade for cotton needed to spin thread for making ropes and cloth, and for pigments to dye thread for weaving ikat cloth. The ancestral religion of the Lamaleran society was animist, involving the belief that spirits dwell in every object, and ceremonies often entailed animal sacrifices. Conversion to Catholicism began in the 1890s but it was not until the 1920s that a German priest, Vater Bernadus Bode, brought the whole village into his fold. Bode persuaded the clans to substitute holy water for blood sacrifices in their ceremonies. Each fishing vessel is therefore decorated with carved and painted decorations and spiritual motifs, some Christian and some from pre-existing ancestral beliefs, emphasizing the importance of whaling and fishing to the Lamaleran community.



**Object number:**  
**00004201**

**Title:** Self-propelled shark  
robot



**Object number:**  
**00050004**

**Title:** Papua New Guinean  
chest rattle, called 'kast'.



**Object number:**  
**00049440**

**Title:** Gas cylinder for a  
Mares Shark Bait



proof cage

**Date:** 1975

**Primary Maker:** Jim Ellis

**Medium:** Aluminium, nylon

**Name:** Shark cage

**History:** James Ellis began construction of the Self Propelled Shark Proof Cage in January 1975 for use in the abalone diving industry as protection against shark attacks. It proved to be successful and the diving cages were quickly embraced by the abalone diving industry. Mounting the motor in rotatable gimbals in the front of the cage made the vehicle highly manoeuvrable. This enabled it to change direction instantly to all points of the compass, both vertically and horizontally. Direction was achieved by pointing the motor where required, and speed by rotating the same 'joy stick'. Later adaptations included hot water pumped to the diver in the cage and the reduction of the bends because of the reduced physical effort. The original vehicle had a forward mounted rudder with an attached propeller powered by compressed air. Newer vehicles use hydraulic power. The diver inside it can work close to the seabed in complete safety from sharks. Lincoln

Sheet Metal built many diving cages for James Ellis and for the Port Lincoln abalone diving industry.



shark rattle or 'harung'

**Date:** mid 20th Century

**Medium:** Bamboo, coconut shell, rope

**Name:** Shark rattle

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the



Magnum Shark Dart

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Metal, CO2 gas

**Name:** Gas cylinder

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This version was built in mid-late 1975 by Lincoln Sheet Metal for diver Ray Edwards and was acquired by the museum in 1988.

television and to the cinema newsreel producer Movietone News. In 1962 Ron Taylor received his first award for underwater photography for a news film called Playing With Sharks. In 1963 Ron and Valerie made their first underwater film Shark Hunter which was sold to enthusiastic television networks in Australia and the USA. The Taylors quickly gained a reputation for cutting-edge underwater photography and more awards followed, including top honours at the International Underwater Film Festival at Santa Monica, California, and an Underwater Society of America award, the NOGI statuette for Education and Sports, in 1966. Giving up competitive spearfishing in 1969, the Taylors devoted themselves full-time to shark research and underwater photography. They filmed many of the scenes in the American feature film 'Blue Water, White Death', playing two of the four main characters in the film. Shortly afterwards the Taylors spent nine months filming and directing a 39-episode television series called Barrier Reef which they quickly followed up with another television series called 'Taylors' Inner Space', featuring their encounters with the marine

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**Object number:**  
**00049437**

**Title:** Stainless steel shark  
fin



**Object number:**  
**00049449**

**Title:** Battery charger for a  
Sharky Red diving protection



**Object number:**  
**00049450**

**Title:** Foot probe  
component of a Sharky Red

tag

**Date:** 1970s-1980s

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Stainless steel

**Name:** Shark tag

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a

Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling



Snark Pod diving protection unit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, metal, electric cord

**Name:** Charger

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and



component of a Snark Pod diving protection unit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, metal, electric cord, rubber

**Name:** Probe

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**Object number:**  
**00049451**

**Title:** Main body of a Shark  
Pod diving protection unit



**Object number:**  
**00049456**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit user manual



**Object number:**  
**00049454**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit bottom



pod diving protection unit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, metal, electric cord, rubber

**Name:** Unit

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Shark Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his

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protection unit user manual

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Ink on paper

**Name:** Manual

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protection unit battery charger

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, metal, electric cord

**Name:** Charger

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**Object number:**  
**00049453**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit featuring a

**Object number:**  
**00049455**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit with a black

**Object number:**  
**00049462**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit with a black





protection unit root probe

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, metal,  
electric cord, rubber

**Name:** Probe

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and

protection unit main body

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, metal,  
electric cord, rubber

**Name:** unit

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and commercialised into the

protection unit DO's &

Don'ts card

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, ink

**Name:** Card

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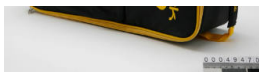
**Object number:**  
**00049470**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit case



**Object number:**  
**00049469**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit foot pedal



**Object number:**  
**00049468**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit battery



protection unit case

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Fabric, plastic

**Name:** Case

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him.

Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and commercialised into the



protection unit root probe

**Date:** 1990s

**Medium:** Plastic, metal, electric cord, rubber

**Name:** Probe

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and commercialised into the



protection unit battery charger

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, metal, electric cord

**Name:** Charger

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and



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**Object number:**  
**00049467**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit, model 1600

**Object number:**  
**00049474**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
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**00049473**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
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protection unit main body

**Date:** 1990s

**Primary Maker:** Pod

Holdings Pty Ltd

**Medium:** Plastic, metal,  
electric cord, rubber

**Name:** unit

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and

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**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, ink

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**Object number:**  
**00049471**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection suit Memento



**Object number:**  
**00050007**

**Title:** Papua New Guinean  
shark finboard paddle



**Object number:**  
**00050006**

**Title:** Papua New Guinean  
shark finboard paddle

protection unit warranty Certificate  
**Date:** 1956-1995  
**Medium:** Ink on paper  
**Name:** Certificate  
**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and



snark riser's paddle  
**Date:** mid 20th Century  
**Medium:** Wood  
**Name:** Paddle  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema, newreel producer

snark propeller used by Ron and Valerie Taylor  
**Date:** mid 20th Century  
**Medium:** Wood  
**Name:** Propeller  
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**Object number:**  
**00049425**

**Title:** Spear attachment  
used for firing spears at



**Object number:**  
**00049439**

**Title:** Gas cylinder for a  
Mansueto Shark Diver



**Object number:**  
**00049457**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit, available



used for firing spears at sharks

**Date:** 1960-1989

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Spear attachment

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm

movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



magnum Snark Dart

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Metal, CO2 gas

**Name:** Gas cylinder

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protection unit envelope

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Ink on paper

**Name:** Envelope

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and commercialised into the 'Shark Repellent' which was

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**Object number:**  
**00049459**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit Reference



**Object number:**  
**00049458**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit equipment



**Object number:**  
**00049461**

**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit equipment



protection unit Reference Card

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, ink

**Name:** Card

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his

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protection unit warranty certificate

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Ink on paper

**Name:** Certificate

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protection unit envelope  
**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Ink on paper

**Name:** Envelope

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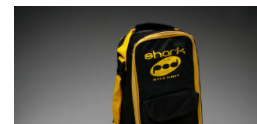
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**Object number:**  
**00049463**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit Memento

**Object number:**  
**00049464**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit Reference



**Object number:**  
**V00049452**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit

protection unit warranty Certificate  
**Date:** 1956-1995  
**Medium:** Ink on paper  
**Name:** Certificate  
**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and

protection unit Reference Card  
**Date:** 1990s  
**Primary Maker:** Pod Holdings Pty Ltd  
**Medium:** Plastic, ink  
**Name:** Card  
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protection unit  
**Date:** c 1997  
**Primary Maker:** Pod Holdings Pty Ltd  
**Medium:** Plastic, fabric  
**Name:** Unit  
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**Object number:**  
**00049472**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit, rear panel

**Object number:**  
**00049475**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit, rear panel



**Object number:**  
**00049427**  
**Title:** Underwater  
breathalyzer, diving mask

protection unit user manual

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Ink on paper

**Name:** Manual

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him.

Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and commercialised into the

protection unit envelope

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Ink on paper

**Name:** Envelope

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks. Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his research with him. Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and commercialised into the 'Shark Bed' which was



hypodermic syringe used for sharks

**Date:** 1970s

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Syringe

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling

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**Object number:**  
**00049436**

**Title:** Stainless steel shark repellent tag



**Object number:**  
**00049438**

**Title:** Gas cylinder for a Mammal Shark Deterrent



**Object number:**  
**00049434**

**Title:** Underwater syringe used for shark repellent



research tag  
**Date:** 1970s-1980s  
**Medium:** Stainless steel  
**Name:** Shark tag  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the

magnum Snark Dart  
**Date:** 1950-1989  
**Medium:** Metal, CO2 gas  
**Name:** Gas cylinder  
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**Date:** 1970s  
**Medium:** Metal  
**Name:** Syringe  
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**Object number:**  
**00049465**  
**Title:** Shark Pod Dive Unit  
Original Box



**Object number:**  
**00049452**  
**Title:** Shark Pod Diving  
Protection Unit Case



**Object number:**  
**00049448**  
**Title:** Shark Pod diving  
protection unit case



#### Original Box

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Cardboard, ink, plastic

**Name:** Box

**History:** In the late 1980s and early 1990s scientists from the Natal Sharks Board in South Africa discovered an electronic wave-form that deterred sharks, but did not affect any other forms of marine life. The field is projected by two electrodes which create an elliptical field that surrounds the users. The electronic field is detected by the shark through its sensory receptors, known as the Ampullae of Lorenzini, which are found on the snouts of many sharks.

Once detected by the shark, the electronic field causes mild discomfort and muscular spasms resulting in the shark being deterred from the area. Ron and Valerie Taylor worked with the Natal Shark Board and its researchers testing the original prototypes with great success in the late 1980s. However the primary inventor of the unit disagreed with the Shark Board over the commercialisation of his invention and subsequently left the Board taking most of his

research with him.

Undeterred, after further research, the technology was developed and



#### Protection Unit Case

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Plastic, fabric

**Name:** Case

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#### protection unit case

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Fabric, plastic

**Name:** Case

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commercialised into the 'Shark Pod' which was manufactured under license from the Natal Shark Board by a company in South Australia. After additional research and development the company changed its name in 1999 to Seachange Technology and in 2002 released a lighter, more powerful unit called the Shark Shield and stopped production of the Shark Pod. Because of their original role in the testing of the prototypes the Taylor's were given a number of first generation Shark Pods to test. But , according to the Taylor's, whilst the first proto type units produced by the Natal Shark Board were extremely powerful and effective, following the loss of the original research material and principle scientist, the commercially available Shark Pod were far less effective and after a series of field trials the Taylor's decided not to use the units. Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the

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testing and development. It consists of three main components (Main Body, Hand Switch and Foot Probe) all linked by cables. The Main Body itself is attached to the air cylinder, the Foot Probe to a fin and the Hand Switch to a convenient strap or webbing on the diver's Buoyancy Compensator (or other gear). Being separated by at least 1.5 meters, the Foot Probe and Main Body electrodes form an elliptical electrical field around the diver which repels sharks at a distance of between 3 and 7 meters. The sharks are repelled because they are averse to electrical fields such as that generated by the SHARK POD Diver Unit. The electrical field generated by the SHARK POD Diver Unit may be detected by humans but will not cause any adverse effects or discomfort to the diver when used correctly. The SHARK POD Diver Unit is supplied with a Battery Charger and one Battery Pack, both of which have been specially developed for the SHARK POD Diver Unit. It is vital to follow the instructions in this manual to ensure optimum performance from the equipment. Battery Pack condition will affect the field strength and penetration at the outer limits of the field. This equipment is designed for



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Pictures in France and in October 2000 Ron and Valerie were inducted into the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame on the Cayman Islands. In Australia, Ron and Valerie have received the Serventy Conservation Medal from the Australian Wildlife Preservation Society and the Lifetime of Conservation Medal from the Australian Geographic Society. In 2003 Ron became a Member of the Order of Australia, joined by Valerie in 2010 for their work in conserving marine animals and habitat.

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**Object number:**  
**00049494**  
**Title:** Shark killer spear  
**Date:** 1950s-1980s



**Object number:**  
**00049671**  
**Title:** Shark fishing hook  
**Date:** 1910-1954



**Object number:**  
**00054362**  
**Title:** Kodak box for Uncut  
roll of film mounted with



**Date:** 1950S-1980S

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Spear

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an

acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the



**Date:** 1919-1954

**Medium:** metal

**Name:** Fish hook

**History:** 1. Basil Moffitt de Bohun Helm (1903-1996) was born in Sydney and went to sea at the age of 15, in 1919. He served his four year apprenticeship with Burns Philp on the auxiliary sailing ship MAKOA, trading to Tonga and the west coast of America. As a junior officer he served in sailing ships in the Pacific Island region until 1925, when he went into steam ships. He served in various Australian coastal ships with Howard Smith Company until 1928 when he went back to Burns Philp. He served on several well known ships in their Main Line fleet, on the services between Australia and Papua, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands. At some point he gained his foreign-going square-rigged Master's Certificate (ie for sail and steam), No 0066, Commonwealth of Australia, issued in Sydney. (This certificate is not in the collection, but is referred to in a letter, without date.) In 1938 Burns Philp sent him to Scotland to attend the fitting out of their new liner M V BULOLO, and to return on the commissioning voyage as Chief Officer. His first command was MV MAIWARA in 1939, back in the Pacific Island routes



roll of film marked with 1964 - 5 / Suva Cres: / Shark fishing / surfers  
**Date:** 1964-1965  
**Medium:** Ink on cardboard  
**Name:** Box  
**History:** John Konrads (b1942, arrived Australia 1949) became a champion swimmer whose competitive career encompassed various NSW, Australian, Commonwealth and Olympic championship events during one of the golden periods of Australian swimming in the late 50s and early 1960s. John Konrads was a Latvian immigrant who came to Australia with his family in 1949 aged 7 as refugees after World War II. Konrads' father taught swimming at the migrants camp at Uranquinty in western NSW where John learnt to swim to recover after contracting polio. He trained with his younger sister Ilsa, and teamed up with rising swimming coach Don Talbot at Bankstown pool. Both teenagers followed Talbot's career trajectory as coach, rising to become champion swimmers. John and Ilsa became one of the public images of the Beautiful Balts campaign aimed at dispossessed peoples from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia as part of the Australian Government's aggressive Repatriate or perish

cinema newsreel producer Movietone News. In 1962 Ron Taylor received his first award for underwater photography for a news film called Playing With Sharks. In 1963 Ron and Valerie made their first underwater film Shark Hunter which was sold to enthusiastic television networks in Australia and the USA. The Taylors quickly gained a reputation for cutting-edge underwater photography and more awards followed, including top honours at the International Underwater Film Festival at Santa Monica, California, and an Underwater Society of America award, the NOGI statuette for Education and Sports, in 1966. Giving up competitive spearfishing in 1969, the Taylors devoted themselves full-time to shark research and underwater photography. They filmed many of the scenes in the American feature film 'Blue Water, White Death', playing two of the four main characters in the film. Shortly afterwards the Taylors spent nine months filming and directing a 39-episode television series called Barrier Reef which they quickly followed up with another television series called 'Taylors' Inner Space', featuring their encounters with the marine

the Pacific Island routes. He brought his wife and two children from Sydney to live in Rabaul. As World War II escalated, Helm evacuated a large number of expatriates in his ship MULIAMA. His family returned to Australia in separate ships. At this time Burns Philp ships were beginning to be requisitioned for naval and military purposes. Helm declined to join the RAN (according to his daughter he did not want to be told what to do) and instead applied to join the Queensland Coast and Torres Strait Pilot Service. By now he was exceedingly experienced and knowledgeable in navigation of the eastern coast of Australia, the Barrier Reef, and particularly the ports and waters of the Pacific Islands. In his letter of application in 1941 he wrote 'I was in command of a motor vessel of 700 tons for 18 months in the inter-island trade of Papua, Mandated Territory of New Guinea, Bougainville, Solomon Islands and know all the ports in those areas well. I have also been in command through the Torres Straits as far as Cook's Passage for about 8 months. I have been through and know well the following openings in the Barrier Reef....I hold pilotage qualifications for

populate or perish immigration policy after the war. When aged 14, Konrads was selected as a reserve for the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. In 1958 and 59 he claimed more than twenty world records in six events at distances from 200 to 1500 metres, including both the Australasian championships of 1957 and the Cardiff Empire Games in 1958. With Talbot he cut back his competition program for the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome where he won medals in the three events in which he participated. Konrads won gold in the 1500 metres, and bronze medals in both the 400 metres and the 4x 200 metre freestyle relay in Rome. He gained a marketing degree at the University of Southern California on a sporting scholarship and worked as marketing director at L' Oreal in Australia when he retired from swimming. John Konrads was swimming during one of the most successful periods for Australian swimmers with champions like Dawn Fraser, Jon Devitt, Murray Rose, Lorraine Crapp and his sister Ilsa.

life of the east coast of Australia and the Western Pacific. As their reputation grew, other underwater filming opportunities presented themselves: Jaws (1974) for Universal Pictures; Sharks for Timelife Television (1975); Orca (1976) for Dino De Laurentis; Peter Weir's The Last Wave (1977); The Blue Lagoon (1979) for Columbia Pictures, featuring Brooke Shields. The titles proliferated: Gallipoli (1981), The Year of Living Dangerously (1982), In the Realm of the Shark (1988), Return to the Blue Lagoon (1990) and The Island of Dr Moreau (1995) among others. The Taylors were also engaged in underwater research into shark behaviour. This led to the development of stainless steel chain mail diving suits (Operation Shark Bite, 1982, in which Valerie is bitten on the hand), and electronic shark deterrent equipment that allowed the Taylors to become the first divers ever to film Great White sharks underwater without a cage (Blue Wilderness, 1992 and Shark Pod, 1996). Passionate and vocal defenders of sharks and the marine environment, the Taylors' have been recognised for their work all over the globe. Valerie received the NOGI award for Arts in

pilotage exemptions for Sydney, Newcastle, Brisbane, Cairns, and a Compass Adjuster's Certificate.' He was accepted into the Queensland Coast and Torres Strait Pilot Service in October 1942. Helm, like other Australian merchant seamen with experience in this region, provided valuable help as a pilot to USA naval and military officers, many of whom had been recruited in large numbers, had only basic training and no knowledge of the seas and islands where the most intense conflicts of the war against the Japanese took place. Furthermore, charts did not exist or contained little information for most of the inter-island routes and ports. Burns Philp masters knew the reefs, shoals, tides and weathers for the places and made their own charts. A large notebook in the collection contains hand-drawn charts for many of these areas. After the war, Helm continued in the Torres Strait Pilot Service until he resigned in 1954 to make a new life as a grazier, at a property named 'Jillamatong' near Braidwood in New South Wales. 2. Burns Philp represents an important and unique chapter in Australian shipping history. Originating in a trading company in Townsville in the 1870s, Burns Philp

1981. In 1986 she was appointed Rider of the Order of the Golden Ark by his Royal Highness Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands for her work in marine conservation, and in 1997 Valerie won the prestigious American Nature Photographer of the Year award for a picture of a whale shark swimming with a boy in Ningaloo Marine Park. In 1998 Ron and Valerie's book Blue Wilderness won the Gold Palm Award at the World Festival of Underwater Pictures in France and in October 2000 Ron and Valerie were inducted into the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame on the Cayman Islands. In Australia, Ron and Valerie have received the Serventy Conservation Medal from the Australian Wildlife Preservation Society and the Lifetime of Conservation Medal from the Australian Geographic Society. In 2003 Ron became a Member of the Order of Australia, joined by Valerie in 2010 for their work in conserving marine animals and habitat.

the 1870s, Burns Philp developed its own shipping line and trading empire throughout northern Australia, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, along with a network of plantations in the islands. By the 1920s it was a household name. It operated a fleet of large main-line ships in conjunction with a fleet of smaller inter-island ships. Its main-line ships ran regularly as far afield as Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong. Burns Philp passenger liners were well-appointed and well known, with their black and white chequered funnels and the Burns Philp thistle on the house flag. Many BP captains were legendary colourful figures, and the company's name conjured up the romance of the South Seas. During World War II both ships and personnel were taken into war service, and the company's specialised knowledge of the Pacific was put to use by Allied commanders. The company's flagship, its then new liner Bulolo, in particular had a distinguished war record, when it was requisitioned into the British Royal Navy and served in actions in both hemispheres. One Burns Philp liner, the Neptuna, was destroyed in the Japanese raid on Darwin in 1942, with the



Darwin in 1942, with the loss of 45 lives. Burns Philp resumed operations and commissioned new ships after World War II, but sold its last ship in 1971. In the 1980s the company made vast operating changes which resulted in an organisation bearing little relation to the past shipping and trading company, and brought it to near-bankruptcy. It continues to exist but has no maritime connection. 3. Queensland Coast and Torres Strait Pilot Service The QCTSPS originated in the 1890s as an association of pilots licensed by the Queensland Marine Board to pilot ships through the dangerous passages of the Queensland coast and the Torres Strait. Before 1884 individual pilots had offered their services, and shipping companies which regularly used the routes employed their own pilots. Licensing began in 1884 along with regulations as to how pilots should conduct their business. In 1893 a family firm of marine insurance brokers, Banks Bros of Sydney, became the secretariat of the pilots. The pilots themselves were self-employed, operating as a type of co-operative in which all the work and expenses were shared using a turn-by-turn system. At the end of WWI

system. At the end of WWI there were 12 licensed pilots, at the beginning of WWII there were 15, by 1957 there were 31, by 1980 there were 40. In 1993 the Australian Maritime Safety Authority took over administration of the QCTSPS. The name was changed to Torres Pilots. With the diminishing number of ships on the Australian register, Australian mariners with the required expertise in the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait became harder to find. In 2006 there were 30 pilots in the service, and pilots from other countries were being sought and trained. Pilotage extends from the Queensland border at Danger Point to Booby Island, a distance of 1372 nautical miles, making it the longest single pilotage in the world. Pilots also extend their pilotage to New Guinea and Bougainville, or as far as Western Australia. Since 1991, pilotage has been compulsory for all ships longer than 100 m, all oil and chemical tankers and liquid gas carriers, to employ a pilot. Membership of the Torres Strait Pilots has always carried prestige. Licensed pilots have to be master mariners, and until recent years had to have extensive experience in the passages of the Great

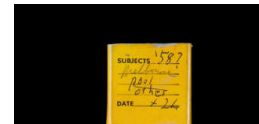
the passages of the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait. Applicants to join the service were always well known to the pilots, because they had necessarily sailed through the region with them for many years. New pilots had to be acceptable to the existing ones. Licenses to join the pilot service were keenly sought after. Only two were accepted in 1942, the year Basil Helm joined.



**Object number:**  
**00054363**  
**Title:** Kodak sliding tab for  
box of Uncut roll of film



**Object number:**  
**00054364**  
**Title:** Kodak box for Uncut  
roll of film wrapped with



**Object number:**  
**00054365**  
**Title:** Kodak sliding tab for  
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Suva Cres: / Shark fishing /  
surfers  
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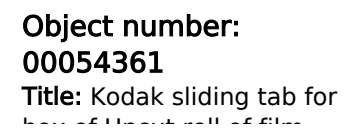
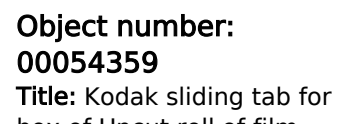
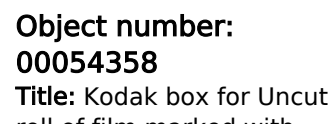
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competition program for  
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in which he participated.  
Konrads won gold in the  
1500 metres, and bronze  
medals in both the 400  
metres and the 4x 200  
metre freestyle relay in  
Rome. He gained a  
marketing degree at the  
University of Southern  
California on a sporting  
scholarship and worked as  
marketing director at L'  
Oreal in Australia when he  
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John Konrads was  
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Populate or perish  
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the war. When aged 14,  
Konrads was selected as a  
reserve for the 1956  
Melbourne Olympics. In  
1958 and 59 he claimed  
more than twenty world  
records in six events at  
distances from 200 to 1500  
metres, including both the  
Australasian  
championships of 1957  
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Lorraine Crapp and his  
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**Object number:**  
**00054360**

**Title:** Kodak box for Uncut  
roll of film, marked with



**Object number:**  
**00049672**

**Title:** Shark fishing hook  
**Date:** 1910-1954



**Object number:**  
**00049670**

**Title:** Shark fishing hook  
**Date:** 1910-1954

roll of film marked with  
1964 - 5 / Suva Cres: /  
Shark fishing / surfers  
**Date:** 1964-1965  
**Medium:** Ink on cardboard  
**Name:** Box  
**History:** John Konrads  
(b1942, arrived Australia  
1949) became a champion  
swimmer whose  
competitive career  
encompassed various  
NSW, Australian,  
Commonwealth and  
Olympic championship  
events during one of the  
golden periods of  
Australian swimming in the  
late 50s and early 1960s.  
John Konrads was a Latvian  
immigrant who came to  
Australia with his family in  
1949 aged 7 as refugees  
after World War II.  
Konrads' father taught  
swimming at the migrants  
camp at Uranquinty in  
western NSW where John  
learnt to swim to recover  
after contracting polio. He  
trained with his younger  
sister Ilsa, and teamed up  
with rising swimming  
coach Don Talbot at  
Bankstown pool. Both  
teenagers followed Talbot's  
career trajectory as  
coach, rising to become  
champion swimmers. John  
and Ilsa became one of the  
public images of the  
Beautiful Balts campaign  
aimed at dispossessed

peoples from Latvia,  
Lithuania and Estonia as  
part of the Australian  
Government's aggressive



**Date:** 1919-1954  
**Medium:** metal  
**Name:** Fish hook  
**History:** 1. Basil Moffitt de  
Bohun Helm (1903-1996)  
was born in Sydney and  
went to sea at the age of  
15, in 1919. He served his-  
four year apprenticeship  
with Burns Philp on the  
auxiliary sailing ship  
MAKOA, trading to Tonga  
and the west coast of  
America. As a junior officer  
he served in sailing ships  
in the Pacific Island region  
until 1925, when he went  
into steam ships. He  
served in various  
Australian coastal ships  
with Howard Smith  
Company until 1928 when  
he went back to Burns  
Philp. He served on several  
well known ships in their  
Main Line fleet, on the  
services between Australia  
and Papua, New Guinea  
and the Pacific Islands. At  
some point he gained his  
foreign-going square-  
rigged Master's Certificate  
(ie for sail and steam), No  
0066, Commonwealth of  
Australia, issued in Sydney.  
(This certificate is not in  
the collection, but is  
referred to in a letter,  
without date.) In 1938  
Burns Philp sent him to  
Scotland to attend the  
fitting out of their new liner  
M V BULOLO, and to return  
on the commissioning  
voyage as Chief Officer. His  
first command was MV  
MAIWARA in 1939, back in  
the Pacific Island routes



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system. At the end of WWI there were 12 licensed pilots, at the beginning of WWII there were 15, by 1957 there were 31, by 1980 there were 40. In 1993 the Australian Maritime Safety Authority took over administration of the QCTSPS. The name was changed to Torres Pilots. With the diminishing number of ships on the Australian register, Australian mariners with the required expertise in the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait became harder to find. In 2006 there were 30 pilots in the service, and pilots from other countries were being sought and trained. Pilotage extends from the Queensland border at Danger Point to Booby Island, a distance of 1372 nautical miles, making it the longest single pilotage in the world. Pilots also extend their pilotage to New Guinea and Bougainville, or as far as Western Australia. Since 1991, pilotage has been compulsory for all ships longer than 100 m, all oil and chemical tankers and liquid gas carriers, to employ a pilot. Membership of the Torres Strait Pilots has always carried prestige. Licensed pilots have to be master mariners, and until recent years had to have extensive experience in the passages of the Great

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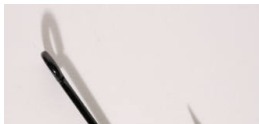
**Object number:**  
**00049649**

**Title:** Shark fishing hook

**Date:** 1919-1954

**Medium:** metal

**Name:** Fish hook



**Object number:**  
**00049684**

**Title:** Shark fishing hook

**Date:** 1919-1954

**Object number:**  
**V00004201**

**Title:** Ab-mariner motorised  
shark cage used in the



**Date:** 1919-1954

**Medium:** metal

**Name:** Fish hook

**History:** 1. Basil Moffitt de Bohun Helm (1903-1996) was born in Sydney and went to sea at the age of 15, in 1919. He served his four year apprenticeship with Burns Philp on the auxiliary sailing ship MAKOA, trading to Tonga and the west coast of America. As a junior officer he served in sailing ships in the Pacific Island region until 1925, when he went into steam ships. He served in various Australian coastal ships with Howard Smith Company until 1928 when he went back to Burns Philp. He served on several well known ships in their Main Line fleet, on the services between Australia and Papua, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands. At some point he gained his foreign-going square-rigged Master's Certificate (ie for sail and steam), No 0066, Commonwealth of Australia, issued in Sydney. (This certificate is not in the collection, but is referred to in a letter, without date.) In 1938 Burns Philp sent him to Scotland to attend the fitting out of their new liner M V BULOLO, and to return

on the commissioning voyage as Chief Officer. His first command was MV MAIWARA in 1939, back in

snark cage used in the abalone industry

**Date:** 1975

**Primary Maker:** Jim Ellis

**Medium:** Aluminium, nylon

**Name:** Shark cage

**History:** Abalone are marine gastropods (snails) living along the rocky shore often in deep crevices. They cling to rocks with their very strong foot or abductor muscle and have a single, hard, saucer-shaped shell for protection. They feed on marine algae. The most commercially important are the black-lip abalone, while the green-lip are favoured for their white flesh. Divers work in cold waters around Australia's southern coasts prying abalone from rocks with a knife or abalone iron. The pressure to gather the most abalone means that some divers work to depths and for periods exceeding safety limits. South Australian waters are home to the feared great white shark. As a result of some close calls in the 1970s, a number of abalone divers built self-propelled underwater shark cages. This

prototype aluminium cage was built in 1975 by Port Lincoln divers Ray Edwards and Jim Ellis. It has a forward mounted rudder with an attached propeller powered by compressed air. The diver inside it can work close to the sea bed

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**Object number:**  
**00030175**

**Title:** Nylon shark line from  
the village of Lomelara



**Object number:**  
**00026055**

**Title:** Shark rattle from  
Indo-Chinese Origin, Morsel

**Object number:**  
**00051988**

**Title:** Parachutes from  
materialized shark's teeth



the village of Lamalera

**Date:** 1990s

**Medium:** Nylon

**Name:** Line

**History:** The coastal village of Lamalera is situated on the remote Eastern Indonesian island of Lembata. As the island of Lamalera offers little soil for crop cultivation, the community relies on whale hunting for subsistence. Fishing vessels are integral to local commerce and livelihood and each vessel is owned and managed by a clan. The catch is shared according to a system of rights and obligations which rewards everyone who has had a part in building, equipping, maintaining and operating the boat. Each clan has its own system for each different species. The clans of Lamalera hunt whales and other 'charismatic megafauna', keeping alive sailing and hunting technologies that have vanished elsewhere. Whales and giant manta rays, boats and the sea are interwoven through village life, belief, ritual and art. Genuine subsistence whaling, such as that undertaken at Lamalera, is exempt from the International Whaling Commission's ban,

because of the village's cultural, nutritional and economic dependence on it. With no arable land to

Indo-Chinese Origin vessel (ICOV)

**Date:** c 1980

**Medium:** Bamboo, coconut

**Name:** Rattle

**History:** Since the era of Vietnamese boat people in the 1970s, governments in Australia have taken determined steps to deter refugees from arriving in Australia without authorisation. The first wave of boat people arrived in Australia between 1976 and 1981, in the aftermath of the Vietnam War. They arrived at a time of dramatic social upheaval in Australia, with spirited public debate about our involvement in the Vietnam War, the new concept of multiculturalism, the breaking of many of Australia's traditional ties with Britain, and the forging of new links with Asia. Despite some opposition from the wider community, the relaxation of immigration restrictions meant that most of the 2,059 refugees were allowed to stay. The second wave of boat people arrived mostly from Cambodia, Vietnam and southern China between 1989 and 1998. On average 300 people arrived per year. The term ICOV (Indo-Chinese Origin Vessel) was used to refer to illegal entry vessels. This was replaced by SIEV (Suspected Illegal Entry

motorised shark cage

**Date:** 1975

**Medium:** Nylon

**Name:** Parachute

**History:** Abalone are marine gastropods (snails) living along the rocky shore often in deep crevices. They cling to rocks with their very strong foot or abductor muscle and have a single, hard, saucer-shaped shell for protection. They feed on marine algae. The most commercially important are the black-lip abalone, while the green-lip are favoured for their white flesh. Divers work in cold waters around Australia's southern coasts prying abalone from rocks with a knife or abalone iron. The pressure to gather the most abalone means that some divers work to depths and for periods exceeding safety limits. South Australian waters are home to the feared great white shark. As a result of some close calls in the 1970s, a number of abalone divers built self-propelled underwater shark cages. This prototype aluminium cage was built in 1975 by Port Lincoln divers Ray Edwards and Jim Ellis. It has a forward mounted rudder with an attached propeller powered by compressed air. The diver inside it can work close to the sea bed in complete safety from sharks.

grow food, Lamaleran's depend on trading dried whale meat and fish for vegetables, fruit, staple cereals and tobacco grown in the hills inland. They also trade for cotton needed to spin thread for making ropes and cloth, and for pigments to dye thread for weaving ikat cloth. The ancestral religion of the Lamaleran society was animist, involving the belief that spirits dwell in every object, and ceremonies often entailed animal sacrifices. Conversion to Catholicism began in the 1890s but it was not until the 1920s that a German priest, Vater Bernadus Bode, brought the whole village into his fold. Bode persuaded the clans to substitute holy water for blood sacrifices in their ceremonies. Each fishing vessel is therefore decorated with carved and painted decorations and spiritual motifs, some Christian and some from pre-existing ancestral beliefs, emphasizing the importance of whaling and fishing to the Lamaleran community.

(suspected illegal entry Vessel) when illegal entry vessels started to arrive from areas other than Indo-China. SIEV is the term used by the Australian Defence Force and Coastwatch to refer to vessels attempting to reach Australia without authorisation. As the boats come under surveillance they are assigned an official number. SIEV 1 arrived in Australian waters in September 2001. Since 1999 increasing numbers of asylum seekers fleeing conflict in the Middle East have arrived in Australia. They are distinct from the previous two waves of boat people in that they usually involve larger numbers of arrivals and their passage is organised by people smugglers. During the peak period between 1999 and 2001, several thousand asylum seekers arrived per year. The topic of people making such voyages to claim asylum in Australia has always been controversial, stirring the full gamut of responses in the Australian community - from compassion and support to resentment and xenophobia. However the Australian Government has acknowledged that the number of unauthorised boat arrivals in Australia is small in comparison to countries in Europe, and that the majority of

SHARKS.

onshore asylum seekers  
actually arrive in Australia  
by air (Boat arrivals in  
Australia since 1976,  
Commonwealth of  
Australia, 2011).

**Object number:**  
**00051990**  
**Title:** Parachutes from  
materialized objects

**Object number:**  
**00051989**  
**Title:** Parachutes from  
materialized objects



**Object number:**  
**00025971**  
**Title:** Mouthpiece from Ab-  
materialized objects

motorised snark cage  
**Date:** 1975  
**Medium:** Nylon  
**Name:** Parachute  
**History:** Abalone are marine gastropods (snails) living along the rocky shore often in deep crevices. They cling to rocks with their very strong foot or abductor muscle and have a single, hard, saucer-shaped shell for protection. They feed on marine algae. The most commercially important are the black-lip abalone, while the green-lip are favoured for their white flesh. Divers work in cold waters around Australia's southern coasts prying abalone from rocks with a knife or abalone iron. The pressure to gather the most abalone means that some divers work to depths and for periods exceeding safety limits. South Australian waters are home to the feared great white shark. As a result of some close calls in the 1970s, a number of abalone divers built self-propelled underwater shark cages. This prototype aluminium cage was built in 1975 by Port Lincoln divers Ray Edwards and Jim Ellis. It has a forward mounted rudder with an attached propeller powered by compressed air. The diver inside it can work close to the sea bed in complete safety from

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mariner motorised snark cage  
**Date:** 1975  
**Medium:** Rubber, metal  
**Name:** Mouthpiece  
**History:** Abalone are marine gastropods (snails) living along the rocky shore often in deep crevices. They cling to rocks with their very strong foot or abductor muscle and have a single, hard, saucer-shaped shell for protection. They feed on marine algae. The most commercially important are the black-lip abalone, while the green-lip are favoured for their white flesh. Divers work in cold waters around Australia's southern coasts prying abalone from rocks with a knife or abalone iron. The pressure to gather the most abalone means that some divers work to depths and for periods exceeding safety limits. South Australian waters are home to the feared great white shark. As a result of some close calls in the 1970s, a number of abalone divers built self-propelled underwater shark cages. This prototype aluminium cage was built in 1975 by Port Lincoln divers Ray Edwards and Jim Ellis. It has a forward mounted rudder with an attached propeller powered by compressed air. The diver inside it can work close to the sea bed in complete safety from

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sharks.

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**Object number:**  
**00025972**

**Title:** Mouthpiece from Ab-  
maison mechanical chest



**Object number:**  
**V00049443**

**Title:** Beaulieu camera with  
underwater housing and



**Object number:**  
**00049441**

**Title:** Banded Sea Snake  
patterned diving suit hood



mariner motorised shark cage  
**Date:** 1975  
**Medium:** Rubber, metal  
**Name:** Shark cage  
**History:** Abalone are marine gastropods (snails) living along the rocky shore often in deep crevices. They cling to rocks with their very strong foot or abductor muscle and have a single, hard, saucer-shaped shell for protection. They feed on marine algae. The most commercially important are the black-lip abalone, while the green-lip are favoured for their white flesh. Divers work in cold waters around Australia's southern coasts prying abalone from rocks with a knife or abalone iron. The pressure to gather the most abalone means that some divers work to depths and for periods exceeding safety limits. South Australian waters are home to the feared great white shark. As a result of some close calls in the 1970s, a number of abalone divers built self-propelled underwater shark cages. This prototype aluminium cage was built in 1975 by Port Lincoln divers Ray Edwards and Jim Ellis. It has a forward mounted rudder with an attached propeller powered by compressed air. The diver inside it can work close to the sea bed



underwater housing and storage box  
**Date:** 1960s  
**Primary Maker:** Beaulieu  
**Medium:** Metal, acrylic, wood, rope  
**Name:** Camera, housing and box  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the



patterned diving suit hood  
**Date:** 1970s  
**Primary Maker:** Sports Suits Australia  
**Medium:** Lycra  
**Name:** Hood  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to

in complete safety from sharks.

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**Object number:**  
**00051991**

**Title:** Abalone net used by  
divers



**Object number:**  
**00051992**

**Title:** Abalone net used by  
divers



**Object number:**  
**00049443**

**Title:** Underwater housing  
for camera



divers

**Date:** 1975

**Medium:** Nylon, metal

**Name:** Net

**History:** Abalone are marine gastropods (snails) living along the rocky shore often in deep crevices. They cling to rocks with their very strong foot or abductor muscle and have a single, hard, saucer-shaped shell for protection. They feed on marine algae. The most commercially important are the black-lip abalone, while the green-lip are favoured for their white flesh. Divers work in cold waters around Australia's southern coasts prying abalone from rocks with a knife or abalone iron. The pressure to gather the most abalone means that some divers work to depths and for periods exceeding safety limits. South Australian waters are home to the feared great white shark. As a result of some close calls in the 1970s, a number of abalone divers built self-propelled underwater shark cages. This prototype aluminium cage was built in 1975 by Port Lincoln divers Ray Edwards and Jim Ellis. It has a forward mounted rudder with an attached propeller

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for camera

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Metal, acrylic

**Name:** Case

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to

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SHARKS.

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**Object number:**  
**00047093**

**Title:** BBQ fork carried  
onboard double barrel LOT



**Object number:**  
**V00049381**

**Title:** Underwater camera  
and torch housing



**Object number:**  
**00049444**

**Title:** Box for a 16 mm  
Resolution camera inside



onboard double kayak LOT 41

**Date:** c 2006

**Medium:** Metal, rubber

**Name:** BBQ fork

**History:** On 13 November 2007 Sydney-based James Castrission and Justin Jones left Forster, on the mid-north coast of Australia, to become the first successful kayak expedition to cross the Tasman Sea. Sixty-two days later on 13 January 2008, after paddling 3318km, they arrived in New Zealand, landing at Nganotu Beach near New Plymouth on the North Island. Their double kayak LOT 41 was named after the auction lot number of the famous New Zealand-born race horse Phar Lap. Known only as 'Lot 41' when it was sold from Wellington to a Sydney trainer in 1928, the horse crossed the Tasman to become Australia's most famous race horse Phar Lap. Naming their expedition 'Crossing the Ditch' after the colloquial expression used to refer to travel between Australia and New Zealand, the pair had achieved both the 'world first' of successfully kayaking across the Tasman Sea, and attained the world record for 'the longest trans-oceanic

kayaking expedition undertaken by two expeditioners'. Their remarkable voyage, which



and torch housing

**Date:** 1970s

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Underwater housing

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the



Beaureu camera inside acrylic underwater housing

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Metal, acrylic

**Name:** Box

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling

was tracked in real time through their website, is the subject of a documentary and book, both of which were published and released in 2009. Castrission and Jones' achievement is further contextualised by the ill-fated attempt by Australian adventurer Andrew McAuley to become the first solo kayaker to cross the Tasman Sea in early 2007. After paddling for over a month from Tasmania's east coast, McAuley was lost at sea within sight of the South Island of New Zealand. His kayak and its remaining contents, retrieved two days after his disappearance, were donated to the ANMM by his widow Vicki McAuley and friend Paul Hewitson in December 2007. Castrission and Jones chose a more northerly route across the Tasman than McAuley, selecting their departure and arrival points on their topographical reputations as safe and protected harbours. The double kayakers were acutely aware that the most dangerous parts of their voyage were the landfalls, in particular, the final coming ashore in New Zealand. In 2009/10, Castrission and Jones, as successful ocean-going adventurers, were

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**Object number:**  
**00050010**

**Title:** Two piece steel hand  
encased by Ben Taylor



**Object number:**  
**00049428**

**Title:** Stainless steel chain  
with diving equipment for



**Object number:**  
**00049389**

**Title:** Underwater housing  
for Beaulieu camera



spear used by Ron Taylor

**Date:** 1970s

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Spear

**History:** This steel hand spear consists of a long cylindrical length of metal with a smaller diameter cylinder inserted inside it that can be fixed at certain distances by tightening or loosening a small barrel at the midsection. The spear was used with an underwater hypodermic syringe by Ron and Valerie Taylor while conducting research into effective shark repellents. The research work, carried out in the 1970s along with Dr. Watson of the University of New South Wales, indicated that nearly all sharks were resistant to most existing chemical shark repellent and had a very high tolerance to large concentrations of available poisons including strychnine and nicotine. Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine

conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won



mail diving suit worn by Ron Taylor

**Date:** 1979-1982

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Stainless steel, fabric, plastic

**Name:** Diving suit

**History:** In 1962 Ron Taylor received his first award for underwater photography, for a news film called *Playing With Sharks*. In 1963 Ron and Valerie made their first underwater film *Shark Hunter* which was sold to enthusiastic television networks in Australia and the USA. The Taylors quickly gained a reputation for cutting-edge underwater photography and more awards followed, including top honours at the International Underwater Film Festival at Santa Monica, California, and an Underwater Society of America award, the NOGI statuette for Education and Sports, in 1966. Giving up competitive spearfishing in 1969, the Taylors devoted themselves full-time to shark research and underwater photography. They filmed many of the scenes in the American feature film *Blue Water, White Death*, playing two of the four main characters in the film. Shortly afterwards the Taylors spent nine months filming and directing a 39-episode television series called *Barrier Reef* which they



tor Beauieu camera

**Date:** before 1962

**Medium:** Metal, acrylic

**Name:** Case

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema newsreel producer

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Barrier Reef which they quickly followed up with another television series called Taylors' Inner Space, featuring their encounters with the marine life of the east coast of Australia and the Western Pacific. In the late 1960s Ron Taylor devised the idea of using a full length chainmail suit over a wet suit as a form of protection against shark bites. In 1979 with a shark documentary in mind, Taylor paid US\$2,000 to have this suit custom made in the USA. When the suit arrived in Australia, it was too small for Ron and his wife Valerie decided to wear it. After tests on land, Valerie stuffed tuna fillets into the suit to attract sharks and dived into the water. The experiment was a success - the couple learnt how sharks attack, feed and bite, and Ron captured extraordinary footage used in a television feature 'Operation Shark Bite.' After the Taylor's suit experiment, American marine biologist, diver and photographer Jeremiah Sullivan improved the suit design. Today his Neptunic C suits are manufactured using steel mesh, titanium and hybrid laminates at a retail price of \$US20,000.

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east coast of Australia and the Western Pacific. As their reputation grew, other underwater filming opportunities presented themselves: Jaws (1974) for Universal Pictures; Sharks for Timelife Television (1975); Orca (1976) for Dino De Laurentis; Peter Weir's The Last Wave (1977); The Blue Lagoon (1979) for Columbia Pictures, featuring Brooke Shields. The titles proliferated: Gallipoli (1981), The Year of Living Dangerously (1982), In the Realm of the Shark (1988), Return to the Blue Lagoon (1990) and The Island of Dr Moreau (1995) among others. The Taylors were also engaged in underwater research into shark behaviour. This led to the development of stainless steel chain mail diving suits (Operation Shark Bite, 1982, in which Valerie is bitten on the hand), and electronic shark deterrent equipment that allowed the Taylors to become the first divers ever to film Great White sharks underwater without a cage (Blue Wilderness, 1992 and Shark Pod, 1996). Passionate and vocal defenders of sharks and the marine environment, the Taylors' have been recognised for their work all over the globe. Valerie received the NOGI award for Arts in 1991. In 1996 she was

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**Object number:**  
**00049678**

**Title:** Rothmans Kings Gate  
Tobacco tin



**Object number:**  
**00049688**

**Title:** Fish hook  
**Date:** 1910-1954



**Object number:**  
**00049674**

**Title:** Lead sinker  
**Date:** 1910-1954



tobacco tin

**Date:** 1919-1954

**Medium:** Paper, ink, aluminium

**Name:** Tin

**History:** 1. Basil Moffitt de Bohun Helm (1903-1996) was born in Sydney and went to sea at the age of 15, in 1919. He served his four year apprenticeship with Burns Philp on the auxiliary sailing ship MAKOA, trading to Tonga and the west coast of America. As a junior officer he served in sailing ships in the Pacific Island region until 1925, when he went into steam ships. He served in various Australian coastal ships with Howard Smith Company until 1928 when he went back to Burns Philp. He served on several well known ships in their Main Line fleet, on the services between Australia and Papua, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands. At some point he gained his foreign-going square-rigged Master's Certificate (ie for sail and steam), No 0066, Commonwealth of Australia, issued in Sydney. (This certificate is not in the collection, but is referred to in a letter, without date.) In 1938 Burns Philp sent him to Scotland to attend the

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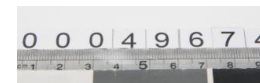


**Date:** 1919-1954

**Medium:** metal

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**Date:** 1919-1954

**Medium:** Lead

**Name:** Sinker

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expenses were shared using a turn-by-turn system. At the end of WWI there were 12 licensed pilots, at the beginning of WWII there were 15, by 1957 there were 31, by 1980 there were 40. In 1993 the Australian Maritime Safety Authority took over administration of the QCTSPS. The name was changed to Torres Pilots. With the diminishing number of ships on the Australian register, Australian mariners with the required expertise in the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait became harder to find. In 2006 there were 30 pilots in the service, and pilots from other countries were being sought and trained. Pilotage extends from the Queensland border at Danger Point to Booby Island, a distance of 1372 nautical miles, making it the longest single pilotage in the world. Pilots also extend their pilotage to New Guinea and Bougainville, or as far as Western Australia. Since 1991, pilotage has been compulsory for all ships longer than 100 m, all oil and chemical tankers and liquid gas carriers, to employ a pilot. Membership of the Torres Strait Pilots has always carried prestige. Licensed pilots have to be master mariners, and until recent

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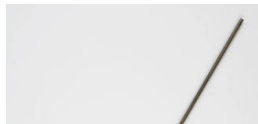
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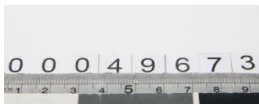
**Object number:**  
**00049673**  
**Title:** Lead sinker  
**Date:** 1910-1954



**Object number:**  
**00050005**  
**Title:** Cylindrical metal rod  
**Date:** possible fitting from a



**Object number:**  
**00054323**  
**Title:** Beaulieu R76 camera  
**Date:** before 1960



**Date:** 1919-1954

**Medium:** Lead

**Name:** Sinker

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- possibly a fitting from a hand spear

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Hand spear fitting

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the



**Date:** before 1962

**Medium:** Metal, glass, acrylic

**Name:** Camera

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NOGI award for APLS in 1981. In 1986 she was appointed Rider of the Order of the Golden Ark by his Royal Highness Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands for her work in marine conservation, and in 1997 Valerie won the prestigious American Nature Photographer of the Year award for a picture of a whale shark swimming with a boy in Ningaloo Marine Park. In 1998 Ron and Valerie's book Blue Wilderness won the Gold Palm Award at the World Festival of Underwater Pictures in France and in October 2000 Ron and Valerie were inducted into the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame on the Cayman Islands. In Australia, Ron and Valerie have received the Serventy Conservation Medal from the Australian Wildlife Preservation Society and the Lifetime of Conservation Medal from the Australian Geographic Society. In 2003 Ron became a Member of the Order of Australia, joined by Valerie in 2010 for their work in conserving marine animals and habitat.

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Darwin in 1942, with the loss of 45 lives. Burns Philp resumed operations and commissioned new ships after World War II, but sold its last ship in 1971. In the 1980s the company made vast operating changes which resulted in an organisation bearing little relation to the past shipping and trading company, and brought it to near-bankruptcy. It continues to exist but has no maritime connection. 3. Queensland Coast and Torres Strait Pilot Service The QCTSPS originated in the 1890s as an association of pilots licensed by the Queensland Marine Board to pilot ships through the dangerous passages of the Queensland coast and the Torres Strait. Before 1884 individual pilots had offered their services, and shipping companies which regularly used the routes employed their own pilots. Licensing began in 1884 along with regulations as to how pilots should conduct their business. In 1893 a family firm of marine insurance brokers, Banks Bros of Sydney, became the secretariat of the pilots. The pilots themselves were self-employed, operating as a type of co-operative in which all the work and expenses were shared using a turn-by-turn

system. At the end of WW1 there were 12 licensed pilots, at the beginning of WWII there were 15, by 1957 there were 31, by 1980 there were 40. In 1993 the Australian Maritime Safety Authority took over administration of the QCTSPS. The name was changed to Torres Pilots. With the diminishing number of ships on the Australian register, Australian mariners with the required expertise in the Great Barrier Reef and Torres Strait became harder to find. In 2006 there were 30 pilots in the service, and pilots from other countries were being sought and trained. Pilotage extends from the Queensland border at Danger Point to Booby Island, a distance of 1372 nautical miles, making it the longest single pilotage in the world. Pilots also extend their pilotage to New Guinea and Bougainville, or as far as Western Australia. Since 1991, pilotage has been compulsory for all ships longer than 100 m, all oil and chemical tankers and liquid gas carriers, to employ a pilot. Membership of the Torres Strait Pilots has always carried prestige. Licensed pilots have to be master mariners, and until recent years had to have extensive experience in

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**Object number:**  
**00054325**

**Title:** 16mm film camera  
belonging to Ben Taylor



**Object number:**  
**00049675**

**Title:** Lead sinker  
Date: 1919-1954



**Object number:**  
**00055703**

**Title:** Marine Rescue Pod  
from the Western Little



belonging to Ron Taylor  
**Date:** 1970s  
**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor  
**Medium:** Glass, plastic, metal  
**Name:** Camera  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the



**Date:** 1919-1954  
**Medium:** Lead  
**Name:** Sinkers  
**History:** 1. Basil Moffitt de Bohun Helm (1903-1996) was born in Sydney and went to sea at the age of 15, in 1919. He served his four year apprenticeship with Burns Philp on the auxiliary sailing ship MAKOA, trading to Tonga and the west coast of America. As a junior officer he served in sailing ships in the Pacific Island region until 1925, when he went into steam ships. He served in various Australian coastal ships with Howard Smith Company until 1928 when he went back to Burns Philp. He served on several well known ships in their Main Line fleet, on the services between Australia and Papua, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands. At some point he gained his foreign-going square-rigged Master's Certificate (ie for sail and steam), No 0066, Commonwealth of Australia, issued in Sydney. (This certificate is not in the collection, but is referred to in a letter, without date.) In 1938 Burns Philp sent him to Scotland to attend the fitting out of their new liner M V BULOLO, and to return on the commissioning voyage as Chief Officer. His first command was MV MAIWARA in 1939, back in the Pacific Island routes



from the westpac Little Ripper Lifesaver  
**Date:** 2018  
**Primary Maker:** SOS Marine  
**Medium:** Fabric, metal and plastic  
**Name:** Marine pod  
**History:** The Westpac Little Ripper Lifesaver Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) performed the world's first ever drone surf rescue in stormy seas off the coast of Lennox Head, NSW, Australia on 18 January 2018. Two young men were swept out to sea. At 11:30am AEST Jai Sheridan, a lifesaver with Surf Life Saving NSW deployed this UAV to the location of the swimmers in distress where the UAV deployed its SOS self-inflating marine rescue pod (for two people). The swimmers were able to grab the pod and use wave action to return to the beach. This rescue was a global first in the utilisation of UAV technology to rescue persons in distress in a marine environment. The Westpac Little Ripper Lifesaver UAV is outfitted to carry and deploy a variety of rescue pods suited for different situations or terrain. The Little Ripper Marine Rescue Pod contains a platform that provides enough floatation to support three - four persons. The pod automatically inflates when dropped into water and is reusable and re-packable

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re-usable and re-packable with a simple install of a new CO2 canister. They are fitted with an automatic SOLAS light for night rescue, SOLAS grade high visibility retro-reflective tape, and can include a large sea anchor and a Shark Shield. The lightweight Pods are designed to provide help until rescue arrives.



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**Object number:**  
**00049477**  
**Title:** Underwater camera  
housing



**Object number:**  
**00049476**  
**Title:** Wooden box for a  
1967 camera housing used



**Object number:**  
**V00049378**  
**Title:** Victor cine camera  
and accessories



nousing

**Date:** 1967

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Plastic, metal, textile, paint, paper

**Name:** Camera housing

**History:** Ron and Valerie Taylor used this camera housing to film the underwater shark scenes they shot for the 1974 film 'Jaws'. In an unexpected backlash, the Taylors received criticism from diving tourism operators as a result of the shark paranoia provoked by the film. Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving

and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land



1967 camera nousing used in the production of the movie 'Jaws'

**Date:** 1967-1974

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Wood, paint, metal, rope

**Name:** Box

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**Date:** 1960-1989

**Primary Maker:** Victor Animatograph Corporation

**Medium:** Leather

**Name:** Camera and accessories

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by Valerie in 2010 for their  
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animals and habitat.



**Object number:**  
**00049377**

**Title:** Victor Cine camera  
box



**Object number:**  
**00049376**

**Title:** Victor Cine Camera  
**Date:** 1939-1940



**Object number:**  
**00049379**

**Title:** Tea towel used to  
clean a Victor Cine camera



DOX

**Date:** 1920-1940

**Medium:** Leather

**Name:** Box

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an

acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the



**Date:** 1920-1940

**Medium:** Metal, glass

**Name:** Camera

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema newsreel producer Moustafa Mawla. In 1963



clean a Victor Cine camera

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Cotton

**Name:** Tea towel

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema newsreel producer

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**Object number:**  
**00049382**  
**Title:** Halogen light system  
made by Dan Taylor



**Object number:**  
**00049388**  
**Title:** Halogen light system  
made by Dan Taylor



**Object number:**  
**00049383**  
**Title:** Part of casing for a  
Resolution D7C camera



made by Ron Taylor

**Date:** 1960-1976

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Light system

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm

movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to

made by Ron Taylor

**Date:** 1970s

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Light system

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the



Beaulieu R70 camera

**Date:** 1960s

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic

**Name:** Part

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**Object number:**  
**00049384**

**Title:** Part of casing for a  
Resulix D7C camera



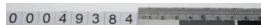
**Object number:**  
**00049385**

**Title:** Part of casing for a  
Resulix D7C camera



**Object number:**  
**00049386**

**Title:** Part of casing for  
Resulix D7C camera



Beaulieu K7b camera

**Date:** 1960s

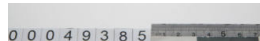
**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic

**Name:** Part

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm

movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



Beaulieu K7b camera

**Date:** 1960s

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic

**Name:** Part

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the



Beaulieu K7b camera

**Date:** 1960s - 1980s

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Rubber

**Name:** Part

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the

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**Object number:**  
**00049397**  
**Title:** Rolleimarin camera  
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**00049398**  
**Title:** Rolleimarin camera  
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**Object number:**  
**00049399**  
**Title:** Rolleimarin camera  
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accessory

**Date:** 1960s

**Medium:** Metal, plastic

**Name:** Accessory

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an

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**Object number:**  
**00049400**

**Title:** Rolleimarin camera  
accessories



**Object number:**  
**V00049412**

**Title:** Sony Video 8 camera  
recorder, underwater



**Object number:**  
**00049420**

**Title:** Custom made  
camera case for Sony





accessory

**Date:** 1960s

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Accessory

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recorder, underwater housing and accessories

**Date:** 1980s

**Primary Maker:** Sony

**Medium:** Plastic, fabric

**Name:** Camera recorder and accessories

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camera case for Sony Video8 Camcorder

**Date:** 1980s

**Medium:** Wood, metal, foam

**Name:** Case

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**Object number:**  
**00049432**  
**Title:** Sekonic Marine Meter  
"underwater light meter"



**Object number:**  
**V00049423**  
**Title:** Kodak K100 Turret  
camera, in underwater



**Object number:**  
**00049424**  
**Title:** Wooden box to house  
a Kodak K100 Turret



an underwater light meter

**Date:** 1970s

**Medium:** Plastic, leather, metal, foam

**Name:** Light meter

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm

movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



camera in underwater housing and carry case

**Date:** 1970s

**Primary Maker:** Kodak

**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Camera housing

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a Kodak K100 Turret camera in underwater housing

**Date:** 1970s

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Case

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**Object number:**  
**00049486**

**Title:** Fitting for a Farallon  
DBV/MK III underwater



**Object number:**  
**00049487**

**Title:** Fitting for a Farallon  
DBV/MK III underwater

**Object number:**  
**00049488**

**Title:** Instruction manual  
for Farallon DBV/MK III



DPV-MK III underwater scooter

**Date:** 1960s-1980s

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Aluminium

**Name:** Fitting

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of

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DPV-MK III underwater scooter

**Date:** 1960s-1980s

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Aluminium

**Name:** Fitting

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for a Farallon DPV-MK III underwater scooter  
**Date:** 1960s-1980s  
**Medium:** Ink on paper  
**Name:** Manual  
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**Object number:**  
**00049482**

**Title:** Red canvas bag used  
to store a few pieces of Pirelli



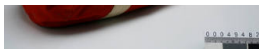
**Object number:**  
**V00049482**

**Title:** Pirelli rubber dry suit,  
weather suit and



**Object number:**  
**00049497**

**Title:** Accessory from a  
Pirelli shallow water



to store a two-piece Pirelli rubber dry suit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Canvas, metal

**Name:** Bag

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm

movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



rebreather unit and accessories

**Date:** 1940s - 1950s

**Primary Maker:** Pirelli

**Medium:** Canvas, metal, rubber

**Name:** Diving equipment

**History:** Rebreathing units are closed circuit. This means that rather than expelling all exhaled gasses into the water, it is contained in the unit and mixed with pure oxygen to create breathable air. Rebreathing units use a significantly smaller tank which contains pure oxygen rather than the compressed air in large modern SCUBA tanks. Because the unit expels little gas, there are few bubbles and less chance of disturbing marine life - making the units popular with underwater photographers. Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World



Pirelli snail water oxygen rebreather unit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Metal, mesh

**Name:** Sieve

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**Object number:**  
**00049466**

**Title:** Oxygen tank from a  
Rinalli shallow water



**Object number:**  
**00049498**

**Title:** Cardboard box for  
housing a Rinalli shallow



**Object number:**  
**00049490**

**Title:** Rolleimarine camera  
inside a custom-made



Pirelli snail water oxygen rebreather unit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Oxygen tank

**History:** Rebreathing units are closed circuit. This means that rather than expelling all exhaled gasses into the water, it is contained in the unit and mixed with pure oxygen to create breathable air. Rebreathing units use a significantly smaller tank which contains pure oxygen rather than the compressed air in large modern SCUBA tanks. Because the unit expels little gas, there are few bubbles and less chance of disturbing marine life - making the units popular with underwater photographers. extra note limited in depth - cannot use oxygen below 10 meters so extends diving life by 3-4-5 hours.... (quite dangerous because oxygen is toxic below 10 metres - black out and drown from oxygen toxicity) Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married

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nousing a Pirelli snail water oxygen rebreather unit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Card, metal

**Name:** Box

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



inside a custom acrylic cover

**Date:** 1960s

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Metal, acrylic

**Name:** Camera

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling

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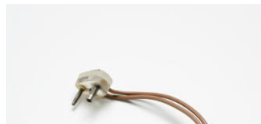


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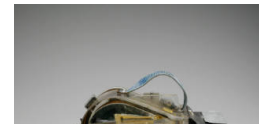
**Object number:**  
**00049478**

**Title:** Loose fitting from a  
camera housing made by



**Object number:**  
**00049387**

**Title:** Part of casing for  
Beaulieu D7C camera



**Object number:**  
**V00049389**

**Title:** Beaulieu camera in  
underwater housing



camera housing made by Belgium Scientific Expeditions  
**Date:** c 1965  
**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor  
**Name:** Fitting  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the



Boaillau K76 camera  
**Date:** 1960s - 1980s  
**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor  
**Medium:** Plastic  
**Name:** Part  
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underwater housing  
**Date:** 1960s  
**Primary Maker:** Beaulieu  
**Medium:** Metal, glass, acrylic, metal  
**Name:** Camera and housing  
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**Object number:**  
**V00049395**

**Title:** Rolleimarin camera  
Levinia, camera flash, flash



**Object number:**  
**00049396**

**Title:** Rolleimarin camera  
Levinia, camera flash, flash



**Object number:**  
**00049401**

**Title:** Rolleimarin camera  
Levinia, camera flash, flash





housing, range finder, flash unit and accessories

**Date:** 1960s

**Primary Maker:** Rollei

**Medium:** Metal, glass

**Name:** Camera housing

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a

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case

**Date:** 1960s

**Medium:** Metal, fabric

**Name:** Case

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema, newreel producer



accessory

**Date:** 1960s

**Medium:** Fabric

**Name:** Bag

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema, newreel producer

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**Object number:**  
**V00049391**

**Title:** Rolleiflex camera and  
underwater housing



**Object number:**  
**00049392**

**Title:** Rolleiflex camera in  
case



**Object number:**  
**00049413**

**Title:** Sony Video8  
Camcorder microphone



underwater housing

**Date:** 1960s

**Primary Maker:** Rollei

**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Camera and housing

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm

movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



case

**Date:** 1960s

**Medium:** Metal, glass, leather

**Name:** Camera

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Camcorder microphone

**Date:** 1980s

**Medium:** Plastic, foam, metal

**Name:** Microphone

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**Object number:**  
**00049414**  
**Title:** Sony Video8  
Camcorder cover



**Object number:**  
**00049415**  
**Title:** Sony Video8  
Camcorder RFU adaptor



**Object number:**  
**00049419**  
**Title:** Mini screwdriver from  
Sony Video8 Camcorder



Camcorder cover

**Date:** 1980s

**Medium:** Plastic

**Name:** Cover

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an

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Camcorder RFU adaptor

**Date:** 1980s

**Medium:** Plastic, metal

**Name:** Adaptor

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Sony video8 Camcorder case

**Date:** 1980s

**Medium:** Plastic, metal

**Name:** Screwdriver

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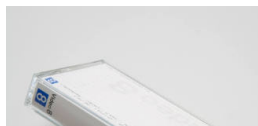
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**Object number:**  
**00049418**  
**Title:** Sony Video8  
Camcorder lens cap



**Object number:**  
**00049416**  
**Title:** Sony Video8 tape  
cassette case



**Object number:**  
**00049421**  
**Title:** Sony Video8  
Camcorder in a system

Camcorder lens cap

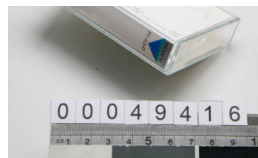
**Date:** 1980s

**Medium:** Plastic, metal

**Name:** Lens cap

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an

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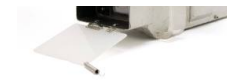
cassette case

**Date:** 1980s

**Medium:** Plastic, paper

**Name:** Case

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema, newreel producer



Camcorder in a custom made underwater housing

**Date:** 1980s

**Medium:** Plastic, metal

**Name:** Video camera

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**Object number:**  
**00049429**

**Title:** SCUBA diving wrist  
depth gauge



**Object number:**  
**00049430**

**Title:** SCUBA diving wrist  
depth gauge



**Object number:**  
**V00049431**

**Title:** Sekonic Marine Meter  
Underwater light meter



depth gauge

**Date:** 1960s

**Primary Maker:** US Divers

**Medium:** Metal, plastic, glass

**Name:** Depth gauge

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing

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Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling



depth gauge

**Date:** 1960s

**Primary Maker:** Admiral

**Medium:** Metal, plastic, glass

**Name:** Depth gauge

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11 underwater light meter and case

**Date:** 1970s

**Primary Maker:** Sekonic

**Medium:** Plastic, leather, metal, foam

**Name:** Light meter and case

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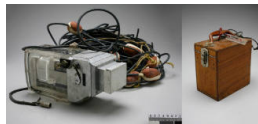
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**Object number:**  
**00049422**

**Title:** Video camera in  
underwater housing



**Object number:**  
**V00049380**

**Title:** Video camera in  
underwater housing with



**Object number:**  
**V00049446**

**Title:** Bolex camera with  
underwater housing and



underwater housing

**Date:** 1980s

**Primary Maker:** AWA Ltd

**Medium:** Perspex, plastic, metal, rubber

**Name:** Camera and housing

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing

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photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a

Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling

underwater housing with battery pack

**Date:** 1960s

**Primary Maker:** AWA Ltd

**Medium:** Wood, plastic, metal

**Name:** Camera and battery pack

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing

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Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the



underwater housing and storage box

**Date:** 1960s-1980s

**Primary Maker:** Bolex

**Medium:** Metal, glass, acrylic

**Name:** Camera, housing and box

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**Object number:**  
**00049447**

**Title:** Wooden case for 16  
mm Bellows Camera in



**Object number:**  
**00049484**

**Title:** Box for a Farallon  
BBV MK III underwater



**Object number:**  
**00049493**

**Title:** Farallon underwater  
light



mm Bolex Camera in acrylic housing  
**Date:** 1956-1995  
**Medium:** Metal, wood, rope  
**Name:** Case  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm

movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



DPV-MK III underwater scooter  
**Date:** 1960s-1980s  
**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor  
**Medium:** Wood, rope, metal  
**Name:** Box  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling



light  
**Date:** 1970-1980s  
**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor  
**Medium:** Metal  
**Name:** Light  
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**Object number:**  
**00049480**  
**Title:** Fathom magazine  
"and Home Island"

**Object number:**  
**00049481**  
**Title:** Fathom magazine  
"Skindiving in Australia"



**Object number:**  
**00049442**  
**Title:** Fathom magazine  
"Skins on Skindiving in"

'Lord Howe Island -  
Archaeology'

**Date:** 1970-1973

**Medium:** Ink on paper

**Name:** Magazine

**History:** Fathom was produced by Gareth Powell, and edited by John Harding and Roy Bisson. It was the first commercially produced diving magazine in Australia, producing ten issues between 1970 and 1973. The magazine's freelance photographers and journalists, including Ron and Valerie Taylor, were among the best in Australia. During its brief production, Fathom highlighted the development of scuba diving schools, and played an important role in raising marine environmental awareness with underwater photography. Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won

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**Object number:**  
**00050008**

**Title:** Oxygen cylinder  
converted into a carbon air



**Object number:**  
**00049391**

**Title:** Acrylic casing made  
by Dan Taylor for a



**Object number:**  
**00049395**

**Title:** Rolleimarin camera  
housing

converted into a scuba air tank

**Date:** 1950s

**Primary Maker:** John Lawson

**Medium:** Metal, glass

**Name:** Air tank

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of

a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the



by Ron Taylor for a Rolleiflex camera

**Date:** 1965

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Case

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**Date:** 1950s

**Medium:** Metal, glass

**Name:** Camera

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema newsreel producers

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**Object number:**  
**00049365**

**Title:** Depth gauge used by  
Valeria Todor



**Object number:**  
**00049489**

**Title:** Wooden box made to  
house a Bellinghous



**Object number:**  
**00049446**

**Title:** Bolex Camera in  
underwater housing



valerie Taylor

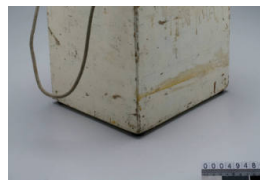
**Date:** 1960-1989

**Medium:** Metal, glass, elastic

**Name:** Depth gauge

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm

movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



nouse a Konemarine camera with acrylic cover

**Date:** 1960s-1980s

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Wood, metal, rope

**Name:** Box

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling



underwater nousing

**Date:** 1960s

**Medium:** Metal, glass, acrylic

**Name:** Camera

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**Object number:**  
**00049431**

**Title:** Case for a Sekonic  
Mavica Meter II undarmstern



**Object number:**  
**00050009**

**Title:** Black fibreglass hand  
mass



**Object number:**  
**00049491**

**Title:** Wooden box made to  
house a Forster



marine meter or underwater light meter

**Date:** 1960-1989

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Plastic, leather, metal, foam

**Name:** Case

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news

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spear

**Date:** 1950-1989

**Medium:** Fibreglass, string, rubber, metal

**Name:** Spear

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nouse a Parallon

underwater light

**Date:** 1960s-1980s

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Wood, paint, rope

**Name:** Box

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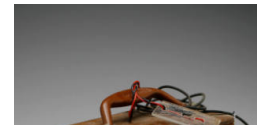
**Object number:**  
**00049423**

**Title:** Silver acrylic painted  
housing for Kodak M100



**Object number:**  
**00049412**

**Title:** Sony Video8  
Camcorder case



**Object number:**  
**00049380**

**Title:** Battery pack  
**Date:** 1960-1980

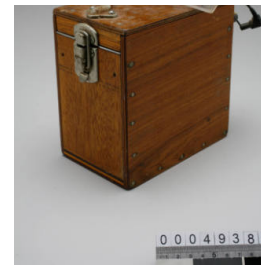




housing for Kodak K100  
Turret camera  
**Date:** 1956-1973  
**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor  
**Medium:** Acrylic, metal  
**Name:** Case  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the



Camcorder case  
**Date:** 1980s  
**Medium:** Plastic, fabric  
**Name:** Case  
**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the cinema, newreel producer



**Date:** 1960-1989  
**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor  
**Medium:** Wood, plastic, metal  
**Name:** Battery  
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**Object number:**  
**00049485**

**Title:** Farallon DPV-MK III  
underwater scooter



**Object number:**  
**00049445**

**Title:** Underwater camera  
housing



**Object number:**  
**00049381**

**Title:** Camera housing  
made by Ben Taylor

underwater scooter

**Date:** 1970s-1980s

**Primary Maker:** Farallon  
USA Inc

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Underwater scooter

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing

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Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling



nousing

**Date:** 1960s - 1980s

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor  
**Medium:** Acrylic, metal,  
rope

**Name:** Camera housing

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing

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made by Ron Taylor

**Date:** 1960-1976

**Primary Maker:** Ron Taylor  
**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Camera housing

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**Object number:**  
**00049378**

**Title:** Victor Cine camera  
handle



**Object number:**  
**00054324**

**Title:** Kodak K100 Turret  
camera



**Object number:**  
**00049370**

**Title:** Perfume bottle top  
from the DUMBAR wreck



box handle

**Date:** 1920-1940

**Medium:** Leather

**Name:** Handle

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an

acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to television and to the



camera

**Date:** 1956-1973

**Primary Maker:** Valerie Taylor

**Medium:** Acrylic, metal

**Name:** Camera

**History:** Both Ron Taylor and Valerie Taylor (née Heighes) were pioneers in Australian skindiving. Ron took up the sport in 1952 and Valerie in 1956; they met as members of St George Spearfishing Club in Sydney and were married in 1963. At this period there was little awareness of marine conservation and both Ron and Valerie excelled at the sport of competitive spearfishing. Valerie won the Ladies National Spearfishing Championships three years in a row in the early 1960s, and Ron took out the World Spearfishing Championships in Tahiti in 1965. The Taylors' underwater interests grew to encompass scuba diving and underwater photography. Ron built the first of many underwater housings to take land cameras beneath the sea in 1953. When television came to Australia in 1956 he saw the potential for making underwater news stories and with the help of a friend, who lent him a Bell & Howell 16 mm movie camera, Ron built an acrylic housing for the camera and started selling underwater footage to



from the DUNBAR wreck site

**Date:** before 1857

**Medium:** Glass

**Name:** Bottle top

**History:** The DUNBAR was a passenger and cargo ship that ran the route between London and Sydney as a result of the Australian gold rushes. She was owned by Duncan Dunbar and was the pride of his growing fleet. After being requisitioned during the Crimean War she was returned to Dunbar and in 1856 she made her first journey to Sydney which was a success and she was proclaimed a "splendid ship". In 1857 she left England again bound for Sydney and was looking forward to repeating her success. On this journey she was laden with both expensive and important cargo and also a full contingent of passengers including some local Sydney dignitaries who had been visiting England. Her Captain, Green, was no stranger to the route and managed to sail her to Australia where she arrived off the coast of Sydney on 20 August 1857. However, there was a raging storm that night which made visibility particularly poor and the sea very rough. [[http://www.anmm.gov.au/webdata/resources/pdfs/research\\_guides/Signals\\_79\\_p34](http://www.anmm.gov.au/webdata/resources/pdfs/research_guides/Signals_79_p34) 20. The wreck of the Dunbar.pdf]

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39

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returning their encounters with the marine life of the east coast of Australia and the Western Pacific. As their reputation grew, other underwater filming opportunities presented themselves: Jaws (1974) for Universal Pictures; Sharks for Timelife Television (1975); Orca (1976) for Dino De Laurentis; Peter Weir's The Last Wave (1977); The Blue Lagoon (1979) for Columbia Pictures, featuring Brooke Shields. The titles proliferated: Gallipoli (1981), The Year of Living Dangerously (1982), In the Realm of the Shark (1988), Return to the Blue Lagoon (1990) and The Island of Dr Moreau (1995) among others. The Taylors were also engaged in underwater research into shark behaviour. This led to the development of stainless steel chain mail diving suits (Operation Shark Bite, 1982, in which Valerie is bitten on the hand), and electronic shark deterrent equipment that allowed the Taylors to become the first divers ever to film Great White sharks underwater without a cage (Blue Wilderness, 1992 and Shark Pod, 1996). Passionate and vocal defenders of sharks and the marine environment, the Taylors' have been recognised for their work all over the globe. Valerie received the

1981. In 1986 she was appointed Rider of the Order of the Golden Ark by his Royal Highness Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands for her work in marine conservation, and in 1997 Valerie won the prestigious American Nature Photographer of the Year award for a picture of a whale shark swimming with a boy in Ningaloo Marine Park. In 1998 Ron and Valerie's book Blue Wilderness won the Gold Palm Award at the World Festival of Underwater Pictures in France and in October 2000 Ron and Valerie were inducted into the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame on the Cayman Islands. In Australia, Ron and Valerie have received the Serventy Conservation Medal from the Australian Wildlife Preservation Society and the Lifetime of Conservation Medal from the Australian Geographic Society. In 2003 Ron became a Member of the Order of Australia, joined by Valerie in 2010 for their work in conserving marine animals and habitat.

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**Object number:**  
**00049495**

**Title:** Accessory from a  
Pirelli shallow water  
oxygen rebreather unit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Metal

**Name:** Fitting

**History:** Collection of diving  
equipment used by Rod  
and Valerie Taylor  
including; mesh suits,  
spear guns, spear gun  
cartridges, poison injector,  
shark tags, shark deterrents,  
Shark Pods, camera  
equipment, Pirelli dry suit  
and WW2 Oxygen  
rebreather, banded suit,  
and assorted SCUBA  
equipment.



**Object number:**  
**00049496**

**Title:** Spanner from a Pirelli  
shallow water oxygen  
rebreather unit

**Date:** 1956-1995

**Medium:** Metal

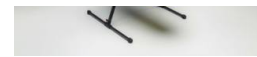
**Name:** Spanner

**History:** Collection of diving  
equipment used by Rod  
and Valerie Taylor  
including; mesh suits,  
spear guns, spear gun  
cartridges, poison injector,  
shark tags, shark deterrents,  
Shark Pods, camera  
equipment, Pirelli dry suit  
and WW2 Oxygen  
rebreather, banded suit,  
and assorted SCUBA  
equipment.



**Object number:**  
**00055701**

**Title:** Westpac Little Ripper  
Life Cover (uninflated)



Life Saver (unmanned aerial vehicle)

**Date:** 2018

**Medium:** Carbon Fibre and Alloy

**Name:** Drone

**History:** The Westpac Little Ripper Lifesaver Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) was developed to conduct remote search, rescue and lifesaving operations. It can carry and deploy a variety of rescue pods suited for different situations or terrain. These include a self-inflating marine rescue pods (two or four person), a Land Pod© or a Snow Pod©. The reusable self-inflating marine rescue pod is also situationally adaptable and can include a SOLAS light and retro-reflective tape for visibility at night, a Shark Shield™ and a small sea anchor for stability in rough weather. The Lipper Ripper Lifesaver also conducts imaging or mapping of resources such as being adapted to deploy purple dye for visual identification of rip currents. In partnership with the University of Technology, Sydney, the UAV also carries a world-first AI-enabled marine threat detection system, which was used in crocodile spotting along Queensland beaches in 2019 and widespread shark surveillance. The Westpac Little Ripper Lifesaver UAV has had



Lifesaver UAV has had a significant impact on Surf Life Saving operations since its deployment in NSW Department of Primary Industry- funded trials in early 2018. During those trials, it was used to perform the first aerial drone rescue at sea. This UAV is an exemplar for adaptive technologies, with success in its primary function (rescue operations) yet modifiable for additional purposes such as shark and croc-spotting thermal imaging of wildlife, and as a beach and coastal landscape monitoring system. During the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, the Little Ripper UAV was trialled in assisting to stop the spread of the virus as a means of widespread spraying and effective sanitising solution.



**Object number:**  
**00046402**

**Title:** Bone handle, from the wreck of the ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Bone

**Name:** Handle

**History:** The ZUYTDORP was built for the Dutch East India Company (VOC) as a cargo ship. On 1 August 1711 it left the Netherlands for Batavia in the Dutch East Indies carrying a large consignment of newly minted silver coins. It was wrecked off the coast of Western Australia between Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It is now protected under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00046404**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting nail from the wreck of the ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP was built for the Dutch East India Company (VOC) as a cargo ship. On 1 August 1711 it left the Netherlands for Batavia in the Dutch East Indies carrying a large consignment of newly minted silver coins. It was wrecked off the coast of Western Australia between Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It is now protected under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00046482**

**Title:** Tack with square shank, from the wreck of the ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Metal, copper (please not incirrect image)

**Name:** Tack

**History:** The ZUYTDORP was built for the Dutch East India Company (VOC) as a cargo ship. On 1 August 1711 it left the Netherlands for Batavia in the Dutch East Indies carrying a large consignment of newly minted silver coins. It was wrecked off the coast of Western Australia between Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It is now protected under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00048786**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting  
nail from the wreck of the  
ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP  
was built for the Dutch  
East India Company (VOC)  
as a cargo ship. On 1  
August 1711 it left the  
Netherlands for Batavia in  
the Dutch East Indies  
carrying a large  
consignment of newly  
minted silver coins. It was  
wrecked off the coast of  
Western Australia between  
Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It  
is now protected under the  
Commonwealth Historic  
Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00048787**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting  
nail from the wreck of the  
ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP  
was built for the Dutch  
East India Company (VOC)  
as a cargo ship. On 1  
August 1711 it left the  
Netherlands for Batavia in  
the Dutch East Indies  
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consignment of newly  
minted silver coins. It was  
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Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It  
is now protected under the  
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Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00048788**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting  
nail from the wreck of the  
ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP  
was built for the Dutch  
East India Company (VOC)  
as a cargo ship. On 1  
August 1711 it left the  
Netherlands for Batavia in  
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wrecked off the coast of  
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Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00048789**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting nail from the wreck of the ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP was built for the Dutch East India Company (VOC) as a cargo ship. On 1 August 1711 it left the Netherlands for Batavia in the Dutch East Indies carrying a large consignment of newly minted silver coins. It was wrecked off the coast of Western Australia between Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It is now protected under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00048790**

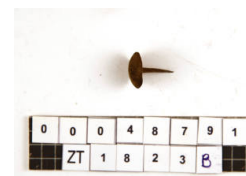
**Title:** Upholstery tufting nail from the wreck of the ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP was built for the Dutch East India Company (VOC) as a cargo ship. On 1 August 1711 it left the Netherlands for Batavia in the Dutch East Indies carrying a large consignment of newly minted silver coins. It was wrecked off the coast of Western Australia between Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It is now protected under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00048791**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting nail from the wreck of the ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP was built for the Dutch East India Company (VOC) as a cargo ship. On 1 August 1711 it left the Netherlands for Batavia in the Dutch East Indies carrying a large consignment of newly minted silver coins. It was wrecked off the coast of Western Australia between Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It is now protected under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**  
**00048792**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting  
nail from the wreck of the  
ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP  
was built for the Dutch  
East India Company (VOC)  
as a cargo ship. On 1  
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**Object number:**  
**00048793**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting  
nail from the wreck of the  
ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP  
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minted silver coins. It was  
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**Object number:**  
**00048794**

**Title:** Upholstery tufting  
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ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Brass

**Name:** Nail

**History:** The ZUYTDORP  
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minted silver coins. It was  
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Western Australia between  
Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It  
is now protected under the  
Commonwealth Historic  
Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**

**00048810**

**Title:** Bone handle, from  
the wreck of the ZUYTDORP

**Date:** 1705-1711

**Medium:** Bone

**Name:** Handle

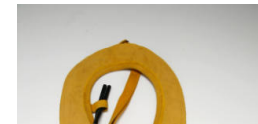
**History:** The ZUYTDORP  
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as a cargo ship. On 1  
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wrecked off the coast of  
Western Australia between  
Kalbarri and Shark Bay. It  
is now protected under the  
Commonwealth Historic  
Shipwrecks Act 1976.



**Object number:**

**00039667**

**Title:** Life jacket used by  
Jack O'Brien on his solo



**Object number:**

**00039668**

**Title:** Life jacket used by  
Jack O'Brien on his solo



Jack O'Brien on his solo  
non stop voyages

**Date:** 1944

**Medium:** Rubber, fabric,  
metal

**Name:** Life jacket

**History:** John 'Jack' O'Brien, former Queenscliff lifesaver and professional boxer, was a pioneer of endurance solo paddling using single and double surf skis. Over the course of ten trips from 1940 to 1962 he attempted or set non-stop paddling records on ocean trips between Wollongong, Sydney and Newcastle. His training regime included cycling 48 km a day, following a strict vegetarian diet and 24 hour endurance paddling sessions. Being tied to his craft in rough seas, navigating by day and night and avoiding hazards such as reefs, rocks and sharks were all part of the challenge. In 1952 he claimed a world record for the greatest distance for non-stop ocean paddling in a 24 hour period, paddling 128km in 22 hours between Watson's Bay and Newcastle. Although his claims were contested in the media and subsequently bettered by others, he is remembered for pushing the boundaries of ocean paddling on surf skis.



Jack O'Brien on his solo  
non stop voyages

**Date:** 1944

**Medium:** Rubber, fabric,  
metal

**Name:** Life jacket

**History:** John 'Jack' O'Brien, former Queenscliff lifesaver and professional boxer, was a pioneer of endurance solo paddling using single and double surf skis. Over the course of ten trips from 1940 to 1962 he attempted or set non-stop paddling records on ocean trips between Wollongong, Sydney and Newcastle. His training regime included cycling 48 km a day, following a strict vegetarian diet and 24 hour endurance paddling sessions. Being tied to his craft in rough seas, navigating by day and night and avoiding hazards such as reefs, rocks and sharks were all part of the challenge. In 1952 he claimed a world record for the greatest distance for non-stop ocean paddling in a 24 hour period, paddling 128km in 22 hours between Watson's Bay and Newcastle. Although his claims were contested in the media and subsequently bettered by others, he is remembered for pushing the boundaries of ocean paddling on surf skis.



**Object number:**  
**00054238**  
**Title:** Fishing spear from a  
YABAHU, around 1900, fishing, fish



**Object number:**  
**00054239**  
**Title:** Fishing line from a  
YABAHU, around 1900, fishing, fish



**Object number:**  
**00054248**  
**Title:** Fish hook from a  
YABAHU, around 1900, fishing, fish



## wwii survival fishing kit

**Date:** 1944**Medium:** Metal**Name:** Harpoon

**History:** A set of maritime survival equipment, about 1970s, comprising - A two-piece yellow survival suit with attached hood and boots, folding into a yellow canvas bag that functions as a hood when unfolded - a plastic canister containing 10 unused distress flares, manufactured in 1970 and a printed Ministry of Transport Rescue Signal table, showing hand, light, and Morse code signals, and landing signals for the guidance of small boats or persons In distress' - an emergency fishing kit manufactured by Thompson & Cooke, Washington DC, consisting of a khaki drill roll with 12 pockets holding a net with wooden handle, various weight string lines wound on wooden sticks, two fishing flies made of feathers, leather and rubber, hooks and sinkers. A lightweight paper pamphlet with fishing instructions, notes on the edibility of various fish, sharks, birds, turtles etc., other survival tips and instructions for landing on unoccupied islands.



## wwii survival fishing kit

**Date:** 1944**Medium:** Cotton, timber, metal**Name:** Fishing line

**History:** A set of maritime survival equipment, about 1970s, comprising - A two-piece yellow survival suit with attached hood and boots, folding into a yellow canvas bag that functions as a hood when unfolded - a plastic canister containing 10 unused distress flares, manufactured in 1970 and a printed Ministry of Transport Rescue Signal table, showing hand, light, and Morse code signals, and landing signals for the guidance of small boats or persons In distress' - an emergency fishing kit manufactured by Thompson & Cooke, Washington DC, consisting of a khaki drill roll with 12 pockets holding a net with wooden handle, various weight string lines wound on wooden sticks, two fishing flies made of feathers, leather and rubber, hooks and sinkers. A lightweight paper pamphlet with fishing instructions, notes on the edibility of various fish, sharks, birds, turtles etc., other survival tips and instructions for landing on unoccupied islands.

## wwii survival fishing kit

**Date:** 1944**Medium:** Feathers, metal**Name:** Fish hook

**History:** A set of maritime survival equipment, about 1970s, comprising - A two-piece yellow survival suit with attached hood and boots, folding into a yellow canvas bag that functions as a hood when unfolded - a plastic canister containing 10 unused distress flares, manufactured in 1970 and a printed Ministry of Transport Rescue Signal table, showing hand, light, and Morse code signals, and landing signals for the guidance of small boats or persons In distress' - an emergency fishing kit manufactured by Thompson & Cooke, Washington DC, consisting of a khaki drill roll with 12 pockets holding a net with wooden handle, various weight string lines wound on wooden sticks, two fishing flies made of feathers, leather and rubber, hooks and sinkers. A lightweight paper pamphlet with fishing instructions, notes on the edibility of various fish, sharks, birds, turtles etc., other survival tips and instructions for landing on unoccupied islands.



**Object number:**  
**00055702**

**Title:** Detachable camera  
from the Westra 1911



from the westpac Little Ripper UAV

**Date:** 2018

**Medium:** Carbon Fibre and Alloy

**Name:** Camera

**History:** This UAV is an exemplar for adaptive technologies, with success in its primary function (rescue operations) yet modifiable for additional purposes such as shark and croc- spotting thermal imaging of wildlife, and as a beach and coastal landscape monitoring system. Much of the Little Ripper UAVs' success is reliant on the visual technology supplied by this attachable camera. The video transmission from the camera is processed by cloud analytics, putting a 93% accuracy of marine life detection over the video stream instead of 12-17% accuracy of detection from the standard human eye. The delay from this on board camera back to the pilot's screen on the ground has been reduced so the pilot sees what the video captures via AI in the cloud almost immediately. This in-sync vision ensures assistance and rescue efforts, such as the deployment of the pods from the UAV, are activated quickly in

situations where even the slightest delay can mean the difference between life and death.

