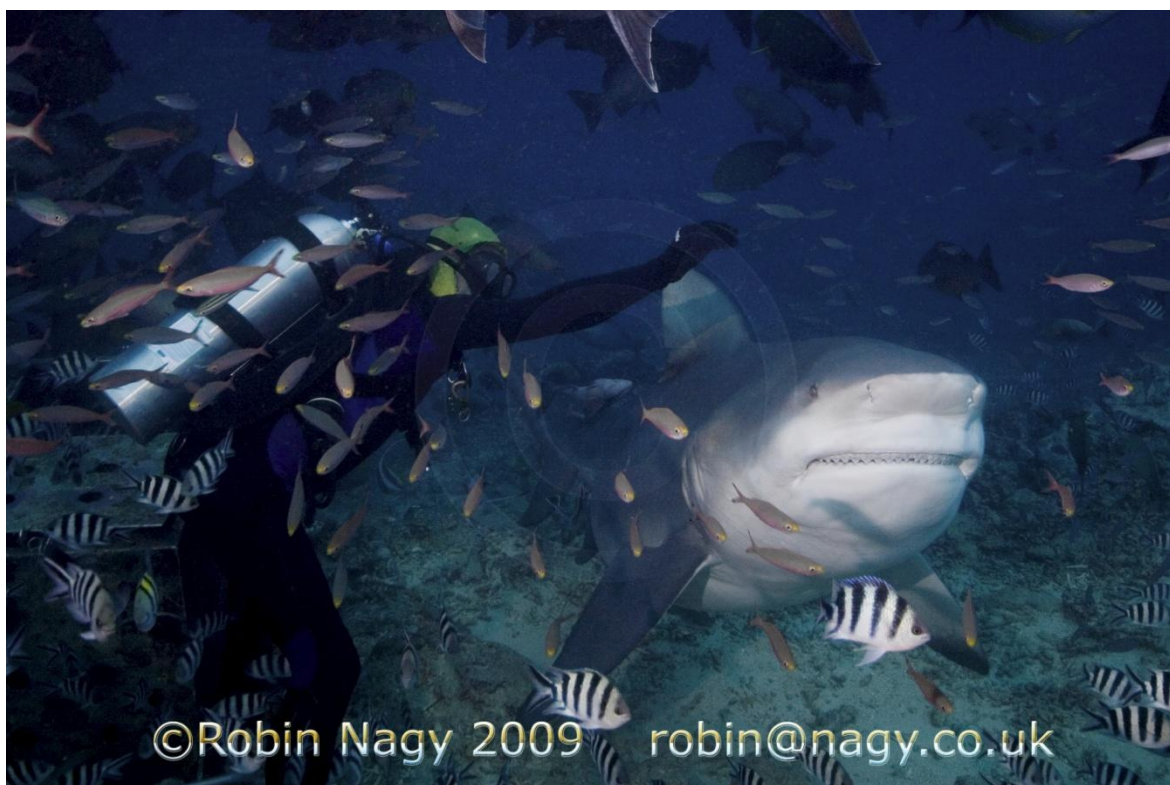


Dear All

Well, it is mid-winter in Sydney and the sun is shining – still beautifully warm and Rich and I are getting pretty reasonable at surfing (well, we can stand up for 10 seconds or so and take an unbroken wave in). In fact, it is still very warm if you have a wetsuit on and yesterday we were in the water for 2 hours.

We have just returned from an 8 day trip to Fiji. This was no ordinary trip! We were there for the sole purpose of shark diving and we were not disappointed! At Shark Reef in the Beqa Channel, they feed 8 species of shark including Bull sharks and Tiger sharks. We had all our diving paid for in return for the company being able to use my photographs for publicity purposes. So my photography effectively earned us \$1,200 in diving costs. We only saw 6 species of shark, but we saw them in enormous numbers. On any one dive there were 40 to 50 bull sharks (some of them absolutely huge at 3.5 metres and as round as a barrel), as well as perhaps upwards of 60 reef sharks. We saw whitetip reef, blacktip reef, grey reef, bull, tawny nurse and lemon sharks but unfortunately no tiger.



If you would like to see some of my photos, please click on the links below to my flash galleries and **give them at least 3 minutes to load** – music should start when it has loaded. Try clicking on the background and dragging the mouse. Try clicking on individual photos. Try moving over the photos for captions. There are hidden buttons at the top right and a hidden scroll bar on the bottom.

<http://www.nagy.co.uk/Fiji/FijiSharks1.swf>

<http://www.nagy.co.uk/Fiji/FijiSharks2.swf>

The shark feed is actually extremely safe and environmentally sound – they have been doing it 4 times a week for 10 years without an incident and the local village has agreed not to fish in the area in return for a levy which goes towards projects in the village and education of their children. In fact, all the local dive guides and feeders are also empowered by the Fijian government to act as wardens and have stopped several long-line boats from pulling out all the sharks. It is a pristine reef environment with an incredibly healthy population of sharks as well as a myriad of other fish. We are hoping to write several magazine articles about this place.

Rich has started his new job teaching Legal Studies at the University of New South Wales Global division and seems to be enjoying it at the moment!

We will be coming back to the UK in late September/ early October and hope to see many of you then.

Lots of love

Robin and Richard