



BOARD SPORT: Geelong has set the record for underwater ironing with 43 divers setting a world mark on Sunday.

Water record for Geelong

JAY CLARK

GEELONG is the unofficial underwater ironing capital of the world.

Just ask the 43 enthusiasts who set an extreme sporting world record on Sunday for the most number of people ironing underwater during the same dive.

With an iron and crumpled shirt in hand, the (slightly mad) divers launched off St Leonards Pier, waited for the sand to settle and took part in the latest extreme sports craze sweeping the world.

According to Bay City Scuba shop manager Ray Hill the record attempt took six months to organise and was all over in 25 minutes for each group of eight.

It smashed the previous New Zealand record of 15

people and raised more than \$550 for local charity Cottage by the Sea.

But most importantly it was a lot of fun.

"Everybody just loved it," Mr Hill said.

"It's all about getting people in the water, having a good time and raising money for charity.

"And it all went off like clockwork."

The only problem was the poor visibility caused by the recent rain and strong winds, which whipped up the Bay.

But it hasn't deterred Mr Hill from planning another underwater ironing dive sometime next year in the hope of making it an annual event.

And as for holding the world record he said: "I haven't let it get to my head just yet."

"At least we beat the Kiwis."