

GRAFTON MAKOS

c/- 11 William St.,
South Grafton

On the 21st July there was a competition at Woody Head between the Lismore and Grafton Makos Spearfishing clubs. Despite the less-than-perfect conditions, 40 divers competed. The keen rivalry displayed by each club resulted in a narrow win for the Lismore team. The largest fish of the day, a 5lb. 13oz. Sand Flathead, set a new club record. It was speared by Craig Buckles of the Makos club.

We now have the results of the first two quarterly competitions. For the first quarter, Keith Bush was the winner, second Harold Wilson, and third Warren Jackson. For the second quarter the same three people in the three placings only in different order: First Keith Bush, second Warren Jackson, and third Harold Wilson.

For the South Grafton Scouts the Makos club organised a film night which was held at the Scout Hall. A safety talk was given by our safety officer, Wayne Austen, and our president, Harold Wilson, explained the rudiments of spearing to the boys and demonstrated the different types of skindiving equipment on the market. The following Sunday an outing was arranged to introduce the Scouts to the practical side of skindiving. They acquitted themselves very well, in fact several out-scored their instructors, and if their enthusiasm will continue, only good could accrue to any club with members of their calibre.

On 21st September a party of Makos journeyed to South Solitary Island. The sea was calm and visibility 50ft. There were great schools of Kingfish sighted, but these fish were much easier to shoot than to land. Harold Wilson speared one which weighed in the vicinity of 60lb. However, it put up a very good fight and managed to free itself before it could be landed. There were other species besides Kingfish: Bob Davis and Warren Jackson between them landed several Black Cod, the smallest of which was 10lb. Three Hammerhead Sharks were also sighted but disappeared before anyone could get close enough to spear them.

On Sunday, 8th September, our competition was held at Emerald Beach. The scarcity of fish, combined with deteriorating conditions in the afternoon, made the competition a failure. Nevertheless some good fish were caught. Bob Davis set a club record when he landed a 3lb. 12oz. Leatherjacket and Grahme Carr speared another Rock Blackfish. It is almost uncanny the way in which Grahme can consistently spear fish in an area declared by fellow club members to be absolutely devoid of all marine life save shellfish.

We are looking forward to the return competition with Lismore club to be held at Evans' Head at the end



● Denis Robinson (South Pacific Divers) filming over the "Birchgrove Pack" (a Tom Byron pix).

of this month and hope to be able to report more satisfactory results for our club.

ASST. PUBLICITY OFFICER

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS

75 Chesterfield Rd.,
Epping

Well, spring is with us and at this time a man's thoughts turn to . . . DIVING, of course! Over the last month we have had clear water and smooth seas.

First dive to Stoney with the sea as flat as glass: "Old" Uncle Tom found over two dozen Port Jacksons in an area 20ft. square. Second dive to Terrigal: clear water with the seas a bit rough. A big four-wheel trailer was found some 100yds. out in 70ft. of water. Heaven knows how it got there. A large cove was found and once inside it was as clear as crystal, very reminiscent of Piccaninny. An old wreck was also found. I won't mention the six-hour drive from Gosford to Hornsby.

Ice dive to Diggers Creek, with five members attending: Dives made under the ice by our fearless leaders Lindsay and Denis. A great but B — cold dive, you really needed a welder with you! Denis shot a film to be shown on ATN 7.

Diggers Creek is filling up so the hut will soon be drowned. So next year the motels will be blessed with our company.

September Club Meeting: Lengthy discussion on the proposed introduction of a Divers' Log Book, a good idea if it can be recognised in all countries.

Sections of The Silent World shown by Barry Lines (complete with ski cigarette ad.). Thanks very much Barry, it was tremendous.

Future Dives: First dive to Bombo to the wreck there and possibly on to Storm Bay and a jump in the Blow-hole.

A night dive to Ship Rock will be held.

The October long weekend saw most of us at Montague.

Not much else to report this month, everyone seems to be behaving themselves. How about you Lindsay, you haven't been up to anything scandalous lately?

Like to see any new members or visitors at the club meetings, third Monday of the month, at Kingsgrove RSL.

All correspondence to the Secretary, Alan Moule, 30 Wolli Street, Kingsgrove, 2208. (Phone 50-4859.)

DES HENNESSY,
"Pub" Officer