

March, 1973.

Volume

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS

P.O. Sox:256 Eingescove, 2208

Moerings: 3rd Honday of each conth, at 7.45 p.s. sharp.

Maberfield Rowling Club

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Please sign in.

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Mr. Bob Smith, 116 Alice Street

President:

Sons Souci. 2291. 529-9699

Mr. Michael Callachor, 64 Murralong Ave.

Secretary:

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SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS NEWSLETTER

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Riverwood. 2210, 53-5368

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Social

Mr. J.m Moore, 12 Colvin Avenue, 2208.

Public

Volume 2.

No.1

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Kingsgrove. 2208

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Haberfield Rowing Club

Dobroyd Parade

Haberfield. 797-9523.

Please sign in.

COMMITTEE

President: Mr. Bob Smith, 116 Alice Street
Sans Souci, 2291, 529-9699

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Secretary: Mr. Michael Callachor, 44 Murralong Ave.

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Secretary: Riverwood. 2210. 53-5368

Editor: Mr. Terry Boyce, 16/3 Devitt Place

Hillsdale. 2036. 661-0539.

Social Mrs. Brenda Taylor.

Secretary:

Public Mr. J'm Moore, 12 Colvin Avenue,

Relations: Kingsgrove. 2208.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

DONT'T BE BACKWARD IN COMING FORWARD AT THESE ACTIVITIES. THESE ACTIVITIES ARE FOR YOUR BENEFIT AND ALL OTHER MEMBERS.

BE COMMITTED - NOT OMMITTED.

Sunday Dive and Treasure Hunt at Bass Point.

11/3/73. Meeting 9.00 a.m. at Bass Point.

Monday Club Meeting at 7.45 p.m. sharp.

19/3/73. Club closes at 10.00 p.m. Bring your cheque book/money with you for Easter trawler dive.

Sunday Boat Harbour or Tabbagi. Meet at entrace 25/3/73. to Boat Harbour Road. Time to be arranged.

Sunday Bare Island or Yarra Bay, Meet at Bare

8/4/73. Island. Time to be arranged.

Monday Club Meeting at 7.45 p.m. sharp.

16/4/73. Club closes at 10.00 p.m.

Easter

Fri. & Sat. Trawler dive from Bermagui to Montague Island.

20 & 21/4. (Money to be paid at March meeting).

Sun. & Mon. 22 & 23/4. Dives back at Jervis Bay.

Sunday

6/5/73.

Dive at Kiama Blowhole.

Meeting at Blowhole.

Time to be arranged.

Monday Club Meeting at 7.45 p.m. sharp.

21/5/73 Club closes at 10.00 p.m.

CAIRNS AND BACK

On the 18th of August we left Sydney with two boats and nine crew members, destination Mission Beach, 90 miles south of Cairns.

We drove all day and night reaching Shute Harbour, Proserpine, 36 hours after departure, to say we were wrecked is an understatement. The following day we launched the boats all prepared for a day at Day Dream Island. However the fitting on Peter Burr's ride-guide steering, sheared off delaying us for a couple of hours.

The diving instructor on Day Dream told us of a place to dive, so we promptly took his advice and hit the water. Viso down to 15 ft. and a very strong current running, no photos were taken but we enjoyed the swim.

Next day after minor welding repairs to the trailers, we drove non-stop to Mission Beach just in from Tully. Pitched camp and hit the sack, next morning we awoke to a 25 knot south-easter. For three days the wind blew restricting us to Dunk Island, and other islands close inshore. Salvaged a 20 horse Evinrude but found it beyond recall.

So not wishing to lose any further diving time we headed for Gladstone, 800 miles south. Didn't bother resting for the seas were quite good with only a 5 knot nor-easter blowing. A couple of hours later we sited Masthead Island, which wasn't a bad effort seeing our compass was R.S. We threw everything on the beach and headed out for a dive. Hit the drink and were greeted with 100 ft. viso, multitude of fish and large bombies scattered around the bottom. Due to the lack of food we were able to bring out with us, it was necessary to spear fish. Within an hour we had more than enough Coral Trout and half a dozen painted and reef crays. Heading back to the island we discovered it was almost dead low tide, which due to our excitement we had overlooked. So with the prospect of a quarter of a mile

walk back to the island we moored the boats outside the reef line, this was done with the company of a small Bronze Whaler who took an avid interest in the proceedings.

The sun had almost set before we had cleaned the fish and settled in for the night. About midnight we heard on the radio a 30 knot sou-easterly was headed our way. This put the boats right on the windward side of the island which made us none too happy. Awakening at dawn we heard it had died out, so had a quick breakfast and we started the tedious walk back to the boats. Starting the hooker we hit the water with perfect viso but a strong current which made photos difficult. One bombie was full of fish and crays so we took some grouse shots, after which I returned and relieved the bombie of its crays. The other boat, with my father, brother and sister aboard took off for the island late in the afternoon, being too interested in diving we took no further notice.

An hour or so later they came back to inform us that a fire (as a result of a camp fire not being completely extinguished) had burnt the camp out. Nothing of great value was lost other than sleeping bags, clothes, a radio, film, flash bulbs etc.

Most of the valuable gear was either with us on on the mainland. This action influenced us to leave a day early, we arrived at Gladstone just on nightfall. Before leaving we boiled up the crays and cooked some Barramundi, after this we drove to Coffs Harbour (friends there). After an hour stoppage, we pushed on to Sydney to arrive slightly knocked up from the drive.

With the trouble we had we still managed to have one of the greatest holidays ever. From this trip we have learnt a lot which otherwise would have been impossible without the practical experience of going. This has only made us keener and already we have planned our next trip there next year with perhaps a little more knowledge to get us over the rough spots.

SOCIAL SCENE

Saturday 31st March.

Barbeque - booze - bed - bird and flu night !!

S.P.D.'s first open air theatre night featuring a recent colour full length movie.

From 6.00 p.m. starting with a barbeque (to be supplied). Bring your own booze, air bed (or easy chair) and bird.

\$2.00 per head or \$3.00 per double.

Place: 116 Alice Street, Sans Souci. (Both Smith's residence).

S.P.D.'s first wine bottling.

Date and place to be advised at March meeting, so save your empty bottles.

Congratulations

to Lyne and Dirk on their recent engagement.

to Club Member Michael Burns on his recent successful showing of his film "Liquid Space" at the Australian Underwater Film Festival at Sydney University.

Photo Competition

Members are invited to submit slides for an inter-club photo competition at the April meeting for judging by the May meeting. Entries 50 cents with slides (to cover trophy costs). Novice and open section will be judged.

Roselands

The Committee wish to thank all those who participated in a very successful exhibition at Roselands. From a Club point of view the exhibition has not been a success, as yet we have not achieved any new members.

Christmas Sail About.

70 people set sail on Sydney Harbour on the good ship "Derwent Hunter". After a guiet sail around the southerly buster hit and nearly sent everyone in the sea in their best 'clobber'. Chicken went everywhere. Alas, the Derwent Hunter was docked after two unsuccessful attempts.

Australian Film Festival

The festival was attended by a few club members who found it lacking.