



MINUTES OF MEETING

of South Pacific Divers Held 16.6.86 at Bankstown Sports Club

Meeting opened at 8.15 by President, John Blaszcak.

As we had a late start and as we had a few slides and a movie to be shown after the meeting as well as the George Roberts Trophy awards to get through, the President decided to speed things up a bit.

Visitors were welcomed and apologies were received from Peter Stratford, Peter Jermyn, Bruce Meyer, Todd Gilding and Carl Kreiter.

New members this month are Charlie Johnson, Dave Bailey???, Mark Hartley and John Vandstand.

The President asked if members will accept the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in "Wet Rag". Accepted Martin Kandilas, seconded Larry King.

Correspondence:	Incoming:	Brisbane Water Aqualung Club. Shoalhaven City Council Bankstown Sports Club
	Outgoing:	Letter to judges. Ketch International Peter Fields.

Treasurer's Report

Balance B/F in cheque a/c	\$ 1,202.28
Incoming	\$ 3,378.12
Expenditure	\$ 1,429.95
Balance in chq. a/c as at 16.6.86	\$ 3,150.45
Balance in fixed term deposit	\$ 3,000.00
Total funds	<u>\$ 6,150.45</u> =====

Accepted by Rick Latimer, seconded by Gary Roberts.

Dive Officer's Report

Seal Rocks weekend all organized and we now have an S.P.D. banner to display at all our dive and social gatherings.

Dive Reports

Lynn and Brenda dived Kurnell. Silty near edge then had 30 to 40 ft. further out. Water cold. Brenda had lots of fun with some weedy sea dragons. Then dived Shiprock at high tide. 30ft viz on top but like pea soup on bottom with plenty of divers from a school stirring it up. Very cold.

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Robert dived the Dunbar with Terry and B.J. Found a penny - plenty of nails and generally had a good scrumage. Then dived the "Centurian" - called it a bucket of bolts.

Chuck, Gary and co. dived the Valiant with 30 ft. viz.

Mark dived the Birchy. Viz so bad that he hit the wreck before he saw it. Remembers most of the dive so he was definitely not narked.

J.B. weekend. As Peter was in hospital Gary borrowed his boat and Fab took his. Good turn up with 12 to 14 divers. Dived Bowen for the three dives because of bad weather outside.

Martin dived the "Calooli" at Long Reef. Good for macro photography with plenty of jewel anenomes. Depth 120 to 160 ft. with 60 ft. viz on wreck.

Social Report

Macarthur Estate Bush Dance - names needed now. See Rhonda after meeting. If not enough names we will have to arrange somewhere else to go.

Publicity Officer

Cindy needs more articles. Terry congratulated Cindy on the crossword but said it was too easy.

Photographic Officer's Report

Terry asked member's if he could spend \$360 to hire an A.V. for the presentation night. Passed and accepted by all present.

General

It was decided to purchase 100 S.P.D. cloth badges @ \$2.15 ea.

Meeting closed and the George Robert's trophies were awarded. Martin Kandilas won the open and Neil Vincent the Novice.

Mark Spencer showed slides from his New Zealand trip and a film on the seals around an oil rig was also shown.

ATTENTION: Hon. Dive Organiser

Dear Mr. Roberts,

I am writing to you in total desperation, my problem being that I suffer greatly from bad breath and find it extremely hard to find a dive buddy.

Joining your club, with the intention of attending all your organised dives seemed to me a good solution.

Unfortunately, some of your members got wind of both my breath and intentions and have used devious methods to prevent my attendance. Such as:

Bristol Point: I was told it was a "Bent weekend C-A-M-Ping for those with pistol points"

J.B.: again I was mis-informed that 'JB' meant a "Just Beer" weekend

Bass Point: As I didn't have a mother, I couldn't play in the gutter

Seal Rocks: I was all packed ready to go for this weekend, but alas, at the last minute someone told me that the weekend was cancelled because "I wouldn't be able to Equalise during the Equinox". Research by myself since has disproved this theory.

Once again I heard that your dive was an outstanding success for those 35 odd divers, who could "equalise" without problems. Despite the fishermen not letting you launch your boats on their beach and the seas preventing you diving the "sharks" (bet Chuck was happy) and the "Satana", most had good dives except for Bob and Doug who could only find sand to dive on; Ross who surfaced that far away from his boat, he had to hitch a ride home; Martin who didn't get to use his crowbars and things; and Mark who didn't get to use his powerhead.

Your members don't seem to realise the help I could have given them on the weekend if I had been allowed to attend.

For instance, I could have:

- . helped out at Bruce's Breakfast Bar making the six gallons of porridge each morning;
- . I would have eagerly assisted the young man, who tried to deliver his oats to three different ladies (without success) on Sunday morning;
- . lent my spare mask to the young lady who lost hers out of the duckie, before she even dived;
- . fixed the outboards on Bob's, Tony's and Gary's (Suzukis again) boats;
- . I definately would not have spent an hour in the shower, wasting water, like one bloke did!
- . likewise I'm positive that no one would have kissed me passionately on the beach like some bloke did with Tony;
- . at the Club on Saturday night, I would not have taken photos of the girls sitting opposite (from under the table, not me, I don't even own a camera);
- . and as I daren't even open my mouth in public, I would not have been abused for telling bad jokes in mixed company;
- . if Chuck is so strong, that he can pose with a stinking, decaying wobby in his mouth, why can't he dive with me?

cont./.....

It's getting to the point where I think even the oysters would leap out of the water if I went diving. I am now, at the directions of my dive doctor, taking a course of "Odour Eaters" instead of "Sudafed" before diving. This seems to be working, as the tide does not go out as fast as it did before when I get in the water.

I would be eternally, even forever, in your debt if you could somehow convince your members to let me go on your next dive. I remain,
Yours in diving (hopefully),

B. O'Breath.

P.S. I still have a father so I should be right to dive September.

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Thanks to everyone who was able to attend the weekend at Seal Rocks. Such a great team effort ensured a great time for all of us.

A special thanks to all the boat owners who made sure everyone had transportation to their respective dive spots and to the 4WD owners, the Manlys and the Vincents, who made the dives possible.

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 - S.P.D. CAR RALLY / SAUSAGE SIZZLE & FAMILY DAY

A good day to get together with friends and family. **CAR PARK**
We depart from Bankstown Sports Club (Greenfield Pde. Bankstown) at 11 a.m. with a Sausage Sizzle at the Finish - for the lucky ones who make it.

A sealed envelope will be given to each Navigator at the start with the final destination enclosed, together with a question sheet. Points will be deducted at the end if the envelope has been opened. Points will be awarded for correct answers to the questions about things throughout the rally.

There will be a Scavenger Hunt with an array of things to find and collect along the way and prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place getters, not forgetting a Boobie Prize.

There is an entry fee of \$2 per car. All cars must have at least 2 people - and for obvious reasons NO SINGLE DRIVERS.

"The Judge's decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into".

S.P.D. will supply the Sausage Sizzle at the finish, all you need bring are your utensils, plates and what you like to drink.

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A True Story - from Martin Kandilas

I must apologise to our efficient Publicity Officer for not contributing to our "Wet Rag" for at least a couple of years.

So for something a little different, I thought a DRIVING, rather than a DIVING experience might be appropriate.

Some twenty years ago, before I took up scuba diving - (yes folks, I am ashamed to admit I was once a non-diver) - I was a keen trout fisherman. My Dad and I used to wander all over South East Australia searching for the elusive freshwater fish.

One such trip found us travelling over the Blue Mountains towards the Ben Chifley dam, near Bathurst. We were accompanied by a quaint old Irishman named Dennis Kennedy. Dennis was what old timers would call a "gun" fisherman - meaning he was always quick to shoot his mouth off about his experiences. Old Dennis was in fact an expert fly fisherman. For the uneducated rabble this does not mean he was a poofter! He made his own lures to look like an insect or fly, tying bits of string, fur, wool etc. onto a hook. There are "dry" flies which float, and "wet" flies which, yes you guessed it - sink!

Dennis could cast one of these tiny trout flies incredible distances. Fly fishing is almost an art form, and to be successful takes many, many hours of practice.

On our way over the Blue Mountains the frame of our small boat trailer split, causing us to nearly lose the boat over an embankment. Luckily the boat was small enough to be lifted off the trailer, so Dad and I drove into Lithgow to get the trailer repaired.

We left the boat and all our fishing gear on the side of the Great Western Highway, with Dennis as the "guard".

Always looking for any excuse, he immediately decided to get in a bit of fly-casting practice.

Imagine the scene. Here we have a 12 ft. boat sitting on the side of a busy highway on a Saturday morning with a funny looking guy wearing a Henry Blake M.A.S.H. hat and holding a fishing rod. Every now and then he casts his line into the bush.....

This sort of behaviour may just catch someone's attention, you may be thinking. When we arrived back there, a couple of hours later we were confronted by a couple of B.J. sized policemen, a priest, 3 nuns and some assorted onlookers.

And there was Dennis - still seated in our boat, waving his arms about and yelling at everyone in a thick Irish accent!

It seems our man was spotted by an Irish Catholic priest (and the nuns) on their way to some convent or monastery. Thinking he had encountered an escapee from the looney-house the dear Father had approached the land fisherman with gentle words of comfort and consolation. Dennis promptly informed the man of the cloth that his colour was orange and not green and to mind his own business! More conversation took place and things became quite heated. Dennis ended up telling his fellow countryman where to get off in no uncertain terms.

cont./.....

Thinking the poor soul drunk, the priest tried to drag Dennis into his car. A struggle ensued, with someone getting a bloody nose. Eventually the nuns were able to calm our two Irish protagonists and they all left Dennis to his own devices. And headed straight to the Police Station!

Meanwhile a truckie had stopped, and yelled out, "Ya gettin' any, mate?" (snicker, snicker). To which Dennis replied, "YES MATE. I'M CATCHIN' PLENTY OF (bleepbleep) TRUCK DRIVERS, LIKE YOU!"

The poor truckie couldn't believe his eyes (or ears) and drove off in stunned silence.

After the police had questioned Dennis at the scene of the crime, he calmed down somewhat and all was explained. He and the priest became pals, and all was forgotten. The two cops quickly dispelled any thoughts of making an arrest when a bottle of fine old Irish whisky was produced.

It was a very cold day, and Dennis quickly obliged. Everyone had a couple of shots to warm them up and we all went on our merry way, the very best of friends. (No breathalyser in those days - if there was, the cops would have failed for sure).

Except the nuns (hence their name) - they got none.

This is a true story. No names have been changed to protect the innocent.

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Friday, July 18:

As you know this is S.P.D.'s Underwater Photographer of the Year Presentation and Audio/Visual night. The doors to the Auditorium will be opened at 7 p.m. for seating and an 8 p.m. start.

Please don't forget your tickets not only for entry, but for your chance to win the door prize. See you there.

Please note that the Nominations for the Committee positions will be held at the July 21 Meeting.

Elections will be at the following Annual General Meeting, on August 18.

President: John Blaszcak
Mansfield

Photographic Officer: Terry

Treasurer: Ross Hipwell
Roberts

Social Secretaries: Miriam

Secretary: Audrey Mansfield
Dive

Rhonda and

Karl Krieter

Organiser: Gary Roberts

Publicity Officer: Cindy Belveal

Correspondence to:

South Pacific Divers Club,
P.O. Box 823,
BANKSTOWN 2200

Any contributions to the Wetrag will be gratefully accepted.
Please forward these to:

Cindy Belveal,
49 Central Rd.,
NARWEE, 2209

FOR HIRE

Have Bus/Mobile Home will travel! Available to venture on diving, snow or any other adventures you imagination can conceive. Further details from Peter Jermyn on 707 3086.

BOAT DIVES are still available at a reasonable price from AQUA SPORTS, 430 Hume Hwy., YAGOODNA. Talk to GLEN PERCY.

S.P.D. would also like to thank Glen for his generous donations of dives for our Club raffles.

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WHERE DO YOU FIT

"Everybody", "Somebody", "Anybody" and "Nobody" were friends. They all went to the S.P.D.C. and were most difficult to understand.

"Everybody" went to the meeting once in a while.

"Somebody" was always late. If the President commented on diving procedure "Somebody" would always be offended.

"Everybody" would talk about "Anybody" occasionally, but it was usually "Nobody's" business!

Sometimes "Somebody" was requested to sell raffle tickets and "Anybody" to help with the supper. "Everybody" was not willing so usually "Nobody" would volunteer.

Once they needed a new Editor - or any Office Bearing Position - so "Everybody" hoped that "Somebody" would accept the position. The President even offered the job to "Anybody", but guess who finally offered to do it that's right "Nobody".

Occasionally a visitor would attend the meeting.

"Everybody" knew that "Somebody" should welcome him.

"Anybody" could have said, 'We are glad to see you', but guess who finally greeted the visitor right again! "Nobody".

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*W. Hedderley
Barry Roche.*

JULY 1986

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	*18 A/V NIGHT	19
20	*21 CLUB MEETING	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

AUGUST 1986

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
*10 CAR RALLY	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	*A.G.M.* *18 CLUB MEETING	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30