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# ESSENTIALS OF DIVING



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MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB  
18.8.86  
=====

Meeting opened at 8.12 p.m. by the President, John Blaszczak.

The President welcomed visitors.

There were no apologies.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted by Martin Foetchl seconded by Rick Latimer.

Treasurer's Report

Balance B/F from cheque a/c	\$ 5011.30
Income	\$ 715.50
Expenditure	\$ 700.05
	<hr/>
Balance in cheque a/c as at 18.8.86	\$ 5026.75
Balance in Term Deposit	\$ 3000.00
	<hr/>
Total funds available	<u>\$ 8026.75</u>

Dive Organiser's Report

Nothing to report as there have been no dives organised.

Dive Reports

B.J. dived Jervis Bay. Cold but clear water.

Social Secretary's Report

Miriam thanked everyone for coming along and all agreed that Gary and Miriam had done a good job laying out the rally and it was enjoyed by all.

General

The President informed members that we have been offered a stand at Oceans which we will put to good use to promote our club.

Oceans has also given us 2 master passes which will be raffled tonight.

Peter Stratford reported that on his last visit to the zoo our sponsorship plaque was not on show.

Rick congratulated the outgoing committee on a job well done throughout the year and John (President) thanked members for their support.

As there was no further general business, elections for the 1986/87 committee were held with Audrey Mansfield acting as returning officer.

The 1986/87 Committee is:

<u>President:</u>	John Blaszczak
<u>Secretary</u>	Lyn Vincent
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Ross Hipwell
<u>Publicity Officer:</u>	Cindy Belveal
<u>Dive Organiser:</u>	Gary Roberts
<u>Social Secretary:</u>	Kelly Smith
<u>Photographic Officer:</u>	Terance Mansfield

Meeting closed at 9.p.m. and a social followed.



## GENERAL INTEREST

\*Club fees are now \$10 single and \$15 a double, due and payable on or before January '87. The membership year will now be from January one year to January of the next.

\*OCEANS '86: September 25, 26, 27 & 28, 1986

\*We would like all the members to know that we have a stand at this year's Oceans Exhibition at Centrepont. Anyone who is able to assist in manning the stand any of these days please speak with someone on the Committee at the next Club meeting on Sept. 15. It should be fun and your help would be greatly appreciated. Any time you can put in will be for the benefit of S.P.D. Club itself and in turn, to its members. Hope you can make it.

\*Terrigal Underwater Group, (PO Box 82, TERRIGAL), is holding its 12th Treasure Hunt on November 28, 29 & 30. "Beach Boys Back to the '60's" BBQ beach party on the Friday night; Treasure Hunt on the Saturday - Registration beginning at 10am - the Treasure Hunt at 12 noon. Saturday evening will be the prize presentation with smorgasbord and disco. Prior to the Treasure Hunt there will be boat dives and more local diving on the Sunday. Camping is available. Further enquiries please phone Les or Fran Graham (043) 84-1219 during business hours or Lynne Logan (043) 42-1698.

\*As an early reminder S.P.D.'s Christmas Party has been booked in the Function Room at Bankstown Sports Club for December 5. Make a note in your diary not to miss it.

\*For boat dives a little closer to home you can contact Glen Percy at AQUA SPORT SCUBA DIVING CENTRE, 430 Hume Highway YAGOONA. 708-2826

\*A note of thanks to the Members of South Pacific Divers and their families who visited me in hospital, as it made the time there a bit more bearable. Thankfully yours, Peter Stratford.

\*With reference to next year's Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Photographic Competition the opening date will be 1st March, 1987 and closing date 1st May, 1987 - please note that this closing date has been brought forward by one month.

\*The following two pages are copies of articles printed in last month's "IN DEPTH" magazine about July's Audio/Visual night; one explaining how the night's judging was run, the other a short history of the Competition itself written by Audrey Mansfield.

\*Please send or give any articles, advertisements or common interest contributions you would like in the newsletter to Cindy Belveal, 49 Central Road, NARWEE. 2209





DIVER'S PERIODICAL

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# South Pacific Awards

The Annual South Pacific Australasian Photographer of the Year Award was held on Friday, 18th July at the Bankstown Sportsman's Club.

More than 800 people attended what turned out to be an entertaining night.

Kim Cohen won the title of the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the year and his prizes were handed over by none other than Ron Taylor who was also a judge at the event.

Visuals by Lyn and Pat Manly, Ron Taylor and Mark Spence were also presented.

The South Pacific Divers' Club has been in operation more than 25 years and the last 5 years have seen some pretty spectacular entries being shown in the annual photographic competition nights.

Each year, sponsors have given away incredible prizes such as overseas trips, diving equipment and photographic accessories.

The great prizes tend to lure the majority of the underwater photographers to the contest and as the years have rolled by, the competition has got better and the standard of entries has improved.

This year, Bob Baldwin of B.B. Diving Services has set a precedent in the competition by announcing two new categories with the prizes being 2 complete sets of diving equipment.

One is for the most promising entrant under



Kim Cohen — 1st Open (Photographer of the Year)

the age of 18, and the other is the most encouraging slide by a novice.

Bob believes in the young and up and coming photographers and hopes that these prizes will encourage them to participate.

## The Judging

Apart from the enormous response this competition generated it has one important difference from most other photographic competitions.

Entrants must submit five slides, and prizes are awarded to the highest overall scores for each set of slides. If you submit one or two stunning slides, and a couple of only average quality there is almost no chance of winning against an entrant who submits five good quality slides.

In this way the competition is designed to select winners who constantly achieve a high standard of photography, instead of entrants with 1 or 2 'lucky' shots.

the Bankstown Sports Club function room. Only 8 people were present. The Judges, Ron Taylor, Pat Manly and Martin Coleman, John, Terry and Audrey Mansfield of South Pacific Divers, and counting the scores Carol Taylor (Wilderness Sea 'n Ski) and Jacqui Purse (In Depth).

The morning started with one quick run through all 430 slides to give the judges an idea of the overall quality. The Novice section is shown first, and each set of slides is screened strictly in the order in which they were received.

Each entrant's set of 5 slides is then scored twice, once through quickly, and again slowly for judging.

With each judge awarding a score out of 10 for each slide, it makes 150 the maximum possible score for any entrant.

The second round of judging included the eight highest entries in each category, with much more attention to whether the entrant complied with all rules and conditions of entry.

It was interesting to note that Robert Mansfield who eventually won the Novice Section was actually judged 3 times — once in the 1st round, then in the Novice finals where his score was high enough to be included in the judging of the Open Section finals.

The entire judging process was very professionally and confidentially arranged as all entries were

referred to by number — names were never mentioned. Having been there I find it hard to imagine how anyone could influence the results, even if they had wanted to. The judges never saw the totals until the winners had been decided, each total was checked twice, and the scorekeepers were too busy most of the time to even watch which slides were scoring the highest.



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THE HISTORY OF THE AUSTRALASIAN UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHER  
OF THE YEAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION  
=====

From the earliest days, the primary interest in the South Pacific Divers Club has been photography. With many early S.P.D. members being pioneers in the underwater photography field, competition in the club has always been spirited. This was so until about 6 years ago when a group of members felt that more competition from other clubs (and individuals) would improve their own standards as well as others. They decided to show their work for all to see, in an effort to generate more interest in underwater photography. Generate interest it did. In February, 1980, the club held an audio visual spectacular at Revesby Workers Club and to the amazement of all, nearly 400 people crammed in and we had to turn more away at the door. Those who were present will remember the occasion as heralding a revival in underwater photography as not only a collection of slides, but also as an art form by means of an audio visual presentation.

After this early success, we were confident that there was a real need for interclub competition and so launched the N.S.W. Underwater Photographer of the Year in July, 1981. Again we were overwhelmed by the response with over 650 people packed into the Bankstown Sports Club to see five audio visuals produced by Bob Smith and Tim Long. The production included almost 2000 slides which represented many hours of work from the photographers involved. The standard achieved was a credit to the skill these divers had developed.

The title was changed to "Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year in 1982. That year the format was somewhat different. A variety of films, including Ron Taylor's latest "The Wreck of the Yongala" together with updated audio-visuals by Bob Smith and Tim Long were shown. Presentation of awards were made by Ron Taylor and Neville Coleman, both of whom also judged the competition. Valerie Taylor was also our guest for the evening with Mr. Pat Manly taking out the title of "Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year" winning a diving trip to Vanuatu.

Our 1983 Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year was Bob Halstead, 1984 - Gert De Couet, and in 1985, Pat Manly again took out the coveted award.

As you can see, the expertise and enthusiasm for this competition and presentation has always stemmed from South Pacific Club members spurred on by their interest in underwater photography and their willingness to compete with other divers in this field. As a dive club, completely unaffiliated with any other dive body or organisation and with limited funding, we take pride in the organisation and presentation of our underwater photographic competition. The judges donate their time graciously and our sponsors, some of whom have been with us from the beginning, get more generous every year enabling us to offer the great prizes our winners receive.

As we gain experience, our efforts will not remain unrewarded and we thank the entrants for their willingness to compete in our competition from which we trust all will gain the experience to constantly better ourselves in the demanding field of underwater photography.

Audrey Mansfield  
SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS



# Lord Howe Island

"THE CORAL REEFS AROUND LORD HOWE ISLAND ARE LIKE AN OASIS IN THE DESERT; ABOUNDING IN SCHOOLS OF PELAGIC FISHES AND SHARKS, LUSH GROWTHS OF SOFT CORALS AND BLACK CORALS ON OFFSHORE PINNACLES, RARE ANGEL FISH, BRILLIANT COLOURED NUDIBRANCHS, TAME FISH YOU CAN HAND FEED, CORAL GROTTOES AND CAVES, PLUS THE EXQUISITE BEAUTY OF THE ISLAND ITSELF." Lyn & Pat Manly, 1986.

1987 DIVE PACKAGE HOLIDAYS TO LORD HOWE ISLAND in conjunction with SeaLife International.

We will be at Lord Howe Island from 22.2.87 to 15.3.87 to show visiting scuba divers some of the wonders of this island paradise. It is an underwater photographers dream. Overnight E-6 Processing will be available: slide critique sessions. Bushwalking, bird photography, windsurfing, canoeing, fishing; day trip down to Balls Pyramid to dive amidst schools of large pelagic fish and sharks.

**\*\*\*\* GROUP ONE \*\*\*\* 22.2 - 8.3.87**

15 days/14 nights/airfare/accomm/tnsfrs/18 dives	\$1428
" " " " " 12 dives	\$1278

**\*\*\*\* GROUP 2 \*\*\*\* 1.3 - 15.3.87**

15 days/14 nights/airfare/accomm/tnsfrs/18 dives	\$1374
" " " " " 12 dives	\$1224

10 and 7 day dive packages are also available.

Not included: meals (accommodation is in self-contained units), bicycle hire

USEFUL INFORMATION

- . Jeff Deacon - Divemaster Services
- . Lyn & Pat Manly - Photographic Services
- . Dive Boat: 23ft STarboat, carries 9 divers.
- . Maximum time to dive site: 15 minutes.
- . Baggage Allowance 15 kgs: dive gear airfreighted 1 week prior.
- . Accommodation at Leanda Lei - 3 minutes walk to the lagoon:
  - all linen supplied incl. towels. Courtyard BBQ, large recreation room, fully equipped kitchens in each room; plus private bathroom facilities.
- . Bicycle hire: \$1.50 per day
- . Shops: 4 general stores, 1 boutique.
- . Movies: twice a week
- . Restaurants: about a dozen - all excellent and reasonably priced.

If you would like to join us - ring us on 728 6808



SEPTEMBER 1986

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	*15 CLUB MEETING	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	*25 O C E A N S =====	*26	*27 '86
*28 OCEANS CONT.	29	30				

\* \* \* \* \*

OCTOBER 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
19	*20 CLUB MEETING	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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