

**SOUTH PACIFIC
DIVERS
CLUB**



WET RAG

MAY

1992

**MINUTES OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB MEETING
HELD ON 4th MAY 1992
at BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB**

APOLOGIES: Ilona Kandilas, Karin Smith, Andy Galloway Sue and Peter O'Grady

VISITORS: Colin Apps and Family from Wagga;
Alan Stewart from St Johns First Aid; Peter Dark;
Brendan Halliburton; John Fowden.

Minutes from Last Meeting:

Read.

Accepted by Max Western

Seconded by Arthur Brown

Business arising from Minutes:

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

UnderWater Research Group "URG Bulletin", and Ryde Underwater Club "Surface Interval".

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

None

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICERS REPORT:

All major sponsors confirmed for AV night.

AV entry forms available. Entries open 30th March 1992, close 25th May 1992.

Tickets are in the process of being printed by Flav.

Ticket Sales will be handled by Graham Wakeling (Phone 603-4224)

Please indicate your ticket requirements at the next club meeting (3.5.92). The cost will be the same as last year \$18.00 per ticket. The date is the 25th July 1992 at Revesby Workers Club.

Seven judges have been confirmed for the slide competition and 2 judges for the video category. Two judges from each section still to be confirmed.

Volunteers will be required on the night, please see Martin. (see Committee member contact information).

Scuba Diver magazine has organised a stand at SCUBA EXPO, to be held at Darling Harbour 15-16th July. Ticket sales for the AV night will be available, along with club membership forms and displays of past photographic winners of the AV. Perhaps a video will be available. Help is required, please see Martin.

A photographic course will be conducted by Micheal Cufer, to be held at Peter Jermyn's place (6/60 Olive street, Condell Park 2200; Phone 708-2309) Contact Peter or Micheal if interested. Dates are Sundays 14th and 21st June at 9.30am.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT:

A restaurant night will be arranged on the 18th June at the Indonesian Restaurant at Bankstown, A set menu is available, approximate costs around \$15 per head. Please let George know if you are interested. (see Committee member contact information)

The wine tasting night at Rick's place was a success. Many thanks to Ann and Rick Latimer for their efforts and offering their place for the night.

DIVE ORGANISER'S REPORT:

Upcoming club dives are the Tuggarah (17.5.92) and Thompson Bay (24.5.92) If you have some suggestions for dives or wish to dive a particular site see Arthur Brown. (Details under Committee member contact information)

See Social Calender for more details.

DIVE REPORTS:

Max Western and Arthur Brown dived the Satara (40m) and the Shark gutters at Seal Rocks last Monday, through Chris Norman at Nelsons Bay. It was a 70 minute run out to the site. It was a good day with great weather, the viability on the Satara was 70-80ft. About 8 - 12 Grey Nurse sharks were in the gutters, with 50 - 560 ft vis at 12m. On the Tuesday, they dived the McClay, also at Nelsons Bay, with a depth of 42m with only 12ft vis. Summed up as deep, dark and dirty. The dive operation was good value, the three dives cost \$80.

Paul and Michelle Breadner dived in Western Aust. The dive operators refused to go out in a 1.5 metre swell. They did a shore dive at Rottnest Island, which was very colourful with lots of fish life.

Fab dived at Foster for 4 days. Two days were spent on the Pinnacles. The diving was good 70 ft visibility and depths of 24 - 40 metres. The shore diving wasn't so good with poor visibility and a lot of weed.

Congratulations to Micheal Latimer, who is now a certified diver. Micheal and Rick dived JB. On the four days they dived; Bowen Island with 50ft vis at 120ft depth, the reef was colourful, with a large grouper in attendance. The next day they dived the other side of Bowen, the third day, the docks with 30-40ft vis and 60ft depth. The fourth day was spent at the Cabins, Hymes Beach.

Micheal McFadyen dived the Poor Knights in New Zealand (showed slides). He also had a great dive on the Pinnacles at Foster with sharks and lionfish.

Sheck Exley, one of the world's most experienced cave diver, along with Andrew and Liz Wright will describe their experiences, accompanied by slides and video footage.

VENUE: Five Dock RSL Club
66 Great North Rd
Five Dock
From 7.00pm.
Contact Richard Taylor for tickets if interested (Phone 693 95 10)

MEETING CLOSED 9.30 p.m.

NEW MEMBERS.

Welcome to Ida Morena, Leo Bergagnin and John Fowden.

RAFFLE.

Bottle of Port was won by Paul and Michelle Breadner (AGAIN)

SLIDES were shown after the formal meeting by

Rick Latimer - Wilsons Prom. Vic
Micheal McFadyen - Poor Knights NZ
Martin - Previous AV Slides

Thank You

FIRST AID COURSE FOR DIVERS

Alan Stewart (Senior Training Officer - St John Ambulance).

Alan gave a talk on the details of this course.

PRE-REQUISITE: Senior First Aid Course (Valid for 36 months)
(Peter Jermyn has offered to conduct this course if sufficient people are interested.)

COST: \$160

VENUE: Prefer to run it at their headquarters in Surrey Hills

COURSE CONTENT:

This is a participant orientated course with team demonstration and practice. Topic such as Hypothermia and clinical aspects of bites and stings will be covered. A better

Rick Latimer dived the wrecks, Cambridge and Gulf of Carpentaria at Wilsons Prom. Victoria. The Cambridge was a 11 000 ton ship sunk in 1940. The site of the wreck is exposed to the weather conditions, so on the second day they dived the Gulf of Carpentaria. The growth on the wreck was similar to Stoney Creek (JB). Rick recommended it as one of the best wrecks he had dived. Pity the dive operators weren't very satisfactory.

Martin and Rick dived the Undola with friends from Canada. The conditions were very rough, making the visitors sea sick. They loved the dive however, saying it was very warm compared to their usual 2°C temperatures.

Lynn Keller has finally made it back home from travels in Africa for 6 months. She dived in the Red Sea on the live aboard chartered boat "Lady Jenny V".

DIVE COURSES:

Next dive course is the Deep Diver course.

Details are:- Theory night - 23rd June
Weekends 27/28th June and 4/5th July. Other theory nights will be arranged during the course.

Eight people were allocated to do this course, please let Sue know if you can or can't attend, or if you are interested in case there are vacancies available. (see Committee member contact information). Please pay Sue or Karin ASAP!!!!.

GENERAL BUSINESS :

Peter Jermyn mentioned that courses for 4WDing were available at Mittagong. Discount rates can be arranged for groups, See Peter if interested (Committee member contact information).

CONGRATULATIONS TO

MICHAEL AND WENDY CUZER

WHO WERE RECENTLY MARRIED.

They spent their honeymoon on the Solomon Islands staying on a luxury boat. They dived on wrecked Japanese Carriers, on a shore dive. The reef drops off to approximately 200 ft. The "Tao Maru" was nominated as the best wreck, and "Grand Central Station (60-140ft deep) as the best reef dive. The area had more coral and fish than they had seen anywhere.

DIVE NIGHT

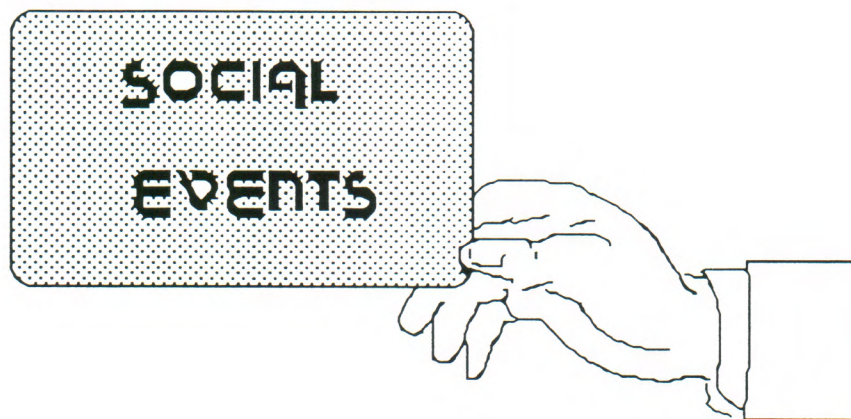
CDAA (Cave Divers Association of Aust) has organised an

"EVENING WITH SHECK EXLEY and the "DEEP PROBE" team"

understanding will be gained of Pulmonary barotrauma, Pneumothorax, Emphysema, D.C.S, Blood loss, shock and Ventilation.

Examination will be by theory (multiple choice) and a practical exam.
The course takes a total of 16 hours to complete and limited to 16 divers.

Please contact Peter Jermyn if interested.



DIVES and SOCIAL

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
17 May	<u>Club Boat Dive</u> - Tuggarah Wreck 140ft Meet 8.00am Water St Ramp.	Arthur Brown Committee
18 May	<u>Club Meeting</u> - Bankstown Sports Club	
24 May	<u>Club Shore Dive</u> - Thompson Day Shore Dive. Please meet at 9.00am at Clovelly Car Park (Southern End).	Arthur Brown
6 June	<u>CDAA's "Sheck Exley, Andrew and Liz Wright"</u> Five Dock RSL (See Newsletter) 66 Great North Rd Five Dock (7.00pm) Tickets \$12	Richard Taylor 693-9510
7 June	<u>Dive at Terrigal</u> - Shark Gutters Club boats? or Chartered.	Arthur Brown
17 June	<u>Club Dive</u> - Night Dive. Suggestions? Shore/Boat. Site?	Arthur Brown

DIVES and SOCIAL Continued

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT
18 June	<u>Resturant Night</u> - Indonesian	George Nichols Committee
14 June	<u>Photographic Day</u> - Micheal Cufer	Micheal or Peter Jermyn Committee
15 June	<u>Club Meeting</u> - Bankstown Sports Club	
21 June	<u>Photographic Day</u> - Micheal Cufer	Micheal or Peter Jermyn Committee
21 June	<u>Club Dive</u> - Barrons Hut Meet 9.00am Water St Ramp.	Arthur Brown
23 June	<u>Deep Diver Course</u> - Theory Night Venue to be advise Other Theory nights to be arranged.	Sue O'Grady Committee
27/28 June	<u>Deep Diver Course</u> - Dives	Sue O'Grady
4/5 July	<u>Deep Diver Course</u> - Dives	Sue O'Grady
15-17 July	<u>SCUBA EXPO</u> . Darling Harbour South Pacific Divers Club Exhibit	Martin Kandilas Committee
20 July	<u>Club Meeting</u> - Bankstown Sports Club	
25 July	<u>AV NIGHT</u> South Pacific Divers Club presents the Underwater Photographer of the Year Award 1992 Entries (Close 25th May)	Martin Kandilas
	Volunteer Help Ticket Sales \$18/head	Martin Kandilas Graham Wakeling phone 603-4224
8/9 August	<u>Chartered Boat Dive</u> - Terrigal Satara Wreck Dive (135ft) Shark Gutters Accommodation arranged.	Arthur Brown

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT: Peter Jermyn Contact Number: 708 2309 (Home)

TREASURER: Karin Smith Contact Number: 529 3818 (Home)

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER: Martin Kandilas
Contact Number: 726 3570 (Home)

SOCIAL SECRETARY: George Nichols
Contact Number: 502 1564 (Home)
286 4000 (Work)

DIVE ORGANISER: Arthur Brown 588-2808 (Home)

SECRETARY/PUBLICITY OFFICER: Sue O'Grady
Contact Number: 528 4482 (Home)
(Work)

DATES FOR FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

(unless otherwise advised)

Next Meeting 18/5/92
 15/6/92
 20/7/92
 17/8/92
 21/9/92

Club Meetings are held the third Monday of each month at Bankstown Sports Club, Greenfield Pde, Bankstown, at 8.00 pm in the Emile McDonald Function Room. Come early and enjoy a meal at the bistro.

REAL ESTATE

MORNINGTON PENINSULA, VIC.
HOBBY HOME ready for immediate inspection. Exposed, windswept, bat-infested, subterranean limestone cave system. Near shops and station. Access at low tide. Suit introverted couple or prison escapee. \$28,500 o.n.o. **MORRIS ROBINS REALTY** Ph: 728 34321

BELLEVUE HILL **URGENT SALE**
Vendor going overseas. Mediterranean style villa. 6 bdrms. Tennis court. Heated pool. Wall to wall Persian carpets. Tudor furnishings. Fabulous ocean views. Situated on tree studded 4 acre property. \$1,850,000 o.n.o. Vendor expects degree of confidentiality from prospective buyers as owner could prove difficult if he finds out I'm selling his home. Ph. 728 34321. Ask for Morris Robins.

MALABAR **LONG BAY**
EXCELLENT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY.

12 hectare level block incorporating beautifully renovated 19th century boarding house of 11th century design. Massive brick and barbed-wire frontage. Very ornate 24 ft-high sandstone wall encircling property. Armed guards, infra-red security cameras, tracker dogs and 22,000 volt electric fence for added comfort. Very secure. Long term tenants guaranteed. Ph. 728 34321. Ask for Deputy Governor Robins.

IDEAL SUMMER RESIDENCE FOR DWARVES. Recently rust-proofed 44-gallon drum. Only 2 minutes from beach. Painted camouflage green. Air-conditioned. Venetian blinds. Access by ladder. Definitely no pets. Can be converted to incinerator in 10 minutes. \$27 p.w. Ph. 728 34321. Ask for manager, **ROBINS REALTY.**

FOR SALE

TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVEN post-war back copies of pre-Czarist Russian Meat Processors Monthly Gazette. July issue 1952 badly moth-eaten but still retains high re-sale value. As new. \$500 the lot. Ph. 728 34321. Ask for Moritzchov Robinsky.

YOUR LAST CHANCE to purchase genuine, autographed copy of Morris Robin's latest 'death defying' thriller...**A PHILIPPINO HOUSEWIFE'S GUIDE TO PANIC BUYING.** Leather-bound or paperback. Written in easy-to-understand New Guinea dialect. **TEN FREE USED SANITARY FACE CLOTHS WITH EVERY ORDER.** Send \$12.50 cheque or money order to **MORRIS ROBINS LITERARY INVESTMENTS.** PO Box 2, SYDNEY.

WET SUITS Men's casual and business suits. Range from slightly damp to absolutely drenched. Ph. 728 34321. Ask for Morris Robins.

COMBINE HARVESTER. Yellow. 28 tonnes. Fully recon. Ideal wedding anniversary gift. Contact Murray Ph. 601 21433.

SHE'LL LOVE YOU FOREVER!!! After you give her a Jonson & Jonson fixed spool, semi-automatic, steam-driven **GRAIN CRUSHER.** Easy to operate. Fabulous range of colours. Will crush up to 100 tonnes of dry grain per hour. Ph. 797 81342. Ask for Murray's brother.

PRICELESS COLLECTION of used toothbrushes. Over 200 brands. Many still retain original traces of plaque. Dated from 17th century A.D. Must sell to make room for Native Rodents of Borneo collection. Ph. 221 43445. Ask for Thelma.

HELPFUL understanding, uninhibited widower will weep openly for small fee. Group concessions available. Will scream at generous couple if so desired. Contact Nishan on Sydney 349 66614.

URGENT Would anyone knowing the comparative rainfall figures for Budgewoi and Etalong during January-February 1972 please ring Brian Twickstead on (07) 634 91925.

FEW WORDS about recent unsuccessful tour of South East Asian maximum security prisons in exchange for quiet romantic evening at Macdonalds discussing pros and cons of planning Russian style Meat Processing Plant Woy Woy, Tascot districts. Ph. (049) 602 41117. Ask for Mrs. Lonsdale.

FINE ARTS

MAURICE RUBEN ORIGINAL

Impressionistic recreation of post-war back copy of Russian Meat Processors Monthly Gazette. May issue 1949. Set in acrylic/pastel. Unframed. \$10,500 o.n.o. Ph. 728 34321. Ask for M. Ruben.

PETS.

DEAD CATTLE DOG. Costs nothing to keep. Refuses to eat or drink. Lies in same spot all the time. Tends to smell a little in heat of day. \$75 with kennel. Also, badly decomposed wombat for sale. Will accept any offer. Contact Mrs. Robins on Sydney 728 34321.

DO SNAILS FART??? New proof!!! Send \$50 cheque or money order to **MORRIS ROBINS INFORMATION SERVICES LTD.**

GIRAFFE. Adult male. House-trained. Able to terrorise occupants of upstairs flats at moments notice. Attacks low-flying aircraft. Very loveable really but owner can't cope. Ask for Crichton Spaxter-Smith. Ph. (07) 994 83712.

FOR SALE 140 kilos of used kitty litter. Home delivery possible. Contact Morris Robins on 728 34321.

ANYONE possessing or knowing whereabouts of Jonathon Saddler's epic novel... **TERMITES IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT**... please ring Beryl immediately on (03) 929 47474.

PERSONAL

GRAHAEM: HOW DARE YOU tell Pierre that Jeffrey and Kevin are sleeping with Rodney. If Richard or Paul finds out they'll kill you. You're a bitch Grahaem. I hate you! If I slash my wrists over this don't be surprised!!! **JUAN.**

IAN: "What's this that Warren said that I said that he'd said that you said I'd heard that you'd found out that Fliss was right about Gary and I accusing Mick of saying that he'd heard from Jenny that I'd said that Warren told Fiona that he'd said that he'd heard from Skinny that you'd found out that I do **STRANGE THINGS WITH CHOOKS.** **MELVERN.**

FUN-LOVING MALE mid-twenties, well proportioned, seeks chook for fun times. Write to Melvern, PO Box 41, Gosford, S.A.E.

EXTREMELY SHY well mannered, English guy, 28, seeks woman in mid-eighties view companionship, later marriage. Interests include french-knitting, bestiality, and collecting 16th century Swiss egg recipes. Ideal woman would have intimate knowledge of Rose Blake's classic novel...

'BLACK PUDDINGS I HAVE KNOWN'... and would let me sleep with the cat. Ring Ted on Sydney 868 41432.

MOTHERS. This summer, prevent your children from setting fire to Christmas beetles. For further information contact Mrs. Robins. Ph. 728 34321.

LAST CHANCE to sign up for exciting 21 day tour of Tasmanian funeral parlours. Accommodation provided in local cemeteries en route. Ph. 728 34321. Ask for Morris Robins.

IAN: "CAN I HAVE a word with you mate?" **MELVERN.**

MELVERN: "NO!" **IAN.**

EXPERIENCED PLASTERER REQUIRES WORK. Prefer getting plastered in or near city area. All offers considered. Contact Albert at 'Louis at the Loo'.

RACING PIGEONS. Fully recon. Low mileage. 1 owner. Spare parts included on condition R.S.P.C.A. don't find out. Ring Barry on 91 41327.

WISH TO EXCHANGE foul language in return for vicious kick in groin. Ph. 818 34326. Ask for Grant.

WORK WANTED Able to speed read post-war back copies of Russian Meat Processors Monthly Gazette with uncanny accuracy. Wages negotiable. Ring Ray anytime on 389 07089.

FOR SALE. Rare collection of foreign photograph albums. Mainly Russian content. Includes over 200 12" and 8" colour prints of Ukraine based Russian Meat Processing Plant taken during worst blizzard this century. All photos short with Mamiya M645 1000S auto exposure viewfinder using standard 280 mm lens from the range of 3 kilometres. First to see will buy. \$1,800 the lot. Ph. 728 34321. Ask for Moritzchov Robinsky.

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SAFETY NEWS

INCIDENT MONITORING

Incident monitoring is not a new idea. It has been used in aviation for some considerable time.

Recently, at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, the Australian Patient Safety Foundation was formed. This Foundation is involved

in medical incident monitoring. It has proved to be extremely successful in significantly increased the safety of anaesthesia for operations.

Diving has become more complex and equipment more sophisticated. Perhaps we can expect more incidents and hence, perhaps more accidents.

Understanding the factors that govern our behaviour in a foreign environment will determine the safety of our behaviour in that environment. Incidents, no matter how trivial can reduce the safety margin. Understanding of how that incident/mishap occurred will hopefully lead to the reduction of that incident and hopefully accidents.

Incident monitoring is therefore really about understanding. Understanding of incidents means the understanding of accidents. Understanding means prevention.

However to find out about incidents requires reporting of them. Feedback from these incidents is obtained from analysis of the data obtained.

When the incident monitoring questionnaires are available, please fill them out. It may prove tiresome at times, but we urge you to do it as soon as practicable following the dive. If you participate you will assist in improving the safety of diving for everyone.

The study has no interest in culpability or criticism of individual divers. The study is anonymous and totally impartial. We invite all SCUBA divers of all levels of experience to participate. The incident monitoring will work alongside "Project Stickybeak". It does not replace it.

PILOT INCIDENT STUDY RESULTS

A pilot incident report study was conducted two years ago. Fifty two incidents were reported by fourteen divers. The incidents were divided into various groups consistent with a typical diving pattern:

- preparation
- entry
- descent
- the dive itself
- ascent
- exit

PREPARATION

The most disturbing incidents were those of unsafe practice (sitting on the edge of the boat with a weight belt on, or administration of ventolin before the dive), and faulty gear assembly (failure to connect the SCUBA feed to the Buoyancy Jacket). The free flowing regulator was also a prominent feature.

ENTRY

Failure to turn on the air supply was noted on several occasions.

DESCENT

The lack of correct weighting and good buoyancy control featured here. Buoyancy control is a fundamental aspect of good diving practice. Do divers understand Boyle's Law and Achemides Principle?

THE DIVE

This part of the dive showed up many incidents. Here is a list of them:

- loss of buddy control
- loss of buoyancy control
- equipment misassembly
- out of air
- coral scratches.

A clear association here is shown with the

incident reporting and diving accidents/death. - "the out of air situation". Again, equipment and buoyancy are problem areas.

ASCENT/EXIT

Incidents reported here showed that exit from the water can be a shambles on any dive, particularly when the exit was never planned. Inability to find the boat leading to a long surface swim, and the lack of "Jesus" and shot lines show poor dive planning.

ASSOCIATED FACTORS (i.e. factors recognised as probably predisposing to the occurrence of some of the incidents):

1. Strong currents
2. Inadequate safety line facilities
3. Inadequate equipment maintenance
4. Absence of learned protocols, e.g. gear checklist; lost buddy drill.
5. Too much equipment carried during diving.
6. Lack of knowledge by the dive leaders of the dive site.
7. Failure of the dive leaders to choose a site suitable for the divers present on the boat.
8. Inexperience in particular diving situations. Some divers were reluctant to enter the water because of the site conditions, but still did so.

DISCUSSION

1. Equipment problems predominate in this small series of incidents - either absence, misassembly, misuse, failure, or excessive amounts of it. Diving is an equipment oriented sport, and it seems necessary to keep emphasising that good maintenance and regular familiarisation with your own, and your buddy's equipment, is fundamental for safe diving. In this series, Maximum Depth Indicator failure stood out. More emphasis on check-

ing/calibrating of these devices should now occur. Depth gauges should be calibrated regularly, and the Maximum Depth Indicator, if present, should be calibrated with it. After equipment has been calibrated and serviced it should be checked by the diver with a "dummy" run before it is used for a dive. There would be less free flowing regulators spoiling the owner's first post-service dive if this practice was carried out. Perhaps all equipment should be checked by the service personnel before it leaves the shop. Scuba feed assembly was an area of weakness - probably indicating a lack of equipment awareness.

2. Buoyancy problems are also prominent, and are always a threat to divers' safety. Uncontrolled/unplanned alterations in depth carry most serious potential consequences.

3. It is distressing that absence or failure of air supply also features here. It is not a rare event in recreational diving, but is completely avoidable by planning and safe practice. Regular checking of one's CONTENT'S GAUGE is the most fundamental and simple safe diving practice.

4. Unsafe practices, such as diving beyond so called "no-decompression-limits", or without a timing device, or when not completely well, can only be deprecated. Lost contact drill is essential. Sitting on the edge of the boat with a weight belt on is not rare, but shows a complete lack of common sense, and reflects poor training. "Weight belt being last on, first off" is perhaps not being taught with the advent of the new buoyancy compensators.

SOME CORRECTIVE STRATEGIES SUGGESTED BY THESE INCIDENTS

1. Carry a gear check list in your dive bag.

2. Ensure regular (once a year) gear maintenance and checked after servicing.
 3. Wear and practice with your own gear in the pool regularly. Buoyancy control takes in-water practice.
 4. Routine with a new buddy: Discuss and agree upon under water signals and lost contact drill to be used.
- Inspect and test your buddy's gear, especially inflation, releases, and safety items.

"Plan your dive, and dive your plan."

5. There should be an update of the 'C' card every few years (5?).
6. Future diver training protocols should be changed, i.e. more emphasis on common safety aspects, maintenance of equipment, etc.
7. All dive leaders should know the dive site thoroughly.

INCIDENT DATA COLLECTED

A provisional report on incident monitoring, prepared with data collected from the Divers Emergency Service will appear in the next issue of Divesafe.

DIVING INCIDENT REPORT

On average, one or two divers die each week in Australia and New Zealand. Often "near-misses" can help to discover information to find a reason for these deaths. Incident reporting is part of this process. It has been used with great success in aviation and medicine. We believe that details of incidents lead to improvement in equipment and training.

Filling out this questionnaire may at times prove tiresome, but we urge you to do it as soon as practicable following the dive. If you participate you will assist in improving the safety of diving for everyone. Thank you.

Don't waste your valuable experiences - share it for the benefit of us all.

This study will form part of - indeed an extension of - the existing data that exists in Australia and New Zealand for the study of diving safety (presently known as "Project Stickybeak").

Definition of a Diving Incident

Is any error that could, or indeed did, reduce the safety margin for a diver on a particular dive. The error may have been made by a diver, either yourself, your buddy or someone else. It may also be due to equipment failure. Most incidents don't cause any harm, but reporting such incidents will give valuable information when considered with other such incidents.

Please **DO NOT** identify any person involved.

Dr. Chris Acott from the Hyperbaric Medicine Unit at the Royal Adelaide Hospital will be coordinating these reports - feel free to discuss with him any incident or any difficulties which you may encounter with this form.

If you would like any feedback from this incident, please include your name and address on a separate piece of paper and return it with this report form

Please return the completed form to:

APSF/DIVESAFE
G.P.O. Box 400.
ADELAIDE SA 5001 AUSTRALIA
(08) 224.5544

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

Please describe the incident in your own words. Include in detail any factor which you believe may have contributed to, or minimized, the incident.

Suggest any measures which you feel might be employed in the future to prevent such an incident happening again.

THE INCIDENT ITSELF

ALL THE FOLLOWING RELATE TO THE DIVE INVOLVED IN THE INCIDENT, HOWEVER THEY DONT HAVE TO BE FILLED OUT BY THAT DIVER INVOLVED, BUT BY THE PERSON NOTICING THE INCIDENT.

1. Whose incident was it?

☐ yours ☐ your buddy ☐ someone else's

2. When was it detected?

☐ preparation
☐ entry
☐ descent ☐ during dive
☐ ascent ☐ exit
☐ following exit

3. Did any harm result to anyone?

Yes ☐ No ☐

4. Do you think any of the following factors contributed to the incident (you may need to tick more than 1):

<input type="checkbox"/> anxiety about the dive	<input type="checkbox"/> not familiar with diving conditions
<input type="checkbox"/> inexperience in diving	<input type="checkbox"/> error in judgement / incorrect decision
<input type="checkbox"/> weather conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> poor communication
<input type="checkbox"/> poor physical fitness	<input type="checkbox"/> failure to understand equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> failure to check equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> failure to understand dive table
<input type="checkbox"/> haste	<input type="checkbox"/> poor maintenance of equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> inattention	<input type="checkbox"/> malfunction or failure of equipment
<input type="checkbox"/> poor dive planning	<input type="checkbox"/> drug or alcohol intake
<input type="checkbox"/> poor servicing of equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> lack of medical clearance to dive
<input type="checkbox"/> sea sickness	<input type="checkbox"/> inadequate supervision
<input type="checkbox"/> insufficient training	

5. Did the incident occur whilst under training?

Yes ☐ No ☐

6. What influence did the incident have on the dive plan?

☐ none ☐ delayed the dive
☐ aborted the dive ☐ changed the plan

7. Did the incident involve (you may need to tick more than 1):

<input type="checkbox"/> out of air situation	<input type="checkbox"/> marine animal
<input type="checkbox"/> rapid ascent	<input type="checkbox"/> equalization problem:
<input type="checkbox"/> omission of decompression stops	<input type="checkbox"/> on ascent <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> misreading of decompression tables/computer	<input type="checkbox"/> on descent <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> multiple ascents/descents/bounce diving	<input type="checkbox"/> giddiness/vertigo
<input type="checkbox"/> loss of buddy contact	<input type="checkbox"/> flying altitude after diving

8. Was the diver involved: a diving student ☐ untrained ☐ certified diver ☐

9. Diver certification level: basic ☐ open water ☐ advanced ☐ divemaster ☐
instructor ☐ commercial ☐ not known ☐

10. Sex: M ☐ F ☐ Diver's Age: yrs. Not Known ☐

11. Which country did he/she train in: ☐ Not known ☐ AUS ☐ NZ
☐ USA ☐ UK
☐ JAPAN ☐ Other - specify

12. Please indicate geographical location of incident?

<input type="checkbox"/> Zone 1: Tropical Australia	<input type="checkbox"/> Zone 3: Pacific
<input type="checkbox"/> Zone 2: Lower W.A. & S.A.	<input type="checkbox"/> Zone 4: New Zealand
<input type="checkbox"/> Zone 3: NSW, VIC, Tasmania	<input type="checkbox"/> Zone 5: Other: specify

AIR SUPPLY

1. Air Consumption: ran low ☐ out of air ☐ not a problem ☐ buddy breathing ☐
Octopus used ☐ not known ☐

2. If there had been an alternative air source would it have helped in the situation?

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not known ☐

3. Regulator and air supply:

<input type="checkbox"/> didn't check contents gauge regularly	<input type="checkbox"/> 1st stage problem
<input type="checkbox"/> air supply not turned on	<input type="checkbox"/> problem with regulator despite
<input type="checkbox"/> free flowing second stage	<input type="checkbox"/> frequent servicing
<input type="checkbox"/> contents gauge inaccurate/failed	<input type="checkbox"/> City where normally serviced:
<input type="checkbox"/> unable to read contents gauge at depth

Air consumption this dive greater than previous dives. Yes ☐ No ☐

BUOYANCY

1. Buoyancy problem: Yes ☐ No ☐

☐ overweighted
☐ underweighted
☐ air used frequently to maintain buoyancy.

2. Buoyancy Jacket:

<input type="checkbox"/> not worn	<input type="checkbox"/> vest uncomfortable to wear
<input type="checkbox"/> inflation device failed	<input type="checkbox"/> unfamiliar with its use
<input type="checkbox"/> inflation device not connected correctly	<input type="checkbox"/> incorrect use
<input type="checkbox"/> unable to vent vest to slow down	Name of vest:
<input type="checkbox"/> vest leaked	Model of vest:
<input type="checkbox"/> vest provided inadequate buoyancy	<input type="checkbox"/> Not involved.

DIVE TABLES/COMPUTER

1. Dive tables used:

NONE ☐ USN ☐ RN ☐ BSAC/RNPL ☐ PADI ☐
NAUI ☐ DCIEM ☐ BASSETT ☐ Other - specify:

2. Was a dive computer used? Yes ☐ No ☐

If so: ☐ stopped working ☐ unable to read number
☐ inaccurate ☐ forgot to activate it

Make: Model: