SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB

WET RAG

Club Newsletter January 1995

All contributions from members are gratefully accepted. If you have any items for the Club Newsletter, please send them to: The Committee, P.O. Box 823, Bankstown, NSW, 2200

Archaeologists buzzing over Hive wreckage

Bay and it was his discoveries which led to the

establishment of a convict

colony in the area, Mr

The wreckage was

Webster said,

The remains of a gold-carrying convict ship, the Hive, wrecked on the South Coast near Jervis Bay, have been located by maritime archaeologists.

The Hive, 36m long and 480 tonnes in gross weight, was similar in construction to Captain Cook's original Endeavour.

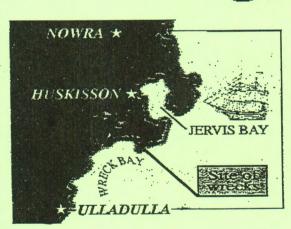
On only its second voyage, the Hive was driven ashore in heavy breakers after the captain and officers quarrelled about navigation, 70m out from Wreck Bay, south of Jervis Bay.

The remains lie under about 2m of water and 3m of sand.

The Hive carried 10,000 pounds worth of gold, as well as 250 Irish male convicts, 29 soldiers, eight woman and 11 children. All but two of the ship's company survived the disaster, which occurred on December 10, 1835, and it was left to the convicts to bring the gold ashore.

State Planning Minister Robert Webster said the find was significant.

During Captain Cook's voyage of 1770 he named Long Nose Point in Jervis



located by a team of 10, including archaeologists, survey specialists and a geologist, using advanced metal detectors and other state-of-the-art technological equipment.

"Unfortunately the hull, which is all that is left, is well buried and rough sea conditions will prevent its excavation," Mr Webster explained.

The minister said he was confident the team had also located the schooner Blackhird – wrecked in the same location – which was a vessel sen on an unsuccessful mission to recover the gold in January 1836.

Reprinted from Illawarra Mercury Newspaper

21 December, 1994

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everybody had a great Christmas and New Year (any hangovers or new resolutions?). We're coming into an exciting year and hopefully we can keep up the tradition of being extremely social and active and we'll have as good a year as we had in 1994.

I wish to thank all the sponsors who helped us out last year for the A'asian Presentation Night and also to our club's monthly sponsors who, by donating their prizes, help keep the membership fees down and our members enthusiastic.

I want to give a special thanks to Max Western who has donated a free boat dive on Sea Tamer II every month and has strongly supported our club members for years. Also, another special thank you to Leslie and Leo Hillyer of Ship Rock Dive who donate 2 free airfills every month. The service in the shop is always very friendly and enthusiastic and they also have regular trips overseas; one of these is to Vanuatu in March.

We also have a monthly dinner for 2 at the new 'Platform One' restaurant donated by Bankstown Sports Club. If you haven't seen the new renovations at the rear of the Club, then you're really missing out on something. Walking past the new reception area, imagine walking straight into a rainforest setting and upstairs to one of the cocktail bars! I also suggest you take a look at 'Greenfield Station' and 'Platform One' — two of the best restaurants I've seen for years with the cocktail bar and dining areas set out like an old style train station complete with railway carriages and 5 star service. It's well worth having a look at and I highly recommend it.

With the Meatballs 'Fat out of Hell' show returning in February to Bankstown Sports Club, I think we should all make a date to go down there for a night out, we could all meet for dinner and then head off to the Meatballs show.

I'd also like to thank Nelson Bay Dive Shop for donating first prize in our Christmas Raffle. Glen Thompson was the lucky winner of a weekend of double diving and accommodation for 2 people. Thank you also to Sportdiving magazine for donating 12 months subscription, a Nikonos training video and a dive computer book. Kodak have also been generous with a strobe filter and slide film. The second and third prizes were won by John Beddie and Russell ('baseball bat') Stoker.

With our monthly sponsors we have a dive shop that gives you the best of service, a boat operator who offers the best of diving and a restaurant that offers the best of food, and I'd like to thank all these sponsors for what they're doing for South Pacific Divers.

(continued)

SPD has a lot to offer and with our sponsors assistance we are more than just a dive club. With all this help from sponsors this should make a very good and active club to be in. Looking towards 1995 I hope to see more dive weekends away and more social nights — making this a dive club where members get the chance to be extremely active — check out our coming activities and call our dive/social organisers.

All the best for '95,

Regards, Leo Mayer.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER'S REPORT

Well here we are in a New Year again and it's time to dust off those cameras and put your thinking caps on 'cos it's time for the 'George Roberts Perpetual Trophy' again !!!

This annual "in" club photographic competition has some great prizes and also represents the chance for entrants to hone those skills needed in order to impress the judges later in the year at the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year.

This competition is open to all club members and is open from January 1995 until 20/3/95 — date of the March club meeting. A copy of the rules and entry form can be found in this month's magazine.

Judging will take place in late March with the prizes to be presented at the April meeting.

Also in this month's mag. are copies of two articles of interest from Asian Diver; one is on the changing of Nikonos lenses underwater while the other is about a new sync cord released by Nikon for the SB series of speedlights. Unfortunately, no prices are quoted.

Preparations for this year's A/V are progressing — more about this as it comes to hand.

So get out there and start taking plenty of photos for the 'George Roberts' and let's make it the best competition the Club has seen for a long time.

Peter Flockart.

FUTURE DIVING ACTIVITIES

FRI. 13 JANUARY (drive up after work)

SAT. 14 JANUARY -

NELSON BAY WEEKEND AWAY

SUN. 15 JANUARY:

Double boat dive Saturday with 'Dive Nelson Bay Dive Shop' \$55.00 including 2nd tank. Shore dive Sunday morning. Accommodation at Sea Breeze Hotel for \$20 p/p per night.

CONTACT LEO MAYER ON 708 5742 (hm).

SUN. 22 JANUARY:

CHICKEN & CHAMPAGNE BOAT DIVE & BAR-B-Q

8.00 a.m. Dolans Bay Boat Ramp. Diving Port Hacking - location to be advised. Wives/partners and non divers to meet 9.45 a.m. at Dolans Bay boat ramp. Food \$5.00 p/p - come and enjoy B-B-Q chicken,

champagne/wine, etc.

CONTACT GEOFF COOK ON 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897.

(018) 294 891 OR LEO MAYER ON 708 5742 (hm).

WED. 1 FEBRUARY:

NIGHT BOAT DIVE - BARRENS HUT

With Max Western's Sea Tamer II (First Wednesday each month).

CONTACT SCOTT LEIMROTH ON 759 6501 OR GEOFF ON 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897, (018) 294 891.

T. 11 FEBRUARY — AT. 18 FEBRUARY:

SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP

Geoff Cook is holidaying at SWR and is taking up his Shark Cat boat.

Geoff is looking for extra dive buddies if anyone is interested.

Staying at Arrakoon State Recreation Area.

CONTACT GEOFF COOK ON 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897, (018) 294 891.

FRI. 17 FEBRUARY —

EDEN & TATHRA - 5 days diving.

MON. 20 FEBRUARY:

CONTACT BARBARA ON 550 1712 (hm), 319 3144 (wk).

SUN. 26 FEBRUARY:

BASS POINT BOAT DIVE & BAR-B-Q.

Members and boat owners to liaise with Geoff.

CONTACT GEOFF COOK ON 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897, (018) 294 891.

WED. 1 MARCH:

NIGHT BOAT DIVE

With Max Western's Sea Tamer II (First Wednesday each month).

CONTACT SCOTT LEIMROTH ON 759 6501 OR

GEOFF ON 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897, (018) 294 891.

SUN. 5 MARCH:

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY:

AT LITTLE BAY - BAR-B-Q & DIVING

CONTACT SCOTT LEIMROTH ON 759 6501 OR

GEOFF COOK ON 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897, (018) 294 891.

FRI. 10 MARCH-

JERVIS BAY: MULTI CLUB DIVE WEEKEND

SAT. 11 MARCH & SUN. 12 MARCH:

Involving South Pacific, Ryde Underwater, Underwater Research Group &

Douts-Uni. of Technology Dive Clubs.

CONTACT SCOTT LEIMROTH ON 759 6501 (hm) OR

GEOFF COOK ON 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897, (018) 294 891.

SAT. 18 MARCH -

JINDABYNE WEEKEND.

SUN. 19 MARCH: Altitude diving. Cheap accommodation available for weekend.

Airfills and hire boats available.

CONTACT SCOTT LEIMROTH ON 759 6501 (hm)

SUN. 26 MARCH:

BOAT DIVE & BAR-B-Q

Dive location to be worked out at Club meeting.

CONTACT GEOFF COOK ON 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897, (018) 294 891.

FRI. 14 APRIL -

NELSON BAY: EASTER LONG WEEKEND MON. 17 APRIL:

Double boat diving and shore dives. Accommodation \$20 p/p per night.

CONTACT SCOTT ON 759 6501 (hm),

EASTER OR LEO MAYER ON 708 5742. (hm).

JANUARY 1995

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	DRIVE UP TO NELSON BAY Contact Leo Mayer 708 5742 (hm)	NELSON BAY WEEKEND AWAY (Double boat dive) Contact Leo Mayer on 708 5742 (hm)
NELSON BAY WEEKEND AWAY (Shore dive) Contact Leo Mayer on 708 5742 (hm)	CLUB MEETING AT BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB - Greenfield Parade, 8.00 p.m.	17	18	19	20	21
CHICKEN & CHAMPAGNE BOAT DIVE & B-B-Q (Bring partners along as well) Contact Geoff Cook 543 5817,018-294 89	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31		: Scott Leimroth 75 Geoff Cook 543 58 : Barbara Sweetman		L44 (wk)

FEBRUARY 1995

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			NIGHT BOAT DIVE Diving off Max Western's Sea Tamer	01 (hm)	3	*****
5	6	7	8	9	10	MEATBALLS LIVE SHOW at Bankstown Sports Club SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP WITH GEOFF COOK Staying at Arrakoon State Recreation Area. Contact Geoff 543 5817, (018)294 897,(018)294 8
12 SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP - GEOFF COOK	13 SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP - GEOFF COOK	14 SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP - GEOFF COOK	15 SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP - GEOFF COOK	16 SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP - GEOFF COOK	17 SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP - GEOFF COOK EDEN / TATHRA Contact Barbara 550 1712, 319 3144	18 SOUTH WEST ROCKS TRIP - GEOFF COOK EDEN / TATHRA
19 EDEN / TATHRA	20 EDEN / TATHRA CLUB MEETING AT BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB - Greenfield Parade, 8.00 a.m.	21	22	23	24	25
26 BOAT DIVE & B-B-Q BASS POINT Contact Geoff Cook 543 5817,018-294 89 018-294 891	27	28	CONTACT PHONE NUMB DIVE CO-ORDINATORS: SOCIAL SECRETARIES:	Scott Leimroth 759 Geoff Cook 543 581 Barbara Sweetman 5		44 (wk)

MARCH 1995

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	EDIDAY	
COMMACE DIONE MINER	no.			WEDTEDDITI	HIUKSDAI	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
CONTACT PHONE NUMBE	ERS:	Club President: Leo	Mayer 708 5742 (hm).		2	3	4
DIVE CO-ORDINATORS:	Scott Leimroth 759 69 Geoff Cook 543 5817	501 (hm) (hm), (018 294 897,	(018) 294 891	Diving off Max Western's Sea Tame:	r II	J	4
SOCIAL SECRETARIES:	Barbara Sweetman 550 Carina Gregory (046)	1712 (hm), 319 3144	(sub)	Contact Scott 759 (Geoff 543 5817, (018)294 897,(018)			
	5 CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA	6	7	8	9	10 JERVIS BAY	11
	AT LITTLE BAY DIVING & B-B-Q Contact Scott 759 65 Geoff 543 5817,018-2					MULTI CLUB DIVE WEEKEND AWAY Contact Scott 759 69 Geoff 543 5817,	
	$12^{\frac{018-294}{891}}$	13	14	15	16	17	18
	JERVIS BAY MULTI CLUB DIVE WEEKEND						JINDABYNE WEEKEND Contact Scott 759 650
	19 JINDABYNE	20 CLUB MEETING AT	21	22	23	24	25
	WEEKEND Contact Scott 759 6501	BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB - Greenfield Parade, 8.00 p.m.					
	26 BOAT DIVE & B-B-Q Contact Scott 759 65	27	28	29	30	31	EASTER LONG WEEKEND NELSON BAY DIVE TRIP AWAY Friday 14/4/95 to
	Geoff 543 5817, 018-294 897,018-294			·			Monday 17/4/95 Double boat dives Accommodation \$20 pp. Contact Scott or

SATURDAY, 11 FEBRUARY AT BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB

SHOW STARTS AT 8.00 p.m.

AND TICKETS ARE JUST \$8.00

A group booking is planned for South Pacific Divers. Why not meet up for dinner at the new 'Platform One' Restaurant before the show — it should be a great night out.

Everyone who saw the show last year are keen to come along again — the show's that good!

Bring your dancing shoes because no-one is left seated by the end of the night.

ALL ONE OF OUR SOCIAL SECRETARIES OF WE HAVE AN IDEA OF NUMBERS:

BARBARA SWEETMAN (PH: 550 1712 (hm), 319 3144 (wk)

CARINA GREGORY (046) 258 630 (hm), (046) 201 423 (wk)

Meat Balls FAT OUT OF HELL

HE WAS BIG IN THE 70'S

HE WAS
EVEN
BIGGER
IN THE 80'S

NOW HE'S HUGE!



A good time, comic reproduction of one of the biggest selling albums in Australia's rock history!

8pm SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH TICKETS ON SALE JUST \$8

NELSON BAY DIVING WEEKEND AWAY Sat-Sun. 14/15 January

■ DOUBLE BOAT DIVE THIS COMING SATURDAY 14 JANUARY

WITH 'DIVE NELSON BAY' DIVE SHOP.

SHORE DIVE
SUNDAY 15 JANUARY.

ACCOMMODATION \$20.00 P/P PER NIGHT STAYING AT SEA BREEZE HOTEL

CONTACT LEO MAYER ON 708 5742 (hm)

to confirm you would like to go.

[Most people will be driving up the Friday night after work]

CHICKEN & CHAMPAGNE BOAT DIVE & BAR-B-Q

SUNDAY 22 JANUARY

8.00 a.m. Dolans Bay Boat Ramp.

Diving Port Hacking – location to be advised.

Wives/partners and non divers to meet

9.45 a.m. at Dolans Bay boat ramp.

Food \$5.00 p/p – come and enjoy B–B–Q

chicken, champagne/wine, etc.

CONTACT GEOFF COOK
Dive Co-ordinator

on 543 5817 (hm), (018) 294 897, (018) 294 891

PROVINCIAL TRADER STILL INTACT!

AND CAN STILL BE DIVED ON

Peter Hall of Twofold Dive Charter reports that the salvagers have lifted the tug several times but have had gear breakages due to heavy seas and called off the work before Christmas.

[As you may know, the salvager's contract is to lift the tug and drop it over the continental shelf at an approximate cost of \$750,000].

The car is still on the deck and, except for the mast being removed, you would barely know that it had been lifted at all. Peter says there are "humungus" chains lying on the bottom with broken wire ropes attached to them.

The salvagers have abandoned the project till end of January and/or till they can count on the weather to be able to complete the job.



Daily Scuba Diving Trips leave from Eden Wharf, on the 7 metre Sharkcat "Everard Legend".

DIVE THE TUGS

The "Henry Bolte" or "Tasman Hauler". Then there's also the "Empire Gladstone", "North Bombie", "Dragons Dungeon", "The Steps", "South Bombie" or Greencape.

FISHING

Daily fishing trips depart from the Eden Main Wharf.

*Reef fishing, Game fishing and bottom bouncing trips available on demand.

BOOK AT BP MAIN WHARE

PHONE: (064)961778 or (064)963384

AFTER HOURS

BARBARA SWEETMAN has a trip to Eden planned from Friday to Monday 17-20 February. You can call Barbara on 550 1712 (hm), 319 3144 (wk).

OR

Why not call Peter Hall at Twofold Dive on (064) 963 384 and book in for whatever days, or weekends, that suit you?

There is great accommodation provided of a self-contained house for just \$15.00 p/p per night.

VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL DIVERS

D.E.S., the Diving Emergency Service, has announced a change in the contact information for the service.

The 008 number has been changed to incorporate the general move by Telecom to 1800 numbers.

The new D.E.S. number is:

1800 088 200

When dialling from outside Australia, the new international number is:

61 8 373 5312

GEORGE ROBERTS PERPETUAL TROPHY

South Pacific Divers Club Members Underwater Photographic Competition

OPEN CATEGORY

1st Place:

Five nights accommodation and six boat dives at the Solitary Islands

donated by Dive Quest Mulloway.

2nd Place:

Will receive a certificate.

Best Macro Slide:

Will receive a certificate.

Best Wide Angle Slide:

Will receive a certificate.

NOVICE CATEGORY

1st Place:

Five nights accommodation and six boat dives at South West Rocks

donated by South West Rocks Dive Centre.

2nd Place:

Will receive a certificate.

Best Macro Slide:

Will receive a certificate.

Best Wide Angle Slide:

Will receive a certificate.

INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY

Best Macro Slide:

Will receive a certificate.

Best Wide Angle Slide:

Will receive a certificate.

Best Wildlife Slide:

Will receive a certificate.

RULES OF ENTRY

1. The competition is open to all members of the South Pacific Divers Club.

16 JANUARY TO 20 MARCH, 1995

OPEN FROM:

2. Categories this year are:

Open - Available to all members.

Novice -

An entrant who at the time of entering the competition, has not received monetary remuneration for any underwater photographic work in Australia or elsewhere and who has not won any prize in a recognised National or International photographic competition (with the exception of the South Pacific Divers Novice Second or Third, Encouragement Awards or Honourable Mentions).

Individual - This is open to all members who wish to enter but have less than the five slides required for the other two categories.

- 3. A maximum of five (5) 35mm, slides per entrant in glassless mounts are required for the Open and Novice sections.
- 4. All slides must have been taken underwater by the entrant.
- 5. The portfolio must contain a minimum of one macro, one wide angle and one wildlife shot. (Wildlife is defined as marine life other than macro and excluding divers).
- 6. Fish tank, aquariums, swimming pool and the like photographs are not acceptable.
- 7. Photographs taken that resulted in the injury or death of marine animals are not acceptable.
- 8. Any special effects are limited to "in camera" and any unusual shots should be accompanied by a description of the technique so as to avoid possible disqualification. Slides that have been manipulated, altered or enhanced by means other than that detailed above will be disqualified.
- All slides are to be in glassless mounts with the entrant's name, slide name and a contrasting dot in the lower left hand corner when held to be viewed naturally.
- 10. The Club reserves the right to use entered slides for the promotion of the competition, the Club or diving at its discretion.
- 11. Entrants are to either hand their entries to the Photographic Officer or post them to South Pacific Divers Club, P.O. Box 823, Bankstown, NSW, 2200.
- 12. The judges and photographic officer's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

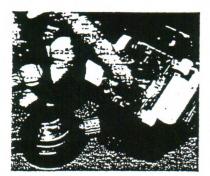
Entrants should select their slides to demonstrate the range of their technical ability as well as creativity. Slides will be judged individually for technical ability, composition and creativity, then the portfolio will be assessed for range and depth of ability.

ENTRY FORM – GEORGE ROBERTS PERPETUAL TROPHY

Name:	OPEN FROM
Address:	16 / 1 / 95
Contact Phone Numbers: / P/CODE	TO
Tick the Category you are entering: OPEN NOVICE INDIVIDUAL	20 / 3 / 95
Titles: 1	
3	
5	

I hereby state that I will be bound by the rules of the competition and acknowledge that failure to comply or give false information can result in disqualification.

Dated:	/ /	Signature:	
Dutou.	/ /	Signature.	***************************************



World Premiere:

FOR NIKONOS

An Italian design team has come up with a simple solution to an old problem - how to change lenses of a NIKONOS IV-A or V under water. What was that again? Yes - you heard right - underwater! The answer is an adapter system which is attached to both the body as well as each lens. The system consists of two steel cups, the bottom of each made of optically corrected glass. One of the cups is permanently attached to the camera body, and one counterpart each to the

lenses. When inserting the lens-part into the cup attached to the body, only a very thin film of water remains in between. According to the inventors, the device does not void any NIKON warranty rules. and the material used is treated against saltwater and other corrosion. The makers guarantee the device up to a depth of 50 metres and recommend that both camera and lenses are sent in to their factory to assure proper attachment and waterproofing of the device. Due to different optical properties of the many types of NIKONOS lenses, a total of four different lens-adapters are available at the moment, i.e. for the NIKKOR 80mm, 35mm, 28mm, and 15mm. Additional ones are in the development stage, i.e. for the 20mm NIKKOR and possibly also for Sea & Sea lenses. However, only one permanent adapter is necessary for the body. Initial tests by the German magazine UWF have come out promising, and only negligible distortion was recorded. For further information, please contact Welca s.r.l.-Micrograph, Via del Cantone 82, Osmannoro Sesto Fiorentino (Firenze), Italy, Tel: +(39-55) 318687, Fax: +(39-55) 318626.

NEW

PHOTOGRAPHIC

EQUIPMENT

(Photocopied from Asian Diver Oct / Nov 1994 - pgs 102 & 104)

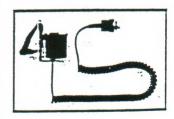
new:

1:17-70

SYNC CORD SYSTEM

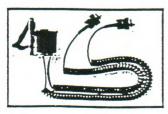
Up to now, TTL sync cords had to be mounted topside, and could not be removed or reinstalled underwater. However, NIKON just introduced a revolutionary new underwater TTL sync cord, which allows remounting and configuration changes underwater. The all new NIKON Underwater Sync Cord can be used for both the NIKON RSAF as well as all NIKONOS III. IV-A and V models. connecting them to NIKON's SB-102, SB-103 and SB-104 speed lights. The system consists of two

parts, the SC-103, which is connected to the camera, and either the SC-101 (for single strobe



sync) or SC-102 (for double flash

sync), which is connected to the speedlight. Contrary to existing TTL sync cords, where a fixed five-pole mechanical connection conveys the camera-to-strobe impulse, the new NIKON Underwater Sync Cord controls strobes by an optical pulse signal. The signal



is conveyed from a lightpod on the SC-103 to an equivalent receiver pod on either the SC-101 or the SC-102. The system allows full TTL operation, including TTL auto flash operation with the NIKONOS V and Matrix Balanced Fill-Flash with the RSAF. Each cord is sold separately, as you will need either a SC-101 or SC-102 for each of your strobes, and a SC-103 for each of your camera bodies. For more information, contact NIKON Hong Kong Ltd. Room 304, 3rd Floor, Sunning Plaza, 10 Hysan Avenue, Hong Kong, Tel: +(852) 882-3936. Fax: +(852) 504-5689, or any

of the dealers listed on the inside front cover of this magazine.

(1	AVINOS	10(0)	3	FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS
Third	Monday	*	16	JANUARY
Third	Monday	*	20	FEBRUARY
Third	Monday	*	20	MARCH
Third	Monday	*	17	APRIL (Easter Monday - will advise if night is to change)
	01.1			77

Club meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each month at the Bankstown Sports Club, Greenfield Parade, Bankstown at 8.00 p.m.

Come early and enjoy a meal at the bistro. The meetings are $\underline{usually}$ in the Emile McDonald Function Room.

(Please check at Reception if function room has changed).

	COMMIT	TEE	
POSITION	NAME	HOME	WORK
PRESIDENT:	LEO MAYER	708 5742 (answering machine p FAXES: 227 1114 or	
SECRETARY:	SUZANNE EVANS	891 1964 (answering machine p	orovided)
TREASURER:	JOHN FARDOULIS	634 4607	831 9246
PUBLICITY OFFICER:	MERRIDY CAIRN-DUFF	630 6575	805 1748 FAX: 868 2732
PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER:	PETER FLOCKART	371 0265	374 2382 FAX: 374 2688
DIVE ORGANISERS:	SCOTT LEIMROTH GEOFF COOK	759 6501 543 5817 (018) 294 897	(018) 294 891
SOCIAL SECRETARIES:	BARBARA SWEETMAN CARINA GREGORY	550 1712 (046) 258 630	319 3144 (046) 201 423

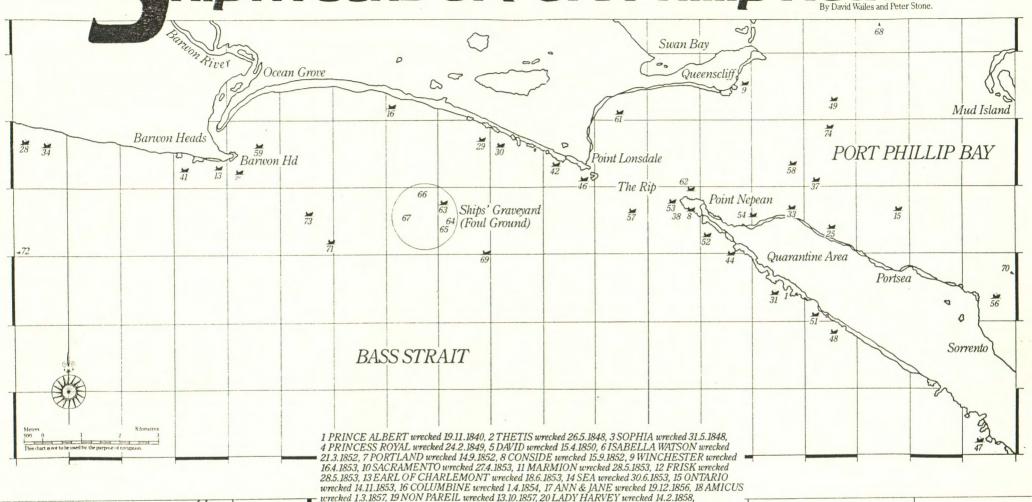
BOAT OWNERS

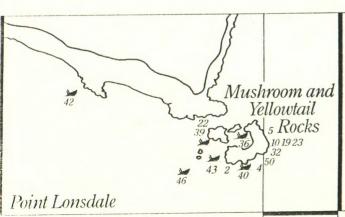
If you're interested in a dive, why not call any of the Club's boat owners. Club members with boats usually go out most weekends (weather/tides depending), so why not give them a call. This way, you wont miss out on your next dive. (Contributions towards fuel are appreciated).

Telephone No's:

SUE ARMSTRONG	(042) 942 769 (H), 697 2248 (W).
MARTIN ATKINS (Jervis Bay)	(044) 434 631 (H), (042) 740 210 (W).
JOHN BEDDIE	603 7584(H), (046) 201 746 (W).
B.J.	709 5535 (H).
PETER BOOTH	529 3818 (H).
BRIAN COLWELL	772 4462 (H), 524 2236
GEOFF COOK	543 5817 (H), (018) 294 891.
BRUCE CREMONESI	668 8126 (H), 645 0286 (W).
JOHN FARDOULIS	634 4607 (H).
PETER HALL,	
TWOFOLD DIVE EDEN	(064) 963 384 (H & W).
MARTIN KANDILAS	725 7808 (H & W).
RICK LATIMER	645 4405 (H), (018) 647 329, (042) 615 631 (W).
BOB MAY	(045) 791 053 (H), (045) 781 177 (W).
RON MINES	602 9851 (H), 602 3544 (W).
ROBERT RUBESA	740 6571 (H), 695 2063 (W).
MAX WESTERN SEA TAMER II	567 2658 (H), 018-280 791 (W)

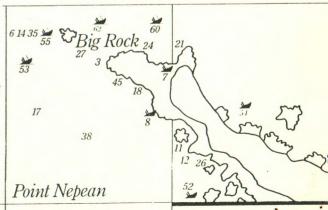
Shipwrecks of Port Phillip Heads By David Walles and Peter Stone.





32 YARROW wrecked 23.8.1870, 33 SUSSEX wrecked 26.8.1870, 34 SUSSEX wrecked 13.12.1871, 35 CORSAIR wrecked 25.5.1874, 36 DON wrecked 2.7.1875, 37 ELIZA RAMSDEN wrecked 24.7.1875, 38 PHOENESION wrecked 4.3.1881, 39 GEORGE ROPER wrecked 4.7.1883, 40 BLACK BOY wrecked 8.7.1883, 41 SOUTH MILTON wrecked 10.4.1886, 42 GLANEUSE wrecked 2.10.1886, 43 GANGE wrecked 23.7.1887, 44 CHEVIOT wrecked 19.10.1887, 45 MAFFRA wrecked 6.5.1888, 46 HOLYHEAD wrecked 12.2.1890, 47 CRAIGBURN wrecked 8.5.1891, 48 NOWRA wrecked 12.7.1891, 49 GAMBIER wrecked 12.7.1891, 49 GAMBIER wrecked 278.1891, 50 W.J. TAYLOR wrecked 26.12.1894, 51 SIERRA NEVADA wrecked 9.5.1900, 52 PETRIANA wrecked 26.11.1903, 53 AUSTRALIA wrecked 20.6.1904, 54 EDWARD wrecked 9.9.1912, 55 CAMPBELL wrecked 1.6.1914, 56 WAUCHOPE wrecked 1.8.1919, 57 WYRALLAH wrecked 84.1924, 58 H.M.A.S. GOORANGAI wrecked 20.11.1940, 59 ORUNGAL wrecked 21.11.1940, 60 THISTLE wrecked 10.10.1945, 61 MERLYN wrecked 16.1.1949, 62 TIME wrecked 278.1949, 63 COOGEE wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES Scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES Scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES Scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES Scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES Scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES Scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES Scuttled 1926-27, 68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 1928, 64-67 J' CLASS SUBMARINES SCUTT OF LAUNCESTON wrecked 29.5.1928, 74 WILLIA

21 ANONYMA wrecked 2.10.1859, 22 ELIZABETH wrecked 23.4.1860, 23 PRINCE OF WALES wrecked 6.1.1861, 24 A.S.A. PACKER wrecked 24.5.1861, 25 EMPRESS OF THE SEA wrecked 19.12.1861, 26 IJAUQUI wrecked 14.12.1863, 27 PRYDE wrecked 8.2.1866, 28 ANT wrecked 4.1866, 29 LIGHT OF THE AGE wrecked 16.1.1868, 30 PHOENIX wrecked 13.3.1868, 31 FORMOSA wrecked 5.2.1869.





53 AUSTRALIA

Ship. 3702 tons. 343 ft. 20 June 1904. Built 1892. Whilst inbound from London, the ship hit Point Nepean at 2.00 am whilst trying to enter the bay. All 46 passengers and crew were saved. Whilst trying to refloat the ship, a mysterious fire gutted her. The hull has been blown and nothing is visible on the surface.

44 CHEVIOT

Steamship. 1226 tons. 230 ft. 19 October 1887. Built 1875. Thirty-five passengers and crew were lost when the *Cheviot* drifted onshore near Point Nepean. She had lost a propeller and broke in two soon after grounding. The remaining wreckage consists of iron plates and beams and is not a particularly interesting dive. The site is dangerous as it is open to the southern swells.

68 CITY OF LAUNCESTON

Steamship. 278 tons. 197 ft. 19 November 1865. Whilst on a voyage from Launceston to Melbourne she was run down and sunk by the S.S. *Penola*. Attempts were made to raise her but these failed on two occasions and she was eventually abandoned. All passengers of crew were saved. In 1980 her location was found by members the Maritime Archaeology Association of Victoria and in 1981 she was the first shipwreck declared under the Victorian Historic Shipwreck Act.

63 COOGEE

Screw steamer. 762 tons. 1928. The old steamer *Coogee* lies in 34 metres after being scuttled in 1928. She was built in 1887 and carried thousands of passengers on the Australian coastal trade routes before ending her days as a scuttled hulk. She was involved in a number of incidents during her career including the collision with the barque *Fortunato Figari* on Christmas day 1903.

69 COURIER

Steel screw steamer. 728 tons. Scuttled 29 March 1928. Built 1887. The *Courier* was a sleek fast steamer originally designed as a naval despatch boat. She spent her working years mainly as a pleasure steamer on the Bay before being stripped and scuttled.

47 CRAIGBURN

Barque. 1997 tons. 289 ft. 1891. An obstinate captain resulted in the *Craigburn* going ashore and the loss of six lives. The ship had parted from its tug after being towed through the Rip when she found self on a lee shore. The Captain refused another tow but was over-ruled by the Pilot who was still on board. A second tow failed and she went onshore.

37 ELIZA RAMSDEN

Three-masted iron barque. 395 tons. 152 ft. 24 July 1875. Built 1874. This excellent dive resulted from the ship hitting Corsair Rock whilst passing through the Rip. She remained fast for several hours but on the next flood tide drifted off and in to Port Phillip Bay. An attempt was made to bring her onshore but she did not respond to the helm and she eventually sank off Portsea. The ship lies in twenty metres just outside the South shipping channel and is a popular dive. The bow is well intact and she is covered in sponges and seagrass, and is an artificial reef for bay fish species.

25 EMPRESS OF THE SEA

Ship. 1647 tons. 240 ft. 19 December 1861. The quartermaster was blamed for setting the ship afire whilst at anchor off Queenscliff but was later cleared. The crew was discontent after the Captain discharged ten of their mates for incompetence. She was carrying 80,000 English pounds worth of gold which was recovered. The ship was left to drift and finally scuttled.

49 GAMBIER

Steamship. 1030 tons. 280 ft. 28 August 1891. Twenty-one passengers and crew lost their lives when the collier *Easby* cut through the *Gambier* near Pope's Eye during the night. Three boats were launched and most of the passengers picked up by the *Easby* but the *Gambier* sank quickly with a huge gash near her funnel. She lies in 12 metres in the West Channel.

43 GANGE

Barque. 1071 tons. 152 ft. 23 July 1887. The Rip claimed another victim when the Captain tried to enter the Bay without a pilot. She stranded on Point Lonsdale in rough weather and went to pieces a week later. The captain, his wife and daughter and crew of nineteen were rescued.

39 GEORGE ROPER

Barque. 2033 tons. 4 July 1883. Built 1881. The barque was being towed into Port Phillip Bay when the tug *Williams* struck Point Lonsdale Reef and was forced to let go the line. The ship was left helpless in the fog and she too went up on the reef. The steamer *Blackboy* was also lost, whilst in salvage work on the barque. The *George Roper* is a popular dive on a good day – which is rare as she is in an exposed position. There is little left as she is scattered over a wide area in five metres.

58 GOORANGAI

Minesweeper. 223 tons. 117 ft. 20 November 1940. Built 1919. The H.M.A.S. *Goorangai* lost its full complement of twenty-four officers and sailors when she collided with the M.V. *Duntroon* at 8.37 pm, whilst sailing from Queenscliff to Portsea. The *Goorangai* sank within a minute in 16 metres in the South Channel and is thus inaccessible to dive. Two months after the disaster, the wreck was cleared with explosives. Only six bodies were recovered hence the wreck should be respected as a war grave.

46 HOLYHEAD

Barque. 2260 tons. 294 ft. 12 February 1890. Built 1889. The *Holyhead* was wrecked very close to the *George Roper* on Point Lonsdale Reef at the western entrance to Port Phillip Bay. She was on her maiden voyage from Liverpool and appeared to have trouble navigating the coast in misty weather. All hands were saved and it was hoped that the huge ship could be refloated but by July heavy seas had completely destroyed the ship. She now lies in seven metres. A moderate day and ebb tide are required to dive what little remains of the wreck.

70 HURRICANE

Ship. 1198 tons. 20 April 1869. The *Hurricane* was on a trip from Liverpool when she appeared to graze a rock on entering the Heads even though the Pilot suggested that they were in deep water. Within twenty minutes it was apparent from the water in the hold that the ship was going to sink. She was sailed close to land and sank off Authur's Seat in 11 metres. Most of her cargo was salvaged. She is now an unrecognisable junk heap.

71 HYGEIA

Steel paddle steamer. 986 tons. Scuttled 1932. Built 1890. Pity that this magnificent bay steamer could not have been preserved to this day but she met her end in the Ships' Graveyard after forty years of service. Very little of the ship remains, hence she is not a regular dive.

29 LIGHT OF THE AGE

Ship. 512 tons. 133 ft. 16 January 1868. Built 1863. The *Light Of The Age* drifted ashore east of Ocean Grove when she missed stays whilst attempting to enter the notorious Port Phillip Heads. She broke up quickly, however most of her cargo was salvaged by the schooner *Phoenix*, herself being wrecked near Point Lonsdale whilst returning to Melbourne. There is little of the ship left to see in the shallow waters however many items of cargo and ship's fittings have emerged from the sand over the years.

72 MILORA

Steel screw steamer. 3347 tons. Scuttled 8 March 1935. Built 1893. The *Milora* was a coal collier inbound from Newcastle when she ran ashore near Queenscliff on 21 September 1934. She was refloated but as full repairs would have been too expensive she was sold for scrap and her hull eventually scuttled. Very few divers have visited this ship, the largest in the Graveyard, as she is beyond sport diving limits.

hipwrecks of Port Phillip Heads

59 ORUNGAL

Steel screw steamship. 5826 tons. 390 ft. 21 November 1940. Built 1923. Even with modern navigation aids large ships still have trouble heading in to Port Phillip Bay. The SS Orungal hit a reef about a mile east of Barwon Heads in overcast weather. All passengers and crew were rescued. It was hoped that the ship could be salvaged but a fire three weeks later caused irreparable damage. The boiler is visible at low tide but the site is exposed and dangerous to anchor. There is little to be seen on the wreck.

Steamship. 1821 tons. 260 ft. 30 November 1903. Controversy raged when local authorities prevented the foreign crew of this bulk oil carrier from landing in Victoria after she was stranded and holed in a dense fog. The twenty-seven crew finally left for Hong Kong on a Japanese ship. The *Petriana* broke up quickly after an unsuccessful attempt to refloat her.

73 ROTOMAHANA

Steel screw steamer. 1777 tons. 29 May 1928. The S.S. Rotomahana was an attractive clipper-bow passenger steamer built in 1879. For five years she travelled between Melbourne and New Zealand, and then went on the Melbourne-Launceston route. In 1921 she was put out of commission and laid up until 1925 when she was sold for scrap. Her fittings were stripped before she was sent to the bottom. She now lies in 35 metres and is for experienced divers only.

51 SIERRA NEVADA

Ship. 1474 tons. 233 ft. 9 May 1900. Built 1877. After a long voyage from Liverpool lasting 113 days, the Sierra Nevada drifted onshore whilst waiting for a pilot off the Heads. She began to break up quickly. Twenty-three lives were lost as the crew attempted to reach shore in two lifeboats. The ship lies in shallow water close to shore at London Bridge near Portsea back beach and is a dangerous dive other than in calm offshore weather. A small amount of the 2600 tons of cargo has been recovered by divers over the years, including crockery and bottles; the ship's bell was recovered in 1877.

41 SOUTH MILTON

Barque. 607 tons. 159 ft. 10 April 1886. The barque was carrying a cargo of sugar when she struck Charlemont Reef near Barwon Heads in heavy seas. The crew clung to the rigging until the seas forced the barque over the reef into calmer water enabling all to escape. The ship broke up and was totally lost.

64-67 'J' CLASS SUBMARINES

Steel twin-screw submarines. 1260 tons. 274 ft. Scuttled 1926 and 1927. Built 1914-1916. There are four "J" class submarines off the southern Heads, all diveable under good conditions. They were scrapped in 1922 after only four years in peaceful service, and scuttled in 1926 in the area known as the Ship's Graveyard. For identification, the subs are known by their depth, being 26 metres, 35 metres and 38 metres. A 'new' sub was recently found in 34 metres fully intact. The 38 metre sub lies broken in half. All lie upright on a sand and seagrass bottom. One may be seen semisubmerged off Swan Island. The four subs are for experienced divers only.

62 TIME

Steamship. 3316 tons. 340 ft. 27 August 1949. Built 1913. One of the most recent wrecks at the Heads, the S.S. Time hit Corsair Rock off the eastern entrance to the Rip when her steering failed. She remained high and dry for many years but nothing can now be seen above water. The area is dangerous and few divers have been fortunate to dive on her during perfect weather. Broken wreckage lies in 7 metres on a sandy bottom.

74 WILLIAM SALTHOUSE

Barque. 260 tons. 28 November 1841. Inward bound from Quebec, she struck Point Nepean and was run ashore on the eastern sands between the West and South Channels. She was recently located by divers and is now protected under the Victorian Historic Shipwreck Act and a permit is required to dive the wreck.

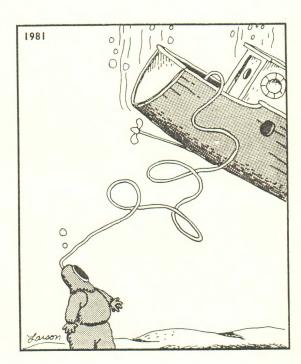
57 WYRALLAH

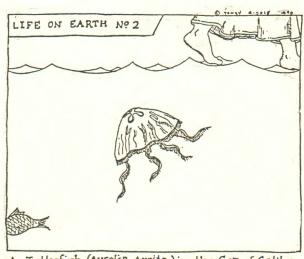
Steamship. 205 tons. 140 ft. 8 April 1924. The small steamship collided with the 1674 ton Dilkerra at night and immediately foundered with the loss of six lives.

1. As many dive locations in the southern Bay area are tide and weather prone, it is of utmost importance that they are dived at the right time and tide, e.g., a dive done in the heads at slack water flood will result in a following outgoing tide. If you stay in the water too long, then you will be in danger of being washed out through the heads.

2. Dring in shipping channels is not permitted without a special permit from the appropriate authority, and anchoring is not permitted in these areas.

3. Always display the diver below flag and have a boat operator in your vessel at all times.





A Jellyfish (Aurelia Aurita) in the Sea of Galilee

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

SPONSORS

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

The Committee of South Pacific Divers Club wish to thank our sponsors for their continued support.

GEORGE ROBERTS PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION SPONSORS

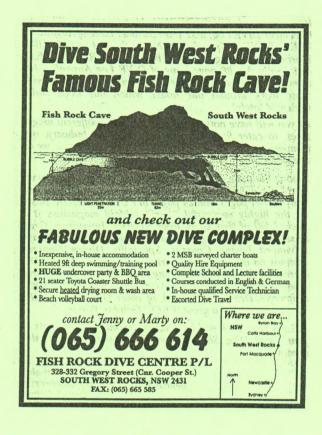


Diving the Legendary North Solitary Islands

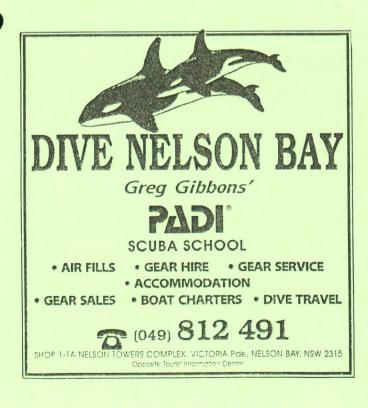
- 3 MSB surveyed vessels chartering every day.
- Full Hire Gear available.
- Divers Den accommodation from \$12 per night.
- Courses to all levels.
- Diving & Accommodation Packages.
- Special Group Rates.

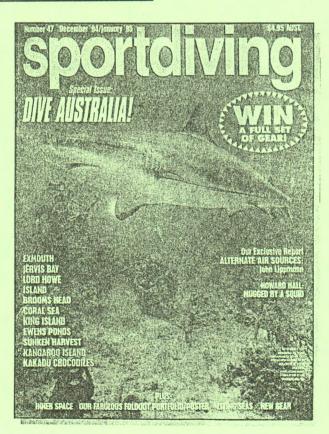
Phone Chris or Gary on

(066) 54 1930 Fax: (066) 54 0328



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE SPONSORS





* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

CLUB SPONSORS

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

The Committee of South Pacific Divers Club wish to thank our sponsors for their continued support.

MONTHLY CLUB SPONSORS

FOR THE ULTIMATE IN FINE DINING







Call: 709 3899 For Reservations

Dress Regulations Apply

KODAK

SHIPROCK DIVE

617 Pt Hacking Rd Lilli Pilli PH: 526 2664 FX: 526 2906

For all your SCUBA needs: AIR • EQUIPMENT • BOAT DIVES • SERVICE • COURSES • HIRE

Local, Interstate & Overseas Dives Diversaster led Shore Dives

We're just up the road from the DOLANS BAY WHARF

Drop in and say Hello to Leo & Lesley Hillyer

Treat yourself to some mid-week diving with



Sea-Tamer II Dive Charters

Fully surveyed Marlin Broadbill built specifically for diving. Rostered and flexi days. Club and group bookings available.

* FRIENDLY AND RELAXED ATMOSPHERE.

★ LIGHT SNACK AFTER DIVE. ★ 2 HOUR TURNAROUND.

* LICENSED COXSWAIN & DIVE MASTER.

PHONE MAX WESTERN ON

02·567 2658 MOBILE: 018·28 0791

MINUTES OF MEETING OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB HELD ON MONDAY 19 DECEMBER, 1994 AT BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB

OPENING: Club President Leo Mayer welcomed members and visitors present.

APOLOGIES: Suzanne Evans, Eddy Labour, John Cassidy, Ross Hipwell, Ilona Kandilas.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER, 1994

Minutes sent to members in the second December newsletter.

Accepted by Gordon McDonald, Seconded by Mark Spencer.

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE: Newsletters from other dive clubs.

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Christmas cards sent to sponsors of Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year presentation night.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

There was \$421 incoming and \$1,265.45 outgoing for the past month. Outgoing amounts included:

\$500 deposit for next Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Presentation Night.

\$180.40 postage and stationery.

* \$265.20 miscellaneous (including \$250 for taxation audit).

Accepted by Michael McFadyen and Seconded by Gordon McDonald.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER's REPORT

The George Roberts Perpetual Trophy underwater photographic competition opens in January and closes at the March Club meeting (20 March, 1995).

- * There will be no shoot-out this year Kodak is not supplying film.
- * A new Individual category has been created in the competition. Certificates will be awarded for Best Macro, Wide Angle and Wildlife slides.
- * First place in the Open Category will receive five (5) nights accommodation and six (6) boat dives at the Solitary Islands Marine Reserve donated by Dive Quest Mullaway.
- * First place in the Novice category will be five (5) nights accommodation and six boat dives at South West Rocks donated by South West Rocks Dive Centre.

Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year (AUPY)

- * The competition rules for the 1995 AUPY have been reviewed and three (3) new rules have been included. A list of the rules have been enclosed with the December newsletter.
- * The February edition of Sportdiving will contain the entry form and rules of the competition.
- * Any questions don't hesitate to see Peter.

New Products

- * The Italian Design Team have come up with a way of changing a Nikon lens underwater. This has been tested to a depth of 50 metres.
- * Nikonos has a new underwater sync cord on the market for SP102, SP103 and SP104 strobes.

DIVE ORGANISER'S REPORT

Geoff Cook proposed a different system to promote diving activities within the Club. At each Club meeting, members will be able to put their names down for future diving activities on sheets which will be located on the Committee's table. This will give the Dive Organiser's an indication of and also of how many boats are available.

Upcoming Diving Activities

* Nelson Bay weekend: Saturday/Sunday: 14/15 January. Double boat dive Saturday, shore dive Sunday. Accommodation \$20.00 per person. Contact Leo Mayer.

Upcoming Diving Activities

- * A 'Chicken and Champagne' club boat dive has been organised for Sunday 22 January, 1995, departing Dolans Bay boat ramp at 8.00 a.m. and diving Port Hacking (location to be advised). Contact Geoff Cook for further details.
- * Geoff is also going to South West Rocks from 11-18 February, 1995. A number of camp sites have been booked at Arrakoon State Recreation Area. Put your name down if interested so that accommodation can be organised. For further details, contact Geoff.
- * Barbara Sweetman is organising a trip down to Eden from 17-20 February, 1995. Contact Barbara for details.
- * Geoff Cook mentioned that now is a good time for the Club to be getting back into a regular night dive with Max Western. Last week he dived at Barrons Hut and had 50 ft. vis. Money up front is required for a dive on Max's boat. See Geoff in the break if interested.
- * Jervis Bay multi club dive weekend including South Pacific, Ryde Underwater, URG and Douts dive clubs is being held over 10-12 March, 1995. Three campsites have been booked, including Bristle Point and Green Patch. Club member Martin Atkins lives in the Jervis Bay area and has accommodation and a boat. For details contact Scott Leimroth.
- * A trip to Jindabyne for a weekend of altitude diving has been organised for 18-19 March, 1995. For details, contact Scott.
- * A trip to Nelson Bay has been planned for the Easter long weekend, being 14-17 April, 1995. Contact Scott for details.
- * Clean Up Australia Day is on Sunday 5 March, 1995. The Club will be doing their bit at Little Bay and will make a day of it with a Bar-B-Q as well. For details contact Scott or Suzanne Evans.
- * Scott proposed that the Club start up a night dive on the first Monday of every month.
- * A Club boat dive is planned for 26 February, 1995. Location at Bass Point, Shellharbour and Bar-B-Q afterwards. Contact Geoff or Scott.

SOCIAL ORGANISER'S REPORT

- * A night out is planned for this Thursday night (22nd December) at the 'Hellfire' Night Club. Meet at the Gladstone Hotel at 10.30 p.m. Contact Barbara for details.
- * Barbara asked if any Club members are interested in acrobatic stunt flying, Denis Konstant, a club member, is a pilot. Anyone interested? Names to Barbara.
- * Leo Mayer mentioned that "Meatballs" 'Fat Out of Hell' is back on 11 February, 1995 at Bankstown Sports Club. Anyone interested? Contact Social Secretaries.

MEMBERS DIVE REPORTS

- Leo Mayer has recently been down south to do some diving in Melbourne. He says there is some good diving which is well worth it. He dived on 2 J class submarines one was completely intact and had 40-50 feet visibility. The 4 J-class subs were bought by the Australian government after W-W-I refitted, had one naval exercise and then scuttled in the "ships graveyard". Leo also dived Cape Conron (Vic) south of Eden reefs everywhere, some very good diving.
- Scott Leimroth dived the Undola last Sunday. Really calm conditions and no current.
 Scott also recently dived Old Man's Hat and the Kurrajong in Sydney Harbour and also the Tugerah.
- Rick Latimer, Scott Leimroth, John Fardoulis and Martin Kandilas recently dived the Tugerah. During the dive Martin heard a thumping noise but didn't know what it was. Scott saw what he thought was a porthole and picked it up to find out it was a huge numb ray. Scott put it down really quick and it didn't sting him.
 - At this point in the proceedings Gordon McDonald intervened with "That would make your hair stand up!", obviously directed towards Scott. (Could this be quote of the year?).
- Rick Latimer, John Fardoulis and John Szwecow recently dived the Kelloe. The water was really clear. John S. set his camera up the night before to find out during the dive that the batteries were flat.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Leo Mayer extended a thank you to all Committee and club members who assisted with the Club's Christmas Party at Cabarita Park on 17 December, especially Paul Aram (helped with cooking), Carina and Barbara.
- Peter Flockart mentioned that he noticed in the Fishing column of the Telegraph Mirror of 7 December that fishermen were being asked to keep a watch out for divers in the Port Hacking area where there were no dive flags up.
- Martin Kandilas raised an item directed towards the newsletter editor, Michael McFadyen regarding the Club's newsletter the "Wet Rag". Martin made comment on the editorial style of Michael and made comment that "when a member takes the time and effort to write an article, it should be published exactly as it was written". Martin also questioned Michael saying he was going to limit the club newsletter to no more than 8 pages because its too hard to fit into an envelope.

Michael replied that a condition of taking on the position of newsletter editor is to enable him to have editorial control of the newsletter. He stated that no changes are made to members contributions other than grammatical corrections. He also noted that Martin did not take this matter up personally with him.

John Fardoulis suggested that this matter should be dealt with at the next Committee meeting with Michael.

- Leo Mayer said a rep. from Westpac SLSA Helicopter Rescue Service was to speak at the January meeting, however John F. said he had a speaker on mixed gas coming.
- Leo Bergagnin mentioned that the Provincial Trader still hasn't been moved. Apparently there have been three attempts and each time the Trader has been picked up and dropped. Leo B. believes the roof has been cut off. Leo Mayer mentioned that he heard that Peter Cochran fought hard for it. Leo B. said the matter had been mentioned in Hansard.
- John F. advised that he had received a written apology from Australian Camera magazine regarding the publishing of winning photos or similar to winning photos using the SPDC AUPY name, shortly after the presentation night. Australian Camera magazine has offered to supply a cash prize in next year's AUPY as a token of their good faith.

Rules of Incorporation - Clause 29(b)

Scott Leimroth then proposed a vote on Rule 29(b) of the Rules of Incorporation. It is proposed that this Clause be deleted as the resources of the Committee are not sufficient to regularly inspect all 16 boats. It is considered that Clause 29(b) as it stands is unworkable.

Michael McFadyen and Leo Bergagnin said there has not been 21 days notice to members. It was suggested that discussion on this matter should occur now and it should be voted on at the next meeting of the Club.

ne comment was: If the committee fails to inspect the boats they are making themselves liable however the committee does not have the resources, unlike a government body.

Leo B. mentioned that Brent Hedges looked at amendments in April 1994. Leo Mayer suggested to contact Brent Hedges - someone mentioned that he was unavailable (overseas). Merridy Cairn-Duff suggested that contact should be made with Ryde Underwater club - they have been through something similar with the MSB and club boat. Paul Aram then suggested that professional legal advice be sought re liability of Club if someone gets injured on Club boat dives.

Paul Aram then proposed a motion to obtain professional legal advice regarding this matter. The motion was then ACCEPTED by Gordon McDonald and SECONDED by Mark Spencer. Motion CARRIED.

Paul Aram then commented that it is best to obtain professional advice - going to another Club is not a good idea. Martin and Rick know of a couple of legal firms that deal with maritime law.

Other

- Martin Kandilas mentioned that John Sumner has a new book for sale entitled "Shipwrecks of the NSW Central Coast" by Greg Berry. Martin had copies for sale for anyone interested.
- Martin also proposed a motion to be put in writing for the next meeting that a time limit be placed on people speaking at future Club meetings.
- Peter Flockart mentioned that there is a new telephone number for the Diver Emergency Service (D.E.S.):
 1800 088 200.

Leo Mayer declared the meeting closed.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

- * First prize of a weekend for 2 at Nelson Bay Compliments of Dive Nelson Bay Dive Shop, 1 year's subscription to Sportdiving Magazine, 3 rolls of Kodak slide film was won by: GLEN THOMPSON.
- * Second Prize of a strobe filter from Kodak, 1 boat dive with Max Western's Sea Tamer II and a video Nikon Guide to Underwater Photography was won by:

 JOHN BEDDIE.
- * Third Prize of a dive computer book compliments of Sportdiving Magazine, three rolls of Kodak slide film and two free airfills compliments of Ship Rock Dive was won by:

 RUSSELL STOKER.

Thank you to Dive Nelson Bay dive shop, Sportdiving Magazine, Kodak, Max Western and Leo and Leslie Hillyer of Shiprock Dive for their support of the Club Christmas Raffle.

Congratulations to the winners!!

CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Leo Bergagnin presented the nominations for 'Club Member of the Year' and the reasons why these people were suggested. The nominations were:

Barbara Sweetman – Carina Gregory – John Fardoulis

Scott Leimroth
 Russell Stoker

RUSSELL STOKER was awarded with the prestigious title of 'Club Member of the Year' for 1994 and was awarded a Certificate. Congratulations Russell!!

COMMITTEE MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Members of the previous Committee received a certificate in appreciation of their efforts throughout their year of appointment. Thank you to:

LEO MAYER, JOE INGEGNERI, ROSS HIPWELL, MICHAEL McFADYEN, SUZANNE EVANS

For the title of 'Committee Member of the Year', the voting was equal, and

LEO BERGAGNIN and TERESE MAYER

were both awarded with the title 'Committee Member of the Year' and each received a plaque in appreciation of their efforts. Congratulations Leo B. and Terese!!

FUNNY AWARDS

John Fardoulis then presented the Funny Awards for 1994.

Tall Story Award: Scott Leimroth.
 Face of 1994 Award: Russell Stoker.

• 1994 Sleezemaster Award: Joe Ingegneri.

• 1994 Armchair Diver Award: Martin Kandilas.

• 1994 Shit-stirrer Award: B.J.

• 1994 Drift Diver Award No. 1: Leo Bergagnin.

• 1994 Drift Diver Award No. 2: John Fardoulis (Award presented by Barbara Sweetman).

Each of the above received a certificate in recognition of their efforts.

GUEST PHOTOGRAPHER / SPEAKER

Fellow club member, Merridy Cairn-Duff, presented slides from her recent trip away to Cairns and on the Undersea Explorer which ventured to the Great Barrier Reef and Coral Sea. Merridy certainly has an eye for detail as we were all greatly entertained by playing "find the shrimp" in each slide.

Thank you Merridy, we all enjoyed your presentation.