

WET RAG



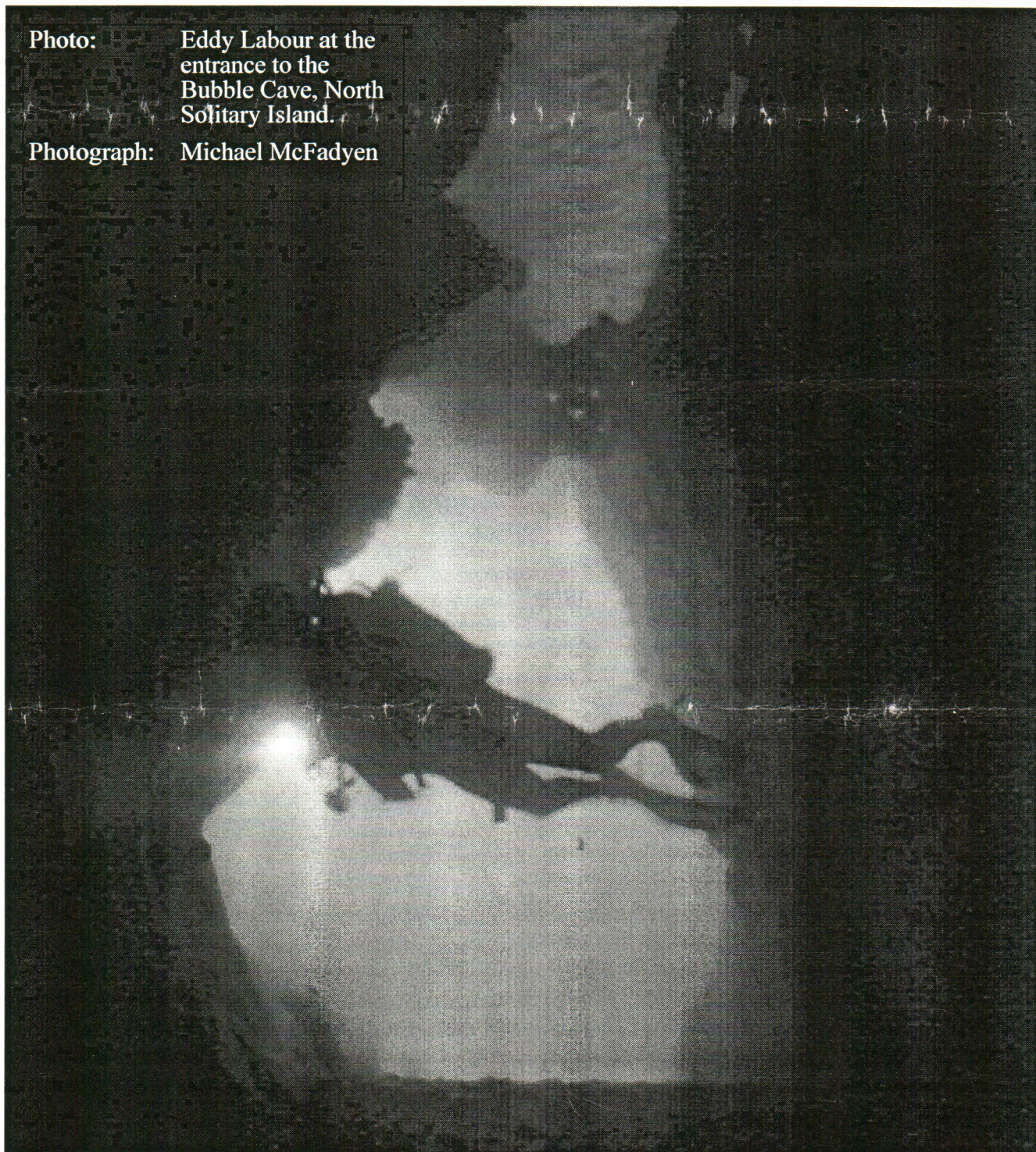
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS' CLUB (established 1962)

PO Box 823, BANKSTOWN NSW 2220

May 1995

Photo: Eddy Labour at the
entrance to the
Bubble Cave, North
Solitary Island.

Photograph: Michael McFadyen



Meetings of the Club are normally held at 8 pm on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Emile McDonald Room of the Bankstown Sports Club, Greenfield Street, Bankstown. This month the meeting will be held on Monday 15 May 1995.

President's Message

The year is motoring along and May is already upon us. With the winter months rapidly approaching, it is now time to focus on the summer of '95. Over the past 12 months, South Pacific Divers' Club, with Ryde Underwater Club, has been a forerunner in promoting inter club relations. Other clubs have also joined us and the JB Festival was born. On 1 May, John Fardoulis and I attended a meeting with representatives of seven other dive clubs to start working on the next multi club event. More about that later. Discussion was also held about forming an association of independent dive clubs. While the definition of "independent", the name and the charter of the association is still to be finalised, it basically revolves around promoting diving within and outside these clubs. More importantly, our aim will be to form a lobby group which will have some political clout. At the moment we are blindly following the American diving system and what may be good for the American diver is not necessarily good for us. The majority of divers are in some form of club or another and an amalgamation of these clubs is not a reality but an association of these clubs is. Standards and rules are being made by our Governments every day, but who is representing us, the divers, at this level. Nobody! If a diving agency goes to some bureaucrat and says "Thou shalt not fart underwater", bingo, it is a standard rule, law or whatever because no-one is there to put up the divers' side of the story. It would be lovely to be diving down here with the Queensland legislation!!!

At our next Club meeting, we will discuss this more fully and I would hope South Pacific Divers' Club becomes a founder member of the future association of independent dive clubs.
United we stand, divided we fall. Leo

Photographic Officer's Message

The George Roberts Memorial Trophy presentation night was held at the April meeting. Merridy Cairn-Duff won the Open Section and she received the prize of five nights accommodation and six boat dives at the Solitary Islands with **DIVE QUEST MULLAWAY**. John Swezcow came second.

In the Novice Section, BJ left the field in his wake and won easily with some excellent photos. His prize is five nights accommodation and six boat dives at the fabulous Fish Rock Cave with **SOUTH WEST ROCKS DIVE CENTRE**. Second place-getter was Suzanne Evans and third was Ben Butcher. Leo Bergagnin was given an honorary mention.

Peter Flockart.

Newsletter Editor's Message

Over the Anzac Day "Long Weekend", Eddy Labour and I travelled up the coast to join some friends at Mullaway to dive with one of the Club's generous sponsors, **Dive Quest**. The Saturday was a wipe-out with extremely strong winds making the sea look like a white water rafting course and nearly blowing us off our feet.

However, Sunday proved to be much better and we travelled the 22 km out to North Solitary Island, the jewel of the Solitary Islands. What great dives we had!! In two dives, we spent a total of over two and a half hours underwater exploring the Bay of Anemones and the Elbow Cave area. Abundant fishlife, numerous tropical species, turtles, clownfish galore, the Solitary Islands really deserves to be the first marine national park in NSW as it soon will (hopefully) be.

The next day had even better seas, so we dived a pinnacle site known as Wright's Reef (after local fisher D'Arcy Wright who told Dive Quest of its location). This is a bit deeper (up to 30 m) and has a tunnel right through the pinnacle. As I entered the tunnel (about 20 m long), I saw a grey nurse shark circling from the other end to the centre of the cave. The rest of the divers entered and then a huge Queensland groper came in and did a circuit before exiting with the groper. A great photo gone missing since a thief has my Nikonos.

Our second dive on this day was at the Bubble Cave (see front page photo from a previous visit) at North Solitary Island. Again, the fishlife was amazing. The entrance to the Bubble Cave was covered with fish, making it difficult to see where we were going. Another great photo went untaken. Our 90 minute dive was over far too soon.

As usual, the service from **Dive Quest** was first class. Chris Connell, one of the two owners of **Dive Quest** (Gary Thompson was overseas in the Solomons with a group) really looked after us. If you want to experience the best diving in NSW (and maybe even Australia) and the best dive operation I have seen, visit our sponsors, **Dive Quest**.

More recently I dived the SS *Undola*, SS *Myola* and SS *Duckenfield* with members John Beddie and Ross Mackay. All three dives were excellent with very good visibility and calm seas. Remember, next weekend the Club is diving the **SS Myola and SS Duckenfield on Saturday 13 May**. If you are interested in diving one of the wrecks, phone Scott or Geoff (see next page for numbers) as soon as possible.

Good diving, Michael McFadyen

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following members are on the committee for the 1994/95 year.

Position	Name	Home No:	Work No:
President:	Leo Bergagnin	558 2592 Mobile: (041) 951 7285	517 2853
Treasurer:	John Fardoulis	634 4607	831 9246
Secretary:	Suzanne Evans	891 1964 (answering machine provided)	
Photographic Officer:	Peter Flockart	371 0265 Fax: 374 2688	374 2382
Publicity Officer:	Merridy Cairn-Duff	630 6575 Fax: 868 2732	805 1748
Dive Organisers:	Scott Leimroth Geoff Cook	759 6501 543 5817 Mobile (018) 29 4897	543 5817 (018) 29 4891
Social Secretaries:	Barbara Sweetman Carina Gregory	550 1712 (046) 25 8630	Pager 430 6285 (046) 20 1423
Newsletter Editor:	Michael McFadyen	558 8181 Mobile (015) 27 6556	585 6434

BOAT OWNERS CONTACT LIST

The following members of the Club are boat owners. They generally go out diving most weekends and often need extra divers to make up numbers. Why not give them a call one day. If you are a boat owner, why not give a non-owner a call (see the membership list distributed regularly) and invite them along with you.

Name	Home No:	Work No:
Sue Armstrong	(042) 94 2769	697 2248
Martin Atkins (lives in Jervis Bay area)	(044) 43 4631	(042) 74 0210
BJ	709 5535	
Peter Booth	529 3818	
Geoff Cook	543 5817	(018) 29 4891
Bruce Cremonesi	668 8126	645 0286
John Fardoulis	634 4607	831 9246
Martin Kandilas	725 7808	725 7808
Rick Latimer	645 4405	(042) 61 5631 (018) 64 7329
Bob May	(045) 79 1053	(045) 75 1177

Remember, the following dive charter operators support the Club. You are encouraged to utilise their services when diving in the area they serve.

Max Western, *Sea-tamer II* (Port Hacking area), 567 2658 or (018) 28 0791.

Peter Hall (a Club member), Twofold Dive at Eden, (064) 96 3384.

If you are going to Jervis Bay (or want to dive there) how about phoning member Martin Atkins who lives in the area. He is always looking for dive buddies. See his numbers above.

TWOFOLD DIVE

If you are want to dive some of NSW's most untouched coastline, as well as the wrecks of the *Tasman Hauler* and *Henry Bolte*, why not visit Eden. Twofold Dive is recommended by the Club and will look after your diving needs. See Rebecca Davis's article on page 5 of this *Wet Rag* for the sights to see.

Accommodation is available in a comfortable and inexpensive house right in the centre of Eden. Phone Peter or Lorna Hall on (064) 96 3384 for more information and to book.

PROUD SPONSOR OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS' CLUB

DIVE REPORTS

SOUTHERN SAFARI 95 Submarines, Shipwrecks, Sharks & Sinkholes (Part 4) by Scott Leimroth

(Scott and Rebecca have just dived Piccaninny Ponds)

It poured rain after our dive at Piccaninny so we headed for Kangaroo Island. The first few days at Kangaroo Island were spent experiencing the views and native animals above the water - from a beach full of sea lions and wild goats, friendly bettongs (a type of wallaby) and pesky possums. The variety of natural wildlife and unique scenery on Kangaroo Island has to be seen and experienced to be believed.

After seeing the sights above water, we decided to find out what was below the purple/blue waters surrounding the island. We chose Adventureland Diving at American Beach which has comfortable motel-style accommodation and would take us on a double dive the next day. We settled in and wondered what to expect, hopefully some sea lions, maybe a leafy sea dragon - we dared not mention the other known inhabitant of these waters. Unfortunately for me, a copy of *Reader's Digest* was in our room and its cover story was about a great white shark attack. Was this just a coincidence or put here on purpose? Stupidly, I read the article before bed and after a night of bad dreams, we set off to dive.

The seas were quite choppy but the inflatable handled them well. Conditions were the last thing on my mind. On the trip to the dive site I could not control myself any longer and asked "Have any great whites been seen around here?". The reply was not one I wanted to hear. "Yes, they have been seen, not regularly, but a group of Melbourne divers were buzzed by a five metre monster relatively recently".

I tried not to think about it as we entered the water but in the back of my mind I ran through all the lines of defence I had heard about (such as hitting a shark on the nose and not having to swim faster than the shark to escape, only having to swim faster than your buddy!). On entering the water we had 10 to 15 metres visibility and a surgy bottom. I carried a float line in case one of the treacherous currents surrounding the island got hold of us. I also imagined something else getting hold of us. The currents around the island can be dangerous except when what is called a "dodge" occurs. This happens for three days in every fortnight when there is not tide or current - something I imagine would make for splendid diving.

The reef here was covered in growth and fishlife of a type not commonly found in NSW or Victorian waters. Colourful sponges in strange shapes, large schools of fish such as colourful

queen snapper, were seen. We also saw boarfish, western talmas, pike, groper and blue devils. We stuck close to the reef and I regularly checked over my shoulder. It is amazing the tricks your mind can play on you - I was sure I saw a large shape in the distance at the limit of our visibility. Eventually we returned to the boat and wasted no time exiting the water.

Our second dive was at a spot where leafy sea dragons and seals had been seen. We spent the whole dive scanning the weed to no avail. At one stage a few large schools of fish came around and we clung to the bottom expecting to see something chasing them but nothing was sighted.

While we saw no sharks and did not really expect to, just the knowledge that they have been seen before keeps them in the back of your mind throughout the dive. Although we had seen neither sea lions, leafy sea dragons or sharks, we still had some great diving.

We headed for Adelaide next and stopped at Port Noarlunga reef after camping the night at Aldinga in a severe storm. A wharf runs out to the reef and entry is made halfway along the wharf. The water was quite clear and the sun was blazing in contrast to the weather the night before. The reef is only eight metres deep with the top exposed at low tide. It runs parallel to the beach and has an underwater nature trail consisting of information plaques on concrete blocks. We saw many beautiful fish and some colourful nudibranchs, including a minute one that was opaque. Halfway along the left hand section of reef lies a large admiralty anchor and further on there is a hole in the reef and you can access the seaward side. Because of the shallow depth and interesting animal life, we spent an hour and a half underwater and in this time the tide had gone out making the access to the ladder at the exit point quite difficult. After walking back to the car in the heat we were exhausted. A great way to end our final dive of the holiday.

After so much diving we decided that a few days should be spent in the Barossa Valley off-gassing. After two or three wineries, the effects of wine quaffing are not unlike nitrogen narcosis. The car looked a sight on the way home to Sydney, loaded up with dive gear and cases of wine. We headed home with many stories to tell and many fond memories of the places we had been and people we had met. **THE END!**

JERVIS BAY COMBINED DIVE CLUBS WEEKEND by John Fardoulis

It all started early last year when Joe Ingegneri from South Pacific Divers Club (SPDC) and John Chadd from Ryde Underwater Club (RUC) crossed paths at South West Rocks. What resulted

was the SPDC vs RUC Skirmish Challenge. This was a successful event (although We Was **Robbed**), a preview of interaction between clubs would occur on a larger scale. During one of the skirmish rest breaks, the concept of getting together with several clubs was discussed. John Chadd then began to co-ordinate what resulted in the Combined Clubs Dive Festival.

Contact was made with SPDC, the Underwater Research Group (URG) and the University Of Technology (Douts) dive clubs. Later down the track, St. George Scuba Club and Jervis Bay Dive Club joined the collective.

John Chadd booked camping sites at Bristol Point and Greenpatch in the Jervis Bay National Park. Then it was time for representatives from each club to meet and discuss details. It was expected that 70 people would attend but in excess of 120 people actually participated. An excellent effort for a first attempt.

It was decided that money for charity should be raised over the weekend, with the NRMA Careflight helicopter service nominated as the beneficiary. A large raffle, profits from t-shirt sales and a subsidy per boat raised over \$1000.

Combined-Clubs Dive Festival

Number Of Dive Clubs Attending	6
Approximate Combined Membership	700
Approximate Diving Attendees	120
Approximate Dives completed during weekend	400
Number of boats participating	8
Combined capacity of boat transport (per trip)	48

The Combined Clubs Dive Festival was born.

EASTER EAST (and north) OF EDEN by Rebecca Davis

After the successful Combined Club weekend, Scott Leimroth was rewarded by winning a great raffle prize - a weekend for two diving at Eden with Peter and Lorna Hall of Twofold Dive. Luckily, he took me with him and we headed south at the start of the school holidays.

On arrival in Eden, we spent some time in the Killer Whale Museum and watching the fishing boats come in with their catch of huge yellowfish tuna and swordfish. A friendly seal was playing in the harbour and picking up the leftovers.

Our first dive was on the tug *Tasman Hauler* (29 metres) which was in a sheltered spot out of the howling wind. We descended through the COLD water to the mast and top deck where the railings were covered in beautiful jewel anemones - pink, peach, purple, white and orange. It is amazing how much growth forms so quickly (the wreck was scuttled in 1988). We swam along the port side, peering into the portholes and noticed a boarfish had chosen to take up residence in the

engine room. This is a safe penetration dive so we entered and found the toilets, sinks, many ladders, hatches and switches.

Our second dive was the *Oliver Post*, a schooner that sank after foundering on the rocks. We found the large anchor and links of anchor chain, wooden deadeyes and brass nails, wires and sheets cemented into the sandstone boulders. Scott's rummaging turned up an irate iridescent blue-ringed octopus and hundreds of brittlestars and shrimps. There were many fish hanging about including silver drummer, leatherjackets, old wives, Port Jackson sharks and a blue-throated wrasse.

The next day we dived the *Mary Cam* - well bits of the *Mary Cam* in a very surge slot in the cliffs. She was a steamship and all that is left is a pile of wreckage at the base of the cliffs. We found the huge anchor and parts of the steering and pulleys. Scott gets very excited by anything metal but I must admit, on this occasion, I was more interested in the stingrays and cuttlefish hanging around.

Finally, we dived Jacko's Cave (23 metres) which runs 75 metres through a large bommie. This is a great cave dive but buoyancy control is essential as it has a very low ceiling and a silty bottom. There were huge red gorgonia fans at the entrance and carpets of bryozoans and anemones. The cave floor was covered in busy hermit crabs and unusual starfish and I found a magnificent pink pencil urchin with serrated "pencils". The ceiling was covered with colourful sponges and we saw a slipper lobster. We decided the cave was getting very "tight" at the back so we came out and swam along the sheer wall of the bommie with its many interesting "steps" and square block formations. It was relaxing to look up and see the yellowtail swirling around the top of the bommie.

We finished off a great few days by swapping stories with the original "Jacko" who has dived all the wrecks of Disaster Bay and salvaged some magnificent artefacts from the *Ly-Ee-Moon*, which are on display in the local museum. Mary Mackillop's mother died on this wreck and my Catholic convent school would be thrilled if I dived on it. Next time!

Our next stop was Jervis Bay to stay with Martin and Heather Atkins who are Club members and very keen divers. We did five dives with them - Drum and Drumstick, Stoney Creek, Bowen Island, Crocodile Head Gorge and The Arch. The water was much warmer up here (19°C) and we were lucky that the current was only mild. At Stoney Creek, someone was heard to say "Don't do a John Fardoulis on us!" as we headed down the anchor line. We laughed a lot as we descended into the blue.

For all this deco diving, Martin has an incredibly complex set up of weights, buoys and various lines. However, they worked very well, including "Fred" which was a cleverly placed weight to stop the anchor pulling out. We are convinced that Martin used to be a Navy SEAL for British Intelligence or MI5! He sure looked the part, right down to the black rubber gloves. He dives in a 9mm suit and was always snug when we were freezing.

The reef diving at JB is hard to beat - even Scott was impressed. Of course, his favourite dive was the Drum and Drumstick as there was metal to be found. The Navy use the area for target practice so there were many old torpedoes and warheads lying around. We swam rapidly away from Scott when he picked up the cone "head" of a torpedo (detonator?). Sensibly, he did not shove it into his BC but left it there!

Crocodile Head Gorge was most impressive. The anchor hooked in at the top of the gorge in 30 metres and as we arrived at the bottom the gorge/canyon opened up below us. We walked the "tightrope" across it before descending to the sand at 52 metres. Looking up, the sheer walls were amazing.

We saw heaps of fish on every dive, including blue morwong, blue devilfish, butterfly perch, eastern king wrasse (rare), a lionfish, pufferfish and large gropers. There were also great nudibranchs (one huge halgerda) to be found.

Martin and Heather are great hosts - we enjoyed pints of homebrew in the spa and ate heaps at the barbecue. One thing we all agreed on was we must get a computer for all this diving! Bring on the July school holidays!!

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS' CLUB MAKE FRONT PAGE OF *DIVE LOG*

Have you seen the front page of April's *DIVE Log*? It featured the team from South Pacific Divers' Club pushing their decorated bed in full scuba gear (including mask, snorkel, fins, BCD, tank, regs and lycra suits) before the annual Qantas Kings Cross Charity Bed Race.

Inside there was a photo of John Fardoulis and Joe Ingegneri finishing their Fountain Diving Specialty Course in the El Alamein Fountain.

The Club's involvement in Clean Up Australia Day also made *DIVE Log*, with a story by Suzanne Evans and a photo of Club members.

These were worthwhile events that were fun but also generated a new level of enthusiasm within the club and some very positive publicity for South Pacific Divers' Club.

DIVE SITES TO REMEMBER

Oak Park

Always a very good dive, Oak Park at Cronulla is one of the easiest shore dives in Sydney (John Beddie does not agree with that). An easy entry from behind or beside the pool and you just follow the reef out to the east and then the north. It is a simple matter to follow it back again, although you can go off over the lower reef every now and again. Also very good as a night dive, especially as the park has tables and free electric barbecues for after dive sausage sizzles.

Middle Ground

Located straight off the entrance to Port Hacking, Middle Ground is a dive site that was "lost" for many years until recently. At a depth of just over 30 metres, the reef sticks up about three metres on its southern edge and slopes into the sand on the northern side. Its small size means you can easily swim around it on a dive. Fishlife is very good, with heaps of red morwongs, bream, seapike, yellowtail, snapper and other varieties. The main attractions are sea whips and swimming anemones located on the south-eastern corner. The marks can be obtained from the Editor.

WRECKS OF INTEREST

Over Easter, John Beddie dived two wrecks at Green Cape on the Far South Coast of NSW that do not get a great deal of divers visiting them. This is mainly because the access by boat from Eden is a long trip and the alternate boat access from Wonboyn Lake is through a shallow and treacherous bar after towing the boat from Eden. The wrecks are the SS *New Guinea* and SS *City of Sydney*. The *City of Sydney* can be done from the shore through Ben Boyd National Park (the Editor did it this way about seven years ago).

The SS *New Guinea* was a 2674 ton 90 metre long steamer which ran aground in dense fog on 13 February 1911 with the loss of no lives.

The SS *City of Sydney* was the first screw vessel owned by the Australasian Steam Navigation Company. Displacing 735 tons, she was 62 metres long and was sail assisted. She was wrecked on 5 November 1862, again with no loss of life.

John reports that the wrecks are both excellent dives and well worth the travel.

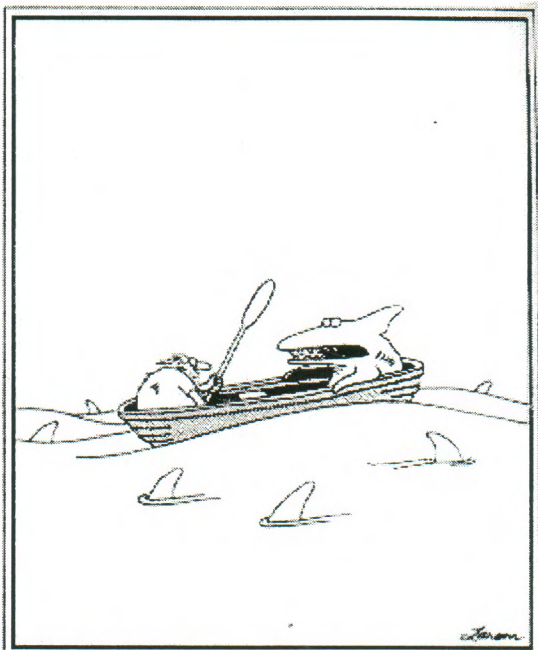
DYK *

The well known Sydney hotel, the Rose, Shamrock and Thistle, was named after three almost identical vessels owned by the Hunter's (sic) River Steam Navigation Co. The *Rose* was built in 1940 as was the *Thistle* while the *Shamrock* was built the next year. They operated

out of nearby Blackwattle Bay, hence the naming of the pub.

* Did You Know

CARTOON OF THE MONTH



"OK. I'll go back and tell my people that you're staying in the boat, but I warn you they're not going to like it."

RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

On Anzac Day, a Club dive was held out of Port Hacking with "Beef and Burgundy" afterwards at Gibbon Beach. The event was a great success with more than 40 members participating as well as many family members.

On Sunday 30 April, another Club dive was held out of Port Hacking. Some members dived the wreck of the SS *Tuggerah* while others did reef dives including Hanging Rock at Marley Point. Afterwards a barbecue was held at Geoff Cook's place at Menai. The diving was excellent and the socialising just as good fun. Make sure you attend the next Club dive/barbecue.

I SPY

Who was the prominent Club member whose beloved boat nearly sank on Easter Saturday? Apparently he and some other members were going to dive the SS *Myola* but the seas were a bit too rough for their liking so they returned to the *Centurion* which lies just inside North Head of Sydney Harbour.

As the divers entered the water the boat was noticed to be a bit down in the rear of one of its two hulls but it did not appear to be a great concern. Not all the members went diving (including the owner) and after a while it got worse. The members in the water returned to the anchor line and started their decompression (how could you stay on the *Centurion* long enough to

get into deco???) . Soon they heard the boat's engines start up and then roar away. They surfaced as soon as possible to see the said boat rounding Quarantine Point. Luckily, Peter Fields (discoverer of *Myola*) was anchored nearby and he took them aboard. The sinking boat was found rammed up on the beach. After borrowing a pump, the water was extracted and the boat survives to this day.

Note: two of the participants were very keen to make sure that this incident went in *Wet Rag*.

LAST MONTH'S QUIZ

Robyn Hewitt was the winner of last month's quiz when she identified the two mistakes in the photograph on the front page of the *April Wet Rag*. The mistakes were a misspelling of Australasian and *Sportdiving* on the banners carried at the Kings Cross bed race.

ATTENTION MUSIC BUFFS

The Committee would like to request from all members suggestions of music for use in the audiovisual production at this year's Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Competition on 7 October at the Bankstown Sports Club.

We would like musical pieces that meet the following criteria:

- Not too slow. Must have a reasonable amount of rhythm or tempo and not the same all the way through. If it changes every now and then throughout all the better as we need to keep the audience interested and changes in the style of the music allow changes in styles of the slides being shown.
- Not too weird, we do not want to scare people away next year! There are lots of very arty, farty musical/instrumental things around these days which are nice but what we use must be fairly appealing to all tastes.
- The longer the actual piece the better, especially, and so long as, it changes in tempo or style a few times otherwise it will become boring to listen to.
- Music rather than lots of singing would be preferable. Enya is okay for example but can be a bit slow.
- Must not have been used previously. Tommy Emmanuel was used last year and once before.

Write down your suggestions and send to the Committee as soon as possible. Better still, bring a tape of the music to the meeting or send to Committee. All suggestions welcome. Merridy.

UPCOMING DIVING ACTIVITIES

Contact Numbers: Scott Leimroth 759 6501 [h] and Geoff Cook 543 5817 [h] or (018) 29 4897 [w]

May

The Club will be diving the wrecks of the **SS Myola** (for deep divers) and the **SS Duckenfield** (24m) on **Saturday 13 May**. The boats will leave from Rose Bay at 8.30 am. Boat owners and divers phone Scott or Geoff if interested.

You have read about the **SS Catterthun** and the **Seal Rocks** weekend in the April issue of Wet Rag. On the weekend of **26 to 28 May**, the Club is taking another trip to Seal Rocks. This weekend is suitable for deep and non-deep divers, with dives planned on the **Catterthun**, **SS Satara** and the **grey nurse sharks**. Phone Scott or Geoff quickly as only limited spaces are available.

July or August

Rick Latimer is interested in organising another trip to the **Solomon Islands** to dive the wrecks of **Honiara**. Rick visited there in January and perhaps you saw John Fardoulis's video of their dives at the February meeting. By all accounts they had a great time and now Rick wants to return to do some more exploring. Rick has not set a date, but suggests sometime in **July or August** as been the best. If you are interested in going to the **Solomons** in a small group with Rick, give him a call on 645 4405 [h], (042) 61 5631 [w] or (018) 64 7329.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 18 April 1995**, starting at 8 pm in the Emile McDonald Room of the Bankstown Sports Club.

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

Monday 19 June, 17 July and 21 August 1995.

REVIEW FROM *CHEAP EATS* 95 - SELERA RESTAURANT

Dining at the Selera, a Malaysian-Singaporean restaurant in the middle of Newtown, is a delightful experience from the charming welcome at the door to the payment of the bill on the way out. Prices are reminiscent of the foodstalls in Singapore although the decor of this spacious restaurant is a little confused with travel posters adorning the walls, grand lightfittings suspended from the high ceilings and a wonderful selection of Bobby Darren "oldies" on the CD player.

The names of some of the dishes on the menu instantly arouse curiosity. **Old blue jeans** turned out to be a dish of lightly battered aubergine, tossed in a spicy chilli shrimp paste and **rusty motor bike** is the alias of the Malaysian bread, **murtabuk**, stuffed with a delicious combination of beef or vegetables.

Experience the sensational flavour and aroma of the **whole barramundi**, deboned and wrapped in banana leaf and the grilled beancurd stuffed with vegetables and topped with a wonderful crunchy homemade peanut sauce, thickened with candlenut. The **Malay noodles** and the **crispy spring rolls** are also recommended and a return trip will have to sample the **laksas**, **satays** and **Malaysian curries**.

Dishes range from **\$4.30** to **\$12.90** and the top priced dish, **chilli mud crab**, is only \$20.

Located at Level 1, 264 King Street, Newtown. Phone 557 5186 for bookings.

PROUD SPONSOR OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS' CLUB

CLUB SPONSORS The South Pacific Divers' Club is honoured to be sponsored by the following:

Dive Quest, Mullaway, contact Chris or Gary on (066) 54 1930

Max Western's Sea-tamer II charter boat, contact Max on 567 8658 or (018) 28 0791

Selera Restaurant, Level 1, 264 King Street Newtown, 557 5186

Shiprock Dive, contact Leo or Lesley on 526 2664

South West Rocks Dive Centre, South West Rocks, contact Noel or Belinda on (065) 66 6614

Twofold Dive Charters, Eden, contact Peter or Lorna on (064) 96 1778

Wet Rag, the South Pacific Divers' Club Newsletter, is published by South Pacific Divers' Club. Edited by Michael McFadyen.



Send material to 46 Gannon Street, Tempe, 2044 or fax to 585 6401. Phone: 585 6434 [w], 558 8181 [h] or (015) 276 556 [m]. Deadline for material is the last day of each month.

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB MEETING HELD AT BANKSTOWN

SPORTS CLUB TUESDAY 18 APRIL 1995.

President, Leo Bergagnin opened, welcomed members and guests.

Apologies: Scott Leimroth, Rebecca Davis, Nila Surjan, John Cassidy, Ilona Kandilas.

Previous minutes acceptance by Rick Latimer, seconded by Michael McFadyen.

Incoming Correspondence: AUPY judges acceptance letter, other clubs newsletters, membership renewals, Clean Up certs. Fish Rock Dive Centre promo folder.

Outgoing Correspondence: Articles to Dive Log.

Treasurer's Report: John Fardoulis;

\$414.00 In, \$838.00 Out (incl. \$600 for Bed Race) for month.

Report accepted by Russell Stoker, seconded by Craig Harwood.

Social Organiser's Report: Carina Gregory;

Skirmish 23 July against Ryde U'water Club. Cost \$55.00 p/p. Location to be decided.

Rock 'n Roll night, combined dive clubs.

AUPY presentation night date change to 7 October 1995 due to 3 reasons: Publication in Oct. issue of Sportdiving Mag., 2 extra months to sell tickets, 2 extra months for sponsor advertising.

40 seats reserved for SPDC members and guests.

Treasure Hunt 13 May, \$15.00 to register at Manly Dive Centre.

Leo Bergagnin: "Prism Rebreather" seminar at Concordia Club Thurs 20 April. No charge. Sat 22 April trial session \$99.00.

Dive Organiser's report: Geoff Cook;

Anzac Day - Beef & Burgundy dive day. Boats leave from Dolan's Bay boat ramp 10:30am.

Sun 30 April - Port Hacking dive + BBQ at Geoff Cook's place.

Sat 13 May - Rose Bay, dive "The Duckenfield" and "The Myola"

26-28 May weekend altered from Nelson Bay to Seal Rocks.

Photographic Officer's Report: Peter Flockart;

George Roberts photo comp. only drew 6 entries in comparison to 1994 drew 14. Open section only 2 entries. Encouragement Award added.

AUPY change of date allows guests longer to finance.

Sea & Sea secured as a sponsor re camera housing, 1 port + lens. Catalogue & price list available for interest.

New Neville Coleman magazine combined with PADI Project aware, book review "How to take u'water photos". Article on the marina at Bass Point.

Publicity Officer's Report: Merridy Cairn-Duff;

Poster "Dive into Paradise" PNG photo comp. Photos must be taken in PNG area. \$US45,000 in prizes. Entry fee details. Still chasing AUPY final sponsors.

Members' Dive Reports:

Geoff Cook launched at Silverwater to find his sounder had blown up. Dived "The Centurian" and came up to find his boat sinking. Beached at the Quarantine Station and bilged out. Upon his return the trailer sunk in mud at the boat ramp, ended up taking the boat off and digging the trailer out.

John Beddie had 6 days at Eden with Peter & Lorna of Twofold Dive. Dived 4 Tugs including "City of Sydney", "New Guinea", "Empire Gladstone". Hit a couple of sandbars on the way out.

Michael McFadyen dived "The Undola" in 20m vis. Also dived "The Tuggerah" in 25m vis.

Leo Bergagnin dived the "Solomon Islands". 11 dives, 9 flights in 8 days, 300 ft vis and 30 degree temp. Dives included the "Tao Maru" in Gizo, reef and drift dives. Highlight of the trip saw 2 x 8ft Hammerhead Sharks in UEPI.

John Fardoulis, Scott, Rebecca, Geoff dived "The Catterthun". Scott and Rebecca heard 'Killer' whale cries underwater.

Scott Leimroth had a 'near death' experience on "The Dunbar", when he found himself wedged on the bottom.

General Business:

Geoff Cook and Rick Latimer are reactivating the search for "The Nemesis". Will discuss at 30 April BBQ.

Merridy Cairn-Duff has Michael Aw books on "Tropical Reef Fish", \$18, members \$12. "Coral Reef Guide" 1800 pics, \$50, members \$40. "Beneath Bunaken" reduced from \$120 to \$85.

Leo Bergagnin mentioned SPDC pic on front page of Dive Log.

Tonight's raffle tickets \$2 ea for great prizes.

Leo presented Russell Stoker with the "Club Member of the Year" plaque.

Geoff Cook re Oxy Equipment investment can hire 50c/ft cylinder from CIG for \$53 per year. \$17 refill. 3 regs needed to attach may be donated by a club member. To be continued.

BJ proposed a motion pass to have the Guest Speaker on first at club meetings. Mark Spencer seconded, majority in attendance agree - vote passed.

Break

Raffle:

1st prizes: **Dinner x 2 at Selera's Malaysian Rest, Newtown**

Won by: Robyn Hewitt

Dinner x 2 at Thurles Castle Hotel, Chippendale

Won by: Eddie Labour

2nd prize: **Boat dive - Sea Tamer II donated by Max Western**

Won by: Mike Foster

3rd prize: **Bottle of Scotch donated by Chris Ladd of Chippendale Cellars**

Won by: Mike Foster

4th Prize: **2 Airfills donated by Leo & Lesley Hillier from Shiprock Dive**

Won by: Barbara Sweetman

Presentation of the George Roberts Underwater Photography Club Competition.

Novice Section portfolios:

Encouragement Award: Leo Bergagnin received a certificate

3rd place: Ben Butcher received a certificate

2nd place: Suzanne Evans received \$120 x film

1st Place: BJ received 5 nights accommodation and 6 boat dives at South West Rocks, donated by **SOUTH WEST ROCKS DIVE CENTRE.**

Open Section portfolios:

2nd place: John Swezcow received a Shark Diving Course donated by **PRO DIVE.**

1st place: Merridy Cairn-Duff received 5 nights accommodation & 6 boat dives at the Nth Solitary Islands donated by **DIVE QUEST at MULLAWAY.**

THE END

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLUB'S RULES OF INCORPORATION

The following amendments to the Club's Rules of Incorporation have been proposed by some members of the Club. It is intended that they be considered and voted on at the June meeting.

Rule 22(a)

Amend to read:

- 22 (a) An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held each year within three (3) months of the end of the membership year of the Association.

Reason:

At the present time the AGM must be held before the end of September. With a move to holding the AUPY Presentation night later in the year, it would mean that the committee who have done all the work organising the competition and night would (possibly) be removed only days before the event. This would cause numerous problems.

Rule 6

Delete and insert following:

- 6 (a) Subject to the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 and the rules of the Association, a member or officer of the Association shall not by reason only of being such a member or officer be liable to contribute towards the payments of the debts or liabilities if the Association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Association.
- 6 (b) Subject to the Associations Incorporation Act 1984, membership of the Association does not confer upon members of the Association any right, title or interest, whether legal or equitable, in the property of the Association.

Reason:

Current wording is not consistent with Section 16 of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984.

Rule ¹²~~13~~ (a) and ¹²~~13~~ (b)

Insert the following additional clauses and renumber as necessary:

- ¹²~~13~~ (a) (vi) The member becomes an insolvent under administration within the meaning of the Companies (NSW) Code.
- ¹²~~13~~ (a) (vi) The member becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the law relating to mental health.
- ¹²~~13~~ (a) (vi) The member is absent without the consent of the committee from all meetings of the committee held during a period of 6 months.

Repeat for rule ¹²~~13~~ (b)

Reason:

Current wording is not consistent with the Associations Incorporation Act 1984.