

WET RAG

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

PO Box 823, BANKSTOWN NSW 2220



June 1995



Photographs:

Above:
John Fowden on
the wreck of the
Sankisan Maru in
Chuuk Lagoon.

Left:
A Mitsubishi Zero
fighter in Palau
Lagoon in
Micronesia.

Photographer:
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 19 June 1995.

President's Message

We recently received some information from Noel and Belinda from South West Rocks Dive Centre regarding the protection of the dive sites at Fish Rock. We will hand this around at the next meeting on 19 June. Once again a glaring example of where we need an association of scuba divers. Noel and Belinda need our support at the moment and as Noel and Belinda support our Club, we must rally behind them.

On 25 May the 22 representatives of dive clubs met regarding the proposed dive club association and progress is starting to move a bit quicker. We now have a name for the association, the Scuba Clubs Association of NSW (SCAN). It was agreed a constitution needs to be formulated and while the general concern is not to resurrect the old NSW Scuba Federation, we should look at their charter and maybe see if we can gain from their experience and former structure. Hopefully, by the next meeting some ground work will have been achieved in this regard.

At the next meeting of the Club, Michael Aw will be giving us a presentation of his work. This should be very interesting. We will have seven (yes 7) great prizes for our next raffle. Voting will also be done on a few changes to the Club's Rules of Incorporation (circulated last month)

Hope to see you all then,

Leo

Photographic Officer's Message

Over the last two months, entries for the 1995 Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Competition have been slowly trickling in. However, in the last two weeks of May this trickle turned into a flood.

When the final tally was done we had a record number of entries for the comp, 119 in all. This figure is broken up as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Open Section | 25 |
| Novice Section | 51 |
| Video Section | 15 |
| Individual Section | 28 |

All this means that the judges are going to have an extremely difficult time selecting the winners. The standard of shots, based on a cursory glance at the entrants when I've opened up their envelopes, seems to be the best for some years.

This hopefully means that the presentation night in October will be the best on record.

Peter Flockart.

Newsletter Editor's Message

After many years of trying, I finally got the chance over the last weekend in May to dive the SS *Catterthun* at Seal Rocks. What a wreck and what a dive! The size of the wreck is staggering as is its condition after almost 100 years on the sea-floor. I can see why Club member and wreck expert Rick Latimer rates it as one of the two best wreck dives in Australia. In late May with 12 other members of the Club, I ventured north to the luxurious Pacific Palms Resort for two days of diving. A total of nine members dived the wreck over the weekend (most twice) while others did reef dives. Although we had some problems (sharks and blue water decos - see other articles in *Wet Rag*), the weekend was a great success.

Since certain (most?) members of the Club appear like drift diving (see articles on the *Catterthun*), enclosed is a Scuba Quiz on Currents that was given to me by John Beddie. Hopefully we can all learn something from it.

If you are interested in some great winter dive deals, Club member Peter Hall has a special deal for June and July (not including Queen's Birthday - he must be a republican). As well as diving the wrecks of the *Henry Bolte* and *Tasman Hauler*, the reefs off Ben Boyd National Park are some of the pristine in NSW. As part of the deal, Peter will throw in free accommodation at his dive guest house. This means that for \$125 you will get four boat dives, airfills and two nights accommodation. This offer is available for groups of four to fourteen divers. Phone Peter or Lorna on 064 96 3384 to book.

Another Club member, Mark Paneros, has sent me some information on a dive trip his shop is running next January. The trip departs Adelaide for a week's diving to the Great Australian Bight. For \$1050 (including all meals, wine, soft drinks and beer), it seems like a real bargain to enjoy diving in some untouched areas. A leaflet about the trip is enclosed with the *Wet Rag*.

Some excellent Club dives are planned in the coming months which are suitable for all levels of diver. Make sure you join in the action.

See you then, Michael McFadyen

**REMEMBER THERE IS A
CLUB DIVE THIS WEEKEND
ON SUNDAY 11 JUNE. SEE
BACK PAGE FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

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 | |
| 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 |
| John Beddie | 603 7584 | 046 20 1746 |
| 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.

***SEA-TAMER II* - the best dive charter boat in NSW**

If you want to dive some of the State's best dive sites, Max Western can take you there in *Sea-tamer II*. With a wealth of experience, Max will take you to any dive site off Royal National Park and the Cronulla area. As well as the wrecks of the SS *Undola* and SS *Tuggerah*, you can dive Barrens Hut, The Split, Osborne Shoals, Marley Point, Six Fathom Reef, Pizza Hut Reef and many more. After the dive enjoy tomato soup, hot salami, cheese and biscuits and of course, Mars Bars. Phone Max on 567 2658 or 018 28 0791 to book.

PROUD SPONSOR OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS' CLUB

DIVE REPORTS

LUXURY, CATTERTHUN AND SHARKS (THAT BITE) by Barjumba, Seal Rocks 26 to 28 May

Again with the threat of bad weather looming, we headed off towards Seal Rocks to dive the *Catterthun*, *Satara* and the shark gutters. Several last minute phone calls hinted that the high westerly winds would not effect our diving at these sites. Some last minute "pikeouts" with piss poor excuses have now paved the path for a future system **Non Refundable Deposits** to be taken for Club boat dives, breakfasts, weekends and social functions.

Regardless (and in spite of the pikers who missed out), the accommodation this time was in the absolute luxury of the Pacific Palms Resort, 15 minutes north of Seal Rocks. The joy of endless hot showers, separate rooms with double beds, in-room full body massage, eight person sauna and spa, tennis court, 25 metre swimming pool, fully appointed hi-tech gym and cosy "woodfired" community and games room was in stark contrast to the "humpy" we stayed in last time. Accommodation still worked out at only \$20.00 per head per night.....! (It would have been less than \$15!!) Included in our crew were two new Club members, Jim Glass and Paul Anguin, both very experienced "hi-tech" divers who will be an asset to our Club. Other people to venture north included wives Amanda Cook and Fiona Earl. Fiona, who is due to have her second baby in three weeks, is also a diver and registered nurse, formally attached to the Prince Henry Hyperbaric Chamber.

The first two boat crews diving at 7.30 am saw the westerly winds rising fast and headed off to the *Catterthun* which lies about 3 kms off shore in 60 metres of water. The seas and winds made anchoring difficult and on the fourth attempt the anchor stuck fast in the stern. Eight divers in four teams set off into great viz and 21°C waters. We were picked in just to the rear of the ship's enormous twin cylinder engine. I purposefully set out confirming my suspicion that there is another, at this stage unpenetrable, deck space below the presently exposed area at the stern. Other teams set out for the bow area and in the very clear viz observed a very large piece of wreckage about 20 metres off the port side bow (which we will investigate on the **100 year Anniversary trip in August**). On their return to the stern, some divers saw the ominous, ever present whaler sharks cruising off at the limits of viz. Twenty one minutes of bottom time soon gone, JF and I commenced ascending towards 60 minutes of deco. On the way up we saw five or six huge yellowfin tuna cruising past which was a real buzz. We were soon joined by Scott and Rebecca

whose smiles of joy from a sensational dive could not be hidden by their regulators until we were also joined by an 2.5 metre bronze whaler who darted in on us in several quick passes. Did I say one? Well soon there were five swimming just in and out of viz. It was soon a very tight and vigilant gathering, back to back, on the ten foot deco bar. Looking down below my nine metre deco weights I could see many large moving shadows schooling back and forth but "unfortunately" it was at the end of my deco and air so I couldn't go and check to see if it was those friendly, edible tuna. I climbed into the boat and cleared the decks for a possible fast entry. JF soon joined me saying "Shit there's f#@*="n ten down there now!" We then commenced to set up Scotts' "in-water" O₂ to speed up their deco safety factors but Scott and Rebecca burst to the surface blowing their deco by five minutes "There's F@#**+'n thirty. Get us the F@#* out." Since I had left, the sharks started schooling on mass below the six metre deco bar but above the nine metre weights! Who said wreck diving wasn't exciting!!! (Ed note: the other four divers only saw one shark and they were less than 50 metres away)

By now the winds were gale force westerly and the *Satara* was out of the question. Such is the temperament of the weather conditions at Seal Rocks. John Earl and Nila then dived Skeleton Reef for an enjoyable but somewhat less exciting dip. John Szwecow did his bit to single handily fund the local locksmith economy after losing his car keys in controversial circumstances. Back at the resort we adjourned to the sauna and spa and told war stories with my newly purchased "1.5 metre inflatable shark" for company in the spa. After dining at the local Country Club, we relaxed around the combustion stove and drank port and told more war stories and the inflatable shark came out again..... Rebecca decided that she didn't want to dive the *Catterthun* on the next dive!!!

Day two we set out earlier (joined by Rick L) and were on the wreck site at 7.30 am with the wind and seas were again rising. Entering the water raised the pulse rate with every suspicious shadow made worse by overcast skies and six to seven metres viz. This was soon forgotten as we were again on familiar territory of the *Catterthun*. The anchor was behind the huge twin engine boilers and donkey boiler. The anchor, our lifeline to the surface, tied in place. JF and I set off exploring. The viz on the wreck was down to under six metres with a lot of sediment in the water and it was quite dark. Concentrating on exploring the massive engine took up my entire planned 18 minutes bottom time. (Less bottom time = Less Deco = more air in my tanks of

course gives me more time to look at the sharks on deco...!) Out of the corner of my mask I saw the anchor rope pull very taut, the anchor prongs straighten and it pulled free. Swimming towards the fast disappearing anchor with the speed and determination that comes with an adrenaline rush, I pounced on the line and secured it nine metres to the starboard of its original position with JF's assistance. The rest of the team were nowhere in sight and John and I had to commence our ascent. As I was ascending a wave of nausea came over me from a poor air quality fill. It was comforting to have the hang tank to settle things back down.

Nervously scanning the surrounding waters for "Noah's Arks" it became evident that Scott Leimroth and John Szwecow weren't coming up the line and that something had gone wrong below. After completing our "stops" we broke the surface and our boatman frantically asked "How many were still on deco with you?" Two other divers were also missing from the other boat which had slipped anchor off the wreck with the huge swell now running. Our real fears were soon allayed when an "inflated red safety sausage" broke the surface 60 metres east of our position. Apparently Rick, Scott, John S and Michael McF returned to the anchoring positions and discovered they had gone.... short on bottom time they commenced a "blue water deco" which was the correct course of action under the circumstances. All four completed all stops safely (John with his trusty camera in hand) although Michael was noticeably seasick as a result (Ed note: from holding Rick's safety sausage while swimming head down for 31 minutes). By now the seas had whipped up and we had a punishing trip back to Seal Rocks. Rebecca and Nila then dived at Sawtooth Reef, where there are many scattered wreck sites and other "pretties". The rising sea had dropped the viz to less than six metres and they happily searched the gutters until they came across the tail of what was initially described as a 25 foot long shark.....! This was later down graded to a believable 2.5 metre grey nurse.

Good Diving, Good Accommodation, Good Company and Good Food with adrenaline and excitement. What more do you want? Seal Rocks.

I LEARNT FROM THAT! by Phantom Wreck Rat

There I was in six metres of water digging for gold on the famous Sydney wreck of the *Dunbar*. Who would have thought this could be the final resting place of the Phantom Wreck Rat. This seemed incredibly ridiculous considering that I had survived the most incredible dive I had ever had on the *Catterthun* at Seal Rocks exactly a week before. That dive had been nothing like this,

but its story is a prelude to this one. It went something like this.....

I descended with my trusted buddy and it was soon evident that this would be no ordinary dive. At about 15 metres we saw something large at the edge of our vision. It was about 1.8 metres in diameter and it stopped our descent in its tracks as we tried to make out what was drifting towards us. Was it a shark or a huge ray? As it came to within a metre of us, the true wonder of the oceans' life forms became evident. This was the largest jellyfish we had ever seen.

We continued our descent to the *Catterthun* which lies in almost 60 metres of water. We made our way to the stern and the first hole I looked in there it was, like a beacon reflecting back my torch light. What a find! We continued aft to the area near the stern post that is littered with broken crockery and bottles. We then moved forward to the engine and boilers. Not far from the engine I looked down and saw something else amazing. A wreck rat's dream, true treasure at last.

However, there was only one snag. As the *Catterthun* is more than 75 years old, I could take neither object so I placed them in a spot where only I would have access to them in the future.

Our bottom time was rapidly expiring and we began our ascent aware of the 50 minutes plus of decompression ahead of us. No sooner had we left the wreck than I heard a few faint whale calls. I stopped to listen when all of a sudden all hell broke loose. This was the loudest thing I had ever heard underwater, even louder than the ferries going overhead on the *Currajong* in Sydney Harbour. A whale cry that sounded like an air raid siren going off next to your ear is all I can compare it to. It called again and our bodies shook with its volume. A screaming banshee could not exceed this volume and I thought - this is it, this is how the Phantom Wreck Rat is going to die, eaten by a whale on the *Catterthun*.

I was so scared I did not even look for it and I am sure that it must have been frighteningly close. We continued our ascent after hearing the scream one more time. The next 50 minutes on the deco were spent pondering what it could have been.

The other divers could not believe our story of jellyfish, treasure and whales when we told them. What a dive!!

Anyway...back to the *Dunbar* one week later. Lured by the thought of more gold and with a strong westerly blowing, we had decided to dive the *Dunbar*. After 90 minutes on the bottom I was looking in one last hole with only 10 bar left in my tank. I had moved a number of rocks, one huge one in particular, and was sure that this hole would reveal some treasure. I was engrossed in

digging when I suddenly felt my reg tighten up. My air was almost gone, although the final five breaths I reasoned I had left would get me to the surface. I was in only six metres of water after all. One more tight breath and I decided to ascend. There was only one slight problem, I was stuck. Unfortunately, the huge rock I had struggled to move was now sitting on top of my gauge cage making it impossible for me to ascend. Another tight breath and I knew I was in trouble. I could not believe it. Only one week earlier I had survived the depths of the *Catterthun* and now I was about to drown in a comparative thimble full of water. I breathed again but nothing came out of my reg. This was really it, the Rat was about to die and without any booty to show for it. I suddenly found strength I never knew I had and I managed to move the rock enough to free myself.

As I made for the surface, I thought back to my open water course when I was told to exhale on the way up and that as the air in my tank expanded I might get another breath. It's true, it does happen I thought as I broke the surface gasping for air. I had learnt a lesson the hard way. A dive in six metres could be as dangerous as one in 60 metres.

Always expect the unexpected

DIVE SITES TO REMEMBER

Thompson (Gordons) Bay

I used to think that Thompsons Bay at Clovelly was a very good dive site but about four years ago it turned boring. The good fishlife disappeared and it appeared to coincide with the introduction of the chain divers' trail. Recently I have dived there twice and came away pleasantly surprised. The fishlife was not too bad and I really did enjoy it. In heavy northerly seas, this is one of the few open sea dives you can do in Sydney and certainly the only shore dive of worth. Well worth doing occasionally, especially as a night dive.

North Head

Another dive site that is protected from northerly seas and winds, the whole North Head of Sydney Harbour has a plethora of dive sites. As strange as it may seem, the area inside the heads gives some really great diving. The visibility, especially on incoming tides, can be very good, even after heavy rains. Old Mans Hat is one of the better sites, with a first-rate wall and brilliant fish and sponge life. Basically, anywhere from the inside of North Head right out to the open sea is worth a visit. Even wreck nuts like Scott Leimroth have been known to dive North Head and rave about it.

WRECKS OF INTEREST

MV *Malabar* by Michael McFadyen

Like many wrecks on the NSW coast, the *Malabar* gave its name to the area immediately

surrounding the site where it was wrecked. The *Malabar* was the first diesel power ship on the east coast of Australia and only the second in the country. Built in 1927 for Burns, Philp & Co, the *Malabar* was on a voyage from Melbourne to Singapore via Sydney when on 2 April 1931 it ran aground in millpond seas and heavy fog at Long Bay just to the north of Botany Bay. The only casualty was the ship's cat. Over the Easter long weekend, more than 500,000 people travelled out to the then wilds of Long Bay to see the ship hard up on the rock platform. Within a day the ship was a total wreck as huge seas battered it into submission.

Today the wreck is a very interesting dive site in shallow water suitable for divers and snorkellers. The huge diesel engine, driveshafts, anchor, prop and other bits and pieces make it a great second dive. If you are interested in diving the *Malabar*, you can do it from the shore or, better still, come on the Club's dive day on Sunday 11 June 1995. See the back page for details.

DYK *

The wrecks of the SS *Myola* (1919), SS *Tuggerah* (1919) and SS *Bombo* (1949) have a number of things in common, but one of them is particularly unique. While a common link is that all three were lost in bad seas (they were not all colliers, the *Bombo* was used for carrying blue metal), the most amazing thing was that one person was a regular crewman on all three and actually survived the sinking of two and was absent sick when the other went down.

On 2 April 1919, Thorvald Thomsen, a permanent member of the *Myola*'s crew, was not on the vessel when it sank off Long Reef. Because of the raging influenza epidemic, he was in quarantine with the rest of the regular crew. A few weeks later he joined the SS *Tuggerah* and just a few more weeks passed before the *Tuggerah* sank off Royal National Park. Thomsen was one of 11 people to survive the wrecking.

After these tragic happenings, Thomsen was to spend almost 30 years safely working on coastal vessels until 22 February 1949 when he was one of only two people to live through the sinking of the SS *Bombo* off Wollongong Harbour. A very lucky man indeed.

Main reference: *The Vanished Fleet of the Sydney Coastline* by Max Gleeson.

* Did You Know

JF WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS DRIFT DIVING TEAM by John Faroulis

Have you heard anybody say don't do a JF? This is code for "Don't drift away from the boat". On

Sunday 28 May, four new members joined the drift diving team while diving the Catterthun at Seal Rocks. Rick L (AKA Shark Bait), Scott L (Kojak), John S (Scoop) and Michael McF (McPilferer) all enjoyed their 60 minute blue water deco while looking for two missing anchors on the *Catterthun*.

JF and Geoff C were quite lonely on the anchor and deco line without the other guys to play aeroplanes with. Trying to outdo some of the most complex of club member deco setups, an elaborate macramé configuration was used, completed with flying trapeze, hang tank with spare weight belt and of course, for the ultimate, the two person O₂ in water deco setup.

Geoff and JF tried to smell under their arms for BO while in the water and wondered why after setting up an award winning deco setup, they were "snobbed off" by the other guys who opted for a more interesting method of deco. Both JF and Geoff agreed that if they had known that the other guys were going to do their deco the "fun" way, they would have also joined.

You Had To Be There!

I SPY

A few this month, a lot of action has occurred.

Which (male) committee member attempted to tickle another (female) member's tonsils from the inside? Did she agree with his suggestion that it was a suitable birthday present for her? Is this the same male who recently spent a couple of nights in the honeymoon suite at Uepi in the Solomon Islands with another male? Are these two incidents connected in some way?

Who is the well known member who forgot to take his new high-falutering whiz-bang computer on a recent dive? Of more concern is the fact that the computer also is his contents gauge.

Which member was thrown out of a Parramatta hotel during a night's drinking held to farewell him from Australia?

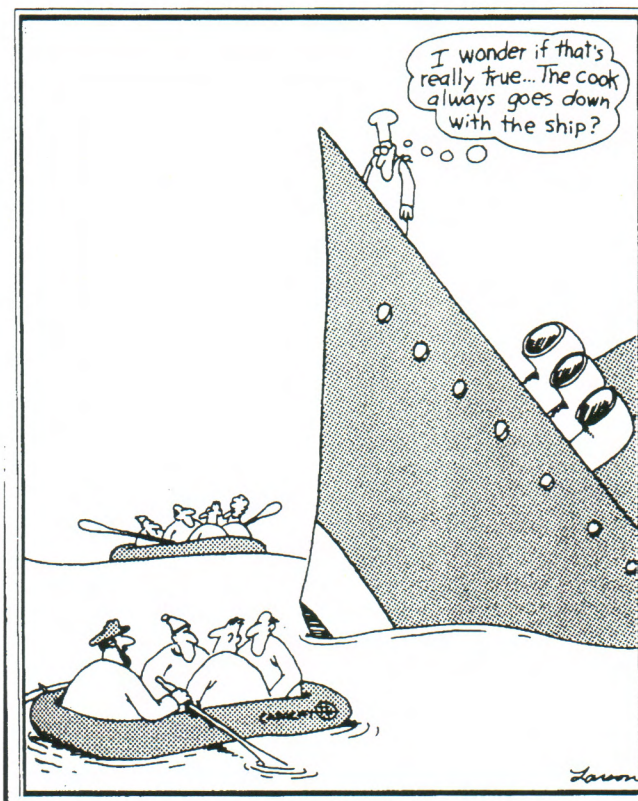
It it true that a certain female member has body rings through private parts of her upper body?

AUPY PRESENTATION NIGHT

As indicated by Peter Flockart in his message on page two, this year looks like it will be the best ever presentation night for the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Competition. The gala night will be held at the Bankstown Sports Club on Saturday 7 October. The Club has reserved 40 seats for Club members which will be sold on a first in, best seat basis. Tickets will be available from Carina Gregory and Barbara Sweetman shortly. To get your seat for the night, send \$22 to Carina or Barbara c/o

the Club's PO Box right now. If you would like to book your own table, contact either Carina or Barbara now. Apart from this offer, Club members will not be able to get preferential seating for the night.

CARTOON OF THE MONTH



DIVE QUEST MULLAWAY

Probably the best dive locations in NSW are to be found at the Solitary Islands. Located to the immediate north of Coffs Harbour, the Solitaries are an amazing conglomeration of dive sites spread over a huge area. From the mind-blowing fishlife of North West Rock to the clownfish of North Solitary Island, there is something to please everyone. For a dive holiday without comparison, contact Chris or Gary from Dive Quest Mullaway on 066 54 1930.

**PROUD SPONSORS OF
SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS' CLUB**

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CLUB'S RULES OF INCORPORATION

Remember, four amendments to the Club's Rules of Incorporation (rules 6, 12a, 12b and 22a), were circulated with the May *Wet Rag*. These proposed amendments will be considered and voted upon at the June meeting. Further copies of the amendments will be available at the meeting. Come along and have your say.

UPCOMING DIVING ACTIVITIES

Contact Numbers: Scott Leimroth 759 6501 [h] and Geoff Cook 543 5817 [h] or (018) 29 4897 [w]. Please ring the dive organisers on the Tuesday or Wednesday before a dive to confirm details etc.

June

On **Sunday 11 June** the Club will be diving the wrecks of the **SS Kelloe** and **MV Malabar** as well as **reef diving** out of **Botany Bay**. The boats will leave from the Cooks River ramp at 8.00 am. If you are interested, you must contact Scott or Geoff to ensure that a spot is kept for you on a boat.

July

In the second week of the **school holidays**, John Beddie is looking for people interested in diving the **Sydney area**. He would like to dive any (or all) of the **10 to 14 July** period. Phone John on 046 20 1746 [w] or 603 7584 [h] if you are interested.

Sunday 23 July will see another fantastic dive day. This dive, called the **SPDC Mid-Year Yuletide High Tide Prawn and Chardonnay Boat Dive and Breakfast** will depart from **Rose Bay** for parts as yet unknown. Both reef and wreck diving will be available to suit all divers. After the dive, the Club will meet at Watsons Bay Beach where Geoff Cook promises that there will be the Watsons Bay Hotel and Doyles Restaurant and Dancing Girls and Nude Volleyball. Phone Geoff or Scott if you are interested.

July or August

As mentioned last month, Rick Latimer is interested in organising another trip to the **Solomon Islands** to dive the wrecks of **Honiara**. If you are interested, give Rick a call on 645 4405 [h], (042) 61 5631 [w] or (018) 64 7329.

August

On the weekend of **11 to 12 August** the second combined clubs' dive weekend will be held at **Jervis Bay**. If you are interested, phone Geoff or Scott now to get your name on the list. Once again the camping will be at **Bristol Point** (no cranky rangers this time) and a great weekend is guaranteed.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

July

A **paintball/skirmish** rematch between **South Pacific** and **Ryde Underwater Club** will be held at **Yarramundi** (out west) on **Sunday 16 July**. Expected to be as fiercely fought as the original battle, contact Carina or Barbara as only five spots are still available. The cost starts at \$55 (for heaps of shots). If you are interested, a deposit of \$25 must be given to Carina at the June meeting. No \$, no go.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Monday 19 June 1995**, starting at 8 pm in the Emile McDonald Room of the Bankstown Sports Club. **Michael Aw** will be the guest speaker.

FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

Monday 17 July, 21 August and 18 September 1995.

SOUTH WEST ROCKS DIVE CENTRE

South West Rocks is famous for Fish Rock Cave which runs about 100 metres right through Fish Rock providing a unique diving experience. Starting off at 24 metres at the deep end, the cave main entrance is about 12 metres deep. Even if you are not too keen on cave diving, Fish Rock Cave is a must do dive. As well as the cave, The Pinnacle on the north side of the rock is a fantastic dive. Other dives include Green Island, Black Rock and the Macleay River drift. If you want to dive SWR, use the most experienced dive shop on the north coast of NSW, by phoning Noel or Belinda on 065 66 6474.

PROUD SPONSORS 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 6474

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.
Phone: 558 8181 [h] or (015) 276 556 [m].
Deadline for articles is the last day of the month.