

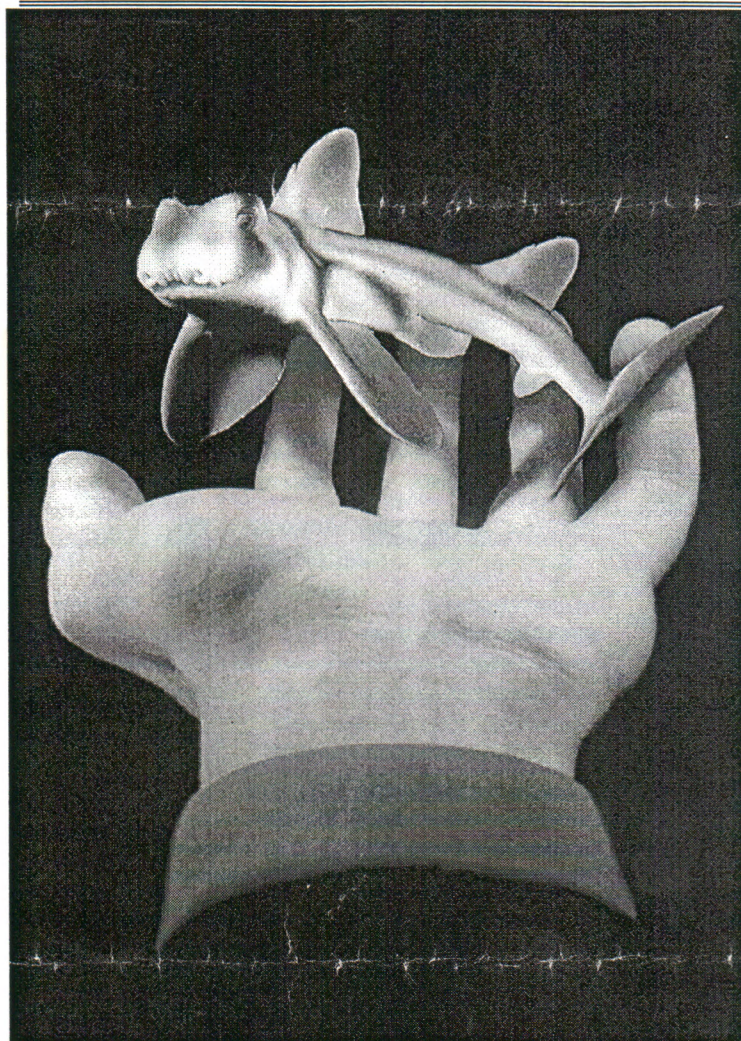
# WET RAG

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

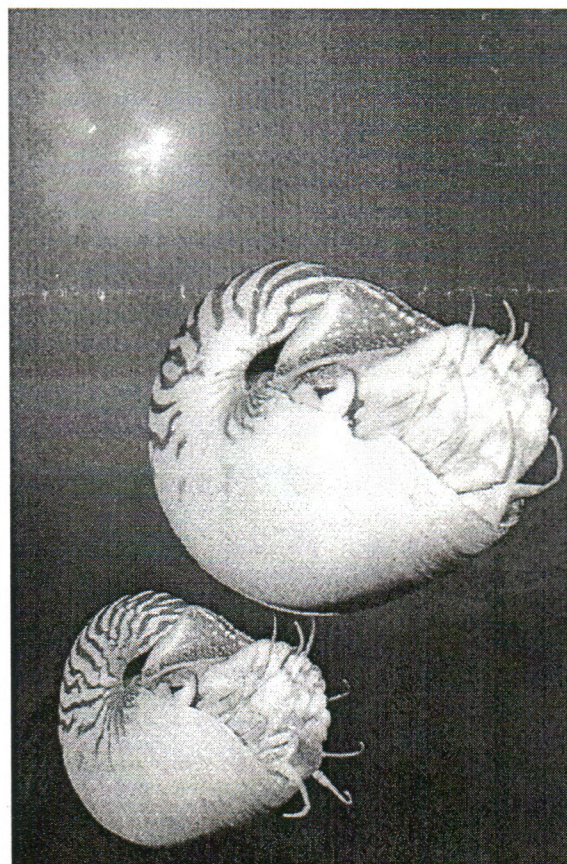
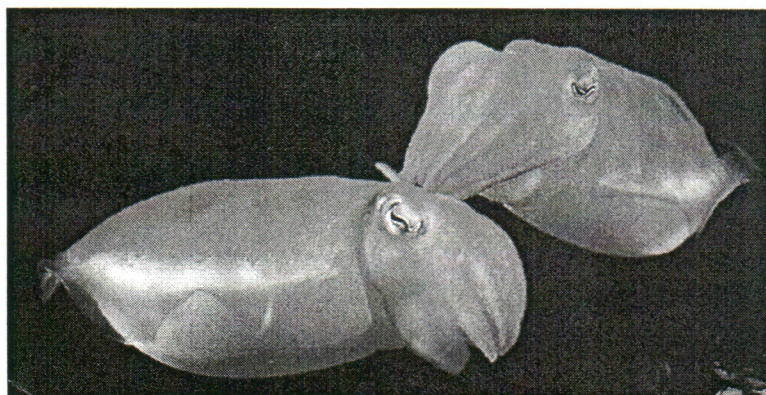
PO Box 823, BANKSTOWN NSW 2220



November 1995



These are just three of the five magnificent photographs entered by Club member Tim Whiteley in the Novice Section of the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Competition. No wonder he won this section so comprehensively and in fact would have won the Open Section if he had entered that instead of the Novice Section.



Meetings of the Club are normally held at 8 pm on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Exile McDonald Room of the Bankstown Sports Club, Greenfield Street, Bankstown. This month's meeting will be held on Monday, 20 November 1995.



**President's Message**

Over the next couple of months the Club has some important matters to attend to. Firstly and most importantly is our Christmas party, details of which are with this newsletter. Our next big event is the Annual General Meeting in January. It is imperative for our club's continual success for members to come along and to nominate for a position or lend a hand to aid future events. All positions are up for grabs, don't be put off volunteering for a position no matter what the reason.

At our next meeting, the committee would like to set up a couple of working parties, sub-committees, call them what you like. The first is to continue with the ongoing work required for the photo comp and the subsequent awards night. There are many trains of thought with this night and, of course, the photographic officer will chair this group and report back to incoming committee. We are negotiating with a major sponsor for next year to finance the night, hopefully we will be successful. Over the years it has occurred to me many times that, unlike other sporting bodies, scuba diving does not have its own licensed premises. The purpose of this second group is to look at the possibility of achieving such a goal. In recent years many ethnic groups have done just that, so why can't we. Around the suburbs many small bowling clubs have become available due to membership declining and without saying too much at this stage, believe it or not, it is possible.

Finally, at our next meeting we also have coming along Barry Hallett. Barry will explain the advantages of becoming a BSAC member. This will be interesting. Regards, Leo B.

**Newsletter Editor's Message**

Well, the weather in Sydney has been pretty terrible, especially on the weekends. At least four weekends in October were almost totally ruined by very poor weather and strong southerly winds while the first few weekends in November have not been much better. Despite this, the diving has been better than you would imagine. With Eddy Labour, I have twice dived the SS *Tuggerah* in recent weeks and had 20 to 25 metre visibility, even though the seas were pretty rough.

You will recall that in last month's *Wet Rag* I mentioned that Paul Rosman, owner of Pacific Coast Divers was attempting to have Dive Australia lobby the Waterways authority to have private and club boats banned from diving. Well, some extra news. *Scuba Business*, a dive industry magazine, recently ran a questionnaire about a number of things. Some questions (which were very loaded and biased) included:

1. What is your opinion of Independent Dive Clubs who nominate a fee to go out on the

Club's Dive Boat?

2. Do you see the above situation akin to 2 or 3 mates putting in some "petrol money" to help cover the owner's expenses?
3. Are Independent Dive Club's (sic) important to your business or do you see them as a problem?

Once again, Mr Rosman was vehement in his comments about independent dive clubs and divers who choose not to use charter boats. The answers from Mr Rosman were:

1. This is clearly in breach of the act (sic)...should be surveyed...number of stores able to run boats has dropped by 2/3 [2 or 3 or two thirds?] in Sydney, largely due to unsurveyed club boats running cheap dives.
2. [Mr Rosman did not really comment but bagged an unnamed dive club at Scuba Expo for handing out brochures].
3. I don't see them as a problem if they play by the rules [Whose rules, Mr Rosman, yours?]. Independent clubs are unimportant to my business.

Judith McDonald from Scuba Warehouse:

1. If the boat is in survey and insured appropriately and run by a licensed coxswain.
2. No, clubs and associations offering services should compete on a level playing field with commercial operators.
3. Yes, very important...we support with discounts, advertising and prizes for fund raising.

The only dive shop owner (of those who responded) who actually came out in a good light was Joe Ellams of Manly Dive Centre. He actually was very positive in his comments about independent dive clubs ("what boat they are on and how they paid for the dive is their own concern" and "it is an intrusion on their civil liberties for us to judge how they spend their leisure time").

Perhaps the most telling comment by Mr Ellams is "it seems to me a few prominent members of our industry have lost the plot". I have been told that he even has a sign in his shop's window stating that he welcomes members of independent clubs. I would encourage members to think this over and decide who they should use if in the Manly area. I know who I will use!

Some other shop owners from WA and Victoria were even more rabid in their comments, especially about friend putting money in for fuel. Unfortunately, many (most) of the dive industry I have spoken to have the idea that divers "owe" them something. Why? Who were here first? There is not a dive shop in Sydney that predates dive clubs such as South Pacific Divers' (continued

next page)

A special prize to the first person to tell the Editor at the Xmas Party the deliberate error in this *Wet Rag*.



**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:	Barbara Sweetman	550 1712	Pager 430 6285
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	(018) 99 0864 [m] (018) 29 4891
Social Secretaries:	Carina Gregory	(046) 25 8630	(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	820 4272	046 20 1746
BJ	709 5535	
Peter Booth	529 3818	
Geoff Cook	543 5817	018 29 4891
Bruce Cremonesi	668 8126	645 0286
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.

Club, URG, St George Scuba Club and some others. WE WERE HERE FIRST! Without the independent dive clubs, diving would not have taken off in the first place.

Some things to think about! Regards, Michael.

**I SPY**

Who was the committee member who phoned the Editor at 10:45pm one night and asked "are you still awake". "Well, if I wasn't, I am now" was the reply which did not really sink in.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

Virtually all memberships expire at the end of December 1995. If you have a membership renewal form enclosed with this month's *Wet*

*Rag*, then your membership is due to be renewed. Some members who recently joined have memberships which will run until the end of 1996. If in doubt, check the label on the envelope that houses the newsletter. If it has the figure "95" after your name, then your membership is due.

**GET WELL SOON**

Long time member, Rick Latimer, has been very ill in hospital recently. At the time of writing, he is back in hospital after a short stay at home. All Club members join together to wish Rick a speedy return to health. Phone Leo Bergagnin on 645 4405 for details on how to send Rick your best wishes.



## DIVE REPORTS

### DIVING JERVIS STYLE by Bill Carter

My October holidays had finally arrived. I was heading off with my family and two friends ready for two weeks of fun at the sea, a big change from the Barossa Valley where I live.

Our destination was Hyams Beach (north of the naval base at Jervis Bay). We would be staying at my cousin's units where we had gone many times before, only this time was going to be very different because I had got my diver's certificate in July and was eager to do some dives. I managed to arrange a contact with an experienced diver, Martin Atkins, who owns a boat and was willing to take my friend Russell and I out for some dives.

It was cool and overcast when we arrived. Seaweed was washed up on the beach and the visibility in the bay was still not good after bad storms the week before. We waited a couple of days for conditions to improve before the first dive.

**Dive 1** Martin said that he will meet us at Murrays Beach boat ramp at 11.00 am and would have two other divers with him, John and Rebecca. As Russell and I were waiting, thoughts were being exchanged... "wonder what this bloke's like?", "where are we going?", "oh well, we'll soon find out I suppose!!".

They arrived, "mmm, nice boat, an 18 foot with a 140 HP Johnson". It didn't take long before we realised that these divers meant business. Martin (an ex-professional diver now full-time fireman), with a custom made 9mm wet suit, double bladder BCD, twin tanks with independent regs and of course a DECO computer, and John, with a dry suit and underwater camera equipment worth \$14,000 and Rebecca, who was talking to us about their last dive experience at Forster. Down 60 metres amongst tuna with bronze whalers circulating and the tuna following them up to their deco stop with the sharks as well, getting very agitated.

I felt that this was a good time, and in my best interest, to remind everybody of my mere four months experience in diving. Talk about getting chucked in the deep end. Oh well, take the bull by the horns and go for it... Russell had a cold and was afraid of not being able to equalise, so he didn't dive. I was starting to wish I had a cold too.

We headed out to the north end of Bowen Island, which is situated at the entrance to Jervis Bay. There was a three metre swell and water temperature was about 15°C. Once in the water, we headed down the anchor line. The first six metres had poor visibility, but as we got deeper the world below revealed itself - I could not believe what I was seeing. At 18 metres on a rock

cliff, we stayed for a few minutes and looked down onto many rock mazes with lots of sealife, large blue groper and numerous varieties of fish and stingrays.

We slowly descended to be among the sealife. I followed Martin through lots of cavernous swim-throughs and got to a depth of 26 metres. On ascent, a deco stop was done at five metres for five minutes - dive time was 30 minutes. This was so different to any other dive I had done - "fantastic".

**Dive 2** The next day we met at Murrays again, this time we went to Point Perpendicular slightly north of the lighthouse. Point Perpendicular at the northern entrance of the bay is a rock face which is at 90' and drops 100 metres to the ocean below. Conditions were similar to the day before and it would be hard to get a better dive.

We descended to a rock edge at 20 metres, there was some water current which moved us around a bit. We could see rock formations below us which continued to a further 20 metres - "unbelievable". John and Rebecca were taking photos of the sea life along the rock wall. Martin and I descended slowly and saw a sun fish (yes a sun fish). A seal circled us twice and numerous blue groper were around us. We swam through rock caves and caverns and got to a depth of 41 metres.

We ascended slowly and had deco stops. I didn't think it could happen, but this dive was better than the one before. I was told that to see a sun fish diving is very rare and that the odds are about one dive in three hundred of seeing one.

### Dive 3

Russell's cold was getting better, so we headed off with the family for a shore dive at Summercloud Bay, which is south across the national park from Jervis Bay. The dive went to a depth of 10 metres. We followed the reef adjacent to the headland along rock walls and ledges, saw a variety of fish, a stingray and shovel head. A very pleasant dive.

Russell and wife Pam only had a weeks holiday so they were heading back to Adelaide. I had one more week to go.

My wife Leanne and the kids amused themselves in the rocks and along Hyams Beach where we were staying, while I did some snorkelling. Hyams Beach is a very popular spot for the local dive shops to train their students. It is an area with shallow reefs up to 10 metres. I saw rock cod a variety of fish, stingrays and a Port Jackson shark.

I was getting withdrawal systems and just needed one more dive before we finished our holidays, so I rang up Martin. Yep, tomorrow, same place, same time - great!!

**Dive 4** John and Rebecca had gone back to



Sydney so it was just Martin and myself now.

We were going to The Arch which is north of Point Perpendicular. Weather conditions this time were good and water temperature raised a couple of degrees. Martin radioed in and was told that the area we were going to was active until noon, which means the army was playing war games blowing up targets out at sea.

We arrived at the dive site and watched the war games until it was safe to put our dive gear on to dive. A large school of kingfish could be seen from the surface, they seemed to be stirred up by something. We couldn't see what it was so "put the flag out and let's dive!"

We descended down the anchor rope to a ledge at 20 metres, then slowly descended to a depth of 42 metres. We looked back up to the ledge and saw an outstanding rock formation then continued to swim through rock formations, caverns and mazes. We saw plenty of blue groper and yellow tailed kingfish. A diver's plaque with the name "Bob Smith" was seen at the 25 metres [Bob was a life member of South Pacific Divers' Club and the plaque was placed there by his friends after his death]. We had a school of white ears swimming around us at our deco stop which made it interesting. Another great dive.

Well, the dives had come to an end, and the holidays were just about over. It was very hard leaving a place of so much beauty and a diving buddy who I could trust and feel safe on every dive I did.

Thanks Martin for an unforgettable experience and hope to see you again - maybe next year.

Stony Creek Wall, 60 metres - hmmm, we'll see!!!

#### **VANUATU** by Michael McFadyen

One of the better dives we did on our trip to Vanuatu was the wreck of the Qantas flying boat in Port Vila Harbour. Together with Club members Eddy Labour and Darryl Gibbs (and three St George Scuba Club members), we dived the huge plane and had a great time.

Although it is in very dirty water (about two or three metres visibility), the Short Sandringham S25 plane really is an enjoyable dive. You do not need to see too far to be able to enjoy the dive and

even though it is very large (over 33 metres wingspan), you could not possibly get lost. Fully intact except for the motors, it takes a full dive to examine it inside and out very quickly. If you are an experienced diver (and used to depth), then I would suggest having a go at the plane if you get the chance to visit Port Vila.

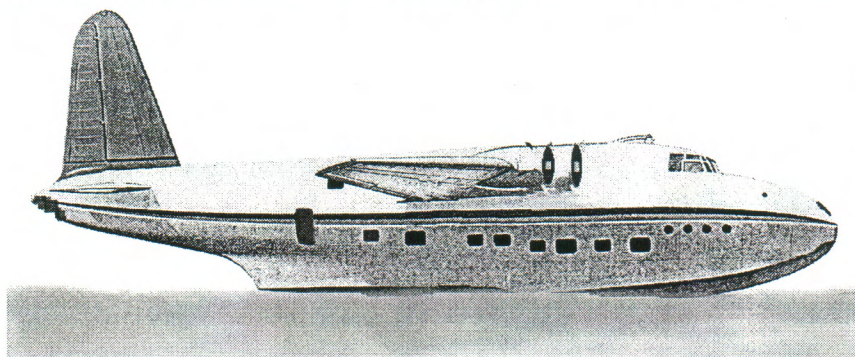
#### **PORT STEPHENS REVISITED AND REVISITED AGAIN** by The Phantom WR

On the weekend of 27 to 29 October, six members of the Club journeyed to Nelsons Bay. The divers were Martin Atkins, Rebecca Davis, Scott Leimroth, Adrienne Hill, Paul Howlett and plus non-member Andrew. On the first dive to the *Macleay* we were unfortunate to have terrible visibility and to have missed the wreck - while we did find a long copper pipe from the wreck and some nice reef. After a brief search, it was decided to abort the dive due to the two to three metre viz. We were then taken to a reef on the northern side of Cabbage Tree Island where much fun was had being shot out of a slot by the surge in close to the rocks.

That afternoon we dived the wreck of the *Oakland* with 15 metres visibility and lots of fish of various types including a large John Dory, schools of puffer fish, yellowtail and a friendly groper. The buoy on the wreck where we did our safety stop was a dive in itself. It was absolutely overgrown and covered with sponges and juvenile leatherjackets. One was particularly friendly, attaching itself to Rebecca's glove and proceeding to go to sleep. We returned to the divers' lodge that afternoon to wash gear, fill tanks and over dinner at the bowling club across the road, discuss our plans for the next day's diving.

On Sunday, after a boat trip to Anna Bay Beach to search for a wreck, Paul and Adrienne dived at Boat Harbour while the rest of us climbed Tomaree Head to take in the panoramic views of Port Stephens. We had planned to dive Halifax Park on high tide that afternoon but on return to the house we were offered a discount dive by Ron, the dive lodge manager, on the charter boat *Down Under*. This was a change from the small inflatable we had dived out of the previous day.

We sunned ourselves on the large foredecks and trawled from the stern on the way out to a dive at Boondelbah Island. This was a great dive, with swim-throughs at 20 metres not unlike the Docks at JB. With a variety of sponges and gorgonias and a massive cloud of yellow and silver pomfrets being seen. While the rocks above 15 metres were quite barren, we did see wobbegongs, a cat shark, Port Jacksons,





nudibranches, a female slipper lobster in egg and a school of squid. This was a good dive to end the weekend and the service and comfort on *Down Under* is highly recommended.

As a postscript, I returned to Nelson Bay the next weekend with a group of wreck rats. Our first dive on the *Macleay* was an unbelievable contrast to that of the week before. On descent, the wreck (in 45 metres) was visible from 22 metres. We dived the *Thordis* after this on our remaining air and saw a large eagle ray and heaps of fish. We also saw some dolphins in near the rocks that we thought were sharks at first because of their thrashing about as they fed on the prolific bait fish.

In the afternoon we dived the *Oakland* in incredible visibility - the wreck being visible from six metres. However, after 15 minutes the visibility was down to two metres on the wreck! A huge cloud was visible over it on deco.

The next day we dived the *Macleay* again then the *Pappinbarra* which is quite a good dive although very broken up in the rocks near Shark Island. After 45 minutes on this we returned for lunch. In the afternoon we dived the *Macleay* again in a howling north easterly sea. It is amazing how peaceful and calm it is on the bottom while up on top it can be the opposite. Although we had done two dives already that day, our computers only gave us six minutes deco. However, we stayed a little longer as this seemed to be too short and too good to be true. A wreck rat's dream of diving the wrecks had been had by all once again at Nelson Bay.

## TRAVEL TALK

**POVERTY, RICHES AND BEAUTY** (part 3) by Michael McFadyen

After Ireland we flew to London from Dublin and collected our rental car and headed along the M3 towards Windsor. We had decided to basically drive across to the west coast, up to the top of Scotland and then back down the east coast to London, all in a week. A big ask, but we figured it was possible.

The trip took in Windsor, Stonehenge, Bath, Bristol, Wales (10 minutes worth), Gloucester, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, Loch Ness, Inverness, Perth, Edinburgh, Newcastle Upon Tyne, York, Nottingham, Oxford and Windsor (again). It was an eye opening trip, making me both in awe of the historic buildings and making me ill by seeing the slums of the industrial cities (more about that later).

The highlights of the trip included Stonehenge. What a sight as you approach, the 5,000 year old monument (possibly an ancient calendar) sits in the middle of an otherwise featureless location.

We quickly park and enter the site. Handsets are given to you and as you reach different points the sets play a talk on what you are seeing. It is a humbling experience to walk around the sarsen stones (the outer ring - believed to be from about 1500BC) and wonder at the ancient civilisation that created it. An hour or so after arriving, the crowd attempting to enter the site is unbelievable. There would not be a single object or site in Australia (including the Opera House or Ayres Rock) that would get so many visitors. After buying a few trinkets (the bargains of the trip), we left Stonehenge awed by its majesty.

Our next stop was the historic city of Bath. Simply beautiful is the only way to describe it. Built on a series of hills, Bath has the most magnificent architecture as well as the remains of the Roman spas. Probably the best city I visited outside London.

The spectacular Scottish highlands are very beautiful and you pass along numerous lochs. We drove to Fort Augustus on the edge of Loch Ness. Here there is a thriving Nessie business as well as a tourism business based on boating. We continued along Loch Ness and stopped at another town totally built around the monster, Drumnadrochit. We bought a few more trinkets and then stopped at a roadside car park to look for Nessie. I am sure that I sighted it but Kieran (4) did not really believe me. By the way, these car parks are literally everywhere in England and Scotland. There are no picnic areas anywhere so people stop in these (with trucks and cars speeding past less than a metre away) and pull out deck chairs to have lunch or tea.

Although I am not a golfer, I had decided that I wanted to visit St Andrews, the home of golf. We looked around both the town and golf course and bought a few golf baubles for my (golf mad) father and brothers.

We also visited Whitby, home at one time to Captain Cook. This is a typical English seaside town, right down to the squawking seagulls and fish and chip shops. We visited the Captain Cook Museum in the house where he once lived and saw where the *Endeavour* and *Resolution* were built. On the hill overlooking Whitby is an ancient abbey which was already a ruin at the time of Cook (a painting from then shows it). This really was a nice place, "typical" England. From here we headed across the haunting yet magnificent Yorkshire Moors.

Another highlight was going to Sherwood Forest where we visited the Robin Hood Museum and saw the tree under which Robin and Maid Marion are supposed to have been married. The magnificent architecture of Oxford took up a whole afternoon as we toured around the many



colleges and churches that make up Oxford University. Such beautiful buildings.

Windsor Castle had history everywhere. We watched a changing of the guards as well as visiting the chapels and galleries. Paintings of Henry VIII, the grave of Jane Seymour, paintings by Gauguin and other famous painters abound. Well worth the \$20 entry fee.

Generally, the pubs were also a highlight, with pretty good local and European lagers (only twice did we have to resort to Fosters) and excellent food at reasonable price. The Bed and Breakfasts were also very good, a bit dearer than Ireland, but not as numerous and therefore harder to find.

The low bits of the trip include visiting Liverpool (although visiting the home of the Beatles, "The Cavern" is something I will always remember). The city and suburbs of Liverpool were certainly something to see. It was dark, dirty and depressing. No wonder so many people immigrated from Liverpool. Likewise, Manchester was the pits. A section we visited had streets, such as they were, filthy with rubbish, stones and dirt. We walked along a path and the yards of the houses were filled with more rubbish, in one case overflowing. Grass was a metre or so high in every one and the "park" was just a dirt pit. It was the most depressing sight I have ever seen. The worst street in Redfern would have been 1000 times better than these streets. What a case of town planning at its worst. The whole design of these estates can only lead to depression and thence poverty. Even now they are still building similar estates. I have always wondered how people could be so fanatical about soccer and especially Liverpool United and Manchester United. Now I think I understand. The average people of these two cities appear live such an abysmal lifestyle that they need something to keep them going. The football clubs provide this outlet, this glimmer of a hope and a better life.

As we drove to Glasgow it took us many hours to regain our holiday mood, although the Scottish town of Lockerbie, scene of the Pan Am terrorist crash where 270 people died, was a sobering reminder of the evil of the world.

One other interesting place I visited was Fort William. Sitting in the shadow of the highest mountain in Great Britain (Ben Nevis), Fort William is also home to a commercial dive training academy that has been advertising in *Sportdiving* and *DIVE Log*. I can think of many better (read - warmer) places to learn to dive.

Overall, I enjoyed my week in England and Scotland, but I would never again visit some bits like Liverpool, York, Manchester, Birmingham etc which are so industrialised and run down they have to be seen to be believed (Catch 22).

(Next month, London and the 50th anniversary of VJ Day)

## MAGNETOMETER NEWS by Scott Leimroth

Well, we have finally made moves to get the magnetometer. At the last committee meeting, after months of investigation and procrastination on which model to buy, the Club ordered a magnetometer and sent off the deposit to Wreck Hunter Products in South Australia. The decision was based on price as well as the fact that it is Australian made and therefore backup is easily accessible should it be needed. It is also the model used by a number of maritime archaeology departments throughout the country. It should arrive at the end of November.

Anyone wanting more information can see me at the next meeting or phone me (see page three). Hopefully we will put it to good use and find a few shipwrecks in the near future.

Suggested operating procedures are as follows:

A \$20 per day hire fee with \$200 deposit for Club members with a minimum 12 months membership. Club members would be instructed in its correct use and care or could ask one of the experienced operators in the Club to go with them. On discovery of a wreck, it is expected that the Club would be given first option of publicity, that is, running a wreck night to recoup the expense of the purchase.

Non-Club members would pay \$60 per day and a \$500 deposit and apply to the committee for approval. They would be required to have an appointed Club magnetometer operator with them to run the device and look after it.

Club search days will also be organised by the committee and would be open for all members to participate.

Anyone wishing to use the magnetometer should make an application to do so at a Club meeting. The magnetometer will be held by the equipment officer and a booking sheet with insurance and liability forms will also be kept and organised by the equipment officer.

Any further suggestions for additions to these operating guidelines can be made at the next Club meeting.

## DIVE ADVERTISEMENT

Have you seen the advertisement that has been screening on TV in recent weeks? The ad is good and would, if I was not already a diver, make me very interested to learn how to dive. It purports to show dive sites off Sydney but the word out is that it was in fact shot in Tasmania! This just shows the contempt in which Dive Australia holds the people it wants to attract to diving by falsely telling them they can dive these sites each weekend. It is also typical of their attitude to the average diver. It is also believed that the same ad is being used in other locations with "just the names changed".



**Please ring the dive and social organisers on the Tuesday or Wednesday before the event to confirm details etc.**

## UPCOMING DIVING ACTIVITIES

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

A dive on the wreck of the **SS Bombo** off **Wollongong Harbour** will be held on **26 November** (not 18 or 19 November as previously advised). The **Bombo** is a really great wreck, probably the best shallow wreck on the open ocean in NSW. Phone Scott or Geoff for more details and to book.

### December

On **Sunday 17 December** there will be a Club boat dive out of **Port Hacking**. For more details, phone Scott or Geoff now or see them at the next meeting. Dive will be suitable for all divers.

### Future

It is hoped to organise a weekend trip to **Jervis Bay** where we will stay aboard the new liveaboard, **MV Victory**. By all accounts, the boat is very comfortable and well run. The diving will be suitable for all divers, no matter your experience. Phone Scott or Geoff if you are interested.

A trip to **Nelson Bay** is being planned, although a date has not yet been set. Diving will be at **Broughton Island** and around **Port Stephens** itself. Once again, the diving will be for types of divers, whether novice or experienced. Phone Scott or Geoff to indicate your interest. More details shortly.

It has been suggested that a regular boat dive on Max Western's *Sea-tamer II* be arranged. This would take place on the Sunday after the Club meeting at approximately. More information will be available at the meeting. The first eight people to book would get the spots on the boat - a \$10 deposit will be taken on the night. Rates will be cheaper than usual as we will get a discount by booking the whole boat.

## NIGHT DIVING

The first was a bit of a flop (well a real flop), but the next in a regular series of fortnightly (or thereabouts) **night dives** will occur on **Monday 27 November** at **Clovelly Pool**. Led by Michael McFadyen, the dives will try to be to a different site each time and will start at about 7.30 pm. Meet in the car park above the pool at 7 pm. After the dive, we will probably stop off at a nearby **pizza** joint for dinner. You could also bring a thermos of tea or coffee for warming up after the dive. If the dives prove popular, we might even introduce a BBQ after the dive. The third night dive will be on **Monday 11 December** at **Parsley Bay** at **Vaucluse** where I will guarantee that you will see at least **a couple of sea horses**. Contact Michael on 558 8181 [h] or 015 27 6556 if you are interested in coming or to check an alternate location if seas up likely to be rough.

**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES Contact Numbers:** Carina Gregory (046) 25 8630 [h] or (046) 20 1423 [w].

### December

The Club's **Christmas Party** will be held at 11am on **Sunday 10 December** at **Fitzpatrick Park** at **Picnic Point** in **Georges River National Park**. See the attached sheet for more details.

### April

The revenge **skirmish match** has been rescheduled for **28 April 1996**. A three way battle between URG, Ryde Underwater and South Pacific will take place. Stay tuned for more details.

## NEXT CLUB MEETING

Remember, this month's meeting will be held on **Monday 20 November, 1995**, starting at 8 pm in the Exile McDonald Room of the Bankstown Sports Club.

## FUTURE CLUB MEETINGS

Monday 18 December 1995 and 15 January 1996 (Annual General Meeting).

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

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