

WET RAG



SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS' CLUB PO Box 823, BANKSTOWN NSW 2200 (established 1962)

October 1997 Monthly Newsletter PO Box 201, ENMORE NSW 2042 (Fast delivery) Telephone: 0411 343 200

A RIDE IN DARKES FOREST by John Harlen



It was a cold and dark September day as we arrived in the secluded fruit growing village of Darkes Forest south of Sydney. From a glorious sunny morning, the weather had taken a turn for the worse with the arrival of the southerly. Fortunately the dark clouds threatened worse than they delivered and we were spared rain. Nevertheless the cold wind meant that warm attire was in order.

In due course all participants were mounted (in the nicest possible way) and we headed down off the windswept ridge into the comparative calm of the valley. Even the club president braved the rigours of horseback, although he maintained a very dignified (and leisurely) pace throughout. Once down in the valley the wind swept the clouds away, bathing us in sunshine, and highlighting the masses of wildflowers that lined the trails.

A mixture of walking, trotting and gentle cantering was comfortably handled by all, although Gordon was noticeably absent during canters. (Some of us know our limits.) All in all the ride served as a most enjoyable prelude to getting the nosebag on. So having performed our activity for the morning we got down to the real business of eating (and swapping dive stories). Some brought steak and some brought cheese sandwiches. The English haven't made a huge contribution to the world's cuisine.

For those of you who weren't there you missed a fun day. The weather almost co-operated, the ride was fun and the company was great.

The club socialites who attended were: John & Sarah Harlen, Graham & Samantha Oates, Robyn & Todd Hewitt, Adrianne Hill, and head wranglers - Gordon & Shirley

Meetings of the Club are normally held at 8pm on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Emile McDonald room of the Bankstown Sports Club, Greenfield Street, Bankstown. This month's meeting will be held on Monday 20th October 1997. Members try and make it as we the committee need your instruction and direction.

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President's Message

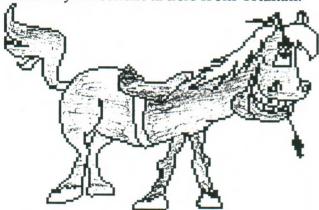
Gordon McDonald

In relation to the cover story.

This was a day of total relaxation, with a touch of intrigue, along with adventure and excitement, finished off with a BBQ lunch whilst seated on a fallen tree next to the open fire.

As head wrangler I had to get behind this herd and muster them along. Myself being one of the oldest and most mature members in the club, this was not a difficult goal to achieve, although there was no time for cantering off or galloping into sunset. Yippee I Yo, Yippee I Hay.

Great Day. Excellent article from Graham.



Hi Club Members.

This our third newsletter and I hope you have enjoyed the articles along with the new direction in which I have endeavoured to point the club. I envisage to utilise the expertise of our members and gain the full benefit of our existing equipment.

During the September meeting the members voted and passed procedures for the use of the magnetometer (as recorded in the minutes). We now have a special group within the club structure to be known as The Magnetometer Mapping Group. We are privileged to have Mr John Beddie as the group's co-ordinator. John has had a lot of experience using the magnetometer.

John will be surveying set areas along the coast with the prospect of finding a new wreck for the club - no promises. He will also be plotting the surveys to a chart, eventually covering the entire eastern seaboard, in search of shipwrecks. (Maybe a book in there somewhere?) John's boat will carry four working divers. Their tasks will include: setting a search area - possibly

from a report; laying marker buoys in a pattern defining the parameters of the area being searched; and systematically running sounding checks. These will form a sounding grid, which when combined with the GPS readings, will then be transferred onto a map with overlays.

If you are contemplating use of the magnetometer you will be required to book on John's boat as a helper and work with other divers. This will give you the experience you need to operate equipment when organising your own search. If John feels you have had sufficient previous experience this will also qualify you to operate it. To book in for hands-on training phone John Beddie on 9820 4272 (be patient). A set of guidelines will be drawn up for committee approval in conjunction with the Property Officer's current rules and regulations. This piece of club equipment will not be used as a toy, as some seen to think. It is a highly technological piece of equipment. magnetometer can be purchased from George's Toyworld, Adelaide enabling you to use it on your boat or car aerial.

I'm at present looking for quotes to purchase a Pelican carry case for the magnetometer equipment. If you need to purchase a video/camera water proof carry case, by combining this with the club order, will give us stronger bargaining power for a better price.



The next item passed in the September meeting was the formation of Photographic Group (noted in minutes). Mr Bob May expressed interest in starting up a group. Bob is a boat owner and very interested in photography. He will coordinate, with your help, setting up an ongoing workshop, on both land and water. We have a large group of very quiet and consciencous photographers within the club, Bob will endeavour to tap into their knowledge and experience. We envisage this leading to lectures with presentations from the professionals within this field.

Also as a lead into the South Pacific Photographer of the Year Competition (as competitors). Or, some might like to assist Peter Flockart with his massive workload in preparation for the competition evening (just being around him you will learn). In addition, assistance with videos and slides of our future wreck finds.

Thank you Bob May. If you wish to contact Bob please ring (045)791 053. (Bookings for underwater work are essential. Form a queue to the left.)

Now to address other items resulting from the September meeting. Russell is correct, yes I am arrogant, whilst also an egotist. I would like to think I get things done. When I took office, the tasks not completed and sitting on the back burners was enormous. By all means, anybody wishing to reprimand me is welcome to come forward with a solution. Whilst being prepared to assist and possibly take on the job of resolving your concern. "Many hands make light work." Dust has been building up on these problems for a long time.

Items at hand:

 The four years of uncompleted bookwork and files are now correlated. It will still take a lot of time to fill in the gaps. So if you have any club related paperwork please send it to me.

I would like to have these books audited and place the club in compliance with the rules of incorporation, therefore not incurring any fines

incurring any fines.

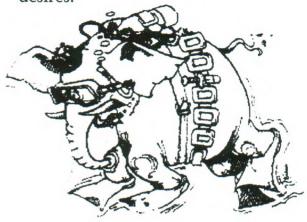
Magnetometer - we still have a loan unit.
 I have been liaising with Bob Ramsay, from whom we purchased it. I am now able to insure the unit as we have documentation from him to show club ownership. I am currently pursuing insurance quotes.

Sending of a formal letter to OneTel re advice of transfer of club phone, with myself as account guarantor for the club phone. At present incoming calls are to

be diverted to my phone.

• Largest job of all is to stop the bickering within the club and at meetings. This is caused by a long term overflow from previous years, that has now come to the boil. Those members who have a splinter in their finger, remove it, "don't wait until it turns into a railway sleeper".

 My biggest challenge will be to create a social and harmonious atmosphere within the club. Shirley & I have a desire to dive again after an extended break. We have this ambition to be members of the Best Dive Club in Australia and to socialise with people who have similar needs, wants and desires.



On Wednesday evening October 8, 1997 Scott Egginton phoned me to tender his resignation as one of the Club Dive Organisers. I have had to accept his resignation. Also, Scott submitted an article titled "Do we need a club boat" which I feel at this stage would give Scott more satisfaction if tabled at our October Club Meeting. This would give him the opportunity to discuss the article in an open debate.

To finish on a happy topic, at the last Committee Meeting we discussed and agreed upon the Christmas Party details. These are outlined on the "Social Page" in this issue.

Happy diving, Regards Gordon McDonald

Committee Vacancies

 A position/s for dive organisers to be filled at our October meeting. The position will require organising dive trips away and charter operated dives.

Treasurer's position requires: processing
of all banking & new memberships,
receipting all moneys, documenting all
accounting transactions and
membership payments. Coordinating
Club Meeting raffle. Producing the
monthly Treasurer's Report and tabling
at the Club Meetings.

 Editor for the Wet Rag entails all functions required in collating and processing a newsletter, including continual update of member's database.
 Organising of printing and postage.

Photographic Officer's Report

Peter Flockart

Sub-Committee:

Paul Howlett Lee Harvey Leo Bergagnin Gordon McDonald

George Robert's Competition

The entries have been judged and the results were tabled at September meeting.

For those of you who could not come to the September meeting the results are as follows:

1st Robert Westerdyk who scored 408 pts
Prize Perpetual Trophy, Own Trophy and
Prize of 3 double boat dives & 5
nights Lodge accommodation at
South West Rocks. Courtesy of Noel
and Belinda of South West Rocks Dive
Centre.

2nd John Szwecow who scored 403.5 pts Prize A certificate, Cleaning Kit & 4 rolls of film.

3rd Graham Wakeling who scored 363 pts Prize Certificate, Cleaning Kit & 3 rolls of film.

4th Peter Booth who scored 325.5 pts Prize Certificate & Cleaning Kit

Many thanks to these people for taking the time to enter the competition.

There will be a presentation at the October meeting as none of the entrants could make it to the last meeting.

There was nothing to report in regards to the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year - 1988, this month as I have been away in Queensland.

More will be forthcoming in the following months.

Photographic Tips

Last month we covered the basics of light and its behaviour on the surface/underwater.

Now we will look at how to capture this light, which can be achieved by using either a stills camera, film or video.

The range of cameras on the market varies from simple Nikonos to complex housed systems. There are also twin lens reflex cameras such as the Rolleimarine, which is not used much these days, except by a few diehards.

Whatever the camera the principle is the same, by opening the shutter a certain amount of light is let in to "paint" an image on the film. The amount of light coming in is limited by the diameter of the lens and it can be further reduced by an iris-type diaphragm incorporated between the optical elements of a lens. Lens are calibrated in f/stops so that the amount of light required to produce a properly exposed image can be set (Ch 4 page 63 The Manual of U/W Photography H De-Couet 1989).

F/stops on most lenses range from f/2.8 to f/22 or f/32 depending on the lens. In this series f/2.8 represents the largest while f/22 or /32 represents the smallest.

It may appear easy to just select the f/stop and trigger the shutter in order to obtain an image on the film. However this is not the case. In order to achieve a respectable result you must also consider the following aspects:

Lens type Shutter speed Focus
Exposure Aperture
Depth of Field Film type

For information on the above topics Read Chapters 4 to 6 in the Manual of U/W Photography by Heinz De-Couet 1989.

Videos are subject to the same variables, except that of film type as most videos cassettes run at a constant "ASA" rating.

I don't have much experience with this type of photography, so if some of the members who are more up to date with video's would like to do a small article on the ins and outs of this type of photography, I know we will all benefit.

If there are any topics you would like help with please contact me and I will do my best to assist.

Peter Flockart SPDC Inc Photographic Officer



Dive Organiser's Schedule

Rod Muir

This has been a busy month. I have helped organise the following dives:

Sunday 19th October - Boat Dive This is in conjunction with the Socialites Afternoon Tea at Doyles Restaurant, see Socialising Socialites Column this issue. Ring me for diving information. If the weather is as good as last Sunday it will be a great day.

Friday 24th October - Night Boat Dive Dive with Max Western.

This is going to be a fantastic experience. Ring me and confirm your position. This is a charter and money is required to hold your position on the boat. Looking forward to diving with you on this night.

Max Western's Sea-Tamer II Dive Charters

Bookings and Information Phone Max on 9524 1818 or (018)280 791

Sunday 2nd November - Boat Dives Base camp will be at Frenchmans Bay where we will be catering for deep, shallow and shore dives. BBQ on site. We will be making it a social gathering for lunch. Great place for kids to play and swim.

Friday 21st November - Night Dive Mixed Grill Dive & BBQ following Charter with Aquatic Explorers, leaving from Bonner Point, Kurnell at 7pm. Spaces available. Don't miss out, this one is a goer. Ring and book early. If you dive with a partner this starlight Night Dive is a must for the romantic.

Sunday 9th December - Boat Dives At the Pittwater Bayview launch Site incorporated with a BBQ lunch. Welcome in the Festive Season with friends.

Sunday 14th December - Christmas Party & Boat Dives

Starting dives at 8am through until boat owners finish. Christmas banquet from 11.30 to 2.30pm. Dives around the Harbour at various locations to suit all divers. Dive Outside-the-Heads these are early morning dives. Ring me and book, or contact your favourite boat owner.

Don't forget no booking, NO DIVING.

Rod Muir

Phone - (H) (046) 571 827 Mobile - (041) 840 7106

Club Organised Charter Boat Dives and Dive Trips Away.

- 1. Deposit to be paid as normal, as soon as possible, to ensure your spot, at a rate of 50% of the cost of the day trip and \$50 for trips away per person.
- 2. The full amount becomes due seven working days before trip date. If no payment is forthcoming there will be no place booked for
- If any person pulls out of the trip before final payment is due refunds will only be made if spot is filled or at the discretion of the full committee.
- 4. If any person pulls out after paying, the full amount may be refunded dependent on the trip cost breakdown or at the discretion of the full committee.



Dive Reports

Suzanne Evans

The National Aquarium Canberra

How about a dive with a difference?

Aquarium, Canberra's National association with Aqua Action Scuba Diving Services provide a unique exploration dive freshwater, it's tropical environment. In completely protected surroundings, between 24-28 deg water temp., less weight to carry than ocean

diving It doesn't get any easier!

We first tour through the 'dry' viewing tunnel, whilst our enthusiastic guide. Peter Bell, educates us on the unusual creatures that we will come face to face with once inside the 1,000,000 litre tank. We then proceed to the entry area, slip into our dive gear and receive a comprehensive dive briefing.

My only hesitance was answered when I asked about the rather large sawfish I had spied pacing up and down the roof of the tank, eyeing us suspiciously! I was assured that she was a little short tempered but harmless as long as you treated her with the respect she deserved in her domain.. no

problem!

We drop into the entry pool, strap on our tanks and off we go... down through a shaft and into the aquarium. Another world awaits, as I get my footing and awkwardly stumble off upright to explore. Immediately fish come from everywhere to inspect us and I am faced with a huge barramundi, eyeball to eyeball. These fish are so relaxed, I was able to stroke them with little or no resistance. The other residents we meet are saratoga, whiptail, rays, catfish, a big mangrove jack, ox eye herring, and a pignosed turtle, who by the way is a very cute little guy.

The habitat is most unusual in that it reconstructs a freshwater tropical river system, as you would find in far North Queensland. It comes complete with tree logs, rocks, freshwater tropical plant life and a sandy bottom, creating a perfect

environment for these critters.

My family, who had never before had an underwater experience, embraced their first encounter with ease. They were taught basic skills in the pool and then lead to the

underwater viewing area, actually inside the aquarium, where they were greeted by some of the more curious aquarium residents. An exciting experience they will never, ever forget!

"DISCOVER SCUBA" with AQUA ACTION SCUBA DIVING SERVICES Certified Divers can walk at their leisure through the Aquarium. Neutral buoyancy is a NO GO zone in this environment, as it minimises the upset of the terrain, to ensure perfect visibility as well as reducing the diver's ability to harass the underwater wildlife. They are after all..captive, and have no where else to retreat. Agua Action will provide all equipment, though use of your personal gear is encouraged..for comfort. No BCDs, weight belt, fins (or knife) required.

Oceanarium dives for certified diver \$40 Rates for SPDC members \$30 Maximum group of 6 at a time. (Min 4 divers for reduced rate).

* Scuba Experience with AQUA ACTION SCUBA DIVING SERVICES

Non certified divers are catered for with a Scuba Experience. Skills are practiced in a confined pool attached to the Aquarium. Once confidence has been established, divers are lead to the Observation Area in the Aquarium. Aqua Action will supply all equipment. You need to bring swimmers, towel & warm sweater.

Scuba Experience for non certified diver \$25 Rates for SPDC members \$20 Maximum group of 6 at a time. . (Min 4 divers for reduced rate).

* DIVE SHOP

Aqua Action supply a fully stocked dive shop for all your needs.

* WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

The expansive grounds which connect to the aquarium are also well worth exploring. They provide habitats for populations of koalas, kangaroos, emus, fairy penguins, dingos, parrots, black swans, and waterfowl. There is a Reptile centre for those with a fascination for pythons and other species.

Throughout my 10 years of diving, I never cease to be amazed at the different critters and the intriguing life styles they lead. Continued next page. They don't fight over money, they don't create wars or nuclear weapons, on the whole they have a healthy respect for the strange bubble blowing creatures that drop in from time to time to harass them or stun them with flash lights. As divers, we are very fortunate to experience this fascinating world, and this dive is certainly a dive with a difference.. Enjoy!!!!

Comment from the Editor

This sounds like a great trip away. Even a weekend in Canberra site seeing or extend it to the snowfields or off road trip combined with camping. Just think a total stress break in the dive tank, a lunch and then do what you like, possibly not even go home again. That's life!!!

Food for Thought

Would you be interested in a dive in the National Aquarium Canberra? Followed by:

- Dinner as a group in Canberra or,
- Tour of Parliament House & surrounding areas or,
- A trip to the snowfields or,
- A camping weekend
- Also is there a best time of year to go.

This could be a great family outing but don't forget it depends you, the club members. All suggestions welcome. Call Gordon or Shirley on 9519 7850 and give us your thoughts.



Try a diving adventure away from the city pressures.

M.V. Victory Diving Adventure January Long Weekend 1998 Boarding Friday 23rd January

Four Day dive trip. Several spaces still available. For further information contact Peter Foster on 9564 2654. Share in the diving pleasures of Jervis Bay.

Myola - Leo Bergagnin

I was invited by John Beddie to dive the Myola. Having never had the privilege to dive Sydney's newest wreck site, I jumped at the chance. Waking to a typical September sunny Sydney Sunday, I travelled out to Rose Bay wharf in anticipation of a great dive. I arrived there in plenty of time, which is unusual for me, knowing full well that John Beddie is always on time or early. Believe it or not he was late. It must have been a good night before.

After bagging John Beddie for being late, which made us later, we finally departed heading north to the Myola. Unfortunately Sydney was covered by a huge brown haze making it difficult to locate the marks for the wreck. We motored a fair way past the actual site and seeing a fishing boat in the vicinity we headed towards to it. John realised we were too far North and after an abundance of abuse from an irate fisherman, who was obviously telling us in some foreign language, unknown to me to clear off. We circled this fishing boat and headed back south. Then John's Eagle Eye picked up the marks for the Myola. We were then joined by Mark (I'll tie off your boat) Dietz and proceeded to gear up and go down.

We where anchored on the plates and after John signalled to me is everything OK, he bolted. Ross Mackay and myself swam to the rear of the wreck, around the propeller, which is still upright. It was here I noticed the broken blades on the propeller and I remembered the discussion and arguments on how this happened. I swam back to one of the boilers and had a little rummage around until it was time to leave. After a twenty minute bottom time we started to ascend and look forward to our thirty minutes of deco time. The visibility was about 25 to 30 metres. The water was a chilly 16 degrees, but an excellent dive was had by all. Thank you John Beddie and Mark (I'll tie on the back of your boat) Dietz.

Aquatic Explorers are moving premises. Steve and Lee are leaving their Cronulla store and will be relocating to new premises on Captain Cook Drive, slightly east of Taren Point Road. Parking will now be in abundance, no doubt there will be some bargains to be had, so keep you eye on this.

Dive Reports continued

S.S. Bombo Father's Day Dive Geoff Cook

In the September issue of the Wet Rag Michael McFadyen's interesting report on the "Life and Death" of the S.S. Bombo should have filled you in, quite well, on this wrecksite. On Father's Day the club dived the Bimbo commercially again with Geoff "Dive Hicks. aboard Time", 0111 Wollongong Harbour. The weather was again a bit effluent and a blow that was on the increase. What had matters worse was the fact that we are at the mercy of the Harbour Authorities and shipping movements which track very near to the site, and all diving operations were delayed about 45 minutes.

At the site Geoff picked in on the 2nd The first group of eight divers throw. dropped into the dive with a high degree of 'torch disappointment....' Wonderful things are torches that work... On this occasion amongst us we had three torch failures. This was a real tragedy because one was mine. That flooding look in a \$450.00 torch really takes the edge off my dive. Pressing on, with my little backup, one candle power, torch, in the water, which had very poor viz we checked out the new look Bimbo which I hadn't dived since it broke up and open. Regardless of the poor viz this was still a very interesting dive with plenty to see and examine and without doubt is a very good training dive for novices and to get that great smell of brass and rust. For the engine buffs the expansion motor now lies on it's side away from the wreck and you can now poke in and around it without any hindrance. I love diving the 'Bimbo' and on a good viz. day it rates up with the best.

After the two dives we met the 'social club' and took over the Scarborough Hotel for lunch. When 40 plus divers, wives and kids hit the pub for lunch the Management had smiles all around. The publican even pulled out the guitar and sang for two hours of personal entertainment which capped off a good club day.

See Ya, Barjumpa

Barry Hallet, from Southern Cross Divers will be re-opening the old Fun Dive store at Stanmore. Once again there will be some Grand Opening Specials.

Diving with a Difference Leo Bergagnin

Some time ago, fellow club member Gary Ryder and myself were approached by Transfield Bouygues Joint Venture to commence training to enable us to work "under pressure" on the T.B.M. (Tunnel Boring Machine). For those who may not be aware, and in layman's language, the tunnel is under the water table, therefore the head of the T.B.M. is under water. To enable work to be performed on the head the area in front needs to be pressurised to hold the water back. The Work Cover Authority requires all compressed air workers to be trained and to be aware of the

dangers involved.

Gary and I attended a series of lectures with Jean-Claude Le Pechon, (many of you would have met Jean-Claude). We then completed a National Safety Council First Aid Course, and a thorough diving medical at Price Henry. Our last task was to take a "dip" in the "Yellow Sub". The "Yellow Sub" is a special purpose built recompression chamber located on the T.B.M. site at Tempe. We entered the chamber and were slowly compressed to 4 bar. At approx. 2 bar our voices started to change and by the time we reached 4 bar we sounded like we had consumed a huge amount of Helium. Believe me it was quite humourous. We were now given some tasks to perform to test our resistance to narcosis. These were simple enough, count backwards in sevens, 6 additions and writing our names backwards. Gary not only spelt his name backwards he also wrote the letters in reverse. We stayed at this level for around 15 minutes, then returning to .6 bar where we stopped for around another 15 minutes on pure oxygen before being allowed out. We were then required to remain on site for one hour. (This is called "The Bends Watch"). The Yellow Sub is named because its colour. It consists of compartments, the main chamber and The main chamber is access chamber. approx. 1.8 meters in length and is approx. 1.2 meters in diameter. The access chamber, is approx 1/3 in length. There is a third access chamber approx. .300mt in length and .300mt in diameter to pass any small requisites that may be required by the people in the chamber. The T.B.M. is currently under the two runways on it's way to the domestic terminal and should reach the terminal by the end of November.

Continued next page.

To date, there has been 150,000 cubic meters of material removed from the tunnel. There has been 822 pre-cast concrete rings laid. Each ring consists of 8 concrete segments, each segment weighing approx. 8 tonnes and each ring forms 1.8 meters of tunnel wall. On one working day the most number of rings laid is 11 forming 19.8 meters of tunnel.

SPDC Dive Expedition

S.P.D. was in "deep trouble" CHUUK Tour 1997

On the 2nd November, 19 members and friends of S.P.D. and St. George Scuba Clubs will be travelling to Chuuk Lagoon in Micronesia to dive the Japanese Wrecks bombed by the Americans in operation "Hailstorm" in February 1944. Of the 19 divers travelling, 15 are locals, all being members of S.P.D., 7 of which are also members of St. George.

Travelling with us will be four out of towners. David Lott is from Narrandera and is also an S.P.D. member, and was introduced to the club by fellow country members Peter and Lorna Hall of Twofold Dive. (Hello Peter and Lorna). David came with us last year to the Solomons. Then we have a new lady who is now a club member, Lorellie Kavanagh. Lorellie hails from Rockhampton and was introduced by Ann and Ian from Allways dive. We met Lorellie briefly when she was in Sydney recently. Then we have Helen Longly from New Zealand. Helen is close friend of Glenn and Maria Townsend. Hopefully she will be a S.P.D. member before the trip is over. Last but not least we have Hazel is coming from Hazel Malpass. England and is the Mother/Mother in-law to Samantha and Graham Oates. Traditionally mother's in-law are the enemy, but son inlaw, Graham assures me that she is lovely lady. S.P.D. members who are travelling will be Peter Flockart, Peter Foster, Mark Dietz, Rod Muir, Barbara Sweetperson, Graham and Samantha Oates. Joint S.P.D. and St. George members are Michael (FIGJAM) McFadyen, Eddie (GRUMPY) Labour, Darryl (ROWDY) Gibbs, Glenn Townsend, Bill and Robyn Kemp, Russell (BASEBALL BAT STONER) Stoker, and Leo (BERGER BRAIN) Bergagnin.

Our trip has undergone some changes to the original itinerary. Due to Air Nauru changing their flight schedules our trip has been extended. We have also changed dive operators and will be diving with Blue Lagoon. When Gradvin, the owner of Blue Lagoon Dive Shop, was informed that S.P.D. was travelling to Chuuk, he immediately started negotiating with the "Truk Continental" to have our accommodation upgraded. The end result is we will be staying at the best resort on the island, at no cost to us. To use the old N.R.M.A. slogan "It pays to belong". Know doubt we will show members the video and slides at the November or December meeting.



Note from the Editor

Upon perusal of our records I find a very large THANK YOU is long over due from all the members and myself. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you S.O.S for their help and support in the past.



Davey Jones' Classified Page

For Sale

Nikonos IV-A & Nikonos SB 101 Speedlight plus acc. excellent condition. \$850.00 ONO.

Phone: 9524-2431 Arthur Brown

Treasury Update

Gordon McDonald Due to this position being vacant income and expenditure will be published.

Peter Flockart has now submitted a budget for Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year competition, including lead up costs.

The budget prior to the evening, including out-going costs: Advertising - Printing - Mailing -Laminating - Venue Hire Costs - Trophies -Presenters - Video and slides - Corporate Theatre.

These costs for deposits and outgoings. The balance can be supplemented with entry fees and sponsor contributions.

This amount is an estimation based on the last AV night costs, plus a 5% overall increase.

The overall estimated cost at this stage is \$10,865.00. This amount will be discussed and then voted on at the October meeting. When passed the funds will be set aside to ensure covering of costs for the AV night.

Christmas Party - this was discussed at this month's Committee Meeting. The following are the estimated costs:

are the commuted coots.	
Beef on a spit (60 people)	\$420.00
Red & White wine & cordials	\$ 60.00
Watermelons & fruit	\$ 35.00
Children's Christmas presents	\$200.00
	\$715.00

Beer by donation or charged on consumption

Total amount of moneys estimated for future projects \$11,580.00,

Eleven Thousand Five Hundred and Eighty Dollars.



Out Goings for October - Deter Flockart	Paid	
AV postage Gordon McDonald costs as stated in	cash	\$ 8.65
September Wet Rag Phone Rental Payment	chq cash	\$783.52 \$ 26.00 \$818.17
Out Going Cost to be Paid Gordon McDonald Phone charges LD only 6/7/97-23/7/97 24/7/97-22/8/97	\$31.94 <u>\$40.93</u> \$72.87	\$ 72.87
Costs incurred due to raiday of Jibbon Dive 21/9/9		
Costs as follows: Woolworths Theo's Liquor Bridge Toll	\$ 78.26 \$ 23.95 \$ 2.00 \$104.21	
Minus Perishable goods recovered and used by G. McDonald Balance owing	\$ 45.88 \$ 58.33	\$ 58.33
(Remainder of items have been put in stoo or broken down and frozen where possible		
Oct Wet Rag Postage stam	ps Total	\$ 67.50 \$198.70
Income Sept Meeting Raffle New Membership Dive Deposit J.Beddie George Roberts Comp	\$65.00 \$15.00 \$35.00 \$80.00	\$195.00
Balance in Petty Cash		\$ 15.35

Invoice from BOC Gases re account opened in the name of SPDC. Yearly rental \$45.60 I would like to know who authorised the opening of this account and under whose authority was it signed? I am also looking for a copy of the application for this account, as no-one in this club has the authority to sign, except the Treasurer, President, and Secretary. I am investigating this matter.

Young Vis for Nevilles

Adult Watch_Get a life corner.au.giggle.giggle

Junior Reports

Craig Egginton

Osbourne Shoals

On Friday 19th September at about 8:30pm, Peter Flockart, Paul Howlett, Graham Oates, Mark Spencer, my parents and I dived Osborne Shoals off Andy's boat Cape Bailey.

This was my first night dive off a boat. The viz was very good, even though over the past few days it had been raining.

It was packed with nicely coloured plants. There wasn't a lot of fish but I did see two large Old Wives, some Blackfish and plenty of juvenile Groper.

Although I had trouble with getting tangled in the reel line and was startled by Peter's flash, all over it was a good dive.

When we reached shore we gladly thawed ourselves out with soup & bread and then coffee or tea and a Tim Tam or two.

(Thank you Craig for another excellent article, from the Editor.)

Max Western's Sea-Tamer II Dive Charters

Bookings and Information Phone Max on 9524 1818 or (018) 280791

Competition

In November's Wet Rag there will be a Colouring Competition which will be judged at the Christmas Party at Neilsons Park. Get those colouring pencils sharpened, those paint boxes and brushes at the ready and warm up your computer artistic talent.

Junior Comments

Kylie Davis

On the behalf of the Davis' kids, Melissa and myself, we would like to suggest some activities that non-divers and kids could participate in when we attend outings and day dives with the dive club.

We would like to see some activities arranged on occasions to make our day more enjoyable. Some activities Melissa and I would like to suggest are:

- to be taught how to snorkel safely
- to identify common fish species
- be able to be aware and identify dangerous marine creatures
- to be taught surf awareness
- activities such as beach volleyball, cricket and scavenger hunts
- explore rock pools

We think if at least 1 activity could be arranged at dive club outings, more people will become involved and have fun and exciting day!!!

Note from the Editor

Thank you, Junior Socialite, Kylie. I will raise this at the next Club Meeting and have stern words with our Social Organisers, especially Debbie Davis for not thinking of this earlier. Also, we could possibly lend sporting equipment to the adults under your supervisor.



Are you old enough to dive? Have you learnt to snorkel or would you like to learn to swim? If so contact Gordon on 9519 7850 and make arrangements to learn.

Socialising Socialites

Debbie Davis and her twelve fellow socialite organisers

Ilona Kandilas
Anne Latimer
Robyn Hewitt
Kylie Hewitt
Robyn Kemp
Amanda Cook
Eda Morena
Jeannine Aram
Shirley Wolfenden

What are YOU doing Sunday 19th October at 3pm?

Ladies are you ready for our second LADIES ONLY FUNCTION. Can you make room in your social calendar for an afternoon tea on the Dovle's promenade at We can promise you a Watsons Bay? spectacular sunset over the world's most captivating harbour, surrounded sophisticated ambiance, befitting only the ladies of South Pacific Divers. ONLY if it rains (it wouldn't dare knowing SPDC Ladies were there), we will have as an alternate venue, VAUCLUSE HOUSE TEA GARDENS to relax in and watch the rain. When?.- you eagerly ask? Sunday 19th October at Look forward to enjoying your 3pm. company.

Child minding facilities available by your

caring President (alias Santa)

Divers - a dive has been organised to

coincide with the ladies function. For bookings contact either:

Debbie Davis 982 13740
Amanda Cook 954 35817
Gordon & Shirley 951 97850
Rodney Muiré (0246)571 827
PLACES ARE STILL AVAILABLE

Ten Pin Bowling Nu-Vision at Chesterhill 25/10/97 Saturday Bowling 4pm to 6pm.....Dinner 7.30pm Enjoy a relaxing twilight experience of ten pin bowling and the chance to display and sharpen your bowling skills. Followed by a relaxing hour or so leisurely conversation with pre-dinner drinks. If you wish to attend the winner's dinner, at Premo Restaurant next door, to further discuss the skills of bowling and maybe a little TINY bit about diving. For bookings contact either:

Ilona Kandilas 972 57808 Debbie Davis 982 13740 Gordon & Shirley 951 97850

SHIPROCK DIVE

Leo and Lesley 6/617 Port Hacking Road LILLI PILLI NSW 2229 Ph: (02)9526 2664 Fax: (02)9526 2906

Note of Thanks

Just a short note from the social organiser to thank the two dive co-ordinators on a job well done on Sunday 7th August, the dive on the Bombo. For those who didn't make it, try next time!

The dive, from what I'm told by so many, was not great vis but that didn't really bother those of us that don't dive. We had a nice lunch with entertainment in the Scarborough Pub, overlooking the ocean. What a great spot. The two guys who organised the day catered for all of us, especially since we didn't have to pack the esky with lunch for the troops. A top idea, and the divers still had their day. "A great effort."

The next two people who also must be thanked for their great efforts are Shirley and Gordon, the last Wet Rag looked terrific another great job.

Pre-Christmas Dinner

Saturday night 15th November, 7.30pm at Greenfield Station Restaurant at Bankstown Sports Club Enjoy a pre-Christmas dinner and drinks with your club members. From then on it is go go go over the silly season. Also, this can be a "thank you" to the club for the use of their facilities during the year for our meetings.

For bookings phone:

Debbie Davis 982 13740 Gordon & Shirley 951 97850

* THE Christmas Party *

Minutes of the meeting of South Pacific Divers Club at Bankstown Sports Club - Monday 15th September 1997

Meeting opened at 8:15pm, members and guests welcomed by Club President,.

Apologies:

Scott Egginton, Bob May, Graham Wakeley

Acceptance of previous Club minutes:

The previous minutes were accepted by:

John Beddie Mark Spencer

and Seconded by:

Incoming/Outgoing correspondence:

Letters from other dive clubs, Divers Journal

Treasurers Report:

Barbara Sweetman

Expenses for the month of August:

\$ 80.30 in / \$ 119.02 out

\$ 5.70 Postage \$61.30 Misc \$ 2.02 Bank Fees \$50.00 Petty Cash

Balance of Cheque Account:

Balance of Investment Account:

\$ 1,530.39 \$11,534.36

Treasurers Report accepted by:

and Seconded by:

Geoff Cooke Peter Foster

Dive Organisers Report:

Rod Muir

• 19/9/97 Night Dive with Max Western - Shallow. - Rod

• 24/10/97

Night Dive with Max Western on the 'Tuggerah'. - Scott Botany Bay Dive

• 2/11/97

Port Hacking Dive

16/11/9721/11/97

Night Dive with Aquatic Explorers - Botany Bay & BBQ after

• 7/12/97

Pittwater Dive

Social Organisers Report:

Debbie Davis

- Horse Riding at Darks Forest 28/9/97. Starts at 11:00am for 1 hour, BYO BBQ lunch
- Afternoon Tea for the ladies at Watsons' Bay 19/10/97 at 3:00pm.
- · Bowling and dinner after at Chester Hill.
- Dinner at Bankstown Sports Club at 7:30pm.
- Christmas BBQ Party. Meat on a spit sometime early December. Any suggestions where.
- ➤ Clark Is (Sydney Harbour) St George is having their party there on 7/12 maybe combine, talk to Eddy Labour.

Publicity Officers Report:

Paul Howlett

- Writing articles on the Photo Comp for next year.
- Web site going very well Web Master is very keen, will come along to give a presentation to the
 committee, then to club members at a general meeting. Geoff Cooke commented I thought this
 was not going to cost the club anything. Paul assured us that there will be no cost to the club, in
 fact there is the potential to make money from it through the sponsors obtained.

Photographic Officers Report:

Peter Flockart

- AUPY' Will be going to Asian Diver by 15/10 for the December issue. Competition opens 1/1/98, closes 4/98, presentation night is anticipated to be mid July for a short and fast comp this time. We will be working very hard and are looking for any help ALL HELP WELCOMED!
- George Roberts A flood of last minute entries, will show the finalists slides this evening and get the finalists along to next meeting for their presentation. The slides were then shown.

BREAK

Presidents Comments:

Gordon McDonald

• Formally declared Treasurers' position as vacant, also Editor for *Wet Rag* needed. Please contact Gordon through the month if interested, we will vote at the next meeting.

- Mentioned his idea of forming some inter-club groups –
- Magnetometer Group. John Beddie has agreed to host this group. Russell to oversee the use of the Mag, anyone else wanting to use would still need to go through Russell. The groups project would be to locate a diveable wreck with recognition going to SPDC for finding the wreck.

Motioned by:

Gordon McDonald

Seconded by:

Geoff Cooke

Voting took place immediately: Majority for

MOTION CARRIED

Photographic Group. Bob May is very keen to host this group. There could be photographic workshops for all levels of photographers.

Voting took place immediately: Majority for

MOTION CARRIED

Members Dive Reports:

Pay Malang - Arch at Shell Harbour & Cave, 10-15Mtr viz, saw a seal.

Geoff Cooke - Bombo - viz was ordinary, water warm. Heaps to see now opened up and the Scarborough after was great.

Scott Seimroth - Gordons' Bay with his rebreather, used to be an avid wreck diver but has now re-discovered reef diving, it's great with no bubbles fish are not scared off.

Leo Rargagnin - Dived the Myola. Seas were millpond, upset a fisho, viz was great, excellent dive. Footnote: John Beddie was 3 minutes late but arrived happy and contented!?!

Raffle prizes and winners:

1st prize

A boat dive on Max Western's Sea Tamer II

Won by

Debbie Davis / Mark Spencer

2nd prize

T-Shirt donated by Aquatic Explorers, Cronulla

Won by

Leo Bargagnin

General Business:

Geoff Cooke: Asked for any info for a wreck site log. MMcF has a personal list he will give a copy of.

Sarah Harlen asked about diving in the Whitsunday's. GMcD had some advise for her as he has spent time up there.

Ray Malang said that over on the table there are some freebies, old magazines and Neville Coleman books.

Leo B had a question for Peter Flockart regarding something which he had seen whilst diving. Peter replied that it must have been a salp.

John Beddie suggested a second night dive on the Tuggerah or a club night dive there might be good.

Russell Stoker said that he felt that GMcDs attitude was arrogant, regarding the phone and other matters. Re BBQ for plaque laying day this was not put to the committee and it should have been.

Gordon McDonald re BBQ for plaque laying day, all members were invited, it was the ending cycle of this affair. Club was let down by others. Yes he is bombastic, has he made other decisions - no, RS & BS both said yes specifically regarding the mag. RS said there was no particular problem except that it shouldn't have been put forward as a done deal but rather should have been discussed openly. GMcD replied - point taken.

Leo B - If there are any messages required to be left on the club phone or diversion to be arranged, it is necessary to contact Leo direct not leave a message on the club phone, as he only has time to check it once a week not daily as Barbara had done in the past.

South Pacific Divers Club

Geoffrey HARBORD Steve GREENACRE			
Geoffrey Allen	(041)6015 975	Cross	GHEENACHE
Paul	KINGSFORD	Roy	NARELLAN
Angwin	9662 6013	Davies	(046)471 581
David	CROMER	Mark & Debbie	NARELLEN
Apperly	9972 1635	Dietz	(046)48 2511
Paul & Jeannine	ASHFIELD	John & Fiona	YARRAWARRAH
Aram	9799 9436	Earl	9548 2076
John	COOGEE	Stephen	RABY
Arkwright	9965 0596	Earle	9824 8553
Susan	HYAMS BEACH	Scott, Debbie & Craig	MASCOT
Armstrong	(02)444 37600	Egginton	9317 2126
Bill	FRENCHS FOREST	Suzanne	PARRAMATTA
Atherton	9452 4490	Evans	9891 1964
Martin	FALLS CREEK	John	DALEYS POINT
Atkins	(044)434 631	Fadoulis	(043) 422 939
John	MINTO	lan & Debbie	BULLI
Beddie	9820 4272	Farrelly	(042) 827004
Leo	MARRICKVILLE	Carlo	UMINA BEACH
Bergagnin	9558 2592	Fillipetti	(043)421 695
David & Roslyn	LEICHHARDT	Peter	ROSE BAY
Bilbow	9564 1119	Flockart	9317 0265
Greg	ENMORE	Michael	CAMPSIE
Blackburne	9516 5069	Foster	9564 2654
John & Rhonda	TWEED HEADS SOUTH	Peter	STANMORE
Blaszczak	019 997 628	Foster	9564 2654
Peter	SANS SOUCI	John & Susan	COOGEE
Booth	9529 3818	Fowden	9665 9727
Tony	CAMPBELLTOWN	Rodney	GLENELG
Burridge	(046)255 663	Fox	
Ben	HURSTVILLE	Frank & Julianne	AMBERVALE
Butcher	9585 0021	Galea	(046)272 987
Stephen	ROSEMEADOW	Ricardo	NORTH BONDI
Cadigan	(046)212 089	Garcia	9365 1446
Bill	NURIOOTPA	Christian	TERRIGAL
Carter	(085)62 2294	Gerzner	(043)852 577
John	BLAKEHURST	Daryl	LANE COVE
Cassidy	9546 3538	Gibbs	9428 1819
Elizabeth	DEAN PARK	Nicole	HUNTERS HILL
Cheers	9626 9188	Gibbs	
Timothy	FRENCHS FOREST	Jim	COOGEE
Clarke	9451 7931	Glass	9665 8231
Jonethan	CREMORNE	John	KOGARAH
Clarke-Jones	9909 3897	Gordon	9588 2740
Craig & Sue	MENAI	Jane & Robin	BALGOWLAH
Collard & Cambam	9532 0315	Grahem & Appleby	9948 1298
Geoff & Amanda	BARDEN RIDGE	Carina	RUSE
Cook	9543 5817	Gregory	(046)258 630
Jean-Michel	SANTA BARBARA LA	Kenneth	KINGSWOOD
Cousteau	0011 1 805 899 8899	Grew	(047)217 036
Bruce	KURNELL	Mark	FIGTREE
Cremonesi	9668 8126	Hamilton	

South Pacific Divers Club

South Pacific Divers Club			
John & Sarah	KIRRAWEE	David	NARRANDERA
Harlan	952 17210	Lott	(069) 596 236
Lee & Steve	KURNELL	Neil .	ROZELLE
Harvey & Crow	9668 9207	MacDonald	(041) 6281 254
Craig	GUILDFORD	Ross & Joanne	HURSTVILLE GROVE
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Howlett	9746 6720	Matthews	(041)1477 938
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Ikin	9681 1410	May	(045) 79 1053
Hanne	COPENHAGEN 2100	John & Kathy	CHIPPING NORTON
Kampp	(45)39293092	McDermott	9755 2435
Martin & Ilona	GEORGES HALL	Gordon & Shirley	ENMORE
Kandilas	9725 7808	McDonald & Wolfenden	9519 7850
Lorellie	NORTH RITEON	Michael	TEMPE
Kavanagh	(079)266714	McFadyen	9558 8181
Rhonda	BYRON BAY	Maret	WULAGI
Kay	(066) 85 8521	McGlasson	(041) 2221 472
Gerard	CONCORD WEST	Jason	GREENACRE
Kehoe	9743 4759	McHatton	9759 7190
Steven	CHARLESTOWN	Gary	MORTDALE
Kelly	(049) 43 1407	McInnes	958 01474
William & Robyn	ENGADINE	Eddy & Joanne	Menai
Kemp	9520 4740	Miedzinski	9532 1235
Mecki	SUVA	Susan	WOOLLONGONG
Kronew		Monkley	(042)573 781
Eddy	YAGOONA	Rod	WAKELEY
Labour	9644 4979	Moon	9609 3841
Jim	WAHROONGA	Ray	RUSE
Laruffa	9487 1564	Moulang	(046) 262 698
Ann	BASS HILL	Rod & Heather	THE OAKS
Latimer	9645 4405	Muir	(0246) 571 827
David	SUMMER HILL	Ron	RANDWICK
Latimer	9716 8966	Murphy	9264 2644
Scott	ROSELANDS	Rodney	BONDI BEACH
Leimroth	9759 6501	Nairne	9365 1184
Micheal	PENRITH	Mark	PANANIA
Lipowicz	(047) 322 623	Nicholls	9774 5105
Reg	VERMONT SOUTH	Timothy	SOUTH GRANVILLE
Lipson		O'Brien	9632 4316
Andrew	TOMAKIN	Graham & Samantha	BANKSTOWN
Long	9534 1810	Oates	9790 0958

*	South Pa	acific Divers Club	
Greg	HURLSTONE	Glen & Maria	LILLIP PILLI
Parcell	979 77183	Townsend	9525 1522
David & Vanessa	WOLLSTONECRAFT	lan	BONDI
Phillips & Ginn	9966 8350	Underhill	99306 339
Brian	WOLUMLA	Sarah	COOGEE
Poyzer	807 1807	Veitch	9665 3756
Margaret	KINGSWAY WEST	Neil and Lyn	NORAVILLE
Provan	(019) 66 7491	Vincent	(043)97 1798
Robert	PANANIA	Bharathia	CAIRNS
Ranieri		Viswanathan	(070)412 881
Mark & Kylie	DOLANS BAY	Anthony	ST HELENS PARK
Ridsdale	952 45752	Vlot	(046)268 837
Paul	RABY	Megan& Rod	PADDINGTON
Robinson	(041)1389 881	Waine	9361 5461
Denis	PALMYRA	Graham	ESCHOL PARK
Robinson	(018) 093033	Wakeling	9824 7876
Jason	BONDI	Robijert	ERINA 02 4367 687
Rogers	9305 009	Westerdyk	(043)676 872
Garry & Anna	CAMPSIE	Tim	NORTH BALGOWLAH
Ryder	9787 3730	Whiteley	994 91535
John	DRUMMOYNE	Paul & Eda	MARRICKVILLE
Saford	981 4200	Wildish & Morena	9560 6082
Becca	COOGEE	Scott & Anna	BANGOR
Saunders	(041)962 57 97	Willan & Jedlak	9543 7095
Geoffrey	RANDWICK	Peta	SOUTH WEST ROCKS
Shirmski	9314 6097	Williamson	
Dirk	BALMAIN	Louise	9267 0233
Slotboom	9555 7471	Wilson	
Doug & Pennie	Surabaya	Grahame	HUNTLEYS POINT
Smith	(62 31)715 708	Wright	9816 3958
Mark & Debbie Spencer & Davis	CHIPPING NORTON 982 13740		
Mark & Becca	COOGEE		7 Malber Pl
Spencer& Saunders	(041) 828 1429		Enople Vale. 2558
Les Stewart	971 54302		Engle Vale. 2558
Russell Stoker	ASHBURY 9799 2663		
Nathan & Tracey Stormont	FIVE DOCK 9712 5877		
Barbara Sweetman	MARRICKVILLE 9517 9176		
John Szwecow	RAMSGATE 9529 3716		
Richard Taylor	WOOLAHRA (015)232 708		
Bernard Thomas	(066)85 8751		
Carmel & Peter Tomlinson	MITTAGONG (048)712 170		
			•

Important to Remember This contact list is to be used strickly for SPDC internal contact with members only. Not as a promotional document. Misuse of this information will result in removal of club membership with no exception.

REDFERN

9310 5674

David

Torrens

Business Page - Committee Members - Club Sponsors

Committee Members for October 1997

Club Phone: (041)134 3200

Position/Group	Name	Home Number	Work Number
President	Gordon McDonald	9519 7850	(017)811 422 (mob)
Treasurer	Vacant		
Secretary	Debbie Egginton	9317 2126	(041)9229 631 (mob)
Social Secretary	Debbie Davis	9821 3740	(014)904 849
Photographic Officer	Peter Flockart	9371 0265 (019)304 959 (mob)	9374 2382 9374 2688 (fax)
Publicity Officer	Paul Howlett	9746 6720 paulsd@rpi.net.au	9377 3019 (041)1179 489 (mob)
Dive Organiser	Rod Muir	(046)571 827	(041)8407 106 (mob)
Equipment Officer	Russell Stoker	9799 2663 rstoker@one.net.au	9217 1484 (fax)
Magnetometer & Mapping Group	John Beddie Co-ordinator	9820 4272	
Photography Group	Bob May Training Co-ord	(045)79 1053	
Acting Newsletter Editors	Gordon McDonald/ Shirley Wolfenden	9519 7850 9519 7850 (fax)	(017)811 422 (mob) (041)2077 446 (mob)

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.

Name	Home Number	Work Number
Geoff Cook	9543 5817	(018)294 891
Mark Dietz	(046)482 511	(046)482 254
Martin Kandilas	9725 7808	9725 7808
John Fardoulis	(043)422939	(041)9230 244
John Beddie - Magnetometer	9820 4272	(046)201 746
Bob May - Photographics	(045)791 053	
Sue Armstrong - Jervis Bay	(02)44 437 606	9385 2248
Martin Atkins	(044) 434 631	(042)740 210
Peter Cassimatis (Bris)	(07)3847 8082	
John Cassidy	95463538	(041)139 675

Some of our Club Sponsors A BIG Thank you to the following South Pacific Divers' Club sponsors:

Sponsor Name	Contact	Phone Number
Aquatic Explorers	Steve or Lee at 7 Beach Arcade Cronulla	9527 1518
Beverly's Restaurant	1-9 Meagher Street Chippendale	9310 4878
Dive Log Magazine Sportdiving Magazine	Barry Andrewartha Belinda Barnes	(03)5944 3774
Dive Quest, Mullaway	Chris or Gary	(066) 54 1930
Max Western's Sea-Tamer II - Charter	Max	9524 1818 or (018)280 791
Shiprock Dive	Lilli Pilli - Leo or Lesley	9526 2664
Southern Cross Divers	The Spit Marina - Barry	9969 5072
South West Rocks Dive	Noel or Belinda	(065)666 474
Twofold Dive Charters	Eden - Peter or Lorna	(064)961 778