



WET RAG

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS' CLUB (established 1962)
OCTOBER 1999

IF NOT DELIVERED WITHIN 7 DAYS
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SPDC
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Adrian and Annie will be our host over the Australia Day weekend 2000 on a 5-day trip aboard MV Indulgence. If you wish to come please notify Peter Foster ASAP As numbers are limited. We will be spending 3 Days diving in and around Jervis Bay, one day out at the edge of the continental shelf (with Adrian's Shark Cage on board...) and a relaxing "off-gassing" day in the Shoalhaven Wineries. For further information and details contact Peter Foster 0418435774.

28th November Chicken & Champaign Day. Details to be announced this month.
This Sunday, Double Dive. Contact Jackie on the Club Phone For Details

Y2K Calendars for sale

The Club has copies of Deepwater Graphics year 2000 Dive Calendar for sale. This Calendar has a cartoon scene for each month, drawn by Robin Appleby. It has received great reviews from Scuba Diver Magazine and is available to Club members for a discounted price of \$18. So place your orders now for Xmas. A copy will be available at the next few Club meetings for you to see.

The Club phone number is 0411 343 200. Please contact prior to all dives to confirm details.

Message from the Committee:

After a couple of months at the helm of the club, we feel it is time to state the objectives of this committee. SPD has had its fair share of personality clashes in recent years, with some of the problems stemming from individual members either unwittingly or willingly acting outside of club rules. Sometimes it appears, the lack of communication between members is the culprit. In any event, that is past history.

It is our aim to reduce the potential for conflict by maintaining procedures, by keeping with our club rules of incorporation and having CLEARLY defined procedure. Only by doing this can we keep things consistent and accountable. If we crack a few eggs to make the omelet, so be it....

We have these rules to follow and hope that ALL members will remember that. Our actions in running the club are open to welcome scrutiny and comment from any financial member. We are here for you.

It is also our wish to have involvement and feedback from all members. Club Committee meetings are open to any member wishing to attend.

SPD has always been a club that revolves around underwater photography, social interaction and wreck diving. It is our intention to foster and promote the first two while encouraging the third. The "Australasian Underwater Photographer of the year" Competition and Presentation night remains our clubs showpiece. It is our wish to see it continue the high standard of presentation displayed over the years.

SPD has a long history, and has been privileged to have members both past and present, that have achieved high recognition for their talents. From Cave diving to Photo Journalism, Dive industry awards to International photographic competitions, SPD members have, over the years brought honor and prestige to themselves and the name of South Pacific Divers Club. Our aim, while promoting new membership, is to re-establish links with past members and encourage them to participate in club activities once more. The friendship and experience of our members have enriched the lives of many divers. We can all benefit from the quality of person this club continues to attract.

SPD has existed for over 30 years on the fundamentals of diving, photography and social activities.

Many club members dive individually from private boats, some use charter boats and others shore dive. The one constant is for our club to offer a place where people can get together to discuss and share their experiences in a friendly relaxed atmosphere. This is our goal.

To sum up, an old SPD member was quoted once as saying, "Pitch in, 'cause if your not part of the solution, your part of the problem." Please let's get together and help make South Pacific Divers Club grow.

The Committee

Editors Message:

I NEED MORE INPUT!!!!!!!

After the fiasco that happened with last months Wet Rag being stolen from my car I Must apologise Profusely to ALL Sth Pacific Dive Club Members as only those that attended last months meeting received copies of The Wet Rag, an extremely RUSHED version at that, I only finished typing it up about half an hour before the meeting last month and forgot a few stories. This situation Will be rectified

in this edition, although having only ONE dive report is a bit of a dissapointment. But What a Dive report that Is!!!!!!!

Anyhows, please enjoy thgis edition and provide input for our future editions via mail phone or email.



Whitey

PO Box 7018 Bass Hill NSW 2197

0418 253 786

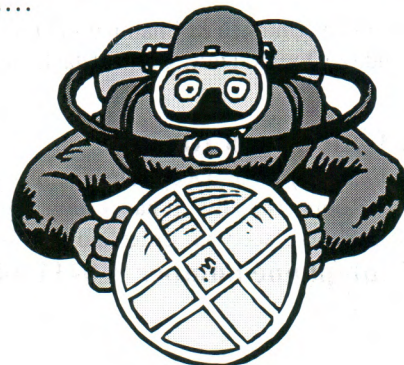
whitey@nextcentury.com.au

Photographic officers report.

The first round of the George Roberts comp has been judged with entries from old and new members alike. Thanks to Tom and Martin for giving up their time to do the judging. I'll be showing the entries and announcing the first winners at the next meeting. Don't forget that round two entries are due in by the end of the next meeting, So get those slides sorted out.

One of the things that we'll be organizing in the near future is a workshop for members on how a photo is judged in a competition. This will be a good insight as to what type of photo scores well and why. It wont be in time for the in house comp, but if your thinking of entering the AUPY.....

Glen



ODE TO THE UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHER

A diver once submerged beneath
The blue Pacific Ocean
With mask on face to help him see
And fins to give him motion
An underwater camera was grasped firmly in his hand
"He's one of those" I hear you say
That strange reclusive band.

It's true in fact that divers are assumed as being odd
They long to see fish by the school
And whales by the pod.
They swim in waters often seen as dangerous and dark.
Their mothers fear they'll wind up being dinner for a shark
But divers know the real truth, how wonderful it is,
To drift across the bottom with a hundred foot of vis.

The things that keep a person diving,
Really are diverse
They range from slightly different,
Onto odd and then perverse,
For "Wreckies" only get their kicks from diving on a wreck,
While others dress in too much gear,
And dive what they call "TEK".
But underwater photographers,
They truly stand apart
For dedication to their chosen underwater art

You'll see them at the dive sites with their camera and flash,
Don't laugh because that little unit cost a lot of cash!
And when they're sure it's set up right
And nothing can go wrong,
The doubt creeps on their faces "should I put the macro on?"

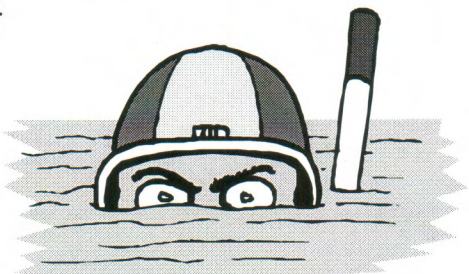
For it has to be right lens, right film, right shutter speed and distance
And add to that a huge amount of talent and persistence.
To make a photo come alive from concept to fruition,
Without me even mentioning the worlds of competition.

Their subjects move and swim away, or hide in little places,
While regs and masks conceal most, of their diving buddies faces.
But still they set, adjust and pose and go through all that trouble,
To have the perfect picture stuffed by one tiny, misplaced bubble.

They strive to capture what we see, when diving in the ocean,
The life, the mood, the beauty, all this constantly In motion.
To get an image they can say that's truly quite unique,
Is really all the satisfaction that these people seek.

So here's to all the divers, shooting pictures in the sea
I raise my glass to all your talent and tenacity
And say to all the divers out there, swimming to and fro,
If you want a real challenge, give photography a go,

Anon.



Dive Reports:

Need more input here.

WATCH OUT FOR THE NOAH'S Neil and Lyn Vincent

An account of an incident which happened whilst diving from the Terrigal Underwater Group's club boat on the 18th September 1999 on the shipwreck of the Galava.

A few weeks ago I was talking with a friend and I commented that deco stops on the Central coast wrecks used to be an interesting part of the dive. "In the old days we could see lots of interesting salps, jelly fish, and other transparent creatures drifting on the tide, Kingfish circling were also common, and seeing an occasional shark was always a highlight" This last suggestion brought a look of horror from my friend who could not understand the uniqueness of such an encounter. We hadn't dived from the TUG boat for many weeks due to the "great" weekend weather that we have been having, so it was good to be heading out of the Haven with the regular Saturday morning crew. Greg radioed to the coastal patrol and received the parting gesture of "watch out for the Noah's". Yvonne thought this was an unusual comment but learnt something new when it was explain that it was Aussie rhyming slang for shark. (Noah's Ark - Shark)

On the way out to the Galava there were lots of sea birds swooping in the wind, diving and feeding on schools of fish that were being preyed upon by larger fish.

Greg and Yvonne must have known what was in store for the remainder of the day and quickly agreed to dive first. At the end of their dive, Yvonne surfaced first and she was ecstatic about the dive, the viz and the deco. The water was clear, there were lots of big Wobbies on the bottom and they had seen a shark on deco.

With this great omen of a good dive to come for us. Lyn and I geared up and dived, no sharks on descent and the viz was great, about 50 ft on the bottom and the sun was shining, so providing lots of light. I took photos, I found a Star Gazer, we saw the big Wobbies and had a thoroughly good dive except the deep ones are always to short.

At a depth of 170 ft we had planned a bottom time of 20 minutes with deco

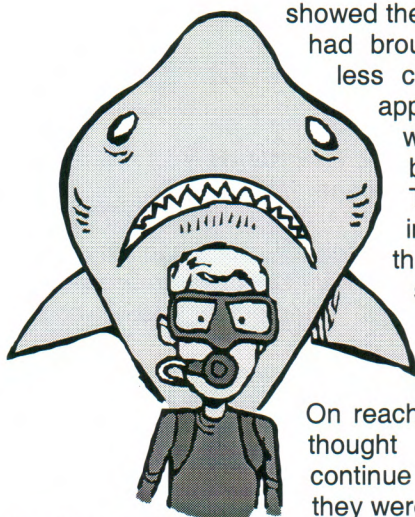
5 minutes @ 40 ft,

5 minutes @ 30 ft

8 minutes @ 20 ft

20 minutes @ 10 ft

At 40 ft we settled in to watch all the beautiful salps and jelly fish passing by, the water was full of interest but the viz had dropped to about 20 ft. A Bronze Whaler shark appeared on the edge of vision and circled, then came to within 10 ft, swimming gracefully. It was good to see, we watched it come and go throughout the 40 ft stop. At the 30 ft stop a shark returned, but it wasn't the same shark so I realized that there were two sharks!!! After only a few minutes they both



showed themselves together but they had brought a friend!!! This was less controllable but still didn't appear to be a problem. They were moving more quickly but not aggressively fast. They came closer interesting sight watching them move, the copper sheen coming from their backs, and their eyes following us as they moved past us.

On reaching the twenty foot stop I thought that the same may continue and I really hoped that they weren't going to become more

familiar, as it occurred to me that we still had a lot of deco time to complete before we could safely leave the water.

ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE!!!! Sharks appeared from everywhere. They were swimming very quickly and they were rushing in towards us, only turning at the last second or when we lunged forward at them. I felt a thump in my back, it was Lyn she had left her shot line to join me on mine, back to back was probably safer any way. Or maybe the motto *"dive with a buddy because there is a 50/50 chance the shark will take your buddy"* prompted her to get closer to me, so the sharks knew she had a buddy. Whatever the reason we were together in a no win situation. Stay and get eaten, or surface and get bent. I used the camera quite affectively for something for which it was never designed but it worked well. A picture may be worth a thousand words but a solid Aquatica housing certainly persuaded more than one shark that my interest in their beauty and grace was waning. They were now extremely aggressive.

They stopped. We had time to gather our thoughts and to discuss surfacing. I decided against. I wanted more deco time before risking the bends and was hoping the sharks had gone for good or at least the next 30 minutes. Wrong!!! They returned in less than a minute and were as aggressive as before. We made moves toward them to divert their attacks. This worked but they continued. There were about eight to ten sharks between 6ft and 9 ft in length, in close and around us, on the edge of vision I could see more sharks.

One of us was going to be bitten before we could complete our deco and that would be the end. Any form of control we now imagined we had, would be lost at the first bite. I signaled to Lyn to surface, she did, I waited as I didn't wish to be on the surface waiting for the ladder. The sharks stayed with me. I could see scars on there sides, their eyes rolling as they passed inches away, when I look up, Lyn was out of the water so I surfaced. The sharks didn't follow.

Now we had an equally dangerous situation to deal with but we had others to help us and we could control this problem to a small degree. Yvonne and Greg had Lyn out of her tanks by the time I climbed on board, they had been totally unaware of the situation happening below. Greg had the oxygen out and connected by the time I was out of my gear. Lyn and I lay on the floor breathing oxygen while Greg and Yvonne made the boat ready for travel. Greg suggested continuing deco in shallower water or calling an ambulance. I considered that we didn't have enough oxygen or air to safely complete the additional deco required for the 24

minutes that we had missed so I opted for the ambulance. Greg radioed coastal patrol and they did the rest.

The ambulance arrived at the same time as we arrived back into the Haven. We transferred to the ambulance and they transported us to Gosford Hospital breathing oxygen all the way. We had no symptoms. At the hospital we breathed oxygen all afternoon without any symptoms. The staff carried out tests to determine if anything was wrong and concluded that we would probable be OK. We were told to monitor how we felt and to take it easy.

I did get symptoms on the following day and had three treatments in the chamber before being cleared. Lyn's symptoms were delayed and at the time of writing she is about to undergo her first treatment.

The efficient way that the safety systems on board the TUG boat have been set up and maintained and the way in which Yvonne and Greg Mewkill managed the situation under stressful circumstances is to be commended.

The only real tragedy on the day and the first question that Robb Westerdyk asked...

Did I get any photos???

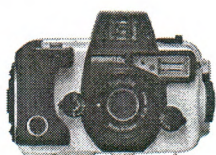
No, apart for hitting the sharks with the camera, it was useless, I had used all of the film on the dive!!!



Underwater Photography Basics (Part 3)

By Noel Taylor

Don't let the title mislead you! This time we get into some meaty specifics about the 3 types of underwater photography: macro (or close-up), standard, and wide angle. Last time we discussed the various settings on underwater cameras (focus, aperture, and shutter speed). Focus must be "guessed" on amphibious cameras, and is set on most housed point and shoot cameras (and also the Sea & Sea MX-10). The aperture refers to the size of the hole, which allows light in, and the shutter speed refers to how long the light is allowed to hit the film. Since the strobe is so fast, shutter speed really only refers to how much ambient light you allow to strike the film plane, while the aperture size not only affects how much light is let in (the bigger, the more light) but also the depth of focus (smaller aperture (bigger aperture number) means more depth of focus). Standard photography is the easiest to explain-it means using the standard lens that most often come's with your camera. This is a 35 or 28 mm with the Nikonos system, and the internal 35 mm lens with the Sea & Sea systems (MX-10 and MM II). Most housed point and shoot camera systems also have a similar internal lens. These lenses offer about 46 degree field of view underwater and the internal viewfinders are set up to show this. With housed SLR systems, you see through the lens so whatever lens you have on the camera will correctly show the field of view. This area of coverage is good for a picture of the scene 2.5' wide if you're 3 feet away and 5' wide if your subject is 6 feet away. Your strobe won't reach further than that, so that's as wide as you can get with a standard shot (remember you want to get as close as possible to maximize your strobe efficiency and to minimize the amount of water you have to shoot through). Hence the name "fish ID" shot, as this is a great width if your subject is a medium sized fish. TTL (Through The Lens) flash metering usually works quite well with these



shots, as long as the subject occupies the majority of central portion of the scene. To maximize depth of focus, choose a small aperture (bigger aperture number)

and to maximize strobe power select a larger aperture. If you want your background to be black to emphasize your subject, choose a high shutter speed, if you want a little light in the background choose a slower shutter speed, like 1/30 second and point the camera up. Macro photography is completely different than standard, requiring a different lens for subjects from .25" to 2 or 3" in breadth. With the Sea & Sea set up, these macro lenses are attached and detached underwater (the "wet" lens) and work in conjunction with the internal 35 mm lens. The Nikonos has a similar set up called a "close up lens" but usually people use extension tubes to "extend" the standard 35 or 28 mm lens further away from the film plane, hence magnifying the image. Framers are used with all these lenses, as the viewfinder is incorrect (the Sea & Sea MM II has an indicator in the viewfinder for close up photography (1.5'), which is an internal lens). With housed SLRs you simply choose a longer lens (generally 60 to 105 mm)



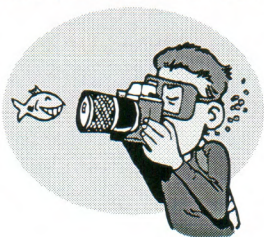
and compose your shot through the viewfinder. With the framer, you can compose the shot from the side, but remember to move your strobe to almost directly over the subject (some translucent sponges look great when lit from behind) but still pointing from the camera (but you can be creative). Depth of focus becomes very critical and limited at high magnifications, so the aperture is almost always set to f/16 or f/22 to maximize it. As the subject is almost exclusively lit by the strobe, this works out fine as your strobe is usually very close to the subject, but you can choose an extremely slow shutter speed (~1/15 sec) if you want some background illumination (though it will be blurry). Next time we'll devote ourselves to wide-angle photography. This is truly a challenge as TTL often does not work and composition of the photograph becomes a real art form, but as this allows us to get really close to our subjects, it's one of the best forms of underwater photography.

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS (Part IV)

Wide-Angle Photography

By Noel Taylor

Now we get to the good stuff-Wide Angle! Because wide-angle lenses actually force you to get close to your subject, this type of photography is the ultimate in the underwater world, minimizing the amount of water you have to shoot through as well as backscattering material, and also makes your strobe more effective. There are two big problems with wide-angle photography, which unfortunately keeps people at arms length (pun intended), not to mention the price of the Sea & Sea, Nikonos 15mm lens. These are balancing the background (lit by ambient light) and subject (lit by strobe) exposures, and the failure of TTL (Through The Lens) flash metering. We'll tackle the ambient light problem first. Primarily, you really have to have a light meter to see how much background light there is. Set your camera to this reading. This is easy with automatic cameras, I usually use an aperture priority mode to establish my depth of field, and then let the camera select the shutter speed. This is usually OK until you get down to 15m when the shutter speeds will be on the order of 1/8 second, which is kind of difficult to hold the camera steady and not get a lot of blur (in the background). Fortunately it's usually OK to have the background underexposed by one stop (to highlight the subject), so in this case you could set the shutter speed to 1/15, which is OK to handhold for wide-angle photography. With the Sea & Sea Motormarine II EX you have to adjust the aperture and shutter speed until the red "underexposed" LED quits lighting up to have a correct background exposure (it's a good idea to invest in a separate underwater light meter with this camera, if you really want to do wide angle). Having said that, it is worthwhile to note that this camera is fantastic for wide-angle photography--there are two "wet" lenses, which can be added and taken off underwater, a 16mm (which is also available for the Nikonos camera's) and a 20mm. These run about \$750 and \$700 respectively, compared to the Nikonos 15mm at \$3500 (typically \$2000 used); the Nikonos (f/2.8) however, is a much better optic than the Sea & Sea (f/5.6). Sea & Sea also has its own 15mm lens



for the Nikonos V at a much more reasonable price. Likewise, the MX-10 has a 20mm wet lens. When using the Motormarine II it's important to remember to set the focus to infinity.

Then the aperture setting determines how close your subject can be and still be in focus; setting it to f/16 will allow you to get about .3m away with the 16mm and .5m away for the 20mm lens, but the scene will most likely be quite dark. F/11 or f/8 is usually better, though you'll have to get further away. Use the shutter speed to determine how much ambient light you allow in. The other problem typically experienced by underwater wide-angle photographers is the inability of most TTL systems to successfully meter the strobe. This is because the subject is usually small relative to the background, and the TTL metering system is expecting a subject to occupy around 70% of the scene. Most professional photographers resort to manual setting on their strobes for this reason. The only way to adjust the strobe output in this case is to either use the settings on the strobe (1/2, * power etc.) or change the strobe-to-subject distance. This is quite difficult for the amateur to master without a LOT of experience. I have found that the Sea & Sea TTL flash metering is much better than Nikonos systems (believe it or not). Also remember that most strobes do not cover the full view of many wide angle lenses; for example, the YS50 Sea & Sea strobe only covers 90 degrees while the 16mm lens "sees" 91 degrees. Unless you balance the ambient with the flash you'll get a "hot spot" where the flash lights up. The YS120 strobe, at 105 degrees, is a better choice for wide-angle photography. Next month we'll finish out this series with composition, advanced techniques, and tricks, including practicing wide angle and macro photography in the bathtub.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS the following members are on the committee for the 1999-year.

Position	Name	Home No:	Work No:
President:	Bernd Kraul	9606 9731	9792 4333
Treasurer:	Linh La	9318 0142	0418 648 265
Secretary:	Loise Wilson Email: louisenwilson@hotmail.com	9261 2929	
Photographic Officer/ Equipment officer:	Glen Percy Email: aquasports@compuserve.com		9708 2826 0414 275179
Dive Organisers:	Leo Bergagnin	9558 25920	9517 2853 Mobile:0419 517 285
	Jackie Rotenstien Email: jrotenstein@cowleyhearne.com.au	9904 7843	
Social organiser:	Scott Eggington	9602 9918	Mob 0419 229631
Newsletter Editor:	Darren Wright (Whitey) Email: whitey@nextcentury.com.au PO Box 7018 Bass Hill NSW 2197		Mob: 0418 253786

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 No:	Work No:
Sue Armstrong	02 44 437 606	9385 2248
Martin Atkins (lives in Jervis Bay area)	044 43 4631	042 74 0210
Martin Kandilas	0145 400 403	

If you are a boat owner and would like to be added to this list contact the committee.

The Club Phone Number is 0411 343200, it will be taken to all Club Dives, so if you are running late or are unable to make it please call so as we can make any necessary arrangements and get diving.

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

Name	Contact:	Phone No:
Aquatic Explorers	Steve or Lee at 3/82-84 Captain Cook Drive, Caringbah	9531 1518
Aqua Sports	Glen Percy at 430 Hume Highway Yagoona	9708 2826
Beverley's Restaurant	Peter or Bev at 1 – 9 Meagher St Chippendale	9310 4878
Dive Quest	Chris or Gary at Mullaway	066 54 1930
Sea Tamer II Charter	Max Western 9524 1818 or 018 280 791	
Shiprock Dive	Leo or Lesley at Lilli Pilli	9526 2664
Southern Cross Divers	Barry at The Spit Marina	9969 5072
Southern Cross Divers	Geoff at Stanmore 9568 1517	
South West Rocks Dive	Noel or Belinda	02 6566 6474
Twofold Dive Charters	Peter or Lorna at Eden	02 6496 3384

CLUB GEAR

The Club has a variety of gear for sale, hire or loan. This includes T-shirts, Stickers, BumBags, Shirts, Sweaters, Caps, The Magnetometer, Two sets of Oxygen equipment, BBQ, and much much more. Inquiries should be directed to the Equipment officer.

Prizes for this months meeting:

- 1st Prize - Safety Knife,
- 2nd Prize - Dive with Max,
- 3rd Prize - Two air fills.

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's meeting will be held on **Monday, 18th October 1999**.

Deadline for articles is the last day of the month. Wet Rag, the South Pacific Divers' Club Newsletter, is published by South Pacific Divers' Club. Edited by Whitey

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Send material for the Wet Rag to the Committee
c/o club PO Box as on front cover.

**Minutes of the meeting of South Pacific Divers Club
at Bankstown Sports Club
Monday 20th September 1999**

Meeting Opened: 8.15pm.

Apologies: Jackie Rotenstein, Scott Egginton.

Secretary

Louise Wilson

Minutes of previous meeting accepted by Phil Dale, seconded by Darren Wright.

Incoming/Outgoing Correspondence:

WAVES – Marine & Coastal Community Network newsletter, Strathfield Medical Centre has a new diving doctor – Les Osen, Active Australia Day, URG, GIO re Business Insurance, TUG, replies from sponsors for AUPY 2000, prospective member, Australian Magnets, DOUTS newsletter. Humorous diving calendar received we can get copies of this cheaply and sell it on to raise club funds – only Rod and Noel are interested so far but Whitey will try and contact the publisher and see if we can push it in the Wet Rag.

Treasurer

Linh La

Income:	Membership	\$10	Expenditure:	Printing & Postage	\$45
	Raffle	\$87		Balloons for J Sumner	\$100
	Interest	<u>\$1.92</u>		Bank charges	<u>\$2</u>
Total		\$98.92	Total		\$147

Balances: Current a/c \$893.55, Investment a/c \$7153.18, Petty Cash \$7.

Treasurers report accepted by Peter Norris, seconded by Loi Hoang.

Photographic Officer

Glen Percy

Entries are starting to arrive for the "George Robert's Competition", expecting 5 or 6 entries by the end of the night for September phase. As per comments in the Wet Rag any input for the photographic committee would be welcomed.

Equipment Officer

Glen Percy

All intact and accounted for.

Dive Organisers

Leo Bergagnin/Jackie Rotenstein

Leo has just returned from a great trip to Vanuatu. Approx 100 dives conducted with no incidents and no dummy spits. Kevin Green was excellent. Note that 60 m is now the limit with 20 mins extra deco and a max time of 20 mins on the wreck itself.

1st October Friday Night Dive, cost \$35 with Max Western. 7pm Dolans Bay.

17th October Double dive, cost \$60. The Myola or Dee Why followed by Midway Reef. \$30 deposit due as soon as possible.

Nelson Bay trip being planned for late October/early November.

Chicken and Champagne Day will be on 28th November at Frenchmans Bay from 8.30 am – a joint venture with Ryde Underwater and St. Georges dive clubs.

Newsletter Editor/Publicity Officer

Darren Wright

Unfortunately this months editions of the Wet Rag were stolen from the back of Whitey's car so it was not possible to get them posted out before the meeting. It did (honest!) have an article on the proposed web site however!

Social Organiser:

Scott Egginton

No report as not present.

Dive Reports:

Peter Norris - dived Fly Point – 20m viz but no fish! Makes a change from plenty fish and no viz. Dived the Solitaries the week before – big seas and 8m viz.

Peter Flockart – dived Jervis Bay, water about 13 degrees, 3 to 5 m viz, lots of red algae, few fish. Dived the Drum & Drumsticks, Drum Cave, the Wandra, Double Cave, the back of Bowen and the Nursery.

Heinz – had 10 days of diving the Coolidge, poor chap. Say no more. He did actually – the room with The Lady is on the move. Also did a shark feed dive and million dollar point, 27 degrees and 50m viz.

Leo – had the first 6 or 7 dives unescorted which is unusual. Saw the soda fountain and engine room twice. Had 30 mins on the wreck and total time of 80 mins. "Boris" is away on his holidays.

Mitch – saw the boat from the deck of the Tuggerah 4-6 weeks ago implying 50m viz which is exceptional.

Phil Dale – dived Harbord.

Mathew Reeve – had flat water at Kurnell, 10-15m viz. Got wet and went home.

General Business

Duane asked what was up with the scanner.

Glen said Epson have now discontinued the model we were after, now looking for an alternative. "The motion was simply passed to buy one, funds were not discussed."

Duane then presented a motion to purchase a scanner NOW with club funds, this was seconded by Noel.

Glen pointed out that \$2.50 per slide soon mounts up.

Peter Flockart previously looked at prices – check an old Wet Rag for details. Kill Picks (or something!) dedicated scanner at \$1200 might be out of the range of the club.

Glen stated a flatbed and adaptor would work.

Noel stated that spending \$1000 one-off and saving \$700 per year soon adds up.

Bernie asked for an idea of the costs for the A/V night.

Peter F guesstimated \$1500 for the auditorium, ticket printing was free and got other help with printing. Even so, the night came in just within budget. If we get busy and do the work ourself in-house we can make a good profit.

Bernie stated if we buy a scanner we need to do it now.

Noel proposed a maximum limit of \$1500.

Duane suggested a donation per member of say \$20 for those who could afford it.

Peter F stated that corporate sponsors might help but were hard to find.

Tom Byron suggested hiring one.

Whitey said it would be needed for too long.

Mitch pointed out that if we had one it could be used for club nights.

Duane motioned again, to spend \$1500 max on scanner now out of club funds.

Whitey seconded the motion and it was put to the vote.

22 for, none against, 1 abstention so the motion was passed.

Duane proposed a working committee to get onto the case.

Noel said that while standing in for Glen as the Photo Officer he became aware that some fundraising is not going through the club books.

Leo has full records of the two events that took place, the BBQ at Leo's and the club dive day. Took \$90 in, spent 11 on cutlery, 12 on a cask and had 67 profit. Treasurer was not available to collect money. Discussion ensued about how funds can be collected and accounted for.

Jackie was called to clarify her statement and stated that her statement of "Leo's holding it" was not in any way inferring that it was unaccounted for, she is sure that records are kept and confirmed that Leo does the same as she does when she organises trips.

Russell stated that as monies are generally directed straight to the operators it's not really an issue.

Leo pointed out that the club used to have about \$14,000 in the bank and this has slowly whittled away.

Duane suggested finding a wreck as a club, researching it as a club.

Glen suggested 16 people on a mag-using look-see social day.

As Jackie, Glen, and Noel all have good ideas about what to do with the mag it's hoped they can get together over the summer and plan something.

BREAK

Raffle

1st Prize	Regulator Service from Aqua Sports Yagoona	Mathew Reeve
2nd Prize	Boat Dive on Sea Tamer II from Max Western	Darren Wright
3rd Prize	Two air fills Shiprock Dive	Chris Sturmer

Mathew raised the issue of the membership list being used but as this was seen by most members to be beneficial no-one objected. It's not club policy to sell our mailing list to anyone!

Meeting Closed 10.15pm.