

Club Dives
Weekends Away

Social Outings
Wreck Diving

Reef Diving
Boat Diving

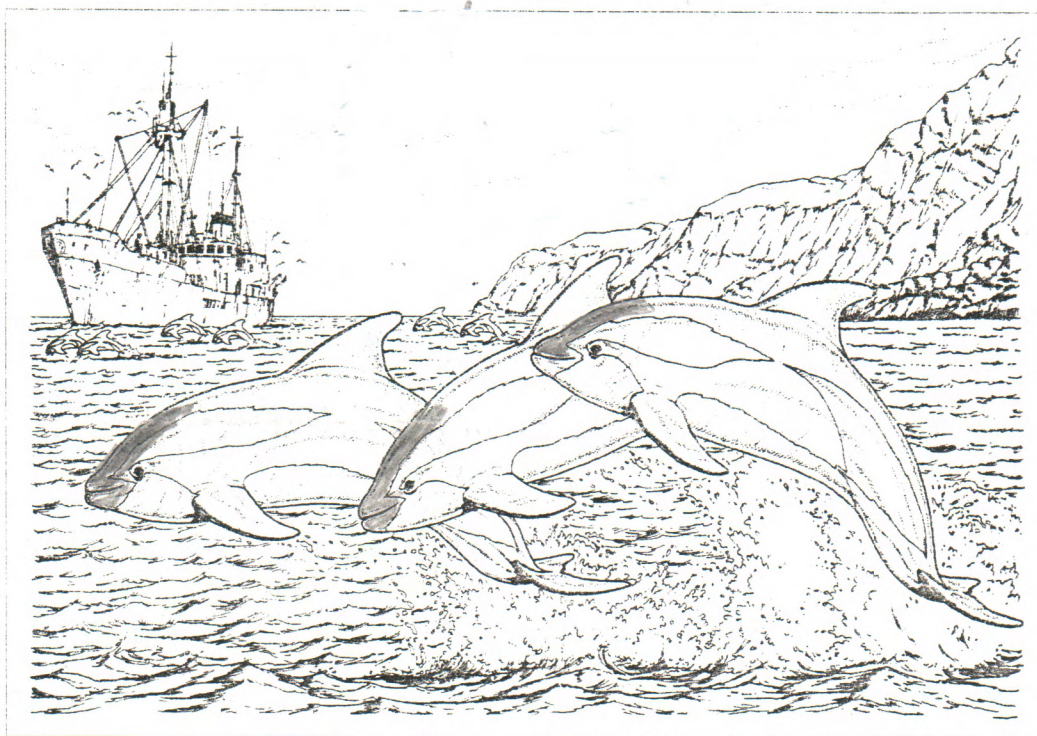
Shore Diving
Night Diving

South Pacific Divers Club

Established 1960

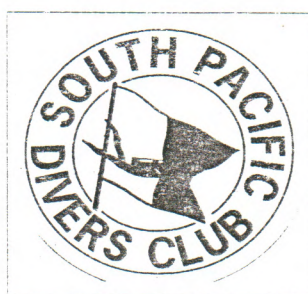
Wet Rag

April 2001



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EDITORIAL

South Pacific Divers have since 1960 been a successful dive club, perhaps one of the oldest in Sydney with the exception of the URG and maybe one or two others.

I think the time is fast approaching that our club should give careful consideration to purchasing a dive boat for the benefit of all members.

A number of other dive clubs in the metropolitan and country areas have successfully operated their own boats over a number of years, why can't South Pacific Divers.

There are many important questions that must be answered before a decision is made one way or another.

The idea of a club dive boat sounds a good one to me, it does not have to be a new boat, but who is going to look after it, who will be responsible for maintaining the motor, who will trailer the boat to and from the launching ramp, a responsible skipper must be found among club members.

There are many more questions to be answered before a decision is reached.

However I feel that it is worthwhile investigating. I also think that a club dive boat will get more members diving. It works with other clubs so why not with us. Something to think about.

Tom Pyren

KURNELL NIGHT DIVE

With the help of Sydney Divercity at Kurnell, we had a club dive on Wednesday last. Twenty-five divers turned up for the dive and what a dive it turned out to be. There was not one unhappy face at the end of their dives. Grey, Viv and Loi had brought their cameras out to see what little critters could be caught on film. We found weedy sea dragons, octopus and a few rocks that had elusive little tiny whiney dwarf pipe fish on them. The smallest found was about 1cm long. Organising this dive turned out to be a monster. Botany Bay Park wanted someone to have a \$10,000.00 insurance cover, \$200.00 deposit for the key, which had to be picked up at 3pm the day of the dive, and dropped off before 11am the next day. They wanted the names of all the divers prior to the dive day, number of cars and a four-page agreement signed. Don and Betty of Sydney Divercity did the entire liaison work with the park and paid the \$200.00 dollar deposit for us.

On behalf of the club we all say a big thank you to a couple of wonderful people, Don and Betty.

Noel Taylor

SPD MEETING 19th MARCH, 2001 Commenced 8pm - 10pm

Apologies: Mitch, Viv, Glen, Peter Norris, Duane, Peter Turner, Ilona, Simon Cayler, Tom.

Incoming Correspondence: 2 x One Tel Bills, PO Box rental 12 mths - Australia Post, 5 x Entries to Grey McNeil, 14 x returned letters re mail out re AV night and comp, URG Bulletin, 2 x invoices from Tatra Press re newsletter printing, Letter from Boating Industry Aust. re SPD putting in a stand at the Boat Show Dive Expo, BOC Statement, Bank statement, 3 x Membership renewals, Letter from Pacific Access. White Pages stating directory charges will be withdrawn from all future accounts and any previously paid installments will be credited, Correspondence re SCANS weekend, Letter from Suzanne Evans and advice re Dr Nick Otway, Dept Fisheries re a presentation to DOUTS & RYDE members on the 9h May re Grey Nurse Sharks.

Outgoing Correspondence: Letter to One Tel to change password so we can cancel account.

Guest Speaker: Warren Kerr, Designer Monogramming Bass Hill. Brought various samples of shirts and jackets for members to decide on with embroidered SPD logo. All Australian made. Jackets \$65.00 plus GST. Polo Shirts \$30.00 approx. Members decided on 2 different colours Navy and white both with skyblue and white knitted collars and cuffs to match the light blue colour on our stickers. Embroidered Caps cost approximately \$8.00.

Minutes: January 2001 Accepted by Peter Flockart, 2nd by Lin.

February 2001 Accepted by Loi, 2nd by Peter Flockart.

Treasurers Report

NOVEMBER, 2000

Income:		Expenses:	
Raffle	\$81.50	Social Function	\$64.15
Membership	\$30.00	Refund T Shirt	\$15.00
Xmas Party Deposit	\$210.00	Postage	\$45.00
		Phone \$	\$46.00
		Misc	\$51.50
		Bank charges	\$0.30
Cheque Account	\$696.42		
Savings Account	\$6,909.25		
Petty Cash	\$365.00		\$7,970.67

DECEMBER, 2000

Income:		Expenses	
Raffle	\$47.00	Xmas Party	\$545.40
Membership	\$80.00	Misc Webpage	\$130.00
Xmas Party	\$215.10	Postage and print	\$100.30
Bank interest	\$1.72	Phone	\$32.10
		Bank charges	\$1.26
Cheque account			\$92.86
Savings Account			\$7,410.97
Petty cash			\$1.60
			\$7,505.43
		Xmas party	\$515.10
		Xmas party expenses	\$545.40

JANUARY, 2001

Income:		Expenses	
Raffle	\$60.00	Social function	\$10.00
Membership	\$220.00	Bank charges	\$2.27
Social function	\$140.00		
Cheque account	\$420.59		

SCANS WEEKEND

March, 2001

It was great to see a number of diving clubs come together for the weekend to participate in the SCANS Picnic Day, held on the beautiful Jervis Bay.

It started off with a navigational kick at the Huskisson Beach Resort, trying to find the right cabins in the dark in an area where mobile phone to mobile phone navigation didn't work and some cabin numbers appeared to be used a few times over. (Or were we just going around and around in circles). Saturday morning started slow but negotiations were made for some SPD divers to dive off other Club's Boats. Peter F. and myself dived with Ryde Underwater on RUC. Unlike Max Western no food or beverages were forthcoming but we were put on a great spot, Pyramid Rock/ Bowen Wall. Not a lot of fish life but plenty of sponge gardens with a colourful array of different shape and size sponges with all sorts of critters living in, around and amongst them. Most pleasant! Relatively flat seas for the weekend made diving a breeze. A shallow dive at the Nursery Saturday afternoon off Lin and Loi's boat put us on a different terrain again. Boulders with plenty of swim-throughs and channels to swim along with numerous different fish colonies in all shapes and sizes. Peter F. saw a school of large squid. At this spot there were numerous snorkellers and it was a game to see how many bellies we could tickle with our bubbles. Tony, being ever so friendly, was making friends with the women floating on the surface. He even brought to their attention a sleeping wobbly. What a surprise for them! Saturday night held the BBQ of all BBQ's. Bernie (Our resident Chef) somehow ended up spoiling the other clubs by cooking their meat as well as our own. Yes, again, Bernie made sure we had enough to eat with SCANS supplying all the salads and bread rolls. We had a feast! Heinz supplied us with 3 bottles of homemade red wine which tasted quite nice - but kicked like a mule the next morning.

It was great catching up with other clubs and their members, putting faces to names, catching up on gossip, laughing at funny true stories, which were quite serious at the time. Many and varied topics were discussed and the evening just seemed to get funnier and stranger. Sunday morning was a late start (yes, even though we got an extra hour sleep) Many a sore head dragged a body around, I can tell you. We packed up and headed back off to Murray's Beach for another days diving. We were better organised today and enjoyed another BBQ for a segmented lunch. One boat load of divers went out, came back and ate, while the second load went out for a dive. Lunch was ready on our return. We were somewhat delayed with a search, recovery and salvage operation on a naughty weight belt. It was recovered easy enough, but put out a protest and got caught between some rocks. It was eventually subdued and brought back to the surface. Back at the boat ramp a team effort unloaded the inflatable and loaded it onto the trailer. I, and the rest of the SPD crew thoroughly enjoyed ourselves and I thank all for their participation and team work, which made it a more than an enjoyable weekend away. A Big THANK YOU to SCANS for the thought and all their hard work.

Susan Tate

Savings Account	\$7,410.97
Petty cash	\$81.60 \$7,913.16

FEBRUARY, 2001

Income:	Expenses
Raffle \$87.00	Deposit SCAN \$352.00
Membership \$280.00	Misc \$ 44.60
	Postage \$135.00
	Phone \$ 70.69
	Bank charges \$ 0.18

Cheque account	\$ 672.72
Savings Account	\$6,910.97
Petty Cash	\$94.00 \$7,677.69

Treasurers Report: Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb
Accepted by: Martin Kandilas 2nd Grey McNeil
Newsletter Editor: Away.

Photographic Officer:

267 letters were sent out to past entrants and/or audience for previous AV Nights - so far have had a positive feedback. George Roberts comp - entries flowing in. A.V. Night - Bankstown Sports Club booked out for Saturday nights but would have cost \$1,600.00 hire and \$500.00 bar. Greyhound Social Club: Has been booked for the 4th August. Will cost \$110.00 per hour for the hall. Light and sound \$150.00 for night and Barman. \$100.00 deposit to be paid.

Website: Noel advises has been updated tonight. Shiprock Drive, Max Weston and Aqua Sports have a page to show our appreciation for their support. Noel has club scanner to scan the slides. He needs details of past winners photos to put on the web

Social Organiser:

SCANS Weekend - Jervis Bay 23/24/25th March, 2001.

Dive Reports:

Peter Flockart - Shiprock 1 mtr viz 22 degree lots nudis, shark, wobbly. Was a day dive but seemed more like a night dive - bad viz. Fish Reef - last Sunday 1-4 mtr viz, water warm, small fish. **Martin Kandilas advises that today was the 5th anniversary of the passing of Rick Latimer, (a victim of cancer) a lifelong friend, accomplished diver, all round larger than life person, whose presence is sadly missed today.**

Noel wants to do a Memorial Page on the web site to honour Rick and others who have contributed tirelessly for the club, that have passed on. Suzanne Evans has decided to take the Clubs offer for a cash settlement, committee to organise. Thanks Tom and Noel for all their hard work in getting the web page up and running.

NEXT MEETING FALLS ON EASTER - MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAY 23rd APRIL.

CLUB SPONSERS: Support These Businesses.**SEA TAMER 11** Max Western. Dive Charters from Port Hacking. Phone: 95241816**SHIPROCK DIVE.** Sales - Air - Service - Overseas Dive Trips. Phone: 95262664**AQUA SPORTS SERVICES.** Sales - Service - Air - Dive Schools. Phone: 97082826

ENTRY FORM
GEORGE ROBERTS PERPETUAL TROPHY 2001 COMMITTEE

Name:.....

Address:.....

Post Code:.....

Contact Number:.....

Slide Titles: 1.....

2.....

3.....

4.....

I hereby state that I have read all the rules of the competition and acknowledge that failure to comply or give false information can lead to disqualification.

Signature:..... Date:.....

continued from last month

HOW NOT TO GET BENT

Mal McLeod, Brian Bailey and I were salvaging scrap metal off a ship in 120 feet. After Mal had been down for a total of 40 minutes he returned for a fresh tank to begin his decompression. Brian passed Mal at 30 feet while on his way back down to the wreck. He asked Mal in sign language, "Are you alright?" Mal can't remember this happening, but he signaled that everything was OK.

Meanwhile I was filling tanks in the boat. A few minutes passed and Mal returned. He sat on the side and said nothing. I asked, "What's the wreck look like?" No reply. Then I noticed Mal's shaky hand touching his lips. By this time Mal was completely unconscious and fell onto the deck, his legs still bent in their original sitting position.

I called out to Brian for help. We found that Mal was stiff all over, every joint was locked. His teeth were clenched firmly together and couldn't be opened. We figured the only way Mal could be saved was to force him to decompress. With a wooden stick we succeeded in knocking his false teeth free from his locked jaws, then holding his regulator in place, Brian took him back into the water and down to 50 feet. After five minutes Mal regained consciousness. Later I re-entered the water to stay with Mal through the 30, 20 and 10 foot decompression zones. The procedure took a total of three hours.

When we surfaced a doctor was waiting, he examined Mal, then had him rushed to the nearest hospital seven miles away.

At this stage I decided to finish off the day's work. It involved a quick dive back to 120 feet to place a final explosive in position. When I surfaced, my SOS decompression meter was only just nearing the red zone. (Warner figured that all the time he spent with Mal was merely one long decompression for him. This was his mistake. He learned that while it is possible to have a deep dive and then finish off the day with shallow dives less than 30 feet, it doesn't work to reverse the procedure. This is to follow a lengthy 30 foot dive with a deep dive - regardless of the small amount of bottom time involved).

About 30 minutes after my last dive my left arm started "going funny". In fact, the complete left-hand side of my body was beginning to go numb.

Meanwhile Mal's condition in hospital began to get worse. At 10 pm that night the decision was made to put Mal back down to 30 feet for another four hours (in shark-infested Honiara Harbour). Mal showed no signs of improvement. After contacting the Sydney Naval Hospital and Dr Edmonds, we were both put on pure oxygen (out of water) and waited for the RAAF aircraft to fly us 1,800 miles back to Sydney.

BY WARNER POWER (This happened somewhere between the early to mid 70s)