

Club Dives
Weekends Away

Social Outings
Wreck Diving

Reef Diving
Boat Diving

Shore Diving
Night Diving

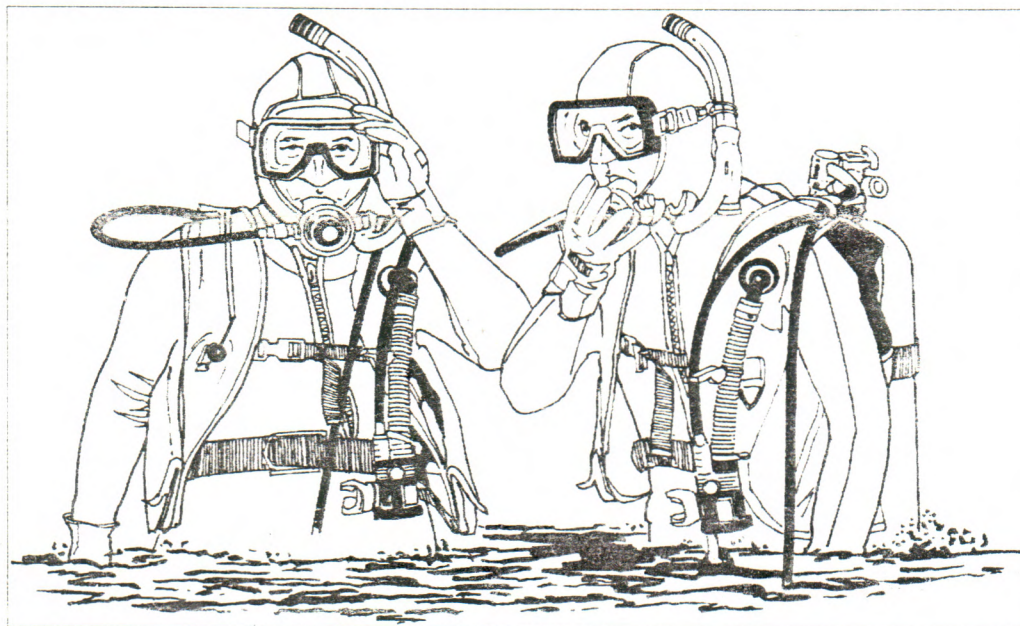
South Pacific Divers Club

Established 1960

Wet Rag

May 2001

THE AUSTRALASIAN UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR
WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY 4TH AUGUST 2001 AT THE GREYHOUND
SOCIAL CLUB AUDITORIUM, 140 ROOKWOOD ROAD YAGOONA.



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The South Pacific Divers Club Newsletter WET RAG is published by South Pacific Divers Club and edited by Tom Byron. All material submitted to the newsletter should be sent to Tom Byron 1 Bastille Close Padstow Heights 2211 Sydney NSW. Phone (02) 97745965. E-mail: tombyron@telstra.easymail.com.au. Other correspondence should be sent to South Pacific Divers Club PO Box 823 Bankstown

EDITORIAL

On ANZAC DAY the club held a social dive day a Kurnell and what a day it was. The water was warm, about 22 degrees, the visibility about 15 metres and little better on high tide. The weather was absolutely superb, no wind and plenty of warm sunshine.

The roll up of members was far better than average, we had more than 40 turn up for a dive and BBQ. Thanks to our president, come chef, we all had plenty of food and drinks that only cost \$5.00 each. For those who forget to pay, you owe the Pres \$5.00 and a fine of \$50.00, so there, what do you think of that?

In about 3 months time our club will be holding the **AUSTRALIAN UNDER WATER PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR** event. I would like to see all members attend and support our club in what could be described as the foremost underwater photographic competition in Australia.

At this point I would like to point out to members that our photographic officer Grey McNeil is doing a wonderful job organising the event, if it was not for Grey and his dedication to underwater photography this comp would not have got off the ground and probably would have ended completely.

The George Roberts Trophy is running along smoothly with good prizes and the quality of pictures are better than average so keep the slides coming you lot of crash hot underwater photographers out there. I have also noticed that a lot more members are attending club meetings than in the past. Each meeting we have slide showings and most times a video or two, so it is worthwhile attending meetings just for the entertainment.

I would like to remind members that South Pacific Divers is now on the net. If you have the internet on your computer then log on to:

www.netspace.net.au/~southpacificdivers
It's better than any dive club site in Australia, thanks to Noel Taylor.

Tom Byron

Bernie Kauri	96069731	President
Sue Tate	96813287	Secretary
Linh La	0418648265	Treasurer
Grey McNeil	96245938	Photo Officer
Glen Percy	97082826	Equip Officer
Tom Byron	97745965	Editor

SPD MEETING 23" APRIL, 2001

Commenced 2015 - 2255 hours

Apologies: Viv, Glen, Martin Kandilas.

Incoming Correspondence: One Tel Bill \$6.50, PO Box reminder - Australia Post, 3 x parcels for Grey McNeil, 2 x returned letters re mail out re AV night and comp, URG Bulletin, Ryde Underwater newsletter, 2 x receipts Mountain Ocean & Travel Publications (re Dive Logs and Listing), BOC Statement \$56.76, Bank statement, 2 x Membership renewals, Pamphlet re roofing, SCANS Membership application, SCANS minutes, Correspondence from SCANS re Marine Discovery Centre Bondi Beach and advice re Dr Nick Otway, Dept Fisheries re a presentation to DOUTS & RYDE members on the 9th May re Grey Nurse Sharks at the UTS Sydney starting 7.15pm

Minutes: Accepted by Peter Flockart, 2nd by Phil Dale.

Treasurers Report: MARCH, 2001

Income:

Raffle \$ 55.00
Membership \$180.00
SCANS Weekend \$550.00
Deposit for hall \$100.00
Total: \$685.00

Expenses:

Dive Log \$242.00
Australia Post \$ 90.20
SCANS Weekend \$132.00
Printing \$100.10
Bank charges \$ 1.90
Total: \$566.20

Cheque account \$ 806.52
Savings Account \$6,910.97
Petty cash \$ 80.00
Total: \$6,797.49

Treasurers Report:

Accepted by: Peter Flockart 2nd Grey McNeil

Newsletter Editor:

Still need someone to take over Newsletter duties.

Photographic Officer:

George Roberts comp - final night for entries. A. V. Night - Entries coming in from all over - Cocos Islands, Japan - Get your entries in before 31 st May, 2001. A. V. Night - Greyhound Social Club has been booked for Saturday the 4TH August. Awards night - slides/video show. Otherwise all else going to plan.

Equipment Officer:

All equipment is accounted for.

Club Dive Outing:

Anzac Day - Shore Dives - Kurnell. 0900 meet at the monument car park. Bernie to supply BBQ, Dave to supply a green salad.

Dive Reports:

Simon - Jervis Bay - 30 mtrs viz, flat seas, clear water.

Phil Dale - Bawley Point - 100' viz, warm water - just like the tropics. Huge stingrays. North Head - good dive on the sponge gardens. Army Duck inside heads - good diving.

Phil Taylor - Fly Point, Nelsons Bay - bad viz - but still a good dive.

Dave Evans - Oak Park - Crystal Clear water, lion fish, yellow tail, Port Jackson sharks - all round good dive.

Noel - Easter Saturday - Middleground - clear on surface, dirty on bottom, Leap - 40 or so Weedy Sea Dragons - great dive Bombo - 30 metres viz, lots of fish life. 21 degree water temp Pig Island - 25metres viz - Stunning reef diving. Black bull rays, kingies - Magic Diving!

Scott - Kurnell and Middleground.

Grey - Oceantrek - Yearly Shootout - bad viz. OK diving on Sunday. Mostly dived at Nursery. David Fagan won 2nd year running, Marcel won 2nd place and Grey 3rd place. Weather turned lovely on last day!

Paul - Used his Sea Tamer 11 raffle winnings - Barrens Hut. Great dive, plenty fish and sponge life.

Peter Flockart - Jervis Bay - Dived off Ryde Underwater's boat - Bowen Wall 34 metres, good sponge gardens. 20 metres viz. Nursery - got some photos of mating squid. Bowen Wall - Boar fish. Tuggarah - too rough - then Saturday picked in on 3rd attempt, 25 mtrs viz, 22 degree, wobbys everywhere, cuttle fish.

General Business:

Peter Flockart - found some old magazines 1982. One article stated Pro-Dive Maroubra air fills 50c. Tom can remember air fills for 2 shillings. The magazines contain some articles on cave diving. Have also found photos of AV Nights back to 1982. We will approach Tathra Press re the printing to the AV Night tickets.

Club Boat - Just a thought for the moment. It would be a lot of responsibility, we would need someone to primarily look after it, a place to keep it, upkeep etc.

Gordon questioned the money mentioned re the SCANS weekend as expenses in the March treasurers report. Assured him the club was not out of pocket.

Noel - Question and Answer sheet on the website for general club members.

Don and Laurie - advised SPD members of a once a year, low key camping/ diving trip off Northwest Island Reef Trip in October 2001. 14 days/ 13 nights on the island. They have been running these sort of trips for over 20 years. For 2 weeks you would be living on the actual reef itself, diving, snorkeling, fishing and partying. Usually 30 people. A container takes the gear up. All supplies are taken to the island by a barge. A boat is also taken. Best diving 40'. Approximate cost ex Gladstone \$900.00. We were entertained by a home made video and it really looked liked they had a ball! It is a hands on holiday - if you don't help with the cooking, you can help with the cleaning! Heron Island nearby for any medical emergencies. Laying turtles, mutton birds - lots of things to see and do, as well as relax.

Laurie O'Grady - 02-9524 0168/ 0419 140 168
logrady@one.net.au

Or **Don and Betty Knuttson**, Sydney Diver City - 02-9668 8200
www.divercity.com.au

Only 30 spots - "First in, best dressed"

Sue has a pamphlet on the trip if you are interested.

Raffle:

1st - Aqua Sports Torch
2nd - Max Western Boat Dive
3rd - Shiprock Dive 2 Air Fills

Phil Dale
Loi
Audrey

George Roberts Comp:

1st prize - **Peter Norris**
2nd prize **Viv**
3rd **Noel**

Congratulations to you all!

Video:

The Midway

Thank You to **Noel** for the entertainment.

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The evening will start at 7.30pm with some fantastic video and slides and then move into the serious stuff of presenting the slides and videos of the entrants, and then the prize giving and presentations. There are some top prizes for contestants this year with Overseas Trips, Australian Trips, Dive Gear, Subscriptions etc and of course excellent door prizes and raffles. Tickets are \$20.00 each and there is full bar services available.

If you wish to book tables please do so early as it will be first in first served. For table bookings a 20% deposit will be required at time of booking.

So get your friends together, social organiser, grandparents and lovers rounded up and mark the 4th August on your calender and come and see some world class photos and videos.

For bookings you can Email Grey McNeil at: Gmneil@bigpond.net.au

Or postal address at: PO Box 246
Seven Hills, NSW, Australia, 1730

BLAST FROM THE PAST

FIRST UNDERWATER MOVIE PHOTOGRAPHS OF A SHARK KILL: 1960

The first underwater photographs of a shark kill were recently taken at Rottnest Island. The pictures were black and white and one in the series featured on the front page of the "Daily News".

Mick Coleman speared the six-foot (2 metres) 100 lbs grey nurse shark off the western end of Rottnest Island. He got into difficulties and was compelled to land on the island minus mask and snorkel.

Club mate, Alf Thomas noticed his plight and swam from the boat to the island with a spare mask and snorkel.

The shark, found thirty minutes later by Kay Ridley, was dead. The spear was embedded close to the spine and still attached by the spear cord of the gun. Ridley towed the shark plus an exhausted club mate and his catch of fish a mile back to the boat.

The photographs taken were in 35 mm black and white stills, as well as 16 mm movie black and white.

This is the first photographs of a shark kill in Western Australia.

From the book:

**HISTORY OF SPEARFISHING AND
SCUBA DIVING IN AUSTRALIA**

CLUB SPONSERS: Support These Businesses.**SEA TAMER 11** Max Western. Dive Charters from Port Hacking. Phone: 95241818**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:.....

RESULTS OF THE GEORGE ROBERTS TROPHY

Well the first month of the George Roberts Trophy has been judged and the winners are:

First Place: Loi Huong. **Prize:** Weekend for two at South West Rocks Dive Centre. Accommodation and four dives. Dive Log for 12 months, Medallion and Certificate. (What a lucky fellow, however I have a feeling he used other photographers slides).

Second Place: Simon Cayler. **Prize:** Seatec semi dry hood and certificate. (Simon could you tell me which part of the hood is dry).

Third Place: Matt Reeve. **Prize:** Diving Solutions cap, Tee shirt and certificate. (Hang on a minute, I don't think Matt has a camera).

Don't forget the April entries must be in at the next meeting.

The Australasian Photo Comp is steaming along with entries from all over the place starting to arrive.

Remember May 31st is the closing date so get those entries in now!

The presentation night is on the 4th August 2001, more of that in the newsletter.

We received this E-mail from John Olsen of SCANS. Thursday 12 April 2001.

Folks.

I am forwarding this to you, and if you think it appropriate, some of your club members may be interested then put it out through your own e-mail groups and magazine. A very worthwhile project.

Will Jones is a very enthusiastic guy and of course quite knowledgeable re marine science. He is the environmental representative on the Marine Parks Advisory Council.

Also Les Caterson and I have received a video from the waterways re their recent activities ie. bit of PR.

This video is available to members for showing at up coming meetings. OK Something a bit different. So contact me or Les re getting hold of a copy to show at your club.

Also I will send out an e-mail probably next week regarding gazettal of the Commonwealth marine Park at Coffs Harbour. It was passed on the 4/4/2001.

Essentially this marine park butts up against the state one at the Solitary islands. Of interest to us is that it the Commonwealth park has coverage over Pimpernel Rock (one of the best dive sites in NSW) A permit is required to dive this site. **THERE IS NO COST ASSOCIATED WITH PERMIT APPLICATION!!!** However I intend to chat to the issuing area and get the good oil re most effective way to apply lead times etc. So will send out a detailed mail re this matter soon.

Cheers
John Olsen