Club Dives Weekends Away **Social Outings Wreck Diving**

Reef Diving Boat Diving **Shore Diving Night Diving**

South Pacific Divers Club

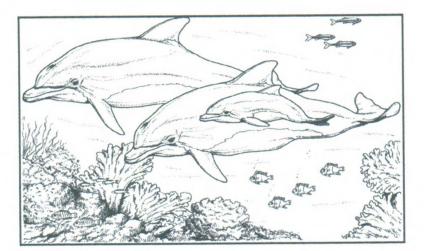
Established 1960

Wet Rag

August 2001

SPECIAL EDITION SPECIAL EDITION SPECIAL EDITION

www.netspace.net.au/~southpacificdivers



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The South Pacific Divers Club Newsletter WET RAG is published by South Pacific Divers Club and edited by Duane Langley. All material submitted to the newsletter should be sent to Duane Langley, P.O.Box 597 Bankstown, NSW 1885. Phone (02) 9681 3287. E-mail:she@maxi.net.au Other correspondence should be sent to South Pacific Divers Club PO Box 823 Bankstown. NSW 1885

EDITORS CORNER:

Well a year has passed and Tom has passed on the mantle of news Editor, to me bless his heart.

Hopefully as the year moves on I will get better at it and we will actually have something readable.

I have to take this moment to thank Tom immensely for the work he has put into presenting us with the Wet Rag over his term as Editor and the fact that he has provided me with the format intact and operating.

From the Club, Tom. Thankyou. From me, well I will tell you next year. No really, thanks Tom.

I also would also like to thank the outgoing committee members and a welcome to the incoming. The problem is they are one and the same people, except for Louise, Noel, and myself. Anyway, a big thanks guys & girls.

There is a very special thanks to Grey McNeil, but that is better said in other articles included in this edition.

I will take this opportunity to re-iterate what all past Editors have stated and that is, if you the members want to see an informative, entertaining newsletter, then I strongly urge you to write in with your exploits and interests. Yes that means you. Don't be perturbed if you think that your stories and letters are not worth listening to, or your writing ability is not up to standard. I can use a little poetic license to embellish if the necessity arises. You also just might have a flair that you may well not have recognised. So guys don't leave it up to me to write your newsletter, my job is to compile it.

Thanks to the immensely successful AV night, I feel we are off to a great start for the year, with a total revitalization of the meaning of this club, "UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY".

Your New Editor

Duane Langley

Enough of the sermon.

PRESIDENT'S POSSIE

I am baaaaack! Due to popular demand I have been returned as your President.

My first duties this year as President were to thank our generous sponsors for the AV night and to hand over Tom's life membership award on a stage in front of 300 people. I now know how a gorilla at the zoo feels when a bus load of tourists peer into his cage. Nervous, that's an under statement, I lost about 2lbs in weight and aged two years. Still it was an experience I would not have missed for all the world.

What a great night. I personally had a blast meeting all the people and was embarrassed at the number that congratulated the Club through me for a great job. The real credit goes to Noel & Grey for their determination that made this show work.

I must admit that when they advised me they were going to show a very early episode of Sea Hunt, I had some misgivings, but after seeing how the crowd warmed to this video footage, I was glad once again that Noel and Grey were in charge of the production.

As the outgoing and the incoming President, both of us have to say how unimpressed we are at the turn out for our AGM. It was almost a foregone conclusion whom the new committee was going to be made up of. Apart from myself, I am happy to welcome back those that are serving a second term, even if it is under duress, and more than warmly welcome the new office bearers to the fray.

I do expect the general members to pitch in and help often to make the work load of the committee as light as possible. Don't just leave it up to us few. It is your Club guys.

You now have a new Social Organiser in Louise Bernstein and we all know how hard this position is, so make sure all you members give her a big hand out and give her the support she will require. This means attending the events organised. Don't blame Louise if the position fails, just look into the mirror for the culprit.

I attended the latest SCANS meeting at Rockdale Mon 6th, along with Noel Taylor at which there were some interesting topics discussed. These included the extension of the Solitary Island Marine Park, The up and coming SCANS Picnic day for November and it was also SCANS AGM. I will report on this at our next meeting.

Speaking of the meeting, please attend your next monthly, on the 20th of August.

Your President

Bernie Kraul

GREAT JERVIS BAY DIVING

Spend your October long weekend aboard
Ocean Trek at Jervis Bay and get some great
diving in. \$465.00 per person.
Limited spots, so don't dawdle.
Contact Glen Percy
Aqua Sports
9708 2826

YOUR CLUBS AUDIO-VISUAL NIGHT REPORT

Yes!Yes, Saturday the 4th was a huge success. Once again South Pacific Dive Club proved it was the leader in presenting audio visual underwater award nights. The venue at the Greyhound Social Club, Yagoona was comfortably filled with all but a very few burns in the available seats.

At the very outset we, the club members owe a large round of applause to both Grey McNeil and Noel Taylor with their respective spouses for their support of these two, Vivien and Audrey. There would not have been a member of the Club that was present that would not have felt proud to be such a member by the end of the night. It is without question that our hats are doffed to these people for their tireless efforts to present such an outstanding event.

THANKYOU GREY & NOEL

Having stated the above it is not be missed that their were many others that in no small part, participated in the preparations and without whom the success would not have been enjoyed. To name but a few, there was Bernie & Evelyn, Lin & Loi, Sue, Matt, Simon & Nicole, Scott, Tom, Martin and don't forget Vivien's Mom. If I have left out anybody, I apologise, and the thanks are still for you too.

Last but by no means least, lets not forget our judges. For without their skill and professionalism, such outstanding results would not have been possible. Although I must make mention that I understand that the judges were suitably impressed by the quality of the entrants submissions on the whole. So to;

Tom Byron Gary Bell Mark welsh

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

To the Night:

From the moment the doors opened the people started streaming in, all in anticipation. No sooner had they passed the turnstile so to speak and received their bio of the night, than they then were greeted by the ravishing Evelyn offering directions to the raffle ticket table. It was in no small way that the success of the raffle was due to Evelyn's attraction. I do believe that Bernie thought that he may lose Evelyn as a prize from time to time. Well done Evelyn.

The screen asked people to take their seats and after some 20 minutes or so our master of ceremonies, John Pearson, started off proceedings.

As the slides kaleidoscoped up and down, over and through the screen with professional pizzazz, the room fell silent in delighted awe. That is until the winners were presented, from 3rd to 2nd to 1st in each division. It was then that those that recognised who the slides belonged to before the winner was announced, started to cheer with gusto.

It was between each little segment that sponsor APOLLO hats were won from drawing a number and the corresponding number inside each bio found a winner. "AV Bingo." This was a great interlude to the segments and kept everyone's attention. See our list of sponsors for the night in the thanks to sponsors section.

It was with great delight that the Club presented Tom Byron with a life



Grey & Noel

life membership to SPD award. Congratulations

The winners of the categories were presented with an array of prizes kindly donated by our sponsors. Both the winners and the sponsors are listed further into this edition.

After intermission the night moved into the video division and this too proved to be a big hit, with great quality video being shown. From the crazy to the deep and meaningful, they all kept us entertained.

To top it off the grand finale was an extremely early episode of Sea Hunt with the legendary hero Mike Nelson (Lloyd Bridges) cavorting about the ocean saving damsels from the perils of the deep. Oh! Mike, you're my hero. (swoon).

One can only say that if you were unable to attend, then put this on your calendar for next year.

This Spot Needs Your Story

Coming Meeting Points Of Discussion Corner

There will be this little spot from now on so that points that members would like to have discussed at the next up and coming monthly meeting can be noted.

This is envisaged as an aid to enable all members who attend and even those that are unable to attend, to consider general business issues prior to them being tabled at the actual meeting.

It is hoped that by this we will get far more considered opinions re general business topics, rather than perhaps, issues coming out of left field and either, decisions being made hastily or unnecessary delays to making simple decisions.

E.g. I feel that there is a need for us to hire a very small storage unit for all the records etc and then at the following AGM, all that would be required, would be for the old office bearers to hand over the storage units keys to the new office bearers.

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







Committee Members

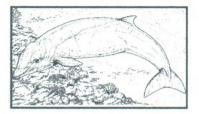
Bernie Kraul 96069731 President Sue Tate 96813287 Secretary Linh La 0418648265 Treasurer

To be advised Photographic Officer Glen Percy 97082826 **Equipment Officer**

Duane Langley 96813287 Editor

Louise Bernstein 9907 7398 Social Organiser Noel Taylor

0414592410 Publicity Officer



NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND OUR CLUB MEETINGS AND DIVE OUTINGS

South Pacific Divers Club is a social scuba diving club whose members have a common interest in scuba diving and in particular underwater photography. Club dives are on our web site and not advertised in this newsletter. The club also organises weekends away at Jervis Bay and Nelsons Bay as well as other dive areas. We also organise once a year the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Competition, open to all underwater photographers in Australia and

overseas. We also have a slide show after every meeting.

South Pacific Divers Club holds monthly meetings at the Bankstown Sports Club on the third Monday of every month. Meetings start at 8:00 and generally a slide show follows.

I wish to send the Wet Rag to as many members as possible via E-Mail, so could all of you who have this medium, please E-Mail me your up to date addresses as soon as possible. This not only expedites your receiving the Wet Rag, but also should save the club quite some funds once we have you all on board this method of mailing. In anticipation of your speedy reply to this request.

Thank You.

Duane Langley Editor in Chief.

she@maxi.net.au





SPD AGM MEETING

16th JULY, 2001

2000 hrs - 2139 hrs

Apologies - Viv, Glen, Peter Lord, Phil Dale, Illona.

Incoming Correspondence – URG Bulletin, Ryde Underwater newsletter, Waves newsletter, Bank statement, Correspondence from SCANS – next meeting 6th August St George Rowing Club, Video available for Club use COD Grounds Grey Nurse Sharks GNS video, Australian Standards email site needs a password to download a draft – information not really available – we need to complain as the information is not really available, a letter from Parliament House re Don't give a job to an illegal worker, brochures from the distributor of Otterbox range of waterproof/ crushproof boxes and plastic splash proof pouches.

Outgoing Correspondence - Letter to designer Monogramming to order club shirts.

Last Meetings Minutes: Accepted by Duane, 2nd by Scott.

Treasurers Report - JUNE, 2001

Income	Raffle Deposit T Shirts Deposit AV Night. Interest Cheque acc	\$ 92.65 Expenses \$ 40.00 \$860.00 \$ 2.62 \$995.27	Printing Postage Bank charges	\$ 28.60 \$ 48.89 \$ 1.60 \$ 79.09
Cheque account Savings Account Petty cash	\$1,746.59 \$6,910.77 \$ 28.30 \$8.685.66			

Treasurers Report - FINANCIAL YEAR 2000 - 2001

Income	Memberships	\$1,060.00	Expenses Dive Cost	\$ 352.00
	Social Functions	\$2,152.10	Social Functions	\$1,391.35
	Club Gear	\$ 475.00	Club Gear	\$ 15.00
	Raffle	\$ 862.15	Stationary	\$ 7.50
	AV Night deposits	\$ 860.00	Postage	\$ 756.56
	Miscellaneous	\$ 100.00	Mobile phone	\$ 313.69
	Interest Bank acc's	\$ 9.08	AV Night	\$ 100.00
		\$5,518,33	Miscellaneous	\$1,109.01
			Printing	\$ 613.20
			Bank charges	\$ 26.21
				\$4 684 52

Treasurers Report:

Accepted by: Simon 2nd Duane

Newsletter – Are you happy with the way it is presented?? No presidents report for the last few months and no-one commented.

Website: Lot of time has been spent on our AV Night. Activities Page has been updated. Next Saturday night 21st dinner Madura Indonesian restaurant – later dinner at Lyn & Loi's restaurant. We need a report on Bob Smith and Lyn and Pat Manly – can you help us out?

Photographic Officer -

A.V. Night preparations are going well. Tickets are available now. Over 200 sold, limit 300 seats. All is "All Go" judging has been completed, trophies are being made.

Will need a hand Saturday morning 1000am for a few hours at the Club to set up the hall.

Good response from emails as sent. AV Raffle \$1.00 per ticket -6 prizes in raffle, door tickets with tear off end.

Social Functions:

21st July 28th July 4th August 12th August 18th Au

Outing Suggestion - Ten Pin Bowling

Dive Reports -

Simon - Magic Point - 4 sharks - 19 degree water temperature, 15mtr viz

Rick - Shiprock - Years since he last dived there - lot more growth 30 mtr viz

Noel - Night Dive Kurnell - 5 divers "The Steps" Great dive. They found a blue ring octopus, upset it whilst taking photographs - Surprise Surprise one diver had the octopus sitting in the palm of his hand, blue ink everywhere. Peter Donnolly is now known as the Blue Ring Boy!

John Beddie - Bass Point The Humps - 32 mtrs sponge garden, also did Arch and Cave, Middle Ground some good diving.

General Business

Club T- Shirts - have been ordered, hopefully delivery in 2 weeks. I stressed we wanted them before the AV Night.

SCAN - Next meeting - 6th August Noel and Bernie to attend.

AV Night - Certificate of Appreciation will be presented to Tom, Garry Bell and Mike Welsh For all their time.

Club Public Liability insurance - Grey called other Clubs - the insurance will cost \$900.00 approximately. Duane will check it up with SCANS

Pelican (AV Night sponsor) has opened a branch in Seven Hills - fully stocked now. Great gear. 30% more candle power (torches) You can buy their products direct - all sorts of gear. Noel suggested we get them along to a meeting to discuss their products.

Duane put a motion forward that the Club Committee stay as is, until after the AV Night, so the present committee can get the accolades for their hard work at the presentation. Suggested - Club Constitution will have to be checked and all members would need to be advised. Loi seconded the motion - was voted on but not carried.

Bernie thanked the Outgoing Committee - and of course our members who supported us.

Raffle

1st - Aqua Sports Regulator Service

Scott McGregor

2nd - Max Western Boat Dive

Fab

3rd - Shiprock Dive 2 Air Fills

Tom Byron

AGM - RETURNING OFFICER - MARTIN KANDILIAS.

On behalf of the Club, Martin extended his thanks to the out-going committee's efforts and was sure the club members would join in and help in future.

Your new office bearers are as follows;

President Secretary Treasurer **Dive/ Publicity Officer** Newsletter Officer **Equipment Officer**

Bernie Kraul Sue Tate Linh La **Noel Taylor Duane Langley Glen Percy**

Social Secretary Photographic Officer

Louise Bernstein Shared Position - Committee to be formed

SOUTH PAC NIGHT IN PERTH

As the photographic elite and their guests arrived at the Greyhound Social Club for the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Night of Nights, on the opposite side of Australia in the Perth suburb of Bicton, similar arrivals were taking place. Neighbours didn't notice as totally unknown underwater photographers began arriving at the home of Peter and Margaret Nicholas. Peter is the defending title holder of the SPD Australasian Underwater Photographer of the year Award, but tonight he is in charge of the Barbeque.

Glen Cowan and his wife Louise slip quietly passed the crowds of waiting flowers in the garden. Glen is the defending the Novice title of the SPD Underwater Photographer of the Year.

Neil and Lyn Vincent arrived early, about four days early after being flooded out of the lush warm tropical north. Their tent leaked and they needed somewhere to stay so they dropped in.

Arnie, Kathy, Sophie, Luke and Daniel made up the numbers in this great social event on the WA calendar.

Being two hours behind the main event in Sydney allowed plenty of time for a few drinks and the telling of lots of tall photographic tales. By pre arrangement, Robb Westerdyk, a previous South Pac award winner, phoned through the results from the novice awards. Pandemonium broke out when Brian Caldwell got first and Gillian Torkler got third and Robb didn't know who was second.

Lacking the huge audio visual extravaganza of the main event we had put together our own slide show. Neil and Lyn showing what they had achieved during their 5 week stay in Exmouth with a 15mm lens that wouldn't focus and Glen showed diving highlights from around Perth and Rottnest Island. The grand finale' was the great land photos by Louise, we all agreed not to encourage her to start underwater photography.

The phone rang again around 9.30, Janet, Robb's wife, wanted to speak with Lyn. Lyn was dumb founded, speechless on the telephone when she was told that she had been awarded the Rick Latimer Encouragement award.

Peter was told he had come 4th, the honourable mention and Neil was told he had been awarded 3rd.place, which also came as a great shock but

very pleasing. Mark Spencer getting second, you just can't keep the regulars away, the quality still keeps coming but Daryl Torkler,,, finally winning, brought a cheer from the gathered crowd.

It was pandemonium on both ends of the phone, we thanked Robb and settled down to have a drink and let the results sink in.

What success, in this room were three of the winners from the night. It would have been great to have been at Bankstown for the night but as this wasn't possible, the Western Australia South Pacific Underwater Photographer of the Year Presentation Night party was just as good. Next year we may have to have a web cam set up.

Neil Vincent.



Crowd on the night



Bernie presented Tom with a Life membership award

COMPETITION CATEGORY WINNERS

In the Open Section the Winners were:

1st place Darryl Torckler (NZ)

2nd place Mark Spencer (NSW

3rd place Neil Vincent (NSW)

Open Encouragment Award

Peter Nicholas (WA)

Highest Scoring Slide of show:

Darryl Torckler (NZ)

In the Novice Section the winners were:

1st place Brian Colwell (NSW)

2nd place David Haines (NSW)

3rd place Gillian Torckler (NZ)

Lyn & Pat Manly Encouragement Award: Amanda Taylor (NSW)

Rick Latimer Encouragement Award:

(highest scoring non placed club member) Lyn Vincent (NSW)

In the Video Section the Winners Were:

!St place Richard Todd (WA)

2nd place Les Gentle (NSW)

3rd place Mark Harris (VIC)

The Bob Smith Encouragement Award: Peter Norris (NSW)



Ist Place OPEN
Darryl Torckler (NZ)
Grey McNeil and Shane (PNG)









Ist Place NOVICE Brian Colwell (NSW) Shane (Walindi PNG)







Hi Grey

My thanks and congratulations go to you, Noel Taylor and the members of South Pacific Divers Club for putting bgether a great event last night, and a very proficiently run competition. I found the presentation competitor's slides and video clips was extremely watchable and gave a good overall view of the variety of entries. The evening flowed smoothly with no unnecessary delays and entertained everyone. You heard a number of people say how appreciative they were of the decision to continue with the competition, as I am, and I can only say that the value of the prizes sponsors are prepared to offer and the keenness of entrants to be recognised in your competition shows the regard people have for this event. Robb Westerdyk and I thought we'd get a table together from the Central Coast and word soon spread - we had 30 in no time and told the stragglers to ask at door on the night. the

I realise the difficult job it presents for the Club, and especially for just a small number of organisers as is always the case. However you did a great job, and I look forward to seeing it on again next year. Apart from everything else, I would like another crack at the video section! Thankyou. Maybe we'll see each other off the coast

Regards Rod Pelling

Hi Grey,

Firstly... no mail 'till next Tues', I'm away on the rebreather course.

Congratulations on such a fantastic presentation, I've had a couple of people who have commented on how well it went and did not drag out like the ones in the past.

looking forward to the next.

Bill



2nd Place OPEN
Mark Spencer (NSW)
Who was also our Guest Speaker
Thank you Mark

These are the sponsors that made it all come true.

WALINDI RESORT
SEA NEW GUINEA
DIVE ADVENTURES
MIKE BALL DIVE
LOLOATA RESORT
P&O RESORT HOLIDAYS
TAKA DIVE
APOLLO

APOLLO MULTITEC

DIVING SOLUTIONS
AQUASEA PRODUCTS
CAPE BYRON IMPORTS
SPORT DIVING MAGAZINE

SEA HORNET YANDINA RESORT

T D PREECE DIVE PACIFIC

OCEAN TREK DIVING RESORT

SEA OPTICS

M V FEBRINA

AIR NUIGINI

DIVING VENTURES

UNDERSEA EXPLORER

SOLOMON AIR AURIGA BAY II HERON ISLAND

SEA & SEA

IKELITE AQUALUNG

AQUANAUT

PELICAN DIVE LOG

POSEIDEN DIVING SYSTEMS

PORADAY

FOTO RIESEL

SCUBA WAREHOUSE

AQUASPORT

Grev

A very big thanks from myself and Mandy, the night was a great success. I feel that it got back to basics, not to detract from the huge efforts of past organisers, but the last few presentation nights seemed to try and be too much, and lost their focus somewhat (my opinion anyway)
Anyway we thoroughly enjoyed the night cheers

Phil Taylor

Grey,

was a great night you and your team did a fantastic job well done. Regards, Peter Foster

Grey,

Just letting you know that we had a great night "Southpaw in Perth" tonight. Peter & Lyn & Neil were all thrilled to hear that they'd won prizes. Peter did spoil things a bit by snooping on my "sent" mail and finding out what he'd won a while ago. But we didn't let on to anyone else so it was a good night.

We hear that the evening went well. Thanks for doing a great job of organising it all, we know

how much work is involved!

Looking forward to seeing the complete list of winners and top 10. Are we going to get individual scores this time? It would be really useful if we can.

Thanks Margy

The photographs taken on the night by Martin Kandilas are now scanned and installed, ready for viewing on the SPD web site. This is located at address www.netspace.net.au/~southpacificdivers

Remember Members
If you have a need, then think about our sponsors.

Max Western will get you out there on Sea Tamer & Ship Rock Dive & Aqua Sports Yagoona

Will supply you with air and gear.
With out the generous support of our sponsors, we as
a Club would not enjoy many of the things we do.

SOLOMON ISLANDS 8 Days / 7 Nights Ex. Sydney \$ 1499 Diver

Dive Expedition with Noel Taylor - WWII Historian 20 – 27 October 2001

GIZO -

The capital of the Western Solomon's, is a tropical treasure trove blessed with sun drenched

lagoons, coral cays, volcanic islands and pristine waters as far as the eye can see.

The Western Province evokes vivid memories of the heavy fighting of WWII: stories about the

rescue of John F. Kennedy, who later became President of the USA, and the PT109 crew; aerial battles over Vella Lavella; the "Tokyo Express": steaming down "Slot"; wrecked ships and downed aircraft still being discovered, abound in the west.

Includes

- Return Flights Ex. Sydney to Honiara
- Return Flights Ex. Honiara to Gizo
- 7 Nights Twin Share Acc. Gizo Divers Lodge—Gizo
- Return airport transfers
- 10 Boat + 2 plane dives using residual air + 1 night dive in

Gizo region includes; Tanks, weight, belts + dive guide services including light lunch on diving days

Note: Does not include Meals, Departure Tax, Travel Insurance and personal expenses not included. Prices Subject to change without notice.

Conditions Apply (April 2001)

FOR BOOKINGS AND MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT;

Noel Taylor







