

Club Dives  
Weekends Away

Social Outings  
Wreck Diving

Reef Diving  
Boat Diving

Shore Diving  
Night Diving

# South Pacific Divers Club

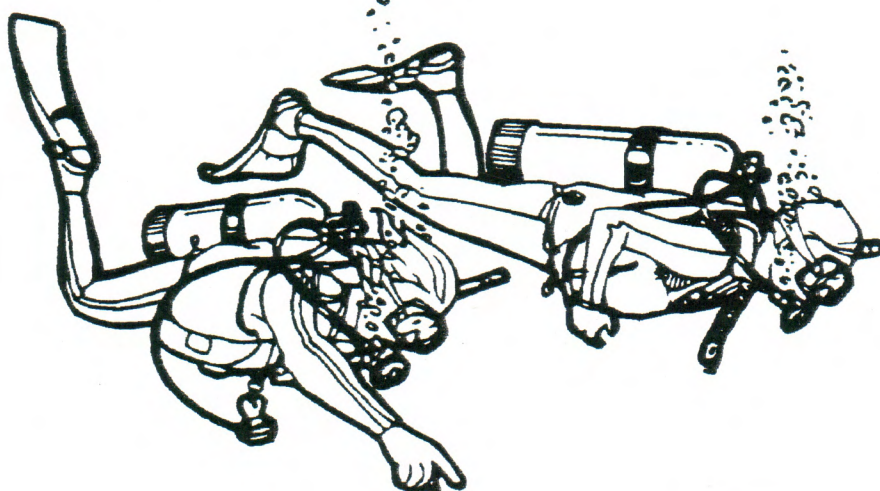
Established 1960

## Wet Rag

September 2001

**DIVING IS FOR PLEASURE, DIVING IS FOR FUN  
SO WHEN YOU DON YOUR WET SUIT  
YOU'LL KNOW THE FUNS BEGUN**

[www.southpacificdivers.com](http://www.southpacificdivers.com)



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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 the Editor, P.O.Box 823 Bankstown, NSW 1885. Phone (02) 9681 3287. E-mail: [she@maxi.net.au](mailto:she@maxi.net.au) Other correspondence should be sent to South Pacific Divers Club PO Box 823 Bankstown, NSW 1885



## **EDITORS CORNER:**

Well! We seem to have made it for the first month o/k.

I thank all those that have given me their approval on the first edition. I know there are some teething problems with layout and justification, but I was getting a little short of time.

For those of you that do not have an e-mail address, I can only suggest, that perhaps you could ask if you can use a relatives or friends address to receive the letter. If you did arrange this, then you would get the full impact of the photographs scanned in etc.

I would like you all to know that I am more than willing to include your advertisements for items you may have for sale, just as I am for running an ad in support of any of our sponsors. This, I believe used to be the case in the good old days and is something the Committee discussed and is happy to see return.

The criteria for personal ads are that they are ads that refer to equipment or property that is genuinely owned by a financial Club member.

Travel/Dive Trip ads are a little different and are a service to all members to keep them abreast of what's available.

Note: There are no fees charged for placing any add in this newsletter, either private or sponsor generated. Ads are a service to members, therefore we would ask that those placing advertisements respect this service criteria.

I will perhaps change an ad to suit the layout of the newsletter etc, but I will not write your ad for you. Therefore it will be necessary for you to write the ad and submit it to me, either by e-mail on in hard copy via the Club P.O.Box 823 Bankstown 1885. If the ad is received after I have finished the newsletter then it will be included in the following month.

It should also be noted that although the Club allows members and sponsors ads to be included in the newsletter, it in no way whatsoever implies there is any responsibility by the Club, for the goods or services offered in such advertisements.

I need your stories guys, it's your mag.

My apologies to Peter Norris for not including the ad for the film night that was held at the North Sydney Leagues Club on the 19th August. Tom did supply a little note about this in his transfer of paper work to me, but I missed seeing it. Sorry about that.

Editor

*Duane Langley*

## **PRESIDENT'S POSSIE**

I have to start off by saying that it was most pleasing to see a larger than normal turnout to the last meeting, which obviously means that we are doing it right. Thanks to all those that attended.

It was also my great pleasure to have the honour of personally presenting our three generous sponsors, "Max, Leslie and Glen," with their awards of appreciation. Not enough appreciation can be bestowed upon these people.

It was only after the meeting was over, that I realised that I had failed to debrief on the subject of the AV night. Therefore we will go over the night at the next meeting.

I was a little dismayed at the lack of response to getting someone to put their hand up to take over the BBQ duties for the Kurnell picnic day on the 25th. It surely is not too much to ask of someone, other than a committee member, to volunteer once and a while to carry out some of the chores. You do realise that if each of you carried out one chore as they arise, then each of you would only be responsible for a chore probably once every two years and if you look at in this perspective, then it's not really too much to ask. Is it?

I have to extend a big thanks to Noel for all the work he has put into the web-site. Now that the site is easier to get into, re the new address, " [www.southpacificdivers.com](http://www.southpacificdivers.com) " we all have the ability of staying in touch with our Club's position and events.

I'd like to mention that summer is nearly on us and suggest that those of you who have not been diving over the winter take heed of Peter Fosters story in this issue. Spend a Saturday morning and get all your dive gear out of the garage and go over it carefully. Check it all out and service what you are able to yourself and get your tanks in test as well as have your reg's serviced by a reputable dealer and remember, we have two of these as our sponsors.

It was nice to hear that the magnetometer was taken out, that is what the equipment is there for. Remember also that the club has a scanner for your use, so get all those great pic's scanned and put them down on a CD. They do not just have to be dive shots you know, we all have a lot of great photo's stored away in boxes some where. Ring Glen to make arrangements for the scanners use. 9708-2826.

Your President

*Bernie Kraul*



Bernd Kraul & Tom Byron

Bernie presented Tom Byron with a Life Membership award at the AUYP night. Tom was very grateful as he was heard to say: "Now I don't have to PAY yearly membership fees" A well deserved award for all Tom has done over the years, decades, etc.





## JUST ANOTHER MANTA MONDAY



Something was different, the sun rose perfectly as it has for the past two weeks with not a cloud in the sky,,,,,but the wind wasn't blowing.

Beginning each morning at 3.30am the offshore wind was well established each day by sunrise, it's strength increased throughout the day until it died at 4.00pm, allowing the day to fade tranquilly into a darkened sky with a million stars. Each day was the same, but not today.

With *nothing* more pressing to do I could have sat all day and pondered on this strange occurrence, tried to reason why this day was different,,,,,but I didn't. I took advantage of the still conditions and went diving.

Launching the boat across the beach at Ned's Camp in the Cape Range National Park, Western Australia, was the quickest way through the Ningaloo Reef, into the open ocean. The inflatable boat skimmed across the lagoon, fish could be seen swimming, bommies emerged from the white sandy bottom and turtles sped from the noise of the engine, whilst the water was still glassed off. Out through the South Passage where the swell rolled lazily from the Southern Ocean, schools of Tuna being the only disturbance on the water's surface. Patches 100 metres across, boiled as they leapt from the water. Maybe something was trying to eat them, or they were just leaping for joy at this perfect day.

South along the reef the rolling swells came to a spectacular conclusion as they sucked up, threw out and crashed in boiling white foam over the reef. Not a good place to be. Behind this place of turbulence a current runs along the reef, where it carries food for many of the creatures that live on the reef and for others that visit it.

A fin breaks the surface, then another. They are floppy, some black some white, they are not the fins of sharks that do frequent this place, but the tips of the wings of Manta Rays. A dorsal emerges and its full shape can be seen through the surface. It rolls, then dives forward still continuing the roll, showing its white underbelly before returning back to the surface. It is sieving the tiny plankton and other nutritious morsels from the current.

I had never heard of anyone being eaten by a Manta Ray, but these were huge wild animals which deserved respect, as I was the one entering their environment.

I slipped into the water, dropping straight beneath the surface, the bubbles cleared and there before me was a Manta three times my size, it dived and passed beneath me. Returning to the surface, it banked, pivoting like a stealth bomber on its lower wing tip. Skimming just beneath the water surface towards me, opening its cavernous mouth, which doubled its profile size and allowed me to see blue water through its gills, I believed a collision was inevitable, but the scene unfolding before me had me totally mesmerised. Three metres from the inevitable, the Manta rolled forward and dived down vertically, its massive black upper surface passing by my eyes revealing the subtle markings and two small remora clinging to the base of a whip like tail, which followed the body down.

My first encounter was awesome. Something I don't believe could be improved upon.

Getting my brain into gear, I remembered the camera in my hand. I dropped just beneath the surface and photographed the reflected image of the Manta as it swam just beneath the surface as well. It was like a mirror. It returned towards me time and time again, as though it wanted to be photographed. I ran out of film and returned to the boat to change film whilst Lyn was snorkeling.

When she returned she said that there were now 4 Mantas and one small yellow fish swimming around it's mouth like an entourage.

Certainly there were more when I entered the water again. They were coming from all directions without fear, why would they, they were bigger than and out numbered me. Framing and composition, exposure, into the sun, two in one frame, the film soon rolled through the camera. These gentle giants were the perfect models. Lyn had one more snorkel before they moved on.

We had several more encounters, but none like the first. Single animals would have one pass then continue swimming at a pace even Ian Thorpe couldn't contemplate. The water surface was becoming ruffled by the zephyr which had risen.

Off in the distance a great disturbance of the water deserved investigation. Two Mantas were breaking the surface with their fins and bodies, sometimes upside down, sometimes sideways. I entered the water to find an underwater version of an aerial dog fight taking place. Two Mantas were playing tag, skimming at very fast speed, hard against each other, each appeared to be taking the lead. In the midst of all this was me. Neither Manta seemed concerned by my presence, so I photographed. The maneuverability and power they displayed was nothing like I had seen before. In perfect unison they moved, each anticipating the other's motion. Black and white markings flashing in contrast, as a three dimensional ballet unfolded. I could not understand a reason for this performance, it may have been sexual, it may have been combatant, but it appeared to just be in fun.

Looking through the view finder, I lost them both at the same moment. Turning to relocate them, it came as a shock to be hit quite hard on the left shoulder, followed almost immediately by a collision across both calves of my legs, this tumbled me over in the water. Both Mantas were on me, they continued swimming side by side in a straight line away from me. Hit and run, I thought I could hear them laughing. I don't know what happened, whether they hit me accidentally during their game of chasings, or whether they had become annoyed at my presence and decided to "beat me up" Manta style.

We continued snorkeling with the Mantas until we were exhausted. Skimming back across the lagoon we were joined by two dolphins riding our bow wave. Lying on the front pontoon it was possible to touch them. Wanting a better view of their hosts, they began leaping from the water higher than the boat. What a way to end a truly special day.

This was not a dream, this was our first real dive day after driving across the Country, then waiting for two weeks for the sea conditions, churned up by the daily winds, to settle. What caused the wind to stop??? It was MONDAY. Conditions are always perfect on Mondays. *Neil Vincent*



## **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. 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.

### **Below is the letter sent to the Management of The Greyhound Social Club on behalf of SPD**

Att: Manager

7/8/01

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the members of the South Pacific Dive Club to express our appreciation to you and your staff for both, the use of the Clubs facilities and the helpfulness of your staff.

From our perspective the night was an absolute success, which has revitalized our annual AV night. SPD is a club that is based in the main as an underwater photography dive club and such a success as we enjoyed on Saturday night only enhances the clubs vitality.

It is with great pleasure that we are able to tell you that both our sponsors and attendees were extremely impressed with the venue and enjoyed immensely the ability to have room to move freely when the necessity arose to do so. The temperature in the hall was kept to a level that added well to the actual ambience of the night and the seating was more than comfortable for the duration of the event.

I do have to point out though, we received quite numerous and vocal complaints in respect to the contractors that operated the bistro. The reports were that these particular people were quite rude and it was even reported that there was some use of language from time to time. The complaints in respect to their attitude were many. No doubt you will look into this in the best way you see fit and this little matter in no big way detracted from the success of the night. Nor would it in any way cause our Club to even consider another venue when the time arises next year for the event to be repeated. I should point out in fact, that many attendees that have been coming to our AV nights over the years made a point of stating that this is far and beyond the best venue that the night has been held at.

In summary, we can only say thankyou and look forward to working with your club in the future.

On behalf of the S.P.D.C. Committee  
Grey McNeil

## **Next Meeting Points to Ponder**

- 1) Storage area for records etc. A cursory check about shows that storage is available for about \$70-\$80 per month. Can we do better?
- 2) Xmas is looming. Venues and ideas for an end of year bash??
- 3) Constructive, helpful ideas to aid Louise??
- 4) Would anyone like to do a dive-skills update/refresher?
- 5) Would anyone be interested in a camera operations workshop?
- 6) Has anyone got a specific dive destination that they seriously would like to visit and would like to see the Club organise a trip to this site/area? Write your desired location down and submit this to Noel at the next meeting.
- 7) Are any of you guys in need of your First Aid Certificates to be re-qualified and if so, is there interest in having the Club arrange a First Aid course?
- 8) It wasn't that long ago that we had a guest speak to us about wreck archaeology. Would there be interest by the members in becoming involved in such a project?



**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.**



## WHALE ENCOUNTER

For the past few weeks the days had dawned clear and with a stiff off shore wind blowing. Today was different, a light cloud cover reflected the red light from the rising sun, creating a magnificent display and there was no wind.

On the ocean in our rubber boat, conditions were perfect. We travelled outside the reef looking for the telltale splashes or flipping fins that would indicate the presence of Manta Rays. Only one was sighted but it was not interested in playing with us. So the morning passed.

We had lunch floating on the becalmed ocean watching Humpback whales travelling north about two kilometres further out to sea. Some were just flumes of spray as they breathed but others were leaping their massive bodies free of the water and flying crashing back down, exploding the water as high as they had flown. We decided to do one more run along the reef then maybe go out closer to the whales.

Ahead I thought I saw a turtle but it didn't seem totally right so I stared a little harder, it was the wrong colour for a Manta but it wasn't a Turtle. It was a Whale Shark!!!! The first we had found ourselves.

Controlled chaos as fins, masks and cameras were donned. Then over the side, it was a Whale Shark, but it was on a mission to go somewhere else not really interested in staying to have its photograph taken. I photographed and swam one armed (camera in the other) to keep up. Maybe I could tire it out ;>)). The encounter was short, lasting only about ten minutes but a wonderful experience.

Back in the boat I remained geared up and we travelled further north to try to relocate this magnificent animal. While searching we noticed a Humpback Whale close to the reef, rolling straight towards us like a nuclear submarine. This monstrous black shape pushed forward a huge bow wave as it rolled forward and submerged. We turned the motor off, it rose again, blew a flume of water into the air as it breathed then submerged about twenty metres from our fragile boat.

I was already over the side and free diving, at about six metres the whale materialized. First the white of one of its huge long flukes, then its head, a huge head, with a giant eye that was looking at me. The head was so different to what I have seen from the surface, much deeper with long ribs beneath its jaw. I could feel it passing, it was only three metres from me and I was level with it. It was moving quickly, not diving. Then the real surprise, a beautiful white calf riding along-side the mother's back. A white miniature of its mother moving effortlessly, being drawn along in the suction

created by its mother's bulk. They passed. The mother's tail appeared and disappeared sweeping slowly but powerfully up and down, propelling this beautiful couple to the warm waters of the north.

The whole experience lasted only thirty seconds. Although I was totally mesmerised I did manage to take the last three frames of the film in my camera. I have to wait until I am in Perth in about three weeks to see the results. If only I could download the experience from the storage cells of my brain.

*Neil Vincent*

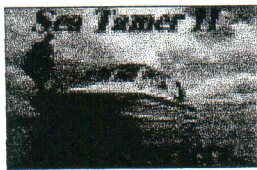
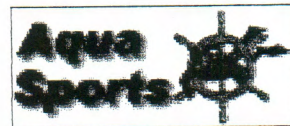


### HOW TO WASH THE CAT

1. Thoroughly clean the toilet.
  2. Add the required amount of shampoo to the toilet water, and have both lids lifted
  3. Obtain the cat and soothe him while you carry him towards the toilet.
  4. In one smooth movement, put the cat in the toilet and close both lids (you may need to stand on the lid so that he cannot escape).
- CAUTION:** Do not get any part of your body too close to the edge, as his paws will be reaching out for anything they can find. The cat will self-agitate and make more than ample suds. Never mind the noises that come from inside your toilet, the cat is really enjoying this.
5. Flush the toilet three, four, even five times. This provides a "powerwash" and "rinse" which is quite effective.
  6. Have someone open the door to the outside and ensure that there are no people (or any obstruction WHATSOEVER) between the toilet and the outside door.
  7. Stand behind the toilet as far as you can, and quickly lift both lids.
  8. The now clean cat will rocket out of the toilet, and run outside where he will self dry.

Sincerely,  
The Dog



**CLUB SPONSERS: Support These Businesses.****SEA TAMER II** 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

**Note:**

If you have a problem receiving the newsletter because your ISP controls the size you are able to receive via this medium, then let me know. I am going to make different mail-out groups and I will need this information so as to know which group you should be in. Those of you with a hotmail or telstra easymail account seem to suffer this malady and will be e-mailed without pictures to cut down on byte size. Personally, I would change my account, as very little being sent about today is less than 250 kilobytes and this seems to be the cheap accounts maximum size limit.

Also, if when you open up the letter, you find spelling highlights, I suggest you adjust your spell checker to read in Australian English and even then, add most of the highlighted words to your dictionary. This newsletter is compiled in REAL English, not some American/Australian/English Pidgin.

I don't profess that my spelling is fool-proof, but it is better than most I read now days.

ED.


**SUNDAY 26th August 2001**  
**CLUB DIVE**


Many thanks must go to Simon for bringing his RED RUBBER DUCKY (inflatable boat) on Sunday morning to give those who turned up a pleasant surprise of a boat dive instead of a shore dive.

Henry's Head was our destination for our dive and we did 3 shuttle boat runs over while the north easterly winds were starting to blow up. At Henry's Head it was like a mill pond and the viz was very good. We set up a dive flag on a shot line for safety with the fishing boats around and also as a point of reference for the boat to pick us up at. The dive site has a magnificent sponge garden from 6m - 20m. On one of the first boulders we looked at we found a large Red Indian Fish. Shame that Simon only had 1:2 macro on his camera but there were many Nudibranchs around and a couple of Dwarf Pipehorses as well. Of course we cannot forget the Weedy Seadragons that seemed to be everywhere we looked.

Grey was trying out Loi's 12mm fisheye lens and found he almost had to squash the poor little critters onto the lens so that he might get a photo or two.

Thanks again to Simon and Nicole for organising the chickens and bread rolls and to Ray for bringing the salad.  
Noel.



## THE ANNIE M. MILLER. {OR MURPHYS LAW}

The day was Sunday may 27th. I met with Bob May at about 8-30am at the Tunks Park boat ramp Bob had rang me on Weds to see if I wanted to dive on Sunday so after thinking about it I said yes. We had at first planned an easy dive to Henrys head or the like which suited myself fine as I had not dived for a while.

I will service my gear soon I thought to myself, it's only a shallow dive it will be fine. This, as it turned out was my first mistake. On Friday night we changed the plan and the dive was to be the MILLER, well I will still service my gear soon, but it will see me right on this dive I said to myself! This was to turn out to be mistake number two I knew a pressure gauge had blown on my last dive which had not yet been replaced and to make thing worse, my own twin tank set-up was not at home, so I had to borrow a set of twins.

I spent a couple of hours setting up my gear on Saturday night so the morning would be stress free, well that was the plan and that's how it went almost anyway. On the morning of the dive as I left home my octopus seemed to have a slight leak, no problem, I will fix it at the ramp. Enter mistake number three. As I left home I grabbed my spares kit so I could fix the leak at the ramp, this made for mistake number four.

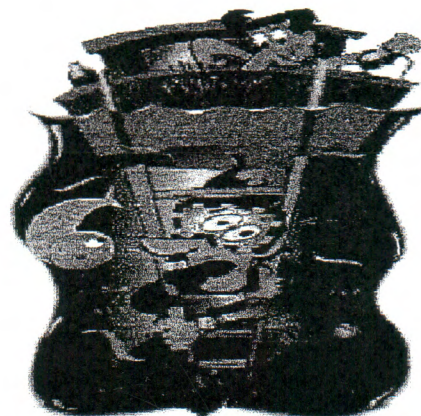
You see, as I had just moved to a new home I knew all my tools would be in the tool box, well, the best laid plans of mice and men. My spare pressure gauge should have been in here also and it was, but the only place it was going was the dustbin. It had flooded at some stage and was not going to be of much use to me now. Then I saw a hose laying under the car seat, what was on the end which I could not see, a spare pressure gauge maybe? Well I reached under and found my last spare regulator and a PRESSURE GAUGE! Well, I was only one short now and then I remembered Bob will have a spare one on the boat Things were now starting to look up, what more could go wrong I was left thinking, then I remembered I had left my torch sitting on the dining room table! Well at least I now had two pressure gauges to use and I could live without the torch. As we motored the boat over to Little Manly to pick up the rest of our group I started to fit the gauges on to the first stages. This went without a hitch. As we ran out to the Miller we enjoyed flat seas and very little swell but sitting over the wreck were two fishing boats, both had more rods than Rex Hunt would use in a year

And as you have guessed, yes, all the lines were in the water. We lined up on the transits and then motored slowly between the two of them as we ran over the wreck we dropped the anchor, then drifted back over the wreck and hooked in first time. After we tied off the anchor, let out the idiot line and erected the dive flag, it was time to dive the Annie Miller. The Miller met her end on the night of February 28th in the year 1929 taking six of the little ships crew to an untimely grave. She was built in Glasgow and departed for Australia on August 18th 1928, the ships owners enjoyed her service for about six months or so, we the diver have had years to enjoy diving the ship which is one of many laying around the 50 metre mark off Sydney. Today was the

type of day all wreck divers love in Sydney, a flat ocean, a clear blue sky and a white anchor line running down as far as you could see towards the wreck. The fisher people must have loved us because they just left the area what a nice understanding breed of people they are !!!

I entered the water in the first group and as I hit the water my octopus went mad, it had the mother of all free flows. After stopping this I started to swim towards the anchor and at the anchor off it went again, so being a diver of over 20 years experience I did the right thing and returned to the boat. Well, I did not, and enter mistake number five. After getting it to stop free flowing once again I took off for the wreck over 50 metres below the surface and as I went down what struck me, was how clean the water was, at last things were going well, that's what I thought anyway! At about 35 meters or so I felt my right fin buckle snap open, so I stopped and removed my fin. I will put it back on when I reach the wreck and this made six. Am I having fun yet? you bet I was. As I reached the wreck I noticed I felt a bit narked, well a lot narked to be honest, o/k, I was off my tree! The simple job of putting my fin back on had now become a real problem for me, it was at this point my two buddies stopped laughing and showed pity on me and put my fin back on. My head was now spinning as the narcosis really hammered me, I was not in control, at this point we were still at the anchor so I signalled the other two that I was not going to continue the dive and slowly began my ascent back to the surface, my head started to clear as soon as I left the bottom and upon reaching the 40 metre mark I was fine I could see the next group of divers coming down and signalled I was ok as we passed. As I reached 20 metres a huge school of kingfish swept by and as I started my deco they came back again and the poor fisherpersons had left, this is a shame I thought. Time to put a little air into my vest I pushed the power inflator and nothing! I tried again nothing. When was it serviced last, never just like yours i'll bet? Well at least it had worked on the bottom and as I had on a dry suit the vest was an inconvenience and not a major problem the funny thing was, it's the first time I had used my dry suit this year. So, after 10 minutes of deco I clambered up Bob Mays new ladder back into the boat, was I a happy little diver? you be sure I was. The reason for this little tale is to remind you," the diver," to make sure you have all gear serviced by your local dive shop and ensure everything works, as it was meant to.

PETER J. FOSTER





AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL MEETING**Time:** 8.05pm**Chair:** Bernie Kraul ( President )**Apologies:** Tom Byron, Vivien Grey, Paul, Mitch Radomir, Martin & Illona Kandilas**Incoming Mail:** Dive magazines & club newsletters, Membership renewal, Letter from medical center re dive medical services offer, Bank statement,**Treasurers Report:**

Lin advises that the accounts are healthier now than they have been in a long while. Figures were tabled

**Report Accepted:** Peter Turner Seconded: Glen Percy.

A copy of the figures will be made available to financial members upon a written request to provide same, or, speak with the treasurer at the next meeting.

**Editors Report:** Discussion on the latest newsletter success. Nick yawned.**Equipment Officers Report:** All present and accounted for and method of delivery (e-mail). This was widely accepted. The general consensus was that the latest mag was a for. Magnetometer is out being used.**Photographic Officers Report:** Request for officer to take position. No one would put there hat in the ring and the position offer was deferred.**Web Officer.** Photo's on web site now. Working on memorial page and this should be up and running in the next couple of months. The web address is being changed to [www.southpacificdivers.com](http://www.southpacificdivers.com)**Social Organiser:** Sunday BBQ, No takers at this point to take over the BBQ for the day as Bernie will be away. Louise is still working on options.**Minutes of the Last Meeting Acceptance:****Accepted By:** Phil Dale**Seconded By:** Simon Gayler**Dive Reports:** Phil had a dive at Fairlight. Nick had a cramp at the end of his dive. Louise went to Hanging Rock, Marley on Sea Tamer II, Port Jackson sharks, big Bull Ray, great dive and great viz. Matt, Noel Scotty, Peter also attended this dive.

Noel dived Kurnell, Club dive, also Bernie, was a night dive. It was windy and cold. Bernie forgot his towel and torch, had a bit of a jig with a PJ. Seen a Red Indian fish. Water was dead flat and clear and cool. Out of the Park by 7.30 pm, otherwise gate locked by ranger whilst still in the park.

Brian had a whale encounter Sunday morning in Jervis bay, Southern Wright whale &amp; calf. Plenty of time to view. Still about until about wed/Thursday. Got a couple of photos.

Mother protective of calf and was putting herself between the calf and boats.

**Business Arising from last Minutes:** n/a**General Business:** Award presented personally to Max from Sea Tamer11, Leslie from Shiprock dive and Glen from Aquasports by Bernie. This award was made at the AV night, but as none of these people were present on the night the actual presentation was deferred until our meeting. This award was in appreciation of the long standing support these people and the businesses they represent have shown towards SPDC.

Duane put forward the idea of leasing a small storage shed from such a facility that provides these services. Simon advised that prices were about \$120 per month. This was considered too dear, but the Club would look into it as an exercise.

Sue advised that the SPD T/Shirts should be ready tomorrow. Still getting excuses from the manufacturer as to why they are not ready now.



**Raffle:** 1<sup>st</sup> Whitey (Aqua Sports)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Scott McGregor (Sea Tamer 11)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Leslie Phil Dale (Shiprock Dive)**Break**

Noel showed the winning video entrants of the AV night, plus a video of the Cod Grounds from North Haven.



**Finish** Great meeting, good turn out.



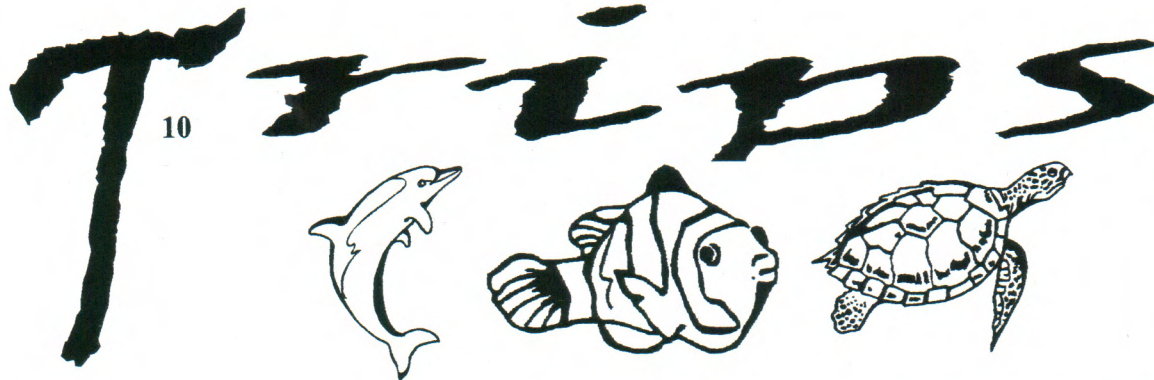
## September 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <i>Club Meeting</i>	18	19 (10m) Oak Park Night Dive	20	21	22
23 (30m) Palm Beach Wreck Dive	24	25	26	27	28	29 W/E Ocean Trek Aqua Sport
30 W/E Ocean Trek Aqua Sport						

## October 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 W/E Ocean Trek Aqua Sport	2	3 	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 (18m) Shark Point Shore Dive
14	15 <i>Club Meeting</i>	16	17 (10m) Camp Cove Night Dive	18	19	20 Go Solomon Islands
21 (BBQ) Bear Island <i>La Perouse</i>	22	23	24	25	26	27 Back Solomon Islands
28	29	30	31 			





# SOLOMONS!

• WWII Wrecks • Big Fish • Coral Reefs • Beaches • Palm Trees

**8 Days / 7 Nights Ex. Sydney**

**20 – 27 October 2001**

*Dive Expedition with  
Noel Taylor - WWII Historian*

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**Noel Taylor**  
0414 592 410

**\$1499pp!**



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**3 Days / 3 Nights**

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*In-Club Photo Shootout* this trip  
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down the coast from Sydney  
with excellent diving to be had.  
More about the shootout in  
future Wet Rags. There will  
be prizes to be won. Photo  
comp will be for  
members  
only.



**OCEAN  
TREK**

**Weekend Away**

**17–18 November 2001**

30km south of Port Macquarie

We will be staying at the  
Woongarra Motel for two nights  
accommodation and have 4 boat  
dives with Scuba Haven  
Laurieton. Some of the dive sites  
include: The TITAN (wreck) -  
40m, COD GROUNDS - 18-32m,  
MERMAID REEF (shark dive)  
12-30m, Telegraph Bommie  
- 0-18m

**\$175pp!**

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TREK**

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