
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 2003

In Memory of Rick Latimer

It was seven years ago last March 19, 1996 that well known Sydney wreck diver Rick Latimer succumbed to cancer. For those club members who did not have the pleasure to know him just asked the old members and they will have a tale or two to tell you about Rick.

www.southpacificdivers.com



Cover Photo by Noel Taylor

CONTENTS:

Editorials.....	2
Blast from the past.....	3
George Roberts Comp.....	4
Dive Reports.....	6
Minutes.....	7
What's Bubbling & Classifieds.....	9
Event Calendar.....	10
Membership Form.....	11



The South Pacific Divers Club Newsletter "WET RAG" is published by South Pacific Divers Club and edited by Noel Taylor. All material submitted to the newsletter should be sent to the Editor, P.O. Box 823 Bankstown, NSW 1885.

EDITORS CORNER

Here I am again!! We do need a newsletter editor for the WET RAG. It is not hard as the templates are in Word or Publisher for anyone to take it on. I am sorry for the lateness but I am really too busy to do it myself so we need someone to come forward.

Due to the meeting falling on Easter Monday we will have still be having the meeting. For those of you who are away and have are not able to have put your George Robert Entries in... You have until next Monday to either post them or give them to Amanda, Phil or me and we will get them to Amanda for judging.

Up and coming guest speakers will be Leo Hillyer of Aqua Sea Products, Tim Bonner has expressed interest in coming back again with more gear information for us and in the near future Dave Fagan will give us a workshop of working with digital images (*a must for all you new digital photographers*).

This is the last newsletter going out to non-members SO get your membership fees paid!!!!

Ed: Noel

PRESIDENTS POSSIE

Happy Easter!

The year is certainly rolling on and Easter is upon us already.

We are in the last month of the George Roberts Underwater Photo comp, and the submissions for the past two months have been great, and I am looking forward to this month's slides. Good luck to all the entrants.

Last meeting we had the pleasure of meeting Bernie Johnston from Pacific Health and Safety, who was introduced to us through Noel Taylor. For those of you who were not at the last meeting, Bernie is a First Aid Instructor and has offered to teach a 2 day First Aid course specifically aimed at Scuba Divers. Bernie proved to be quite entertaining and I am sure that the course will be of great value in expanding and updating our first aid skills.

I would also like to thank Don from Sydney Divercity at Kurnell who has kindly offered to become a club sponsor. Don will be donating various prizes for the monthly club meeting raffle.

Well happy diving to all of you over Easter, though the weather in Sydney doesn't look very promising, and for all you who have time off work and venture further a field, safe journey and hope to see you at the next club meeting.

Well that's all from me for this month....

Hope to see you in the water!

Cheers
Amanda Taylor

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER

This month we have had about 80% replies back as favorable from all of our sponsors last year this is a very good sign of support for our AV Night in October.

Our competition add is in this month's Dive Log edition and members please note that the date is wrong it should be the 15th of August not the 30th of June. I am progressively letting all competitors know this so there is very little confusion out there. Dive Log have been notified and it should be corrected by next month.

So far two three weeks into the competition I have had about 10 requests for entry forms and some of those have been from interstate (WA and QLD).

We need to pay the Greyhound club a sum of \$120.00 for the deposit for the presentation night on the 18th of October this can be done at this month's meeting on Easter Monday.

Also Tim Bonner of Apollo Australia has put up a joint offer to donate all prizes for the Digital Category in partnership with Dive Adventures and the offer is:

1. *A custom made top of the line Dry Suit.*
2. *A Dive Adventures trip to a location in the tropics*
3. *A comparable prize somewhere in the price range of the above two.*

Members can also decide on this at the April Club meeting.

So we are still in the stage of rounding up all our sponsors and once we have finished that then we will work on the AV Night itself.

I will be setting up an AV night, display at Sydney Divercity at Kurnell after Easter and when you are at the shop do your best to promote the competition amongst other divers there you would be surprised who would like to enter and who would like to join our club.

On that issue I will be promoting both the club and the Comp through this shop in the coming months.

Late on Wednesday I received a call from the promoters of Dive Expo Australia and they would like to know if we will display at the show we were going to through Aqua Sports but now we can't so I am looking favorably at being at the Show so please consider this at the meeting I need an answer before April 30.

While you are having your meeting I am at Ulladulla diving.

Your Unselfish Photographic Officer
Dave B.



Memberships are now Due!

Membership form on back page.

WHAT'S BUBBLING

END OF AN ERA

Unfortunately Aqua Sports at Yagoona has now closed its doors after 30+ years of service. At this point in time I would like to thank Glen Percy & Janson Kane for the monthly sponsorship that the shop gave us for many years which has now ceased.

START OF A NEW SPONSOR

We are very fortunate to have a new sponsor come onboard for the club so quickly. Don & Betty from Sydney Divercity at Kurnell, who a lot of us get our airfills from on weekends, have come on as a monthly Sponsor for the club to replace the loss of Aqua Sports.

They have offered some great prizes for our monthly raffle including dive gloves, boots, gift vouchers and BOAT DIVES. Yes that means some months there will be two boat dives in the raffle.

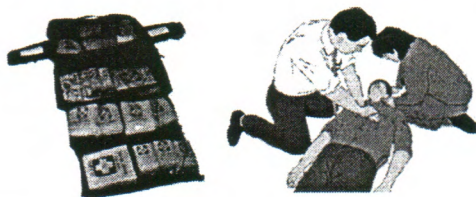
They will also give South Pacific Divers Club members the same discounts as their members - 10%, but if they need to order goods in - postage & handling will have to be added.

FIRST AID COURSE

Course can be conducted over any two Sundays starting in May. Will need 2-3 hours one evening prior to the first Sunday. Both Sundays can include a dive and BBQ lunch. The price is normally \$800 for the first six and then \$120 per additional person after that. For the Club - \$100 per head - minimum of eight starters.

The course will be covering a lot on situations that can affect us as divers.

Bernie Johnston
From
Pacific Health & Safety



DIVE REPORTS

30th of March 2003

Dive Site: BARE ISLAND - Night Dive
Viz: 00mtrs **Depth:** 15mtrs
Sea: Calm **Weather:** Fine **Temp:** 21C

If you noticed the viz, yes my batteries died on me minutes before the dive but the conditions were too good not to go so I went in after all I did have my Strobe as light.

Entry was excellent on the west side of the bridge and we were soon down with the sponges off to the South West of the island. Yes it was dark but using the light from the other divers I managed to see most marine life that was there including many aggressive cuttlefish and a very pretty mosaic leatherjacket.

During the dive I had lost my lens probe and the strobe failed to work at all (due to connection problem).

Afterwards we raided a local Indian Restaurant and were treated to fine servings of medium curries, thoroughly recommend the restaurant to any who venture over there to dive

All in all a good dive and a good night was had.

Rating 6/10.

Dave B.



23rd March 2003

Dive Site: CONTAINER WALL - Port Botany
Viz: 8 mtrs **Depth:** 17 mtrs
Sea: OK **Weather:** S/East Wind **Temp:** 21C

On the SCANS day we had booked a boat dive with Divercity and we had reports that the first dive at Henrys was not great. We all decided to go and have a dive at the Container Wall as most of the group had not dived it. Thinking it was going to be dirty, we were greatly surprised to see we had around 10 mtrs. We were swimming in and out of all the little swim-throughs we could find. We found some good ones too!!! Near the end of the wall there were some good schools of Surgeon fish and Mulloways (Jewfish). Everyone came up ecstatic about there dives. Afterwards we arrived at the BBQ site in the park to say hi and tell everyone about our good dive for the day and all we got was grunts and groans from those who had only bad viz and surge dives.

Luck of the Draw sometimes!!!

Rating 6.5/10

Noel T.

CLUB MINUTES

CLUB MEETING 17TH MARCH, 2003 8.10 pm – 9.45 pm

Apologies: Nick, John Olsen.

Guest Speaker: Bernie Johnstone – Pacific Health & Safety - Re first aid courses OH&S contracts his services out. A few pointers from his presentation.

- Be aware of your surrounds. You may be at a mates place, but do you know their proper address? Nearest cross street? Etc.
- Stay calm – beware of shock
- DRABC, SOS - Serious bleeding - Other injuries - Shock
- Compressions 15: 2 breaths both single & double requirements
- Phone 000 or 112 (mobile)

Senior First Aid Course – 18 hours 2 day course - would prefer to do it where we dive instead of being locked up in a class room. Work cover approved. \$800.00 for 6 people minimum. Interested – advise your Committee.

Incoming Correspondence: Bank statement, term investment statement, SPD membership, URG Bulletin, Doubtless & Diving newsletter, Slides John Olsen, BOC statement, Ryde Underwater newsletter, SCANS - emails re Combined Club's Day 23/03/03.

Outgoing Correspondence: SPD Shirt order

Minutes: February - Accepted by Peter Flockart seconded by Rick James.

Treasurers Report: All accounted for. Memberships are due.

Website: All up and running

Newsletter: We are looking for another Newsletter Editor.

Photographic Officer: Sea and Sea have pulled out of the major sponsorship. Committee held a vote to run the competition. New date 18th October, 2003. Entries 1st April until 15th August, 2003. Advertising in April's Dive Log. Most of the previous sponsors are up and running again this year. Thank you to Dave Burns and Peter Flockart from the Committee for all your time and efforts.

DIVE REPORTS

Peter T – Henrys Head - lost a fin on Don's boat. Jason is very capable (Diver City) 25 mtr

Peter F – Marley Sponge Gardens – slight current, 15 mtr 20 degrees warm – BLUE WATER IS BACK!

Matt – Oak Park – 2nd Reef, 22 degrees, clean water, turtle.

Bernie – has been out of the water for far too long!

Dave - Kurnell drift dive 2 mtr viz - took club banner door and took a few photos.

Noel - Club Boat Dive - Kurnell - 7 people. Minmi Trench - lots of nudis. Sponges, swimming, 22 mtrs - big boulders form a crevice/ trench blue devil fish, lots of anchors.

Drift dive Henry's Head - started with half a mtr viz - cleared in deeper water to a good dive.

Grey - Nelson Bay Day and night dives - sponges back on pipeline, rays mating everywhere, Fly Point - all purple and orange in colour, growth now on sand patch 10 mtrs viz. 17 different nudi species.

CLUB MINUTES cont.

GENERAL BUSINESS

SCANS Combined Clubs Day 23rd March, 2003 Dave has booked Diver City for a boat dive/s 8.15am.
Dave B to take BBQ.

White water Rafting - Sunday 25th May,

Skirmish - 17th August

White Water Liloing - Martin to get further details.

Hunter Wine Tasting - few different options will be sourced

Website to View www.schoolfriends.com.au Has a listing for South Pacific Divers which lists a range of past and present members.

Equipment Audit. All club equipment is to be Audited and logged. Main reason is that club positions change and makes it hard to account for all the club's equipment. Noel has the scanner which has to be organised to be set up on Dave's computer. Please return all software, video's anything you are holding for the club, - back to the committee for record keeping purposes etc.

Treasurer States - All purchases must have the proper paperwork completed and all invoices must be an official tax receipt and have an ABN number.

Club Car Stickers - Bernie still has a bundle at home - to be returned to the Committee.

Other Guests - Don, Sydney Divercity. Is organising some 'attractive' boat dives for winter. More details to come.

Future Judging of members slides will be organised at a meeting - Tom and Martin will give members an insight to what makes one slide better than the next. Date to be advised.

George Roberts Comp - 1st place - Matt congratulations.

Raffle -

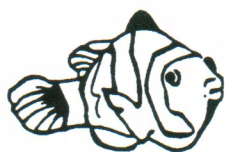
Max Western Boat Dive - Matt R

Aqua Sports - 5 air fills - Grey and David B

Shiprock - 2 air fills - Bernie Johnstone

Lucky Door Prize - Shiprock Dive - Mark Spencer

At a future club meeting - Guest Speaker - Leo from Aqua Sea Products re: underwater strobes, video lights etc.



GUEST SPEAKER - Leo Hillyer
Will talk on VIDEO LIGHTS & TORCHES
At Next Months
MONDAY MEETING - 19th May 2003

CLUB SPONSORS: Please Support These Businesses

SEA TAMER II - Max Western. Dive Charters from Port Hacking.

SHIPROCK DIVE - Sales - Air - Service - Overseas Dive Trips.

SYDNEY DIVERCITY - Sales - Service - Air - Dive Schools.

LEDLIN PARTNERS - Business & Commercial Lawyers.

Phone: 9524 1818

Phone: 9526 2664

Phone: 9668 8200

Phone: 9708 2811



Committee Members

Amanda Taylor	0407-690077	President
Sue Tate	9681 3287	Secretary
Phil Dale	0418-975649	Treasurer
David Burns	0407-219100	Photographic Officer
Peter Flockhart	9371 0265	Asst. Photographic Officer
To be advised		Equipment Officer
To be advised		Newsletter Editor
Noel Taylor	0419-122629	Web Page Officer



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Northern Diver Drysuit.

Im 175cm 36cm neck and 18cm wrist.

It's pretty thick, maybe 5mm neoprene and extra tough type material. With knee pads. Large boot size (Im a 8 1/2 or 9 and they are too big for me. Good condition.

\$300 ono

Wetsuit.

4 slim size 6mm thick DM70 model wetsuit by Seatec in great condition with built in hood, knee padding and extra comfort padding in spine. I'm 175 cm about 78kg would suit slightly smaller up to my size. email me for pics.

\$250 ono

You can contact me via email on srl@ihug.com.au or by phone on 0413 717170

Boat Dive Card

Sydney Divercity will introduce a pre-paid "Boat Dive Card" to become effective from the first of April for a trial period of six months. The boat dive card will allow a substantial saving on boat dives offered by Sydney Divercity.

During this trial period the pre-paid Boat Dive Card will only be offered to South Pac club members, as a study for acceptability and usage. On completion of the trial period we will examine the rate of usage and determine if it should continue as a service offered to everybody.

This is how it should work. The card will be for *eight standard dives, pre-paid for a cost of \$200.00, which represents a boat dive for \$25.00, a saving of \$10.00 on our usual fee of \$35.00.

The cardholder will be required to ring the shop and book a position on the boat before the Wednesday prior to the weekend intended for the dive. At the time of booking your card will be marked and your name placed on the passenger list. No shows and cancellations with less than 24 hours notice will not receive a refund. Cancellations by the shop because of weather or insufficient numbers will attract a refund

Trial Period: 1st April 03 to 1st October 03

Boat Dive Card: 8 standard dives \$200.00

- The holder of the card can use all dives at a single booking (take a bunch of friends along) or individually over a period of time.
- When South Pac members book the whole boat, Sydney Divercity will provide a sausage sizzle BBQ free of charge (BYO drinks)

Remember this card is for a trial period only and will depend on the divers using it regularly if it is to become a permanent feature. If you are a keen diver you cant afford to be without this card.

Exclusions: Yes there are some exclusions, the dive card is for standard dives ONLY and not for the deep technical dives where the divers will be using twin tanks, blended air mix's or if hang tanks and deco bars are required to be put in place. It can be used on night dives but a \$5.00 additional charge will be made.

Schedule of Events

May 2003

- 4th — Club BBQ Day — Kurnell
- 11th — Mothers Day
- 18th — Club Boat Dive — **Sea Tamer II**
Reef Dive — 10am departure
- 19th — **Club Meeting** — Bankstown Sports Club
Dinner 7pm - Meeting 8pm
Guest Speaker — Leo Hillyer — Aqua Sea
Products on Dive & Video Lights
- 24th — Club Boat Dive — **Sydney Divercity**
Magic Point — Shark Dive — 8am depart.
- 25th — Sydney Divercity will visit a decompression
chamber and take a "dry dip" to 30m.
\$88.00 per diver - 8:30am

June 2003

- 1st — Club Picnic Day — Shellharbour — Bass Point
- 14th — Club Boat Dive — **Sea Tamer II**
Wreck Dive — 7am departure
- 15th — Club Boat Dive — **Sydney Divercity**
Magic Point — Shark Dive — 8am depart.
- 16th — **Club Meeting** — Bankstown Sports Club
Dinner 7pm - Meeting 8pm
Guest Speaker — To be advised
- 29th — Club Boat Dive — **Sea Tamer II**
Reef Dive — 10am departure

July 2003

- 6th — Club Day — Maybe White Water Rafting?????
- 11-13th — Sydney Divercity - Ocean Trek W/E
\$379.00 per diver
- 12th — Club Boat Dive — **Sea Tamer II**
Wreck Dive — 7am departure
- 20th — Club Boat Dive — **Sydney Divercity**
— Shark Dive — 8am depart
- 21st — **Club Meeting** — Bankstown Sports Club
Dinner 7pm - Meeting 8pm
Guest Speaker — To be advised
- 27th — Club Boat Dive — **Sea Tamer II**
Reef Dive — 10am departure

DIVE TRAVEL

HIDEAWAY ISLAND SEA & SEA DIVEFEST
8 fun-filled and relaxing days in Vanuatu
on a tiny slice of paradise
25 MAY - 1 JUNE 2003
8 days / 7 nights - ex Sydney from \$1929 + tax; ex Brisbane from \$1239 + tax;
ex Melbourne from \$1475 + tax.*
The Dive Fest features the Sea & Sea Photography Event with tutorials by photo-pro
Kevin Deacon, great prizes, and a Presentation Night. This year there's also a theme party
and all-day beach water events for everyone to share.
Hideaway Island is just 3.6 hours from Sydney and Brisbane with touring boats just
minutes from the dive shop, beachside restaurant, excellent snorkelling sites
and nearby Port Vila wrecks are a perfect warm-up for diving the Coral Reefs.
* Conditions apply and prices may differ without notice. Accommodation upgrades are available (solo-share)
For Festival package details contact Leonie - sydney@divadventures.com.au
Check out Hideaway Island Resort and the great diving at www.hideaway.com.vu

OCEAN TREK WEEKENDS



11 – 13 July, 2003

Sydney Divercity Weekend Away
Ocean Trek in Jervis Bay. \$379.00 per diver

24 – 26 October, 2003

South Pacific Divers Weekend Away
Ocean Trek in Jervis Bay.
\$340.00 per diver (club members)
\$379.00 per diver (non-members)

*These trips are extremely popular with our divers and
book out quickly so if you are interested please phone us
and book in early.*

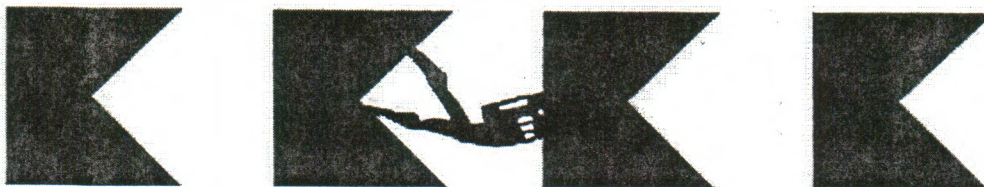
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

October 18 – 26, 2003 - Sydney Divercity will travel to
PNG, (Jais Aben) for the warm tropical waters, a "rust &
reef" trip with 12 boat dives and un-limited shore dives, all
meals and transfers, only \$2500.00 per diver (There will
be an additional cost of about \$60.00, which we cant pay
this end for visa and PNG departure tax)

SOLOMON ISLANDS

August 1 – 15, 2003

Join Noel at two of the best dive destinations that
nature has to offer, Gizo and Maravagi in the
Solomons. Pristine reefs, accessible wrecks &
crystal clear water await your arrival.
It is the 60th anniversary of the sinking of JFK's
PT-109 off Gizo on the 2nd August. They are having
a re-enactment swim for those who dare to test
their fitness. Cost per diver: \$2799.00 + TAXES



SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB

P.O. BOX 823 BANKSTOWN 2200

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I wish to apply for membership for one (1) year tick.

NAME:.....

ADDRESS:.....

..... Post Code.....

TELEPHONE: Work:.....Home:.....Mobile:.....

E-Mail Address:.....

Diving Certification:..... Certification Number:.....

Are You a Boat Owner:..... Type of Boat:.....

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP FEES: Single \$30.00 Family \$40.00

DIVING MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

I/We..... hereby apply to join South Pacific Divers Club Inc.
I/We understand the Club is non-profit, non-affiliated with any training organisation and is for certified divers.
South Pacific Divers Club Inc does not offer instruction, advice or supervise its members' divers. It is a
condition of Club membership that members exercise their own judgement in accordance with their training in
deciding whether and/or how to participate in any particular dive, the technique used, or choice of equipment
and that any clarification in regard to these matters should be referred to a qualified instructor or my/our
certifying agency.

I/We have read the above conditions and accept same as a condition of membership.

SIGNED..... DATE.....