
Club Dives
Weekends Away

Social Outings
Wreck Diving

Reef Diving
Boat Diving

Shore Diving
Night Diving

South Pacific Divers Club

Established 1960

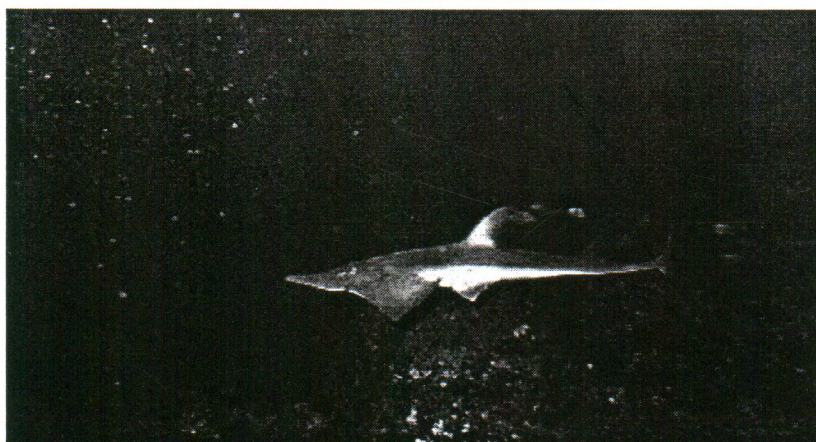
Wet Rag

MAY 2003

FOR SALE

3 dive lights for sale all one dive old, all in
good condition, many uses including vases,
nuts and bolt holders.
genuine reason for sale.
there stuffed.

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 Matthew Reeve. All material submitted to the newsletter should be sent to the Editor, P.O. Box 823 Bankstown, NSW 2200.

Cover Photo by Matthew Reeve

EDITORS CORNER

Well here we go with a first for you and me, as I've never done this before. All comments will be welcome as this is your newsletter. Having recently been looking at a few of the older Wet Rags from years gone by I can only say the format has gotten better but the content has dropped off dramatically. As past editors have said we do need stories and other content even if it's not entirely true or even your work. Pictures can be sent as well they don't all have to be underwater and they can be digitised and modified to the point that you are snorkelling on the Titanic wreck if you like as long as they look good.

My e-mail address is zero_to_nine@optusnet.com.au

So how is my first attempt?

Ed:Matt

PRESIDENTS POSSIE

Hope you survived the Easter Break and were able to get wet!! And for most of us we look forward to burning off those extra kilos of Easter Chocolate! (There is nothing quite like the taste of Chocolate Easter Eggs) But on the upside, we probably don't have to put so much lead on our weight belts!!

Thanks to all the members that attended last month's meeting, despite being a public holiday. It was great to hear all the Easter dive reports.

The month of May brings Mothers Day. A special "Happy Mothers Day" to all our eligible mum members, and wish you a wonderful day.

May also brings the Annual Sea & Sea Festival on Hideaway Island in Vanuatu. Phill and I will be attending the festival this year for the first time. I hope to learn all about underwater digital photography and grab a few tips from the guest speaker, Kevin Deacon. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact Leonie at Dive Adventures.

The George Roberts Underwater Photographic comp is in its final month of judging, and the entries have been fantastic. Congratulations go to John Olson with the highest scoring slide for March. John has won a SLR4 Dive light from Dive Solutions- compliments of Mark McKrub. April's winner will be announced at this month's club meeting, and the overall prize winners will be announced at the June's club meeting.

Continued next page

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER

I hope all you prospective Dave Doublets are out there snap snap snapping photos. It would be great if the club picked up all of the prizes at this years AV night, we have a good grounding with the exclusive George Roberts Trophy that has just finished and there are still more comps along the way leading to the grand finale our own AV Night or as a lot of our contestants are calling it, 'THE AUSTRALASIAN'.

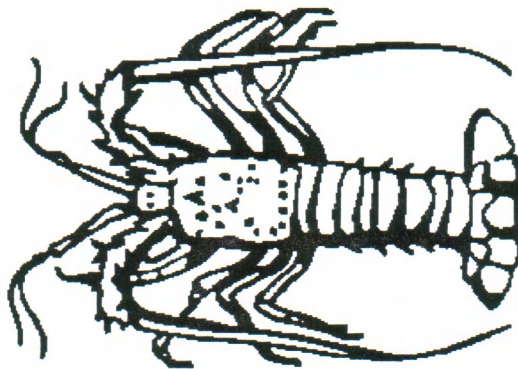
I am organizing a shoot out up at South West Rocks with some members from Ryde Underwater Group probably in June or July so let me know if you want to come. What a great photo the Sharks at SWR for the AV Night!

Resident camera guru Noel Taylor was not happy with some items of the competition in regards to media and this will be chased up immediately. Phil Dale due to work commitments has dropped out as a Sponsor Manager so if any member out there has some free time please give me a call as all you need is a pleasant phone voice and a love of diving.

Well not to drag on too long but please support our new editor Matt 'Bin Ladin' Reeve with stories and photos, he has joined us from the foreign media group Al Jerzeer so please keep those dive reports coming in and yes he can read English.

Your Unselfish Photographic Officer

Dave B.



Memberships are now Due!

Membership form on back page.

Presidents Possie Continued from previous page

It has truly been wonderful to see the consistent high standard of underwater photography from our members. Keep up the great shots and hope to see your entries in this year South Pacific Underwater Photo Competition.

Great diving to you all!!

Amanda Taylor

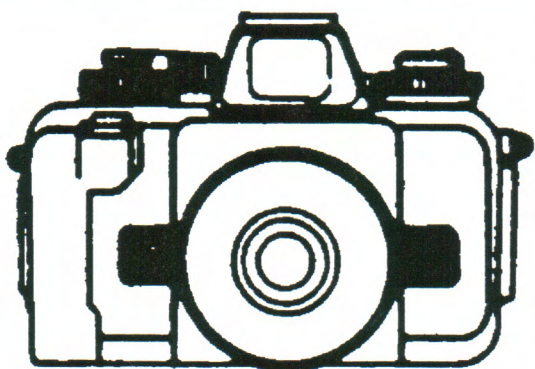
WHAT'S BUBBLING

Exploratory diving

Has anyone done any diving in weird and wonderful(?) places that they would like to talk about or have they any places that they would like to dive but don't know anything about. Tell me and I will post it in here. You never know you might find a buddy to do it with or you might find the answer to your queries

E-Mail List

Would members like to have an e-mail list set up to make it easier to contact other member to let them now about a dive they have planned and so others can do like wise. It would be a members only list set up on a system such as yahoo or topica as other lists do. It would have the benefits of being able to contact other members without needing there contact details. On some of the lists the user can elect to have all mail sent direct to there in-box or view the posts in a once a week digest or not have any sent at all as they can be viewed in an archive on the net



DIVE REPORTS

27th April 2003

Dive Site: The Steps – Kurnell

Viz: 8 mtrs

Depth: 17 mtrs

Sea: 1-1.5m **Weather:** N/East Wind **Temp:** 21C

Finally after the Easter and ANZAC day weekends I got in the water for one lonely dive. The weather wasn't the best but the idea was to get wet so we went in. The entry wasn't the best but it was still better than other times we have been there. The vis was pretty good for the conditions of the week previous and prevailing winds from the north east blowing straight onto the site. We headed out first and seen a few weedys among other things. 20-25 minutes later it was time to turn around and head back for the comforts of Café de Ricks for some cheese and biccies and a coffee or coke. All up it was a good dive and saved the skin cracking from drying out due to being out of the water too long.

Thanks to our new sponsors Don and Betty at Divercity for the warm hospitality and good air fills.

Rating 7/10

Matt R.

Sunday 27th April, 2003 FISH REEF

Whilst supporting our sponsors – well actually using a supporters raffle prize, I was treated to a great dive off Sea Tamer II – well great under the circumstances - compliments of Mother Nature. She was just seeing how keen we were to dive. And the divers won!

The sea's were up to around a 2/ 2.5 mtr swell with a strong south easter whipping up the seas. I was so pleased that Max and Steve knew how to handle the boat properly in the seas and swell, but that didn't stop a few 'green' waves washing over the cabin and splashing those brave enough to sit near their tanks.

All the problems were on the surface as after the first 6 or so meters the water was great, no current or any signs of an angry sea other than - not so clear water. Viz was between 5 – 10 mtrs.

Well Fish Reef was true to name with plenty of both fish and colourful sponge life, from the minute nudi's to a huge ray gracefully gliding by. We saw rather large school full of Old wives, with many and varied fish species. Even a few 'great for dinner' snappers were swimming around. Lots of starfish in a range of sizes and colours. Lots of rock ledges to investigate and swim along. I believe a decent size cuttle fish took a liking to one of the other male divers.

The dive was well rounded off with hot soup, fresh bread, nibbles and chocolates which were a great pick me up after an awkward exit from the water.

All in all a fun time was had by all.

Susan Tate

CLUB MINUTES

South Pacific Divers Club **April Meeting 2003** **Bankstown Sports Club**

Meeting Opened at 8.15pm

1. Apologies: Jenny Bryant
Sue Tate
Nick Nazr
2. March Minutes Acceptance: Matthew Reeve
Debbie Davis
3. Treasurer's Report: All bank accounts and funds are in order at time of meeting.
4. Secretary's Report: Sue Tate is away for this meeting.
5. Web site: Noel asked to correct Phil Dale's e-mail address.
6. Newsletter: Noel Taylor submitted April's Wet Rag and asked for a volunteer to take the Editor's position. Matthew Reeve very kindly accepted this position. Many thanks go to Matthew and looking forward to seeing the next Wet Rag!
7. Social Dives:
 - Matt Reeve dived at Montague/ Narooma with flat seas and 22degree water temperatures and 30 meter viz. Saw 14-16 Grey Nurse sharks, one seal, PJs, two turtles and an 8 foot ray.
 - SCANS Sunday dive: BBQ was great, but the diving was not so great!
 - Noel and Matt did a boat dive on the Divercity boat during the SCANS Sunday at the Container Wharf with good viz and schooling Jew Fish, recommend a top dive spot.
 - John and Jenny Olson dived at Coffs, South Solitary and Nth West Solitary Is. 8-15 meter viz and 17degree water temp. Jenny managed to break her leg!!! Well done!!
 - Dez dived at Bushranger Bay and Shiprock. Dredging at Shiprock reduced the viz to 2-2.5 meters.
 - Phil Dale dived at Long Reef and saw Grey Nurse Sharks.
8. Don from Divercity attended the meeting and has very kindly donated monthly prizes for our club's raffle.
 - Don has offered the club a "Winter Dive Card". This card consists of 8 boat dives at a cost of \$200.00. These cards will be available at the next club meeting.
 - Don is also organizing a visit to a commercial recompression chamber for a Decompression Dive!! (No scuba diving before your visit please)
The cost is \$88.00, with confirmed numbers at the next meeting.
9. Social Dinner for club members: Possibly at the same venue as last time, unless anyone has a better suggestion. Date to be advised.
10. Paintball/skirmish planned for the 17th August. Details to follow.
11. SCANS weekend away, possibly Nelson Bay. Dates to be advised.
12. Next Months Guest Speaker: Leo Hillier from Shiprock Dive. Leo will be speaking on strobes and uw lights.

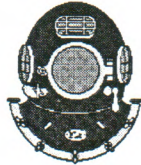
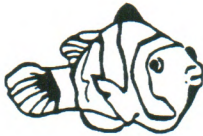
CLUB MINUTES cont.

13. Raffles: 1. Max Weston Boat Dive - Bernie
2. Diver City Boat Dive - Matthew
3. Shiprock Dive Air fills -Dez
14. Lucky Door Prize: Max Weston Double Boat Dive - Evelyn
15. George Roberts Memorial UW Photo Comp:
1st Place - John Olson
2nd Place - Phil Taylor
- Meeting Closed at 10pm.

CLUB SPONSORS: Please Support These Businesses

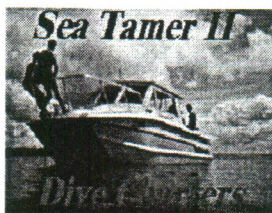
SEA TAMER II - Max Western. Dive Charters from Port Hacking.
SHIPROCK DIVE - Sales - Air - Service - Overseas Dive Trips.
SYDNEY DIVERCITY - Sales - Service - Air - Dive Schools.
LEDLIN PARTNERS - Business & Commercial Lawyers.

Phone: 9524 1818
Phone: 9526 2664
Phone: 9668 8200
Phone: 9708 2811



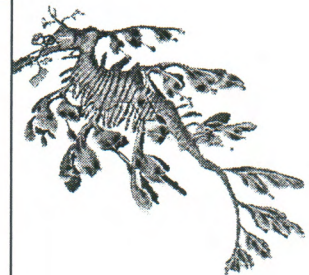
Committee Members

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
Matthew Reeve	0419-208901	Newsletter Editor
Noel Taylor	0419-122629	Web Page Officer



Guest Speaker

Next meeting we have Leo Hillyer from Aqua Sea products talking about all sorts of lights and strobes they make



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

- **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

DIVE TRAVEL

HIDEAWAY ISLAND SEA & SEA DIVEFEST
6 fun-filled and relaxing days in Vanuatu
on a tiny slice of paradise
25 MAY - 1 JUNE 2003
8days / 7 nights - ex Sydney from \$1329 + tax; ex Brisbane from \$1238 + 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 off-the-beach water events for everyone to share.
Hideaway Island is just 3.5 hours from Sydney and Brisbane with thriving reefs just
minutes from the dive shop, beachside restaurant, excellent snorkelling sites
and nearby Port Vila wrecks are a perfect warm-up for diving the Cookdige.
* Conditions apply and prices may alter without a notice. Accommodation upgrades are available (extra-cost)
For Festival package details contact Leonie - sydney@diveadventures.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.



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.....