

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 2004

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

Well Tom did start the Rag off again, but not for too long did it cast from his pen  
So I again will follow in his shoes, by keeping the Rag moving, most likely with some boo's  
There are no prizes, no payments for such

So

Help us along with some content for my editorial touch



When the tide comes in, it'll be right  
We'll have this great new, strange dive site

### CONTENT:

Editorials.....	2
Joke of the Month.....	3
Constitutional Column.....	4
Photographic Officer's report	5
Meeting Minutes.....	6
Bi Monthly Calander.....	7
The Wreck, Advance Dive.....	8
<i>And other associated flotsam</i>	



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

## PRESIDENTS POSSIE

Well we are away again at this post as Editor.

There has been much talk lately about rules, the constitution and the effect it has on the club. The obvious result of all of this was that there is an absolute non-understanding, to the point of ignorance, about what the constitution of this club is and more importantly, why it is there in the first place and what it does.

So, I have decided to devote a column on the constitution as it is written for SPD in the form of the Model Rules in each issue.

I will be more than happy to receive debate, criticism, or acceptance of this column and will print that which I deem is appropriate for inclusion in such a forum as our Wet Rag. I also hope that we can devote a short period by agenda at each general meeting on this issue, so that we can all gain a solid understanding of just how important our constitution is to the efficient running of SPDC.

If you would like your photo to grace the cover of the issue's of the Wet Rag, send one or two in with a description of each and if all goes well, your photo will grace the Magazine front cover.

Enjoy  
Ed

**Duane**

### **Cover Photo**

This photo turned up in a risk management issue.  
I guess the operator had some explaining to do.

It's not exactly a dive shot, but is a light way to get this Rag off  
the ground with a new Editor,  
Or should we say reconstituted.

*All photographs used in this magazine are the property of the person who submitted such photograph/s to the Editor of this magazine. There is no express or implied right to use such photographs for any other purpose whatsoever without the permission in writing from the rightful owner of such photograph/s.*

### **Remember Members**

If you have a need, then think  
about our regular loyal sponsors.

**Ship Rock Dive  
&  
Sydney Diver City**

Will supply you with air ,gear and travel there.

With out the generous support of our sponsors, we as  
a Club would not enjoy many of the things we do.



## Are you interested in getting rid of some old dive gear?

South Pacific  
offers to all  
members a  
clean out your  
by posting  
advertisements  
gear on our  
And the best  
all...it's free! (Try getting that from E-Bay).  
For more information, contact the Editor.



Divers Club  
active  
chance to  
dive closet

for used  
web site.  
news of

## **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 the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Competition, open to all underwater photographers in Australia and Overseas. 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.

**CLUB SPONSER:**  
**Support This Business.**  
**SHIPROCK DIVE. Sales - Air -**  
**Service - Overseas Dive Trips. Phone:**

**Shiprock Dive**



## Committee Members

Vacant	President
Vacant	Secretary
Vacant	Treasurer
Peter Flockart	Photographic Officer
Vacant	Equipment Officers
Vacant	Editor
Vacant	Web Page Officer

## CLUB T/SHIRTS

Most of you have had a chance to look at the Club T/shirt. If anyone wishes to put an order in for one, please see Sue at the next meeting, or e-mail one of the committee members. The T Shirts are \$20.00 each. Also there is the availability of having your own garment embroidered with the Club logo.

## **JOKE OF THE MONTH**

Little Melissa comes home from first grade and tells her father that they learned about the history of Valentine's Day. "Since Valentine's Day is for a Christian saint and we're Jewish," she asks, "will God get upset at me for giving someone a valentine?"

Melissa's father thinks a bit, then says "No, I don't think God would get mad. Who do you want to give a Valentine to?"

"Osama Bin Laden," she says.

"Why him?", her father asks in shock.

"Well," she says, "I thought that if a little American Jewish girl could have enough love to give Osama a Valentine, he might start to think maybe we're not all bad, and maybe start loving people a bit and if other kids saw what I did and sent him Valentines too, he'd love everyone a lot. Then he'd start going all over the world telling everyone how much he loved them and how he didn't hate anymore." Her father's heart swells and he looks at his daughter with new found pride, tears flowing down his cheeks.

"And then Daddy", Melissa adds, "...once that gets him out in the open, the Marines could come in and blow the living ##### out of him."

## **MARJIN**

**SCANS DAY 28<sup>th</sup> March 2004** was the SCANS day at Frenchman's Bay.

A warm sunny day with good water conditions of 24 deg and 10-15m vis. 4 boats ferried some 42 divers out to a couple of sites. The BBQ went well with over 50 people attending (divers + spouse's and children)

**Sad to say only 2 people from SPD attended myself and John Olsen. Where was the rest of SPD???????????**

**People said they were going to come didn't. Very poor show. Oh well we had a good time!!!!!!!**

**Peter Flockart  
Photographic Officer  
South Pacific Divers Club Inc**



## SPDC's CONSTITUTIONAL

### COLUMN

#### # 1

The very first thing that must be stressed here, is that this column is written to enlighten those that are interested in understanding, but must not be considered a definitive legal view on the issue and any person wishing to gain such a legal understanding will have to seek such advice from a duly trained person in such legal matters.

What is an Incorporated Association?

It is an inexpensive means of establishing an **entity recognised by law**. It is an alternative to forming a company and is particularly suitable for small, community-based groups.

An Incorporated Association must have a Committee and an appointed Public Officer.

Every Incorporated Association must have documented Rules.

In SPDC's case, these rules are called, "MODEL RULES OF INCORPORATION FOR SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB INC. MAY 1994.

There have been amendments made to our Model Rules and these are included as such at the rear of the Rules compilation and have been ratified by the Dept of Fair Trading.

For the sake simplicity, I will call the Model rules the Constitution from herein and any subsequent issues of this column.

I have not been able to get a direct answer from anyone at this point, but it appears that the initial reason for incorporating the Club was that as society entered a litigation era and remains so, the members in the early 80s had the foresight to see what could happen and took the pro-active step to protect the membership.

**Part II, Sect 6 of our Constitution;**

**The Members of the Association shall have no liability to contribute towards payment of debts and liabilities of the Association, or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Association, except to the amount of any unpaid membership fees.**

As we can see there is very sound reason for all members to accept that incorporation has its merits in just this clause alone. Keep in mind that nothing exonerates a person or persons of responsibility for their actions, from serious neglect or blatant breaches of the Act, Regulations and Rules.

Our Constitution demands that we have a committee and the minimum committee is the office bearers, these being;

The President.

The Secretary.

The Treasurer.

We also need a Public Officer, but this can be anyone that is appointed and accepts such a position and this can be held by one of the above three and most often is.

These executive office bearers are the CEO management

Team of the Club and all other positions active as Committee positions are called Ordinary Committee positions and are subordinate to the Executive Committee.

This means that any decision made by the Committee as a whole has to have majority approval by the Executive Committee to be an accepted final Committee decision.

**Part III, section 16, Clause (e) of our Constitution; Ordinary Committee Members must refer back to the Office Bearers of the Committee for final approval of all decisions or actions.**

What this achieves is accountability and transparency at Committee level by the Committee and clearly defines who wields the power at Committee level. The great thing about our Constitution is that no one person holds any power, but instead power at Committee level is held equally and democratically by the three Executive Officers, who are accountable to the general membership at all times. The important essence of our Constitution is that it was designed to give ultimate power to the General Membership and thereby being as democratic as is possible.

Membership of SPDC Inc is open to everybody, but acceptance of membership is expressly controlled by the Committee's right to consider all applications for Membership.

Next issue I shall deal with Membership and its rights and obligations in detail, but here I will just touch on the subject lightly.

To be a Member of SPDC Inc and be able to vote on all or any issue, a member must be a financial member. **The Club's financial membership year is from the 1st January to the 31st of December.** If we as members fail to pay our membership dues on or before the 31st of December on any year, then we cease to become financial members and hence our voting rights and privileges also cease. Continuity of membership is maintained, as there is provision for a period of non-payment of dues for (1) one month that allows dues to be paid with out loss of membership continuity. If at the 1st of February of the membership year, dues are still not paid, then membership to SPDC Inc is terminated and all rights Privileges and positions held are forfeited and ones name is removed from the membership register.

**Part II, Section 3, clause © (iii)**

**Yearly Club fee will be determined by a vote of acceptance from Members.**

It can be taken from this that our yearly dues are not set in concrete and are really up for determination on a yearly basis.

Consideration

Perhaps business immediately after installing a new Committee at the AGM should be to consider this as the first business of the year and decide on the fore or against of raising membership dues to stay in touch fiscally with the times.

Duane Langley.



**PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER'S**  
**REPORT**  
**March 2004**

Unfortunately there has not been a great deal this month either. However there have been some interesting photographic articles in a variety of magazines.

In the latest copy of Scuba diver there is an article on digital photography **co written by club member Des Paroz**

Showcased in Dive Pacific is a new high performance film from Kodak. The article is quoted below:

The Kodak high performance film has unbeatable picture sharpness. The advanced high definition technology guarantees more image sensors than any other colour negative film in its class. That is why the new HD film gives you superb clarity & unbeatable picture sharpness. This film is rated at ISO 200. It incorporates the latest improvements in short red technology, first introduced by Kodak in 1997, which is optimized to deliver accurate, excellent printing compatibility for efficient photo finishing and its advanced imaging quality makes the film ideal for conversion to digital images, thru services such as Kodak picture CD.

(Ref: Page 70 of the February/ March issue of Dive Pacific)

From Sportdiving Issue 102

February / March 2004

A new Underwater camera: DX 3100 Aquapix  
Suitable for every outdoor activity. Accessories included:

????AV Cable

????USB Connection cable

????CD Rom

????AA battery (x2)

????Desiccant (x5 packs)

????Silicone grease, o-ring remover

????Instruction manual, guidebook & hand strap.

The 1/2.7 CCD sensor array offers up to 3.14

mega pixels:

????The bayonet mount directly connects the MX 10 accessory lens

????Has a reliable fibre-optic cable connector

????Slide on/off advanced film diffuser for built-in flash

????Depth rated to 45 metres (150 feet)

????Standard feature LCD hood shields the back LCD

????Depth of field from 16 inches (40cm) to Infinity

????Built-in colour filters to help reproduce natural colours in blue depths. Filter is easily moved in /out by a lever

????Comes standard with a macro lens for shooting as close as 4 inches(10cm)

????Uses both built-in memory (16MB) and a Smart media card

????Software CD-Rom includes Video Works, Mr Photo & Image Folio to help manage images and video from the DX3100 Aquapix on a PC

????Provides direct printing on a USB-cable printer using a USB cable to connect the DX3100 Aquapix to a printer

Enquiries / distributors/retailers: Japan –  
[www.seaandsea.co.jp](http://www.seaandsea.co.jp)

Australia -  
[www.divingsolutions.com.au](http://www.divingsolutions.com.au)

Lastly on the Photographic & Imaging show is on at Darling Harbour in the Exhibition Halls again on the 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2004.

Til next month, happy shooting

Regards,  
***Peter Flockart***  
SPDC Photographic Officer



## SPD MEETING 15<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2004

Duane pointed out a problem with the quorum re enough actual members to hold a meeting. Most of the committee did not re-new their membership prior to the 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2004 and as such, re the constitution, their membership is not current. Effectively any committee decisions since the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2003 has no bearing on club decisions as they were made by unfinancial members.

Waited until 2030 hours – only 3 members present – therefore it was decided to run an informal meeting for tonight.

**Apologies:** Bernie

**Incoming Correspondence:** Bank statement, letter from Nick Nasr for club discussion, email from Tom stating he can no longer do the newsletter, couple of memberships received, Scubapro catalogue, URG Bulletin, Sport Guild Data update, email from Amanda re Club Secretary election.

**Treasury** - No treasurer's report as there was no Treasurer in attendance.

**Photographic Officer** – Peter read a report on digital cameras. Advised the Photographic and Imaging Show at Darling Harbour is on the 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2004.

**Newsletter** – Tom can no longer produce the newsletter as he has started on a new book. Duane offered to help out as he has the old format still on his computer.

### DIVE REPORTS

**Phil and Nick** – South West Rocs on a bucks party 3 weeks ago. Dived on the Cave, viz not the best, lots of fish around, water was warm.

**Matt & Mark** - Had an adventure to Mt Gambier – new light (aqua sea) survived, only managed to flood one light. 2 x Dives Little blue – found a pair of woman's sunnies which he gave away. 1 dive One Tree – lots of fly's and attacking magpies, 4 dives Piccadilly – crystal clear, 2 dives Shaft, 1 x Hells hole 40 mtr drop by abseil – found a bottle, 14 degree water - certainly something you have to do – an experience not to be missed!

**John** – Ocean Trek a few weeks ago – cold, needed a dry suit 18 degrees. 4 dives Saturday makes for a cool body core. Viz not great.

**Peter – Sydney Diver City** – Tabbagai 20' viz on surface, then viz deteriorated, Sunday Wanderers – saw a seal, water quite murky but very pretty. 38-45'  
Sea Tamer II – Tuggerah – 2.5kn current – could not swim against it to the anchor line. Ended up at Marley Point – not a bad dive. Had last weekend off from diving.

**Phil T (via Amanda)** Teaching a school at Bushrangers Bay – students saw a grey nurse shark in the bay, appeared to join in on the line up underwater with the students – possibly something to do with a bag of pilchards they had with them.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

**Don – Sydney Diver City** – Advises Magic Point – the grey nurses have not returned. Was a little sloppy on the water. Don and Betty will be away next weekend but shop will run as normal. They have a new instructor, a cute blonde. Are running a little competition of their own – March - they are looking for the best Sea Dragon picture taken, in digital format.

**Digital Photographic Course** - Craig Rodriguez is running one through Sydney Diver City on Ocean Trek – not product specific – will be on use of digital technology. More details to come.

**SCANS** – Combined Clubs Dive & BBQ day – 21<sup>st</sup> March – Yarra Bay. Dives available to Bare Island, free BBQ lunch.  
*Due to inclement weather, this day has been postponed until the 28th of March.*

**Scuba Expo** - 15<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> July, 2004 at the Sydney Entertainment Centre

**AGM** – Next months meeting

**Thank You John for sharing your Bali slides**

### RAFFLE

**Sydney Diver City** – Gift Voucher – **Susan Tate**

**Bottle of Wine (donated by Peter Flockart)** Duane

**Shiprock Dive** – 2 x air fills – **Phil Dale**

**Noel Taylor** gave 2 weeks notice that he has goods belonging to SPD which need to be collected from his home or he will dispose of all of it - also Web page information needs to be obtained within 2 weeks or he will trash the website. Peter Flockart will work it out with Noel.


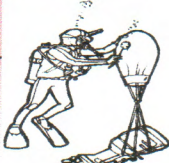
**Receipt details also still required from Noel.**



# April 2004

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3 Tom Byron's Ocean Trek Weekend	4 Ring Tom @ 4621-4504
5	6	7	8	9 EASTER	10 EASTER	11 EASTER
12 EGGS	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 SPD General Meeting & AGM	20	21	22	23	24	25 Anzac Day
26	27	28	29	30		

# May 2004

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 SPD General Meeting	18	19	20 Photographic	21 & Imaging	22 Show @ Darling Harbour	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



**FEELING OUT of YOUR DEPTH...**  
**TEAM UP WITH LAWYERS THAT SUIT YOU!**

**LEDLIN**



**PARTNERS**

**BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL LAWYERS**

Call Terry Ledlin (LLB) or Chris Swanson (LLB) on (02) 9708 2811, fax (02) 9796 2886,  
email them at [mail@ledlin.com.au](mailto:mail@ledlin.com.au) or call at our offices at 410 Chapel Road in  
Bankstown or 99 Elizabeth Street in Sydney, NSW

---

**Boat dive with**  
**Diversity**

On Sunday 15/02/04, skipper Don gave a pre-dive talk of a wreck located on the eastern side of Henry's Head, the wreck of the "Advance".

Calm and clear water welcomed us as we descended the anchor in 7 metre of water, after swimming around on barren rocks we headed south-west to Henry's Head and deeper water. Here visibility improved and water temperature dropped to 17 deg as we passed through a thermocline.

This was the most interesting part of the dive, with a couple of large cuttle fish, one large green moray eel protecting its rocky surrounds, and various sponges typical of this site. Back into shallower water we came across all that remains of the "**Advance**" some rusted and twisted ribs and scattered bricks, possibly used for ballast.

The "**Advance**" was a schooner of 59 tonnes, length 21.9m , beam 5.9m, built in Auckland in 1874.

She crashed into rocks on Henry's Head on 12/06/1902 with the loss of one member of crew.

Max. depth 20 metre

Bottom time 1:10

Water temp (min) 17 deg

*Mark Spencer*