

**MINUTES OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB MEETING
HELD ON 18th October 1991
at BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB**

APOLOGIES: Ilona Kandilas and Peter O'Grady

VISITORS: Paul Breadner, Robert (Bertie) Rubesa

Minutes from Last Meeting:

Read.

Accepted by Lyn Vincent

Seconded by Ron Mines

Business arising from Minutes:

Christmas Party will be held this year at Karin Smith's place on Saturday November 23 rd. More details in Social Calender.

An advertismment has been placed in Dive Log to encourage new members into the club. The first issue of the add will be in November.

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

UTS Dive Club "No Douts", UnderWater Research Group "URG Bulletin", Brisbane Water Aqualung Club "Demand Value Vibes", Ryde Underwater Club "Surface Interval", Dive Log New Zealand, Fun Dive "Frolics", Sea Sports Jervis Bay, TAFE College (Marine Courses) and Safe Air.

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

None

TREASURERS REPORT:

Read.

Accepted by Rick Latimer.

Seconded by Lyn Vincent.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICERS REPORT:

Martin reports that amendments have been made to the AV entry form, including the video category, and supplied to Scuba Diver magazine. This will be published in the February edition.

The AV night has been booked and confirmed for the 25th July 1992 at Revesby Workers Club. The competition will open for entries on 30th March and closes on 25th May.

The George Roberts Memorial Photography Competition will be held early in the new year. Thoughts are being given to prizes. Martin and another qualified person will judge the competition.

Neil Vincent's proposal regarding the International Category in the AV (open letter; October Wet Rag) will be discussed in General Business.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT:

We now have a Social Secretary, thank you very much to George Nicholls. Lets make an effort to participate in the organised activities.

See the Social Calender for upcoming social events.

DIVE ORGANISER'S REPORT:

The club dive has been changed from the 24th November to the 1st December, due to possible hang overs from the Christmas Party on the 23rd November.

Peter asked club members to support the club dives by diving at least once a month with the club. Also to ring him by the Thursday night prior to the Sunday dive so that he can organise divers and boats.

See Social Calender for more details.

DIVE REPORTS:

John Beddie dived the Arch at Jervis Bay. He cleaned some barnacles off the Bob Smith Memorial plaque, and reported that it was still in good condition, with only some surface rust near the diver. The excellent dive was in 25m visibility. He also dived South West rocks at Fish Cave with 25m vis.

Rick and two other club members dived the Birchgrove with pretty good visibility. He found 3 portholes, 2 still had glass intact and they are still there!!.

Ron Mines reported on the club dive to Dee Why Wide. Five boats and 16 divers turned up. Fab, Ron and Jenny in Martin's new boat didn't appear to find the same reef that everyone else was raving about. Still an enjoyable dive with an interesting rock face and good swimthroughs.

Micheal McFadden dived Vanuatu. He did four dives in Vila including the Qantas flying boat, the visibility was about 30 ft. He dived 8 times in Santo. Bokissa Island was not recommended as the place to stay.

George Nicholls dived Solarity Islands with Dive Quest, who were well recommended with good service. They had 17 dives despite the bad weather conditions, although the visibility was only about 10 ft. He also dived Coffs Harbour with the Dive Centre and South West Rocks with Action Divers. Fish Rock wasn't the best due to weather conditions.

Ron Mines reported that the 4 wheel drive weekend was off to a good start with the Vincents being late and Gerald Brown being hit with \$365 for the replacement of two tyres.. The Bridal track was good, not 4 wheel drive, but pretty rough for a two wheel drive. The group stopped at the Quarry River Camping area for lunch and then moved on to set up camp in a good spot further along the river. That afternoon the eager "4-wheel divers" attempted to take their cars up a track to Hill End. Neil Vincent was stopped in his tracks by a solid rock wall, and a group effort was need to winch the car over the shelf so that he could turn around to be winched back down. The attempt was aborted and the group took the usual road into Hill End for a well earned drink at the pub.

The next day they travelled through Soffala, Peter O'Grady and Ron found some gold specks by panning on the banks of the Turon river.

There were some requests for Ron to write a composition about his "experiences" on the weekend.

BJ dived North Head where Rick and Martin were asked to show their licences to the MSB. Rick's boat driving techniques were also questioned by some other club members.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

The discussion in General Business referred to Neil Vincent's open letter in the last newsletter. Briefly he presented the concept of adding another category to the AV for International contestants. He has already done a lot of the ground work and feels that a new field can be opened to include many O/S photographers.

The main points of the following discussion were:-

For:

- Local photographers will benefit with new creative ideas being introduced.
- The competition can be advertised in overseas magazines, there still being time to organise for the next AV.
- A completely different section will be formed, not interfering with other already established categories. Choice if photos included in international or not. Judging would take place at same time.
- The Aust/South Pacific Opens and Novice will still be restricted to those entrants from those regions.
- Introducing concepts showing natural environment by local photographers to contrived creative effects by O/S photographers.
- Not a great deal of extra work required.
- Martin (Photographic Officer) is in favour and willing to give it a go.

Against:

- New and separate rules will apply to these photographers, for example, changing the rule banning photographs being taken in swimming pools or aquariums. Rest will still apply.
- Sponsors and prizes need to be organised, and appropriate to overseas winners.
- May take away prestige of South Pacific Opens/Novice Winners.
- Limited resources and people willing to help.

The decision to go with this idea or not will have to be made at the next meeting. If you want to have a say on this change to the AV come to the next meeting and participate in the decision.

Decision to donate \$250 to the Diver Emergencies Service.

Moved: Rick Latimer

Seconded: Lyn Vincent.

MEETING CLOSED 10.15 p.m.

THANK YOU to Glen Percy for his generous donation of a xxx for the raffle.

Last raffle prize of a dive knife by won by Jenny Mines and BJ won the second prize of a bottle of Port.

The slides to be shown from Bicheno were cancelled due to the illness of Tony Douglas from Bicheno Dive, Tassie.