

**MINUTES OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB MEETING
HELD ON 16th November 1992
at BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB**

Meeting opened by Ron Mines at 8.15 pm.

APOLOGIES: Peter O'Grady, Ilona Kandilas, Karen Smith, Joe Ingegneri and Ann Latimer

VISITORS: Pat Manly, Charles and Debbie.

MINUTES FROM MEETING 19th October 1992:

Read.

Accepted by Michael McFadgen

Seconded by Martin Kandilas

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

UnderWater Research Group (URG Bulletin), Ryde Underwater Club (Surface Interval), UTS (No Douts), University of NSW (Devious Undercurrents), Sydney University Underwater Club, and Australian Underwater Federation

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters of thanks to guest speakers at the October meeting.

Letter to GIO regarding public liability insurance proposal for incorporation.

Reply to letter of critique regarding AV, read out by Ron during meeting.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Read.

Accepted by Rick Latimer.

Seconded by Paul Breadner.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICERS REPORT:

Ron and Brian met with Cathy McGuire from Scuba Diver. The conclusion of this meeting was to continue to support Scuba Diver for the coverage of the photographic awards. Brian read out a letter from Cathy Holloway describing their desire to improve their publication and the benefits of their magazine for us.

Scuba Diver promised more exposure and promotion for the competition, including for example, fold out posters.

The decision to say with Scuba Diver was based on consideration and research, with no intended disrespect to Sport Diver/Dive Log.

A meeting was also organised with Greg White from Corporate Theatre regarding ways to cut costs of the next AV to avoid debt.

The George Roberts Photographic Competition, will be held next February.

At times photographic matters seem to dominate the main interests of the club. A quick survey was taken of members present, to gauge their interest in U/W photography. Of the 30 members present, 17 indicated an interest in photography, with an outcome of just over 50%. Would any club members like to present their opinions by writing to P.O BOX 823, BANKSTOWN, 2200 or at a club meeting.

There was discussion regarding the expansion of the Photographic Awards further afield. See General Business.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT:

George reported on the Montague weekend, which was well attended, well organised with a great house with BBQ facilities and dive gear washing/drying areas. The chartered boat was quick and well run. There were also lots of seals with fair weather conditions. Thanks to Joe for organising the weekend.

The Bombo club dive was also a success despite the threatening weather. United Divers did two runs out to the wreck. Dive report later.

The 4WD weekend to the Shoalhaven area was challenging, summed up as 20 creek crossings and 5 submarine crossings. Some of the sections were tough but everyone did well. Peter Booth has written a report later in the newsletter. Thanks to Tim O'Brien for the weekend, his experience in tricky situations and patience was appreciated, (and his cooking skills, especially chocolate cake in a camp oven).

George handed out leaflets about the Christmas Party to everyone present. The venue is Gunnamatta Park, Cronulla on Saturday 12th December. Details are provided later in the newsletter.

There will be no charge for the food (BBQ included) but everyone will need to bring their own drinks. It would be greatly appreciated if people could bring something to sit on (chairs, blanket etc) and a gas lantern if you have one. It is important to ring George or Joe if you are planning to come along, quantities of food required can be estimated.

Details of a wreck course were given, however since the meeting this has now been cancelled due to work commitments of Steve Cross. This course(s) will be arranged at a later date.

The Seal Rocks weekend in early December has been filled.

Upcoming Social Events are listed in the Social Calender.

DIVE REPORTS

Lynn's report on the Montague weekend was "The seals were good", when asked to expand we heard that there was a strong current, with a lot of divers from other operators unintentionally swapping boats. Our group enjoyed good diving with the seals and managed to find spots where the current wasn't too bad. By the way, Martin lost at pictionary on Saturday night.

Michael McFadgen dived Osborne Shoals after the heavy seas had dropped off for a while. There was a lot of sediment floating around in the water.

George Nichol dived Shiprock or "Shitrock" renamed, with only 1m visibility. Though Michael McFadgen reckoned that the vis was 4-5m and good. Someone suggested that perhaps George was following Michael.

Martin Kandilas and Rick Latimer dived the Birchgrove on a flat sea. Martin had an encounter of the expensive kind with a council worker/parking attendant at Cabarita Ramp, claiming that he drove in through the EXIT.

Pat dived New Island in PNG, he showed some slides after the meeting.

John Beddie dived the Bombo with Peter and Karen in his own boat on the club dive. He found an expensive torch that didn't work. John reported that the wreck is starting to break up, especially in the bow area. A few of the metal sheets have shifted exposed large gaps in the hull.

GENERAL BUSINESS

CLUB STICKERS.

These are now available for \$1.00 each plus Sales Tax. See Roni Mines for supplies.

MAP OF POPULAR DIVE SITES.

The guest speakers from the Coast Guard (Oct meeting) suggested that we indicate on a nautical chart, the location of popular dive sites around Sydney, JB etc. This would assist them greatly if they received a call for help from one of these sites. Martin volunteered to mark some spots on the chart, see him if you have any suggested sites. They just need a general location, so no need to worry that your favourite dive site or treasure trove may be uncovered.

CONFERENCE - "SHIPWRECKS AND COMMUNITY"

This conference was organised by the Australian National Maritime Museum from the 12 - 17th November. Rick Latimer and Michael McFadgen attended. We received some information about the conference, but unfortunately it was after the last newsletter had been mailed.

It was felt that not many people knew about the conference. Which was a shame as there were many good speakers. Topics included Maritime Archaeology - Research and Education, Shipwrecks and the Community, and Protection of Wrecks.

Apparently the general vibes were that divers contributed a lot towards the destruction of wrecks. An intension was to declare a wrecks, 75 years of age as "historic".

EXPANSION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC AWARDS.

*Two suggestions were presented:-

- Include a Master's Section
- Expand the area of entries to the competition to include Indonesia and South Pacific.

A summary of discussion on these points follows:-

Masters: • Nikon will support this category
 • Give other people a chance

Broadening horizons: • Problem in determining boundaries
 • Is it viable?
 • May be problems with sponsors and air fares.
 • Publicity may be a problem.

Other opinions voiced suggested that the night had lost some of its entertainment value, need to concentrate on the quality of the night.

INCORPORATION OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB.

A copy of the model rules for incorporation have been obtained. These are being amended to suit the club.

Public liability insurance is being arranged.

SPECIAL REQUESTS.

Mid-Week Diving - Peter Norris would like to hear from anyone who has time during the week to go scuba diving. Contact Number 871 8898.

DON'T FORGET that Peter is looking for two divers to be included in a documentary on diving in the *Port Hacking* and *Cronulla* area

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to

Charles Lynch
Debbie Finlay

RAFFLE.

The raffle prize of a trip on Max western's Sea Tamer II was won by Paul Breadner. Thanks to Max for the prize.

Remember that Max will be operating through the Christmas period, with mid-week and weekend diving scheduled.

Contact number for bookings is **567 - 2658** or **018 - 280 - 791** for the B°AT PHONE. An extract from the dive schedule has been included in this newsletter.

Brian Colwell won the bottle of port.

SLIDES.

Pat Manly showed some superb slides from various trips in PNG and the South Pacific, despite the faulty projector. The Club moved on the spot to hurry up and purchase a new projector.

Thanks to Pat for persisting with the projector.

MEETING CLOSED 10.30pm

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL.

Membership renewal are due NOW. People who have joined since August are excluded.

For the first time in history, there will be an increase in membership charges. The new charges are:

SINGLE	\$15
FAMILY	\$20

The previous fees have remained the same for many years, regardless of increases in postage etc.

A renewal slip has been included on the last page, please complete these details before renewing.

Renew at next club meetings or post to MEMBERSHIP, SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB, P.O. BOX 823, BANKSTOWN, 2200.
