

**MINUTES OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB MEETING
HELD ON 18th January 1993
at BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB**

Meeting opened by Ron Mines at 8.05 pm.

APOLOGIES: Peter O'Grady, Ilona Kandilas and John Fowden

MINUTES FROM MEETING 21st December 1992:

This meeting was an informal Christmas gathering, no minutes were recorded.

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE:

Ryde Underwater Club (Surface Interval), Fun Dive Folics, Taronga Zoo (Re: Animal sponsorship), Information about Reg Lipson's Marine Life Study courses, Information from Tryal West Tours and Charters in Perth WA.

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Australian Coast Guard - Popular dive sites marked on nautical map for their reference in assisting diving emergencies.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Read.
Accepted by Martin Kandilas
Seconded by Peter Booth

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICERS REPORT:

Slides for the George Roberts Photographic Competition are requested for the February meeting. Entry forms are included in this newsletter or see Brian Colwell. All entries should be given or forwarded to Brian, c/o South Pacific Divers Club, with your name marked clearly on each slide.

Peter Norris, who recently showed an excellent film on Tuncurry/Forster, has offered to show us some more of his films. There are four films, covering Jervis Bay, Tuncurry, Halifax/Fly Point and Truk Lagoon. Brian will organise a venue or club meeting for members to these films. [STOP PRESS: See details later in newsletter on plans for next club meeting]

Brian read a letter, which showed evidence of apparently unauthorised use of material obtained from the AV in a magazine "Powerboat".
Brian will follow this matter up with the editors.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Club Dive to Dee Why Wide reef on 24th Feb. Please list your name with George if interested.

A group booking is being organised for the "Rocky Horror Show" on the 25th March. Cost is \$36.30 due on the 20th February. Limited numbers. Please see George or Sue.

Jervis Bay weekend being organised.

Neil Vincent has offered to show us some of the diving sites around the Terrigal area. Boat owners and divers please see George as a trip is being planned late February. Example of dive sites could include the Nyrong wreck and Foggy's Cave (Grey Nurse sharks).

Joe needs numbers for the Paint Ball Skirmish 31st January. Details of the Mulloway/Seal Rocks dive trip were given, see Social Events calender for information. Deposits required ASAP.

DIVE REPORTS

Michael McFadyen reported on his version of a Mulloway/Seal Rocks trip, similar to the club's trip organised, from which he has just returned.

He did the trip with Seal Rocks first, where the visibility was poor, around 15ft, but inside the cave it increased to 30ft. He had four great dives in this area. Mulloway/Solitary Islands were the next dives which initial water temperature of 25°C and 50ft vis, however over the next couple of days the vis and temp decreased. There were heaps of fish, turtles but no sharks. Dive times were around 80-85 minutes. He dived with the same operations as organised on our trip and found everything went well.

Cassie and Mark Welsh also dived the Solitary Islands with Michael McFadyen.

Martin dived the Tuggerah before Christmas with a giant sunfish estimated to be as large as 2 double doors.

He also had the pleasure of snorkelling with a pod of dolphins at Port Macquarie, near North Haven beach. He could hear their squeaking signals, following them for 15 minutes, he caught up with them again in a boat.

Brian Colwell dived JB after the blue-green algae had gone. Over Christmas the bay was a vivid green, this has now died, sinking to the bottom. The remnants cover the bottom like cobwebs covering everything. It was in patches, as the front of Bowen was OK but Point Perpendicular was dark at 90ft with 7ft vis.

Michael McFadyen and John Beddie dived the arch at JB, while the algae covered the bay. the algae stopped at 14m, with clear water below, however, it was pretty dark.

Lynn and George dived Bowen, with clear water at 100ft, although again there was little light. The highlight of the trip was seeing a fairy penguin swimming across the bay.

Brian reported that a 10ft White Pointer was caught at Callala by a pro fisherman, it reportedly bit the back of the dingy. Brian also caught up with Jim Smith and Wendy Teasel at JB, spending the afternoon with them.

Karin mentioned that Dick and Brenda, who have been cruising for 10 years are due back in '94.

John Beddie and Peter Booth dived the Birchgrove, which they found once Rick arrived. Reports were that the water was calm with the wreck starting to really break up. Peter Booth saw dolphins on the surface while Rick was still diving.

Ron and Jenny mines dived Wattamolla reef after aborting the Tuggerah. The reef was good with lots of sponges ad 50ft vis.

GENERAL BUSINESS

CLUB STICKERS.

These are now available for \$1.00 each. See Lynn for supplies.

INCORPORATION OF SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB.

Model rules for the club will be available soon.

RAFFLE.

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

Contact number for bookings is **567 - 2658** or **018 - 280 - 791** for the B°AT PHONE.

Russell Stoker won the bottle of port.

VIDEOS

Robert Rubesa showed some very amusing footage of a recent trip to Even's Lookout, Blackheath. Highlights were various interpretations of abseiling, how to cross creeks without getting wet, and swimming in near freezing water when the temperatures in Sydney were 35°C plus. Thanks to Robert for the commentary.

Russell Stocker showed his video of the club 4WD weekend, with wheel stands, mud slides and very wet river crossings. Also a few more versions of abseiling, especially by Lynn. Thanks Russel.

MEETING CLOSED 11.00pm