

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
ON 21 MARCH, 1994
AT BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB**

Visitors: John Hanley, Glenn & Maria Townsend, Geoff Cook, Merridy Cairn-Duff, Brad Freeman, Neil Hanson, Terry Mansfield and John Sumner.

OPENING BY PRESIDENT:

Leo Bergagnin opened the meeting by welcoming GRAHAME WRIGHT. Grahame is a fellow club member and his company Maritime Container Services are our corporate sponsor of the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year competition.

Welcome also to MARK SPENCER, our guest photographer/speaker for the evening. Mark will be showing his slides on his recent dive trip to the Galapagos Islands and also showing shots of other interesting underwater photography.

Sadly PAUL CAVANAGH, fellow club member and Channel 7 executive, died on Sunday 20th March while diving the Coolooli at Long Reef. It was a shock to hear of his death as Paul was a very experienced and well respected diver. As well as being a PADI and SSI instructor, Paul was also a cave diving and Nitrox and Tri-mix instructor.

MINUTES FROM MEETING 28 FEBRUARY, 1994:

The Minutes were enclosed with the March newsletter and are taken as having been read by the members. ACCEPTED by Rick Latimer, SECONDED by Barbara Sweetman.

INCOMING / OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

INCOMING: Confirmation letters from some sponsors for the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year competition. Club newsletters have been received from Ryde Underwater Club "Surface Interval", Uni. of NSW "Devious Undercurrents", UTS "No Douts", Underwater Research Group "Bulletin", Brisbane Waters Aqualung Club "Demand Valve Vibes", Sydney Uni. U/W Club.

OUTGOING: Letters to judges and replies to enquiries about the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year competition. Correspondence and newsletters to new members, etc.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ross Hipwell gave the Treasurer's Report. A breakdown of income and expenditure for the 6 months to February was read out. ACCEPTED by Rick Latimer, SECONDED by Martin Kandilas.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER'S REPORT:

Leo Mayer spoke about the George Roberts Perpetual Trophy club photographic competition. Envelopes are available to the entrants so they can place their film inside and return them to Leo. The film will then be sent to Kodak for developing and mounting and then the marked slides will be mailed back to each entrant.

Entrants are asked to please return their portfolio of 5 slides to the club meeting on Monday 18 April. Michael Cufer will be judging the entries and at our May meeting there will be a presentation night for the winners of the competition.

Leo has also written letters to people like Gary Bell, Ron Taylor, Neville Coleman, Tom Byron asking them to be judges for the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year competition. Kevin Deacon has written saying he will be busy finalising 3-4 documentaries, Gary Bell wrote to us the day after we sent his letter. Both Gary and Barry Andrewartha have already accepted to be judges.

Leo has also submitted a couple of articles for Dive Log concerning the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year competition.

Members are asked to keep in mind MUSIC for the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year competition. If anyone has suggestions for the audio visual music, please let Leo know (but he's not into rap music) (ph: 708 5742).

DIVE / SOCIAL ORGANISER'S REPORT:

- The NIGHT BOAT DIVE on Max Western's Sea Tamer II is scheduled for this Wednesday 23rd March. Meet at 7.00 p.m. Dolans Bay Wharf. Please contact JOE on (018) 862 328 OR 743 3710 if you would like to go on the Wednesday club night dive. The April night dive will be on Wednesday 20th April.

DIVE / SOCIAL ORGANISER'S REPORT (CONTINUED) :

- Regular SUNDAY BOAT DIVES — Call any of the club's boat owners for diving any weekend. Their phone numbers are listed in the newsletter.
- SATURDAY SHORE DIVES — if you are interested in shore dives just call either Joe on (018) 862 328 or Leo Mayer on 708 5742 (ah).
- CLUB WEEKENDS AWAY:
 - **JERVIS BAY WEEKEND: SAT. / SUNDAY 26-27 MARCH.** Most people will be going down the Friday 25th. Boat owners will be Sue Armstrong, Rick Latimer, John Beddie, Leo Mayer. Accommodation will be at 42 Currabine Street, Huskisson and will cost approximately \$25.00 p/p.
Please Note: The CLUB BOAT DIVE will be at Jervis Bay on Sunday 27 March.
DIVERS AND BOAT OWNERS PLEASE CONTACT JOE on (018) 862 328.
 - **EASTER WEEKEND: FRIDAY - MONDAY 1 - 4 APRIL, 1994:**
The club has a group booking with Twofold Dive for the Easter long weekend and there are 3 spots left. \$15 per night, \$25 per dive. Please contact Joe on (018) 862 328.
 - **SEALS ROCKS TRIP SAT. / SUNDAY 9-10 APRIL** diving with Ron Hunter off his 28 ft. sharkcat. Accommodation and diving will cost \$169 - 4 dives. There are a few spots left so call Joe on (018) 862 328 if you are interested in going.
- **HALIFAX PARK, NELSON BAY** shore dive Saturday 30 April. Meet at Action Divers around 10.30 a.m.

DIVE REPORTS BY MEMBERS:

Scott Leimroth dived the Tugerah today and there was a fishing boat hanging around the site. The water was crystal clear and from about 20 metres off the bottom he could see other divers. Going down there was a strong current. There was a school of king fish and Scott saw 2 huge Jewfish under the propeller of the Tugerah. Coming up at about 18 metres Scott saw a 6-7 foot Sailfish about 4/5 ft. away and the fishing boat had a couple of tracers in the water trying to catch it. Apparently the Sailfish had been hanging off Marley for the last couple of weeks cruising around divers and has interested a few fishermen who have been trying to catch it.

Peter Booth dived the Tugerah on the Sunday and it took him an hour to find it ! It was raining and he couldn't find the south west or north markers. They tried to anchor 3 times and ended up about 50 metres off the wreck. Clear water and a fantastic dive and they saw a school of dolphin fish swimming above them and the water was very warm.

Peter also dived the tugs at Eden in February and had "green" water. He also did 9 dives out from Merimbula wharf and is thinking of investing in an inflatable - he did a day's diving on an inflatable for \$9 for 2 dives. Peter also dived the Empire Gladstone wreck at Merimbula.

Peter's been hosting the 'Coral Sea Dreaming' film crew on his boat doing about 15/16 dives in a week. They are doing a documentary on diving off Sydney, Port Hacking, National Park, Botany Bay. They have quite a heavy 85 kilogram camera and they need a crane on the boat to load it in and out of the water. Apparently they'd been hassled by Fisheries because of the crane.

Someone said they did a dive at Camp Cove on the Tuesday night and had great visibility of about 8 foot.

Glen Townsend has just returned from Truk Lagoon with a group that included Leo Bergagnin, Michael McFadyen, John Fowden. We will no doubt hear more about this trip at a later meeting if Glen would like to come and show the video of the dive trip.

Ron Mines has been diving Jervis Bay, there was blue water on southern side, good viz but bad conditions, nothing spectacular.

Joe reported on the South West Rocks weekend, the weather was blown out and they couldn't dive Fish Rock Cave or the Gutter. They did dive a new dive site about 100 metres from shore, about 1 km. down the beach. The artificial reef is made up of truck tyres and ocean going buoys, motor bikes, washing machines and are spread out 100 metres or so. Lots of baby fish, banner fish, fidler rays. It would be a nice night dive. Because it was so shallow the dives were no less than an hour each.

Also on another dive, about 150 metres off shore and in 12 metres of water there is a paddle steamer wreck. Joe said it's a nice dive with lots of baby fish swimming around.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- Martin Kandilas thanked everyone for their kind wishes, cards and flowers to Ilona and their new baby Natalie Louise.
- Rick mentioned that Brent Hedges has done a trip diving with the great white sharks off South Australia. Rick volunteered Brent to show his slides of the trip at a future meeting. Brent said he has another trip planned and will take Rick with him and have him sit in the cage !
- Leo Mayer mentioned that the Solomon Islands government is considering letting Japan and Norway recommence commercial whaling in their waters. Leo has a petition from Greenpeace and asked if anyone wishes to sign it or to take a copy with them and collect signatures themselves, to see him in the break.
- Terese mentioned that if anyone needs to renew their membership or would like to apply for membership, there are forms available on the table as well as copies of the newsletter. Club shirts, stickers and sew-on decals are for sale. There were also a few copies of Dive Log if anyone needed a copy.
- Tuesday 26 April Special General Meeting for suggested amendments to Rules of Incorporation.
- Leo Bergagnin mentioned that orders are being taken for tickets to the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year presentation night. Tickets purchased early give people 2 chances in the draw for the Heron Island dive festival prize.
- Rick asked about flowers for Paul Cavanagh's funeral. Terese said that they have already been ordered and the funeral will be on either Wednesday or Thursday.

RAFFLE:

First prize of a trip on Max Western's Sea Tamer II was won by Joe Ingegneri. Thanks to Max for the prize. Contact numbers for bookings on the Sea Tamer II are **567 2658** or **018 280 791** for the **B°AT PHONE**.

Second prize of 2 airfills was by won new member Merridy Cairn-Duff. Thank you to Leo & Leslie Hillyer of Ship Rock Dive for the prize. Third prize was won by Ross Hipwell.

Thank you also to Kodak for the raffle prizes of slide film for each winner.

GUEST SPEAKER / PHOTOGRAPHER:

Mark Spencer gave us a very interesting look at the diving around the Galapagos Islands. He also had some great shots of local dive locations and special lighting photography of Sydney Harbour and great shots of wreck dives. It was a very worthwhile slide presentation and the Club would like to thank Mark for taking the time to come to our meeting.

