

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 21 JUNE, 1994

AT BANKSTOWN SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB

Visitors: Tracy & Richard Morgan (High Tech Divers), Steve Gos, Michael Erdas, George Curtis, Ralf Baumann, Pauline Moore, Trevor Henderson and Tony Hagan.

Apologies: Eddy Labour, Rick Latimer, Ron & Jenny Mines.

OPENING BY PRESIDENT:

Leo Bergagnin opened the meeting mentioning that tonight we shall have a presentation from High Tech Divers of the advantages of owning a dry suit. Richard and Tracy Morgan are the owners of High Tech Divers and will answer any queries.

Leo said the Australasian Photographic Competition is now closed, but more on that later from Leo Mayer. Tickets for the Presentation Night are selling extremely well, and don't forget 30 June is the cut off point for the second chance in the lucky door prize. SOS Printing are printing the tickets and they will be ready by the beginning of July. SOS have also printed 1,500 letterheads for us and will also be printing our Raffle Tickets for the Presentation Night. All this has been done free of charge.

Tonight we have 5 prizes in our Raffle and these are listed on your Agenda. All are donated to the Club and money raised hopefully will pay our postage and newsletter costs.

On a sadder note, Russell ("*baseball bat*") Stoker can't be here tonight as he has 'broken his knee' while playing volleyball last Sunday.

MINUTES FROM MEETING 16 MAY, 1994:

Terese said that as members have received the previous Minutes with the May newsletter, can they be taken as having been read. ACCEPTED by Peter Flockart, SECONDED by John Gordon.

INCOMING / OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

INCOMING: Club newsletters have been received from Brisbane Waters Aqualung Club "Demand Valve Vibes", Uni. of Technology "No Douts", Uni. of NSW "Devious Undercurrents", Ryde Underwater Club "Surface Interval", Underwater Research Group. Letters from High Tech Divers, Judy Matthews of UTS, Narooma Motel and entrants slides and videos for the Australasian Photographic competition.

OUTGOING: Letters to people enquiring about the Club, letters to judges of the competition & to Corporate Theatre.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ross Hipwell gave the Treasurer's Report. ACCEPTED by Jeff Harper, SECONDED by John Sumner.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER'S REPORT:

Leo Mayer spoke on this year's Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year competition. We've received a total of 80 entrants: 23 in the Open, 38 Novice, 9 Individual, 10 Video. Last year was 58 slide entrants.

Leo has been meeting with Greg White of Corporate Theatre. Greg is being extremely helpful. This year he is not a judge, but certainly wants to be one of the helping hands on the day. He has lent us his computer for the judging and we have loaded an Excel Spreadsheet on it, and its programmed to total and cross check the columns so there will be no human error in the calculation of the scores.

Leo said he was surprised to see an article in Dive Log (not written by him) that was placed there by mistake when it was actually meant for Sportdiving magazine's August-September issue. Leo has written to all the judges explaining it as a misprint and to ignore it and the dates for judging are unchanged. Has also written to Barry Andrewartha requesting better quality control. Barry has apologised and it was an honest mistake.

The University of Technology Dive Club DOUTS have asked for a talk on the Presentation Night's audio visual which Leo has accepted. He will give a talk and show some previous year's slides in August.

DIVE ORGANISER'S REPORT:

- A **NIGHT DIVE** is planned for Friday 15 July diving on Max Western's Sea Tamer II. As Joe will be away on holidays, can Members please call Suzanne on **891 1964 (home)**.
(Names taken at meeting: Jeff Harper, Suzanne Evans, Chris Wright, & someone else.
4 vacant spots left.
- **SATURDAY SHORE DIVES** — If you are interested in shore dives just call either Suzanne on 891 1964 (hm), or Leo Mayer on 708 5742 (hm).
- Regular **SUNDAY BOAT DIVES** — Call any of the club's boat owners for diving any weekend. Their phone numbers are listed in the newsletter.

DIVE ORGANISER'S REPORT (Continued) :

UNDERSEA EXPLORER trip diving the Yongala and the Coral Sea with Uni. of Technology Dive Club:

- Dates: 19 - 26 November, 1994, 6 days \$POA & 9 - 18 June, 1995, 8 days \$POA

Please contact Joe for details. [Editor's Note: As Joe is away - Contact Terese Mayer 227 1677, 708 5742].

Joe stressed that at the moment the visibility in the water was very good and its well worth diving over the next couple of months, even if it does seem cold.

SOCIAL ORGANISER'S REPORT :

- **"LIVE & SWEATY" FRIDAY 3 JUNE** : Suzanne thanked all 31 members and friends who came along as part of the live audience for the ABC comedy show with Elle McFeast. Russell was featured in the promo ad and several people turned up in their mask, snorkel and fins. A great time was had by all and some of the group later ended up at a pub ("just down the road") after the show.
- **'GOING AWAY PARTY' FRIDAY NIGHT 24th JUNE** (but really an excuse for a booze up !)
Meet at the Thurles Castle Hotel, Cnr. Cleveland Street & Balfour Street, Chippendale.
For Joe, Nicole, Ben, Sue, etc. who will leaving for a 5-6 week Barrier Reef and northern NSW diving holiday. (Regrettably Russell wont be able to go because of his knee injury).
- Next **CLUB BAR-B-Q on Saturday 2nd JULY** - Anytime after 4.00 p.m. Bar-B-Q is being held at Suzanne Evans' house and a "Hat Party" has been suggested. Suzanne will award a hat prize for the best or worst impression. BYO food, drink, etc.
- **TEN PIN BOWLING - 30 JULY** - At Enfield Ten Pin Bowling Alley, (on the Hume Highway). \$10 per person gives you 2 games and shoe hire from 7.30 p.m. (1½ hours).
- **PAINT BALL SKIRMISH**: Early August sometime when Joe gets back from holidays.
- **WEE JASPER CAMPING / ABSEILING / CAVING WEEKEND : 10-11 SEPTEMBER**
with Peter Booth. (Peter will also provide abseiling instruction). Bring your own tent, food and drink.
Wee Jasper is about 60 km. from Tumut and Canberra (near Barrenjuck Dam).
Call Peter on 529 3818 if interested. Details will also be provided in the Newsletter.
- **COUSTEAU NIGHT TO REMEMBER TICKETS** The club has 40 tickets booked.
Tickets are only \$10 each. See Leo Bergagnin to purchase your ticket.

DIVE REPORTS BY MEMBERS:

Peter Flockart has recently had 5 days diving Tasmania where the water temperature varied from 13 degrees down to about 6 degrees. The viz was about 10-35 metres. Peter dived The Nord wreck in 42 metres. The current was hard to swim against and while on the deco line Peter was "swinging like a banner". Saw big sea horses and large leafy sea dragons. Another dive was at Dennison Canal at Danalley, between Sorrell & Eaglehawk. The water was only about 6 degrees in the canal and after diving for about 40-50 minutes most of the divers came out with frost bitten fingers (even with neoprene gloves) ! Saw large spider crabs. Overall the diving was very good.

Scott Leimroth has recently done a shore dive at Oak Park and also Kurnell that afternoon. The viz. was good, saw some big cuttlefish, but no submarines this time. Dived Kurrajong wreck in the harbour - had to swim out to it. Had ferries going over the top of them, bad viz, but the wreck is intact and upright. The wreck is out from Bradley's Head in the shipping channels. The history of the ship was mentioned: The Kurrajong was a collier that was hit by a steel steamer and went down about 1910. It was hit in the side by a ship (the Tahiti) which was 10 times its size. 9,000 ton ship hitting a 700 ton that came off second best. Scott didn't see any tiger sharks, but there was bad viz. in the harbour.

Leo Bergagnin and Russell dived the 'Provincial Trader' tug sunk 7 weeks ago at Eden, diving with Twofold Dive Charters. It was 18 degrees in the water and it was really good, enjoyable diving. Leo said everything is still there except "what's been thieved off it - the grog has gone !" Swam through the crews quarters, clothes everywhere. Heaps of tiny fish around the wreck and the dives are roughly about 30 minutes (did 3 dives). There is talk the MSB want the tug moved or blown up as it's in the shipping channel for the wood chip freighters. It's 3 miles straight out from the jetty, 40 metre bottom. The tug is not worth salvaging as it's only worth about \$200,000.

John Fardoulis has been boat diving for the last 4 weekends. Did the Wattamolla club dive - double dive, 25 metre viz and a nice dive. Then next weekend had an interesting time when the wheel fell off his boat trailer (rims went) on the way to the boat ramp. Then on the long weekend he dived up the coast with the charter boat operator who is definitely "an accident waiting to happen". They apparently dived in a raging current and were 'horizontal on the way down' and pinned up the side of the wreck. John felt that if you let go you'd end up down at Seals Rocks. Felt it was quite dangerous with the strong current. Last Sunday he dived the Birchgrove, 10 metre viz only but 18 degrees in the water.

DIVE REPORTS BY MEMBERS (CONTINUED):

Joe has dived Shelly Beach, 15 metre viz.

Martin and many other divers dived the Tugerah on its 75th anniversary. A week later did a mid week dive and there was no-one at the boat ramp. Dived the Undola, 20 metres viz and flat seas. Saw a giant "boar fish" (chicken of the sea or Neville Coleman's emblem fish).

Michael McFadyen also dived the Tugerah on the 75th anniversary. Three boat loads of divers, a record number of about 50 people dived the wreck. Dived it just after 7.00 a.m., saw the sun starting to light up the sky and water. On the long weekend dived South West Rocks; the seas were up and it was too rough to dive Fish Rock Cave. Ended up diving inside the bay on the artificial reef. The reef is in 12-13 metres and is made up of boat trailers, a Hills hoist, a land rover sitting upright on sand. Dived the wreck of the Agnes Irving north of South West Rocks (it went down in 1879). Good dive with lots of fish life. Then dived a back creek for about 30 minutes in clear water and about 5 metres depth. Saw a big flat head.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- John Fardoulis brought up about possibly looking at a wreck project, along the lines of what the Department of Planning & Strategy were promoting. For example, Scuba Warehouse divers are doing the Mallabah. Could we pick a wreck, catalogue details say over a 2 year period. John Sumner had some information on the project. John Fardoulis to investigate further.
- Tickets to the Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year Presentation Night are now for sale. There will be preference seating, so the earlier you get your tickets, the better the seats. Joe has booked 30 seats for members. See Joe tonight about tickets for the Members tables. If tickets are paid for by 30 June each person has 2 chances in the Heron Island Dive Festival prize. Also don't forget the Cousteau tickets for \$10 each (see Leo B.).
- Terese mentioned that copies of the newsletter are available at the front, the Club Shirts ordered by members are for sale at \$35 each. Stickers are \$1.00 and sew-on decals \$7. Kodak Ektachrome 100 film is also available at \$12.50 (normally approx. \$18 retail). John Sumner has books for sale.

RAFFLE:

We have 3 restaurant dinners and a complimentary bottle of wine for 2 people as **FIRST PRIZES** in the raffle:

- Selera Malaysian Restaurant, Newtown – Won by Paul Moore.
- The Thurles Castle Hotel, Chippendale – Won by Richard Morgan.
- Beverley's Restaurant, Metro Motor Inn, Chippendale – Won by Barbara Sweetman.

Congratulations to the 3 first prize winners and also thank you to each of the Restaurants for their support of the Club raffle.

SECOND PRIZE of a trip on Max Western's Sea Tamer II was won by Suzanne Evans. 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^oAT PHONE**.

THIRD PRIZE of 2 airfills was won by Peter Flockart. Thank you to Leo & Leslie Hillyer of Ship Rock Dive for the prize.

GUEST SPEAKERS :

Richard and Tracy Morgan of High Tech Divers then gave an interesting and involved audio visual on the aspects of dry suits and dry suit diving. We appreciate their time and many members got a lot out of their presentation, and several members put their names down for a dry suit orientation session with High Tech Divers.

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