

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Minutes from the October meeting held at Bankstown Sports and Recreation Club on Monday, 17th October, 1994.

VISITORS:

Josephine Foley.

APOLOGIES:

Scott Leimroth.

OPENING

Our club's new president, Leo Mayer, welcomes members and visitors present, and announces the newly elected committee.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Members have received the Minutes with their October newsletter. Members present were asked to accept these. Minutes were accepted by Therese Mayer and seconded by Craig Harwood.

INCOMING/OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE

Incoming: Newsletters from various dive clubs:
Brisbane Water Aqualung Club "Demand Valve Vibes", Terrigal Underwater Group "Scuba Scope", Ryde Underwater Club "Surface Interval", University of Technology, Sydney "Know Doubts", Underwater Research Group of N.S.W. "Bulletin".
Copy of Korean Photo Comp rules from Barry Andrewartha.
Letter from Becca Saunders regarding photographic "Think Tank".
Letter of thanks and congratulations from Ivan Millington, regarding Aust. Photog. of the Year Comp.
Copy of letter sent by Martin Kandilas to Peter Cochran, MP, Member for Monaro and returned correspondence from his office in relation to the removal of the wreck of the **Provincial Trader** at Eden, N.S.W.

Outgoing: Thankyou letters to :
Sportdiving Magazine, Sponsors of Photo. Comp, S.O.S. Printing, Ron Murphy, David Strike.
Returned competition slides to entrants.
Letters to entrants advising results of Photo. Comp.

TREASURER'S REPORT

John Fardoulis read out the Treasurer's Report of total income and expenditure up to 17 October, 1994. The report was accepted by Michael McFadyen and seconded by Eddie Labour. A full audit has been finalised by the club's accountants for year ending 30 June, 1994, and a report is now ready for distribution to all members, as well as a separate financial report re end of Committee year September, 1994.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICER'S REPORT

Peter Flockart has been busy organising a "Think Tank" meeting, which has been set down for 23 October, 1994. The group will discuss ideas in relation to the club's two photographic competitions, "George Robert's Trophy" and "The Australasian Photographer of the Year" competitions to be held in 1995. Details of the meeting will be available in the November issue of the "Wet Rag".

PUBLICITY OFFICER'S REPORT

Merridy Cairn-Duff was not able to be present for this club meeting.

Michael McFadyen has organised a report regarding the club which has been forwarded to Barry Andrewartha for publication. John Fardoulis suggested he has a friend who may be interested in supporting the 1995 Aust. Photog. of the Year Comp. re articles and promotion for the club. He will forward details.

DIVE ORGANISERS' REPORT

Geoff Cook has offered that his boat is available anytime for diving. Both Geoff and Scott are putting their heads together for some exciting exploration. Scott has organised a shore dive and a B.B.Q. at Inscription Point, Botany Bay National Park on Sunday, 6th November, 1994.

Leo Berganin announced that the "Boat Owner's" meeting has been postponed for another date, as a weekend diving trip has interrupted the scheduled date.

SOCIAL ORGANISERS' REPORT

Carina Gregory and Barbara Sweetman are plotting and planning some interesting "dry" social activities for the club.

Ten Pin Bowling is to be held at A.M.F. Bankstown on Friday, 18th November, 1994, 7:30pm.

A Xmas Night Out has been suggested at "Chaos Comedy Theatre" for \$30.00 per person, including dinner and entertainment. Enquiries about either night can be made through Carina.

A member's survey sheet has been distributed at this meeting, as well as a loose addition in October's "Wet Rag", with the concept of enticing members' input as to diving/social interests, which we can collate and offer you more of what you, as members, want from the club.

Skirmish "was a hell of a success!" Joe Ingegneri says with a grin from ear to ear, and a bruise from head to toe!! Joe compliments S.P.D.C. and R.U.C. on their competitiveness, good behaviour and would like to organise a re-match in the future. Joe discussed the good relations between the two dive clubs and suggested more interaction should be considered between other dive clubs. After all, we're all enjoying the same sea! Most of the "warriors" came off sore in one place or another, but we all agreed that it was a brilliant day, thanks Joe!

Rick Latimer asked who all the doctor's bills should be presented to??? Also a letter of thanks to R.U.C. should be sent. Members agreed.

B.J. says he received an express parcel this morning, which contained a stubbies six pack, free 12 month membership to R.U.C. and an invitation to their "Victory Party"!!!
"We know who really won on the day, don't we!".

MEMBERS' DIVE REPORTS

Michael McFadyen, John Beddie, Michael Cufer, Les Catterson and a few other divers spent the long weekend on a "South Coast Island Expedition", exploring Ulladulla, Tollgate Island, Black Rock, Dorris Island. Michael says the weather wasn't too good and they had to cancel Montague Island. The group dived "The Arch" at Black Rock, which has two caves, one in which they made friends with Blue Devilfish. Michael enticed the fish out using a sea urchin as food, and was able to stroke the fish on it's side!

Glenn and Maria Townsend holidayed on Norfolk Island during the school holidays. They did six dives with "Bounty Divers" and underwater showed them a good mixture of tropical and temperate species of fish, lots of corals and an endless array of other marine life. More excitement was added to the trip when Glen caught a 3kg fish on a hand line.

Either side of Norfolk Island has a good shore diving bay, one which he particularly enjoyed, Emily Bay, an area of 400m x 150m, even though he was attacked by some small, aggressive fish. With no hood, during the 80 minute dive, Glenn got "hit" quite a few times and drew "good blood!". Apparently the boats were launched from a crane for these shore dives, due to very strong winds creating havoc on the shoreline.

Fishrock Cave was another good dive had, although at 3 metres Glenn's ears blew out!. Jack from "Bounty Divers" offers his invitation to all. (who are game by the sounds of it!).

GENERAL BUSINESS

Leo Mayer lead the discussion on requests made to himself, by various magazines, for permission to publish firsthand details on the winners of the Aust. Photog. of the Year Comp. (A.V.) The decision to give exclusive rights, for this year, to Barry Andrewartha, "Sportdiving" and "Dive Log" was made, in the club's best interest, and the other offers were declined, although were offered the text and photos at a later date, to be decided.

The problem resulted when, shortly after the A.V. "Aust. Camera Magazine" and "Scuba Diver Magazine" were found to have published winning photos, or similar to winning photos and text using S.P.D.C. Underwater Photog. of the Year name.

Discussion continued on the subject of one of the panel of judges of the A.V. probable to have forwarded information to the magazine on the probability of certain winning entries. Legal advice has been sought and a five page fax was sent back to the club advising that all was legal, due to the fact that "Sportdiving Magazine" was released promptly on the night. After that it's apparently anyone's "fair game". Leo Mayer suggested he would speak or write to the judge in question and voice the club's disapproval and disappointment.

Therese Mayer mentioned that the time allotted from submission to print was one month.

Leo Bergagnin suggested that "Scuba Diver" may well have had the article and similar portfolio on film before printing, and then if changes were needed, it would not involve much time before being given the "go ahead". He suggested that only a few days work in printing was involved in preparing the article.

Leo Mayer voiced his concern that it was O.K. for the winner's photos to be published but not the club's name. Leo feels that credibility has been lost with "Sportdiving Magazine" over the incident.

Michael McFadyen moved the Committee's right to express disappointment by this action and it was seconded by Therese Mayer.

Leo Mayer has recently spoken to Peter Hall from Eden who has word that the wreck of the "Provincial Trader" is definitely being moved out to the Continental Shelf. Leo suggested a letter of disapproval to the board be draughted regarding the waste of taxpayers' money involved in funding the operation.

Leo Bergagnin spoke of the M.S.B. using an "insurance policy" excuse in relation to the present danger of the location of the wreck in regards to shipping in the area. Leo says a contract has been signed for the relocation, to cost \$3/4 million.

Rick Latimer mentioned a letter sent by Martin Kandilas to MP Peter Cochran, member for Monaro, stating his strong objections to the move. A response from his office has been sent to Martin, stating Mr Cochran's absence at present, but the letter shall be brought to his attention at the earliest opportunity upon his return to normal duties and all options will be explored in regards to legal and safety resolutions.

Leo Bergagnin suggested a letter to be draughted to John Hatton, Parliamentarian, who is in need of funds for his South Coast electorate, discussing the matter of \$3/4 million cost. Leo moved a motion for the letter from S.P.D.C. Therese Mayer seconded and Barbara Sweetman, a third. Majority of members in attendance agreed.

Leo Mayer raised previous meeting discussion on Rick Latimer's proposal and members' acceptance for awards to members and committee. Leo discussed that an award to one committee member was unfair, considering the work load put in by all. Other previous committee members agreed with Leo.

Therese Mayer recommended other clubs have a committee Honour Board, why not ours, instead of singling out one person.

Leo Mayer suggested more discussion needed on this subject.

Leo Bergagnin mentioned that at the previous meeting the motion had been passed ALMOST unanimously: 33 members present, 2 voted against. Leo thought it might help if we formed a sub-committee to decide!!!

Leo Mayer has been advised by Bankstown Sports Club that our room for next month's meeting has been booked out. Rick Latimer suggested that we use the auditorium, as in past.

Russell Stoker read in today's Telegraph Mirror, "Scuba Diving Week".

Michael McFadyen saw an advert. in an Ulladulla dive shop window also displaying "Scuba Diving Week".

John Fardoulis suggested "we dive!"

B.J. resumed discussion on "Think Tank", in regards to rules for A.V. He stated there should be no reason for "outside" involvement considering it should be an "internal club comp."

Leo Mayer says that "outside" information is useful for feedback only. Joe I. and Michael McF. in agreeance.

Dave queried previous year's comp. photos being submitted second time around.

Therese says there is nothing in the rules to say can't be used if haven't won previously.

Dave quotes guests to A.V. night were very impressed overall. He suggests a "Coat and Tie" night in the future.

Leo Bergagnin agrees it is a prestigious evening, should be discussed.

Joe Ingegneri suggests some of the profits from the A.V. night should be used in relation to safety in diving, particularly the boat owners who are doing lots of diving. Joe recommends oxy. units, equipment etc.

Geoff Cook suggested a therapy unit; oxygen reg. and mouth piece.

Leo Mayer asked Geoff to investigate details and discussion to be resumed at next meeting.

Leo Bergagnin questioned plans for the money made last financial year, aims with raffles, A.V. fundraising.

Therese Mayer suggested previous years slides to be put on photographic C.D. to prevent future deterioration.

Rick Latimer recommended a "Think Tank" on spending!!!

Michael McFadyen suggested first aid courses for untrained members, or subsidisation for members re courses.

Leo Bergagnin agrees and mentions that St George U/W and Ryde U/W hold these courses within their clubs.

Rick Latimer would like the club to invite the Helicopter Rescue Crew as guest speakers.

Leo Bergagnin will submit an article to the "Wet Rag" in regards to the "Rules Of Incorporation" which need attending to which are holding up the finalisation of club records etc.

Leo Mayer declared the meeting closed.

RAFFLE

Carina Gregory has been selected to draw tonight's raffle.

Max Western's Sea Tamer trip has been won by Therese Mayer.

Two Airfills; Shiprock Dive was won by Leo Bergagnin.

Peter Flockart's ticket was first pulled out, but Peter decided on a redraw, considering he won the prize last raffle.

Congratulations to the winners and many thanks to Max Western and Leo and Leslie Hillyer, of Shiprock Dive for their support of the Club raffle.

GUEST SPEAKER/PHOTOGRAPHER

Michael McFadyen gave an exciting slide presentation and commentary of his recent trip to Chuuk Lagoon. Well done Michael, as much as it was a late night, the superb quality of your slides and the interesting commentary held us all entertained through to the end of the night.