

## **SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB MEETING AT BANKSTOWN SPORTS CLUB 17TH JULY, 1995.**

Meeting opened and members and guests welcomed by Leo Bergagnin, Club President.

Apologies: John Beddie, Ilona Kandilas, Rebecca Davis.

Previous Minutes delivered to all club members with their current Wet Rag; accepted by :Eddie Labour and Seconded by Geoff Cook.

**Incoming Correspondence:** Other clubs' newsletters, DAN membership application booklet, BSAC promo booklet.

**Treasurer's Report:** Barbara Sweetman; Bank Statement for month of June: \$1, 811. In \$988.00 Out. Balance \$13, 139. as at 30th June. Transfer of \$4199. from Chq A/c to Invest. A/c.

Breakdown request of exps by Gordon McDonald. Barbara gave all relevant details.

Treasurer's report accepted by Gordon McDonald, seconded by Craig Harwood.

**Social Organiser's Report:** Carina Gregory; The previous day of Skirmish was a huge success with 10 people on both teams from South Pacific divers Club. The infamous Stephen Martin, who fell down a trench and injured his leg has been contacted in Hawkesbury hospital and best wishes sent from the Club and fellow teammates.

20th August Hunter Valley day trip \$20 p/p.

AUPY Presentation Night tickets are available.

**Dive Organiser's Report:** Scott Leimroth; Sunday 23rd July Prawn & Chardonnay Dive Day.

Variety of reefs and wrecks available to dive. Meet at Rose Bay boat ramp 8:30am pickup. Meet at Watsons Bay Beach 11:00am for feast. Rick Latimer's boat has been offered for use.

12/13th August Multi Club dive weekend. Over 20 clubs are participating. Meeting being held elsewhere tonight for more discussion.

Geoff Cook; 6th August "Bombo" Wreck Dive at Wollongong. Max 16 divers. Deposit \$20 required tonight.

Combined Clubs' table at Scuba Expo in July. Need volunteers to distribute leaflets over the weekend.

Selection of 2-3 outlets to sell AUPY Present. Night tickets & distribute brochures at Expo.

**Photographic Officer's Report:** Peter Flockart; AUPY competition slides and music selection are to be sent to Corporate Theatre next week to set up run of programme. Thank you to all who submitted their selection of music.

### **Member's Dive Reports:**

Scott Leimroth & Rebecca Davis travelled to Nth Solitary Is, swam with Dolphins & Whales. They dived Fish Rock Cave at Sth West Rocks, Colorado Pass-a wall dive to 45m, saw Grey Nurse Sharks & Turtles. The Titan Crane at Laurieton, bad vis, strong current. Cod Ground had a seal playing with them & lots of Grey Nurse.

Robyn Hewitt had 4 Reef dives in Noosa. Beautiful diving in & out of Bait Reef lagoon. Also dived at Kurnell, saw large Octopus & Cuttlefish.

Geoff Cook dived in Ballina & Byron Bay, the wreck "The Wollongbar". Allan Jarrett has a lot of great artifacts in his collection, worth a look if in Ballina.

Chris Vautin dived at Eden with Peter Hall, very cold, saw Seals, Whales and Dolphins.

Leo Bergagnin has been diving at Shark Point and Maroubra, as well as playing with a Sea Urchin's anus on his Marine Biology course with Mike Scotland!!

Martin Kandilas told of his father and fishing friends' episode with Humpback Whales, 8 miles out to sea.

Michael McFadyen and Eddie Labour dived near The Wall at Long Reef, nice dive with lots of fish.

Peter Flockart dived the wreck of "The Tuggerah" in 14 degrees & 5m vis. Wobbys, Sea Pens, Nudis and a Blue Gunard was spotted.

Suzanne Evans and Craig Harwood night-dived Camp Cove in 12 degrees. Fingers were so numb with cold, couldn't depress the camera trigger.

Scott Leimroth's friend was warned off by the MSB diving the wreck of "The Currajong": not allowed to dive in a shipping channel.

### **General Business:**

Peter Flockart is selling John Reilly's book on "The Myola" for \$15.00 each. Good history research and diagrams.

Scott Leimroth has an Aquacore magazine; US high tech diving, mixed gas diving, safety, deep & wrecks.

Also presented Rick Latimer with a wind-up diver doll, for all his good work and widely known character within the industry.

Geoff Cook promoted The QLD Maritime Museum for great artifacts including telegraphs, helms, bells. Entry allowed into a WWII warship, steamer.

Leo Bergagnin has been provided with promo material by Southern Cross Divers, promoting BSAC (British Based Certification Agency). Leo discussed aspects including insurance, training modules, fees. Leo feels that we should have continuing discussion on the benefits of joining BSAC. Is a club-based agency and contained within the Memo of Association: "all BSAC clubs are entitled to sponsorship". There are 6 BSAC members based in Sydney.

BJ suggests that retailers would take a negative attitude to SPDC membership. Rick Latimer says there are no real benefits for diver instruction. Gordon McDonald thinks it may well be worth looking more into the Insurance benefits.

Break.

#### **Raffle:**

3rd Prize of 2 airfills from **Shiprock Dive** donated by **Leo and Lesley Hillyer**, won by: Pam Stewart.

2nd prize of boat dive on **Sea Tamer 11** donated by **Max Western**, won by: Paul Angwin.

1st prize of weekend for 2 at **Soldier's Point** donated by **Deanes Management**, Won by: Adrienne Hill.

#### **Magnetometer Proposal:**

Craig Harwood suggested priority be given for safety issues ie First Aid & Oxy equipment. Eddie Labour questions who will look after property. Leo Bergagnin suggests a Property Officer be nominated to log equipment. Leo will house to begin with.

BJ dissapproves. Doesn't see benefits for most Club members. One small group will want for selves. Against hire charges for members. Money could be put to better use. Michael McFadyen questioned if there is a model in mind. Scott Leimroth gave description of model.

Geoff Cook proposed the use for the discovery of "The Nemesis" and other recoverable wrecks. Equipment will locate metal within a stones throw of Divesite. Leo Bergagnin suggests the Club is riding too heavily on AUPY photo comp. There are other areas to pursue including the exploratory side of the Club. We don't have a boat etc, can afford to buy. Geoff Cook said that there is only one unit available for rent which is too expensive and has to come with owner.

Martin Kandilas questioned if a wreck is found, what is the Policy. Leo Bergagnin recommends that we have Club-advertised dives and anyone is welcome to join discovery.

Scott Leimroth suggests Wreck nights, photo dives & slide shows with discussion on findings and will lead to prestige and recognition for the Club. Leo Bergagnin suggests that Club members set the policies. Michael McFadyen suggests time for recording, photographs and Club secrecy time.

Bob says that wrecks are out there rotting away. Members can participate and experience the thrill of locating. David requests Plan of Recovery be designed.

Geoff Cook has lots of wreck information on file. 4 wrecks ready to locate at present.

Suzanne gave a rundown on extensive research already followed up by certain Club members on the project of "The Nemesis".

Leo Bergagnin gave a rundown of Mike Thatcher's find of a 16th century Spanish Galleon. Leo has discussed with Peter Hall of the many wrecks available to discover at Eden. Michael McFadyen recommends the good publicity available, even prior to location.

Rick Latimer suggests that there is not enough research or information at present to make a decision on purchase, no clear objectives, operating procedures should be laid down first. Leo Bergagnin mentions that AUPY competition is always a gamble, this subject of purchase is same. Rick Latimer recommends that the unit must pay for itself. Adrienne says that if it is a White Elephant ... Club can sell.

Craig Harwood recommends if the vote is negative, a proposal can be put forward at a later date. Rick Latimer suggested that proposal should be presented in a better format.

Members proceeded to vote in Secret Ballot style. Michael McFadyen and Eddie Labour controlled the counting.

Conclusion: 35 Total - 3 invalid; 19 For; 13 Against.

Leo Bergagnin states that there are still a few more postal votes to be included and extends receipt to Friday 21st July. THE END.