
Minutes of the meeting of South Pacific Divers Club Bankstown Sports Club, Monday 16 September 1996

Meeting opened 8. 00pm and members and guests welcomed by Club President, Leo Bergagnin.

Apologies: Scott Leimroth, Mark Dietz, Ross Hipwell and Shirley Wolfenden.

Acceptance of previous Club minutes:

Michael McFadyen corrected a mistake in the previous minutes. He said that the Club did not resolve to make Sylvia Adam an honorary member as stated in the minutes. Leo Bergagnin agreed that this had not been resolved and said that the Committee will discuss the issue and report back to the Club.

The minutes as amended were accepted by Suzanne Evans and seconded by Gordon McDonald.

Incoming/outgoing correspondence:

Other Clubs newsletters from URG, Terrigal Underwater Group, RUC, Douts, Brisbane Water Aqualung Club and Aquatic Explorers (Cronulla).

Photographic Officers Report: Peter Flockart

Peter said that letters to past entrants in the AUPY have been sent out and that 2 entries have already been received. Judges for the Competition are nearly finalised.

Publicity Officers Report: Paul Howlett

Paul said that he has been researching an article on digital imagery and the AUPY for an upcoming edition of Dive Log. Also, the Club's advertisement in Dive Log has been updated.

Treasurers Report: Barbara Sweetman

Expenses for the month of August: \$346 in / \$410.30 out

Balance of Cheque Account: \$2798.60

Balance of Investment Account: \$11228.67

Treasurers Report accepted by Eddy Labour and seconded by Rebecca Davies.

Dive Organisers Report: Geoff Cook

Geoff Cook mentioned the weekend away that was planned on 18/19/20 October 1996 at Eden has now been changed to Narooma to dive the wreck of the Lady Darling. Geoff has booked accommodation and diving so if you are interested, you need to give Geoff your deposit tonight. Geoff said he plans to re-book with Peter Hall in the new year.

Upcoming dives are as follows:

September

22 Port Hacking Club dive, departing from Dolan's Bay; another Club boat is required.

November

2 Helmet Fetish Hard Hat dive, Manly; minimum of 4 divers required; see Geoff Cook.

10 Combined Clubs Port Hacking breakfast dive, departing from Dolan's Bay.

11 6 day liveaboard trip diving the wrecks of the Yongala and the Gothenburg, Townsville; cost is \$750; limited spots; see Scott Leimroth.

29/1 Dec. Combined Clubs weekend with St George Scuba Club at Ulladulla.

Social Organisers report: Peta Williamson

Peta mentioned that she had checked out a potential location for the Club's Christmas party: a site on the northern side of Clovelly Bay. She said that it is a good site with plenty of picnic shelters. Peta will check with Randwick Council whether the site can be booked.

Members Dive Reports:

- Geoff Cook recently dived the Undola; it was 15°C on the surface / 12°C on the bottom; had a good dive, visibility was good.
- Suzanne Evans did a dive at the south west part of Camp Cove; saw lots of fish, including firefish, squid and cuttlefish.
- Martin Atkins recently spent 7 days at Seal Rocks diving the Catterthun; did 7 dives on the wreck and plans to go back in November/ December.
- Michael McFadyen dived the Tuggerah; had 25 metres visibility and a little current; saw 50+ Port Jacksons on the bottom and heaps of numb rays.
- Eddy Labour dived Underwater Wilderness (known as the Gullies), a drift dive with swim throughs; saw heaps of Port Jacksons; visibility was not good. Michael McFadyen mentioned that Rebecca Davies was diving with them in her new drysuit; Rebecca went to the surface early because her foot had come out of the drysuit and her fin came off; her buddies kept going and didn't notice Rebecca's plight. for a while.
- Geoff Cook mentioned that there are approx. 9 Pineapple Fish in a little cave around from Jibbon Point at the moment.
- Peter Flockart dived the Tuggerah; had filthy visibility and it was very cold on the bottom, approx. 12°C.
- Paul Howlett dived Shark Point; had approx. 20 metres visibility; plenty of fish.
- Suzanne Evans recently did a drift dive from Fly Point to Fish Co-op at Port Stephens; saw a Blue Shark on the sand.
- Leo Bergagnin mentioned that a group of Club members recently spent a week diving the Solomons on the liveboard, Spirit of the Solomons; diving was mostly reef and some wrecks; dived the Kenawa, which was a cargo ship, a good dive; lots of dives had swim throughs and caves where you could surface inside.

BREAK

Raffle prizes and winners:

- 1st Prize:** T-shirt donated from Aquatic Explorers, Cronulla
Won by: Barbara Sweetman
- 2nd Prize:** Boat dive on Max Western's Sea Tamer II
Won by: Rebecca Davies
- 3rd Prize:** 2 airfills compliments of Shiprock Dive, Lilli Pilli
Won by: John Van Owen

Geoff Cook showed a video of hard hat diving from Helmet Fetish, Manly to entice members to come along to the hard hat diving day planned for 2 November 1996. Bob May's video of diving on the Catterthun was also shown.

General Business

Glen Townsend mentioned that he has a few spaces left on an Optus trip diving Jervis Bay from the liveboard, Ocean Trek. See Glen if interested.

A visitor to the meeting tonight, Robin Appleby, has produced a dive calendar for 1997 in cartoon style. He has them for sale tonight for \$20. See Robin if interested.

Peta Williamson mentioned that a recent spearfishing competition held at Fish Rock Cave, South West Rocks resulted in a huge amount of fish being taken. There is not a definite number on the amount of fish taken and debate continued on the issue at the meeting. Peta said that it was up to Club members to put pen to paper to the Minister for Mineral Research and Fisheries (address is in the September edition of the Wet Rag) and that the Club should support this issue. Gordon McDonald then moved a motion that the Committee, on behalf of the Club, write to the Minister. This was supported by the majority at the meeting.

Meeting closed 10.15pm
