
Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of South Pacific Divers Club Bankstown Sports Club, Monday 20 January 1997

Meeting opened 8.15pm and members and guests welcomed by Club President, Leo Bergagnin. Leo welcomed his 3 visitors from Italy to the meeting.

Apologies: Lee Harvey, John Beddie, Martin and Ilona Kandilas, Mark Risdale, Greg Blackburn, Rod Muir and Eddy Labour.

Acceptance of previous Club minutes:

As December's Club meeting was an Informal Meeting, there were no official minutes to accept.

Incoming/outgoing correspondence:

Other dive Clubs newsletters; letter from Clean Up Australia, entry form for the 1997 Kings Cross Bed Race; correspondence and photo's from the Deep Diving Centre in Turkey; various Xmas wishes.

Treasurers Report: Barbara Sweetman

Barbara gave an amended report and breakdown of the income and expenses for the month of November as follows:

Expenses for the month of November: \$2213 in / \$999.82 out

November's amended Treasurers report accepted by John Fardoulis and seconded by Suzanne Evans.

Barbara then presented the Treasurers report for the month of December.

Expenses for the month of December: \$1308 in / \$1724 out

Balance of Cheque Account: \$3593.49

Balance of Investment Account: \$11228.67

December's Treasurers report accepted by Russell Stoker and seconded by Debbie Egginton.

A full financial report giving a breakdown of income and expenditure for the year 1 January 1996 to 31 December 1996 was distributed at the meeting. Barbara clarified the Miscellaneous and Xmas 1995 items of expenditure in response to questions asked.

The Financial Report was accepted by Craig Harwood and seconded by Gordon McDonald.

Photographic Officers report: Peter Flockart

Peter Flockart said that AV production for the Presentation Night is starting this Wednesday, 22 January. Competition entries etc will be presented on videotape this year i.e. slide projectors will not be used. Peter is currently working on a script for the AV.

Peter Fields will be MC this year and Mark Spencer will be the Guest Speaker.

Peter said that time has been allocated for a dress rehearsal this year and that the Club is looking for people to help with the Presentation Night.

The Photographic Sub Committee concludes its term on 12 April 1997.

Social/Dive Organisers report: Geoff Cook / Scott Leimroth

February

31Jan-2Feb.

2 Feb.

14/15/16

23

Eden Dive Weekend. See Barbara Sweetman if interested.

Club breakfast dive at Jibbon Beach - "Chicken & Champagne"

Club dive weekend at Narooma, diving the *Lady Darling*.

SCAN Dive Day, Frenchmans Bay, La Perouse. Barry Andrewartha and Belinda Barnes will be in attendance and will judge the photographic competition to be held that day.

Social events

There will be a BBQ at Leo Bergagnin's place on 26 January to celebrate Australia Day from 5pm onwards. There will be a prize for the most patriotic display of the flag.

There will be a wine tasting night on 22 February at Chippendale Cellars; cost is \$5 and is refundable on purchases.

Publicity Officers Report: Paul Howlett

Paul Howlett said that there is an article in the current *Dive Log* regarding Jean Claude Le Pechon. Brochures have also been printed to publicise the AUPY.

Members Dive Reports:

Suzanne Evans recently dived at the National Maritime Aquarium in Canberra; there were big barramundi, turtles etc; maximum depth was 5m and water temperature was 30°C; cost was \$40 which included hire gear and entry to the wildlife sanctuary next door; she said that the day was good value and that the Club should consider organising a day there.

Geoff Cook recently dived with Martin Atkins at Jervis Bay; on new years day they dived at Stoney Creek and the seas were huge, however visibility was good; Also, at the Docks there was three very approachable sharks; Geoff said there was approx. 20-30 Club members down at JB at this time of year.

Martin Atkins has been diving JB north of The Arch to Crocodile Head and said that there are lots of places to dive.

Bob May did some diving down the south coast over the Xmas/New Year break; dived the Wanderer, Docks, Bowen Island, Pt. Perpendicular; managed to obtain some footage of sharks; dived at Stoney Creek and there was not a lot of fish life; dived the Labrynth.

Geoff Cook said that he dived Stoney Creek with Bob May and described to the Club the difficulty Bob had with anchoring.

Suzanne Evans thanked Bob and Angelica May for the diving she did with them over Xmas/New Year.

Michael McFadyen, together with Daryl Gibbs and Eddy Labour dived the Tunnel and The Arch; weather was not very good; Michael then went to South West Rocks for 6 days and did 12 dives; visibility ranged from 1-30 metres; he saw turtles, Grey Nurse sharks; did a few dives with Peta Williamson and stayed with Noel and Belinda.

John Fardoulis dived the Valient with Jean Claude Le Pechon; he said that as he was motoring away from the mooring, he could see that two divers were following (one a Club member); the divers had mistaken John's boat for the Atlantis Divers boat....

Scott Leimroth and *Rodney Nairn* recently dived the Tuggerah, where Rodney tried out the Trimix rebreather he built; they also dived the Birchgrove Park with John Fardoulis.

Leo Bergagnin recently dived Marley Point on Max Western's boat; he saw moray eels, sponges, nudibranchs etc and had a good dive.

Debbie Egginton dived out of Ulladulla, JB and Sydney over the new year break; saw some Red Indian Fish when diving in Sydney.

Craig Harwood recently spent 4 days diving from the liveaboard Victory at JB and had a very good trip.

General Business

Peter Flockart said that he has some of his own calendars for sale at \$12 tonight.

Leo Bergagnin mentioned that Noel Taylor is showing his slides of Bikini Atoll at Aquatic Explorers on 22 January, from 7pm. Noel said that it was awesome wreck diving, with average depths of 40-50 metres.

Leo also said that Mark Spencer will be giving a presentation on behalf of the Australian Geographic Society on February 18 at 7pm. It will be at 321 Mona Vale Road, Terry Hills and the cost is \$12.

The Club has received an entry form for the 1997 Kings Cross Charity Bed Race. Leo Bergagnin said that the Club should give consideration to entering this year. The Club has entered the race for the past 2 years and there was no cost to the Club to enter last year. John Fardoulis moved the following motion, which was seconded by Suzanne Evans:

Should the Club enter the 1997 Kings Cross Charity Bed Race?

The Club was divided as follows:

8 persons against entering the Bed Race.

14 persons for entering the Bed Race.

Therefore, motion was carried to enter the Bed Race this year.

Mark Dietz asked whether Max Western takes wheelchair divers. Leo said he will follow this up.

Bob May proposed a Memorial Dive for Rick Latimer together with a photographic shoot out towards the end of March. Bob suggested that this could be an annual event in memory of Rick. Bob will put this proposal to the *Wet Rag*.

The matter of Rick Latimer's plaque was discussed. The Club needs to find someone who can do commercial engraving of steel. John McDermott suggested that Martin Kandilas may know who did the engraving for Bob Smith's plaque.

Adrienne Hill said that an oxygen administration course is going to be run through BSAC on 18-19 March. See Adrienne if interested.

Geoff Cook mentioned that the valve on all Faber steel 150cft tanks is not right for these tanks.

The Club has gear for sale, including T-Shirts and safety sausages.

There was a show of hands of those interested in participating in Clean Up Australia Day this year.

Funny Awards

Geoff Cook presented the following Annual Funny Awards:

- Most Improved Husband and Wife Diving Team for 1996 - **Scott and Debbie Egginton**
- 1996 SPDC Armchair Diver of the Year Award - **Leo Bergagnin**
- True Diving Fanatics Award - **Mark Dietz and Rod Muir**
- Precision Anchoring and Encouragement Award - **Bob May**
- Phantom Divers Award - **Scott Leimroth**

B R E A K

Raffle prizes and winners:

1st Prize: 10 fill Aircard, donated by Aquatic Explorers, Cronulla
Won by: Barbara Sweetman

2nd Prize: Dinner for 2 at Bev's Restaurant, Chippendale
Won by: Tony Vlot

3rd Prize: Boat dive on Max Western's *Sea Tamer II*
Won by: Russell Stoker

3rd Prize: 2 airfills compliments of Shiprock Dive, Lilli Pilli
Won by: Noel Taylor

Nominations and voting for the 1997 SPDC Committee positions

This year, there will be 3 new positions on the Committee: BSAC Liaison Officer, Property Officer and Special Operations Officer. All Committee members stepped down and Suzanne Evans, Returning Officer, opened nominations and accepted positions filled in the following order:

President

Nominee: Leo Bergagnin
Nominator: Michael McFadyen
Nominator: Craig Harwood

Position accepted by Leo Bergagnin.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Treasurer

Nominee: Barbara Sweetman
Nominator: Scott Egginton
Nominator: Debbie Egginton

Position accepted by Barbara Sweetman.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Secretary

Nominee: Debbie Egginton
Nominator: Barbara Sweetman
Nominator: Peter Foster

Position accepted by Debbie Egginton.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Newsletter Editor

Nominee: Scott Leimroth
Nominator: Scott Egginton
Nominator: Russell Stoker

Position accepted by Scott Leimroth.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Publicity Officer

Nominee: Paul Howlett
Nominator: Leo Bergagnin
Nominator: Mark Dietz

Position accepted by Paul Howlett.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Photographic Officer

Nominee: Peter Flockart
Nominator: Scott Egginton
Nominator: Mark Dietz

Position accepted by Peter Flockart.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Dive Organisers (2 positions)

Nominee: Scott Egginton
Nominator: Barbara Sweetman
Nominator: Leo Bergagnin

Position accepted by Scott Egginton.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Nominee: Peter Foster
Nominator: John Fardoulis
Nominator: Bob May

Position accepted by Peter Foster.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Social Organiser

This position was not filled.

BSAC Liaison Officer

Nominee: Adrienne Hill
Nominator: Leo Bergagnin
Nominator: Barbara Sweetman

Position accepted by Adrienne Hill.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Property Officer

Nominee: Russell Stoker
Nominator: Scott Egginton
Nominator: Peter Foster

Position accepted by Russell Stoker.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Special Operations Officer

Nominee: John Fardoulis
Nominator: Leo Bergagnin
Nominator: Peter Foster

Position accepted by John Fardoulis.

No other acceptances of nominations.

Suzanne Evans, Returning Officer, declared all Committee positions filled, except the position of Social Organiser, which will be held over to February's Club meeting.

Meeting closed