
Minutes of the meeting of South Pacific Divers Club at Bankstown Sports Club – Monday 15th December 1997

Meeting Opened at 8:15pm, members and guests welcomed by Club President, Gordon McDonald.

Apologies: Scott Egginton, Ross Hipwell, Bob May, Robyn Hewitt, Paul Howlett, John Earl, Mark Dietz, Suzanne Evans

Secretary: Debbie Egginton

Acceptance of Previous Club Minutes:

The previous club minutes were accepted by: *Ray Malang*
And seconded by: *John Harlen*

Incoming/Outgoing correspondence:

There are letters from other dive clubs in folder will be circulated during the meeting.

Treasurers Report:

Graham Oates

Expenses for the month of December: \$ 192.70 in / \$ 239.40 out
Income \$52.00 from raffle & \$140.70 Mag insurance refund
Expenses \$30 dive deposit refund, \$117.44 Stationary, \$1.96 Bank Charges & \$90.00 postage

Balance of Cheque Account:	\$ 74.31
Balance of Investment Account:	\$11,534.36
Balance in Petty Cash	\$ 37.35

Treasurers Report accepted by: *Samantha Oates*
And Seconded by: *Peter Foster*

Social Organisers Report:

Debbie Davis

There is nothing till the New Year.

Editors Report: Shirley Wolfenden

No comments this month.

Photographic Officers Report:

Peter Flockart

Re: Geoff Cooks' article – it was real interesting but there were a few inaccuracies, will not take up time tonight except to say that he (& the photographic committee) would like some time to reply to it, say in the next *Wet Rag*. Would like to put their views forward. John Fardoulis asked if a referendum could solve the issue. Geoff stated that he had had a call from Leo Bergagnin regarding his article and that he (Leo) wanted two things changed those being regarding the "couple of years ago it made a quid" statement – they made \$8,000 one year & the year before last it made \$1,900 + \$4,000 but last year actually lost money and regarding the number of entrants in 1993 there were 60, in '94 there were 70 and in last comp ('95) there were 108. GC stated that he wrote the letter because he felt it was needed. Discussion ensued on these points. JF then asked GMcD what he felt the club was there for in one sentence. GMcD replied that he saw it as arm to socialize with divers not as a venue for divers. GC posed this question 'Was anyone prepared to put their house up as a guarantee that it would make money?' Of course not, but GMcD did say that he felt it was a good business risk and that if he had the money and opportunity he would finance it himself. John Harlen said we should allow the photographic committee to reply in the next *Wet Rag*. JF asked what was the cut-off time for this year and time frame for discussion, & also said that in the corporate world they don't usually risk 100% of their money/assets on any one venture. This avenue was discussed with GMcD conceding that the correct phrase was 'That in the last 3 years it has turned a profit or a small loss'. Scott Willan asked what is the profit margin? PFI said they just hope to cover costs. GC said that he believed that this is where we fall down – the presentation night – can we run the comp without it? Discussion enveloped on this matter in particular it was mentioned that there are comps running this way quite successfully. GMcD says article in *Wet Rag* 1700 slides for 1500 competitors at \$25/hd would be great. JF – Dive Australia went down the tubes because the climate is changing. SW – When the comp first started there were not so many things on e.g. Night to Remember. GMcD says maybe we should get the *Wet Rag* out earlier this month. PFI regarding marketing we are always looking for better marketing, we're only learning. RS – The last 4 years have made a profit and GCs' article is harmful. SW too late to can this years comp. SL asks perhaps we should get a budget and maybe make budget smaller. GMcD says it is not good to stick to a budget. 8K goes on AudioVisual alone. Income from entrants is used as a cash float. PFI said maybe \$15K for budget is over the top. Extra \$1K last year on trophies. 3 e-mails from Asian Diver today. GC - Entrance fee for 150 entries is \$3.75K + tickets 300 @ \$25 says it is riskier than it's ever been. PFI – short comp happening this year. SW comments that you are letting the magazines run you. PFI – trying to keep the level of interest up. Ray Malang asks is a Night to Remember really a competitor for AUPY Comp? GMcD says it's different what they give you, it's fully professional not amateur as ours is. SL asks has it ever been put on during summer? Discussion took place on this matter with most agreeing that summer is not a real good time as divers are usually busy diving then and therefore not that interested in other things at that time of year. JF asked was the Night to Remember full? John Harlen says their sponsors pay the bills. RS – If

They get exposure for their \$'s. GC says the market place has changed but we haven't. RM - If there was a decision not to run again what would happen to the \$11.5K ? No particular answer was given. GMcD - Every year you just aim to get through and then decide about the next year. SW - I asked a simple question about why do we have the comp? GMcD answered to facilitate the members. PFI talked about 3 double page spreads in mags & dive log until it happens. Graham Oates - regardless of whether it makes money or not you have to have the members happy about the night. GC would like to pass a motion that at the February meeting we vote on whether to have it. Some discussion happened with an agreement reached that there should be a postal vote too so all members could have a say. G Cook said that if the comp made \$5K he'd stand on the table naked, tarred and feathered. GMcD said he needs a good article from PFI to give his outlook on the AUPY. 3 way vote FOR/AGAINST/COULDN'T CARE LESS & comment area. JF what about timing? GC asked have the thank yous for last year been sent out yet? PFI said yes, thank yous sent last month. Peter Foster said vote should be after this year's comp. JF said maybe try a summer AV night! GMcD said he would put the \$s up to run the comp if he could, he sees it as a sound venture. SL said the comp should be entertaining. Samantha Oates wants a Super Novice Section because the hi-tech is off putting. PFI says it could be possible to run the George Roberts over 3 sections with a Grand prize at the end. JF said that 3 years ago there was a survey and it found only a small percentage are photographers. PFI said to maybe make the George Roberts an intra-club event. GC says the GR is good & equipment is all we need. SW says we don't need the comp to sustain the club. GMcD said the greatest argument against the comp is not enough people to help. John Harlen seconds the motion regarding the running of the AUPY. GMcD - Do it by mail to go out with next *Wet Rag*. GC wanted it to happen in October, it will be too late in February. RS to speak against cancelling the AUPY. Vote on motion to hold referendum = Against - 3, Abstain - 1, For - Balance of members in attendance (abt 20). Restricted to strictly members only. SL proposes an amendment to comp to have it without the AV night. PFI says he thinks it would go down the tubes, the comp & AV night have always gone hand in hand. All letters for and against to be received by 24th December with the *Wet Rag* to be sent out by 31st December. DE mentioned that due to that fact that she was going away on holidays that she may not be able to get the minutes completed by then but would try.

BREAK

Magnetometer Report:

John Beddie

Suggests getting one set of instructions laminated & to be kept with the mag for general use. Use 42 band. Tried out on the Kelloe but it is a hard one to locate due to all the ironstone around it. Ring John if you have any problems with the band settings on the mag.

Dive Organizers Report:

Geoff Cook

Please note: Geoff Cook will be in Vincenta 10/1/98 - 17/1/98 with his boat
 Bob May will be in Jervis Bay from 26/12/97 for 2 weeks (until 9/1/98)
 Contact either boat owner if interested in diving with them during these times.

21.12.97 Port Hacking Dive Day
 04.01.98 1998 Inaugural Chicken & Champagne Breakfast Dive
 25.01.98 Frenchmans Bay Dive Day

Members Dive Reports:

John Beddie - Dived inside North Head got about 22 Mtrs. Henry Head viz was good until tide turned. Jindabyne Lake diving - does the homesteads has a 5 Mtr Broadbill charges \$100 for 5 divers, viz about 5 Mtrs, anyone interested contact me.

Scott Leimroth - Saturday dived the Tuggerah - had good clear water, no wobbys but a bit of a current.

Geoff Cook - Dived the Birchy, we had 3 boats with 18 divers, water temp a pleasant 23 deg C. There was a dirty patch mid water. Ricks' plaque hasn't moved one bit, it sunk about 1" into the sand and that's where it has stayed.

Scott Leimroth - Dived Gordons Bay with rebreathers. They did the Coolooli the next day with Paul Angwin.

Sarah & John Harlen - Dived out of Mullaway - it was great.

Raffle prizes and winners:

First prize	Boat Dive courtesy of Max Western on Sea Tamer II
Won by :	Scott Leimroth
Second Prize	T-Shirt donated by Aquatic Explorers, Caringbah
Won by :	Ray Malang
Third Prize	Two Airfills donated by Shiprock Dive, Lilli Pilli
Won by :	Mark Spencer
Extra Prize	Hand Decorated Cup donated by Ray Malang
Won by :	Shirley Wolfenden

General Business:

Ray Malang requested a copy of The Constitution, as did Debbie Egginton. GMcD said he would get that organised.

Meeting closed 11:00pm.