

CLUB NEWS

OAK PARK

By Duane Langley

Well! It is, winter and we all expect the worst, but this Sunday at Oak Park was just an absolutely glorious day. A full sky of sun, not a breath of wind and flat blue seas with just enough shore break (12 inches) to let us know we really were at the beach facing a vast ocean.

All that remained was for a number of club members to show.

You guessed it, Loi and Hau were already on site and had been for the past hour. At least they had a good parking spot. What we didn't know, was that on this day there was a fun run through to Cronulla and the authorities had all the streets blocked off after 9am and this caused confusion to those that were trying to arrive on time, including our intrepid leader, Noel Taylor.

The last to arrive was Steve and being all the good buddies we are, we waited for him, even though by this time Hau was champing at the bit to get into the water.

Now we all know that 13 divers are not going to dive as a single group at Oak Park, are, they? Well we all got into the water at basically the same time, but this was the last each buddy pair really saw any other buddy pairs, except for fleeting glimpses. I did find Loi and Hau trying to set up some photographic poses, but I got the impression that Hau was not modeling in the right vane that Loi was after. Steve also flashed passed in drunken charge on a scooter.

The water was clear and yes! cool. It was because of these factors that this was a really pleasant dive.

There were small and very big cuttlefish, nudibranchs, port Jackson sharks actually swimming and not acting as normal, like my rottweiler (sleeping). There was even a school of dolphins in the exact spot Sue and I were an hour before.

A very friendly bright blue groper and lots of sea urchins to feed him. (There is a so called diver from Nelson Bay that once

once said to me "You could be fined for this dreadful display of flaunting the law by cutting up sea urchins", so watch out you lot. ED) A pretty school of bullseye and many other varieties of one kind or another.

I am not really a fan of Oak Park and this is probably due to being a sheep dog for Glen Percy and his dive schools on many occasion. I have to say that this was a very pleasant dive, in very pleasant conditions and to top it off Noel, Sue and myself finished the day off with a pleasant late lunch at LuLu's restaurant in Beverly Hills.

For those of you who missed the dive, I hope what ever you did was great as this was very much a dive not to be missed and very much why a club is a great way to get people together.

To Noel, Loi, Hau, Steve and Jodie and son, Tony, Craig, Peter, Sue, Julie and kids, Rod, Matt and 3 other guys whose names elude me, thanks for the company.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING 17th July 2000

SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS MEETING MINUTES

Apologies: Mitch, Ilona, Vivian, Peter Foster.

Incoming Correspondence: Institute Technology newsletter, Terrigal Underwater newsletter, Marine and Coastal Communication Network Species Survey, GST Start Up newsletters, Bonds Courier information, SCAN newsletter and Lonely Planet newsletter Previous Meeting Minutes: Accepted by Phil and seconded by Gray.

Treasurers Report: JUNE 2000

Lin La	
Revenue Raffle	\$ 61.25
Interest	\$1.63
Total 4	\$62.88

Expenses

BBQ at Kurnell	\$56.60
Printing & postage	\$96.95
Bank charges	\$0.60
Total	\$154.15

Financial Statement

Cheque account	\$1,277.10
Passport account	\$6,258.00
Petty Cash	\$236.75
Total	\$7,771.85

Last Financial Year 2000 (1st July, 1999-30th June, 2000)

Income	\$2,640.58
Expenses	\$3,028.92
Total	(-388.34)

Photographic Officers Report: A.V. Night

At this point there are not enough entries to run the AV. Night unfair to sponsors. Total Entrants/42. Total 60 slides Category Entries 12 open, 18 novice, 4 individual 7 video and 5 masters. Don't think we can justify to keep sponsors onside and do justice to the club.

Opening up to a magazine, re-formatting as a comp itself, not necessarily a night out as well Richard Taylor has offered SPD the option of incorporating our competition as part of Oztec's comp, next year. Offered use of auditorium.

Larger number of competitions now running.

Suggestion was made to pan out with slides from other years.

If we cannot guarantee interest in competitors, can we guarantee interest in people turning up in 5 months time to view the function?

Cannot guarantee numbers, we cannot guarantee a successful show.

Where is the response for our show??? Appears we have lost entrants to other comps and need to look at promotion methods So far only 2 people have made enquiries re tickets to the show. Suggestion made re changing

format and still running the show, but to change the format under the circumstances and at this time in the schedule is not really a viable option. We were told about an e-mail address that lists names etc. of people entering underwater comps. Which also advertises up and coming comps.

For the sake of our Sponsors there is a need to hold competitors to the Australasian area and immediate Pacific regions.

Suggested extending the deadline cannot do would mean changing date of the night itself etc.

Cut losses now, re access, open night up for suggestions, web page would be an advantage re advertising. Bottom line regarding all the scenario's as discussed above was that there are not enough entries to make it feasible to proceed. We are faced with a no win situation. If we were to proceed with the present lack of response, we would undoubtedly upset sponsors which will put them off side with any further prizes etc and it will probably cost us our bank balance. Decided to send out letters to all entrants, letters to sponsors explaining situation, also stating to sponsors that we are concerned that they are not getting value for their dollars. Decision was made to keep comp. Within the Australasian region to foster Australian local photographers, which keeps prizes local so sponsors benefit.

Tried to open comp. to make it fairer keeping previous winners in the masters category.

Peter's suggestion was to run an article in say Dive log, Where are all our under water photographers?? Simply put, as photographic officer, the buck stops with me and I am not able to see a way of satisfying our generous sponsors needs., nor can I see us satisfying the attendees of the night with such a dismal entrant rate. It is therefore with regret that I have decided that the AV night as planned, will no longer go ahead and the procedures

to notify those needing to be notified will be put in to place. This has not been an easy decision to arrive at, but is one that had to be made.

Majority of club members in attendance supported Glens Decision.

Phil raised motion put forward to cancel this years competition. second by Martin with a unanimous show of hands.

Social Organiser - Bernie
23rd July-BBQ/Dive Day, Kurnell.
Volunteered Steve to shuttle people to the Steps.

Dive reports:

Peter Flockart *Cooloolie*, wreck 10 to 12 metres viz quite nice. Found another use for his dry suit when his B.C failed at 130 feet. Could hear whale noises underwater, but couldn't see any. Lots of kingfish.

Phil dived at Fairlight last Sunday not much viz but was O.K.

Whitey (he is back) spent 3 days in the Red Sea couldn't manage a dive due to rough seas. England Stoney Cove didn't get out to dive there either. Scored a BSAC Membership.

Matthew dived the *Birchgrove Park* for the first time. Saw 2 plaques cannot remember much else. Found a beer can and carried it around for the dive.

Oak Park Club Dive 25th June:

Fifteen divers in attendance. Peter ended up following some girls from another group. After we dried and packed everything away, dolphins were seen swimming right where we had been diving. Of course there were divers still in the water. Bugger!

GENERAL BUSINESS

Skirmish Day 13 August-please leave names. We are up against Bernie. Peter Foster was asked three months ago to cancel the mobile phone, but has not done so. Tom will see what he can do as its costing us money for nothing. Insurance magnetometer:

The Insurance has been cancelled Martin advises he has had discussions with someone in regards to the Torch Newspaper printing the club newsletter at no charge, no guarantee but it's in the process.

SCAN: Needs a club representative to attend their 3 monthly meetings at Haberfield Rowing Club.

Application for membership renewal was received from former member Leo Bergenen along with a cheque including GST. The committee decided that as the application was not received in accordance with the rules of incorporation, that the membership had in fact lapsed and this application was being viewed as an application for membership.

Part U

Paragraph 5, CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Sub Section (a) Membership shall cease upon resignation, expulsion or failure to pay outstanding fees within one month of due date, defined as 31st January of membership year. It should be noted that the original Model Rules for Incorporation allowed 3 months grace for members to pay after the expiration of a members current year, but it appears that this has been changed at some time. Application will be made to the Department of Fair Trading for a true and correct copy of the Rules of Incorporation that they have and such will be made available to the members at the earliest convenient date. The Committee decided to decline this application at this time in the interests of maintaining the newly found harmonious atmosphere that has returned to the club's functions and meetings.

Paragraph 2, MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Sub Section (d) The Committee
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SOUTH PACIFIC DIVERS CLUB FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 1999-2000

Income		Expenses	
Membership Fees	1045.00	Social Functions	292.65
Dive Fees	20.00	Club Equipment	900.00
Social Functions	539.00	Stationery, Postage, Printing	857.22
Raffles	1025.55	Phone	372.71
Interest	11.03	Bank Fees	13.39
Total Income	2640.58	Misc	592.95
		Total Expenses	3028.92

Assets		Liabilities	
Cheque A/C Balance	1277.10		
Passbook A/C Balance	6258.00	Liabilities	None
Petty Cash	236.75		
Magnetometer	1500.00		
Oxygen Equipment	600.00		
Total	9871.75		

Income and Expenses

For a detail financial statement for 1999-2000 please contact Tom Byron for an income and expenses computer print out.

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if requested in writing by the applicant, is required to advise the applicant of the grounds upon which the applicant has been rejected. The Committee may at its discretion provide information to any member upon receipt of a written request for information regarding applications for membership, either considered or to be considered by the Committee.

This matter along with the Committee's decision was given over to general debate by the members present at this AGM. The matter was debated and it was apparent that there definitely was going to be an immediate adverse re-action for the club should this application be accepted, with some members being prepared to resign should such a decision be in favour of this application being accepted.

A motion from Gordon was put to reject this application this time. This motion was seconded by Noel.

Vote 12 for, and 3 against, 5 abstained from voting.

The resulting decision from both the Committee and the attending members of the AGM were in the negative in respect to this particular application, Leo Bergenen, and in the due course of business the applicant will be notified by mail of this decision and his cheque returned.

Raffle

1st Prize Max Western: Sea Tamer 11 Noel

2nd Prize Aqua Sports: Hydro and air fill Phil

3rd Prize Shiprock Dive Shop Two air fills Gray

Election of Office Bearers for the next financial year:

Martin Kandilas stood once again as returning officer. Thank You from all members

New Committee voted in as follows:

President: Bernie Kraul

Treasurer: Lin La

Secretary: Sue Tate

Photographic Officer: Gray McNeil

Equipment Officer: Glen Percy

Newsletter Editor: Tom Byron

Dive Organiser: The club members will nominate these people as needed at each monthly meeting and decide where to dive for the next month.

A big **THANK YOU** to both the old and new committee.

Please note that the above people have accepted their positions for the coming term and as members we have an obligation to help each and everyone of them during the coming year. Please do not wait until asked to help. If you are able to assist some where along the line offer your assistance. If we all do a little, nobody has to do a lot.