

# South Pacific Divers Club

Established 1960

## Wet Rag

[www.southpacificdivers.com](http://www.southpacificdivers.com)

SEPTEMBER 2003

### EDITORS REPORT

Well I'm very sorry to all for this months Wet Rag being just a rag. I was in a bit of a rush and had everything set out when the higher powers of Bill stepped in and sent everything haywire. But there's a great review of a great book by Neil Vincent and a story about a dive we would all like to do by Martin Kandilas. Hopefully I haven't forgotten anything.

Matt

### PHOTOGRAPHIC OFFICERS REPORT

This will be my first report since again taking on the much sort after job! of photographic officer. I was unable to have anything for last month as my computer like many in the world was struck down with the dread worm-blaster virus. However all is now right and here I am.

Firstly, the AV is approaching a great speed so it is full steam ahead to sort, judge and produce another extraordinary night for members to enjoy.

We finished up with 54 AV entries, not bad given the number of comps this year.  
Breakdown of entrants is as follows:

Masters : 5                      Digital : 7

Open : 12                      Video : 10

Novice: 20

Our wonderful prizes have been obtained from once again generous sponsors without whose support the comp wouldn't be what it is.

Just to give you a sample of what's in store this year, the door prize is "Motor Marine 2 camera & YS-60 Strobe +extra's" valued at \$2300. This could be yours for the price of a ticket!!!!!!!

While I'm on the comp don't forget to get your tickets as they are going fast and you don't want to miss out on a great night. (I'm also ticket sales co-ordinator).

Report is a bit rushed this month as I am off to Brisbane for a couple of days diving.

Peter Flockart  
Photographic Officer

**SPD CLUB MEETING**

**18<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2003**

**Apologies:** Duane and Don.

**Incoming Correspondence:** Bank statement, re-investment notice and certificate. BOC statement. Doubtless & Diving newsletter, Self storage invoice, Sports Dive Directory info, NSW Fisheries re Syngnathids in NSW Waters and lots of AV night entries received.

**Minutes:** Accepted by Noel Taylor, seconded by Matt Reeve

**Treasurers Report:** Bank balances were read off bank statement, details still to be handed over to new Treasurer.

**Photographic Officer:** Over 40 entries and they are still coming in. Tickets for the night \$25.00. Meal \$20.00 each, children under 12 free. We will need to know numbers for meals. Door prize - Motor Marine 2 Camera and YS Strobe set. Have to confirm a couple more sponsors. Will soon need some helpers to phone dive shops etc.

**Website:** Committee has been updated.

**Newsletter Editor:** Bugger all content. The Photographic Officer's computer got a virus therefore no report.

### **DIVE REPORTS**

Peter F - Sat Middle Ground - Sea Tamer II - 16 degrees, 5-10 mtr viz, long low swell. Lots of P.J's, wobbies - flooded new torch, no current - not too bad.  
Week before Osborne Shoals - 14 degrees.

Noel - North Haven - Club Trip - 7 people went. 2 dives cod Grounds 20-30 mtrs viz, 20 - 30 sharks - Tom saw a tagged shark which had 2 tags and both tags had growth as big as your fist. Shark was apparently distressed and not swimming very well. Tom has previously sent off video evidence re the effects of the tags.  
Saturday night wind blew up, therefore no diving Sunday.

John - Ulladulla 16 degrees, 10 mtr viz, good dive.

Phil - CYC cleaning the bottom of a boat.

Nick - Sea Tamer II - Osborne Shoals - 5 mtr viz, no current - was O.K.

Skirmish Report - 8 turned up - everyone got hit a fair bit. 1 x dislocated shoulder (tripped over a root - Nepean hospital, general anesthetic - Now OK) Plenty of other round war wounds. Matt alias Sly, 2,500 rounds - into his friends??? Lunch was great. Good fun day.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August - **Club Dive and BBQ** Cancelled re tides. Will be re-booked and an email send out.

Help needed soon to sort out brochures for the AV night. Will do at Rick's place a week or so before AV Night



Max Western - Sea Tamer II - great sponsor.

**\*\* Donations for a farewell present for Max – Give any donations/ suggestions to Lesley, Shiprock Dive by the end of the month. Presentation to Max will be held at Shiprock Dive on the 21<sup>st</sup> September.**

SPD's contribution – TBA – Max has been very generous over the years.

New owner will still sponsor SPD. Steve will run the boat on weekends, Max will run mid week dives.

Guest Speaker – Steve Cross for his fascinating talk on bottle collection and collation.

Tim Williams – Bubblelog – Basically a log book on line. Photographic services and dive log. SPD will get commissions off any members joining. Members get a 10% discount and SPD get 10% commission. Dive logs can have photographs integrated into it from a members gallery and can be printed on waterproof paper/ books. There are also dive sites set up as a master with all the relevant depth/ GPS markings etc for use then you add your own dive details to it. Tim will prepare something for our next newsletter as a better explanation.

#### **Raffle -**

Shiprock - 2 air fills - Peter Flockart

Sydney Divercity – Adren gloves – Susan Tate

Sea Tamer II Boat Dive – Noel Taylor

Lucky Door Prize – Nick Nasr (Sydney Divercity)

### **Book Review By Neil Vincent.**

#### **Book Review - DIVING IN DARKNESS by Martyn Farr**

Martyn Farr lives the life he writes about. He makes a living from cave diving photography and teaching technical and cave diving. His thirty years of experience are reflected vividly from the pages of his latest book, Diving in Darkness.

What is immediately obvious about this book is the great colour cave diving photographs which feature on every single page. As a "carry in your brief case" sized glossy coffee table book, it fulfils the role, spectacularly. The photographs are show stoppers for those friends, who continually ask "Why do you cave dive?" Diving in Darkness will illustrate just how beautiful diving in caves can be. Taking photographs in caves is more specialised and task loading than cave diving itself, however, for Martyn, who is one of the leading cave diving photographers in the world today, it is a passion he enjoys.

The foreword by Jill Heinerth, an extreme diver in her own right, is challenging and should be read not passed over as sometimes happens with Forewords. She begins "We had been submerged for over two hours in water at -1.6°C. The depth was just shy of 40 metres and our waiting vessel was 300 metres back through an ice cave in a rapidly increasing current....."