

Position Vacant at the Next Meeting:**President:** Keep order at meetings, spokesperson, chair meetings, agenda for meeting.**Secretary:** Keep minutes, keep all records, make records available to members for inspection.**Treasurer:** Monies due received and payments made, keep books and accounts, etc.**Photographic Officer:** All matters related to photographic competitions**Social Secretary:** Organising social events land based.**Dive Organiser:** Scuba Diving related events.**Publicity Officer:** Mailing and Publishing newsletters.**Weekend Away**

Jervis Bay aboard the
Ocean Trek live-
aboard.

Diving some of the
best locations on the
planet.

Weekend the 3rd and
4th of April 2004.

Anyone interested?

For the sum of
\$374.00. Deposit
\$150.00 must be
paid by the end of
February.

Contact Tom Byron
Phone: 46214504

Scuba Dive Outings (March) 2004

Saturday 6th: Boat Dive 8.30 *The Bridge*. 10.30 *Pussy Cat Bay*. Shore Dive 1.00 *Windy Point*.

Sunday 7th: Boat Dive 10.30 *Tupia Head*. 10.30 *Drift Dive in Bay*. Shore Dive 1.00 *Oak Park*.

Saturday 13th: Boat Dive 8.30 *The Slide*. 10.30 *Minmi Wreck*. Shore Dive 1.00 *The Leap*.

Sunday 14th: Boat Dive 8.30 *Tobbagai Gap*. 10.30 *Henry's Head*. Shore Dive *The Steps*.

Saturday 20th: Boat Dive 8.30 *Exploratory Dive*. 10.30 *Bare Island*. Shore Dive *Windy Point*.

Sunday 21st: Boat Dive 8.30 *St Michaels Drop*. 10.30 *Exploratory Dive*. Shore Dive *Voo Doo*.

Saturday 27th: Boat Dive 10.30 *Yenna Gap*.

Sunday 28th: Boat Dive 8.30 *Potter Point*. 10.30 *Don's Hole*. **BBQ at Shop about midday.**

Ring Divemaster Don on 96688200 for further information.

SPECIALS:

New Ladies size 14 Mares Isotherm semi dry suit \$500. New Mares Volo Fins \$275.

New Mares Regulator System MR12 Epos/Axis \$1150. See Divemaster Don on 96688200.

President Report continued from page 1

I would like to thank Tom Byron for producing our first newsletter for 2004 and what a fantastic job. Also I thank Tom for his thought provoking suggestions and would encourage all our members to contribute and keep our club vibrant and moving forward.

Lets make this year, 2004 the year of the scuba diver and hope to see you all under the water and at club meetings. May I remind all members that the "Clean-up

Australia Day" is Sunday March 7th. I have checked with Don from Divercity and he has a boat dive on that Sunday and there are vacancies available. I would like to suggest a BBQ at Kurnell. High tide is 09.27, this would make a great opportunity to do a shore or boat dive and a bit of a clean-up of Kurnell foreshore.

From last years meeting, we

had talked about a get together dinner in March, 3rd Saturday/Sunday of the month. We had named it "Debbie Does Dinner" I will confirm the booking and details with Debbie and let you all know the outcome.

President

Amanda Taylor



Success in
underwater
photography comes
from experience and
experience comes
from bad photos in
underwater
photography.

SPD Club Meeting 16th February 2004

Incoming Correspondence:

Bank statement, Big M reminder invoice, URG Bulletin, British Sub Aqua Club letter re advertising, Bankstown Sports Club invoice (mistake), BOC Invoice and statement, Doubtless and Diving Newsletter.

Guest Speaker:

Historical Society John Summer. During a "pep" talk John advised that he has dived over 100 shipwrecks along the coast and still has another 50 or so that he wants to do.

John is leaving for the Solomon Islands soon. He sells lots of books and is looking for someone to continue his business. Will haggle a price.

Treasury:

January quite, paid Big M storage, few memberships in, again spent more than what came in.

Photographic Officer:

Not a lot happening, George Roberts Trophy will be run later in the year we need a few months to get organised,

Amanda will run the contest and Peter will help her.

Might also do an interclub competition possibly through SCANS.

Diving:

Sydney Divercity 8.00 Saturday, will need to know by Thursday. \$40.00 per dive. Weather depending.

SCANS:

Combined Club Day 21st March, Frenchman's Bay area. Come for a dive and a free BBQ lunch. Many clubs
Continued page 4

Organization

South Pacific Divers Club
PO Box 823
Bankstown 1885

Editor: Tom Byron
Phone: 46214504
Email: tombyronpublishers@hotmail.com

WWW.southpacificdivers.com

Contact Phone Numbers:

President:
Amanda Taylor 0407690077

Secretary:
Susan Tate 96813287

are supplying items of food. Drinks are available for sale (beer and soft drinks). Need to know numbers. Maybe at Yarra Bay or Long Bay as Randwick Council are working around Frenchman's Bay. Some boats will be on hand to shuttle divers back and fourth to Bare Island. High tide 9.30am.

Website:

Vacant, Phil Taylor will liaise with Noel to get everything up to date and obtain various codes, passwords etc. Peter Flockard will also be given access.

Sydney Divercity:

Divermaster Don advises last weekend was a good weekend for diving. (Valentines Day). Saturday had a boat full of girls, champers, chocolates and chicken sandwiches. May have found the wreck of *Advance*.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Clean Up Australian Day, March 7th:

Both Sydney Divercity and Sea Tamer 11 are doing clean up dives, contact them for further information. SPD will have a BBQ lunch, will list details on the web. High tide 9.27am.

Club Dinner:

Big Johns on Rocky Point Road, BBQ and licensed is back on the agenda again. A date will be chosen when Debbie and Mark return.

AGM:

Will be held in the April meeting. A list of positions will be placed in this newsletter. The Club will have to look at a business/working plan, fundraising ideas would be appreciated. See a committee member with your ideas.

Sponsors:

Sydney Divercity, Shiprock Dive, and possible a third sponsor, Wilderness Sea and Ski from Liverpool. Discussion that it should have been brought up to members for discussion and not decided on or deals made without consulting the members. Amanda advised to put any grievances in writing for discussion at the next meeting's agenda.

Secretary's Position:

Appears that we maybe in breach as we have been running since November's meeting without a secretary, although Sue has been maintaining that position. According to the rules we need to hold a special resolution at the next meeting wherein members will be given 21 days notice to vote on the position until the next AGM.

BACK PAGE STORY: Face masks 1940

Members of the Underwater Spearfishermen's Association have for some time been using, and extolling the virtues of a remarkably successful development of the face mask, the Denny Wells Helmet.

Its chief claim to fame is that it does not leak and cannot be torn off in rough weather or by kicking vigorously from the bottom to the surface.

It's cheap, it's light, does not have dead air space to cause discomfort at depths, and protects the ears from ingress of water, but not from pressure. The difference the wearing of the helmet makes to comfort and warmth is unbelievable.

This is how to make it:

Take about 20 pounds of quick setting Plaster of Paris, a one pound roll of rubber dough (vulcanising rubber for tube repair), a tube of Bostick or similar fortified rubber cement, a few strips of calico or sheeting and a piece of quarter plate glass cut to the shape of your eyes and nose.

The first part is the hardest. Tuck your hair underneath a bathing cap and then smear your face and cap with Vaseline, sump oil or anything greasy, so the plaster will not stick.

Once you have mixed the plaster reasonably thick, lie on your back and get someone to apply the plaster, about an inch thick, to the front half of your head and face, down to your mouth.

Plaster in the eyes is annoying, so protect them with small pads of cotton wool. Do not talk for about ten minutes until the plaster sets and if you must breath, do so without moving your face, as the plaster will crack. Mix more plaster and holding the front half of the mould in place, lie on your tummy and have your assistant repeat the process on the back of your head. Do not forget to grease the edges of the front half, or you will become famous as the man in the plaster cast.

Continued next month: How to get yourself out of a plaster cast.

Plaster Cast Helmets For Divers 1940 Style

