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# JANUARY '93

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*Many thanks to John Gordon for his magnificent slide presentation at our January meeting on the 'Solomon Islands'. John not only showed us some of his brilliant work but gave us a full description of the history, geography, vegetation and lifestyle of the people of the Solomon Islands in great detail.*

*We will look forward to seeing more of John's work throughout the year.*

## **Last Month**

### **GORDON'S BAY**

2 members and one non-member snorkeled out to Shark Point to a depth of about 10 metres. Here they found a large cuttlefish and some very friendly blue grouper and a small Port Jackson shark.

Visibility wasn't too bad (about 9 metres) and divers stayed in the water for about one hour with the good fortune of not finding any more dead bodies!

## **What's Next**

### **PORT HACKING**

Sunday 14th February

Meet At Dolan's Bay wharf, Lilli Pilli at 8.00 am.

**COST: \$25.00**

For bookings or further information, phone Geoff Sanders on 526 2424(H) or 211 2499(W).

## **20 TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER**

Wednesday 17 th February Club Meeting

Our 20 th Anniversary will be celebrated by holding a dinner in the barbeque annex (normal meeting venue) of the George's River Sailing Club.

The dinner will commence at 7.00 pm using the Barbeque/Bistro facilities.

*Booking is not required.*

The monthly meeting will follow the dinner at approximately 8.00pm.

## **Coming Up**

### **PITTWATER CAMPING AND DIVING WEEKEND**

Saturday and Sunday 27/28 th February

We will be camping at 'The Basin' and using club boats for our diving.

Camping fees will be \$3.00 per person for the Saturday night.

There is no access by road to The Basin so members will have to park their cars at Palm Beach and either catch the ferry across or arrange to be picked up by boat. The ferry leaves Palm Beach Wharf on the hour every hour from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm. If you need to be picked up by boat please phone Carol or Rodger 3-4 days before the

weekend to arrange a pick-up time on  
81 1177(H) or 891 2888(W Carol).

#### WHAT TO BRING:

Tent  
Sleeping Bag  
Fold-up Chair  
Torch or Light  
Food (BBQ Saturday night)  
\*Tank- one tank only is required as tanks  
can be filled at Atlantis Divers dive shop  
-Palm Beach.

See map below for details

#### Members Please Note!

Our longstanding member and  
treasurer of 15 years - Geoff Sanders  
has decided it is time to step  
from the committee .

We would therefore ask as many  
members as possible to come to our  
February meeting to show our  
appreciation of all the work and effort  
Geoff has contributed over the  
past 11½ decades.

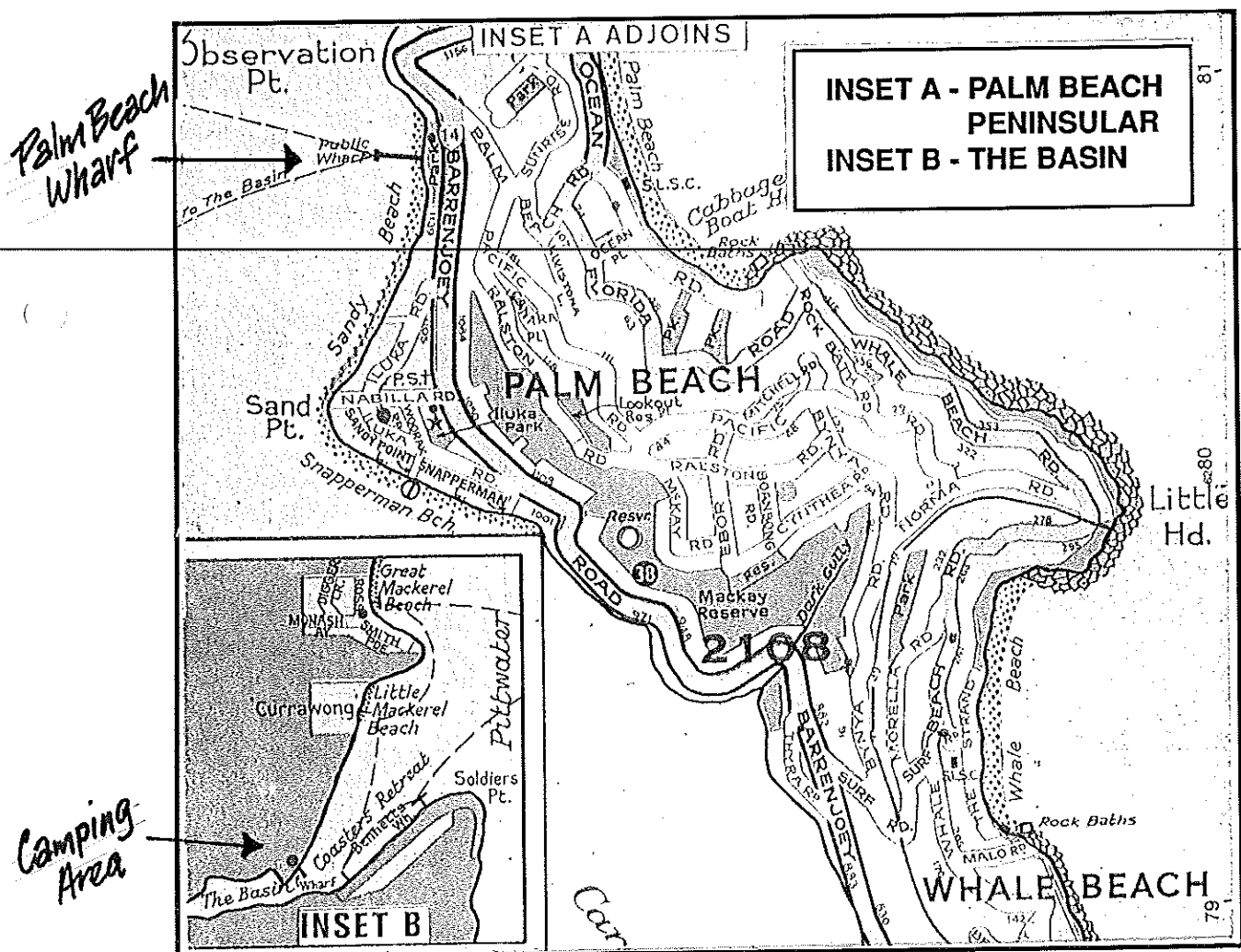
#### NIGHT DIVE CLOVELLY

Friday 12 th March

#### Gear for Sale

2 x 88cc tanks to be exchanged for 64cc or  
75cc tanks. Both tanks have 12 months test.  
Phone Carol on 81-1177(H) or 891-2888(W).

The next club meeting will be held  
on Wednesday 17 th February at  
7.00 pm at The Georges River  
Sailing Club .



## FEBRUARY '93



### Last Month

#### ULLUDULLA

Sat. / Sun. 23-24th January

The weather was perfect for our planned trip to Brush Island.

We departed on the 'Warrigal' in Ulladulla Harbour at 9.00am and arrived at our first destination about one hour later. Divers descended to 27.5 metres to find the remains of a large boiler hoop from an old wreck about 4 metres in diameter. This was rather spectacular on approach as it was surrounded by large schools of fish and marine life including trumpeter, old wives, wirrah, lots of soft coral, hydrocoral, gorgonia and bayozoan.

We had a short surface interval (*there were some who were suffering from the dreaded sea sickness*) and proceeded to gear up for our second dive.

This was a relaxed dive on a drop off on the north eastern side of Brush Island. There was lots of growth including giant

ascidians, sea urchins and commensal shrimp. Steve Shaw was knocked out of his playful mood when his new found friend (*a cute little cuttlefish*) bit his finger!

On Sunday we stayed local and dived on 'Home Bommie' - an old favourite Ulladulla dive spot situated just outside the entrance to Ulladulla harbour. We entered the water at about 10.00 am and descended to a depth of 21 metres. We followed the wall along to the cave and swam through to the anchor, did a bit of exploring and back again. Marine life consisted of grouper, maori wrasse, white eared wrasse, blue devilfish, cuttlefish and reefish, nudibranchs and fan worms.

Some members and friends stayed over on the Monday and Tuesday, however the weather changed and it wasn't possible to do any more diving. Tim had his birthday on the Saturday so we all helped him to celebrate on Saturday night.

## PORT HACKING

Sunday 14 th February

6 members went with Cat Dive to 'Osbourne Shoals'. There was a strong swell on the surface resulting in 3 divers getting very sea sick. On the bottom there was a slight surge and very poor visibility. Someone remembered seeing a blue grouper and a sting ray!

## *What's Next*

### NIGHT DIVE - CLOVELLY

Friday 12 th March

Meet in the car park at the end of Clovelly Road at 8.00pm.

Check your underwater torches are working before the dive.

Contact Beydon on 7432796 if you are going to attend.

## *Coming Up*

### CRICKET & B.B.Q.

Saturday 20 th March

A very casual, informal, relaxed and slightly organised Cricket Game at Carss Park, Blakehurst.

*(Cricket balls will not be used).*

Meet in the carpark at the end of Allawah Ave., Blakehurst at 2.00 pm. Bring some food for the B.B.Q. after the game.

## WOLLONGONG

Sunday 28 th March

Cost: \$20.00 (one dive).

## CURRARONG

Friday 9 th to Monday 12 th April  
(Easter Long W/end)

Cost: \$80.00 for 4 morning dives  
(afternoon dives extra).

Plus camping fees.

*Please Note: If you would like to come to Currarong but do not wish to book on all 4 dives please advise when booking .*

## CLEAN-UP AUSTRALIA DAY

Sunday 7 th March

This year we will be helping in the Clean-Up Campaign again and have been assigned to Bonnie Vale. The official starting time is 8.00 am. Garbage bags will be supplied by the organisers. All you have to bring is some safe shoes and garden gloves or rubber gloves.

For more information ring Keith or Liz on: 825 3735.

## **TO LET** **AIR CONDITIONED** **GARDEN FLAT**

• Car port • Use of pool

• Fully self contained

Ring Les Caterson on (H) 520 9421

St George Scuba Club would like to welcome the following new members and look forward to seeing them soon on our dive programme for 1993.

KAREN SENFF  
VIVIENNE SZAKACS  
LORRAINE CHRISTIE  
JEMMA LETTIN  
JEFFREY BEATON  
KEVIN PIERCE  
ANDY MOREHOUSE  
JOHN SZWECOW  
RUSSELL SARGEANT

*The next meeting wil be held on Wednesday  
17 th March at the Georges River Sailing  
Club at 8.00 pm.*

# MAY '93 NEWS

## ***Last Month***

### **TERRIGAL**

Sat. 21st - Mon. 26th April

(Anzac Day Long Weekend)

Cancelled due to lack of support.

### **PORT HACKING**

Sun. 16th May

Due to a very heavy swell brought on by strong winds on Saturday, 7 divers left

Dolan's Bay with 'Cat Dive' for Jibbon Reef. Although not totally ideal diving conditions with 10 metres visibility there were still lots to see. Tim and Les found a

very large sand anchor and a very large hungry groper (which they satisfied with a few lonely sea urchins).

There were quite a few morwong around also and the water was still warm for this time of the year.

## ***What's Next***

### **LONG REEF**

Sunday 30th May

Meeting at Collaroy Basin Boat ramp at 9.00 am. We will be diving with Manly Dive Centre.

**Cost: \$20.00 for 1 dive.**

### **FORSTER/ SEAL ROCKS**

(Queens Birthday Long Weekend)

Sat. 12th - Mon. 14th June

We will be diving with Ron Hunter (Fisherman's Wharf Dive Shop) again this year. We have 4 dives booked and Seal Rocks diving will be dependant on weather conditions. Please ring Carol on Wednesday night 9th to confirm meeting place for 1st dive on Saturday morning.

**Cost: \$100 for 4 dives.**

We will be staying at the Suncoast Caravan Park (065 546 591).

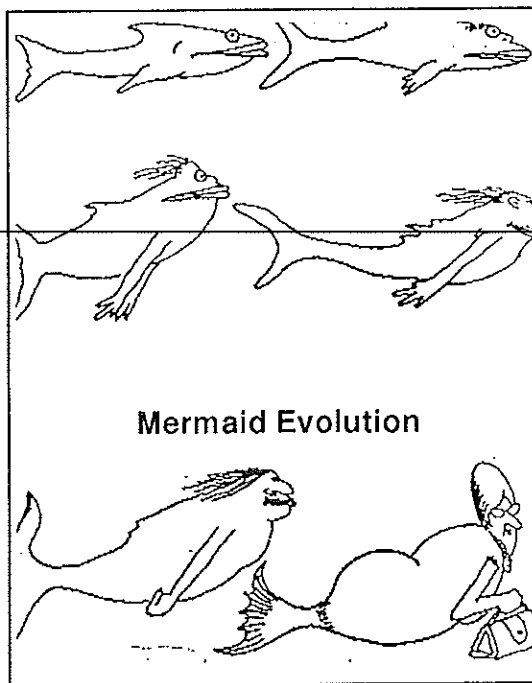
If you wish to book please ring Carol (H: 81 1177 or W: 891 2888) first, as we

do have some vans already booked.

Forster has off-the-wall diving, underwater caves, archways, shipwrecks, deep sea sponge gardens, pinnacles and most times the water is so clear that you can almost see forever. Forster has seals, sharks, great night dives

and reefs that are loaded with lots of friendly fish.

You can photograph and feed many big gropers at "Spot A", swim with schools of grey nurse sharks or just marvel at the fish life that live on the sponge covered deep



reefs that lie offshore close to Forster. Forster has some great diving so if you haven't been before take this opportunity while weather conditions are prevailing.

## Coming Up

ROYAL SHEPHERD (WRECK DIVE)

Sunday 27th June

Meeting at Watson's Bay wharf at 9.00am.

Boat dive with picnic lunch.

Phone Les Caterson for bookings on

(H) 520 9421.

*At our June club meeting John Gorton will be showing us his slides on Vanuatu and more specifically the wreck of the 'President Coolidge'. Those members who have seen John's photo's before already know what great photographer he is, so don't miss this opportunity to see some exciting pictures of this very famous wreck.*

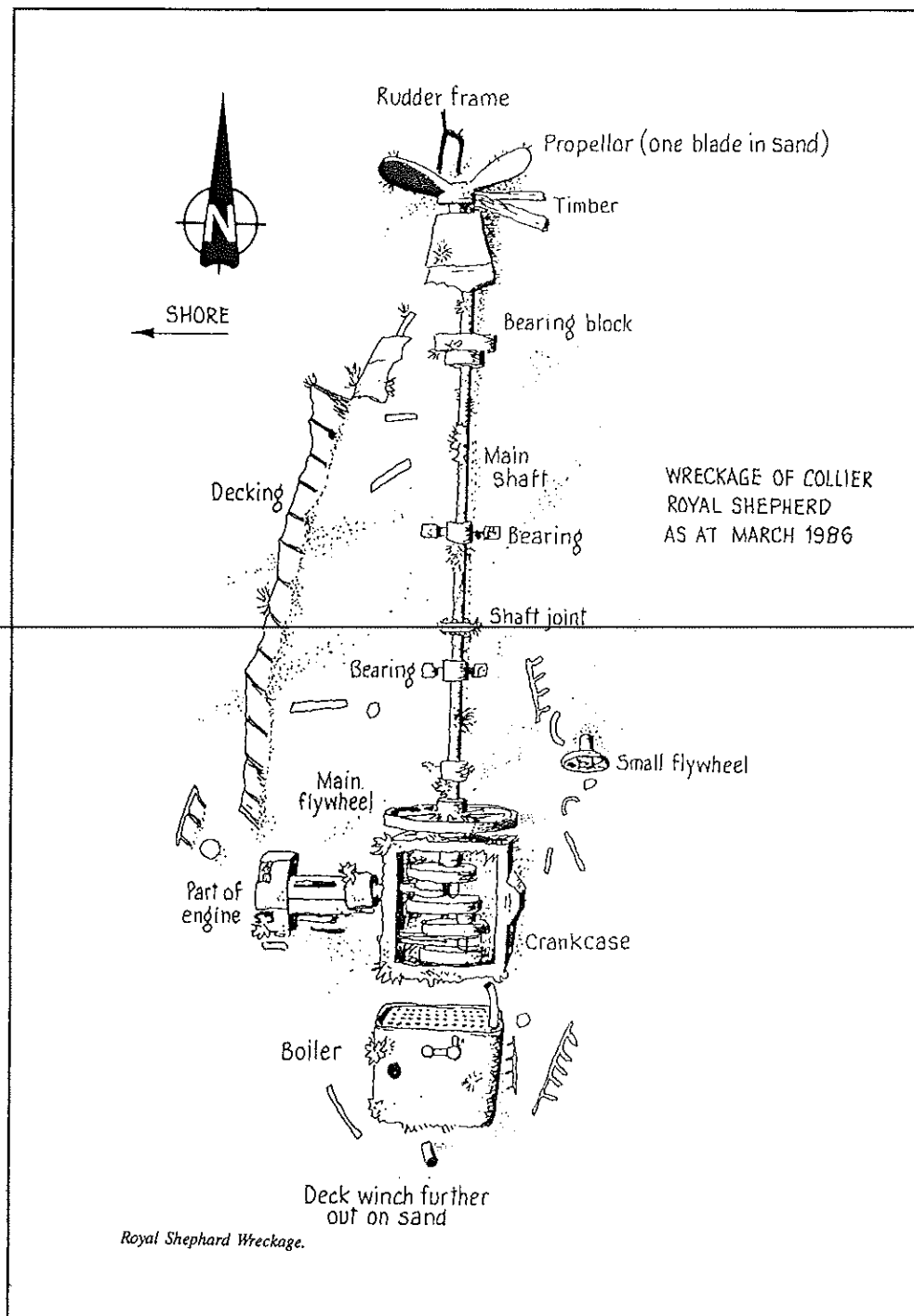
John has entered his work in the "1993 Australasian Underwater Photographer of the Year" to be held at the Revesby Workers Club on Saturday 17th July this year.

'Good luck' John from everyone at S.G.S.C.

The club has not booked a table this year, however if you are interested in going please ring Les or Carol as soon as possible as seats are running out!

*The next meeting will be held at the Georges River Sailing Club on Wednesday 16th June at 8.15 pm.*

**See you there!**



## JUNE '93

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### *Last Month*

#### LONG REEF

Sunday 30 th May

This was a great dive and well worth the travelling to.

We dived "The Apartments," which is an area of huge boulders on top of each other, with caves and swimthroughs. On our descent we were greeted by a five foot grey nurse and after leaving we were surrounded by hundreds of fish of at least six varieties.

There were a few large wrasse who had no table manners when it came to gobbling up sea urchins and divers fingers. Les talked tentacle to glove with a large cuttlefish, and we were amazed to find about six relatives, each about two feet long, although they weren't quite as friendly. All the rocks and even the swimthroughs had lots of life on them.

When we got back to the boat there were four other boats anchored close by. This is definitely a popular spot and a must for next year's calendar.

*Judy Morris*

#### FORSTER/SEAL ROCKS

*Queen's Birthday Long Weekend*

Sat. 12 th to Mon. 14 th June

Eight divers turned up for this event. Tony Hagan was staying with his family at Pacific Palms Resort about 10 kms south of Forster. Six others arrived at the Suncoast Caravan Park on Friday night. Beydon Sherwood, in his haste to secure a good bunk in one of the cabins, overshot Forster completely and ended up sleeping in his car in a paddock somewhere in Tuncurry. Carol Scrimshaw drove up in her brand new Toyota Skateboard which she was able to park under the BBQ table.

On the Saturday we were booked in for an 11.0'clock dive. There was a strong wind warning and all that morning the wind had been picking up until by the time we headed out there was a howling south-westerly blowing. Only places diveable were Spot A and Latitude Rock. We opted for Spot A where the conditions were quite good.

It was much warmer in the water than out of it and everyone enjoyed a really easy dive of about 30-40 minutes. Most of the diving was done between 16-20 metres. The vis was about 12m - quite good under the circumstances.

This is definitely the 'Year of the Wobby'. A 3m specimen was curled up in the 'amphitheatre' and was the first thing most

## What's Next

### WOLLONGONG

*Sunday 28th March*

#### BOAT DIVE:

Meet at Wollongong Harbour boat ramp|  
at 9.30 am.

**Cost: \$20.00 for one dive**

Bring a picnic lunch.

For bookings phone Beydon Sherwood on  
(W) 901 0979 or (H) 743 2796

### CURRARONG

*Friday 9th-Monday 12th April  
Easter Long W/E*



We will be camping at Currarong Caravan park on 'The Hill'. The club has booked 3 sites and cost for camping will be \$5.00 per head per night.

We have booked 4 morning dives which will cost \$20.00 each or \$80.00 for 4 dives.

Additional dives will be booked if there are enough participating divers.

## Lost and Found

1 x Diving Knife • 1 x Hood • 1 x T-shirt

All these articles were found at the Basin after everyone had gone home. Please phone Carol for information on (H) 81 1177 or (W) 891 2888.

First dive on Friday morning is at Bosom Beach at 8.00am. Please don't be late! If you can't come for the full 4 days perhaps you may want to book on for 2 or 3 days. If so please contact Carol or Beydon as soon as possible as we need to finalise numbers. Currarong is great diving so if you would like to come book soon!

## Coming Up

### TERRIGAL

*Sat. 24th-Mon. 26th April  
Anzac Day Long Weekend*

**Cost: \$75.00 for 3 morning dives.**

*Afternoon dives optional.*

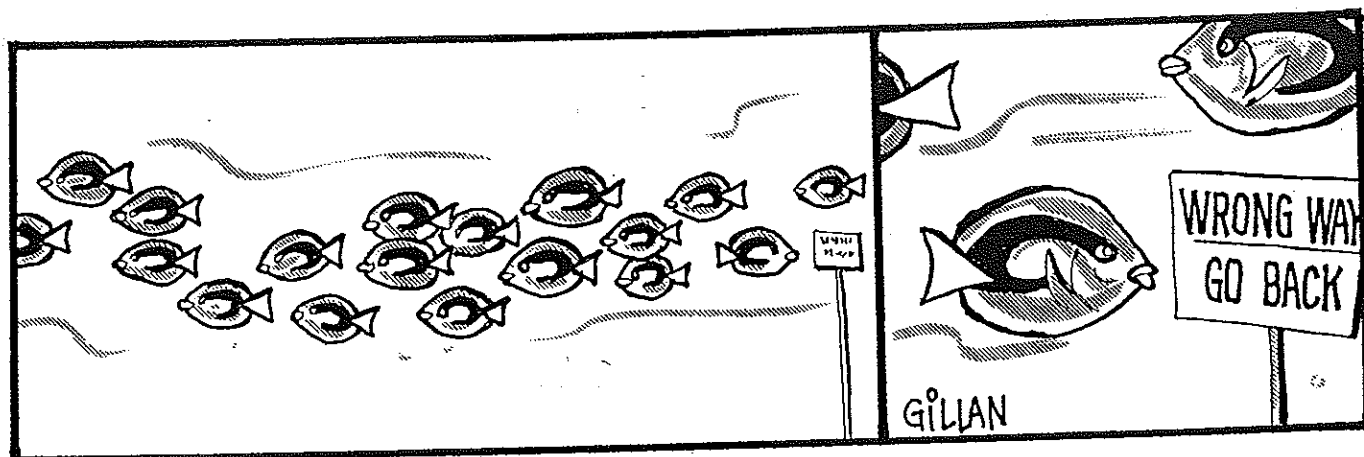
### PORT HACKING

*Sunday 16th May*

Boat Dive (club boats) with picnic lunch.

*The next meeting will be held at  
The Georges River Sailing Club on  
Wednesday 21st April at 8.15 pm.*

**Non members welcome.**





people saw when they hit the bottom. Around the next rock was a clone of the first one stretched out on the sand. Many others were spotted in the gutters. There were many morays, most of which were quite tame and easily coaxed out into the open. There were large schools of yellowtail and tailor and the usual over-friendly groper hanging around. Everyone saw a large turtle and some divers saw a moorish idol.

This was the only dive on Saturday as the wind just kept getting stronger so everyone had a fairly easy afternoon on land. That night we all headed off to Pacific Palms Resort for a communal BBQ with Tony and family. After this we all sat around a roaring log fire until the time came to head back to Forster.

The wind blew all that night and was still going strong on Sunday morning. Nevertheless we were all ready on the wharf at 7.30 am where we decided to try for a double dive, the first being Diamond Reef about 30 mins north. This would probably be a pretty good dive when conditions are good but on this day it was a bit of a write-off! Most people gave it away after about 20 mins. The vis was only about 5m and the surge did not help.

Nevertheless there was plenty of life around - sponges of many kinds, pink and green soft corals, an unusual purple sea-tulip and a purple bryozoan which I had never seen before. Twenty seven varieties of nudibranchs are supposed to inhabit this reef but we only found two. There were blotched and falcon hawkfish, which are common in sponge gardens, and we spotted a southern coral fish just before commencing our ascent.

Back on board the conditions were getting worse making for a very rough ride. Some elected to try for a second dive anyway. Rodger Clark astonished everyone by 'mooning' while standing on one leg in a rocking boat. This was enough to make one

of our more squeamish divers rush to the side to throw up!

Six divers went over the side at Latitude Rock in much better conditions. The vis was back to 12m with a depth of 15m. It was a very easy dive and very enjoyable. Wobbies were again everywhere. There were plenty of fish around including banner fish, pineapple fish and a black angelfish which was a new one for all who saw it. There were also some spotted puffer fish amongst the schools of bullseyes.

That was the end of the watersports for Sunday. We were all back on land by about midday with the wind still howling. Most people opted for a lazy afternoon while three of us went for a drive up Cape Hawk and then down to McBrides Beach which is relatively unspoilt and unknown being a bit difficult to get to. That evening, Sue and I stayed on the campsite while the rest (*collectively known as Catterson's Clowns*) headed for the night spots and singles bars of Forster where they raged until well after 8.30 pm. They arrived noisily back in camp where everyone gathered in one cabin for the usual tall-tale telling session. Geoff Sanders produced a couple of bottles of cream liqueur which was not only good to drink but proved to be excellent for cleaning the contacts on a flooded dive torch!

Monday was somewhat uncertain. The plan was to meet the boat at Seal Rocks and try for a dive there. We arrived at 10 am to find that the earlier dives had been abandoned so our dive was cancelled. After a cup of coffee by the beach watching huge seas pouring around the headland we all headed for home. This was not the best diving we have had at Forster but it was not the worst either. However, the good company as usual made for a great social weekend and I'm sure no-one regretted going.

Steve Shaw

## What's Next

### WRECK DIVE ROYAL SHEPHERD

Sun. 27th June

Meeting at Watson's Bay Wharf at 9.00am.

Cost: \$25.00 for one dive.

For bookings phone Les Caterson on 520 9421.

### SHELL HARBOUR

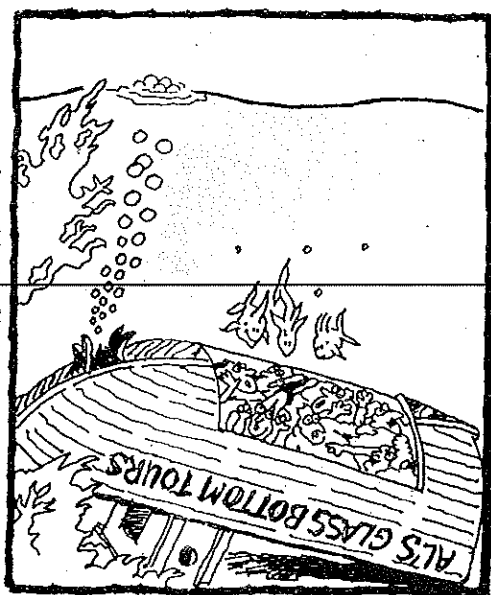
Sunday 18th July

Meeting at the Shellharbour at 10.00am.

Boat Dive with picnic lunch.

Cost: \$20.00 for one dive.

*Thankyou to John Gordon for his excellent slides on Vanuatu and the President Coolidge which he shared with us at the June Club meeting. We hope it has motivated others to experience diving in new exciting places.*



## Coming Up

### BUSHWALKING AT BLACKHEATH

Sat./Sun. 30th-31st July

Cost: Approx. \$10.00 per night.

## Gear For Sale

1 x 88cc AIR TANK IN TEST.....\$150

OR SWAP FOR 65cc TANK

Phone Rodger on 811177

### 1 x TECHNA REGULATOR

(High Performance Reg.) in very good condition.....\$250

Phone Duane Yates on 529 3575

## New bag limits placed on local sea creatures

**TOUGH** new bag limits critical areas.

are now in place to protect marine life in the intertidal zones of NSW.

Bait hunters and lovers of fresh seafood will now have to observe strict new bag limits on crabs, beach worms, pipis, cockles, mussels and other invertebrates, or face fines of up to \$5000.

The new limits, which took effect on May 1, were introduced by the Minister for Natural Resources, Ian Causley.

"The animals living between low and high tide are coming under increasing pressure from human foraging," Mr Causley said.

"Collectors have wreaked havoc on the intertidal zone by denuding the foreshores, and by using destructive harvesting implements such as crowbars."

Further protective action is likely to occur in the next few months, when certain intertidal zones will be totally protected from foragers.

"Action is urgently needed to protect areas which are being depleted and to allow these areas to provide the breeding populations to re-colonise adjacent areas," Mr Causley said.

"This will be achieved by total closures to invertebrate collecting in

Priority will be given to the recommended areas for total protection in the Sydney coastal region and these are now being considered by a management committee, to take effect within the next two months," Mr Causley said.

NSW Fisheries has published a four-page leaflet detailing the new limits.

The new collection limits are: 10 bait crabs; 20 beach worms; 50 pipis, cockles and mussels in total; and 20 snails, limpets and chitons.

Octopus is completely protected on open rock platforms and in Sydney Harbour.

Regulations also target the methods of harvesting.

Pipis and cockles may be taken only by hand and beach worms can be taken by hand or with pliers.

Yabbies, blood worms and squirt worms may all be harvested by yabby pump, upturned tin can, shovel or pitchfork, but only in certain areas.

On rock platforms, the only acceptable harvesting implement is a single-blade knife — mattocks, chisels and crowbars are banned.

To report illegal harvesting activity, phone (008) 043 536.

*The next meeting will be held at the Georges River Sailing Club on Wednesday 21st July at 8.15 pm.*

*See you there!*

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## J U L Y ' 9 3

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### *Last Month*

WRECK DIVE - ROYAL SHEPHERD °  
 Sunday 27 th June ° ° °

Cancelled. ° °

KIAMA - BOAT DIVE  
 Sunday 18 th July

Cancelled.

### *What's Next*

BUSHWALKING WEEKEND IN THE  
 BLUE MOUNTAINS  
 Sat 31st July & Sun 1st August

We will be staying in cabins at Blackheath on Friday and Saturday nights.

The cabins are in the "Lakeview Holiday Park" Prince Edward Street, Blackheath. (off Govett's Leap Road )

Blackheath is approximately two hours drive from Sydney. All cabins have a separate bathroom and posses their own cooking facilities, fridge, crockery, cutlery, blankets and a doona on each bed.

*Suggestion: a small electric fan heater would be useful in the cabins.*

Lakeview is next to the Blue Mountains National Park with easy access to bushwalks, lookouts and waterfalls.

### *What to Bring!*

- 1) Comfortable shoes for walking
- 2) Warm clothes
- 3) Sleeping bags
- 4) Pillow Slips
- 5) Towels
- 6) Food \*
- 7) Small bushwalking day pack (optional)

*\* We will probably have dinner out on Saturday night - not expensive.*

Major attractions in the area include, Govett's Leap and Bridal Veil Falls, Evan's Lookout, Anvil Rock, Wind Eroded Cave, Hanging Rock.

Hargreaves Lookout offers spectacular views of the valleys which surround Blackheath.

Mount Blackheath has magnificent views over the Kanimbla Valley. There are a

number of interesting arts and crafts, as well as antique shops at Mount Victoria. Tea Houses which serve delicious hot Devonshire Teas (freshly baked scones, blackberry jam and cream) are located at Blackheath, Mount Victoria, Mount Wilson, Megalong Valley, Leura and Wentworth Falls.

Blackheath also has some of the best bushwalks in the Blue Mountains.

These include: The Grand Canyon (2½ hours), Porters Pass and Centennial Glen (2½ hours), Mermaids Cave (30 mins), Perry's Lookdown - Blue Gum Forest .

**Cost: \$20.00 (two nights accommodation)**

For bookings or further information, please phone Carol Scrimshaw on:

\* (H) 81 1177 or (W) 891 2888

**KURNELL - INSCRIPTION POINT**  
Sunday 15 th August

Meet at the main gate at 9.30 am. This will be a shore dive with a BBQ lunch. Please ring Geoff Sanders on 526 2424 if you are going to confirm numbers and diving arrangements.

### ***Coming Up***

**JERVIS BAY**

Sat./Sun. 28th -29th August

**Cost: \$75.00 for three dives**

We will be diving with Jervis Bay Dive Centre and staying at Huskisson Caravan Park. For bookings please phone Carol on 81 1177 or 891 2888(W).

RESTAURANT NIGHT

Saturday  
4th September



**Capitan Torres**  
**Spanish Restaurant**

73 Liverpool Street  
PH: 264 5574

*For bookings phone Ian Champion on*  
**529 4914**

### ***Membership Renewals***

#### **Membership Fees Are Now Due!**

The completed membership form together with the fee of \$ 10.00 can be sent directly to

Les Caterson at:

25 Rosebery Street,

HEATHCOTE NSW 2233

or brought to the next club meeting.

### ***Gear For Sale***

1 x pair 'Delta' booties (small)

1 x hood (small)

1 x pair 'Sterling' fins (small)

all for .....\$150.00 (O.N.O.)

Phone Peter Jackson on (H) 668 8160

*The next meeting will be held on  
Wednesday 18th August at the  
Georges River Sailing Club  
at 8.15pm.*

SCUBA

Saint



George

CLUB

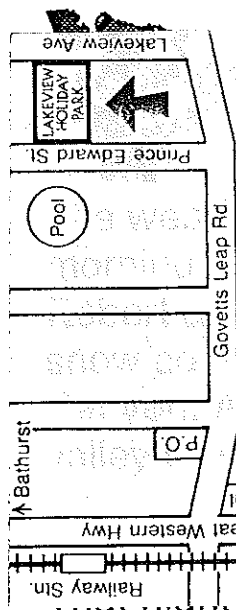
P.O. BOX 357 CRONULLA NSW 2230

# AUGUST '93

## Last Month

BUSHWALKING WEEKEND IN THE  
BLUE MOUNTAINS

Sat & Sun 31st/1st Aug



Five members arrived late Friday night at Lakeview Holiday Park, Blackheath. It was bleak and wet on Sat but this didn't stop Tim, Georgina from braving virtual odds to set out for the Grand. It would have it, the protected from the wind and walkers had a great time. They enjoyed some sunshine.

They all walked up to the local pub. (Rodger & Carol had to get some walking in somehow!). Everybody indulged in some good food and wine and were entertained by a couple of local musos playing guitar and a banjo and a general sing-song. Afterwards, it was back to the lodge for chatter and coffee until the early hours. Next day, Tim, Carol & Rodger headed back to Sydney, leaving Rob & Georgina to try another short walk.. Another good weekend!

## Congratulations

To Belinda & Mitchell Giles on the birth of their baby son.

To Anna Leszkiewicz on the arrival of TWIN boys!

## Coming Events

JERVIS BAY

Sat/Sun 28/29 Aug

Cost \$75 for 3 dives

We will be staying at the Huskisson Caravan Park and diving with Jervis Bay Dive Centre.

Please confirm your bookings with Geoff Sanders on 526-2424

RESTAURANT NIGHT

Saturday  
4th September

 **Capitan Torres**  
**Spanish Restaurant**

73 Liverpool Street  
PH: 264 5574

For bookings phone Ian Champion on  
529 4914

MONTAGUE ISLAND

October Long Weekend 2-4th

LILLI PILLI

Wreck Dive (Hilda) from Dolan's  
Bay Wharf 8am Sunday 17th Oct

## Help Wanted:

The NSW Albatross Study Group has asked our club for assistance in helping them understand more about the Common Cuttlefish (*Sepia Apama*).

These creatures are an important food source for all species of Albatross and Dolphins. They are readily identified by 3 small erect palps over each eye.

Males are more heavily coloured than females and on average, larger, growing to over one metre in length. Sightings between Sydney and Jervis Bay are of particular interest.

The following gives a guide to the information they seek:-

Location (very specific) Date. Time.

Depth. Water Temp. Habitat.

(reef, wreck, harbour, cave, bottom type - rock, sand, weed etc)

Numbers observed.

Size. (this refers to body length, NOT including tentacles or head)

eg: Small - <20cm, Medium - 20-30cm,

Large - 30-45cm

Behaviour (Feeding, travelling, mating, hiding in a hole or cave etc)

If feeding, please note what they are eating - eg: fish, crustaceans - crabs, prawns, lobster, other cuttlefish etc.

Please forward any observations to either your local Dive shop, or direct to the NSW Albatross Study Group  
PO Box 142

Unanderra NSW 2526

If you require further information, please contact:

Janice Jenkin

042-716004

OR Harry Battam  
02-520-7521

## Housekeeping:

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE NOW DUE

A completed membership form, together with the annual fee of \$10, can be sent directly to:

Les Caterson (Treasurer)

25 Rosebery Ave

Heathcote NSW 2233

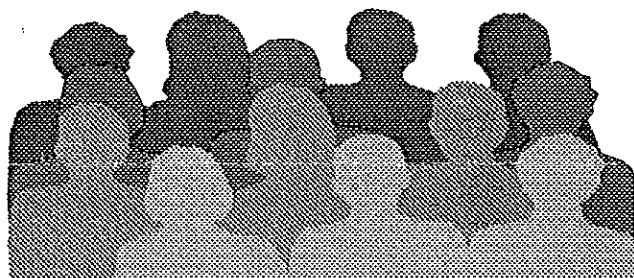
or brought to the next club meeting.



## NEXT CLUB MEETING

Will be held at the Georges River Sailing Club at 8:15pm on Wed 15th Sept.

Why not come and join us for the 3 course dinner in the carvery at 7pm? \$12 p/pers



## SPECIAL NOTICE

Due to the absence of our Treasurer, - who, despite popular rumours, has not absconded with the petty cash tin to go on a Pacific cruise - the Annual General Meeting, normally held in September, will now be conducted during the October meeting. (20th)

Please have your nominations for Committee ready.

PS: Your President is also taking a well-earned break and is languishing on Fraser Island this month. I'll accept the blame for any printing mistakes....ic (Vice-P)

# SEPTEMBER '93

## Last Month

CAPITAN TORRES  
SPANISH RESTAURANT

Sat. 4 th September

8 members decided to try the culinary delights of the well known Spanish Restaurant. Everyone agreed that the food was not upto it's reputation and that it was a little too noisy to talk normally (*shouting might be more descriptive*). However, it's always fun to try new restaurants, and everyone had a good time anyway.

JERVIS BAY

Sat./Sun. 28th-29th August

Cancelled

## What's Next

MONTAGUE ISLAND  
October Long Weekend  
Sat.2nd - Mon.4th October

If you want the chance to dive with some very friendly seals, then join us on this weekend.

The cost of \$100.00 covers 3 nights accommodation at Malua Bay Inn and two dives at Montague Island on the Sunday.

Local dives will be organised for

Saturday and Monday at Malua Bay. Bookings are now open and must be made as soon as possible. A deposit of **\$40.00** is payable on placing booking. For bookings and further information please phone Les on (H) 520 9421.



WRECK DIVE -THE HILDA

Sunday 17th October

Meeting at Dolan's Bay wharf, L at 8.00am.

**Cost: \$25.00 for one dive.**

## Annual General Meeting and Club Elections

It is very important that all members try to attend this meeting. the future of your club is in the hands of the Committee that you elect.

*The meeting will begin at  
8.00 pm on Wednesday  
20th October at the  
Georges River Sailing Club.*



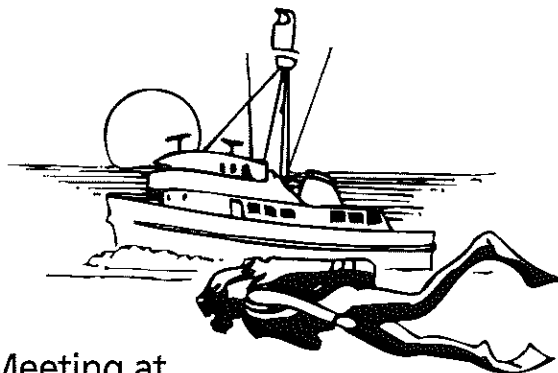
## Membership Renewals

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE  
NOW OVERDUE!!!

This newsletter will be the last one sent to unfinancial members. The completed membership form must accompany the \$10.00 fee, and can be sent to Les Caterson at 25 Rosebery Street Heathcote 2233 or bring it along to the next club meeting.

## Coming Up

BROUGHTON ISLAND  
Sunday 31st October



Meeting at  
Nelson's Bay Charter Boat  
Wharf at 9.00 am.

**Cost: \$50.00 for 2 dives.**  
(includes second tank).

SHELLHARBOUR  
Sunday 14 th November  
Shore Dive with BBQ lunch.

## Gear for Sale

**1 x Windsurfer**  
with 6m storm sail.  
**\$300.00**

•

**20' Pride President:**  
150 Merc + 12 hp aux.  
Locking cabin/double berth / toilet /  
stove / water tank and hand basin /  
stereo AM/FM cassette / CB radio /  
compass / nav. lights / boarding  
ladder / all safety gear / licenced for  
7 passengers / tandem trailer with  
electric winch.

**\$12,900.00**

Phone Ian Champion on:  
(H) 529 4914

**1 x "CAIN" Surf Ski**  
*In mint condition.*

Fibre glass paddle and ski.  
Very stable and thus suitable for any  
age or weight.

**\$300.00**

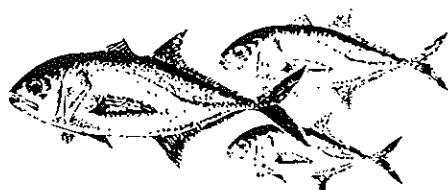
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**Inflatable dinghy with oars**

7' long / 2 person.

**\$350.00**

Phone Rodger Clark on  
(H) 81 1177





## OCTOBER '93

### *Last Month*

#### MONTAGUE ISLAND October Long Weekend

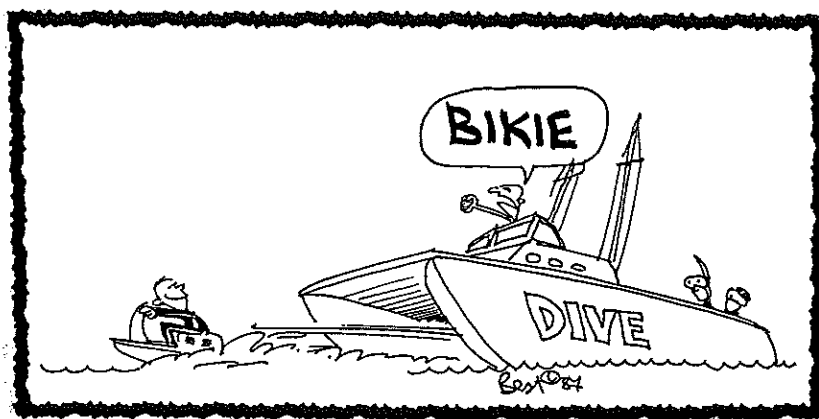
The weather did not do too much to make this weekend memorable. A raging southerly blew fiercely all day Saturday and worse on Monday but Geoff and Beydon still managed to get a dive in on Montague Island on the Sunday.

To their great surprise a new colony of NZ seals arrived on the island just three weeks before. These seals are much more friendly and approachable than our "aussie" seals (so Geoff says) and they were able to get so close they could even stroke them and play with them on the surface.

Diving off the NW corner it provided perfect shelter from the north easterly wind which was developing.

#### WRECK DIVE - "THE HILDA"

"The Hilda" was a 38 metre single screw, steel steamship which was carrying coal from Port Kembla to Sydney when it struck rocks at North Head, Bates Bay and sunk in about 24 metres of water. Alas... there is not much left of 'The Hilda' and on this day 11 divers from the club set out to explore what little remains of the old ship.



But...it was not to be! Due to limited visibility no one actually found the wreckage even though Les Caterson (one of our motley crew) has taken many divers there before.

For most of us however it was a worthwhile dive because it washed the cobwebs out of our wetsuits and conditioned them for lots more diving coming up.

### *What's Next*

#### BROUGHTON ISLAND Sunday 14 th October

Leaving Nelsons Bay Charter Wharf at 9.00 am. Diving with Action Divers - Nelsons Bay (049) 812 491.

**Cost: \$50.00 for 2 dives** - which includes a second tank.

Divers should bring some lunch as the boat will be staying out for both dives at Broughton Island unless the weather

does not allow.

If you are going to drive up on Saturday (most people find this to be the best option) we will be staying at Bardouroka Caravan Park (049) 811 473 which is not far from Fly Point, the well known marine reserve and shore dive. Fly Point is dived according to the tides and makes a nice easy dive on the Saturday afternoon.

For bookings phone Les Caterson on 520 9421.

### **SHELL HARBOUR - BASS POINT** Sunday 14 th September

Shore dive with B.B.Q. lunch.

Meeting at the main gate at 9.30 am.

Please ring Carol or Les if you are going so we can have some idea of who will be down there and we can look out for you.

### ***November Club Meeting***

Wednesday 17 th November

Meeting at Georges River Sailing Club at 8.00 pm. Some members like to have dinner in the club dining room before the meeting - very good value at \$12.00 for a three course meal plus a carafe of wine.

### ***Coming Up***

**CAMP COVE - NIGHT DIVE**

Friday 19 th November

Cliff Street Watsons Bay (*Shore Dive*)

**NORAH HEAD**

Sat.& Sun. 27th/28th November

**Cost: \$50.00 for 3 dives (*Boat Dive*)**

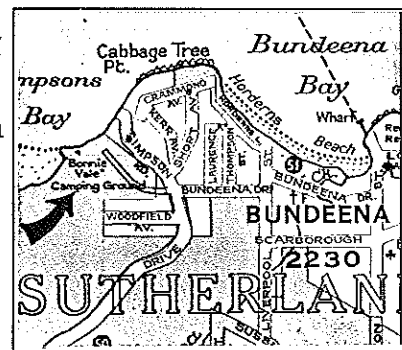
### **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

4th December

Our Christmas Party this year is to be held at Bonnie Vale beach in the Royal National Park. The turn off to the camping ground is on the left hand side just before Bundeena (see map).

The club has booked 4 campsites no's 26, 27, 28 & 29 for the Saturday night.

Members who wish to stay overnight can set up their tents on Saturday and stay until Sunday afternoon or you may choose to come for the Christmas Party only. We will be arranging diving on the Saturday with Karl St.John but we do ask members to book with either Les or Carol to organise times and numbers.



The club will be supplying all food for the Christmas Party and all you have to do is bring your own drinks, a fold-up chair to sit on and your favourite party joke (*so you can get a present from Santa!*). For further information please ring Carol on (W) 891 2888 or (H) 811177.

At our October Club Meeting we held our Annual General Meeting for 1993. We would like to thank all those members who attended and made it such a very successful meeting.

The elected committee for 1993-94 is as follows:

President: Carol Scrimshaw

Treasurer: Les Caterson

Secretary: Tim Rigg

Vice President: Steve Bull

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer:

Andy Morehouse



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# NOVEMBER '93

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## *Last Month*

### BROUGHTON ISLAND

Sunday 14 th October

Geoff and Beydon decided to take a gamble on driving to Nelson's Bay even though the weather was not encouraging for diving.

Unfortunately the seas were too rough to go to Broughton so Action Divers decided to go offshore to the south west corner of Cabbage Tree Island.

Marine life they encountered were magpie morwong, blue groper, a small cuttlefish and a very large leatherjacket as well as a small numb ray under the sand. Vis was about 6-8 metres.

It was very windy so Geoff and Beydon decided not to have a second dive.

The gutter itself headed north and initially just had lots and lots of kelp as it descended slowly for about 200-300 metres to a depth of 21 metres. Here it opened up into a beautiful sponge garden quite unexpectedly with overhangs and many cone shaped sponges. They also saw some red morwong, basket stars and one very large cuttlefish out in the open water. After the dive they had some lunch and then the sun came out and it cleared into a beautiful sunny day.....*typical!*

## *What's Next*

### CAMP COVE - NIGHT DIVE

Friday 19 th November

Cliff Street Watsons Bay (*Shore Dive*)

### SHELL HARBOUR - BASS POINT

Sunday 14 th September

Once again Geoff and Beydon (*now becoming regular dive buddies in the worst weather conditions*) bravely drove down the coast through wind and rain with the hope of having a memorable dive.

With a strong southerly blowing they decided to try diving a big gutter which was situated not far from the amenities block.

The water was dead calm at the entry point and thus made easy access in and out.

### NORAH HEAD

Sat.& Sun. 27th/28th November

**Cost: \$60.00 for 3 dives** (*Boat Dive*)

Diving with Pro Dive Norah Head.

First dive at 8.00am at Cabbage Tree Harbour Boat ramp.

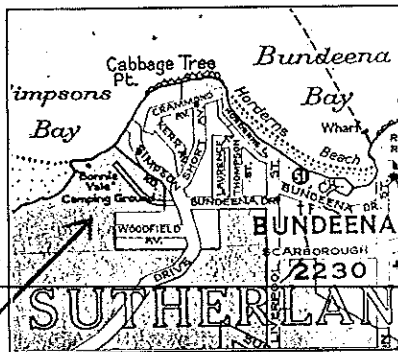
We will be staying at Norah Head Caravan Park. Members are required to book their own campsite.

Phone: (043) 963 935.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

4th December

Our Christmas Party this year is to be held at Bonnie Vale beach in the Royal National Park. The turn off to the camping ground is on the left hand side just before Bundeena (see map). The club has booked 4 campsites no's 26, 27, 28 & 29 for the Saturday night. Members who wish to stay overnight can set up their tents on Saturday and stay until Sunday afternoon or you may choose to come for the Christmas Party only. We will be diving on Saturday with Karl St. John at 2.00 pm but we do ask members to book with either Les or Carol to organise times and numbers. The club will be supplying all food for the Christmas Party and all you have to do is bring your own drinks, a fold-up chair to sit on and your favourite party joke (so you can get a present from Santa!). For further information please ring Carol on (W) 891 2888 or (H) 811177.



"That was fast! ... Gunther! The Diver Delivery guy is here!"

## SPECIAL NOTICE

*For those members who have not attended a club meeting for the last two months our club has been made aware of a proposal for sand mining off-shore from Botany Bay, Cronulla and the Royal National Park.*

*A public meeting was held at Cronulla Leagues Club on Wednesday 24th November to determine the effects on the environment.*

*Les Caterson, Michael McFadden, Tim Rigg, Lynda Tucker and Geoff Sanders attended the meeting at which Les was a speaker for the opposition. It appears it was unanimous that the community and the councils are totally opposed to the proposal but we need your help to get it through.*

*If you want support the campaign and lodge your protest against the proposal please write to:*

The Department of Mineral Resources  
P.O. Box 635  
St. Leonards NSW 2065

**before 17th December.**

*(See Details on proposal next page)*

## PORT HACKING

Sunday 12th December

Due to the unavailability of club boats on this weekend we will have to postpone this dive until early in the new year.

*Our next club meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th December at The Georges River Sailing Club at 8.00 pm.*

# ...what some people will do to get their picture on the front page of the newspaper

## *Lucy looks great don't you think!*

By GRAHAM DAVIS  
and SUE CONVEY

FOUR Shire scuba divers are alive today – thanks to a dog called Lucy, a photographer's floodlight and a Sans Souci fisherman's knowledge of local waters and who uses them.

In a million-to-one chance, the divers were found roped together for survival and bobbing nearly three kilometres out from shore in storm-tossed seas.

They were near exhaustion after have been in the water for nearly three hours.

Their own boat had snapped its anchor rope and had drifted away.

The incident occurred when Heathcote diving expert Les Caterson went to the Osborn Shoal, a reef 2.5 kilometres off North Cronulla, with three companions on the holiday weekend.

They tumbled off his five-metre dive boat, Le Cat, and spent 45 minutes on the reef where one of the group, a photographer, took pictures.

While they were underwater, a 50km/h southerly swept across Bate Bay, snapping the anchor rope and releasing their boat.

Still aboard the now drifting craft was Les's pet dog Lucy.

When the divers surfaced, they saw they had no boat, so dropped their weight belts to increase buoyancy and clung to the anchor rope to minimise drift in the hope they would be rescued.

But rescue did not come, so later they cut off a section of the anchor rope and tied themselves together for safety.

Meanwhile, to the north of the potential disaster scene was Sans Souci charter fisherman Karl St

John, 30, aboard his craft CatDive.

Karl had bought CatDive from Les six months ago.

"When the southerly blow hit us, we decided to fish for just a little longer because we were on to some good ones," Karl said.

"Twenty minutes later we headed home towards Port Hacking.

"On the way we spotted a boat about 300 metres

out from the rocks near the "stink pipes" at Boat Harbour.

"I swung across to find the boat empty, apart from a dog.

"I recognised the dog as Les's pet, Lucy.

"Lucy also recognised my boat because she climbed the rail and tried to jump across. I had to tell her to go back ... and she did.

"We secured a line and took it in tow.

"But I noticed it was flying a blue and white 'Divers Below' flag.

"I realised that somewhere in the ocean there were bound to be divers including Les. They would be in trouble."

Karl searched his memory for where divers operated and remembered immediately the Osborn Shoals.

"By this time visibility was down to half a kilometre.

"I headed towards the shoal and asked some of the men in the fishing party to go to the bow and keep a lookout.

"We'd travelled about two kilometres when we saw the flash of a bright light.

"One of the divers had carried a powerful floodlight for underwater filming.

"He was shining it in our direction," Karl said.



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# DECEMBER '93

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## *Last Month*

### CAMP COVE - NIGHT DIVE

Friday 19 th November

Divers attending:

Judy Morris

Beydon Sherwood

Helen Kyriacos

Steve Bull

We will have to do some more night diving in '94 as everyone seems to be a little rusty in this area!

Steve had a leaky reg and not enough weight to keep him below the surface (didn't notice you'd lost weight Steve!), Judy's brand new torch didn't work and Beydon had another 'O' ring blow out.

The dive was subsequently aborted and a late supper was well received.

### NORAH HEAD

Sat.& Sun. 27th/28th November

Divers attending:

Andy Morehouse

Judy Morris

Beydon Sherwood

Peter Ellis

Keith Philpott

There was a strong north easterly gale blowing on this weekend which made diving outside virtually impossible. The venue for both dives on the Saturday was the SW corner of Bird Island. There

was the usual marine life and quite a few interesting swimthroughs and a small grey nurse shark was sighted.

Divers opted out on the offer for a sausage sizzle at the dive shop and the majority chose to eat at the local Bowling Club that night. Keith and Liz decided to have a quiet 'barby' at their camp site. The weather deteriorated the next day and Pro Dive advised no more diving on the Sunday.

Our next dive at Norah Head will be on the Easter Long Weekend '94 -perhaps we will have better conditions then.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

4th December

Well - we ended 1993 with a bang (or maybe a splash-*wouldn't you know it, it was raining again!*). However, even though the weather wasn't perfect we had a fantastic Christmas Party. 45 members and friends turned out for the event- some deciding to bring their tents to stay overnight.

We started early afternoon and Karl was right on time for our 2.00 o'clock dive. We rounded up a full boat load and they all went out for the last dive for 1993.

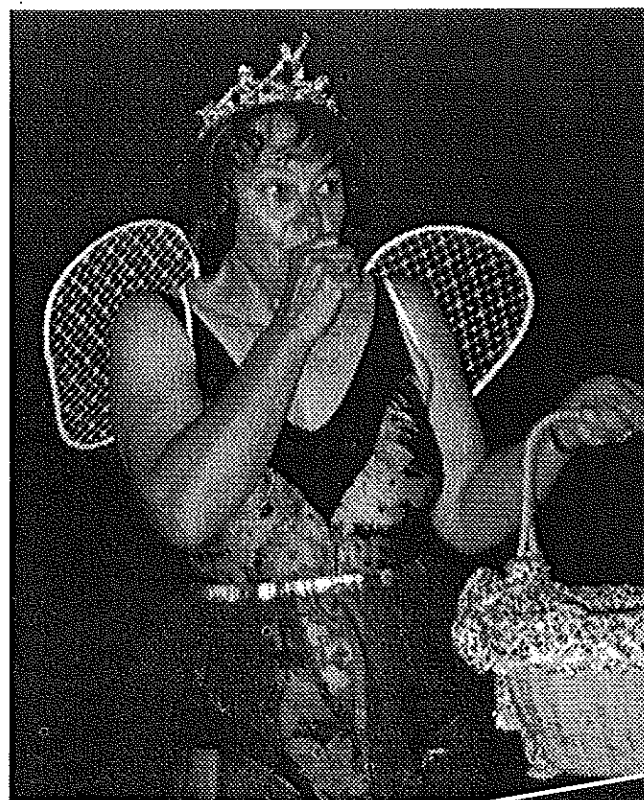
Once everyone was in full swing and had munched their way through some dips and chips, Ellie (*the Good Fairy*) and Steve (*Santa*) made their entrance in full regalia to shower presents on the happy waiting group.

We would like to thank all those members who remembered to bring a favourite joke - I think everyone learn't a new one that night. The party rolled along till late with lots of good food and even our own Christmas cake to finish off the banquet.

Many thanks to all those who contributed to make it such a successful night with special thanks to Ellie for all her work - especially that amazing dress.

*(perhaps we can auction it at the next club meeting!)*

*'ELLE'  
The Good Fairy*



*'The regulars'*



*From left: The Good Fairy's husband, Santa's lover, Santa, The Good Fairy, and an elf.*



*A selection of women .*



## *What's Next*

### NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Friday night December 31st

Les Caterson will be throwing a party at his home in Engadine for New Years Eve. All members and friends are welcome. There is a small charge of \$5.00 to cover some light food supplied including a spit which is to be hired for the night.

If you are interested in going please ring Les or Ellie on 520 9421 so they can organise numbers.

The party will be held at :  
25 Rosebery Street  
ENGADINE

*Hope to see you all there.*

### PORT HACKING

Sunday 9th January - Boat Dive

Meeting at Dolans Bay boat ramp  
at 9.00 pm.

Cost: \$25.00 for one dive

## JANUARY CLUB MEETING

Wednesday 19th January

Our special guest at our January Club meeting will be **Max Gleeson** - well known diver and underwater photographer who will be speaking to us about his new book on 'Shipwrecks'. He will be showing us some slides and film of his work and those who are interested may want to buy a copy of his new book. Let's show our support and have a good roll up for this meeting.

## *Coming Up*

CLUB DIVE - LONG REEF

Sunday 6th February - Boat Dive

## FEBRUARY CLUB MEETING AND ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Wednesday 16th February

This year our Anniversary Dinner will be held at a restaurant to be determined. We will have a short meeting at 7.00pm and then sit down to a banquet style dinner. Details in January newsletter. It is important to book so if you are coming please ring Carol on 81 1177 as soon as possible.

## FISHING DAY - BOTANY BAY

Sunday 20th February

*On behalf of the committee we would like to wish everyone a very enjoyable and safe Christmas and a Prosperous New Year*

*We look forward to seeing you in the coming year at some of our exciting new dive venues.*

*Our next club meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th January at The Georges River Sailing Club at 8.00 pm.*

