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August 1973
U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.



January, 1973

**THE MAGAZINE
FOR ALL SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS**

PRICE: 5c.

Registered for posting as a periodical — Category "B"



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U.E.C. NEWS

VOLUME 12

Nº6

JANUARY '73

CHRISTMAS

DIVES

As mentioned at the last December General Meeting members interested in doing a little diving during the Xmas break were asked to contact me as club projects were to be followed up during this period.

A number of members contacted me and on the day of Xmas Eve four boats complete with crews met at the Naval Base groyne at 9.00am. The boats were, Dr. Naom Haimsons new 22 ft. craft. A fibre glass first of its kind made by the designer of Panguin and Pacemaker boats. Brian Price with his newly redesigned 16' bondwood, Linda and Lothar Popp with their newly aquired Phantom and yours truly complete with Phantom.

Other members attending were El Presidente, Mick Evans and Colin Harris. These were spread among the various boats.

Our project for the day was scallop spat. So off to the north end of Garden Island in search of these elusive creatures. The area for this venture was area 'N' on the map on page 3.

The animal we were looking for is last years spat which, if inline with related species will be about 1/4" across and probably attached to some object, weed etc-by hairs.

Little is known about this animal, breeding habits life cycle etc. except that they are in 'berrie' from mid-December to end of January and for this reason we have been asked particularly not to take any during this period. The species we are looking for are the commercial Scallop (family Pectinidae). Numerous species of these exist however only two are of commercial value. (1) which we are particularly interested in in Cockburn Sound and has been fished in the area for years is up to 5" across is very concave on the under side which rests in a hollow in the deeper silt. It is only often found by slight disturbance of the silt as it filters the water from around the edges of the shells.

The other is the Saucer Scallop which is a very active free swimmer and grows to about 6". It is in the adult found in clear deep waters. Doubtfully the Sound but it has to breed and it is possible it may return to the waters adjacent to the Sound for this purpose. Any specimens of this creature are wanted as even less is known of it. Often referred to as sun and moon scallop it is flatish with almost equal concave sides as the name implies one side is of a reddish hue with the other of a much paler shade. This specie are very active swimmers and once when I had the good fortune (on a club dive) to land in a bed of them we were chasing them to up to 40 ft from the bottom and the distance covered could have been up to 200 ft in one move.

The Cockburn Sound variety on the other hand will only move a matter of a few inches from the bottom and a few feet at the time.

In area 'N' we covered from the very shallows to deep water about 8 fathoms and a sample of mud at this greater depth was taken by one of Naom's crew. No sign of spat however, many other creatures were seen which members had no idea existed. Just shows what can be found when looking for a small creature.

Rash on the skin, fatigue, dizziness,
Pain or weakness anywhere in the body particularly the joints., Numbness or paralysis anywhere in the body., Collapse and loss of consciousness, vision disorders, hearing defects, Convulsions.

The treatment is immediate recompression to a depth that causes the pain to disappear and staging back from that depth. Prevention is merely through correct decompression Staging.

The symptoms of air embolism are; in order of seriousness;- Pain in chest., Respiratory difficulty., Bloody froth at the mouth., Blueing of the skin., Convulsions., Collapse and unconsciousness.

The treatment is firstly to keep the patient's head down to minimise chances of bubbles getting to the brain. (raise the feet). Immediate re-compression in a chamber to a depth that will compress the bubbles to a harmless size. (Usually around 165 ft). .. Should be done under direction of a Medic.

Prevention is simply not to hold breath on ascent.

(It must be remembered that some of these symptoms can be from other causes also. i.e. Bloody froth at mouth, Drowning)

ACTIVITIES;

- Sunday Jan. 14th; Training Base Woodmans Point 9.30am also Cave dive Point Peron. This will be a picnic dive for those who wish to avail themselves.
- Monday Jan. 15th; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Merrewa St. Nedlands. Guest Speaker slides etc. Linda and Lothar Popp. Diving around Aust.
- Jan. 21st; Boat Trip; Tilley's 07.30 am Rowe Reef, Family day.
- Jan. 28th; To be advised at General Meeting 15th inst.
- Feb. 4th, 11th and 18th Training Base. Night Dive on 11th to be held at Base.
- Feb. 19th ; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands 20.00hrs.

paper and fill us in with both the details of their diving exploits during the festive season and the gossip that we have been missing out on. Hope to hear from you all soon.

CHAMPIONSHIPS;

No that the festive season is over members may start looking towards the Championships held a little later in the year. One of the subjects which many of our members seem to take too lightly is the theory. Following are a few samples taken from last years theory paper. I shall print a few each week taken at random from the paper and you can compare your answers with those of the official answer paper.

- (1) If a scuba diver after an emergency ascent has a pain in the chest, what action would you take?
- (2) Define bottom time as defined in standard British Decompression Tables.
- (3) (a) What is the difference between the bends and air embolism.
(b) What are the symptoms, treatment and preventative action for each?.

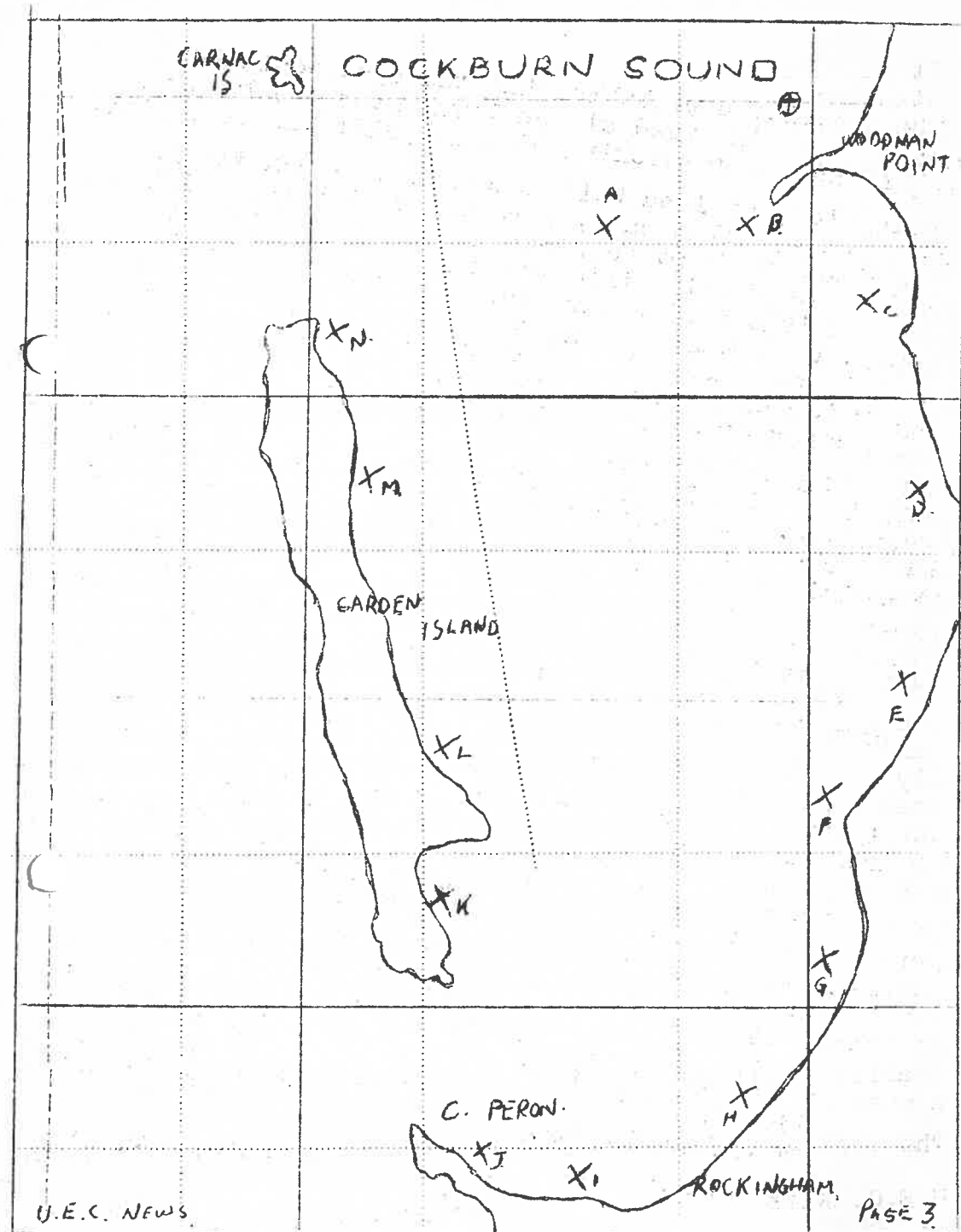
ANSWERS; (1) Recompress immediatly and call a doctor if possible. Remove to a Recompression chamber if practicable.

(2) The time from leaving the surface to commencement of ascent.

(3) (a) the bends is due to nitrogen coming out of solution, into bubble form due to insufficient staging whereas air embolism is caused by a pressure differential rupturing aveoli which forces air bubbles directly into the blood stream.

The bends is generally not fatal, whereas embolism quite often is.

(b) The symptoms for bends are in order of seriousness;



It was believed probable that the spat would be attached to the weed at bed level near the base of the fronds so fossicking at this point was essential.

Having left my lead belt ashore and as conditions were ideal, flat calm, warm water with good visibility I decided to do my fossicking on a lung minus rubber suit. On delving into the sand and disturbing the sea bed 'blowies' became most prolific to such an extent that they were getting between my mask and the area to be searched. This was bad enough but when a portion of my anatomy was thought by a blowie to be a copod or other tasty morsel that was going too far.

Shooting to the surface to check for damage and perhaps receive a little sympathy all there was, was roars of laughter. So, using one hand to protect the tender part resumed scatching around the weed. Lo and behold! the other side copped it which resulted in the same amount of sympathy. Rectified further problems by having my arm stretched across the chest. However on returning to the boat John presented me with two ear shells tied together with string as the answer to a diver's dilemma without a rubber suit.

The boats split up at this point and proceeded to various locations within the area Colin Harris had a fly on the 'manta board' to have a look at the general area of search. A sample of weed and sample of silt was collected from one of the deeper areas but so far as can be ascertained at this point nothing of consequence came up from area 'N'.

We then all proceeded to Carnac where we had the privilege of playing with the seals. All types of activities were indulged in and a number of phot's were taken. This was followed by lunch and a bit of water ski-ing by Linda and Lothar not forgetting Charlie C oft who was in their boat. Thus concluded a most enjoyable day.

The following Sunday the day of New Years eve, we again

Area of Search; There is no reference to her ever being taken off and I think she was probably broken up where she lay. Remains of her keel structure should be still present at the end of the Rockingham Jetty at Churchill Park.

Editor's Note ; About 10 years ago I did quite alot of diving off the Rockingham Hetty. Some of the other older members of the Club may recall this also. Slightly north and out from the end of the Jetty in about 40 ft. of water are some heavy timbers lying on the bottom. I made a few inquiries at the time and the only information I could get was that they were from an old Jetty. It would perhaps be worth a club excursion. The area is well within reach of a hooker from the end of the jetty.

SPLASH ZONE;

Letter to the Editor; I wish to express my gratitude to an unknown member of the club who found my gold signet ring at Woodman's Point, and handed it into an official. I had resigned myself to its loss, since recovery seemed right out of the question. The ring itself is an heirloom, and its replacement appeared to represent considerable cost.

When attending the training session on December 10th '72, Dave Kenny the O.I.C., greeted me with the news that the ring was in his possession and returned it to me.

The turn of any valuable article thought to be lost is always a pleasant surprise, and it was especially so on this occasion. I believe that this kind of honest action by a member of our club speaks very highly for the individual concerned. Perhaps the committee would approve this letter be read publically at the next club meeting or included in the next magazine.

With grateful thanks,
Martyn Worsley.

It seems that with the Xmas festivities little has been happening around the willage, at least it has not been brought to our notice. Am hoping members will put pen to

Rig ; Three masted barque.
Master ; Andrew Larsen. Owned by L.Wroldsen
and registered at Tvedstrand (Norway).
Cargo ; 140 Loads of Jarrah for Hull England.
Wrecked ; Afternoon of 27th January, 1898.

Report of wreck; The "August Tellefsen" arrived at Fremantle on 24th October 1897 and went straight down to Rockingham to load jarrah for Hull, England. However, it was not until 22nd January 1898 that loading started. She was moored on the west side of the Jetty east of Railway Terrace.

At noon on 27th January the wind started to blow a gale from the north east, backing to north, raising a heavy sea. Her port anchor was already out with 80 fathoms of chain, But Captain Larsen let go his starboard anchor with 15 - 20 fathoms of chain and doubled up his mooring lines.

At 13.00 hrs. she started to drag her anchors and her lines parted, she dragged a fathom or so and struck aft. She now pivoted round her stern and headed southwest towards a small jetty and dragging both her anchors headed straight for it. She hit the jetty head on where some longshoremen helped to try and secure her, but she continued to bump and at 16.00hrs she smashed through the jetty and lay impaled on the piles in 6 ft. of water. By 18.00hrs. the wind was blowing from the north and dropping.

The ship was considered a total wreck, her back was broken although her masts were still standing. She was however, completely blocking the jetty for loading other ships so as a temporary measure, her bulwarks were cut away and the jetty planking extended to cross over the crippled ship, thus, other ships could come alongside the "August Tellefsen" and still be loaded. There is a photograph of this in a book in our library. "The sea and the Forest" Page 115.

met at Naval Base groyne at 9.30am, the boats present on this occasion were the two Phantoms, Brian Price with his bond wood and Adrian and Margaret Meerman in their Savage. It is understood that Lyn Jones also came a little later with Country member Albert Otty but they were unable to find us. Extra crewmmn on this trip were Mike Pollard and Bob Gadsby.

Our project for this trip was to search for an obstruction on the north side of Woodman's Point which we believe may be the wreck of the 'James Matthews' (1846). It is recorded that this wreck struck the Success Bank in 1842 and sat on the bank for four years before slipping off into deeper water during a blow therefore little of value will remain on her but to find her will be an epic in itself.

Mike had the visual bearings estimated from the chart, I had compass bearings but alas when it came to converting the visual bearings to reality there were too many other obstructions which made the locating of the outstanding objects on the chart not so outstanding in reality. One of the Compass bearings was not visible because of a newly developed groyne. A search in the general area was made including Mike on a Manta run and all boats assisted with both hooker and lung to no avail. (Mike has since informed me that a recheck with his calculations showed that we were about 1,000 yards north of the area required. The area of search is marked X on the map on page 3. just north of Woodman's Spit.

After exhausting our confidence and realising it was again back to the drawing board we decided to try the 'Dato' as some of the plating of this ship is required to make positive identification by the Museum. (There is a little doubt that she is infact the 'Dato' however a sample of sheathing will clinch it.) So off to Careening Bay.

EDITOR'S NOTE;

It is known that members are awaiting the result of the inquiry into the fatality in November last however until the finding of the Coroner has been released this is not practicable.

What do we find? Nothing! Colpoise point has been bulldozed as part of the new naval base and houses which performed some of the principal bearings are no longer in existence. A more extensive search will now have to be arranged in order to relocate this wreck.

We then proceeded inshore where lunch was partaken. Numerous marine objects were collected, starfish, shells etc. and of all things in one of the shells collected by Lothar Popp was a blue ringed octopus, this was found sticking to the side of his bag when he came to examine the contents.

During the course of this days diving some beautiful specimens of edible scallop were located one which would have been almost 5" across but as previously stated at this time of the year they are in berrie so they were released to perform their duty but the area has been marked for a further visit later in the year.

After lunch a delve into the seagrass for scallop spat at area 'K' on the chart which again met with negative result. Once again a most enjoyable day was had and we returned to base about 6.00pm.

A further visit was made to the wreck location on Sunday 8th January with Mike Pollard and Wally Marshall and although we manage to get into position a rough sea was running and we could not get the anchor to hold. On raising the anchor it was noticed that it swung in the direction of the current to an angle of about 45 degs. No dive was attempted and had there been I fear we would have needed the engine flat out to keep up with the diver.

This will be followed up in the near future.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

J. Walden

Now that the festive season is over most of us are

stipulated time, pour away the developer (use fresh solution for the next film).

Developer can be purchased from Alfred's Emporium in powder form or pre-mixed ready for use. Consult the packet or bottle for the correct developing time and temperature for the particular type of film you use. Different ASA ratings require different development times.

Next step is to keep the tank tightly closed and rinse thoroughly with water to disperse all chemicals.

After rinsing pour in the acid fixing solution. Fixation should be complete within 10 mins. Acid-fixer can also be obtained in powder form or pre-mixed ready for use.

When the film has been fixed remove the tank lid and wash the film in running water for about 30 mins to completely disperse all chemicals, then hang to dry in a cool dry atmosphere free of all dust. Give it a try and see how you go, you will be surprised how easy it is.

I would like to know how many members are interested in processing their B/W negs.

Owing to a misunderstanding the slide showing last month was disorganised by the reference in the subject title as next month's competition. I would like all members to participate in this showing as for this month the subject is open and any member with a slide taken of Club activities can take off the prize.

Let's see a good turn up. Bring your slides 3 per member and we can have a real good showing. See you Monday.

WRECK RESEARCH

Mike Pollard.

"AUGUST TELLEFSEN"

Construction; Wood, yellow metalled below the waterline.
Dimensions ; Length 160.3 ft. x beam 35.3ft. x depth 18.5ft.
Tonnage ; 738 tons nett. (754 tons gross ?)
Built ; Built in 1883 by F.A.Moorland at Tvedestrand.

- (f) Tests on boat trips to be carried out over clear sandy bottoms.
- (g) Juniors may only attend camping trips and social functions if accompanied by their parents.
- (h) Juniors are not permitted to use lungs at base or on Club boat trips.
- (i) Juniors may attend boat trips, but may not dive deeper than the general depth experienced at base.
- (j) That the revised initial and advanced certificate be adopted.
- (k) Juniors may only train juniors and all junior training be carried out under the control of the elected O/C Juniors who will liaise at all times with O/C base.
- (l) The club reserves the right to recommend that they should discontinue a member if in the opinion of the training base committee that person is not suited to diving.

ROSTER OF EXAMINERS;

- Feb. 4th ; D.Parker, M.Pollard, M.Preston and H.Threfall.
- Feb.11th ; W.Marshall, D.Davies, Dr.N.Haimson and J.Walden.
- Feb.18th ; K.Kennedy, L.Jones and T.Menikides.

PHOTOGRAPHY;

Bob Gadsby;

Processing; When the film is loaded into the processing tank, fill it with water and allow to soak for a minute or two, then pour away and refill with developer. The water rinse ensures even development.

Gently agitate the film at regular intervals during development to ensure even development of the whole area of the film. After developing for the

settling down to the normal routine of daily life and club activities.

At this stage I can only say that I've made up for the three months leave of absence. In the last six weeks there have been 6 U.E.C. Meetings. 2 Committee, 1 General and 3 special convened to attend to over a recent crop of problems as well as the committee older members of the club gave their time to these matters.

The inquiry panel set up by Wally Marshall to investigate the recent fatality quickly convened and completed the inquiry and their report was ready for the last committee meeting. Our thanks go to Naom and Harold for this..

The committee of our club like any other club has from time to time found it necessary to deal with matters which are not always pleasant, but I will say this, they have gone very carefully into the problem before making a decision and right or wrong they are prepared to stand by that decision. In general the past two years have been very pleasant and quite a lot has been achieved thanks to the willing co-operation I have received from the various members of the committee.

I would like to congratulate Gerry Gougoulas for his election to the position of O/C Juniors.

Base as usual is very busy and very demanding on the O/C and his helpers.

This season has seen a change and the introduction of an idea quite new to the club. "The introduction of a duty statement". for incoming office bearers. This may sound rather uninteresting to general members but believe me, if you ever have the good luck to become an office bearer you will find just how valuable this Duty Statement can be. In simple language it is your guide on how your particular section functions.

During the last two or three weeks some good work has been done by the Marine Biology and wreck Research Groups, their findings to date may not be spectacular but for every

achievement there is usually many hours of frustrating spade work and to members who are looking for some interesting diving team up with these groups or for the chaps who fancy themselves at spearfishing, instead of killing fish how about a bit of competitive underwater archery. It would not be hard to set up a target suspended by floats and could be carried out in 20 - 30 ft. of water with out air, at base and without interfering with other activities but would considerably add to the general interest for members.

TREASURER'S REPORT

P. McWhirter

Membership ;	Honorary	12	Life	4	Full	80
	Junior	30	Social	2	Country	9

Balance of finance as at 1st January '73.
 General Fund \$897.15 Boat Fund ; \$146.76
 Build. Fund \$181.16 C.B.C. Dep. ; \$15,000.00

Noms; Graeme and Synthia Innes
 Darryl Turner and Kenneth Churchward.

SOCIAL REPORT

Bill Adams

Thank you members for helping to make the 1972 Xmas party the success that it was. The grog flowed freely and a good time was had by all (except for the person who yawned all over our lawn). I was sorry to see the grog literally cut out on us, but all ended on a happy note. Also thanks to those industrious and energetic members for helping clean up after the party (sorry but I could not lift a finger by that time.)

Well members another year has passed, a year of mixed fortunes, we lost two very good members and friends under tragic circumstances and it is this time of the year, loved ones and friends alike cast a very special thought to those that have passed away and reflect back over other happier times.

In 1973 we are all going to need each other's confidence and support to get us over the difficult times ahead. The Underwater Explorers Club can be the best goddamn diving club in Australia, let's pull together and make it such.
 A Happy New Year folks.

Found after the Xmas party; One only plastic container, one only white cardigan, one only pair of bras. size...! one only fork.

TRAINING BASE REPORT;

Dave Kenny

Due to the lasting effects of the Xmas spirit I have been unable to compile an intelligent report this month. However may I wish all a very interesting and safe diving New Year.

I will mention briefly that the new Initial and Advanced Certificates are now in operation. I will deal more fully in next month's issue. Also on February 11th we will have the night dive, so be prepared with food and refreshments. Don't forget to "Gladbagise" your torch for its journey to the depths. I hope to have some torches and other devices for sale at base for those interested.

Following the recent accident the combined Training Base and Diving committees held meetings in an endeavour to improve safety and prevent further accidents. The following are the recommendations as they relate to Juniors;

- (a) The age of admission for juniors be increased to 16 yrs.
- (b) That all members be required to carry a personal log book which must be available on any club days such as base, boat trips and camping field trips.
- (c) Juniors be limited to training as shown in initial test schedule.
- (d) That initial tests be carried out in the order shown on the schedule.
- (e) No divers other than trainees and pupils be allowed in the water during tests on boat trips.

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U.E.C. NEWS

VOLUME 12

Nº 7

FEBRUARY

1973

RECENT DIVING FATALITIES IN W.A.

The last three months have seen three diving fatalities along our coast and for the sake of safety we should look at these in some detail to see how they may have been prevented and make certain that we do not make the same mistakes.

(1) Barry Goodwin (15 yrs.) A club member was on the 19th November '72 diving during a club boat trip on the wreck of the 'Sepia'. Standard procedures, (Club rules) were being carried out which included no diving to take place while tests were in progress. (The tests being 50 ft. free ascents.

Unknown to O/C Diving together with a buddy Barry entered the water. Conditions on the boat were not pleasant as there was a strong easterly with a moderate swell making the boat unstable. It is believed that Barry was not feeling the best.

It appears they were in the water for about 15 mins. when Barry indicated that something was wrong, the exact signal has not been ascertained. The buddy indicated up and together they comenced the ascent.

The buddy saw whom he believed to be Barry as he neared the surface and he swam to the ladder and climbed into the boat.

Shortly afterwards the alarm was raised that someone was lying on the bottom. It was not known who until Barry was brought to the surface. He was placed in one of the small boats at the site and then transferred to Bob Wallis's "Merinda" which was the faster boat. At the time the skippers of both boats were in the water.

Margaret Meerman attempted resuscitation during the high speed dash to H.M.A.S. Llewin however all efforts were to no avail.

The club decided that a club inquiry be held...

Findings of a Court of Enquiry held at the home of Dr. N.Haimson on Thursday 14th December '72.

Present. Dr.N.Haimson President
Mr.H.G.Roberts Member.

This Court of Enquiry was requested by the Club to enquire into the diving fatality of Barry Goodwin on the "Sepia" wreck on the 19th November '72. The terms of reference dated 7th December '72 were forwarded by the Club Secretary Major E.W.Marshall to the two members of the Court of Enquiry.

The following are the results;-

- (a) Q. What was the cause of death?
A. Drowning.
- (b) Q. With whom was he diving at the time of his death.

Query from Panel; Is the buddy an 'A' class diver and what happened to the U.E.C. rule re juniors only diving with 'A' class divers.

- (c) Q. Should he have been in the water when the 50 ft. free ascents were being carried out.
A. No. He disobeyed orders of the O/C Diving.

of a heart beat must then be established as soon as possible. If cardiac arrest is present, the diver is treated supine (on back) in head down position. Closed heart massage is begun immediately and no attempt is made at this stage to give expired air resuscitation. Reliance must be placed on the concomitant lung compression affected during closed heart massage to produce a degree of tidal air flow and clear the bronchial passages of contained froth. Cardiac massage must be continued while diver is transferred to nearest centre where further treatment involving decompression chamber, intermittent positive pressure with pure oxygen and cardiac monitoring may be used as clinically indicated.

If there is still a palpable heart beat, the diver is turned into the prone position, (face down) head down and jaw well extended. Compression form of artificial respiration such as the Schaeffer method is then commenced and continued till spontaneous respiration returns to the diver or the diver is admitted to hospital for further treatment.

ACTIVITIES;

- Sun. Feb.18th : Training Base Woodman's Point. 0930.
Mon. Feb.19th ; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands. 20.00hrs. General business. Guest Speaker; Mr.Harry Gray Artificial Respiration.
Sun. Feb.25th ; Boat Trip.'Ulidia' Ex Tilley's 0730.
Sun. Mar. 4th ; Family Day/picnic-Penguin Island 09.30.
Sun. Mar.11th ; Training Base Woodmans Point 09.30.
Wed. Mar.14th ; Theory Exam. Adelaide Tce. 20.00. See art.
Sat. Mar.17th - Commence Championships Woodmans Point 10.00 Ditch & Recovery, Speed and Stamina & Navigation.
Sun. Mar.18th ; Championships 10.00 hrs. Obstacle Course, Blind Search and Rescue and Resuscitation followed by Barbeque for all at night.
Mon. Mar.19th ; General Meeting Merriwa St. Nedlands 20.00

refills up till 7.00pm Sat. night at Ron & Bob Borg's home address 14 Albert St. South Perth.

(2) Diver's float and flag with aprox. 40 ft. cord.

(3) Underwater compass.

This event only comes round once per year so let's be club spirited and all do our bit to make it a success - if you don't enter but would like to help in the running, contact John Walden, Ken Kennedy, Dennis Parker, Mike Preston, Mike Pollard, Gerry Gougoulas or myself.

Championship Winners; Will be announced at the Barbeque at 21.00 hrs. 18th March '73 at John Walden's residence 173 Watts Avenue Wilson and trophies will be presented.

Bring own steaks and refreshments - activities start at 7.30pm.

**A SUGGESTED MODIFICATION IN TREATMENT OF
APPARENT DROWNING OF DIVER'S USING COMPRESSED
AIR APPARATUS; Dr. N. Haimson**

Following personal involvement in three cases of apparent drowning of diver's using Scuba. I would suggest the following emergency procedure be taught.

The suggested modification follows the observations that in all three cases, the bronchial tree and presumably the alveoli, are filled with a blood stained froth, often under considerable pressure. This is due to the alveolar damage by the rapid release of intra thoracic pressure when the drowned diver is brought to the surface. On one occasion when such a diver surfaced from a depth of 70 metres, a fountain of froth 10cm high gushed from his mouth and nose for several minutes the presence of this froth makes any attempt at expired air resuscitation impossible. I would therefore recommend the following:-

When the diver is surface he is placed on a hard surface e.g. hatch cover, in head down position with his jaw extended to clear the air way. The presence or absence

(d) Q. At what stage had his training reached and how long had he been under instruction.

A. Almost an 'A' class diver. In his second year of training.

(e) Q. What actions were taken.

Q1. To bring him to the surface.

A1. Brought to surface by another diver and chest compression applied.

Q2. Resuscitation.

A2. Inadequate resuscitation procedures were followed. No one took charge of this requirement.

Q3. Evacuation.

A3. Evacuation to a faster boat was a correct decision but was prolonged in execution owing to fouled anchor and hoses. Getting the boat skippers into position to control their boats was slow. Both were diving at the time.

Q4. To establish communication with the mainland, i.e. Ambulance, H.M.A.S. Leewin and next of kin.

A4. Good procedures.

(f) Q. Was there any undue delay in initiating the actions of sub-paragraph (e).

Q. (2) Resuscitation.

A. Vigorous resuscitation procedures including closed heart massage and Schafer and or Holger-Neilsen type resuscitation should have been started as soon as the diver had reached the first boat and continued without cessation until boat reached Fremantle.

(g) Q. What safety aspects were adopted prior to the boat trip commencing i.e.

Q1. Boat rules.

A1. O/C Diving followed standard procedures - no diver in the water until tests had been completed but he could not supervise this as he was too involved with the trainees.

Query from Panel; - Was Junior diver allotted an 'A' class diving buddy prior to training.

Q2. Briefing of divers.

A. Briefing was inadequate.

Q3. Medical facilities i.e. Doctors, nurses, oxy-vivas etc.

Query from Panel; Where was the oxy-viva if it was not used. Is it necessary to have one at Base and one for boat trips.

(h) Q. Whether there was any continuity in passing on information between successive O/C's Diving. If not, what should these procedures have been and what should they have covered.

A. At change of Executives, provision should be made for all previous O/C's Diving to accompany new O/C for at least first two trips of the season to instruct and assess competence.

(i) Q. What steps should be taken to prevent a reoccurrence.

- A. (1) Close attention to existing Club rules should be paid.
(2) Safety Officers designated at commencement of each trip and he must have knowledge of emergency procedures.
(3) These Officers should be on duty for duration of diving on boat trips.

General Recommendations;

1. During training, the danger of overweighting should be brought to the notice of the trainee.
2. There appears not enough divers "A" class, to assist O/C Diving in his duties.
3. To keep this in perspective, it should be realised that in just over 13 years this has been only the second fatality.

The club training programme over these years has covered hundreds of trainees and many difficult dives have been successfully accomplished.

4. The question of checking the availability of

resulted in my resignation and I am certain the Club can make a better choice as my successor.

Whoever takes over the appointment of Honorary Secretary I wish him all the best and will assist him, should he so desire, so as to enable the takeover to proceed smoothly.

SCUBA CHAMPIONSHIPS; K.Errington

On the 17th - 18th March '73. Time is flying by and there is only one more General Meeting before the Championships. One may enter for the theory, though a certain degree of competence must have been attained for practical events.

Fee \$1 to help cover prizes and expenses generally. We want a good roll up at the Championships this year, so don't be backward; "Op in an 'ave a go".

Schedule of events; (1) Theory Examination 20.00hrs. Wed. March 14th at Auxiliary Squad Office Adelaide Tce, Perth Next to the Fisheries Dept. Ample parking at rear of Old State Housing Commission entrance from Hay St.

(2) Ditch and Recovery; Saturday 17th March 10.00hrs. Woodman's Base

(3) Speed and Stamina; Saturday 17th March 10.00hrs. Woodman's Base.

(4) Navigation Swim; Saturday 17th March '73 10.00 hrs.

(5) Obstacle Course; Sunday 18th March '73 10.00 hrs. Woodman's Point.

(6) Blind-Search; Sunday March 18th 10.00 hrs. Woodman's Base.

(7) Rescue and Resuscitation; Sunday March 18th 10.00 hrs. Woodman's Base.

Results of theory will be on Notice Board at Training Base on Saturday 17th March prior to commencement of practical events. Remember if you don't do too well in any event don't worry, you are gaining experience and the final result is taken over all the events.

Equipment required; (1) Scuba (full) for Sat. and Sunday

welcome visitors.

Member Neville McCurdy is off on a bit of Globe trotting. Neville is leaving in a fortnight's time, first stop South Africa for a looksee. Have a good trip and keep in touch. We like to know the activities in other parts with an unbiased opinion!!!.

LOG BOOKS: Members are reminded that as from next boat trip Log Books will be compulsory. They will be supplied to all members and will have to be carried when attending any diving function of the Club. Don't say you have not been warned.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: .. Wally Marshall;

Resignation from the appointment of Honorary Secretary
For the information of all members I have resigned in writing, as Honorary Secretary of the U.E.C. The effective date was 16th January '73.

The reasons for my resignation not necessarily in the order listed, are:-

- (a) The amount of frustrations I have experienced whilst endeavouring to complete my obligations.
- (b) The fact that there are a number of divisions of members within the club which results in disunity and disharmony.
- (c) That certain members not on the Committee of Management had endeavoured to guide me on my responsibilities.
- (d) The 'fence sitter' who will not make a decision one way or the other.
- (e) As a result it must be apparent to all members who attended the General Meetings held during December '72 and January '73 that I have NOT the temperament to hold the appointment of Honorary Secretary.

It is stressed that these are my views alone but it has

the H.M.A.S. Leeuwin recompression chamber and trained personnel for all diving week-ends is recommended to the Club.

- (2) Daniel Cullity; (20 years). was on January '15th '73 diving in Cockburn Sound carrying out sampling for an ecological survey.. About 8.00am he was operating on a hookah in about 60 ft. of water. It is believed the boat drifted and the demand valve was dragged from his mouth. He dropped his lead belt and surfaced.

Cause of death; Pulmonary Barrow trauma. (Embolism).

Previous experience; It is known that he had been alone diving in the Southwest of the State.

His buddy at the time was in the boat.

- (3) William Walker; (23 years) Shortly after 7.00am on Sat. 3rd February '73 against the advice of his companion went diving off the reef at Trigg. He was seen to surface shortly after in a basin on the edge of the reef. This is the last time he was sighted.

A slight S/W wind was blowing at the time which continually increased to a strong S/W breeze making conditions choppy with moderate swell. Visibility nil.

Cause of death; Drowning.

Previous experience; Not known. Stated from one source to be a good swimmer with spearfishing experience. ..

His buddy remained on the beach advising him from venturing in as conditions were not good. Buddy had a number of certificates from a Commercial Diving School.

The body was found on the reef on the morning of the 6th ins the aqualung unit was later recovered just off the edge of the reef empty and turned off.

It is interesting to note in an article recently published that a Naval Diving Officer commenting on recent diving fatalities in the Eastern States stated that "to all intents and purposes if you cannot see your buddy, you don't have one".

PRESIDENT'S REPORT;

Last season was in many ways a year of considerable activity and achievement, with a record membership, a very successful 200 ft. dive, a big crop of Proficiency Award Certificates. The first mud-dive in years, an upgrading of Training programmes and general interest and enthusiasm all round.

This season has not got off anywhere near as good and has produced our second fatal accident. A set back from one of our supporters and a need to further tighten up on training.

On the credit side, the Committee are very conscious of what needs to be done and are doing a fine job in meeting their obligations. The marine group, wreck research and photographic groups are active and doing a good job, providing interesting diving for many.

It is very pleasing to note that the father's of two of our junior members have been very helpful with offers to do some work for the club and with information of importance. It could well be that juniors could be of as much value to the club as seniors because of the possibility of involving their parents in the club activities. To any parents reading this I would say we would be very glad of any assistance that you may like to offer the Club.

One piece of bad news has come to hand recently is that our present access track will be taken from us very soon but negotiations are taking place for access from the western side of the naval yard. The other point of course is what effect will these new activities have on our operations at base. Your Committee is looking to these matters.

The boat trip on the 21st January was very pleasant. Quietly and efficiently organised by the O/C Diving Keith and providing members abide by the O/C diving rules on these trips there should be safe and happy days for all. A noticeable feature was that only two people diving had

the worse they get. When you find yourself in that position put the camera down and try for some candid shots.

In the next few months, one of the competitions subject's will be "At the Base" This means that only slides taken at Training Base Woodman Point will be accepted.

It may be taken Underwater or on land so let's see a few camera's at base from now on. I have been at Base a few times at sunset and have seen some really colourful and spectacular sunsets. You might like to try for this type of photo.

We have many lovely female members going down to the base, try for a few glamour or candid shots of the "birds" in their leisure time.

These are only a couple of suggestions, next time you're at the base, take a good look round and you will find thousands of subjects. I would like to see more entrants in the competition held each month, it doesn't matter if you don't win a prize, enter for the hell of it. The subject title for February and March is 'Open'.

SPLASH ZONE:

It is with regret that we are losing the services of Dr. Ian Crawford as an Honorary Archaeologist. Dr. Crawford is from now on remaining landbased and leaving the water environment to Jeremy Green. Thank you from all the Club for your services Dr. Crawford. We have been assured of his full support should the need ever arise.

HOSPITALISED: ; Members Barry Geddes and Peter Bele have both met with unfortunate accidents.

Barry was knocked by a car in Floreate when he leapt out into the road to save his baby son who shot into the road two weeks ago. Barry is now recouping in Shenton Park Annex Ward 9 having received a cracked pelvis.

Peter apparently fell down the hold of a ship and is recouping in Bunbury District Hospital. I am certain both members are wished a speedy recovery and would probably

Harbour Shipping index as being towed in to be converted into a hulk.

Sometime between 1924 and 1927 she broke her moorings in a gale and once again blew ashore opposite Ocean St and was finally abandoned.

She now serves as a support for the effluent pipe from the Coogee Meat Works.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Bob Gadsby

At last month's General Meeting a good selection of colour slides was shown. Dave Kenny won a roll of colour film with his slide of Ken Kennedy in profile.

I suspect the shot was taken on one of their expeditions into the wilderness as Ken took on the appearance of a much travelled explorer. Good use of colour was made and the subject appeared to be natural in setting suggesting that Ken was unaware the photo was being taken. These type of photos of people especially of children, are known as candid shots and generally produce the best photographs.

When photographing people, be they at work or at play, try to remain at a distance so that they are unaware of your presence. Allow them to carry on with what they are doing before you with your camera ready on the scene. If you are fortunate enough to have a telephoto lens, remain at a distance to get really good candid shots.

If you use a standard lens, quietly move closer, to your subject getting different angles to shoot from. Don't be afraid to use your imagination when framing the subject. It takes only a little effort to raise the standard of your photography from average to better than average.

The moment you point a camera in someone's direction they tense up, pull faces at you or give you the widest smile you have ever seen, so much so that you can't see the rest of their face. The more you try to pose them

need to use the hookah. There appears to be a strong trend towards members using their own lungs.

In the last 12 months I have had the pleasure of meeting 5 visitors interested in diving from overseas or interstate referred to the U.E.C. through trade firms or by their friends who know of the U.E.C. The first was in Xmas '72 a member of the B.S.A.C. (British Sub-aqua Club) who runs a diving school on the island of Mallorca in the Mediterranean. Since then one of his instructors called in to see me whilst passing through. More recently the President of the Japanese Diving Association and his friend were introduced to myself and some other Club members by Brian Price. This week I had the pleasure of a ring from a member of the Sydney "Canterbury Club".

I have found these people to be keen divers and damned good company and of course quite apart from any personal gain one gets from meeting and entertaining them there is always the major bonus our club members are assured of a warm welcome should they ever have the opportunity to visit these people in their own country or in other states.

If other members of the U.E.C. would like to meet and entertain visitors I suggest that it may be a good idea if you let the Secretary or a member of the Committee know so that you can take a turn.

Tourism is big business in Australia and obviously our Club could pay a big part with benefits to ourselves as well as the State.

The current summer season is rapidly drawing to an end, the Championships are near and Presentation Night is not far off. There are trophies to be won and a lot of good diving to be had, so let's get into it.

John Walden.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Phil McWhirter

Membership ;	Honorary 12	Life 4	Full 80
	Junior 30	Social 2	Country 9

Balance of finance as at 1st February '73;

General Fund; \$1,006.93. Boat Fund; \$146.76.
Building " ; \$ 181.16 C.B.C.Dep. \$15,000.00

Noms; Peri CLine 4/365 Cambridge St. Wembley.
Don Cline - do -
Jon Carpenter 116 Chapman Rd. Cannington.
Mathew Erkens 22 Holmes Rd. South Coogee.
Rammond deVries 7 Lowanna Rd. Gosnells.
Graeme Smith 6 Atwell Court Kardinya.
Rosaling Simpson 38 King Edward St. South Perth.

DIVING REPORT

K?Errington...

Family Day & Rowe Reef; Sunday 21st Jan.'73- At 8.00am a total of 38 persons left Tilley's North Fremantle on the 'Dautless' and headed towards Rottneest where we arrived at 9.35am. Sixteen people alighted the remainder proceeding to Rowe Reef. Some 20 mins. later the anchor was down and 'A' class divers were buddied with two trainees each. I would point out that a strict timetable was kept as every person was timed, both on entry and exit from the water. Idea being two fold, (1) Every persons whereabouts and buddies were known at any time and (2) We have a full record of all divers times very handy with regards to decompression etc. Providing of course that each member kept an exact record of maximum depth attained.

Thanks to Lyn Jones we found Rowe Reef without any difficulty while John Walden was also available as an 'A' class diver for the day, a point here being once again shortage of fully qualified divers, the total being 6 which necessitated swimming in groups of threes. Buddying proved fairly good except for one group who arrived back at precisely 10 minute intervals.

Back again at Rottneest at 12.40pm where most headed to the water hole to have a few and enjoy the scenery, while others went off with mum and kids which gave all approx. 2 hours on the Island before departure. Arrived home at 4.00pm after an almost perfect trip and a very pleasant break

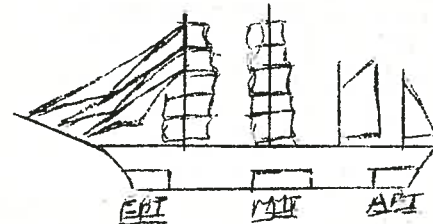
(2) In 1881 she became one of the few ships that have succeeded in rammin a Lighthouse and surviving - unfortunately I can find no details of this incident in our records.

In 1882 she reappears in Lloyds with the following modifications;-

Dimensions; Length 213.2ft x Beam 30.5ft x Depth 16.7 ft.
Quarterdeck 90ft. For' Cstle 25 ft. Bar keel 7".
Tonnage ; 789 tons gross 789 tons net 710 tons
under deck.
Rig ; 4 masted Jackass rigged barque.

The auxiliary engine has been removed.

Water ballast in tanks vis; Aft Peak Tank (removed 1893)
Midships tank 65 ft.long 500 to
Fore Peak Tank.



'OMEB' RIGGED AS JACKASS RIGGED
BARQUE

Her new owners were W.H. Smith & Sons, and her Captain, one Captain Campbell.

In early October 1895, she was sailing from Melbourne to Hamelin Bay with a cargo of livestock when she ran into very severe weather off Cape Leeuwin, and lost alot of cargo overboard.

Later on the 31st October 1895, she ran aground at Hamelin Jetty after having loaded 500 loads of jarrah when a gale caught her while loading. This caused her to bump heavily against the jetty breaking down some 50 yards of it and finally, the gale increased in strength, she dragged completely away from her moorings and ran hard ashore and as it was not thought that she would ever float again she was written off by Lloyds as a total wreck.

However on 9th March 1898, she appears in the Fremantle

WRECK RESEARCH

M. Pollard

Introduction to Underwater Surveying;

University Extension Service W.A. University commencing 12th March '73 10 Sessions on Mondays commencing 8.00pm. Fee \$10.00. By Mr. J. Green Curator of Marine Archaeology W.A. Museum.

This course is basically designed for people with an interest, and some experience, in U/W exploration. Mr. Green will deal systematically with the stages involved from locating an U/W site to the point where recovery work can commence, including search techniques, surface surveying and U/W surveying, depth measurement and the various techniques for mapping the site.

Whereas most of the work will be in evening lectures, some field study will be arranged at week-ends in local waters. Let us have a good roll up from the U.E.C.

OMEQ "

Construction; Built of iron "Under survey to Lloyds) a specification.

Dimensions ; Length 210.00ft x Beam 30ft.3in x Depth 16ft. 3in.

Tonnage ; 733 tons gross. 605 tons net.

Built ; 1858 by A. Leslie & Co. Newcastle England.

Rig. Barque rigged with auxiliary steam power 120 H.P. Engine.

The 'Omeo' sailed to Melbourne in 1859 where she was registered and listed in Lloyds Register until 1864. Her owners were McMeck'n & Co. of Melbourne. Not much is in the records here about her during this period except for two incidents.

(1) In February 1872 she was the supply ship for the Roper River Telegraphic Expedition during the laying of the overland telegraph line, the centenary of which has just been commemorated by an issue of stamps. There is a memorial of her at the Roper River site to this day ; - "Steamship 'Omeo' 1,000 tons. Ascended Roper River 100 miles with telegraphic expedition. February 1872".

enjoyed I feel by all.

BOAT TRIP: "Ulidia" Sun. Feb. 25th. Well we are going to try again this year to have a look at the remains of the "Ulidia". It is situated approx. 1400 yards north of the Stragglers and in fairly shallow water which should be quite a good spot not only as far as swimming and wreck fossicking but there are a couple of good reefs west of here with about 45 ft on the outer edge where some good spearing for those interested in skindiving can pick up a good fish or two.

Be at Tilley's at 7.30am with gear etc. Please "A" graders let's have a good show of faces on board.

PENGUIN ISLAND; Family Day; - March 4th. By all accounts this is going to be mainly a family day, with individuals and family groups doing only what they want to. If you are fortunate enough to own a boat and want to tear off and do some spearing or anything else, there is nothing to stop you, main thing is - if your a club member - see you at Penguin on March 4th.

TRAINING BASE REPORT; Dave Kenny. . .

Since there has been only two base days since the last mag. my food for thought is limited to the day it blew a right ol' hooligan of a nor'wester and kept people huddled around the office in spite of the terrible conditions a fair few showed up and took to the briny. A few showers and strengthening winds closed the base at 1.00pm.

I'm glad to say the following Sunday made up for it, we had fine weather and a good roll up. Many stayed all day for the nite dive which I'm glad to say was a tremendous success. Some six - seventy members turned out with steaks, bottles and variety of torches. We had arc lights and generators with coloured lights around the shelter strung across to the office. There was an U/W sealed beam in 30 ft. of water which went out after an hour. On investigation I found the seal was not adequate for the wires and got the first shock of my life at 30 ft. Anyhow

the abundance of good torches and other devices proved adequate. Water visibility was about 8 - 10 ft. due to the persistent S/W wind which blew all day however the water was warm and the diving was most enjoyable. Kevin Collett had his own mobile 'rubbish bin' power source, which consisted of a plastic bubbish bin with a 12 volt battery and 40 ft of cable to a "diry great" spot light He towed this contraption on the surface and flooded the Ocean bed with light.

In all 32 divers entered the water in pairs, buddy lines 10 ft. long were supplied and Gerry Gougoulas checked entry and exit times. I'm afraid buddy lines get a 'raspberry' - most diver's returned without them and quite a few didn't use them. I'm afraid I must admit to being one of them. However, we never became seperated as we kept talis on each other.

While we were all in the wet, the other half of the gang were stuffing themselves with steak and bangers, not to mention the lubrication. We also held a raffle for a 'T' shirt which was won by none other than the first lady of the Club, Kath Walden. Congratulations Kath. The night gradually came to a close around 10.30 to 11.00pm and people trekked across the dunes into the dark heading for home and a welcome bed, dreaming of monster crabs and more cobblers than you could poke a gidgie at!.

I would like to say a sincere 'thankyou' to all those members who helped make the night a success especially Tony Menikides for the arc's and generator, Vern Willis for the coloured lights and Keith Errington for his help in getting the gear back under wraps again. If I have left someone out please don't be offended.

By the way, thanks to Les Coleman we now have about 10 tons of lead weights in the office. Thanks Les, 'my mould runneth over'!

One last thing before I go, some kindly person went home with my U.E.C. size M shirt, I would appreciate

having it returned as I am still paying instalments on it.

Roster of Examiners:

March 11th ; R.Wallis, D.Parker, M.Pollard & H.Threlfall
April 1st ; J.Walden, L.Jones, A.Menikides & D.Davies.
April 8th ; K.Kennedy, M.Preston, K.Errington & Phil McWhirter.

RESEARCH GROUP

D.Parker.

SCALLOPS; Scallop search areas which have so far been looked at at H.I. & J by John Walden and his team with a number of visits to N M & K by some of the other members. No definate sightings have been made of spat however I do have a few specimens of unident. creatures which are certainly of interest but have yet to be given to David Heald of the Fisheries for his expert opinion.

Scallop have been found in two areas to date namely K and by Keith Errington during the night dive at B. Well done Dave. Keith.

Talking of the night dive as mentioned previously cobbler were very numerous with a few other species as well as the proverbial Blowies present. While swimming with Barb. Margaret and Adrian Meerman I was most surprised to see two prawns on the bank. As far as I know this is the first sighting in this area at least in recent years.

Any member making any observations which he feels are unusual please advise and we can then look into the incident.

JUNIOR GROUP

G.Gougoulas.

Bob Gadsby has placed himself with this group. Thanks Bob.

Times for Training; 9.30am - 11.30am New Initial
11.30am - 1.30pm Old initial.

FOR SALE; Brand new; U/S Divers Reg. downstream J.valve
72 cu.ft. 8 min reserve. Porpoise quick release
back pack and boot. Phone 374958 \$165 O.N.O.
One large Poipoise Shark Skin full suit with hood
with flippers, mask, belt, knife and hand spear
as new Phone 76 4155. Page 11

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March, 1973

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RIGS AND MOTORS IN STOCK

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Secretary ; Mr.L.K.Jones 51 Potts Ave. Melville (30 3711).

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Hon.Archeo. ; Mr.J.Green C/O W.A. Museum.

COMMITTEE ;-

Research ; Mr.M.Pollard 12 Ellesmere St.Lynwood (68 2956).

O/C Diving ; Mr.K.Errington 26 Mullings Way Myaree.

O/C Base ; Mr.D.Kenny 37 Etwell St. East Vic/Park

O/C Juniors ; Mr.G.Gougoulas 15 Hargrave St.Coolbellup ; Mr.H.Threlfall 48 Bawden St.Willagee (37 2813).

Mr.B.Price 21 Waverley St. South Perth

Social ; Mr.W.Adams 11 First Ave. Mt.Lawley

O/C Build. ; Mr.R.A.Wallis (46 2888).

Property ; Mr.Keith Errington.

Librarian ; Mrs.D.Davies 22 Antigonus St.Coolbellup.

O/C Fund/Rs. ; Mrs.A.Chapman (69 6388).

Auditors ; Mr.K.Kennedy & Mr.L.K.Jones.

Editors ; B. & D.Parker 243 Ravenscar St. D/View. (46 1409).

U.E.C. NEWS

SOME LOCAL

SHELLS B. PARKER

There is a new and deadly predator at large in the seas, to whom the sedentary fishes and slow moving mollusks are particularly vulnerable.

This predator is large, comparatively powerful and at times heavily armed. This predator is You.... the scuba diver. The fate of the underwater world and its denizens, for the most part harmless and beautiful creatures, depends on how you react to your new powers. The ability to move in three dimensions with keen eyes and dexterous hands, backed we hope, by an intelligent brain makes it very easy to outwit and out manouver a relatively unarmed inhabitant of the sea. Unless you want to eat it, a small corpse on the end of a spear doesn't make you a hero!! It can brand you as a person who has bought alot of gear to find a new place to be a vandal in.

However, the collection of an occasional shell, avoiding females associated with eggs and juveniles may be found beneficial both from a personal decoration view point and the increase of knowledge

Over the years we have printed various articles on local marine life, however in response to recent requests from newer members, a brief description of some of the 'critters' of our home waters follows.-

+ * + * + * +

(1) The Cowrie; (Family Cypraeidae) of which there are between 160 and 185 known living species (dependant on the authority).

Cypraea Friendi Friendi; This beautiful shellfish is sometimes found around training base, on boat trips etc. It has a fondness for the soft orange sponge and is often found browsing here. The adult can be up to 5" in length. The colour of the sides and base is chocolate brown. The top is cream and can have blocks of pale blue overlain by irregular brown blotches. The animal itself is a velvety black. Once considered rare. (So many have been collected that they are not now financially valuable). However they certainly seem much scarcer these days to the diving observer, probably because of all that collecting.

A more rounded version, from more southern waters, sometimes of a lighter colour is known as Cypraea Friendi Thersites.

(2) The Cowrie Cypraea Marginata; Flat white base with brown spots. The sides heavily spotted. Top wholly white or spotted with brown or black.

The species was known by only one specimen until a few years ago. Recently collected in small numbers by skindivers. Size 6 cm. (2.3/8 ins.) One of the first live specimens found by member Albert Ottey.

(3) Cypraea Rosselli; Base top and sides a dark glossy brown without spots, usually a creamy blotch on the top. Size 6 cm.

This species was described until recently only by beach worn specimens from Fremantle. The first live-taken specimen was taken by a U.E.C. Member Mr. Max Shaw when on one of the first Club 200 ft. dives about 1961. On this dive Max contracted the bends and spent 37 hours in the recompression Chamber.

Subsequently a few live specimens have turned up mostly in craypots, but the species is still one of the most difficult to obtain of all Australian Shells. So far

ACTIVITIES:

- Sat.Mar.17th; Championships, Training Base, 10.00hrs. Ditch and Recovery, Speed and Stamina & Navigation.
- Sun.Mar.18th; Championships 10.00hrs. Obstacle Course, Blind Search, Rescue and Resus. Barbeque after at John Walden's 171 Watts Ave. ~~Maxxixka~~ Wilson. See you there.
- Mon.Mar.19th; General Meeting, Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands Commence 8.00pm. Films; Including Jaques Caustea Film "The Sea".
- Sun.Mar.25th; Boat Trip, Tilley's Landing North Fremantle 07.30. 100 ft. dive Rottnest.
- Sun.Apl. 1st; Training Base 09.30 Woodman's Point.
- Sun.Apl. 8th; As above.
- Sun.Apl.15th; As above.
- Mon.Apl.16th; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands. 20.00hrs.
- Easter Week ; 20th - 25th Albany Trip. Any queries contact Bob Wallis on 46 2888).

EDITORIAL

Being in this position permits me to see what all else is written before I have to commit myself so I consider the job does have its compensations..

My comments are directed at arguments put forward for the retention of Juniors at 14 years. I have also been outspoken on this subject mainly because I feel at 14 yrs. it is too much responsibility to ask of either youth or instructor to remain calm while on scuba. Our sport will only permit one mistake. An argument put up is the availability of equipment, Motor vehicles are available to anyone with the money however society will not permit a license until 17yrs. Another point I have read recently in an American Diving journal is that extensive use of compressed air by a juvenile may have a detrimental effect in later life. It appears that this is being considered now. Perhaps this matter should be given another look by our committee.

PULSE OF LIFE.

Pulse of Life was the title of the film shown at the last General Meeting presented by Harry Grey of the Water Safety Division of the National Safety Council.

The film was a U/States presentation and of extremely good quality from the comments by members it proved most instructional and beneficial. Harry also gave a demonstration of expired air resuscitation and external cardiac massage on a manquin also gave members the opportunity of attempting the procedures. Concluding with questions from membsr.

To all present was given a Circular on expired air resuscitation and external cardiac massage which gives in great detail the basic principles of these practices.

In brief, the standard circular of the National Safety Council reads as follows;

Mouth to mouth resuscitation; When you do it; Immediately; a person has stopped breathing or breaths weakly, from drowning, electric shock, lightning, suffocation, carbon monoxide, gas poisoning or serious accident.

How you do it ; Lay patient on his back, where possible, or start resuscitation where he is. Every moment counts.

- (i) The neck should be extended fully.
- (ii) An air tight seal should be maintained during the operators exhalation into the patients nose/mouth.

Make your first 10 breaths fast then 10 - 12 per minute. the volume of air exchanged is vital in drowning cases over inflation of lungs may cause damage, so blow only until chest begins to rise.

For babies, place your mouth over both mouth and nose and just puff. Cardiac massage was covered at some length so more on this subject will be printed at a later stage.

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the species has been reported from localities between Bunbury and Sharks Bay at depths between 3 and 40 fathoms.

(4) Similarly a fairly rare cowrie is Cypraea Venusta Sorrentensis which is found only around the reefs at Sorrento.

Cowries are not among the very primitive molluscs. They do not lay many eggs, and the mother often stays with them and endeavours to 'brood' them till hatching time. The living animal is often even more beautiful than the shell, and a colour slide of a cowrie taken in its native habitat can be more satisfying to a diver than possession of an "empty house" gathering dust on shelf or drawer.

If you happen to find one of these shells and wish to retain it for collection or ornament the best way of cleaning out the animal is to place it in a deep freeze for a short period remove, allow to thaw and then pull out the animal with a probe or wire. Placed in a plastic bag there is no danger to other foodstuffs. Do not leave any shell to soak in water as acids and decomposition will damage the shell and have made the collecting of no avail. It can also be placed mouth down in clean dry sand (beach sand) which will permit the rotting animal to drain out and the residue after a week or so washed out with hose or warm soapy water however taking all things into consideration the freezer is best. Word of warning, do not leave too long in the freezer as there is the possibility of cracking the shell.

(5) The Volute of which there are in excess of 200 known living species;

Volutidae Aulicina Nivosa; can sometimes be found scarping over the sand banks in Cockburn Sound, a fairly solid shell of up to 12 cm. (4½ ins.) Bluish or sometimes bluish pink with scattered white dots and two broad spiral bands of dark brown axial lines. Here again the animal is most distinctive being a rich dark blue/grey and possessing a vivid yellow band right around the edge of the mantle.

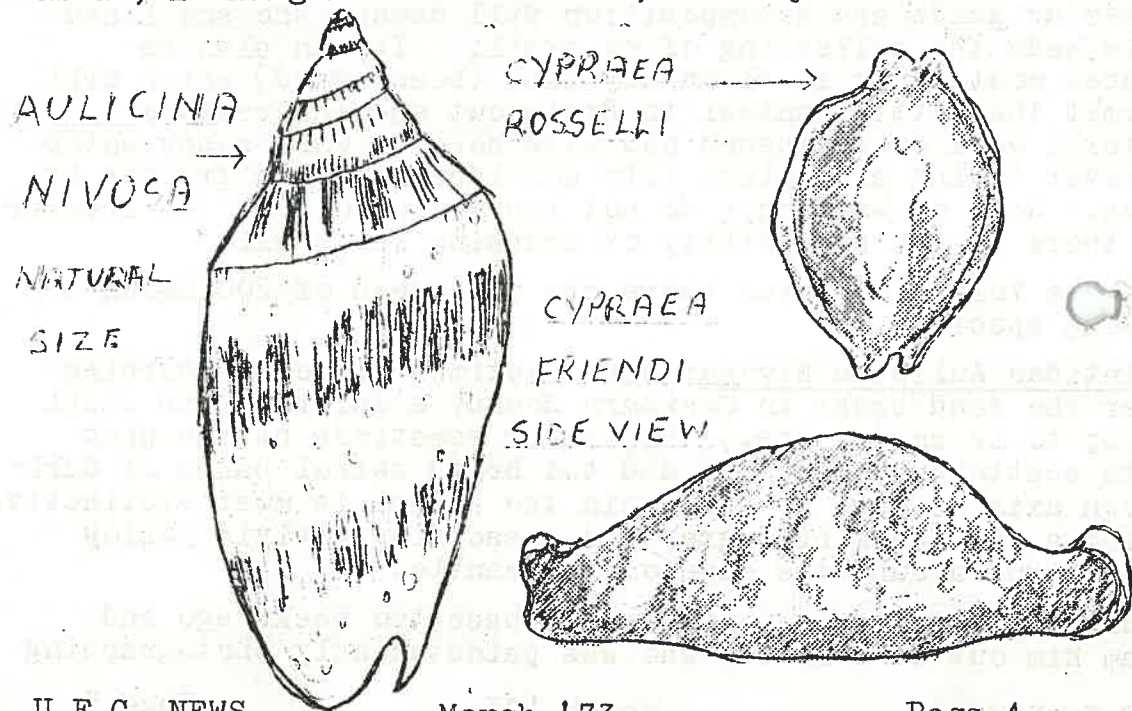
Yours truly found one of these at base two weeks ago and swam him out to a member who was painstakingly photographing

→ KEVIN COLLETT

from all angles a baler he had found on the groyne. After their portraits were taken, these two lucky mollusks were duly returned to safer, deeper waters. There is a Club rule that no living creature be taken from the precincts of the groyne or training area but it is felt that this rule is not carried out by all members.

Melo Miltonis (6) The Southern Baler, referred to above, is also found around Cockburn Sound. This shell also of the family Volutidae. Maximum recorded size 45 cm. (17½ ins.) but shells more than 30 cm. (12 ins.) are rare.

This shellfish is more elongate than other balers and shoulder spines tend to curl inwards. Exterior purple brown or red - brown with zig zag axial lines enclosing creamy white patches. A pratty animal similar colours to the shell, rather shimmering and underwater iridescent. A large proboscis (trunk) is a noticeable feature of this active creature, who moves smartly about, looking for his "tucker", usually other molluscs.



Inspector Under this Act includes and Inspector of Fisheries or Member of the Police Force both of which are represented in our Club. and these members have the Power to seize any such spear, should of course this necessity arise.

However I do feel perhaps that a sign which could be a permanent fixture at the end of our building would have the desired effect and our own members can be controlled by Club rules. Some food for thought for the Committee) I'm certain they are looking for a constructive argument and we do not want any spearing fatalities.

FUND RAISING;

Audrey Chapman

This is a desperate cry from the new fund raising O/C. The Jumble Sale is still on and I think this is a damn good idea. Please get your jumble together and ready for collecting, if you want money to buy Club Rooms, bottle compressors, Club boats and the like lend a hand with this project.

We will take anything - turn out your drawers - panties to wardrobes, records, toys, books, pictures, kitchen utensils, ornaments, fans and fires. It all else fails bake a cake. If you really haven't got anything, how about your heightour?.

Let me (69 6388) or any of the Committee members know how to collect (we're that desperate) or better still bring it along to the next general Meeting.

We are looking for \$500 this time and with your help we'll get it. The Hall is booked for the 28th April at the Canning Hall, East Cannington, So don't let the Club down.

FOR SALE; High Pressure portable Air Compressor, 4 stage capacity 3,000 p.s.i. - German "Mohausen" compressor Unit. Briggs and Stratton 4 stroke engine. Weighs about 40 lb. Price \$300.00 asking.

10 litre air tank (working pressure 3000 p.s.i.) Scubair 100 regulator and demand valve. Pressure gauge \$80 asking. Apply Mrs. Dimier F6/222 Melville Pde. Como.

training time. Not only conservation reasons, but also for safety.

After a small swim today, (11th inst) I feel justified in saying this as I was a victim of one of these intrepid "spearos".

While swimming on the outer groyne with my buddy Frank Mair, I turned to check on him, when I was hit on the jaw and down the throat with with a fineheaded hand spear. The diver came from the top and had a loaded spear in his hand. He apparently hadn't seen me and the spear slipped in his hand. On checking after surfacing, I found that he was not a Club member and he denied knowledge of the Club being there.

Although my face and kneck are darned painful, the spear having penetrated $\frac{1}{2}$ inch into the throat, the rubber hood helped to protect the area. I feel that I am very lucky as a little bit lower and it would have been serious. One of the prongs struck the bone of my jaw which I feel caused the spear to veer and another prong struck my throat. I did not realise the extent of the hole in my throat until I had a good look on arrival home. My hood I feel prevented much more serious damage. Maybe the next person will not be so lucky.

Editors Note; This man could easily have been killed. For this reason a rule was made by the Club (About 1966) which banned the use of Spearguns on the groyne during Club activities. We even went further by attempting to have the groyne area declared a Marine Reserve but we were advised that without some particular creature being unique to the area (Apart from U.E.C.Members) we had no show. Hence the Club Rule. But apparently like many others this has been shelved in the archives and no longer has effect. It's about time we revised it!!

With regards Blow-ins; We can fix them by the simple provisions of the Spearguns Control Act; Namely Section 4 which among other things bans the use of spearguns within 50 yds. of anyone swimming or bathing. An

Anyone who really wants to be able to identify the molluscan wildlife of our seas should obtain a copy of "Australian Shells" by B.R.Wilson & K.Gillett. This book has to be seen to be believed. It costs around \$12.00 and a copy could well be purchased by the Club.

B.R.Wilson is Dr. Barry Wilson Curator of Molluscs at the W.A. Museum. A former U.E.C. Member who took part in some of our early deep dives. He is a world authority on molluscs.

The /W photographs of live molluscs are really something and a great guide to recognition. One great asset of the book is that it can be readily understood by lay readers and does not require a degree to follow the format.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

John Walden

Fund raising is the subject which is not receiving the attention it has in past years. To date, there has only been one fund raising effort, "The Kelmscott Show" when our former Vice President conducted a Jumble Sale. This did not raise large sums of money but taking everything into consideration was good enough to warrant another try and Mike was in the process of organising it. However since then, Mike and Sarah have decided to retire from committee for the time being and the responsibility of organising must now fall on someone else.

At this stage, Audrey Chapman and Russell Warrin have volunteered to take up the aims. What we want now is a big house cleaning by all members resulting in a mountain of things that they do not want but other people may be able to use. There is money in it, so don't hesitate.

The normal income of the club is quite satisfactory and in this last 12 months the I.D.B. (I.B.D.) has risen from \$13,000 to \$16,000. What we need now is a little butter on the bread. Members, have you got any good ideas for making real money fast.

Election of Officers; No doubt there will be plenty of applicants for members to try their hand at the business of

running this club next year. Club management is a demanding and challenging job and you are never short of kicks and jobs. However despite the knockers "Who in the main have never tried it, or at best have only lasted a short time" the job is very rewarding personally.

As the club grows in numbers and assets so the committee jobs must also grow, but remember, this need not deter you. There are quite a few solid and experienced members who are quite prepared to assist.

The Club election procedure needs upgrading, mainly in the field of postal votes, and the Constitution needs to be brought into line with the original rules of the Club at it's foundation, particularly in regard to the length of terms of office for a President. In most organisations the President can only hold office for two consecutive years and this was the original intention of the founders of our club. A copy of original proposals is available.

Juniors; Over recent months discussion has taken place regarding the formation of a seperate group. This would involve the formation of virtually a seperate Club with it's own Constitution and Office bearers resulting in further Overhead Supervision by the Senior Club.

Observations at Base indicate that the seperate training of Juniors is working very well and causing no inconvenience to Seniors.

Gerry Gougoulas and Bob Gadsby have been working on the junior organisation and will be reporting in due course.

The ban on the use of scuba by juniors has created problems in regard to Championships also it raises the question. Juniors are buying scuba units, why shouldn't they be trained in the use of scuba.

Base and boat-trips are running very smoothly and the Photographic Competition run by Bob Gadsby is proving very interesting and entertaining, with a nice prize each month for the winner.

Lyn Jones is back in the Secretary's chair. Thanks Lyn,

belt (1 or 2 weights) since this is the amount of negative bouyancy of the average tank. Now if you are diving without a wetsuit the weight needed for neutral bouyancy remains substantially constant with increasing depth since the body density is almost constant with increasing pressure.

Once a wet suit is worn then troubles arise. The extra weight needed at depths of up to 30 ft. varies with the size of the suit and is determined with experience but is in the range of 4 to 12 pounds. (1 to 3 weights) extra. No since the major volume of the wet suit rubber is air bubbles then the thickness of the suit and thus the bouyancy will decrease with depth and this effect is so pronounced that at 100 ft. the bouyancy of the suit is negligible so the extra weight is extra to carry and constitutes an overweight and thus a potential danger. To approximately determine the weight to be used at a certain depth then firstly determine the extra weight needed at 30 ft. and halve this extra weight at 60 ft. and only use the bare skin weight at greater than 100 ft. The only accurate way to determine weighting is to try it near the boat and correct it before wandering away. Write the details in the front of your log Book so you won't forget.

Remember correct weighting may save your life and it is better to be under rather than overweight. If you see someone one else with obvious overweight (e.g. a small person, no suit and a lung with about 6 weights) then report it to the O.C. you may save his or her life. If in doubt, ask an experienced diver.

Members, This seems a good argument for Buoyancy Compensator vests !!! (Ed.)

SPEARGUNS AT BASE;

Kevin Collett

Over the past few months I have been tempted to bring to the notice of members the number of small fish round the groyne sporting spear holes. Fish that any self respecting spearman would not even look at!

Personally I think all spears should be banned during

- (9) Junior intake will be controlled by O/C Juniors and Committee members. Names will be listed on waiting list and informed when vacancy arises.
- (10) If 3 months have elapsed from last training date, Junior member will have to commence at beginning of Initial training again. Old Initial tests will become invalid and members will recommence on the New Certificate.

WEIGHTING FOR NEUTRAL BOUYANCY;

H.Threlfall.

The need for correct weighting is quite obvious since diving whilst continually floating to the surface or making like a stone is no fun. The thing that is not immediately obvious to the newcomer is that incorrect, in particular over weighting is the greatest killer of scuba divers, if not directly, then indirectly by causing panic when in difficulties. The obvious step of ditching the belt is just not done under conditions of panic and this is obvious from the heavy belt holding down drowning victims that would have more than enough time to ditch the extra weight.

The need is now obvious, but how does the overweighting come about? From my own experience I have found that a new diver has a tendency to feel that he/she is floating upward, mainly through movements and thus more and more weight is added. If the diver settles down and corrects this then another life is preserved otherwise...

So we have in 9 cases out of 10 a new inexperienced diver with a potentially dangerous belt, but how to know the correct weight is not too easy. The primary selection of correct weight is done by going down to around 20 ft. on Hookah and adjusting the weight on the belt (no wet suit) for neutral buoyancy which is when you rise slowly on inhalation and sink slowly on exhalation. The weight needed varies widely but in general it is from 8 to 16 lb. (2 to 4 weights) and is higher for persons with more fatty tissues. The correction for wearing a single 72 cu.ft. tank is about 6 lb. off the

It is always a comfort to the President to know that he has an efficient Secretary and during the last 2½ years it has been my good fortune to have had Ken Kennedy, Lyn Jones and Wally Marshall. When it comes to efficiency the change of chaps was about equal; my only regret is that Wally chose not to complete his term.

Wally is a tough and efficient diver as well as a thorough Secretary and the Club needs men with drive to do the Donkey Work.

TREASURER'S REPORT

P.McWhirter

Membership ;	Honorary 11	Life 4	Full 104
	Junior 31	Social 1	Country 12
Balance of finance as at 1st March '73;			
	General Fund ;	\$308.00	Boat Fund ;
	Building " ;	\$117.41	C.B.C.Dep. ;
			\$16,500.

Noms ; M.Phillips 13 Queensville Ave. Lynwood.
 D.Phillips - do -
 John O'Malley 61 Fairlane Drive Waterman
 Kevin Von Paleske 82 Hampshire St. East Vic/Park.
 Lance Costello 42 Riverview Tce. Mt.Pleasant.
 Stephen Payne 19 Beverly Rd. Cloverdale.

DIVING REPORT

Keith Errington.

Ulidia; Sunday February 25th. Personally the most important feature of the day for me was the arrival of the same half dozen senior club members that have attended nearly every boat trip this season. No need for names. They will probably be there again on March 25th to help in anyway they can.

At 8.00am the "Sambo" with a total of 38 persons on board, left Tilley's and headed towards the Stragglers where the remains of the wreck, "Ulidia" lies. As no one knew exactly where the wreck was, even though we had the Club Charts, it wasn't till 11.50am that Colin Harris and Mike Evans returned with the news that they had found the wreckage. Up

anchor again and shift for a second time as we had dragged anchor earlier on, however we finished up in a good position with hookah's within easy reach of the wreck plugging away merrily.

Weatherwise it turned out a fine day, even though earlier on I was considering a second diving area if the Straggler's proved too rough.

As Club members know, we now keep a full diving log on all divers and even though to do this and keep the Hookah's working is a full time job for at least two members we managed, with the co-operation of divers, to keep an accurate record, even though it did become somewhat hectic once the wreck was found. Anyway on checking the log at a later date, two divers appeared outstanding as regards buddying, and are both comparatively new clubmembers, they are namely John Carpenter and Malcolm de Vries - I suppose you both know who you will be swimming with in the future.

Now for the others who did not fare so well, one person did head out by himself without first getting the O.K. from the log keepers, excitement must have got the better of him. Buddying, good generally as the log tells no lies, but as for one 'A' grader, Well!

Anyway taking everything into account not a bad day around, and once again many thanks for all those whose assistance was invaluable.

By the time many of you receive this Mag. the Championships will be over for others remember if you are not competing your assistance will be required for Safety man, controllers, time-keepers etc. So turn up and offer a hand Sat. 17th and Sun. 18th March.

Penguin Island; 4th March; This apparently broke into two groups. No sign of general members could be found at 10.30am so it was thought no one had rolled up however it appears that at this time the bulk of members were fossicking in the caves.

SPLUTTERS

A stenographer; on her vacation, kept a diary of her trip abroad. It read like this;

1st day out; I met the ship's captain today.

2nd day out; The Captain asked me to sit at his table to eat with him tonight. Highly flattered.

3rd day out; The Captain showed me around the ship. Even went to the Pilot House and stood with him on the bridge.

4th day out; The Captain showed me his living quarters, and made suggestions which were not becoming to an officer and a gentleman of his rank.

5th day out; He insisted. Said he would sink the ship if I did not meet his request.

6th day out; I just saved 700 lives.

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JUNIOR GROUP;

Gerry Gougoulas.

Owing to the short period of time left until the end of the season it has been decided that the Junior Group will remain substantially the same. The following is a basic list of rules to be followed by Juniors for the remainder of this season;

- (1) Juniors to report to O/C Juniors before the commencement of training.
- (2) Times for training; Sundays - 9.30am - 11.30am new initial
11.30am - 1.30pm old "
- (3) Juniors not to use scuba equipment on training days. (exception on Old Initial.)
- (4) Junior must not enter water for practice or instruction without being authorised by O/C Juniors.
- (5) Juniors are not allowed to use Hooker at Traing Base without authority of O/C Juniors.
- (6) Not to attend Boat trips for training or tests on Hookah or scuba.
- (7) Can attend Social functions but no alcohol to be served or consumed.
- (8) Age to be left as is. 14 - 18. 18 and over are seniors.

SPLASH ZONE;

It happens to us all!!! Like all us oldies. But nothing brings it home more than when one of your offspring does that mighty leap and ties the Matrimonial knot, Don't you agree John. Our President' oldest son Peter has taken the plunge. Congratulations Peter and the best of luck to you and your bride to be. To John! .. well, what can we say? Have another drink. To Kath, one male less around the home.

Lex Haimson our esteemed doctors son has applied for leave of absence for 12 months. Lex is off to Israel perhaps to try his hand at building a Kibbutz. But whatever it is I am certain that all members wish him the best of luck and feel certain he will be better for the experience. Good luck Lex....

We all sympathise with Keith Errington with the amount of work he is doing for the club and I have heard many members say he never stops. Well members things never happen by halves. Keith has been transferred to Bunbury and will only be up for the week-ends so when anyone sees he needs assistance, Well, how about it... He has inferred his intention of keeping going to the end of the year which I am told is when he will be again transferred back to Perth. The year referred to is our Annual General. Thanks for all you do Keith. You know the abuse you get is only meant to make you more determined. We all suffer the same fate!!.....

It has been suggested by a certain well known, notorious white-anting renounced member of our club that its about time the magazine had a bit of a facelift. I accept the suggestion and will print some of the articles submitted. The inspiration of the section will remain anonymous as I feel these may inspire other members to submit their little bit!! As a clue a Greek water God is the name of his boat...

In company of Dennis Parker and Bob Wallis in their respective boats we proceeded to the southern end of the Murray Reef where a couple hours of diving was indulged in by all. On return to the Island we found that the rest of the Club were in attendance however it was getting late and the party soon broke up. It appears that an enjoyable day was had by all and I'm certain this was double for the boat crews.

BASE REPORT

Dave Kenny.

Since there has been no Base for some weeks I will just hi-lite one or two events of interest which may otherwise slip by unnoticed.

Some time ago one of our members took it on himself to organise the training of some sea-scouts, you will remember reading about it in your Mag., Well the sequel to this event took place the other night when at the Scouts General Meeting The scouts who recieved the U/W third degree! presented Les Coleman with a small token to express their appreciation of a job well done. A Seiko Divers Watch no less* Congrats Les, you deserved it mate.

We seem to losing alot of good divers lately, Firstly Neville McCurdy is off to Africa with his family. Frank Mair is off for six weeks to Broome, and now the Gov't is packing off our Diving O/C to Bunbury for 3 months, however you can't keep a good man down and keith will be back week-ends.

I must also mention our electron wizard of the "ban the bomb world", Harry Threlfall has now installed the two-way device to end all two ways between the office and the jetty, and it really works folks! even if your not too sure what the other guy is saying. A good effort Harry. Well so long for now folks!!.

Roster of Examiners;

8th April; K.Kennedy, M.Preston, K.Errington & P.McWhirter.
15th " ; R.Wallis, L.Jones, T.Menikides & D.Davies.
29th " ; D.Parker, J.Walden & Dr. N.Haimson.

WRECK RESEARCH M.Pollard...

The 'Dato' was visited on Saturday 3rd March by myself and Graham Henderson of the W.A. Museum. Task - to try and date the 'Dato' wreck as there is a theory that she is infact the "Rockingham".

We found the "Dato" after a search of about 20 mins. over the marks, visibility was down to 3 - 4ft. Several metal sheets were taken off her on the off chance that a trade mark would be on one of them, also several bolts and pieces of timber. All the metal, bolts and sheeting, were Muntz metal (yellow metal). This alloy of copper and zinc was invented by Muntz and in 1832 the first two patents were registered.;

- (1) For the alloy, and
- (2) for the making of bolts from the alloy.

In 1846, yet another patent was taken out by Muntz for sheeting from the alloy to be used for the sheathing of ships bottoms, being cheaper than copper.

The "Rockingham" was built before 1832 so would not have bolts of Muntz metal holding her timbers together and she sank before 1846, so could not have been sheathed in Muntz metal. Therefore this wreck cannot be that of the "Rockingham".

The "Dato" however, was built in 1879 and we know that she was moored for a time as an empty hulk in Careening Bay in 1895 and heresay evidence says that she sank at her moorings there. This wreck has no evidence of cargo on her, i.e. she could have been an empty hulk and therefore could well be the "Dato".

This February, another wreck was found at the North end of Careening Bay under the edge of the drop-off. This is a coal hulk of about 200 tons with yellow metal sheeting and bolts. At the moment we are still trying to work out who she is...

PHOTOGRAPHY.

Bob Gadsby

Dave Kenny has done it again. Yes that's right, he

won another roll of colour film at last months General Meeting. Good work Dave. Once more a good candid camera shot took off the prize. The subjects were captured on film whilst their attention was focused elsewhere. The facial expressions on the people were quite amazing and numerous which made an excellent candid photo. Don't be shy, roll up at the General Meetings with your colour slides.

Thanks go to Alfred's Emporium Cnr. Hay and Pier Sts Perth for kindly donating the monthly prize of a roll of colour film. They offer members discount on films and equipment.

Underwater Photography; The birth of U/W photography took place in 1856 when a William Thompson, an English engineer and Photography bug, made a black and white recording of the bottom of Weymouth Bay. The result of the 10 minute exposure was not the best - a fuzzy, imperfect impression of sand and rocks covered with seaweed. But it was history in themaking. Thompson would turn in his grave if he knew about present U/W cameras. His motivation was typical of an engineer, he wanted to develop a technique for determining the condition of submerged bridge abutments and other Underwater structures.

Nearly 40 years passed before the next burst of activity by an extremely energetic and inventive experimenter, Louis Boutan. Boutan was a zoologist associated with the Arago Marine Laboratory in the French Pyrenees, and he was unwavering in his quest to obtain photographic documentation of the World beneath the waves.

Within a period of less than 10 years, Boutan advanced underwater photography from infancy to adolescence. Boutan is often referred to as the Father of U/W Photography.

Thompson used a remotely controlled underwater Camera whereas Boutan was the first man to dive under the water to take pictures. He was also the first man to use artificial light for underwater photography. Powdered magnesium provided the brilliant burst of light for the first U/W flash photograph.

The subject title for both April and May is open.

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.



April, 1973

**THE MAGAZINE
FOR ALL SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS**

PRICE: 5c.

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+ * + * + * +

UEC NEWS

VOLUME 12 N° 9 APRIL '73

CHAMPIONSHIPS 1973

March 14th; Theory was held at the Auxiliary Squad Rooms, of the Police Department, Adelaide Tce. Perth, thanks going to Dennis Parker for arranging venue this year. Entries for the event were far from enthusiastic, only seven of our club members saw fit to enter and two from Bill Gault's Underwater Recovery Divers, one of whom, Peter Fenn, took off the open.

Practical events; Saturday March 17th; At 9.00am on arrival at a bleak and cold Training Base two families were already hard at work preparing for the days events. Ken, Betty and John Kennedy, were laying out the Speed and Stamina Course while Gerry Gougoulas was busy on the Ditch and Recovery. Later on, Mike Pollard who was not looking his best, staggered down and set up his Navigation Course, which this year was a triangular swim, just to make it interesting and proved excellent in seperating the men from the boys.

Sunday March 18th; Around ninish, Les Coleman and John Date arrived looking like Krasnostein's Backyard. Les and John were responsible for the Obstacle Course which proved to be just that. I would like to point out that these two Club members were in the water around the six hour figure, keen ???.

Event 6 Rescue and Resuscitation; D.Parker
 Patient lying in 15 ft. water. To be rescued and brought
 to beach and resuscitation applied as per the demands of
 prevailing conditions.
 Each contestant then asked questions on resuscitation and
 external heart massage and required to demonstrate same on
 mannekin. Judged by Harry Grey State co-ordinator for
 Ater Safety Division of National Safety Council.

FINAL RESULT;

Cont.	Theo.	D/R	S/S Nav	Obst.	B/S	R/R	Tot;
S.Boutle	44½	Dis.	74	-	-	-	118½
G. Weir	68	Dis	0	32	70	60	263
S.Hatchett	49	110	82	0	95	110	483
M.Evans	69½	Dis.	67	43	85	60	361½
P.Fenn	74	110	89	Dis.	100	100	508
J.Carpenter	87½	100	65	Dis.	75	55	419½
R.Taylor	50½	Dis.	56	38	45	55	294½
B.Ritchie	46	90	90	Dis.	95	60	411
T.Menekides	66	Dis	68	6	100	50	324

THEORY; The following are the questions set for
 Section "A" of the paper;

- (1) Describe the bends and methods of treatment.
- (2) What is Air Embolism? What are the symptoms and how
 would your prevent air embolism.
- (3) Describe life line and air hose signals.
- (4) What is the standard hand signal for diver in distress?
- (5) What immediate steps should be taken on removing an
 unconscious and presumed drowned diver from the water?
- (6) Describe precautions to be taken on a working dive
 where no decompression limits are exceeded.

General comments of the Championships are that the Theory
 should have been better. It a 70% pass was required as
 is often the case in State and inter State events we
 would have been battling to have had a competition. It
 was also felt that more training in these types of events
 would be of great benefit. More competitors would help.

While on this business of legislation it occurs to me
 that we were also very outspoken against the Spearguns
 Control Act which I now feel was another piece of restric-
 tion for which we should be thankful, without which no
 person would be safe anywhere while swimming or diving.

However I would like to bring to notice of members a new
 type of speargun which has found its place on the English
 market and for which there is no legislation (to my knowledge
 either here or anywhere else.

There is not much data on the gun but it appears to have
 originated somewhere in the Orient. Japan, Taiwan. It
 appears to be a compressed air gun which can be clamped on
 the gunnel of the boat. The sight is a form of telescope
 gridded for sighting. It is believed to have a range of
 21 ft. It is advocated for (Sportsman)? to shoot fish
 as a change from birds. Imagine the havoc on our shallow
 reefs using a burly bag and baited line to bring them
 within range. Perhaps a move to make these a prohibited
 import would be considered by members. More food for thought.

OIL SUNK BY CLAY; "We are all concerned about this ever
 increasing problem of oil spillage whether it be in the
 Swan River of Great Barrier Reef. The following is a small
 article on this subject which like the two quoted above
 has been taken from the "Diver" Newspaper February '73
 printed in England.

A Latvian Chemical engineer named Zelikman has developed an
 effective method of purifying water with common clay. The
 clay not quite common, first it has to be calcined.

In the course of dozens of experiments Zelikman found that
 at a temperature of 800 degs. C. the minute particles making up
 up the clay become baked together, imparting increased
 porosity.

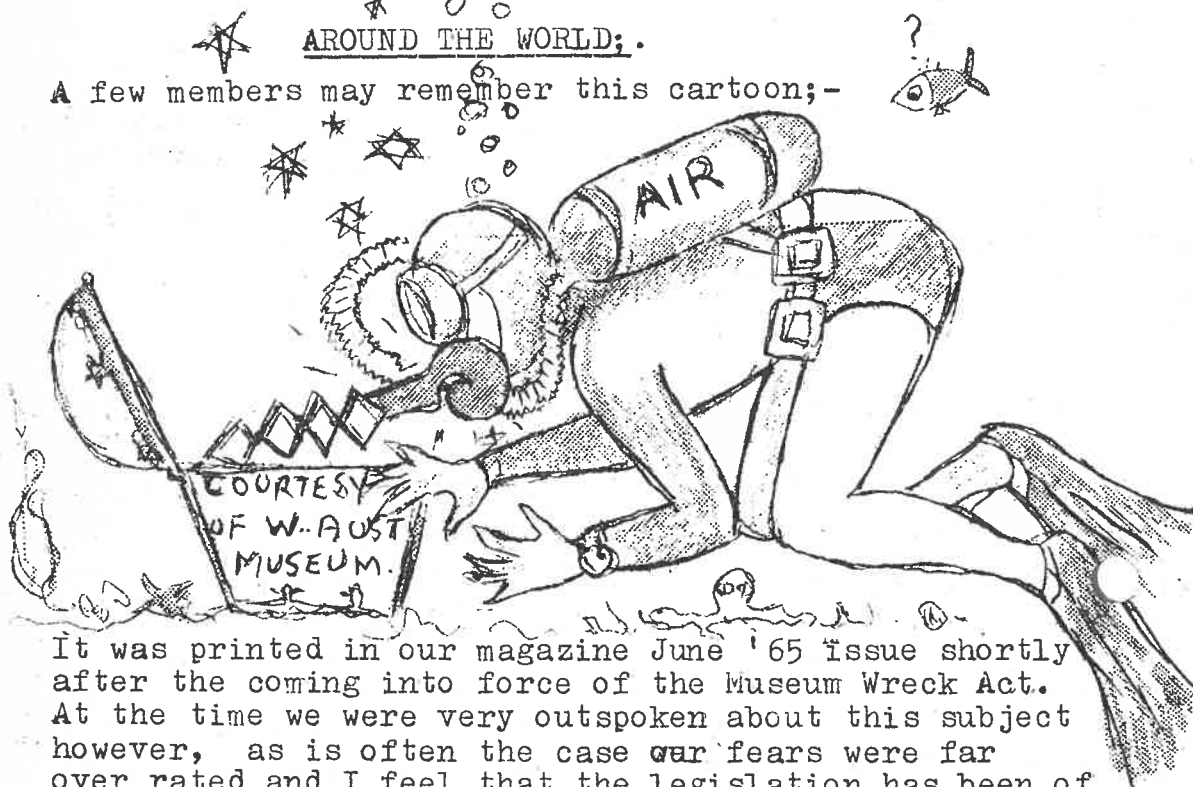
As it comes into contact with oil the pores absorb it like
 a sponge. The oil envelopes every particle of the atomised
 material and sinks underwater with it. It is claimed
 that this method of dealing with oil pollution is highly
 effective, takes little time, is cheap and harmless to
 fish and plankton.

ATTENTION PARENTS;- Quote from a book called "Diver Below" written by Hank Frey who designed thermal suits worn during the U.S.Navy's Sealab 11 Project, and prefaced by Dr. Joseph B.McInnes, Medical Director Ocean Systems Inc. and consultant to U.S.N. Sealab 111.

Quote "You must have formal training in the complicated sport of Scuba Diving, and there is still some question as to whether repeated exposure to breathing compressed air might have an adverse effect on the lungs of people less than 16 years of age. The upper age limit depends mostly on the individuals physical condition." Unquote

* * * * *
AROUND THE WORLD;

A few members may remember this cartoon;-



It was printed in our magazine June '65 issue shortly after the coming into force of the Museum Wreck Act. At the time we were very outspoken about this subject however, as is often the case our fears were far over rated and I feel that the legislation has been of great benefit to all in this State. It is interesting to note that only now is England in the process of bringing in an act of Parliament to safe guard against U/W vandalism. Food for thought.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

J.Walden.

Because of the amount of work involved in organising and training, and because of the nature of the dive itself, the 200 ft. plunge is not a regular feature on the Club Calender. It is left to individuals who from time to time get inspired with the thrill of a deep dive.

Properly organised and with the right training this dive need not be any more risky than walking down Hay St. (before it was closed to vehicular traffic). The desire to take a bit of a risk is an inbuilt human trait and to the diver the 200 ft. is like skydiving or driving a fast car, to the enthusiast in these sports and it is far better to do your thing under controlled conditions than to do it without the experience of club members to help.

Last year John Bele set up and executed what was possibly the best 200 ft. dive ever done by this club and in doing so left behind a wealth of knowledge, and enovations for the benefit of those to come.

This year David Grono has faced the challenge and put it to the club to run another. I was beginning to think that all the sting had gone out of members this year but no, sooner or later there is a new group to carry on in the old style. David, to you and those who go down with you, the very best of luck.

At the last committee meeting Audrey Chapman volunteered to carry on as O/C Fund Raising the vacancy being created by the resignation of Mike Preston. In the past Audrey has been an eager beaver in various ways with fund raising mainly through Social activities, Congratulations Audrey also to Russ Wannin who no doubt will be right hand man to Audrey.

At present Audrey is organising a Jumble Sale and needs gear, I am sure that everybody can help a little in this regard.

Harry Threlfall is back in the field again, we now have a two way speaker at base which after a few lengthy problems now works very well. All we need now is an operators training programme. Namely take your finger off the speak button when you are listening. Nice work Harry.

TREASURER'S REPORT P. McWhirter

Owing to the sickness of our Treasurer the report is as of last month;

Membership ;	Honorary 11	Life 4	Full 104
	Junior 31	Social 1	Country 12

Balance of finance ;

General Fund ;	\$308.00	Boat Fund ;	\$135.76
Building "	\$117.41	C.B.C.Dep.;	\$16,500.00.

Noms ; A.Jackson 13 Faye Crescent Gosseberry Hill
 J.North 227 Broome St. Cottesloe
 B.Lippi 346 Main St. Balcatta.
 E.Borg 34 Arundel Court, South Tce. Fremantle.

DIVING REPORT K.Errington

Rottneest March 25th;- 100 ft.dive.- The "Sambo" left Tilley's Jetty at 8.05am with 24 persons on board for what proved to be possibly the most enjoyable boat trip of the season. - Weather conditions being no less than perfect the water itself having a visibility of approx. 90 ft. We had only just arrived at 10.00am on the 100 ft site when Ken Kennedy in "Scandal" came over to have a look see. - soon after, Lyn Jones and Dr.Haimson arrived in their respective boats. Lyn volunteering his services was smartly handed the diving log while yours truly had a look see at the bottom.

Naom couldn't resist a quick check so with Brian Ritchie they both headed downward and out of sight, not to be seen again until almost dragged to the surface by the "hookah" hoses, sorry chaps!!.

Diving; we arrived at 10.00am and by 12.15pm 5 persons had completed their 50 ft. free ascents and 13 had completed their 100 ft. dive (training dive) for the Advanced Certificate, At least four of these have now completed the "A" Certificate with this dive.

Here's some more news - in addition to all this 5 persons

SOME DIVING NOTES.

B.Parker

From "Diving Doctor" by John Betts; THERMAL ILLUSION.

"It can be shown that the main benefit from wearing a three-sixteenth wet suit on the surface is in preventing the initial rapid loss of heat from the outer inch or two of the body which occurs in the first 20 minutes of immersion in an unclothed diver, but apart from this, the rate of loss of body heat is only a little less when wearing a wet suit. However, since the divers skin is somewhat warmer he feels more comfortable.

Another unexpected result of calorimeter tests, was, that wearing trousers did not add much to the protection given by the tunic alone."

(This news from the Frontiers of Research will probably not cause a great discarding of wet suits I guess!).

VSTIBULAR BENDS; A problem thrown up by deep diving between 1,000 and 2,000 ft. is the high incidence of "vestibular bends". They occur in that part of the ear concerned with the balance. A series of semi-circular canals at right angles to each other. These are filled with fluid, which because of its inertia tends to flow around these canals when we turn our heads or bodies in any direction, thus giving us a feed back on our movements.

At these great depths, for some obscure reasons, gas bubbles seem to form very easily in these canals and are extraordinarily difficult to treat because returning to the original maximum pressure of the dive often fails to relieve the condition. It is usually out of the question to push an experimental dive of this nature to a deeper depth than originally planned purely to treat a bend, and the diver is then trapped at the maximum depth of his dive.

Several divers have been left with complete loss of balancing function in one ear. Because of this very real danger, it is understood that for the present, very deep diving experimental runs are temporarily suspended in Britain until a solution is found.

Alfred's Emporium have kindly donated the prize and our thanks go out to them.

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY: Continued; William Longley an American ichthyologist, pioneered U/W colour photography. Longley's light source consisted of an open bottom raft and a rather daring amount of magnesium powder. In 1923 sixty seven years after the first U/W image was captured on B/W film. Longley succeeded in taking the first U/W colour pictures.

There were others, but Thompson, Boutan and Longley contributed the major milestones in U/W still photography. Modern day U/W photography was made possible not only through the tireless efforts of these and other dedicated experimenters but also through the development of the Scuba apparatus.

Today's scuba is the end product of many decades of engineering development. A technological breakthrough that enabled scuba to be introduced to the public was made by Emile Gagnan and Jacques Cousteau during the early 1940's in occupied France.

The work of Gagnan and Cousteau led to the invention of the demand type regulator that we have today and which later sparked tremendous interest and caused a new dimension in exploration to mushroom. Additional developments in diving equipment followed at a rapid rate while advances in U/W photographic equipment continued at a more modest rate. Exploring, collecting and spearfishing were popular but few attempted U/W photography.

The limited market for U/W photographic equipment was unattractive for manufacturers so the few who tried their hand at taking pictures in the sea had to build their own equipment or they had to pay unreal prices for custom made and commercial gear. Happily times have changed. Off the shelf equipment is now available to satisfy most needs.

FOR TESTING WATCHES: Member John O'Malley (Watchmaker) has testing equipment for Diver's Watches. Members interested U.E.C. NEWS (phone 25 5741 Work)

started their Proficiency Ticket by doing one or more 100 ft. dives satisfying the requirements of same, so it would appear that next season it is going to be on again.

After leaving the site we then proceeded to the "Denton Holme" and the "Macedon" for a quick check. Within only 10 minutes of anchoring only six persons were left on board the "Sambo" with everyone finishing off their air in the shallows - at 2.25pm we left the wreck site and arrived back home at 4.00pm feeling very weary after a long and very enjoyable day.

TRAINING BASE REPORT

Dave Kenny,

Did you ever notice what was printed on the front of the mag? "The Magazine for all Scuba Enthusiasts". It might interest you to know that out of some 160 financial members we have only seven "Scuba Enthusiasts", at least that is the total number who had enough interest to participate in the Scuba Champs". Considering the effort put into organising the various events and the amount of time dedicated by these people, they surely deserved a better turnout. The attitude I have met from most people is, "Oh! I'm not good enough" or "I wouldn't stand a chance against so and so". With an attitude like that we were doomed before the "Champs" started, still to use another cliché "There's always next year!" Well by crikey, I'll be knocking on your doors.

However, tributes must be paid to those who did take part and had a go, I think you'll all agree it was good fun and valuable experience. See you there next year on the starting line!

Base has been running pretty smoothly, we have quite a swag of divers who are on there 10 hours instruction and yet another mob who have finished their "A" class. I should remind all those who are within finishing distance of either certificate at this stage that there are only 5 more Training Base Days. So "pull your snorkels out!". By the time you get this mag. only 3!!!.

It was good to see our old "Dolphin" Hugh Peters in the water on Sunday, he has started on the New Certificates to

prove he can keep up with the best of the whipper "Snappers". Good on you Hugh! That's what I call 'spirit'.

Also by popular request, there will be another "Night Dive" on April 29th. The previous one took some members by surprise so here's your chance again. As the weather may be a bit cooler, bring some "Liniment". See you there folks!!.

Roster of Examiners; (Deo Volente')
15th April; R.Wallis, L.Jones, T.Menikides & D.Davies
29th " ; D.Parker, J.Walden & Dr. N.Haimson.
13th May ; K.Kennedy, M.Preston & Dot. Davies.
20th " ; Training Base Closing Day. ALL available.
Examiners are requested to turn up.

FUND RAISING; Audrey Chapman

There has been an exceedingly poor response to the clubs Jumble Sale project.

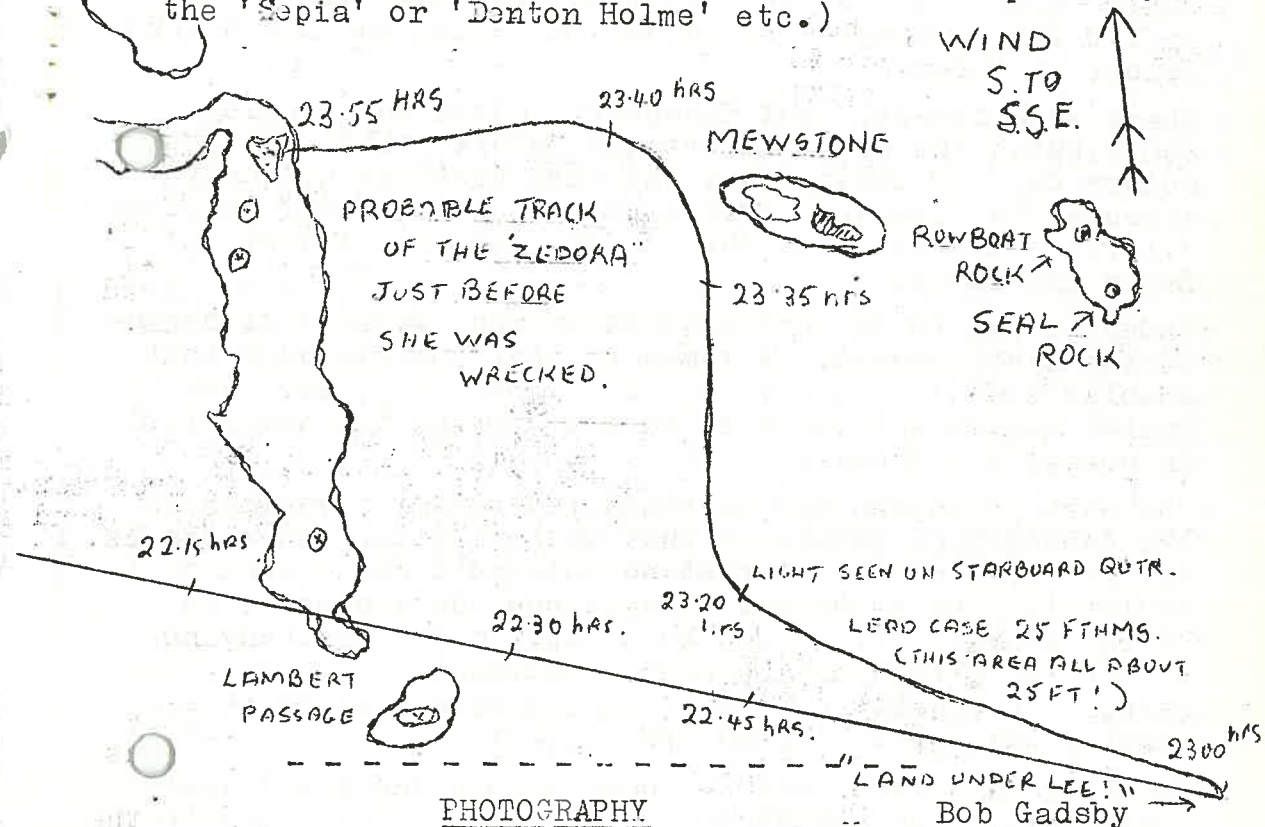
So far, only six members (I might have guessed) have appeared with offer to help and jumble for sale. The same half dozen who are always in it to back up any club venture or social.

With a membership of well over 100 it should not be left to such a small number to come forward. There appears to be a great deal of apathy amongst members, and while I appreciate there are a number of other time consuming items going on for the club at present, there can surely be no easier way of swelling the funds than a Jumble Sale requiring from members the minimum of effort and time and no money!.

It is pointless hiring the hall this month. (Put off now to Saturday May 5th East Cannington) if the stuffs not there to sell. ..

So please, once more get with it - records, books, pot plants, children's clothes, toys, any household furniture or oddments. - bring to the General Meeting, or our place, or any committee member, so that we can make this

- (3) She is lying under the east side of the reef as would be expected of a ship striking from the east (See 'Ulidia').
- (4) the results of the excavation by Hugh Edwards. Nothing was found as would be expected from a ship on mud ballast. The Lancier was coming into Fremantle with full cargo. (i.e. 'Ulidia' for artifacts compared to the 'Sepia' or 'Denton Holme' etc.)



Unfortunately I was not present at last month's General Meeting therefore I did not see the slides submitted for judging. I was duty photographer on Afternoon shift for that week and was unable to attend the meeting. A very good selection of slides were brought along and it was decided to show the entries for entertainment value. Do bring your slides to the next meeting and you could take off a roll of colour film as first prize. Once again

It was thought prudent to put into Fremantle rather than continue to Adelaide.

By noon on 10th February, she was 90 miles west of Rottnest Island S.S.E. wind. At 1300 hrs. the wind had swung to the south so course was altered to E by S (102) degs. speed $8\frac{1}{2}$ knots. By 2000 hrs. Rottnest light should have been 20 miles away on her port bow. Capt. Hodges now shortened sail to reduce speed to $3\frac{1}{4}$ - 4 knots and a lookout was posted aloft to search for the light. At 2030 hrs. Capt. Hodges went to the masthead himself for 20 mins to try and spot the light. (at about 22.20 hrs. she fluked the Lambert Passage). At 2300 hrs. the mate reported to the Captain that they still could not see a light when suddenly land was sighted under her lee. (Position now about S.S.E. of Rowboat Rock and W of No.7 buoy). Capt. Hodges wore ship at once and cast the lead. The first cast was foul, the second gave 25 fathoms. (Is this an error in records as this area is all about 25 ft. deep?).

The "Zedora's" heading was now W.N.W. (293 degs) when a light was seen on her starboard quarter bearing N.E. 45 deg. Thinking that this was the Rottnest light, the ship's head was hauled around to north and then to the westwards. (Probably passing the Mewstone to Starboard). She struck at about midnight and was abandoned at once as breakers were all about her and her boats were banging on the rocks.

At the marine inquiry, Capt. Hodges stated that he only had a small scale chart of Fremantle. Other evidence brought that due to a thick haze the Rottnest light was obscured. Capt. Hodges was cleared of all blame for the accident.

My reasons for saying this wreck is the one known as the "Lancier";

- (1) Her position is very close to the position in all reports of the time.
- (2) Capt. Forsyth (Harbour Master) 1875 in his report says the wreck is heading west. $\frac{1}{2}$ south (about 265) degs.

a worthwhile effort. If you really have nothing (and this I don't believe)! then a couple of tins or packets from your store cupboard can stock the grocery stall.

Its just two weeks to either carry on or cancel it due to lack of support, so how about it?!!.

WRECK RESEARCH

Mike Pollard.

"ZEDORA" Construction; Wood, sheathed with felt and yellow metal. Partly iron fastened.
Dimensions ; L. 117.7ft x B. 25 ft. x D. 14.8ft
Tonnage ; 269 tons.
Built ; 1869 by Johnson & Bideford North
Rig ; Three masted barque (Devon.
Master ; John Hodges. Owned by J. Mill of
Cargo ; Mud ballast. (Bideford.
Wrecked ; Midnight, 10th - 11th February 1875. 6 miles from Fremantle, $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Mewstone and $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the highest Straggler rock. She is almost certainly the wreck ~~is~~ cataloged by Harold Roberts (Beachmaster) as the "Lancier" and excavated by Hugh Edwards in 1959. Aproximate position 32 degs. 5 min. 0" S. 115 deg. 38 min. 18 sec. east. ($1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from highest Straggler Rock and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Mewstone. Was there an error in the sextant reading?).

Report of wreck; The "Zedora" left Mauritius in mud ballast on 16th January 1875 bound for Adelaide. Strong winds from the south forced Captain Hodges up to Lat. 37 deg. South. Sunday 7th Feb. she was about 250 miles west of Fremantle the wind was S.S.E. strong with a heavy sea. At about 10.00pm a squall struck her and she was thrown on her beam ends, she would not pay off for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours as the ballast had shifted. The crew had to go below to try to trim it.

When she was able to pay off, Captain Hodges came about onto the other tack and sent the crew down again to complete trimming. After 2 hours he wore ship and returned to his course E/N (East by North) 80 degs. The ship was now very tender and it was found that water had got below into the mud and liquified it, this had choked the pumps.

HAROLD ROBERTS

U.E.C. NEWS TROPHY INSERT.

(1) THE TROPHY;

This is presented to the member who has sompleted a project allied to diving during the season that is a help to the advancement of diving in W.A. or is some new innovationsuitable to diving practices.

1. 2.

Reason;

(2) THE SAFETY TROPHY:

For the member who has been responsible in some way to making diving safer or who has rendered some constructive system for safer diving techniques;

1. 2.

Reason;

(3) THE RAY DEVITT TROPHY;

This is for the most progressive new member of the season;

1. 2.

Reason;

(4) CLUBMAN TROPHY;

Donated for the best clubman/woman of the season.

1. 2.

Reason;

(5) CARIS BROS. TROPHY:

This goes to the best woman diver of the season.

1. 2.

Reason;

(6) Hugh EDWARDS TROPHY:

For the member who does the most in the sphere of Historiacl Wreck Exploration and research.

1. 2.

Reason.

(7) ILFORD TROPHY:

For the best Underwater Photograph of the season, This Trophy is left completely in the hands of the donors who will judge all entries. Date of closing to be fixed.

Entries to be at least 7" x 4" with information on locality, depth, time of day, exposure particulars and any other relevant information.

(8) THE DOLPHIN TROPHY;

Donated by the Dolphins.

For the U.E.C. Sportsman of the year. This is awarded to the member who as a sportsman of the year has excelled either within or outside the activities of the U.E.C. in ;-

- (1) Personal Diving prowess.
- (2) Services to diving instruction or coaching.
- (3) Administrative ability.

1. 2.

Reason;

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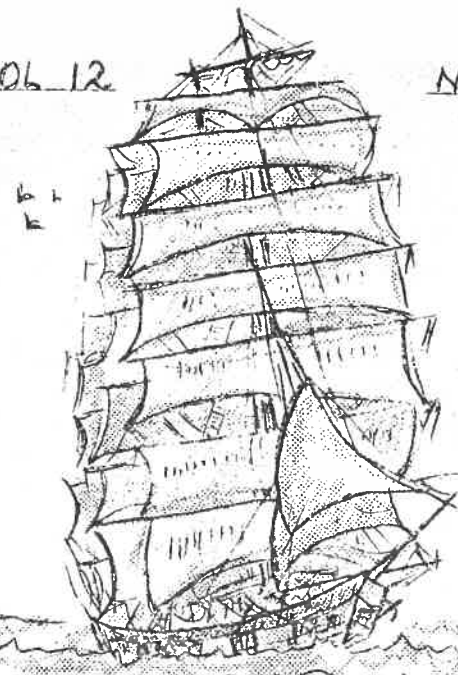
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U.E.C. NEWS



The "Sepia"

Tales of fascinating and as yet undiscovered wrecks lure us out to search for their salty old bones. New members who dive on the "Sepia" may not know that until Easter Saturday 1960 she was numbered among the forgotten vessels waiting for a diver to find her in her fish haunted solitude.

For many years the remains of the "Sepia" eluded all efforts by divers to find her. This of all wrecks on the W.A. coast was a prize worth finding. The legend being that a fortune in mercury went down with her, and that none of the cargo was salvaged. Mercury was imported at the turn of the century for gold processing and some light houses used a mercury bath in which to float a system of mirrors for the light.

Some time ago a U.E.C. member, Len Cohn, brought to light an old chart on which was marked an X with the words "Wreck lies here." However the position of the X seemed a possible marker for "Sepia" being approximately 1 1/2 sea miles west of Carnac and in 50 ft. of water.

Let us go back to how the "Sepia" met her fate. The iron barque "Sepia" was built in 1864 by Denton Gray and Company

of Hartleypool England for the owners, Betholl Gwyn Company of London. She was 177 ft. long, 29 ft. beam and 19 ft. draft. She was a two masted barque and did a number of trips to Fremantle before she was wrecked. On one of these trips a lad named Culley came out in her. His son Dick owns Culley's Tea Rooms in Fremantle and has a 40 ft. launch named "Sepia".

On her fatal journey she left London of 14th Sept. 1893 under Captain Thomas with a crew of 15. It was Capt. Thomas first trip in her. In late afternoon of Dec. 29th 1898, she crossed the five fathom bank off Garden Island near a point about 2 miles north of the the southernmost tip of Garden Island, and set a course hoping to go through the South Passage between Rottneest and the Stragglers. On this course lay the treacherous Challenger Rock between Garden Island and Carnac. This was marked by a beacon which was seen by the crew just before she hit, about 6.00pm just as the crew were about to have their evening meal. She struck, holed her bottom and started to settle. The Captain ordered "Abandon Ship!". Much bustle ensued and several boats were lost. Gale force westerly winds were blowing at the time, and she sank fairly quickly in 50 ft. water.

The Captain and eleven of the crew managed to escape in the remaining boat, but four men were left clinging to the mast which still protruded above water. After vainly endeavouring to rescue these men in the dark and rough conditions, the survivors set off to Fremantle where they notified the Harbour Authorities who despatched a boat to the wreck.

One can imagine the thoughts of these men, "left clinging to the cold slippery mast with a howling westerly gale blowing past their ears. Wondering if their mates would make it in the dark to Fremantle, and expecting the mast to subside any moment and drop them into the black turbulent water. However the "Sepia" did not let them down, she drowned none of her crew, for when the boat

Ans; Air embolism is unvented pressure due to gas expansion forces air from sacs (alveolae) in the lungs into blood vessels surrounding them. These bubbles act as dams when lodged in small vessels and resultant lack of blood causes tissue to die. The symptoms vary according to the type of embolism of which there are three most common. However there would be chest pain, trouble swallowing, breathing and talking. Prevention; NEVER hold your breath on ascent after breathing compressed air. Breath holding for as little as 7 ft. near the surface could prove fatal.

ACTIVITIES;

At the last General Meeting our guest speaker Mr. David Hoald of the Fisheries and Fauna Dept. gave a most interesting talk, slides and film on the Scallop industry with which he is directly involved. He laid down the reasons for which he requires assistance of members in the search for young and giving the figures of the varied commercial catches of both Saucer and Cockburn Sound variety. He described the manner of catch and collecting etc. which was further shown in his films.

ACTIVITIES; May 17th Thur; WINE TASTING (See elsewhere)
Sun. 20th May.; Training Base (Last day) Woodman's Point 9.30pm Examiners; all available.
Mon. 21st " ; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands. Discussion on Free Ascents; It is hoped that Dr. N. Haimson may lead this.
Sun. 27th " ; 100 ft. dive. Last of season off Rottneest weather permitting. Tilley's Landing 7.45am
Fri. 8th June; PRESENTATION NIGHT ; See centre pages. Tawarri Lodge, Dalkeith.
Sun. 17th " ; Waroona Dam. Further information available at the next General Meeting. Any member wishing to attend contact Committeeman.
Mon. 18th ; Annual General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands. 8.00pm All nominations to be before the returning Officer by 7.45pm. More info. next Gen/Meeting.

SPLASH ZONE;

Kieth Errington is again off on a rampage to the Abrolhos to assist with the final stages of clearing up the Museum project on the "Batavia" it is also believed that Wally Marshall our Army man of leisure is also going to assist. What a life some people have!!.

Some months ago included in the magazine was a questionnaire for members to complete regarding their lists of wreck relics for Mike Pollard to record. To date Mike has received the grand total of 'nil return'. Perhaps it about time mebrs got out their relics, listed and Photo same and presented the returns to Mike for recording. This I might add also means ME!!.

THEORY QUESTIONS;

In answering these questions it will be understood that only the basic facts will be covered and therefore some minor factors may be missed out. For the complete answer to many of these questions members would do well to read the more Medical Publications such as 'Underwater Medicine' by Stanley Miles. (Held in Club Library or even New Science of Skin and Scuba).

Q.1. Describe the bends and methods of treatment?

Ans; Sometimes referred to as 'Diver's Paralysis, Caisson's decease, and Decompression sickness. Basically is due to inert gas (normally nitrogen) breathed under pressure being taken into body tissue in solution. On a too rapid return to lower pressure (surface) the solution forms into bubbles in the tissue creating in a minor form irritation to nerve endings (itch) and the opposite extreme severe blockages within the spinal chord etc. causing death. Treatment immediate decompression. Prevention decompression according to tables laid down.

Q.2. What is an Air Embolism, what are the symptoms and how would you prevent air embolism?.

arrived from Fremantle the men were still holding onto the mast and were brought safely back. Back to the present;

On Easter Saturday 1960 after various preparations, the crew of divers set out in a small boat 'Burbler' owned by Reg Evans. They were U.E.C. members Harold Roberts, Frank Peniston, Rod Ashton, John Walden, John Carrie and Geoff Evans. Conditions were excellent with good visibility and apart from a touchy boat engine, all went well. Checking bearings they eventually anchored as near as possible to the spot marked X on the old chart. Fully expecting a long search, Geoff Evans and Harold, having completed a small segment of the search pattern, Harold noted some fish around a kelp covered object. Here is Harold's quote; "I dived to investigate more closely, and to my utter delight, there was the wreck!" There lay the "Sepia" untouched and unmolested since 1898!"

The rest of the day and Easter Monday they spent searching the wreck and found clay pipes, bottles of liquor, earthenware jars casks etc. On the first day they pulled up a small solid block of substance, which weighed about 60 lbs. and was the right size for a container of mercury. (in 1960 worth £1 per lb) However disappointment ensued when it was found to be white lead. Disappointment continued when after examination of records, it was found that her mixed cargo of 1200 tons consisted of liquor, general hardware and linoleum, and that most of this had been salvaged three months after she went down. As for the mercury, it was a figment of someone's imagination. Tenders for the salvage of the cargo were called in the "West Australian" January 1899. The successful tenderer was W.A. Salvage Stevedoring and Transport Co. of Henry St. Fremantle. This firm salvaged all the valuable cargo with the services of a diver named J?Curtis. The cargo salvaged was sold at public auction in September 1899.

The residue of the cargo and hull were sold to Mr. Curtiss. What happened to him, and does he still own the remains? Mis Francis of Beaconsfield, is the present owner of the bell from the "Sepia". Her father was a Sea Captain who died some years ago. Before he died, he found the bell in a very dirty state, covered with barnacles and much

encrusted. He cleaned it up and Miss Francis who is a wood carver, fashioned a pair of dolphins in the form of an archway, there she hung the bell. It was displayed at a General Meeting late in 1961.

Some months ago Keith Errington, went to dive on the old girl (The "Sepia" of course!) and was disgusted to find that some vandal had used explosives on the wreck.

The above is a brief outline of the way in which "Sepia" became an underwater "landmark" to the U.E.C. However I believe she now comes in the category of a "Colonial wreck" and is therefore protected under the Museum Act. It is hard to understand how anyone could use explosives on what is after all part of the history of our State. In any case she contained nothing worth looting, just interesting mementoes of the past.

One reading Harold's account of the discovery, I found these lines, (U.E.C. News Oct. '65). "---- the excitement ran high. In the imagination of all on board we had at our fingertips a fortune to build Club Houses, boats, and really buy some wonderful equipment for our activities." Not to worry Harold, we may be doing it the hard, but we're getting there!!.

A point worth mentioning here is that the rubber suits with which we are now so familiar were at the time of discovery none existant. Football jersey's and many other types of attire were the rig of the day. Just a thought!!.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

J. Walden.

At this point of time when my term of office is rapidly coming to a close and after writing a report every month for just over two years it is not easy to find something to write about.

Like many others who have been in the club for some time the future of the club is a subject of great interest. Our Club is an old Club in many ways,

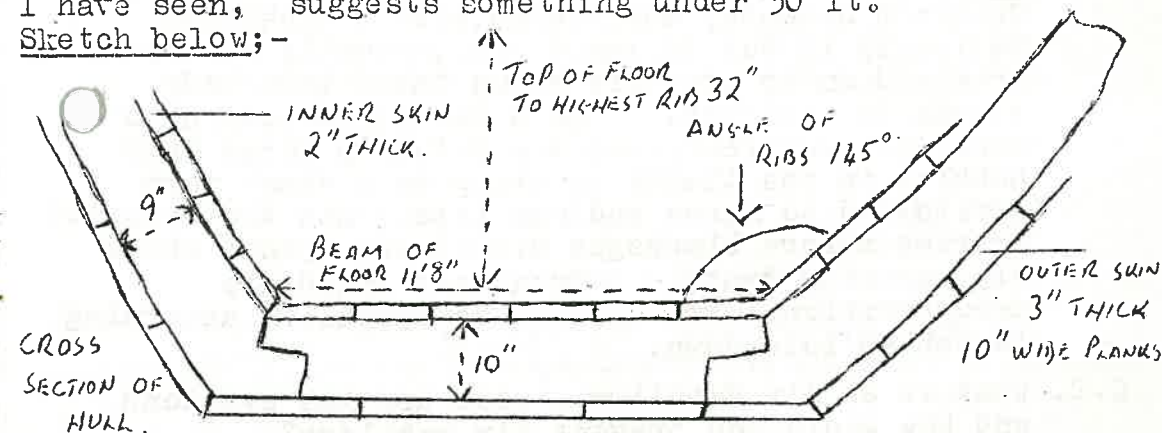
and being built in U.K. probably would have been built of oak, elm, pine etc. instead of Locust and Ponderosa Pine.

(4) The "St. Lawrence" was built in Newcastle U.K. in 1861. Wooden Ship, yellow metalled hull, copper and brass fastened. Length 179.1 ft. x beam 37.4 ft. x depth 21.4 ft. and 1019 tons registered, 1131 tons gross and 946 tons under deck. She I feel is much too large and also being British built would not, I feel, be built with the U.S. timbers.

(5) The "Redemptura" was built around 1853 in the U.S.A. being a Wooden ship of 1250 tons. She would have been much too large to be our unknown hulk. I still think that she is almost certainly the wreck we mapped in the winter of 1971 at Clarence. (See U.E.C News Sep. '71)

In conclusion, I feel that there is very good evidence to call this wreck the "Amia Lisle", bearing in mind our unknown ship the "Harrison". Unfortunately the bow of the ship is missing so there is no trace of any of the repaired damage such as would have occurred after her collision with the "S.S. Australind" (she was badly damaged on her port bow) and unfortunately her ribs have been burnt or rotted away below the turn of the bilge so it is hard to guess her beam, but we do have the internal beam of her floor, a mere 11'8" (say 12') at her widest point. This I feel rules out any hull wider than about 30 ft and from drawings I have seen, suggests something under 30 ft.

Sketch below:-



says she is built of Ponderosa Pine and Black Locust, both American Trees.

Almost certainly she was a coal hulk, the fact that she sank with coal inside her and there is no headline news of the event, makes one think it was near the end of the wooden coal hulk era when a small wooden hulk sinking wouldn't be worth salvaging for the comparatively small amount of coal she would carry and wouldn't be worth more than a line or two in some odd report which has yet to be found. Again, if she had been a ship coming into port with a cargo of steam coal and had caught fire and sank it would, I am sure, have rated a headline or two.

Who was she; Out of some thirty odd coal hulks known to have been in use in this area only the following five wooden ones cannot be accounted for - in order of probability they are;-

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|---------------|
| (1) Annie Lisle | (2) Harrison | |
| (3) Runnymede | (4) St. Lawrence | (5) Redemtura |

(1) "Annie Lisle" fits the facts very well. She was built in Quebec in 1865. She was a wooden ship with yellow metalled hull, fastened with iron and copper bolts. Length 132' 9" x beam 26' 3" x depth 12' 7" and 347 tons. She was converted into a coal hulk after being involved in a collision with the "S.S. Australind" in 1887. The last reference to her I can find is on 31-1-1889 when she was loading the "W.H. Watson" with sand ballast for a voyage to the Abrolhos to load guano.

(2) The "Harrison". No details of this ship can be found at all. She had disappeared in 1892 being replaced by the much larger iron hulled hulk the "Egmont" scuttled off Rottneest in 1910.

(3) The "Runymede" was built in Sunderland U.K. in 1854. Wooden Ship, yellow metalled hull fastened with copper or brass bolts. Length 156 ft. x beam 29' 5" x Depth 19' 5" and 720 tons. She was probably hulked after 1865. I think this ship is too large

formed in 1954 and is in other ways a very young and immature club. My reasons for saying this is that since its inception it has been a training Club and this has always insured a steady flow of new members, wishing to learn to dive, but unfortunately very few of these members stay more than two years.

Over the years we have endeavoured in many ways to retain members interest by organising diving excursions, socials, holiday camps and safari's around the State, but still members drop out! Why?.

It is my opinion that the thing which our club lacks is proper facilities for members to progress after their initial introduction into skin diving.

In general the people who join our club are young and I guess with the problems of starting out in life have not got a surplus of money to own luxuries such as a boat. However if these people retained their interest in the sea it is not long before they own a boat so that they can persue their aquatic activities in their own way.

Once a person owns a boat you might say he is hooked, he is an aquatic type for life, but having aquired a boat this person is confronted with a new problem, where does he launch it, or moor it. And where does he leave his car in safety whilst he is away for the week-end?

If we look at our counter parts the Yacht clubs or boat clubs such as Cockburn Power Boats, we find the problem is not keeping members it is being able to cope with the demand for new members. Surely there is a reason to be leant here.

Quite a number of years ago a very far sighted member in our club proposed a club complex which included Training base, Club rooms and boating facilities on the site where we now have a considerable asset, our present training base with its compressor, change rooms and office.

Our training base is infact the hub of our club activities where three Sunday's out of four members and their families meet to relax and enjoy their training.

Over the years since this project was first mooted and for various reasons our aims have changed somewhat till the

present time our whole effort is concentrated on a club building on a very small block of land on the Swan River. The building proposed is a small hall with kitchen and small Committee rooms which no doubt if it is built enhance our prestige and be handy for meetings but is not large enough for some of the functions we run. The block is certainly not large enough for other facilities mentioned. Also it will create additional management problems without generally increasing member interest.

A club building, like a club boat are very desirable features of our club and we should always strive for them. However, we should first strengthen our foundations by retaining members and at the risk of raising some young eyebrows I will say older members usually have a few extra bob and experience which can be used to the Club's benefit. Older members are a very real asset to any Club.

It is possible that many of our present members do not see this as I do but if you could talk to many who have left the club you would find this to be true. I feel if you look around our present members you will find that nearly every member who owns a boat is a member of a boat club, and if you look a little further you may find some of these members wondering why they should remain in a diving club when what they really need is now supplied by a boat and Yacht Club.

A bigger and more stable membership will reduce the ever present problem of fund raising and the burden it places on an all too small section of our clubmembers. Judging by the experience of others it is doubtful if our proposed Club rooms will be of any financial benefit and only likely that it will add to our problems in maintenance costs.

A Club Room and a Club Boat, Yes!, but first consolidate.

Up until quite recently there seemed to be very little opportunity to gain our goal at our present site at Training Base, but since the development of Garden

it is usually not possible to hold onto a fixed object. By inhaling if slightly 'heavy' or exhaling if slightly 'light' an underwater photographer can achieve neutral buoyancy at least momentarily to avoid vertical motion. The density and viscosity of water cause severe resistance to swimming underwater, and the resistance increases rapidly as a diver attempts to increase the speed. It takes about eight times as much power to go twice as fast.

Underwater photographers face an additional disadvantage because camera housings and flash equipment increase the resulting drag even more therefore the most efficient U/W photographer uses slow rhythmic movements as much as possible and preserves energy so that he can concentrate on perfecting his photography mission creatively.

The competition subject title for May is 'OPEN';

Don't forget to try your hand photographing subjects at Training Base as the competition subject title in the near future will be 'At the Base'. This means that only photographs taken at or near the Training Base Woodman's Point will be accepted.

WRECK RESEARCH;

Mike Pollard

Unknown Wreck; North end of Careening Bay, Garden Island.

This ship was discovered by accident when the dredging for the jetty's for the submarine base on Garden Island commenced. She was under the sand on the edge of the bank and as a result, her timbers are well preserved. She seems to have been burnt to the waterline and was found to be lying slightly on her side. Her hull was covered with Muntz metal sheets. One being found with a trade mark and date of 1872 on it. She was fastened with wooden tree nails, brass, copper and iron spikes. She was full of a good grade of coal.

She was at least 105 ft. long (a section of her bow is missing) and at least 22' 10" beam. Her rudder has been found and salvaged by the W.A. Museum. Samples of her timbers have been sent away for identification, the report

Alfred's Emporium, cnr. Hay and Pier Sts make available the prize each month and our thanks go out to them, call in and see them for all your photographic needs.

Underwater Photography; Continued;

The level of diving training required to perform U/W photography safely depends on individual intentions. Snorkelling may suffice to take pictures casually during trips to the seashore however, scuba diving is essential for serious U/W photography.

Formal instructions in the theory and practice of scuba diving are necessary to obtain the proper level of training. This may sound formidable to the none technical and none athletic individual, but thousands of such enthusiasts have been able to absorb the information and to apply it with relative ease. Diving clubs such as the U.E.C. offer the best training for sport diving in Western Australia.

Underwater photographers must always remember that they are divers first and photographers second. Diving safely requires thorough training, lots of practice, and constant use of good judgement.

Photographers with experience on land will find that the undersea world feels different, looks different and sounds different. Understanding these differences will allow the diving cameraman to take full advantage of the ways in which the undersea environment can aid him, and it will enable him to avoid or to cope with the obstacles. The apparent weightlessness caused by buoyancy enables a diver to be suspended in U/W space allowing him to move freely in three dimensions. This is helpful because it allows a great variety of picture angles, but it can also be a hinderance.

Weightlessness causes a tendency to drift and tumble, making it difficult to avoid camera motion. Camera unsteadyness is a common problem but it can be overcome by holding onto a stationary object, by swimming with smooth rhythmic motions or by using breath control. Breath control is especially useful in mid-water where

Island by the Navy it seems very likely that Woodman's Point is going to be thrown open for recreation and this avenue should be thoroughly explored before finalising on any other site.

Being the oldest active member in the Club I think it can be said I have the club interest at heart. I wish to see it progress. Our club is second to none in Australia and can hold it's head high with any other club in the world.

In closing I would like to congratulate our Fund raising O/C Audrey Chapman for her recent effort, "The Jumble Sale" and to all members I am looking forward to seeing youx all at the big night of the year 'Presentation Night'.

(Editor's Note; Having been a member of the Building Committee since its inception there are just a couple of points worth mentioning referred to in this article. The land on the river was first considered when we were advised by an honorary member the Late Jack Pericles that this was a possibility. No fund raising for land commenced until this was first mooted in 1964.

The other point referred to was taken up by a committee with the Minister for Navy (then Mr.CHANEY) and any prospects at Woodman's Point were completely nil. This has now changed to some extent. However the particular project was more figment of someone's imagination namely Alan Robinson and Barbara who built up the project and Alan put it on paper and would have been a Multi Million dollar project suitable for an entrepeur. I believe the plans are still on file with the Building Committee. Was worth a thought and certainly attracted interest.)

TREASURER'S REPORT

P.McWhirter

Membership ;	Honorary 11	Life ; 4	Full ; 115
	Junior 34	Social ; 1	Country ; 14

Balance of finance as at 1st May '73.;

General Fund ;	\$403.45	Boat Fund	\$/135.76
Building " ;	\$117.41	C.B.C.Dep.	\$16,500.

Noms; Anthony MEOLA 25 Hertford St. East Vic/Park
- - - - -

DIVING REPORT

K.Errington

Boat Trip; May 6th ; Unfortunately after having tried to organise a day out on a couple of wrecks seldom dived on by many of our clubmembers, a rather bleak and windy day made it necessary for us to abandon all hope of diving this day, even Gus our coxswain had not arrived at 8.20am, when clubmembers left to return home to read Sunday Papers, and maybe do some odd jobs etc.

ROTTNEST; May 27th 100 ft. dive;- ALL eligible members for this dive please note, that this is the last dive of the season, so those wishing to finish off any 50 or 100 ft. dives for their certificates on Presentation Night make the most of May 27th. For Proficiency divers, here is an opportunity to notch up another 3 100 footers and also help other Club members with their training dives at the same time.

Note;- Please ensure 'Diving Logbooks' are up to date and available on vessel for organisers, and so assist in more rapid grouping of divers.

FUND RAISING REPORT;

A.Chapman

The recent Jumble Sale raised \$140.00 odd dollars, which was way off our target, and the blame can only be laid on the members who contributed naught! The majority came from none members and one person in particular (a none member) who gave up four days collecting, one evening pricing and a full day at the sale.

Think about that you members who want the money but not the work it the remaining 120 members had given one item each, we could have trebled this figure. Perhaps more thought should be given before you raise your hands to vote in a project of this nature

RECOMENDATIONS;

- (a) do not form a junior Club, but continue training juniors under the guidance and control of a seperate officer and that this officer be responsible for organising training and assistance to carry out training.
- (b) at the descretion of the O/C, juniors may be allowed to train on Scuba and that these training activities be limited to base only.
- (c) at the completion of the initial certificate and after at least one full season training, juniors at the discretion of O/C base and the General Committee may be permitted to commence advanced certificate providing that they have reached the gae of 16 years.

(These recommendations are submitted for consideration by the club for ratification at a future meeting and prior to next season. Members can rest assured that this subject will create a most interesting discussion point, this matter as it effects all members will no doubt be a good night's debate. Ed.)

PHOTOGRAPHY

Bob Gadsby

I was delighted to see more underwater colour slides submitted at last months General Meeting for judging in the competition.

There are some keen underwater photographers in the U.E.C. and they are turning out some really great work. Particular mention should be made of the good work being done by Colin Harris, Mike Pollard and John Carpenter. The entries submitted by these three at the April Meeting was of a high standard and could grace any U/W magazine.

Colin Harris won the first prize of a roll of colour film with an underwater shot taken on the 'Macedon' wreck on a Club boat trip. An additional roll of colour film was awarded to Warrick Braithwaite for his striking colour shot taken at one of the Gorges on the Murchison River.

JUNIOR GROUP;

Special Meeting of Junior Group sub-committee 13-2-73
at G.Gougoulas's Home.

Present ; J.Walden (Pres.) G.Gougoulis O/C and
B.Gadsby.

- (1) There was considerable discussion on the various problems of forming a seperate Junior Club and reference was made to the Constitution of the Junior Club of the South of Perth Yacht Club.
- (2) It was agreed by the sub-committee;-
 - (a) that there were not enough junior members to warrant the formation of a seperate club or to form a junior management committee and office bearers.
 - (b) that as the Constitution at present allowed entrance of juniors between the age of 14 & 18, it would be necessary to change the Constitution if it was decided to increase the joining age and that placing a junior membership limit may be more desirable.
 - (c) Many juniors are purchasing Scuba units and need training for their own safety.
- (3) Mr.Gougoulas reported on the operation of the Junior Group over the last three months. During this period the juniors were being trained seperately from the senior trainees and under his direct control and inturn under the overall contr of O/C Base. Mr. Gougoulis reported that this was working satisfactorily, Juniors were accepting this arrangement and responded willingly to the Junior O/C.
- (4) Discussion took place regarding juniors on boat-trips. It was pointed out that juniors on boat trips was a financial benefit to the Club, but did place more responsibility on Senior Members for safety reasons.

in the future.

The club should thank the 12 people who did bother to contribute or chase up contributions; the Jones's, Preston's Kennedy's, Errington's, Adam's, Airey, Walden's, Parker's, Weir's, Threlfall's, Gougoulis's, Geddes and Southwell.

I personally would like to thank my none hard working helpers, Lyn and Hazel, Mike and Sarah, Nelly and Dave, Russ, Irene and Ginny.

TRAINING BASE REPORT;

Dave Kenny

Though the training season is drawing to a close, it's good to see so many members still showing up to finish as much as possible on their certificates, some undoubtedly will just squeeze through, and others will have to continue next seacon, which mind you, is only four months away, so take heart 'all ye trainees!'.

The night dive held last Sunday was, as those who were there will know, another success. A rather choppy day turned into an almost perfect night. A good dive was had by all and later a large roaring fire warmed the bodies who sipped steadily from several bottles. Having drunk our fill we hit the road for home.

On behalf of myself and those who had their watches tested at base the other day, by that other 'Leprecaun' John O'Malley, I would like to say, "Ta muchly mate".

For those of you who have followed the sage of my sonic regulator - it has now been replaced, thanks to the unceasing efforts of Ron and Bob Borg of Dive, Ski and Surf. Well that's it for now, See you at Base Folks!.

SQUASH NIGHT;

On 12th June a night was arranged for members to try their hand at Squash. On other occasions this has been arranged in competition with the F.I.S.H. club however at the General Meeting it was moved that it be kept specifically for our Club and 24 members raised their hands to say they would

attend. End result, 8 playing members turned up 2 none playing and 2 playing visitors. However I will say that those who attended had a very good time and the knock-out competition resulted in Champ of Champs. Lyn Jones for which we shall have to arrange an appropriate Trophy. Well done Lyn. The only annoying part is that the night will cost the Club \$10. It is intended that we pursue further games as previously with other clubs included when we can be assured of meeting expenses and having a good time.

LIGHTS AT NIGHT.

Jon Carpenter

Those members who decided to turn up for the last Night Dive might have missed one of the highlights that Dave Kenny and myself experienced.

A few days prior to the dive I had been reading about Sea pens, relatives to the anemones. Some Sea pens look like old fashion quill pens, hence the name. All types have the same basic shape, a main central stem from the upper part of which spring either polyps or branches bearing tiny polyps. In the most a quill the branches springing from each side are closely packed so they look like the vane of a feather. In some Sea pens the Central stem is very thick and the polyps are scattered on it without order. Dave and I saw both these types, the colours of which were pink-orange. The larger type of sea-pen was more abundant, and widely scattered, usually two at any one location. The tallest was approximately 2 feet high, the quill type smaller at 8 inches.

No doubt you are wondering what this interesting (I hope) information has to do with light. Well it appears that certain sea-pens are luminiferous, that is they are able to produce light, the stimulating factor being touch. Somewhat surprised to see these creatures, during our dive I stopped near a specimen and proceeded to stroke it with my torch. To my delight and I venture to say Dave's surprise the stem of the creature glittered and glowed with blue-green light. The effect

lasted but a few seconds. Naturally as our dive progressed we assaulted more and more of the creatures, we even competed for the pleasure of producing the display. Dave, not content with one display would attempt a further showing from the same sea-pen, only to perceive a few dots of light and leave behind a somewhat bedraggled specimen! We both soon discovered that the display rapidly deteriorates after the initial stimulation. This was rather fortunate for the Sea-pens, Dave's gloves were pretty rough, something like glass paper. I was rather cautious about touching them with bare hands, some sea-pens have calcareous spicules or spiny structures scattered about their flesh forming a rudimentary skeleton. Sponges also have spicules and an unknown type planted a few in my thumb a few years back. Cautiously I tempted fate, without painful result, and discovered that the sea-pen has a slimy feel to it.

As a matter of further interest the strength of light emitted by the sea-pen depends on the strength with which it is touched. Note the word "touched" we do not want any throttled specimens found on future dives. The sea-pen appears to be fixed to the sea bed but surprisingly they do move, let's not give them reason to do so. Touching the sea-pen causes it to exude mucus filled with luminous granules and these emit the light.

It was perhaps unfortunate that we did not know of the existence of sea-pens near the Base previously to the night dive so the other divers may have shared our experience. No doubt the next night dive will encourage a greater number of participants if only to make their mark with a Sea pen.

ELECTIONS;

With the General Elections coming up at the next (June) Meeting enclosed with this Magazine and with the June copy will be a form for members to fall in for nominations of the General Committee. These will be used for nomination of position and votes to be taken at the Next (June) meeting. Nominations to be in the hands of the Returning Officer prior to the meeting. (Most probably Mr.H.Peters).

PRESENTATION NIGHT,

VENUE - TAWARRI LODGE

DINNER & CABARET

DATE - FRIDAY JUNE 8th '73.

ADMISSION; \$4.50 single Ticket. \$9.00 Double ..

All liquid refreshments available from the bar.

Waiters in attendance.

7.30pm till late; Good Band. ..

Sherry and Punch served in lobby from 7.30pm.

Alacarte MENU;

COCKTAILS; Prawn Cocktail, Seafood Cocktail
Fruit cocktail.

FISH ENTRE; Grilled Dhufish, Tartare Sauce.
Fried fillets of Schnapper with lemon.

MAIN COURSE; Southern Fried Chicken. Rump Steak garni.
T-Bone Steak Kansas Style.

SWEETS ; Fresh fruit salad & cream. Peach Melba.

Tickets available from any Committeeman
Limited number available at the door.

Location; End of Esplanade DALKEITH.

COMING EVENTS

The TROPHY INSERT contained herein is at present to be revised however the exact wording of the trophies in some instances is incorrectly defined. The donors of the various Trophies are as printed below.

Trophy (1) as is.	Trophy (2) Club Safety Trophy.
" (3) as is	" (4) As is.
" (5) Lyn Jones	" (6) As is
" (7) To be advised.	" (8) As is.

A further trophy to be presented by Ken Kennedy for the most improved Lady Diver.

The final decision rests in agreement with the Committee and the Trophy Donor.

BOAT REGISTRATION;

Will all members with boats advise Lyn Jones of the boat particulars as required for Registration. With this information the Club can benefit from the concession allowed to Clubs of a portion of the fee.

WINE TASTING

Owing to an oversight this event has only received a small amount of the publicity which it was entitled to.

NOTE; It is on Thursday Night May 17th '73 at the Civic Centre Cottesloe. Fee \$2.00 per ticket available from any of the Committee or at the door.

This is a must. Perhaps too late to make up your party but not Too Late for You;

COTTESLOE CIVIC CENTRE 8.PM 17TH MAY '73 THURSDAY \$2.00 ea.

Dress; Casual but neat. Wine and dance this Thursday.

See YOU there. This means you and YOU!

Volunteers to assist as Waiters.;

HAROLD ROBERTS

U.E.C. NEWS TROPHY INSERT.

(1) THE TROPHY;

This is presented to the member who has sompleted a project allied to diving during the season that is a help to the advancement of diving in W.A. or is some new innovationsuitable to diving practices.

1. 2.
Reason;

(2) THE SAFETY TROPHY:

For the member who has been responsible in some way to making diving safer or who has rendered some constructive system for safer diving techniques;

1. 2.
Reason;

(3) THE RAY DEVITT TROPHY;

This is for the most progressive new member of the season;

1. 2.
Reason;

(4) CLUBMAN TROPHY;

Donated for the best clubman/woman of the season.

1. 2.
Reason;

(5) CARIS BROS. TROPHY:

This goes to the Best woman diver of the season.

1. 2.
Reason;

(6) Hugh EDWARDS TROPHY:

For the member who does the most in the sphere of Historiacle Wreck Exploration and research.

1. 2.
Reason.

(7) ILFORD TROPHY:

For the best Underwater Photograph of the season, This Trophy is left completely in the hands of the donors who will judge all entries. Date of closing to be fixed.

Entries to be at least 7" x 4" with information on locality, depth, time of day, exposure particulars and any other relevant information.

(8) THE DOLPHIN TROPHY;

Donated by the Dolphins.

For the U.E.C. Sportsman of the year. This is awarded to the member who as a sportsman of the year has excelled either within or outside the activities of the U.E.C. in ;-

- (1) Personal Diving prowess.
- (2) Services to diving instruction or coaching.
- (3) Administrative ability.

1. 2.
Reason;

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.



June, 1973

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FOR ALL SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS**

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U.E.C. NEWS

VOLUME 12

Nº 11

JUNE '73

ALTERNOBARIC

VERTIGO

B. PARKER

The season for sniffles and colds is upon us and at the same time local waters are becoming chillier. Time for a mention of alternobaric vertigo. This phenomena has been dealt with twice before (U.E.C.News June '67 & May '69) however for the sake of newer members a further word should not go amiss, forewarned is forearmed.

Here is a quote from an article by C.E. Lundrgren M.D. of Sweden printed in the British Medical Journal dated August '65. ---

Changes in external pressure is known to be one of the major factors in diving accidents, the main ones being depth narcosis, lung rupture and decompression sickness. Causes for these are either known or under investigation however, some accidents cannot be written off to any of these known phenomena.

This article is based on facts which have been mentioned as early as 1896 and which have been largely overlooked by modern literature. The early mentions have been of vertigo experienced by various people who have been exposed to an increased pressure environment. The author having read of various experiences (cited in the original article) of divers having had these "dizzy spells" under different

conditions, and having had similar experiences both in the water and in the chamber decided to look deeper into this phenomena.

A questionnaire was sent to 550 members of the "Swedish Association of Sport Divers", the questionnaire being designed to ascertain the frequency of vertigo in divers.

Answers to the inquiry were only listed when all other sources of probable cause had been eliminated. (i.e. Impure air etc.) Over exertion and hyperventilation were also in some instances thought to be the cause. The answers of 26 of the subjects were found to be attributed to one of the above. Of the 354 who answered 92 had experienced vertigo while either free diving or using scuba. The test of holding the nose and blowing was accried out on some people and in some cases brought on the effect of vertigo. One of the subjects lost all sence of orientation and fell to the floor.

One quoted experience; " - intense nausea, as I reached the surface it was whirling around madly. I panicked, but managed to grab my friends clothes, which calmed me down, then at last, there was a click in my head, the surface at once stopped whirling."

One subject reported vertigo regularly when getting ashore after a dive but had instant relief if he descended again and also eliminated it to some extent by using nose drops.

There appears to be a greater incidence of vertigo among divers who have had trouble in clearing their ears or after effect of recent colds etc. The effect is often associatted with a loud buzzing sound in perhaps one ear, giving the impression of partial deafness to that ear. The author's own experience also caused fixed vision with horizontal rotational vertigo. The effect normally wears off after from a few minutes to as long as 15 minutes and often concludes with a loud click within the ear. The author also states that in his own case, he has always had trouble clearing the left ear and that the attack has started with an

PREVENTION; (1) Don't free dive!

(2) NEVER hyperventilate. Two consecutive deep breaths and then a final breath may be taken before diving. This gives the maximum flushing of CO2 for safety.

(3) Do not exert yourself or linger at depth. Remember its the increased partial pressure of the O2 keeping you going - when it drops as you rise you may be in trouble.

(4) Try and adjust your boyancy so that you are boyant from about 30 ft. This will at least meen that if you blackout you will float to the surface instead of sink.

(5) Always free dive in pairs, one to go down while the other watches from the surface. If the water is murky, be attached to a buoy so that you can be pulled up.

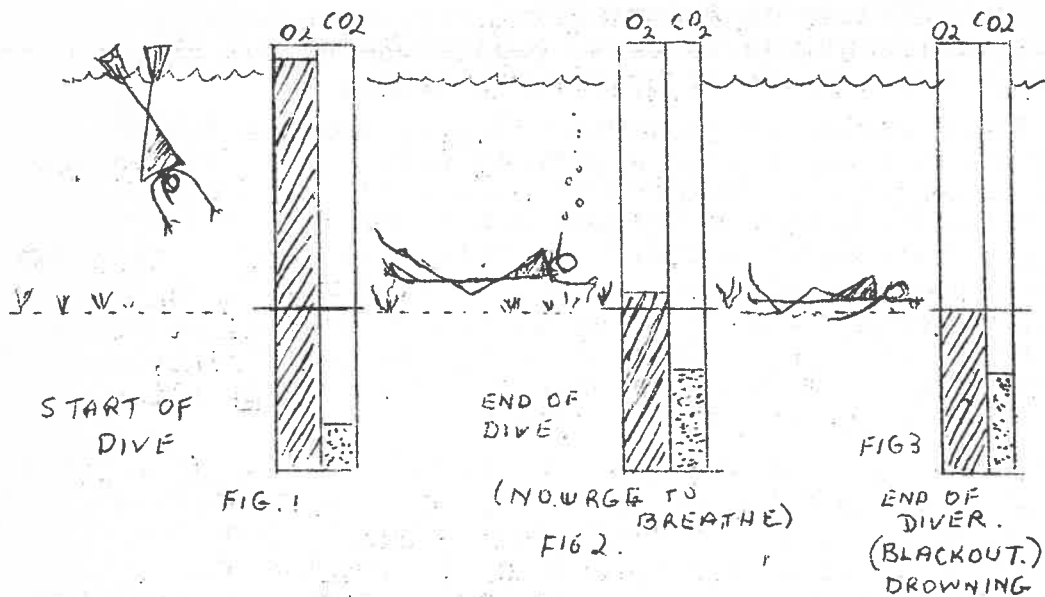
(6) Remember your rescue and resuscitation and remember that every second counts.

(7) A free diver has nothing on his side as the human frame and physiology is poorly equiped for underwater work. Compared with other air breathing aquatic animals, he is a very poor performer being slow, weak, half blind and with very poor endurnace and resistance to cold. Never forget this - the sea won't.

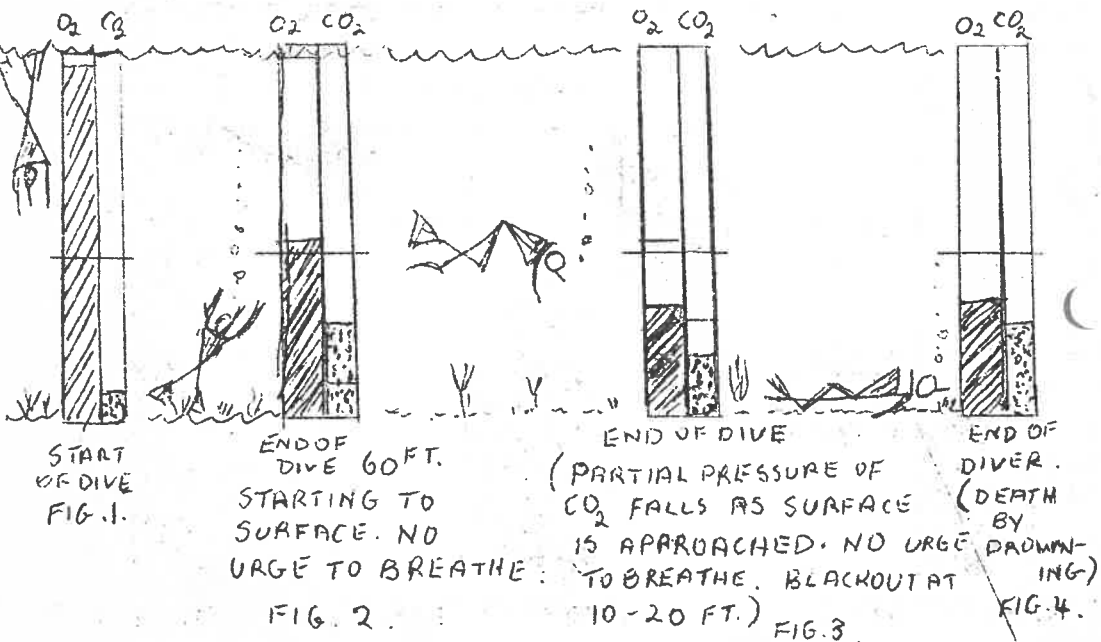
ACTIVITIES;

- Sun; June 17th; Waroona Dam. This will take the form of a picnic dive day. Members make own way to the site. 0900. hrs.
 - Mon. " 18th; Annual General Meeting. Election of officers Merriwa St. Nedlands. Possibly films. 20.00
 - Sun. July 8th; Navigation swim- Lake Leschenaultia Picnic- barbeque- family day. Lake site 0900.
 - Mon. July 16th; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands 2000 hrs.
- Dives will be conducted on all Sundays through either the Wreck or Marine Research Groups. Contact Mike Pollards shortly before as the venue will depend on the weather.

SHALLOW DIVE WITH HYPERVENTILATION.



DEEP DIVE WITH HYPERVENTILATION.



in rush of air.

One of the major difficulties of divers is finding the way to the surface and in some instances, the diver has descended. It was also noted that often the vertigo decreased with the increase of pressure (descent) and one diver had to be hauled to the surface. During the ascent he experienced intense vertigo causing complete loss of orientation and making it impossible to fix objects visually. Upon reaching the shore vertigo rapidly vanished.

One case reported double vision, others felt the unusual angles both bottom and surface had taken, or found that it rotated slowly several times or even rapidly. Many reported that the vertigo occurred in the latter part of the ascent and the intensity of the sensation varied with the rate of ascent. Depth appeared to be immaterial varying from one to six fathoms. Most subjects denied experiencing vertigo on land a few did have minor symptoms when pressurising their ears.

Many theories have been offered, but none appear to answer the many studied experiences correctly. A burst ear drum will bring about this effect however in none of the instances cited has this been the cause. It appears to have been brought about solely by the differences in pressure, and mostly caused by an over pressure in one of the inner ears. There appears to be an association between the efficiency of equalising both ears together and that of one being obstructed creating unbalanced pressures on the two sides, however, there is some other cause which also exists for vertigo to occur.

Experience also appears unrelated to the vertigo experienced by the subjects. This then is a grave diving hazard. Vomiting under water will generally prove fatal while disorientation for a short time will prove hazardous.

Deaths caused by vertigo will most unlikely show any direct evidence, and it should be suspected in the not infrequent cases when a drowned diver is found to be wearing a still functioning scuba.

Recommendations are that this phenomena be borne in mind by

divers at all times, and stressed as a potential hazard for both experienced and inexperienced alike.

To minimise, prevent diving during or shortly after a cold, take particular note of the correct use of nasal decongestants, avoid unnecessary rapid descent or ascent, intermittent swallowing on ascent will also help eliminate the risk of vertigo. Cold also seems to have an effect on the incidence of vertigo.

Although little warning is given, if possible hold onto something solid or attract attention. Your buddy should then guide you to the surface the right way up!!!. End of quote.

Within the Club numerous members have had experiences which could well have been attributed to this phenomena and those which have been brought to our notice are described below.

Some years ago while taking part in a Navigation swim across Blackwall Reach Dennis was with a group which had to surface as one of the members ran out of air. On leaving the member with the boat the remainder commenced to descend again and at about 20 ft Dennis turned into a top and swam in spirals. His buddy Geoff. Evans took hold of him and guided him to the surface where after a few minutes equilibrium returned with no ill effects. Shortly after a large piece of wax was removed from Dennis' ear.

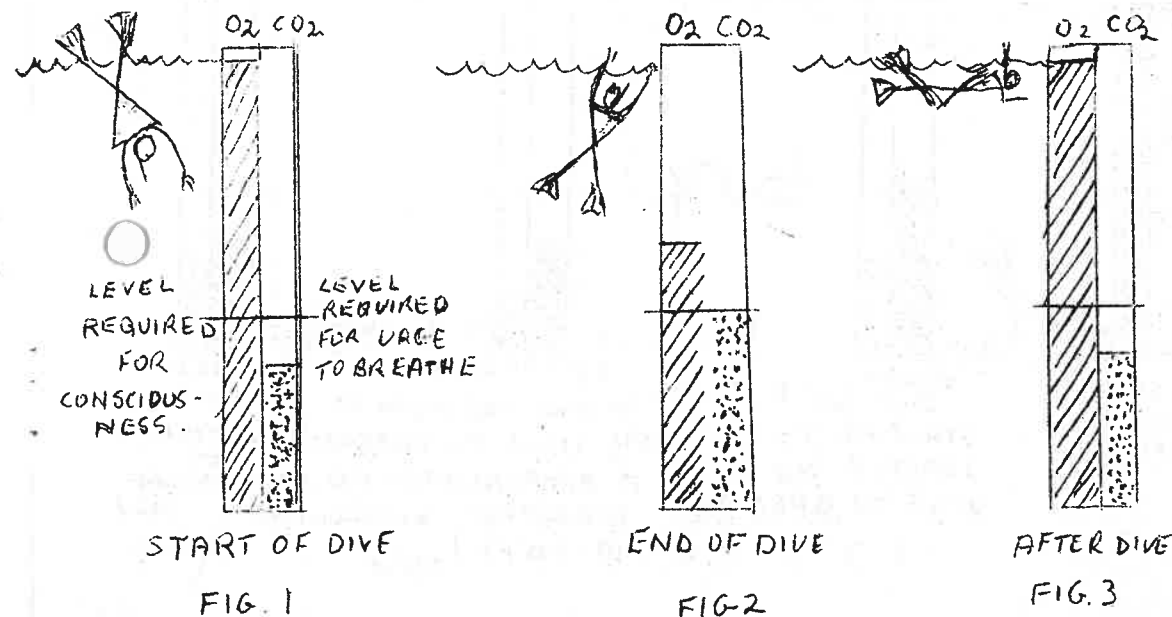
Another member John Cowan, a diver of 20 years experience whose symptoms were giddiness while ascending and yet found that he could rectify the situation by descending, the dizziness usually coming at about 10 ft. depth.

He explained that while ascending he sometimes had to jockey his way to the surface by making a very gradual ascent, he had found at times the pain almost unbearable with dizziness and nausea, but as someone was always with him he had not attached much importance to it, as much as he should that is. He continued to dive without questioning the reason. The spells soon passed off and he had no serious consequences. Sometime later he

a very common cause of drowning in swimming pools and probably will continue to be to people who do not know or understand the dangers of hyperventilation.

In the third series of pictures - Fig.1, shows a diver leaving the surface having hyperventilated for a deep dive. (33 ft. or more). As before his % O₂ shows almost no increase due to hyperventilation while there is the same dramatic reduction of % CO₂. In Fig.2 the diver, although feeling no urge to breathe, knows he must return to the surface before his % O₂ level drops to the anoxia line. So far so good. His % O₂ is still above the anoxia line, his % CO₂ below the "urge to breathe" line. BUT, Fig.3 shows the trap in this type of dive.

As our diver rises so the pressure of water around him falls and so does the partial pressure of the O₂ and CO₂ in his lungs. The % O₂ now drops with dramatic suddenness and he blacks out at any stage from about 30ft. to the surface. Most free divers are heavy at about 10ft so if the blackout occurs deeper than this, our diver drops back to the sea floor dying as he goes. Figure 4 shows him drowning on the bottom.



HYPERVENTILATION;

The following article was handed to me by Mike Dollard for reproduction in the magazine.

This done by taking a series of deep breaths before a free dive and then holding your breath on the last inhalation as a means of extending your time underwater.

It must never be done as it is extremely dangerous having been the cause of many fatalities.

Hyperventilation does not increase the % oxygen (O₂) content of the blood to any appreciable extent, as most people think, what it does do is to almost eliminate the % carbon di-oxide (CO₂) content of the blood. This is where the danger lies as it is the % CO₂ that triggers off the urge to breathe NOT lack of O₂.

BLACKOUT DUE TO ANOXIA IS SUDDEN, WITH NO WARNING WHATEVER AND FOR A SWIMMER LETHAL; What happens is this;-

In the first series of pictures - fig.1, shows a diver leaving the surface without hyperventilation. His O₂ level is well above the level of unconsciousness, while his CO₂ level is a little way below the "urge to breathe" line. In figure 2, the % O₂ level has fallen, but is still above the anoxia line but the % CO₂ level has risen to the "urge to breathe" line. Therefore the diver surfaces and in figure 3 we see him back to normal on the surface.

In the second series of pictures - Fig.1, shows a diver leaving the surface having hyperventilated for a shallow dive. (This may be as shallow as the depth of a snorkel tube!) His % O₂ level shows almost no increase due to hyperventilation, but there is a dramatic diminution of the % CO₂ level, this having been flushed out by the forced breathing. In Fig.2 the diver is still happily swimming around on the brink of unconsciousness his % O₂ is just above the anoxia line while his CO₂ is still well below the "urge to breathe line". In Fig.3 he has blacked out and unless he is spotted and pulled out very quickly, will drown. This has been

was diving with Wally Anderson, another member with considerable experience, when they both suffered the same effects. This prompted inquiry to be made as it was realised what a great danger it could be.

To add further to this Ken Kennedy also informed us that he suffered similar symptoms over a period and on one occasion it had taken him 20 minutes to ascend from 30 ft. Upon reaching the surface he could not walk straight and full relief could only be gained by lying flat on his back. He had to have time off work.

On an early 200 ft. dive, a member described to us a disconcerting experience that took place as he commenced ascent. The bottom appeared to turn right round and spiral over his head. He lost all orientation and instinctively held hard to the shotline, after awhile the symptoms subsided, but he considered that the shot-line helped him out of a most unpleasant experience.

Little has been printed on this subject, however the condition was described to Dr. Haimson who verified the cause. The condition was brought about by the difference in pressure between the inner ears which effects the balance mechanism of the body. A minor cold or 'flu, cold water conditions or even a perforated eardrum can cause the symptoms. This was found to be the cause of Ken's trouble. Prolonged diving in shallow cold water, permitting the body to become chilled through seems to be a contributing factor. As stated before, diving experience means nothing here, it is a purely physiological phenomenon and can happen to anybody, anytime.

NOTE; Two of the recent diving deaths which have occurred in this State could well be attributed to this phenomena and it is probably one which we all should give more thought to. To keep a composite record will all members who have dizzy spells while diving contact the editors so that (1) we can keep a record, and (2) All reports can be printed in the magazine for benefit of all members.

Conclusion;- never dive beyond the reach of immediate effective assistance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

John Walden

This report being my last as President is not easy to write. There have been many enjoyable occasions throughout the time I have been a member and I have made a number of good friends as a result of my association with the club.

The U.E.C. was well in the foreground in the early days of skindiving in W.A. and has contributed more to diving in W.A. than any other club.

During the years that I have been with the club I have personally only played a very small part in the overall progress which has been made but am very proud to have been associated with those hard working types who have made the club what it is today.

In the last two and half years it has been my pleasure to be Club President. There have been a few rough spots but in the main the period has been very pleasant and I believe that the good standard has been maintained thanks entirely to a local bunch of fellows (ladies included) who have unselfishly done their bit for the club as members of the Committee's and O.C's of the various club activities.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to those people for making my job easy and congratulate them on the fine work they have done.

It would be very remiss if I did not say thanks to those other older members in the club who may not have appeared active but who still retain the interest of the club and who were ever willing to give advice if asked.

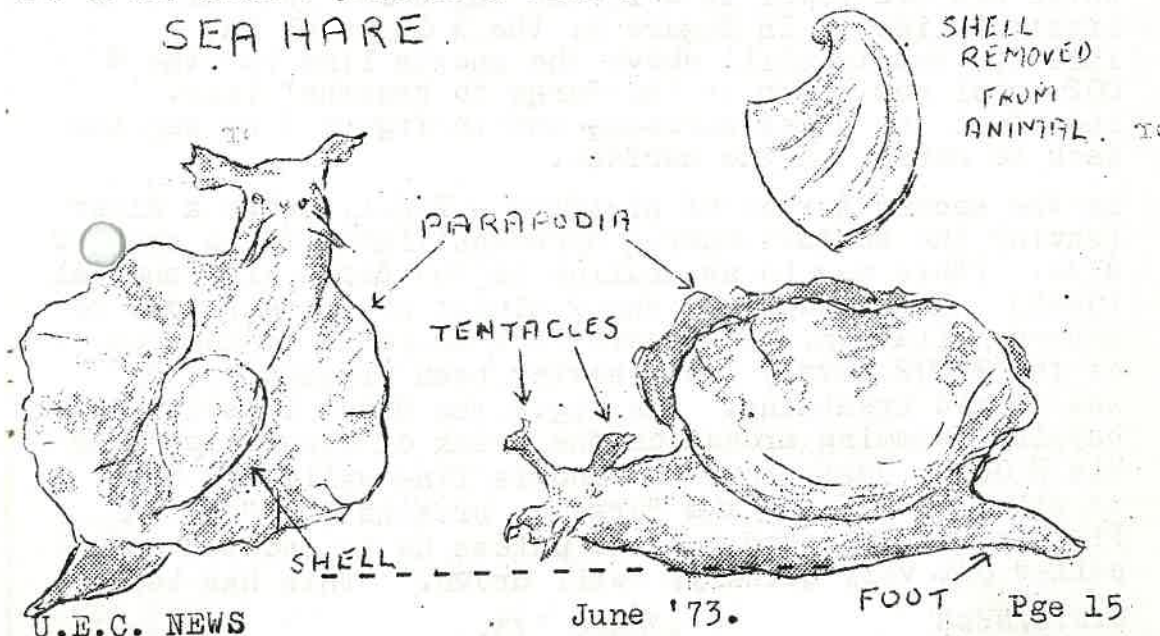
To the new office bearers and committeemen may I offer my sincere best wishes for the season to come and I hope that your term is as enjoyable and satisfying to you as this one has been to me and to all members of the club, past and present it has been great knowing you and I wish you and yours all the best for the future.

observe, do not interrupt. The eggs appear as a tangle of yellowish jelly in the form of threads. The hatched larvae form part of the plankton but soon settle on the sea bottom as young, Sea Hares. At this stage and the former they are vulnerable to predators, however Sea Hares lay considerable numbers of eggs, one specimen was estimated at laying 47,000 eggs during a single laying! It is perhaps fortunate that very few of the eggs reach maturity, for at this stage they become distasteful to predators and virtually have no enemies.

Ancient peoples of the Mediterranean credited the Sea Hare with magic powers. It may have been its grotesque shape or superstitions based on the land hare. Whatever the fear would have been enhanced by the evil smell given out by the Sea Hare and the purple fluid that it exudes. This fluid may act as a screen against enemies or as a deterrent of other means.

I wonder if black sea hares are lucky? or is that cats? My ignorance of Sea hare habits lead me to intervene in what may have been a perfectly natural cycle. I like to think my specimen was more male than female. At least the devil hasn't paid me a visit, Yet!!!.

SEA HARE



a sea snail. The name is very old, for it was used by the Roman Naturalist Pliny, because of a fancied resemblance between the mollusc and a crouching hare.

Sea hares have a soft body which collapses when they are removed from the water but is graceful when fully immersed. The foot of the animal is folded up either side hiding the small, thin transparent shell. The body is long and on the head are two pairs of tentacles the upper pair of which bears some resemblance to the ears of a hare. On our Australian Coasts specimens a foot long or more are found. Colours are usually olive green with small dark brown or black circles or with black mottlings and streaks. Those at the Base appear to be the former, olive-green with brown mottling. There is a rarer Black Sea hare found in our waters. I myself discovered such a specimen off the coast near Moore-River, north of Perth. A slower moving species is also found here, they have a rougher surface with many small warty growths. All Sea hares are vegetarians, feeding on sea weeds. Those at Base feeding on sea grass in the area.

An unusual feature of the sea hares is their egg laying. In the summer they come up onto the beaches to lay their eggs. They have been known to invade the beaches in their thousands. Having done so they return to shallow water to die. It appears then that Sea hares have a life cycle of only one year, but judging by the large specimens I have seen I am inclined to believe that this is not true in all cases. The large black specimen (1'6") I observed near Moore River may have been attempting to lay eggs. It was very near the beach. I assumed that it was being washed up, and promptly took it out to sea again! I refer to the specimen as "it" because Sea Hares are hermaphrodites, that is they have male and female organs but they are not self fertilising. During mating one of the pair acts as a female and the other as a male, although sometimes the two may each act as male and female in one pairing. Group mating is not unknown, and mating lasts from a few hours to a few days. Rule here,

TREASURER'S REPORT

P. McWhirter

Membership ;	Honorary 11	Life 4	Full 117
	Junior 34	Social 1	Country 14

Balance of finance as at 1st June '73;

General Fund ;	\$519.13	Boat Fund ;	\$83.76
Building " ;	\$575.67	C.B.C. Dep. ;	\$16,500.00

DIVING REPORT;

Keith Errington

Sunday May 27th - 100 ft. dive ; - Weather, overcast with light northwest winds, could have been more pleasant however not too bad really for this time of the year.

"Sambo" was the vessel used this day by clubmembers for the last official Boat Trip of the '73 season. Strangely enough only 18 persons turned up for the trip. I for one was expecting quite a few persons finishing off dives for their Certificates on Presentation Night, however only 2 - 50 ft. free ascents and one 100 ft. dive were attempted for "A" tickets. Fortunately, some members are putting 100 footers under their belts for Proficiency Awards, Eleven dives to that depth are chalked up to the 100 ft. mark and two free ascents from the same depth. One group of divers missed one 100 footer due to a mix-up, as Mike Evans using a new safety vest which had been inflated, couldn't get back below the surface, meanwhile Dave Grono was sitting by himself at the 100 ft. mark waiting for 5 minutes to pass and possibly for someone to accompany him - what was that about buddyding???

The last divers left the water at 11.08am on the 100 ft. site. We then proceeded to the "Macedon-Denton Holme" wrecks to finish off any remaining energy or air. For all those who have been following Dave Kenny's progress with his bottle on the "Macedon" its still there, firmly embedded and he assures me, and the three other divers who were at his fins like a pack of hounds that next time he is going to use a hammer and chisel. The other three divers are on a blood oath not to reveal the bottles exact locality to me.

At 3.20pm the last boat trip of the '73 season came to an end when old 'Sambo' berthed at North Fremantle and divers and divers friends headed off in various directions.

At this point I would thank all who have helped me personally as O/C Diving and congratulate those members fortunate enough to have won trophies or completed their certificates during the '73 season and hope all have enjoyed the excitement found in Underwater Swimming with the biggest and Best, Club in the West.

BASE REPORT;

Dave Kenny

It's hard to believe that a whole year has passed since I first took on Base, however, its true and to prove it I slept in till 8 o'clock!!! What a treat that was.

Then I got stuck into a much neglected garden, at the end of the day I wondered which was the lesser of the two evils.

Anyhow as this will be my last Mag. article as Base O/C it would not be fitting to make my exit without mentioning the old and not so old faithfuls who were there every Sunday to help get things running smoothly, lending a hand in time of need. I won't mention names as I might offend someone if they didn't get a mention, however you know who I mean, The hose putter outers and more important the taker inners! The Barbie lighters, flag raisers, instructors and examiners, a hearty thank you one and all. If the next O/C gets as much support his job will be a rewarding experience. Well there's not much more to say except see you all at the Waroona Dam Dam on Sunday. See you folks!!!

Roster of Examiners; 'Ave a 'sicky'!!!

Owing to pressure of work there is no Wreck or photographic article for this months Mag. The subject for June Photo competition is 'Open'.

THERE'S MORE THAN BLOWFISH IN THE OCEAN;

Jon Carpenter;

I must admit when diving for the first time in W.A. waters I was a little dissatisfied. My earlier diving experience had been confined to the region of the South-east Asia in particular the South China Sea with its spoiling abundance of coral reefs and colourful, exotic marine life. I should have known better.

Admittedly we haven't the liberal splashes of colour of a tropical reef but lack of this only serves to hide from us the wealth of marine life that does exist in our region. That seemingly monotonous spread of sponge, soft coral and seaweed that is our reef camouflages a host of marine creatures we seldom see.

As divers we have to plan our dives to the amount of available air. Thus we attempt to see as much as possible within supply limits. Generally we end a dive with little to sprout about. Taking the time to observe a marine creature can develop a rewarding curiosity in all of us.

Delving into the mysteries of marine life is an absorbing and interesting pastime. Producing an article for the Club magazine every month will increase my knowledge of what I observe and I hope yours. Remember, stop finning the next time a Bronze Whaler shows up, observe him, something is holding his interest, it might be you!!

WAITER !

Most of us have dived in conditions of low visibility, the diver term to it is "Pea soup". I'm sure we have all seen that unusually looking creature browsing in the seagrass around the Base, it is the Sea hare. Yes, we have "Hares" in the soup at Base.

Sea hares appear to be quite common along our coast, I recall seeing a number collected by children in a bucket at Base. Dave and I observed a large specimen during the last night dive, contentedly browsing until rudely interrupted by you know who's prodding.

The Sea hare is a mollusc, halfway between a sea slug and

Dolphin Trophy ; Sportsman of year Dave Kenny
Ken Kennedy ; Improved Lady Margaret Meerman

Over 100 members and friends attended this function together with invited guests from B.S.A.C., F.I.S.H., U/W Recovery and U.S.F.A. not forgetting that old Walrus Ross Robinson President of the C.U.A. and their respective ladies. It was good to see these guests along and look forward to having them at future activities.

Financially we did not yet know how we fared as with the Wine Tasting all the finer arrangements, accounts etc. and total ticket costs have to be met however we should overall just about make ends meet which for functions such as this particular one should not be designed specifically as a money maker.

I feel certain that for those who attended, both members and guests alike it was a most enjoyable evening and one which will receive much support next year.

One thing I almost missed; During the course of the evening a Raffle was run for a Picture painted by our Photo Organiser's father and which was donated for raising Club funds by Mr. Gadsby Senior.

Tickets were sold mainly by O/C Fund Raiser Audry Chapman and Sarah Preston and totalled \$28.00. The winner at this stage is not known (by name) and better make his/her presence known or we shall have another run!! Thankyou Mr. Gadsby (Sen). Also Audrey and Sarah.

SPLASH ZONE;

INCREASED MEMBERSHIP; Those cats are taking a back seat in the Bragg family now that a little daughter has arrived. Congratulations Norm and Betty!

Chris & Harry Welmink have done it too, and are the proud parents of a daughter.

Pam and Barry Geddes have upset the theory that divers tend to produce daughters by coming to light with a son! All the best to little Ian Stewart!!

PHOTOGRAPHY

Bob Gadsby.

Recieved in time for Stop Press!

Congratulations once more go to Colin Harris for taking off another roll of colour film at last months General Meeting. Another fine underwater shot taken in colour on the "Macedon" wreck site was worthy of first prize, Well done Colin. Colin has put alot of time and effort into the making of his own underwater housing for his camera and its good to see that his efforts are starting to pay off. It is gratifying to see a good roll up and selection of slides being brought along for showing at the General Meetings, please keep it up. The competition title is open unless otherwise stated.

Once again the thanks go to Alfred's Emporium for supplying the months prize.

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY; Continued;

It is unlikely that a photographer will be able to do his very best underwater if he is fatigued.

Water temperature effects both divers and underwater photographic equipment in various ways.

The transfer of heat by conduction alone takes place about 25 times greater than in air, and a given volume of water can store more than three thousand times as much heat as the same volume of air.

The combination of these two effects, plus the respiratory loss due to evaporation cooling of the lungs, results in rapid heat loss underwater.

Body heat loss can be warded off by wearing protective clothing especially designed for cold water immersion, but it cannot be warded off indefinitely.

When an underwater photographer becomes chilled, his grip strength, manual dexterity and tactile sense become seriously impaired. This inturn decreases his efficiency and makes it difficult for him to operate camera controls to change flash bulbs, or even to hold his camera steady.

Adequate protective clothing is essential for any diving activity in cold water, and it must be of paramount concern to the underwater photographer.

Water temperature also effects equipment. Condensation sometimes forms on the inside of a camera housing when it is taken from warmer air into colder water, if there is sufficient water vapour in the air entrapped within the housing, and if the difference in temperature between the air and the water is enough to cause condensation, droplets will form.

It is wise to place a small bag of silica gel inside the housing.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING;

MEMBERS; Next Monday 18th June '73 is the Election of Officers for the '73 - '74 season. Nominations for the various positions close at 8.00pm the night of the elections.

All the various offices of the Committee are to be voted upon and for the best running of the club it is for members to turn up and vote.

The Returning Officer is Mr. Hugh Peters so to make his job easier will members please submit their Nominations as early as possible on that evening or if they wish sent to 114 Rosedale St. Floreat.

Nomination Forms were included in the last Magazine however if any member has mislaid this form at this stage nominations will be accepted if there is the promoter, seconder and indorsement of the nominee submitted on paper in a respectable manner.

Remember, these will be the men controlling the destiny of the Club for the next twelve months.

They are your choice!!.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

Of all the functions this club has held, to me this was by the far the best. The venue was originally suggested by our Social Organiser Bill Adams and the arrangements made. However, owing to Bill having to be away so much with his employment final arrangements were left to John Walden and Lyn Jones with assistance from their respective Ladies.

The venue, Tawarri Lodge was ideally situated and the Dinner/Dance arrangements were most suitable for the occasion as also was the band. As can be expected for any first event there were a number of improvements which could be made and I am certain that these will be ironed out next time.

Our Patron His Excellency the Governor was unable to attend however presentation of certificates was most ably carried out by our Vice Patron Mr. Alan Bond, who, while presenting the Certificates showed members that his water knowledge was not just restricted to sailing. I feel certain that like myself all members present appreciated having Mr. Alan Bond with us and look forward to seeing him at ALL our functions on future occasions.

Certificates presented were;;

ADVANCED; Les Coleman, June Errington, Mick Evans, Neville McCardy, Vern Willis, Gary Howard and Kevin Collett.

INITIAL ; Frank Moir, Mick Evans, John Scadden, Derek Sexton, Jonathon Carpenter, John Mackay and Dave Austin.

This was followed by Presentation of Trophies by various Donors the recipients whom were as follows;

H.G. Roberts Trophy;	U/W advancement	Bob Gadsby
Safety Trophy	;	Keith Errington
Ray Devitt	;	progressive New mem. Derek Sexton
Clubman Trophy	;	Gerry Gougoulas
Lyn Jones Trophy	;	Best woman Diver June Errington
Hugh Edwards	;	Wreck Research Mike Pollard

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.



July, 1973

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U.E.C. NEWS

VOLUME 12 N° 12 JULY '73



Fisheries Act. 1905 - 1971.
Dept. of Fisheries and Fauna; Perth 30th March 1973.

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna in pursuance of the powers conferred by sections 9 and 11 of the Fisheries Act does hereby prohibit all persons from taking any species of fish known as or called "rock lobster" by means of spearguns, harpoons, Hawaiian slings, gidgies and all other pointed instruments in all Western Australian waters;

A.W. Bickerton (Minister).

It will be particularly noticed that this proclamation states 'any species' of rock lobster (crayfish) and uses the term all apertaining to both W.A. waters and pointed instruments. Now you have it!!!

Some members may feel this to be an imposition on civil rights (about which we hear so much) however when the over-all picture is taken into consideration (as is usually the case in these matters) a better understanding can be reached and in this article I hope to cover most factors.

First, The Ban; As skin divers this is our first concern; Spearing is tottaly banned. We have for a number of years now advocated the hook as used in the Eastern States whgich has proved quite acceptable to the deeper waters

where the cray often ventures out away from the reefs however in the shallow waters where he remains in his crevice this method is less effective. But, I have been informed that a medium size 'suicide' fish hook on a rod is most effective and this manner is by hooking the crayfish behind the carapace so members your crayfish delicacy is not completely out of reach.

One further point from the legal aspect;

Amateur Fisherman's License; Any person, other than a professional fisherman, who catches or attempts to catch any fish (this includes prawns) other than crabs by means of a fishing net, or rock lobsters by any means of capture whatsoever, shall hold an amateur fisherman's license. Fee \$2.00.

Industry; The cray fishing industry has been a multi million dollar addition to our export trade since the early 1950's together with a source of employment, however during the boom years of the late '50s and early 60's it was feared that exploitation would deplete stocks to such an extent that the business and export income would cease. Relevant Acts were proclaimed and restrictions placed on both industry and private activities. These restrictions have been amended from time to time and so long as knowledge of their life cycle etc. is being gained further amendments will have to be made.

The first restriction was the length of the season to co-incide with breeding which was shortly followed by a legal size (3" from back of the carapace to the base of the horn".) This was followed by a regulation number of pots based on the footage of boats. More recently was the introduction of a safety hole (escape gap) included in the pot. It was these pressures put on the commercial fishermen that made them in turn apply pressure on their greatest rival, spearman. Some of whom were known to be selling their catch.

The following extracts from the latest 'FINS' magazine the publication of the Fisheries Dept.

GENERAL MEETINGS;

At the last General Meeting after election of officers films were shown. The films were borrowed from the Adult Education and appear to have been enjoyed by all. The films shown were (1) Reef at Heron Island. (2) Kangaroo's (Pt.2) and (3) These Sharks need protection. This source of entertainment has been a great asset in the past for General Meeting and it seems that we shall have much need for it yet.

It has been suggested that as the Club have gone to the trouble to have Lapel Badges made for all members to encourage the use a fine of 5cents be implemented on none conformists as is apparently done in some other organisations. Worth a thought!!.

Phot. subject for next General Meeting is General.

ACTIVITIES;

Mon. 16th July; General Meeting. Naturalist Club Hall, Meriwa St, Nedlands. Talk on the recent activities of our Abrolhos Trip Group.

Sun. 29th July; Mosman Bay Dive 09.00 hrs. Further information at General Meeting.

Further activities have not yet been ratified but a Calender will be sent out with the next Mag. Dives will be conducted on wrecks, weather permitting together with marine specimen excursions. Further information at General Meeting.

Mon. 20th August; General Meeting.

FOR SALE; One Ladies full tailored neopreme suit small size \$/ 50.00. New condition. Apply Judy Mayrhofer Phone 86 5608.

UNDERWATER HOCKEY; Any members interested turn up Beatty Park Aquatic Centre 7.00pm Thursday July 19th. It is hoped that a little interest can be accumulated in the game. The B.S.A.C. have their game of Actopush, (Slightly different and are presently running a league of about 20 teams. The differences will be seen at Beatty Park. Be there.

synthesize this polymer as an important component of their exoskeleton, too. Most of the 800,000 known insect species, in fact, rely upon chitin to give them structural support and protection from the environment.)

At the Seattle plant, the leg shells of Alaskan King crabs and local Dungeness crabs are processed for chitin. This process is linked to another process which produces fish protein concentrate. This

sister process complements the chitin process extracting the protein from the residues and leaving a dry shell. Together the processes totally utilise fish and shell wastes introduced to the plant.

Operating at full capacity, the plant can produce about a ton of chitin each month. The company is considering a second larger plant.

NOAA has guaranteed the pilot plant a market by purchasing \$48,000 worth of chitin and chitosan during 1972 - 1974. These materials are distributed for the Sea Grant programme through the Oceanographic Institute of Washington on request to researchers throughout the country who are studying the uses of chitin and chitosan in new products and markets.

The pilot plant, according to officials, maybe the prototype for a fledgling chitin/chitosan industry, providing a practical and profitable use for the 75 to 83% "waste" found in most species of shellfish.

Reprinted from F.I.N.S. the Official Organ of the Fisheries Dept. Vol.6 No.1 March '73.

Raffle Winner; The raffle of the picture which was held at the Presentation Night was won by Bob Borg of Dive, Ski and Surf. Congratulations Bob.

Election of Officers; The election of officers carried out at the last General Meeting was as usual performed in a most admirable way by Hugh Peters with an assistant. Thanks once again Hugh and helper, you did a mighty job.

Batten Pot Escape Gaps; As from 15th November '72 every Cary pot - batten or otherwise - found to have escape gaps which are under the required minimum size of 12" x 2 1/8" (305 mm x 54 mm) will be either destroyed or confiscated.

During the Minister's recent tour of the rock lobster centres, the question of 2 1/8" escape gaps was raised on a number of occasions - many fishermen held the belief that the increase from 2" to 2 1/8" allowed size lobsters to escape.

Research carried out by Bowen (now Director of Fisheries) in 1963 and more recently Morgan on the Abrolhos in 1972 showed that an increase in size of the Escape gap to 2 1/8" did not in fact allow more sized lobsters to escape.

The claim by fishermen that a size lobster can move through the 2 1/8" gap is partly true. If the animal and pot are out of the water the claim is correct, but this is not typical of the situation underwater where the gap does confine a sized lobster to the pot. However, both research series carried out showed that the number of undersized lobsters caught in the pot was lower when the escape gap size was increased from 2" to 2 1/8" but the number of sized lobsters did not decrease.

From this members will realise that pressure is being applied to both industry and amateur alike in an endeavour to balance the industry with stocks to keep it at a maximum permanent productive level.

Life Cycle; First published U.E.C. News Nov. '65;

The crayfish is of the Crustacean family, that is an external skeleton creature, where unlike mammals in which the bone structure grows with the body, crayfish fill the shell then discard it after which water acting on the body skin hardens the outer layer to form another shell slightly larger. During this period the creature is very vulnerable. It is this shedding which permits the replacement of lost limbs, feelers etc.

The female matures usually at 3 - 4 years of age. at her last moult prior to breeding groups of long fine hairs appear on her swimmerettes on the underside of each tail segment. Mating takes place in winter by the male depositing a tar

spot on the underside of the female between the last pair of legs. It is not known if crayfish stick to one mate or not but there always appears to be about an equal number of both sexes.

The female lays her eggs in the spring, the actual time being governed by the water temperature, she lays well over 100,000 eggs at a time of which only a very small minority will ever reach maturity. The eggs are fertilised by scraping of the tar spot, effected by the operation of the last pair of legs, the eggs then drift back into the hairs around the swimmerettes.

Eggs are carried for about 10 weeks when tiny larvae form. Towards the end of summer they are released and rise to the surface to be carried off by the ocean currents. At this stage they are flat and transparent growing in size to about the diameter of a 10 cent piece at which time they form into a baby crayfish.

They drift in larvae form for about a year forming part of the plankton on which the blue whales, Manta rays, Whale shark, and myriads of smaller fish live. This accounts for the large mortality rate and the necessity for such large broods as is common with most sea creatures.

Crayfish larvae have been retrieved as far out as 300 miles and it is probable that many of our local species are lost to tropical currents. The current by which the larvae returns to the coast is not yet completely understood however it is known that unusual currents occurred in 1967-68 and a poor catch of Crayfish was predicted for last year owing to this factor which did in fact occur. It is anticipated that this year the catch should be slightly better.

After about 12 months in the plankton they form into small crays and subject to currents are deposited on our coastal shelf in the areas mostly between Mandurah and the Abrolhos (Species referred to being *Panulirus Cygnus*). The next two or three years are spent in the coastal reefs, growing steadily at each moult which they do about 5 times per year growing about

NEW USES FOR SHELLFISH SHELLS;

The shells of shellfish long considered waste by the sea-food industry, are being salvaged to produce cellulose-like substance of commercial value to a variety of industries.

Chitin and its derivative, chitosan, are being produced at a small pilot plant on the outskirts of Seattle, Washington, and offered to researchers who have already identified scores of known and potential uses for the product, according to the Commerce Departments NOAA. Some of the uses of

chitin and chitosan are;

- a paper making additive to improve the wet strength properties of newsprint.
- an additive to baby food formulations;
- as a coagulant in the treatment of water supplies, sewage etc.
- an additive to stomach anti-acids;
- the treatment of wounds;
- controlled long term release of herbicides & insecticides.
- textile finishes; Water based paint emulsions;
- a new synthetic fibre; a food thickener;
- for the manufacture of films and manufacture of special adhesives.

The chiton-chitosan plant operated by Food, Chemical and Research Laboratories Inc. was built in response to growing demands for alternate methods of disposal of the thousands of tons of lobster, shrimp and crab carcasses annually dumped in ocean and near shore regions, a pollution problem as such material is highly resistant to biodegradation. In many areas small sea-food processors may be forced out of business as environmental regulations prohibit the dumping of untreated shellfish wastes into coastal waters.

Recognising that this situation threatens the existence of an important segment of the food industry, NOAA's Office of Sea Grant provided support to a research programme at the University of Washington and sought other ways of developing economically sound ways of utilising waste products from marine food processing plants. This is an important part of this venture.

Basically, chitin is the structural material that holds together the shells of crustacean. (Other arthropods

THEORY;

Questions taken from last theory (Championship) paper;.

Q. Describe life line and air hose signals?

A.	Surface to diver	Diver to surface
2 pulls	Are you alright	I am alright
3 pulls	Stop	Stop
4 pulls	I am pulling you up.	Pull me up
Serries sharp pulls		Emergency;

Q. What is Ambient pressure, Anoxia, Atmosphere pressure and Bottom time?

A. Ambient pressure is the local pressure. Water pressure at which the diver is situated at any particular time.

Anoxia means oxygen lack. Insufficient oxygen to support consciousness.

Atmospheric pressure; Pressure of the atmosphere at sea level usually referred to as 14.7 p.s.i.

Bottom time is the time calculated from the time of leaving the surface to the commencement of ascent. NOT actual time on bottom as generally believed.

Q. Under what condition could you expect a suit squeeze?

Few of our members will have experienced this which is associated with the dry suit. A pocket of air enclosed within the suit will on descent compress and in some instances cut off circulation to a portion of the body causing bruising and discomfort by trapping the skin within the fold of the rubber suit where the air pocket is situated.

Q. What does the term "residual volume" mean?

A. This is the amount of air left within the lungs and breathing passages after deflating the lungs to the maximum extent.

one fifth of an inch at each moult. Adults grow much more slowly and the jumbo which was originally believed to be a granddad is infact one whose growth rate has not slowed.

White Crayfish; is the adolescent stage, and yet oddly enough all fish do not pass through it. This was proven by tailing punching 3,000 young red crays in September in November and December of the same year over 70 were recovered and some were still red however most were white. Plastic tags were then placed over the antennae of white and in February the following year some of these were recaptured and were back to the normal red still bearing the tag which had they moulted would have gone with the moult.

The white crayfish is associated with a mass migration which marks the commencement of the Crayfish Season as they head for deeper water about the middle of ~~September~~ November.

Taking of Crayfish; There is a closed season in the area 24 degs. south Lat. and 34 degs. south Lat. Just north of Carnarvon to Margaret River from August 15th to Nov. 14th both dates inclusive each year.

Certain areas are Marine reserves from which no fish shall be taken. The minimum size is 3" across the carapice as previously described. The possession of berried or spawning females is an offence. A bag limit of eight in anyone day. The penalty for offences described above could cost the offender up to \$200.00. and in some cases a further penalty of up to \$20.00 per fish.

EDITORIAL;

Reports in this issue will be limited owing to our President Dave Kenny and Research Officer Mike Pollard together with half of our new Committee being on an Abolhos Trip. In all seven members have availed themselves of the trip to assist in the survey and recovery of relics of one of the Dutch East Indiamen wrecked on the Islands so we can look forward to receiving more information on this project in the near future. As I write this members of the expedition will be packing up at the camp in preparation for their return.

On behalf of members who have been recently elected to the

Committee I personally wish them all the best for coming season and on behalf of those members thank the general member for having elected them. The line up of members is quite imposing and I feel we can look forward to a most interesting and active season.

One aspect from the elections which still has to be ironed out is the Secretary. Ken Kennedy was elected in his absence but owing to the pressure of work is regrettably unable to accept the nomination. Lyn Jones who is acting Secretary is also unable to take the office for the full year. As this office is the main stay of the Club and the bearer is guaranteed to be working in the capacity for up to 12 hours per week it has been mooted that a decent honorarium be offered to ensure that the holder will in fact carry out the requirements of the office without being out of pocket and yet at the same time not losing the interest required because of this.

General activities within the Club have been down to a minimum since the closing of the Diving season however on the whole this can be mostly blamed on the adverse weather during the week-ends.

The Leschenault Trip on the 8th inst was a great success to those who participated 7 entrants in all. The winner was Keith Errington, (2nd) Graham Weir and (3rd) June Errington. Parker's and Jones who during a rash minute on the Sturday evening previously had thrown down the glove for a challenge swim arrived early (afternoon) when all other competitors had finished and as by then it was really raining and continued for the rest of the day. Both parties piked out. K.K. with his better half arrived shortly afterwards. It was so wet that we did not even launch our new acquisition 'Casper' the name given by Barbara to a 9 ft. inflatable. Apart from the weather, and as is usual I'm certain a good time was had by all who attended. Thanks to Dive Ski and Surf for their donation of a compass for the winner Keith Errington and also to Gerry Gougoulas who as usual was the chief oarsman for the Safety boat.

Underwater hearing is ~~virtually~~ principally by bone conduction which is much less efficient than eardrum hearing. Intense sounds can be heard but the direction of sound cannot be determined. In air, the brain localises sound direction by detecting the small time difference between the arrival of the sound at each ear. This time delay becomes too small to detect within the sea because sound travels so much faster there. Divers who use electronic communication devices can hear only when they do not exhale (because of bubble noises), and still cannot localise sound easily.

All of this makes it necessary for underwater photographers to be careful planners and to use explicit hand signals.

NOTES ON TONNAGE;

B.Parker.

More than 90% of the World's trade is carried in ships. Australia being an island, most of us, unless we live well inland, seem to have some interest in our ports and what enters and leaves them. The term "tonnage" to indicate the size and capacity of ships can be misleading to many people, as there are really three different meanings to it;

(1) Gross Tonnage; The one most often used in reference to cargo or passenger ships, is a measurement of volume and not weight. 100 Cubic feet of permanently enclosed space equals one ton gross.

Other types of tonnage in general use are measures of weight.

(2) Deadweight; (dwt). is the weight of cargo, fuel and stores etc. needed to bring a ship from her light weight to her loaded draft. This tonnage is usually applied to tankers and any type of bulk carries.

(3) Displacement Tonnage; This is usually kept for naval vessels and is the total weight of the ship and contents and can be quoted as light or loaded displacement.

PHOTOGRAPHY;

Bob Gadsby.

My apologies for not attending last month's General Meeting. I was suddenly called to Collie for a diving job in an open cut mine and I didn't have enough time to organise the slide view box for the meeting.

My thanks to those who brought slides along. More on the Collie dive in next month's Mag.

Underwater Photography; Temperature effects not only the diver and his equipment, but it also effects the water itself in ways that influence photography. Natural bodies of water usually consist of stratified layers of water in which temperature varies from layer to layer, but is nearly constant within each layer.

As a result of different temperatures, these layers have different water densities with lighter layers above heavier ones. The sharp transition between layers is called a thermocline and is characterised by strong vertical variations in density. Particles such as plankton and decayed vegetable matter tend to accumulate in thermoclines at depths that coincide with their own densities. The entrapment of these particles in thermoclines cause a reduction of light intensity below, addind to the adversities encountered by an underwater photographer.

Salt water is notoriously unhealthy for unprotected metal surfaces, especially for two dissimilar metals placed close together. The best way to clean a housing after each day of use is to soak it in a detergent mixed with fresh water for at least five minutes, agitating it vigorously several times to help remove salts from between closely spaced surfaces. Finally the housing should be rinsed off with running water.

Another environmental problem is the behaviour of sound in the sea. Sound travels four times faster in water than it does in air, and it is not absorbed as much enroute. Despite this diver's are virtually deaf underwater.

Squash; Owing to lack of support for our own Club to attend the last Squash night we had I was to arrange with F.I.S.H. Club to have a challenge match with that Club. It is a pity but the F.I.S.H. club is now so low in members that at their last General Meeting only four turned up. It is now mooted that this Club will amalgamate with the W.A. Undersea Club in an endeavour to remain active in the Spear Fishing World. To our older members this will come as a disappointment as both F.I.S.H. and W.A. Undersea have been the two most active clubs with whom we have had association and competitive activities both in and out of the water. If we are to have a Squash Night we shall have to go it alone and our own members will have to ensure that full coverage of expences are met.

I feel certain that in our next issue all our reports will be back to normal with a presume a good screed from our new President Dave Kenny.

DIVING REPORT

Graham Weir.

First of all I would like to thank members for electing me O/C Diving for the 1973 - 74 season.

Waroona Dam; Sunday 17th June. Weather was pleasant for this outing with seventeen turning up. No tests were undertaken and only two divers entered the water which was very muddy. The dive was followed by a barbeque and a very pleasant afternoon just lazing about, till wind up time at approx. 4pm

Deep River Dive; This is scheduled for Sunday 29th July and is a test for Advanced Certificate as there is only one per year. To speed up the entry and exit of divers it is proposed that this dive be carried out on lung and life-line, so know your tender-diver line signals. The locality is Fremantle side of the Mosman Bay Boat Sheds and Log books are compulsory.

Advance Information; A reminder for those who wish to get in a little practice, the three hour Marathon Swim to be held at Woodmans Point is proposed to be held on Sunday 26th August. Confirmation at the next General Meeting.

LIBRARY;

Elaine Airey our new librarian has declared an amnesty on the penalty fee for none return of books. A complete stock take is desired and for this the return of all books is essential. Any member having any U.E.C. Library publication whether it be 'Dive Magazine' or Silent World please return same on or before the August Meeting.

Letter to the Editor; M.Preston.

Members; When is a Constitution not a constitution?? Think about it. The answer is at a U.E.C. A.G. of course.

Seriously folks, the members who were present must realise that we didn't follow our Constitution as we should have done. Fair enough that's all over and done with now, and lets get it right next year. (Happiness will reign if we don't make the same mistake again.)

My sincere wish is for harmony and hard work to come from our newly elected O/C's and general members, and that no one person or group of people try to make any trouble or gain from this mistake.

The administration members of the club have a hard year ahead of them, help is something I feel sure they will appreciate. Lets try and give it to them.

Tongue in Cheek; John Bele.

Looking through the 1970 copy of the United States Diving Manual I came across their Standard Air De-compression Table for Exceptional Exposures. The De-compression Stops called for their deepest dive, with longest stay;

Dive ;	Stay ;	Stops ;
300 ft.	180 mins. ()	170 ft.(8m),
200 ft. (6m),	190 ft.(8m),	180 ft. (8m),
160 ft.(14m),	150 ft.(20),	140 ft.(21m),
120 ft.(28m),	110 ft.(40),	100 ft.(40m),
80 ft.(56m),	70 ft.(82),	60 ft.(98m),
40 ft.(114m),	30 ft.(122m),	20 ft.(142m),
		10 ft.(187m).

Time to first stop 1m.40sec. Total ascent time 1168 mins.

Question; Can I make this dive on a single seventy or will I need twin tanks ????

SPLASH ZONE;

Debbie Jones is going to the Eastern States with the State Net Ball Team I feel sure that all members will wish her the best of luck and look forward to her return with the winning team trophy. Good luck Debbie.

It has been heard on the grapevine that Vern Willis is giving a few que's from his wife on the finer points of hockey ready for our Underwater variety on the 19th inst. Look forward to seeing you all then.

There is no truth in the rumour that Admiral Fleay is constructing a gun deck of his boat. The secret construction is between decks in the fitting of Torpedo tubes. This is by no means a changing of Bill's character (being subtle). He argues that Torpedoes do a far better job!!! Look forward to you joining the fleet Bill.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Owing to there not having been a Committee Meeting since our new Office bearers were elected the following report is as printed in the last magazine;

Membership ;	Honorary 11	Life 4	Full 117
	Junior 34	Social 1	Counrty 14

Balance of finance as at 1st June '73;

General Fund ;	\$519.13	Boat Fund ;	\$83.76
Building " ;	\$575.67	C.B.C. Dep;	\$16,500.00.

CLUB LAND;

At a recent meeting with the East Fremantle Shire our Rep's. were referred back to consider an allocation of land which we were first offered. This land is upstream from the Army Water Transport Bicton. Members, Give this matter thought.

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James Matthews
U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.



August, 1973

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JAMES
MATHEWS

M.POLLARD

The greatest find with which this club has been involved particularly in recent years was made by a group of our members on Sunday 22nd July '73. This particular vessel has been sought by some of our members even before the founding of the Club and it is understood that one of our Foundation Members and Trophy Donors, Ray Devatt has an extra interest in the vessel.

Throughout the years searches have been made along Woodmans Spit and every uncharted hump on the sea bed in the area reported by fishermen checked to no avail, but now. Well, the following is Mike's account followed in the usual way with the recorded history of the vessel as found by him.

Preliminary Report; On Sunday 22nd July '73, seven members of the U.E.C. found the James Mathews on the north side of Woodmans Point about 400 yards offshore in about 10 ft. of water.

The members concerned were;- Keven Cargeeg, John Carpenter, Ken Churchward, Mick Evans, Colin Harris, John MacKay and myself.

She was picked up using the swim line search technique with each diver about 10 ft. apart and most of the time out of

sight of each other as visibility was down to about 5 ft. The end man, John Carpenter, swam along the edge of the bank and we all kept our dressing from him by sighting along the line. Those with half full tanks in the shallows 5 - 11 ft., those with full tanks in deeper water.

I was in the shallowest water and ran out of air first, I tried to carry on on the surface but as visibility was not good enough to see the bottom I came in. Then Ken came in and reported that as he ran out of air he had seen a large timber mass on the bottom, definitely wreckage. Next to come in was John Mackay who had a ballast stone (Granite) and reported wreckage and lots of grey sheets, soft as they scratched easily, but did not know what they were. Then Colin came in with a slate followed by John Carpenter with slates and a lump of wood with two ring bolts in it. This clinched the identification - we had picked up the "James Mathews" instead of the "Helen" !!!, for which we had been looking.

As we were now all out of air, lungs were left on the beach and we all swam to the spot and looked around. Several slates, bits of wood and copper spikes were taken off as evidence and transits were taken. Several photos were also taken but as yet they have not been developed. They probably will not come out as the visibility was poor with lots of sand in suspension.

After the dive John Carpenter and I went straight to Graham Henderson of the W.A. Museum and reported the find and handed over the artifacts raised. What is there to see? - Not much!! She seems to be heading approximately N.S. and lying on her starboard side. The slates are still in position in neat rows as they would have been when packed into the ship. Most of the wreck is lying under the sand and sea grass so should be well preserved. What wood is showing is very soft and worm eaten. There is the occasional ballast stone and copper spike lying around. No sign was seen of any bottles, pottery or other artifacts, I hope these will be found under the sand. There are

The brilliant green which covered every part of the ghost ship which was exposed to the weather, was due to the algae gathered during thousands of miles of ocean wandering. This served to camouflage the hulk on the water.

There was no explanation to the mystery, or to how she kept afloat, as she sailed her masterless course through the hazardous "Roaring Forties," a fearful belt of huge seas and screaming winds the 'Marlborough' must have passed through.

Space does not permit mention of other well known voyages of "Phantom" of this sort. However in 1891, the "Fannie Wilson" was abandoned foundering off Cape Hatteras, 12 months later she was seen cruising about the Azores, and was another year and 6000 miles later sunk off New Foundland

In 1902, the Canadian vessel "Florence Edgett" was listing hopelessly after a violent storm near Peru. The crew took to the lifeboats. Ten years later she had worked her way out of the Pacific, rounded the Horn and ended up caught in the floating weed off the Sargasso Sea in the North Atlantic.

Recently your editor read a newspaper account of the Captain and crew of a U.S. Navy vessel on duty in the Antarctic who recorded an unusual sighting. A large iceberg supported on a ledge well above sealevel an old sailing vessel still partly embedded in ice. The sun was quite bright and details were clearly visible. After some deliberation it was decided to investigate. However, as they were lowering a boat the iceberg was seen to turn turtle and the ledge and entombed ship rolled beneath the water. That was their story and they stuck to it. As it is believed that only "Coke" is consumed on American Naval Vessels we must perforce believe it.

These floating hulks must all eventually sink. In the meantime, they no doubt occasionally cause other ships to sink, when, half submerged, one crashed through the vulnerable belly of an unlucky voyager. So keep your gear in order, it seems there will be wrecks to dive on for a while yet.

The records of the United States Hydrographic Office show that an average of 2,172 ships have been wrecked in the past 100 years, making a total of 217,200 vessels, and a similar number are believed to have been lost but not recorded. No one could say how many of these unlucky ships have become derelicts, but there is no doubt that many have become wandering hazards to legitimate ships.

Members will remember Commander King recently tangling with an unknown object which necessitated extensive repairs to "Galway Blazer" and which could have been fatal to her.

Coastguards around the world endeavour to reduce this ghostly flotilla, but estimates put their rate of growth at 200 per year.

Some of these orphans have been abandoned because of fire, which has later burnt out, dangerous cargo or ruined by icebergs, struck reefs and later floated off. Some derelicts have been found manned by skeletons, perhaps victims of disease.

Some facts, seemingly incredible, of long crewless voyages, are authenticated.

About the beginning of the century, a Glasgow ship the 'Marlborough' left New Zealand and was last reported at the Straights of Magellan where she vanished. In 1923, the Captain of a ship off the tip of South America near Tierra Del Fuego saw an amazing sight, an enormous green filigree seemed to rise up from the calm surface of the sea and approach him. Through binoculars he made out a wierd caricature of a three masted vessel, what was left of the tattered sails and rigging was bright green, as were the decks and superstructure. A small boat was launched to investigate, it was the 'Marlborough', still afloat after 24 years of unguided travel. The decks were rotten with decay, slimy ropes lay across them. A few mouldy bones identified by shreds of clothing were given burial by the boarding party.

also one or two large iron objects that go deep into the sand and show no signs of moving, probably bits of rigging or structure of the ship.

On August 5th a group went to the site as arrangements had previously been made to attend with the Museum authorities to commence the preliminary survey however owing to conditions we did not even enter the water. (Note;- On this day three people were drowned on Metro waters. (1) surfing at City Beach, (2) sailing on Swan River and (3) fishing in Peel inlet. A further one reported from Port Hed and so conditions were pretty general.)

"JAMES MATTHEWS".

Construction ; Wood, copper sheathed in 1838.
Dimensions ; Not stated, but would be around
Length 100 ft. x beam 25 ft. x depth 12 ft.
Tonnage ; 167 tons gross, 107 tons nett.
Rig ; Snow brig.

Built ; Unknown. First reported in Lloyds register in 1840 as a prize. Lloyds records in London do not know from whom she was captured or when. This is very interesting as the French wars were over by 1814 and this would make her quite an old ship by 1840. The only other alternative that I can think of is that she was an ex slaver that was captured in the 1830's during the suppression of slavery. Maybe her timbers will give a clue as to where she was built.

LLOYDS CLASSIFICATION; AEL this suggests that she was an old 41 ship as AE denotes a ship that due to age, even though in good condition, has dropped from A1 to AEL. Also she must be surveyed every year or else the classification drops to E. The 41 means that she was surveyed in 1841. Since she left London in March, this must have been between 1st January and 28th March 1841.

Master; E. Roberts Owner ; T. Leith.
Port of Registration ; London.

Last known ports of call; Liverpool - Dominica - London -
St.Nicholas, in the Cape Verde Isl
Islands - Simenstown - Fremantle.

Cargo ; 7,000 slates, Farming implements,
General Cargo and three passengers.
Wrecked; ; 23rd July 1841 off Woodman's Point.
All passengers and crew saved but
the ship was a total loss.. A
fisherman who had come aboard on
Thursday afternoon for shelter was
not so lucky and was swept away and
drowned.

REPORT OF WRECK; The "James Mathews" left
London for Fremantle on 28th March 1841 with a cargo
of 7,000 slates, farming implements, general cargo
and three passengers. She had an uneventful voyage
and on Tuesday 20th July, 1841 sighted land, she
was then becalmed and several members of the crew
took one of the boats to Garden Island where they
caught several large snappers. The pilot came aboard
at 16.00 hrs. and took them into Cockburn Sound.

Early Wednesday Morning the Harbour Master took the
ship into Owen's Anchorage, the rest of the day
being spent in getting ready to leave the ship on
Thursday..

Thursday morning all hatches were opened and cargo
got ready to land, but, this proved impossible owing
to a very strong N -N.E. wind blowing. At 16.30
Hrs. two fisherman in a small boat came aboard as
they could not row back against it. By midnight
the wind was blowing a full gale. Between midnight
and 02.00 hrs. Friday 23rd July the cable parted,
the spare anchor was let go but did not hold and she
began to drag. At about 02.00 hrs. she grounded on the
rocks and between 02.00 hrs. and 04.00 hrs. cargo
was jettisoned to lighten the ship, this included
ploughs, guns and rifles.

At daybreak, approximately 06.15 hours, "Land was
visible through the dim light at a distance of less
than a mile, with breakers in every direction
around us. Spars, casks, planks etc. were
floating away with the wind, which was fortunately

if the "Batavia" were not there. We all had many
experiences both frightening and laughable. We met many
friendly faces including the surprise addition of Ben and
Eva Cropp. I personally, as we all would like to thank
Joe Varris and wife for accomodation, hospitality and drink
also Doctor Saunders and wife for bed and breakfast, both
of Geraldton, Hugh Edwards for the marathon swim at Goss
Island reef and safe return through the breakers and of
course Jerremy Green for the opportunity of a lifetime.
Pat Baker deserves a mention for his well illustrated
hour and his much welcomed advice on under and above
water photography, also I am most grateful for the loan
of his camera equipment. I should also like to thank
those people living on and vacationing at Beacon for
joining in one hell of a party, ghosts included!

Just an additional note, normally my monthly article
pertains to marine life however the recent Abrolhos trip,
an expedition and the discovery of the "James Mathews"?
in my opinion warranted some comment. I should like to
apologise for failing to submit an article for last months
Mag, preparation for the 'Batavia' expedition consumed
my time. Next months article will relate to the marine
life of the Abrolhos group.

RESTLESS WRECKS;

Barbara Parker

As divers; the members of this club are interested in
wrecks. Although we may possibly be accused of a ghoulish
interest in the graves of lost ships, no one can deny the
fascination of wreck diving. The interesting information
gained in searching records and archives is an added bonus.

However, not all lost ships go straight to the bottom, and
an amazing number of floating hulks have been reported by
ship's Captains. No doubt, at the turn of the century
and for awhile after, when more wooden ships were about,
such hulks would have been more numerous. In a three year
period in the last 10 years before the turn of the century
over 1600 floating hulks were reported by skippers of more
fortunate vessels.

artifacts of a more human nature (To the collector of coins this point could not be put so strongly, but he regards a coin by face value not as we by the silver or gold it contains). Pat revealed to me quite dramatically what I now believe to be the true fascination of digging up the past, showing us how we have developed and our techniques during the course of this development.

In the recent past and the present for that matter, divers have openly looted wrecks with total disregard for anything bar the things they consider of value with the resultant loss of many artefacts and much knowledge. Few divers for example consider the value of the black Teredo riddled, often fragile wood that constitutes most well preserved ancient wrecks not to mention those of more recent times. Not a great deal is known of ship construction, yet how often do we carelessly damage and remove timber in our efforts to excavate? Again we come back to what we might term the dull side of wreck research. In our opinion this might be the case, but can we afford to show total disregard to the marine archeologists who are interested in the history of ship building? I cite this example because members of Mike Pollards Wreck Research team recently discovered what is believed to be the wreck of the "James Mathews". After approaching the W.A. Museum we have received permission to assist in the surveying and excavation of this site. I believe it is important that we work this wreck in the correct manner and with the guidance of the Museum Representative Graham Henderson, we must all resist the temptation to remove anything unless directed. A proper systematic excavation will provide us with experience for any future opportunities of this nature, and no doubt increase our respect for wrecks as a whole.

To return to the Abrolhos, I should like to recommend that if any clubmember has the opportunity to dive in these islands do not hesitate to do so. The boat trip of 50 miles maybe reminiscent of Old Dutch torture (there and back) but it is worth it and would be even

on-shore. We now perceived that we were on the middle of a narrow ledge of rock with deep water on either side."

The ship was on her beam ends and at 07.00 hrs. the Master ordered all hands to cut away the masts to try and right the ship. The main mast however, instead of falling over the side, fell down the main hatch doing considerable damage and serving as a lever to pull the ship over even further. The sea was now sweeping over all and all hands were in grave danger of being washed away; fortunately heavy rain smoothed the sea and at about noon a whale boat was seen coming out of Fremantle which rescued all on board, landing them at Woodman's Point. One of the fishermen had been swept from the "James Matthes" during the night and drowned, he was later found on the beach just South of Clarence (Training Base) and buried there.

A certain amount of cargo was salvaged as were the sails, spars, rigging etc., the wreck herself broke up in a storm early in June 1846.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dave Kenny.

This being my first report as President I would like to take the opportunity of thanking the outgoing office bearers and President (Past) John Walden for the job they did in their term of office. John already looks about 10 years younger and has a type of "You poor b-----d" look in his face, I think he knows something! Anyhow* thanks fellas.

May I also extend congratulations (or sympathy as the case may be!) to the incoming office bearers and express the hope that this will be a year of alround cheerful co-operation, participation and achievement. I have a feeling that this year will be as Hogan would say, a 'Ripper'.

Already we have got the Underwater hockey off to a good start at Beatty Park Pool once a week, for two bob its the most enjoyable and exhausting game I know of. The Mosman's Bay Dive was also a great success, apart from the divers who showed up by car to probe the inky, icy water, we had no less than nine boats of various shapes and sizes gracing the scene. I must mention that one vessel which shall be

nameless (and is) had to be towed home, for this favour a sincere thanks to Barb and Dennis.

Another achievement and more notable by far was the discovery of the wreck "James Matthews" by the fully "inflatable" Mike Pollard and his team of divers. Although Mike was not the first to spot the wreck, it was his research and hours of painstaking fiddling that brought it to light. Truly a terrific effort and one that will create a lot of new enthusiasm in the club. Well done lads!!.

I would like to round off by saying, members, this is your club, if you have any suggestions as to how something could be done better or improved on, don't hesitate to voice your opinion, you have as much right as the next bloke. So in the hope that, that has you thinking, see you at the next General Meeting.

TREASURERS REPORT;

Owing to our financial records still being incomplete. 'Change Office Bearers' audit etc. there are no new figures in my possession at this time. Membership is as follows;

Honorary	11	Life	4	Full	117.
Junior	34	Social	1	Country	14

Balance of finance as at 1st June '73;

General Fund ;	\$519.13	Boat Fund ;	\$83.76
Building " ;	\$575.67	C.B.C. Dep ;	\$16,500.00

Nominations; Roy Butler 83 Blackmore Ave. Ham/Hill.
Garry Donkin 9 Norfolk St. South Perth.

DIVING REPORT

Graham Weir

The Mowman's Deep River dive was held on Sunday 29th July '73 with 11 diver's taking part, 6 of these being qualifiers for advanced certificate.

Visibility was nil, making conditions ideal for the purpose of this test. Thanks must go to Keith Errington and Les Coleman for the provision of their boats and

ALL THAT GLITTERS ISN'T ALWAYS GOLD.

Jon Carpenter

This years Abrolho's Expedition, thanks to Mike Pollard and the W.A. Museum gave those members who participated a rare experience, both in co-operation and diving on the "Batavia" herself.

Our allotted task, surveying an area of reef then retrieving from it a representative sample of artifacts, mainly ballast bricks doesn't sound too exciting, and in my case revealed the other side of wreck exploration, hard work. We raised some 2000 bricks, not a great deal, in fact almost laughable when we consider the Museum has raised 50 ton of building blocks etc. However to the average U.E.C. wreck diver who generally fossicks on a wreck site, humping ballast bricks is a laborious task. This is further enhanced one one knows that the wrecked vessel contains a quantity of silver coin, and we were diving away in an area from the wrecksite proper. This same area harboured a considerable quantity of pottery (sherds), myself tending to neglect ballast bricks in favour of collecting she sherds, this being done much to the annoyance of Dave.

Most of us dream of finding a chest of precious metal, usually coin, and this is often emphasized in films of wrecks. True that coin can indicate the age of a wreck and possibly its origin but they do not reveal the character and life style of the times or the people. This fact was brought home to me soon after the arrival of Ben Cropp to our location on Beacon Island. It was decided that Ben should film Jeremy Green excavating on the 'Batavia' wreck site. Observing the filming on the day I was surprised indeed when Jeremy's efforts revealed some twelve coins under the sand. At that time I thought to myself what a piece of luck. Later when I mentioned this to Pat Baker 'Museum photographer' he quite shocked me when he replied "we knew they were there". Naturally my reaction was that of the typical amateur wreck diver "Sh..! I wish I'd known they were there!". Pat opened my eyes when he explained that coin was relatively of less importance than

an average depth of four to eight feet. Once marked and buoyed sextant bearings were taken from each buoy on various fixed points such as Islands and radio mast on Beacon Island. When this was accomplished a 1½ metre square was set up made from some star pickets, this in turn was used to count the distribution of bricks along the centre line -- a line 100 metres long which was fastened at right angles to the reef in the heaviest concentrations of bricks. The number of bricks were counted and raised then the frame was turned over and so on.

While one group was out working on the project the other group did the cooking and the necessary chores and weather permitting did a spot of fishing. We were all lucky enough to have a dive on the wreck itself at various times accompanied by Jeremy or one of his all seeing eyes! The wreck has been excavated to the hull timbers in one place and these timbers, while protected now with bags of sand will someday be raised and preserved. While swimming over the site and battling the heavy swells, someone thrust a bag at me shouted what sounded like "Must get Balls". Not mine I thought! I was relieved to see him point to the bottom to a pile of "Musket Balls". It didn't take long to gather enough to enable one to walk back to the boat on the bottom!!

We had now reached a stage on the inside of the reef where we were gathering bricks over the whole site, they were piled into one of the "Ally" boats and taken back for counting and cleaning. The work itself was fairly exhausting and on one or two days a strong current made lifting quite impossible, so we would swim to the reef and then drift back picking up bits of Belemaine jugs and pottery. Some good finds were made and I believe some have fitted into the jigsaws at the Museum Lab.

This was mainly the pattern for the first week, the second week brought Hugh Edwards, Ben Cropp, coins and naked water nymphs! so be ready for the next spine chilling instalment.

valuable assistance, making the dive a success. The record for minimum time taken to 70 feet and return must go to someone who dived without a wet suit.

Remember Sunday 26th August, The 'Big Swim' is on, so lets see a good turn out. Bring some steaks and liquid and we'll get the 'Barbi' going if weather permits.

Also Sunday 16th Sept. 'Big Must'. Car Trial and 'Barbi' to Churchmans Brook. Depart west end of the Causeway (No.2) Car Park 10.30 hrs.

TRAINING BASE REPORT

Mick Evans

In opening I would like to thank members for electing me O/C Training Base for 1973 - '74 season.

Hardy fishermen are the only people frequenting Training Base at this time of the year but before Base opens on the 23rd September we shall have a maintenance day. The day set aside for this is 2nd September and I hope to see a few of you down there with your calloused hands, steaks and esky's.

The Wreck Research Group have been very busy lately; more of that elsewhere in the mag. Les Coleman, with help from John Walden, Keith Errington, Kevin Collett and Mike Pollard, is putting another group of scouts through a diving course this year.

If you are after a bit of vigorous exercise during the week, come along to the Beatty Park Pool and join the U.E.C. Underwater Hockey Group. I have heard it suggested that the President could be playing the man instead of the puck but all in all its great fun. Chlorinated water, I've found, is as good as a dose of salts.

See you all down at Base on 26th August giving support to the Marathon swimmers.

LIBRARY.

It appears that the depletion of our library books as per recorded list is appalling. Many good quality books are missing. An amnesty has been declared on the return of

these books and it is hoped that members will cooperate to the full and return all books out on loan so that a re-organisation of the whole system can be carried out. Any member who has a book and is unable to attend the next General Meeting are asked to contact Elaine our new librarian. A full list of missing books will be listed in the next Mag.

SPLASH ZONE;

Both of our Honorary Marine Biologists are on the move. Dr. Graham Chittleborough has been appointed Director of National Parks and Reserves for the State of W.A. and it is hoped that he will retain the position held within our Club. His guidance and recommendations throughout the years have been of vital importance to us. On behalf of the Club I wish him all the best in his new appointment.

Dr. Ray George is mixing business with pleasure. A keen hockey enthusiast he has gone on a trip to America and Europe to play and learn more about hockey and at the same time carry on his research in Crayfish. Who says business and pleasure do not mix?. Have a good trip Ray.

It appears that that marriage bug has got into the system again. Two of our members are taking the plunge. John Scadden is being spliced on 1st September and it is understood that Ken Churchwood is also taking the plunge about the same time. To both we say the best of luck and instead of losing your support, how about increasing our membership and bring your respective wives. We can always find work onshore!! and we have many lady members who are prepared to introduce the less venturesome of our ladies to our sport in a more feminine way.

It was with some disgust that we heard that at the Underwater Hockey some two weeks ago Kevin Collett had

shadows. About 85% of the total light comes directly from the sun on clear days when the sun is high, and the remaining 15% is diffuse light. However when the sun is low in the sky or when there is heavy cloud cover, 90% or more of the total light is diffuse.

When light reaches the water surface some of it does not penetrate, but instead is reflected back into the atmosphere. Light reflected back into the atmosphere does not contribute to the illumination of undersea scenes and is thus light lost to the underwater photographer.

BATAVIA EXPEDITION

D.Kenny

Members; Mike Pollard, Dave Kenny, John Carpenter, David Simenson, Ken. Churchward, Hugh Peters, Wally Marshall, Adrian and Margaret Meerman.

The object of this trip was to plot the wreckage on the inside of the Morning Reef where in 1629 the ship 'Batavia' struck and sank. There were nine members taking part in the trip.

We left Geraldton on board the "Abrolhos Charter" at midnight on Monday 25th June, having spent our time looking around Geraldton town and Museum.

The previous night we spent at Joe and Gail Varris's place which was as usual thrown open to us and for this we owe them a sincere debt of gratitude.

The journey to Beacon Island was smooth and uneventful although initially we ended up at Big Pidgeon as the skipper reckoned it was too dodgy to get into Beacon. We got a ride on the crayboat 'Joe-Lyn' which was going to Beacon, a bloody wet trip it was too!! a lot of gear was soaked.

On arrival at Beacon, Jeremy Green cooked us a welcome breakfast of bacon and eggs and afterwards explained what the project entailed. It was, in short, to raise tons of bricks!! We then divided ourselves into two groups a morning and afternoon shift, and set about marking the outside of the main concentration of bricks - these were in an

Anscochrome films. The Kodak colour gave an overall green colour whereas the Anscochrome gave an overall blue colour. Both colours showed very clear and only personal choice would influence the photographer in the purchase of his film.

Exposures underwater are much more difficult to calculate than exposures on the land. The exposure value changes according to depth of water and type of day (sunny or bright), the type of bottom (sandy, rocky or weedy) the time of day (affecting the angle of the sun's rays striking the surface of the water), the surface conditions (calm or rough), the amount of plankton suspended in the water, the type of artificial light in use (flash bulbs or electronic flash) etc.

As a guide only, I offer the following exposure hints. In waters around Rottneest at about 25 ft. using high speed Ektochrome 160 ASA on a clear sunny day, visibility around 40 ft. a starting point would be 1/60 sec. at f5.6 or 1/125th of a sec. at f4.

For films rated 64 ASA start around 1/60th at f4 or f3.5 or 1/125th of a sec. at f3.5. So many factors affect underwater exposures so I repeat, use these exposures as a starting guide only.

When photographing a really worthwhile subject make about three different exposures to be sure to obtain the best result. Where possible keep a record of all exposures used to enable you to ascertain the best exposure results for future use.

UNDERSEA ENVIRONMENT; Light in the Sea;

The brightness and colour quality of light in the sea depend partly on the illumination above the surface. Light from the sky reaches the water surface in two ways - as direct rays from the sun, and as light diffused by clouds, water vapour and dust in the atmosphere.

Diffused light seems to come from all directions and produces little contrast between highlights and

his car taken. I was also pleased to see that he did get it back. Many of our members may feel that such an offence is just a childish prank. Personally I feel that all such offences should be punishable and that offenders should get public humiliation and physical punishment. Kevin may have been lucky and no damage done to his vehicle on the other hand no outward sign may be evident but the vehicle could have been seriously abused. Sorry members, but I feel very strongly on this subject and car thefts will not decrease under this present system. All I can suggest is wherever you go LOCK your car and the chances are it may be there when you return.

I would like to be saying that the Jones's are enjoying the sun in the Northern part of the State however with the weather we have had in the last week I am not certain that they will. I feel certain that we are all hopeful they have managed to dodge the occasional showers we have had forecast but I can't see how they could have as from here it's seemed like continual rain. However to both Lyn and Hazel, Hoped you have had a good time even if its been playing dominoes in the caravan. A little note on your travels for the Mag. would not go amiss!!.

EDITORIAL;

Mike Pollard has taken over as Secretary for this coming 12 months as well as doubling up on Research. All I can say is that he's a glutton for punishment. O/C Training has been taken over by Mick Evans another stalwart member as it appears that Harry has found that he cannot find the time to do the job. The vacancy left by Mike was filled by none other than Keith Errington who we can rest assured with the enthusiasm of June behind him will really use the big spoon in the committee. (Perhaps we should dub Keith and June "The diving Twosome"). With a lineup like this I am looking forward to a very active season and I shall have to get my finger out to keep up. Well fellas, It's now up to you, Let's have it!!!.

Activities; weatherwise has been to put it mildly 'crook'

however there has been plenty for members to do. For the past two weeks some members have turned up to the 'James Mathews' this will be a continuing process. Barb. and I took out a small inflatable which we have to take north and although only powered by a 2 hp. proved quite adequate for the purpose of this type of diving. After some discussion of the beach after "Apart from certain remarks by some" perhaps this matter could be considered. I personally feel for Club boats we should have trailable ones or as was shown last Sunday even a large inflatable which does not require the power of more conventional types. Worth a thought.

ACTIVITIES;

Owing to space have included this in the centre of the Mag. and not the end as is usual;

Monday; 20th Aug; General Meeting. Naturalist Club
20 hrs. Meriwa St. Nedlands.
Gen. Bus. and more on Abrolhos trip.

Tuesday ; and every Tuesday unless otherwise stated
Underwater Hockey Beatty Park 6.30pm.

Sunday 26th; Marathon Swim. Commence 10.00 hrs. to
1.00pm Training Base. See diving Report.

SUNDAYS; Unless recorded elsewhere will be work
on the James Mathews. Contact Mike
Pollard for further information.

SATURDAY 1st September; Members again this is booked
for a SQUASH Night. Cambridge Courts near
Jersey St. Make this a must and lets have
enough to cover expences. Bring plate of
nibbles and liquid refreshment. (\$1.00 per
playing member;.

Sun. 16th Sept; Car Trial Churchman's Brrok. See Report.

FOR SALE; Nikonus Mk.11 with flash, Sekonic Lt. meter &
view finder. All near new. Price \$300.00.
Complete sale only and not in part. Ph.85 9073.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Bob Gadsby

A fantastic collection of colourful underwater slides were shown at the last General Meeting for the enjoyment of members present. (Not forgetting the colour slides taken on the land.)

The majority of slides shown were taken underwater and once again proved to be of a high standard. Any of the slides exhibited could have taken off a prize and I'm glad that I don't have to judge the winner. I'm afraid I would award prize to everybody, however this is not possible. The present method of judging on a points system by you, the member is the fairest way. The slide of your first choice gets three points, the second choice two points and the third choice one point.

Last months judging was the closest yet. Only one point seperated first from second and one point, second and third. the winner of a roll of colour slide film was Mike Pollard, Good work Mike. The highest scores were all underwater photographs. Once again thanks to Alfred's Emporium for the donation of the film.

EXPOSURE UNDERWATER OF COLOUR FILMS: Sometime ago I suggested to try different makes of colour film, settle for the one that suits your needs and stick to it. I still recommend that suggestion, however sometimes you might find this impractical. Like using your regular brand of film up and not being able to buy the same brand. Not to worry, if you have been getting good exposures with brand 'A' film rated at 50 ASA, 64 ASA or whatever ASA speed film you use, try to buy the film that has the same ASA speed rating as the film you use all the time. The colour balance may change slightly from film to film but the exposures will remain the same.

But if the occasion arises when you must use film of a different ASA speed rating (a) adjust the exposure meter accordingly or (b) if you have no exposure meter, try to consult somebody who is using film with the same ASA rating to obtain correct exposures.

I noticed a slight colour difference between the Kodak and U.E.C. NEWS Aug. '73 Page 11

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U.E.C. NEWS

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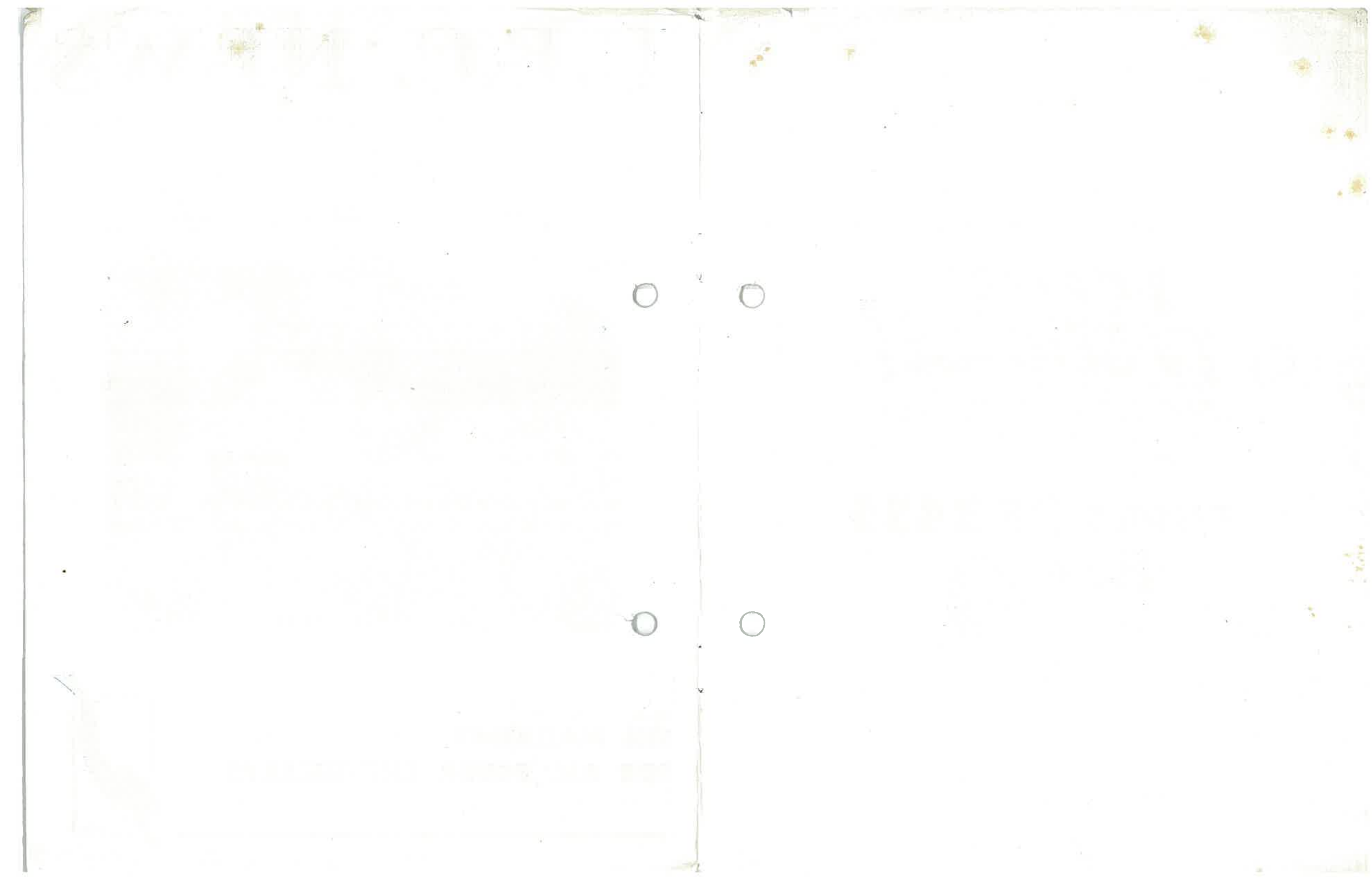
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**THE MAGAZINE
FOR ALL SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS**

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U.E.C. NEWS

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WARTIME

WRECK

BOB BONE

Diving is a fascinating and very often, rewarding passtime. Few experiences in our diving world, however, are more satisfying than discovering a wreck or even locating a wreck which you did not know existed. Although I have not had the good fortune in finding a treasure ship or other unknown vessel my sighting of the "Michael J.GOULANDRIS" has prompted me to write this article.

Here is my story!

These days my diving, infact since leaving Perth 6½ years ago, centres around spearfishing. My wanderings over that period have taken me to most parts of the State on diving holidays but each Easter our journey ends at Windy Harbour.

Situated in the shadow of Pt.D'Entrecasteaus' lighthouse and 300 feet limestone cliffs the area is aptly named - the wind does blow! To those of you who have visited the area you can only agree the sights are breathtaking.

The south coast has many dangerous spots but few can match the treacherous South West Reef, a large granite shoal 4 miles from shore which shoulders the full force of the southern swells.

Easter 1973 had already been rewarding with 300 lb. of Jewies and Groper in the freezer. Over the preceding days we had worked our way around the reef until we finally came to the eastern side. This section is no joke and not the place to anchor a boat. Nevertheless, the fish were there so it was two in the water and one in the boat. We soon picked up a couple of Jewies and then swam down the edge of the reef alongside the crashing swells following an elusive Jewie - and there it was!

At first, unusual material on the bottom, then a rib section, a boiler and a long propellor shaft. Exploration of the wreck was deferred at this stage and all attention devoted to two 35 lb Jewies which were guarding the boiler. Regretably only one ended up in the boat after its mate was spooked.

The wreck is indeed in a very difficult area and she must have struck well on the reef for much of it is under white water. Exploration of the wreck was to be limited because of the cracking bombie, white water and the restriction to free diving. The wreck is however, spread over quite a fair area and ranged in the water depth from 3 or 4 metres to 15 - 18 metres.

Although not yet three decades under the sea she has almost disintegrated. The boiler and 20 odd metres of propellor shaft are the only worthwhile features. The propellor, I learned later in conversation with locals was apparently removed by the late Tom Snider in 1960.

Newspaper reports of the wreck made interesting reading and here are some extracts.

An item appearing in the "West Australian" on Tuesday 26th December 1944, is delightfully vague, no doubt because of wartime security.

"The freighter bound from Newcastle to Fremantle with 7,000 tons of coal and 2,000 tons of general cargo which ran ashore on a reef off the West Australian coast on Thursday night is likely to become a total wreck.

Dr. Saunders who holidayed on Beacon showed up and took us all home to hot coffee and warm beds - right then it was better than winning a lottery. The following morning Mrs. Saunders fed us and having thanked them, we hit the trail for home.

To the following people we owe our thanks; Museum; Jeremy, Pat and Col. Beacon; the people. Geraldton; Joe and Gail Dr. and Mrs. Saunders. We look forward to meeting up with you again soon.

Au revoir.

ACTIVITIES:

At the last General Meeting we enjoyed a series of slides and discourses from Hugh Edwards and Pat Baker on the recent Abrolhos Trip. This was most entertaining and interesting and was enjoyed by all members. Also the slides contest was again most enjoyable presented as usual by Bob Gadsby and won by Mike Pollard, with his subject a Turtle.

- Sun. 16th Sept.; Car Trial Barbi. Churchmans Brook Depart
No. 2 Car Park 10.30 hrs.
- Mon. 17th " ; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall 20.00
Meriwa St. Nedlands. Guest Speaker Graham
Henderson W.A. Museum. Film of Wreck survey.
- Sun. 23rd " ; Training Base Opening Day of season 09.30
" 30th " : Training Base Woodmans Point 09.30hrs.
- Sat. 6th Oct. ; Long Week-end Lancelin 12 sites have been
to Mon. 8th ; booked Members interested contact Secretary
by 25th Sept. First in first served.
- Sun. 14th Oct. ; Training Base 09.30 Woodmans Point.
- Sat. 20th " ; Squash Night. Cambridge Courts 7.30pm.
- Sun. 21st " ; Training Base Woodman's Point 09.30.
- Sun. 28th " ; Boat Trip 07.30 Tilley's Landing. (Macedon).
- Mon. 15th " ; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa
St. Nedlands. 20.00 hrs.

SQUASH; As the last night was such a success I have been asked to arrange another night which is 20th Oct. Saturday. 25 members and friends attended last time and a knock-out competition was organised. This can be improved with more competitors. \$1.00 each playing member, bring plate etc.

Wally who saw no reason why we should and went about washing up in true noisy military fashion.

One of the most interesting swims was on the seaward side of Joss Island Reef with Hugh Edwards. There was a report of a Colonial wreck in the area which hit the reef and then slid stern first down into 100 ft. of water. We searched for some two hours out of sight of land and drew blank, however the fish life made up for it. It was varied and colourful, a large school of Yellow fin tuna followed us for awhile, and then a large Turtle flapped by with a scornful look in his eye. The rest of the reef was one mass of fish of all shapes sizes and colours. We swam until Hugh decided we had gone far enough and headed for the foaming reef, waited for the big one to crash then swam like buggery. That guy either had the bottom marked or had a built in compass, he put us right on top of the dinghy which was anchored on the inside of the reef. We knocked off a few fish and then headed home.

We received news that the charter boat was changing its schedule so we were off 4 days early. Anyhow the weather was changing for the worse and the rain had started, Wally was staying and flying back, so the remaining four of us packed our gear ate our last Bacon meal and set off in the Quintrex having said our farewells. With Pat Baker the intrepid photographer of the deep and world expert on exploding plastic underwear at the helm, we followed the carrier boat across the horizon, it failed to heave to as it had two crayboats in tow. The sea was very rough and boarding was hazardous to say the least, however we made it and suffered all the way back to Geraldton, I was the only one who actually fed the blowfish, I reckon I could have filled a bucket - ugh!

We later found out Pat went to the wrong island in the dark and also sheered a couple of sheer pins, he also hit every piece of reef on the way back, creating a new record.

We arrived at Geraldton about 12.30am tired and cold, our cars were locked in the Fisheries compound and most of the sleeping gear was wet. Then by a stroke of luck

The coal was intended for the Perth and Fremantle gasworks. All the crew are safe and have been landed at an Australian Port."

I did not notice mountains of coal on the sea floor and there weren't any to be found either. Conversations with old time locals revealed that she was carrying munitions and fuel. Hundreds of drums were washed ashore and so were a few torpedoes.

The 'Sunday Times' reported the following on 10th May 1959.

"The wreckage of the Greek Liberty Ship, loaded with torpedoes, shells and cases of ammunition has been discovered off one of the most dangerous sections of the West Australian Coast.

It was found by Perth diver Tom Snider.

At the time of the wreck the ship was so far off course it was suggested it had been deliberately sunk.

Back in Perth this week to anchor his 30 ft. tender in the Swan River for the winter Mr. Snider told how he had searched for the wreck most of the summer.

"I knew the wreck was in the area, but couldn't pinpoint it" he said. "Then one day looking through the waterglass from the bottom of the tender I saw the 'Michael J. Goulandris' covered with weed - and a dangerous surf nearly crashed us onto the reef with her."

On my first dive I saw giant bronze whaler and grey nurse killer sharks patrolling torpedoes and shells strewn on the seabed." "And there was the ship - a fortune in scrap metal".

Mr. Snider intends starting salvage work next summer. This summer he has been salvaging lead ingots from another wreck he found - the 'Pericles'. He added that because of the comparative force of the surge the wreck of the "Pericles" off Augusta, although it had been in the water for 40 years longer - was in better condition than the 'Michael J. Goulandris'

Those giant sharks were apparently off duty the day I was there for they were nowhere to be seen.

References; West Australian 26th December 1944.

Sunday Times 10th May '59. & South West Times

3rd January '63

PRESIDENTS REPORT;

An apology has been received by Dave that owing to the pressure of work he has been unable to compile a report. In the circumstances I feel that his apology can be accepted in view of it being closed season however we looked forward to seeing his comments during this coming season. (Ed.)

TREASURERS REPORT

D.Cline.

Membership ; Honorary 11 Life 4 Full 117
 Junior 34 Social 1 Country 14

Balance of Finance as at 3rd September '73;

General Fund ; \$47.18 Boat Fund; \$72.48
Building " ; \$53.76 C.B.C.Dep; \$16,500

Subs. are now due as at 1st October '73.

Full male ; \$12.00 Female and Social \$6.00
 Junior \$3.00.

DIVING REPORT;

Graham Weir.

Marathon Swim ; Sunday 26th August .

Being an Annual Club activity and considering the membership of the U.E.C., it was a very poor turn out of swimmers. Only two members, Neville Barker and Kevin Collett saw fit to support their club event against four members of the Underwater Recovery Group, this I think, could be classed as disgraceful.

Weatherwise conditions could not have been better, it was calm and sunny with no swell.

The event was won by Peter Fenn (U.R.G.) with 16½ laps Kevin Collett (U.E.C.) 13 laps was second and Andy Giacomel (U.R.G.) 12½ laps third.

A big "Thanks" goes to Neville Barker for the use of his boat to patrol the course.

ABROLHOS TRIP; Part 11

Dave Kenny.

Indeed the second week did find Hugh Edwards, complete with leather breathing tube and U/W golf boots! We also had a flying visit from Ben and Eva Cropp and his cameraman. They had come to film the "wreck" for part of a film about the people who had discovered Australia first.

I must point out at this stage that the naked water nymphs I referred to complete with phot's have been censored by the Ed.! On with the story; the day after their arrival was a perfect day and ideal for photography, Harry Bingham's croc boat was hired out and took us to the wreck site. Ben took movie film while Eva, Hugh and Pat Baker took stills. Jeremy knew exactly where to dig for some coins for the film and some interesting ones at that. The rest of the wreck was filmed showing the hull timbers, musket balls and anchors not to mention cannon.

We then moved to the inside of the reef, where Ben shot some film of the grid being used to count bricks and then the raising of them and being stacked into the boat; the friendly N/W Schnapper came in on the deal and became a "movie star". Altogether according to my records we raised some 3,000 bricks, not all whole mind you, and about as many musket balls. The rest of the evening was spent entering the finds in the log book and then talking until the wee hours of the morning, about 2.00am when there was only three of us left, a well oiled member of the trio with a fine head of hair on his face declared he was going to make pancakes and what's more, he did, and they were bl---y lovely. I think we went to bed that night!!!.

I must not forget to mention "the party". Everyone off the Island was invited and Margaret our "flipping Gourmet" knocked up a dazzling array of goodies. We had about 25 in all attend and the construction of that cabin was really given the supreme test with the record player blaring. The music ended when Harry Bingham did an Abrolhos fling with it balanced on his head, or so he thought! With all the grog gone people staggered home to their cabins and Ken Churchward fell off the end of the jetty and so soggly went to bed. Needless to say, we all slept in except

specimens we saw certainly appeared this large.

Adult turtles are herbivorous, living mainly on "turtle grass". During their first year young Green turtles are carnivorous, feeding practically on any kind of animal food. (still want to ride a turtle?) Incidentally some species of turtle can be quite aggressive, notably the Loggerhead which is found around Australia. A parrot can give you a painful nip, imagine what a turtles beak could do to a diver's prying hands.

The Green turtle lives in shallow parts of the sea, usually coastal areas far from breeding grounds. Green turtles travel from the coast of Brazil to Ascension Island, some 1400 miles out in the Atlantic Ocean. Navigation is presumed by means of the angle of the sun.

Mating occurs offshore, after migration from feeding grounds, females lay their eggs in sand beaches, always at night, exposure to the sun leads to death after a short time. A hole is excavated above the high tide mark. Firstly a body pit for the female then an egg pit is dug, she lays when the hole is approximately 2 feet deep. Each clutch consists of about 100 round white eggs about the size of ping-pong balls. Five or more clutches maybe laid per female each being covered over with sand and leaves for incubation. Hatching 7-10 weeks later the hatchlings scramble for the sea hopefully at night to avoid bird predators. However crabs, snakes, cats and sea predators take their toll. The main predator of the Green Turtle is the worlds enemy, MAN, turtle eggs are taken by the million, worse still the females are taken even prior to laying. Due to this the Green turtle population is on the decline, but hatcheries and turtle farms may eventually halt the destruction.

It is gratifying that we are still able to encounter the Green turtle in our region when so many creatures are on the verge of extinction throughout the world. It is equally gratifying that so many members are content to photograph the sea creatures that make diving worthwhile rather than spear anything that moves.

TRAINING BASE REPORT.

Mick Evans

In spite of the windy and showery conditions, quite a few bods turned up for the base maintenance day. Quite alot was accomplished in the way of sand-papering, chipping and painting although we ran out of paint towards the finish

My efforts of sealing a few leaks in the engine cooling system proved useless when a hose blew off and the engine had to be shut down quickly. The arrangement was then re-designed and I have landed myself with the job of making a new branch.

Keith Errington proved himself quite a hand at brick-laying when he put down a double row of bricks in lieu of form-work; the job was then completed with rocks and cement. Well done, Keith.

John Walden has tackled a job that needed doing for some time now; he has upgraded the physiology papers used in our diver training course. The previous text has been in use for about 10 years and is abit dated. Thanks John.

I now have my compressed air buoyancy compensator assembled and am pleased to report that it successfully passed sea trials on Sunday 26th. I sent over to England for a conversion kit and glued the bits and pieces onto a locally bought emergency life jacket. The total outlay being about \$57.00. Colin Harris is another member with this type of vest; Col has a Fenzy MK3.

Looking at the Calender I see 23rd Sept. as Base opening day; See you all then!

Roller of Examiners;

23rd Sept. ; J.Walden, L.Jones, R.Wallis & K.Kennedy.
30th " ; D.Parker, Dr.N.Haimson, M.Pollard & K.Errington
14th Oct. ; M.Preston, W.Marshall, T.Menikides & D.Kenny.
21st " ; H.Threlfall, D.Davies.(Others to be advised.)

LIBRARY;

It is hoped that all members will returne their books at the September General Meeting. Any books still outstanding will be listed in next months Mag. Library will be open.

SPLASH ZONE;

John Walden; Past Pres;
Recently Cath and I received an invitation from His Excellency the Governor to attend a reception at Government House. The reason for the invitation was a bit of a puzzle to us until the Governor made his address.

As most of us now know, Sir Douglas and Lady Kendrew will soon be leaving us as their term of office is now coming to an end. In His address Sir Douglas expressed his appreciation to the people of W.A. for their help to him during his period of office in W.A. and as a token of his appreciation representatives of the various organisations of which he was Patron had been invited to attend.

I am sure that all Club members sincerely appreciated Sir Douglas' Kendrew patronage and we all wish him a long and happy future where ever he may be.

Early next month both Parker's and Kennedy's are leaving the Big Smoke for a jaunt into the Pilbara it is hoped that they will both have something of interest to say on return. They will be meeting up later in the trip along the coastal region to spend some time together.

David Grono has relinquished the job of Social Organiser as he is shortly leaving for overseas. Any member who would like this position advise one of the Committee. Your offer will be most appreciated.

WRECK RESEARCH.

Mike Pollard

The only information for this section this month is the full description of the "James Mathews". which is as follows;-

"James Mathews". Home Port London.
Owner; Fred T. LEITH No. 23. Tons; 107; 1840
Where built ; Foreign (A prize) 3500
Decks ; one. Masts ; Two. Rig. ; Brig.
Description ; Male Bust (Figurehead) Square stern

no Galleries.

Length ; 80 2/10ths feet. Breadth; 21 ft. Depth 11.5 ft.
Notes ; Stranded on Woodmans Reef July 22-23rd 1841.
Found ; 132 years later almost to the day.

THE TURTLE WITH GREEN FAT

Jon Carpenter

Marine life in the region of our location at Beacon Island in the Northern Abrolhos Group was abundant and varied. The massive coral structures being a prominent feature. These in themselves 'apartment blocks' for a multitude of reef fish not to mention crays. Sharks of a species considered harmless were observed but no definite sightings of man-eaters was reported, Dolphins appeared regularly, attempts at U/W photos. of these animals lacked success. Turtles without doubt were our most regular sightings, some of the specimens were of considerable size, big enough to deter the wouldbe turtle rider.

My first contribution to the Mag concerning Abrolhos marine life will apply to the Turtle, in particular the green Turtle, this species being the type we observed most frequently. (I came to this conclusion after comparing photographs those taken by members of the Batavia expedition and examples in reference books).

Looking at a World map showing the distribution of the green turtle there is a band of ocean that encompasses the globe following the Equator. The regions of distribution strike all continents with the exception of Europe. In our part of the World distribution ranges from our N/West to the Barrier Reef in Queensland. The Abrolhos Green Turtle make a little south of the aforementioned N/W however the oceans have no true boundaries that prevent creatures from moving out of their known areas of distribution.

Why Green turtle? Obviously the turtle is green in colour, that's partially correct. The animals shell or carapace is olive green or even brown, not a very accurate guide. In fact the name comes from the animals green tinged fat. The turtles exterior colouring is marbled or spotted with yellow on the colours mentioned. The shell reaches a maximum size of 4 ft. and on the average adults weigh 300-400 lb. The

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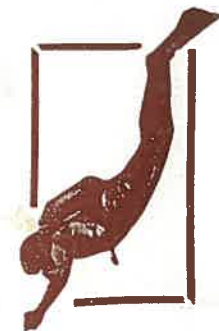


October, 1973

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Property ;

Auditors ; Mr.K.Kennedy

Editors ; B.& D.Parker 243 Ravenscar St. D/View. (46 1409).

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U.E.C. NEWS

VOL.13.

Nº 3

OCT. '73

SCULLING and SKINDIVING

D.PARKER

Rowing and diving activities may seem to some to be about as alienated to each other as, to coin a phrase, -- "like a pork chop in a synagogue", however for these two sports as we now know them the association in history is not so remote;

Recorded history so far as can be ascertained amalgamated them about 1624 with an invention of a Dutchman (Cornelis Drebbel (1572 -1633), by producing a vessel which his predecessors had merely discussed..

The following account is taken from "Ships Under the Sea" by S.E.ELLACOTT a Hutchinson publication. -- many people including his fellow Dutchmen, thought him merely a braggart and charlatan, but his supporters quoted his diverse activities in experimental science.

King James I of England (1603 - 1625) was deeply interested in Drebbel's work, and it seems that he and several thousand Londoners witnessed the scientist's demonstration of a submarine vessel on the Thames, about 1624. Unfortunately there exists no direct eye-witness evidence, but that a number of reputable seventeenth century-scientists refer to it making it too weighty to be disregarded.

It was reported that the submarine was propelled by twelve rowers, whose oars protruded through closely fastened leather bags. The use of such bags around apertures was

mentioned in 1648, in Bishop Wilkins's (Mathematicall Magick). His suggested use of bottomless leather bags was as a form of lock at the sides, over portholes, to allow articles to be passed in or out of the vessel when submerged. The bags were tied at each end, so that when an article was to be passed out at the porthole, the inner tie was opened and the article placed in the bag. When the mouth of the bag had been retied the outer end of the bag was untied.

This manoeuvre would be carried out by a diver wearing a large helmet, whose enclosed air he would breathe. Bishop Wilkins recorded that eight cubic feet of air would serve for $\frac{1}{4}$ hour, but he considered that submarine voyagers might get used to breathing stale air 'by long use and custome'.

Drebbel's vessel was mentioned by the Hon. Robert Boyle, who wrote 'New Experiments Physico-Mechanicall' in 1660. He remarked that one of the passengers was still alive at the time of writing. Boyle made inquiries among Drebbel's relatives, including his son-in-law, 'an ingenious physician', from whom the author learnt of Drebbel's alleged ability to revivify stale air. The physician said that his father-in-law kept a vessel full of secret liquor, whose exhalations renewed the air. Drebbel disclosed his secret to one person, wrote Boyle, who did not reveal it.

Drebbel had discovered that air was a compound gas, and his book on the nature of the elements (1621) told of a method of breaking down saltpetre with heat, and producing 'something in the nature of air'. Here is a curious point. The scientists Priestley and Scheele are credited with the discovery of oxygen in 1777 and this was one method used apparently known to Drebbel 150 years previously. Unquote).

It would appear that the oarsmen would need to adopt a slightly different technique to that used in the modern shell but with all our modern technology these small factors should soon be overcome.

Moving on a little the utilisation of rowers was still

or one fourth closer. Most people become accustomed to the magnification and it no longer seems strange after awhile. Others never get used to it. A flat glass port requires that the lens faces be set at $\frac{2}{3}$ of the actual distance and because of the angle of view of the lens is less underwater than in air, there is an effective increase of the lens focal length of about one third.

Photo subject until further notice is general. Bring your entries.

ACTIVITIES;

Sat. 6th Oct.; Long Week-end Lancelin. Come for day if not for Week-end. Interested members contact a Committeeman for arrangements.

Sun. 14th ; Training Base Woodmans Point. 09.30

Mon. 15th Oct.; General Meeting. Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands 20.00 hrs.

Notice Motion; (1) That the Constitution be altered—clause 6b to read;—"Junior members to be admitted to the club down to the age of 16 yrs. and be only recognised as a full member at the discretion of the Committee."

(2) That the recommendation of the Committee with regard to the alteration to voting procedures at the AGM of the UEC be adopted and that the Constitution be altered accordingly. Recommendations; Sec. 5 to be altered as follows; (a) All nominators, seconders and nominees must be financial members of the U.E.C. (b) Noms. for any position may be lodged in written form with the Returning Officer—such form shall only be submitted in the event of the nominator, seconder, or nominee not being able to attend the AGM of the UEC and shall contain signature of all (c) To remain unchanged. (d) Nominations for all positions to be circulated in the U.E.C. Mag. (e) Noms for each position shall be closed by the Returning Officer prior to the commencement of voting for each specific position at the AGM of UEC.

Sat. Oct. 20th; SQUASH NIGHT. Cambridge Courts 19.30 hrs. \$1.00 per playing member. Ladies bring plate.

Sat. Oct. 20th; Kelmscott Show. Information at General Meeting.

Sun. Oct. 21st; Training Base Woodmans Point 09.30.

Sun. Oct. 28 ; Field Day Point Peron 10.00 hrs.

Sun. Nov. 4th; Training Base Woodmans Point 09.30 hrs.

11th & 18th Training Base. General Meeting 19th Nov. '73.

reflection of direct rays takes place at sun noon (when the sun is most directly overhead) and the surface is smooth. The percent of reflected light is nearly constant when the sun is more than about 40 degs. above the horizon. At lower angles, the reflection increases sharply. Waves without white caps tend to increase the reflection when the sun is high and to decrease it when the sun is low. Although only the reflection of direct rays is influenced by the angle of the sun and the surface roughness, about 6% of incoming diffuse light is reflected at all times.

Underwater light is reflected from the underside of the sea surface back into the water, just as light from the sky is reflected from the topside surface back into the air. Beyond an angle of 48.5 degs. (measured from the vertical), all rays are totally reflected back into the water. Total internal reflection permits the water surface to be used as a mirror for interesting photographic effects. Light that is not reflected back into the atmosphere is affected as it passes onto the sea. The rays are bent downward, or refracted, because light travels faster in air than it does in water. The ratio of these speeds 4-3 is known as the relative index of refraction. The angle of the refracted ray depends both on the sun's angle and the relative index of refraction.

The amount of bending is minimum at sun noon and it increases rapidly as the sun descends towards the horizon. The angle of the sun effects the intensity of light at any given depth in two ways. As previously stated, a decreasing sun angle causes increasing reflection from the sea surface, in addition a decreasing sun angle causes refracted rays to travel greater distances to reach a given depth, and the increased distances in water reduces the light intensity even more.

These two effects result in underwater illumination to be brightest when the sun is higher than about 40 degs. above the horizon. Light rays are refracted as they enter a divers mask or a camera housing with a flat glass port, causing objects to appear one third larger

in vogue in 1863 when the screw principal was first used, the setup reminds me of a training device rigged by block and tackle to a ship's anchor and referred to as a 'Dry puller'. Used for the training of rowing Crews on Cruisers, Aircraft Carriers etc. whilst at sea. (Many a back breaking hour was spent by the author on this contraption. The designer was a sadist!). In the submarine handles were attached to a central bar which was linked to a large propellor at the stern by working the bar back and forward the screw was turned and the crew literally rowed the sub through the water.

Success to such a venture seems limited however at page 47 'Ships Under the Sea' reads in 1863 the Confederate naval Forces despatched a 50ft. manual Submarine, with nine men aboard to break the Federal blockade of Charleston Harbour. The vessel was designed by Dr. Ravenal a Charleston Physician. It was cigar shaped and plated with iron, and as it was designed to attack 'Goliath' (the Federal Forces) it was named David. There were two horizontal diving planes, arranged to steer the vessel below the surface when she was underway at 4 knots, so that she would float just awash.

David's offensive arm was a spar torpedo, an explosive charge rigged on boom projecting from the attackers bows, to be thrust against the target and exploded by electrical means. One reference 'World Beneath the Sea' National Geographic Page 34 states she was used once successfully sinking the U.S.S. Housatonic and herself as well!!!.

With our present day technology and all the synthetics available we could really go to town on possibilities of amalgamation of these two sports but I think it best to close leaving further speculation to the reader.

This article has been prompted because of a discussion held recently between our club and another organisation to show that the uniting of two organisations which on the face are not complementary to each other could by a little ingenuity could create many happy hours and amusement by co-operation in their respective sports and carrying on a tradition which in this instance goes back to over 300 years.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT;

Once again copy is short including El Pres. Report this is owing to the short time in which to compile this months Mag. The editors are leaving on Monday 1st on a trip which will include one week at Kendrew Island Dampier Archipeligo after which it is hoped a full Mag. will then be back in circulation. We shall be away for three weeks.

TREASURER'S REPORT;

Membership ; Honorary 11 Life 4 Full 117
Junior 34 Social 1 Country 14
Balance of Finance as at 3rd Sept '73;
General Fund; \$47.18 Boat Fund; \$72.48
Building " ; \$53.76 C.B.C. Dep; \$16,500.

SUBS ARE NOW DUE; Full Male; \$12.00 Junior; \$3.00
Female & Social \$6.00.

Noms; C.P. Brennan 2 Arthur St. Mosman
R. Cutler 83 Blackwood Ave. Hamilton Hill
K.J. Callaghan 18 Wyuna Cres. Lesmurdie
S. Toborek 15 Greasham St. Vic/Park.

TRAINING BASE REPORT Mick Evans

The opening day of the season was cool and cloudy. A few showers arrived later in the morning sending most of the none divers into the office.
Approximately 35 people attended and this included five new members who did their bathers only swim around the groyne. Several other tests were done for both Initial and Advanced Certificates. A few inquiries were made which could result in a few new faces down at Base.
Starting this year we are having physiology talks for newcomers at the Mosman Scouts Hall. The dates and time will be posted at Training Base. To save tying up Examiners for long periods on Sunday morning, any trainees ready for verbal examination will be required to do this test at the home of an Examiner living locally

to them. Arrangements for this can be made at Base. It is hoped to have a revised list of Examiners drawn up shortly. This will include several new examiners and will ease the work load on the present crew.

The redesigned pipework was fitted to the engine cooling system on the 16th Sept. and the engine is running well. Painting and shelter roofing is still to be completed.

Roster of Examiners;

14th Oct. ; M. Preston, W. Marshall, T. Menikides & D. Kenny.
21st Oct ; H. Threlfall; D. Davies, J. Walden and L. Jones.
4 Nov. ; R. Wallis, K. Kennedy, D. Parker & Dr. N. Hainson.
11th Nov. ; M. Pollard, K. Errington, M. Preston & W. Marshall.
18th Nov. ; T. Menikides, D. Kenny, D. Davies & H. Threlfall.

LIBRARY;

Elaine Airey

Of the 39 recorded good books we should have there are only 11 available. It was intended to print (the basis recorded) owner of the missing volumes however as it appears that many are no longer Club members this would seem futile. It is now intended to write to these individuals in an endeavour to retrieve some of these books.

SPLASH ZONE;

One of our well known members, John Mackay, turned up at Base on Sunday with a few broken fingers. He was helping to build a barbeque at a party when a large brick fell on his hand. John says he was nicely plastered at the time and wasn't feeling much pain. Hope to see you back in action shortly John.

PHOTOGRAPHY;

Bob Gadaby.

Congratulations go to Mike Pollard once again for taking off first prize last month. A fine study of a turtle in mid-water was worthy of a roll of colour film. My thanks go to those other persons who bring along their slides.

UNDERSEA ENVIRONMENT;

Light in the Sea;

The angle of reflected light depends on the angle of the sun and the roughness of the water surface. Minimum

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U.E.C. NEWS

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November, 1973

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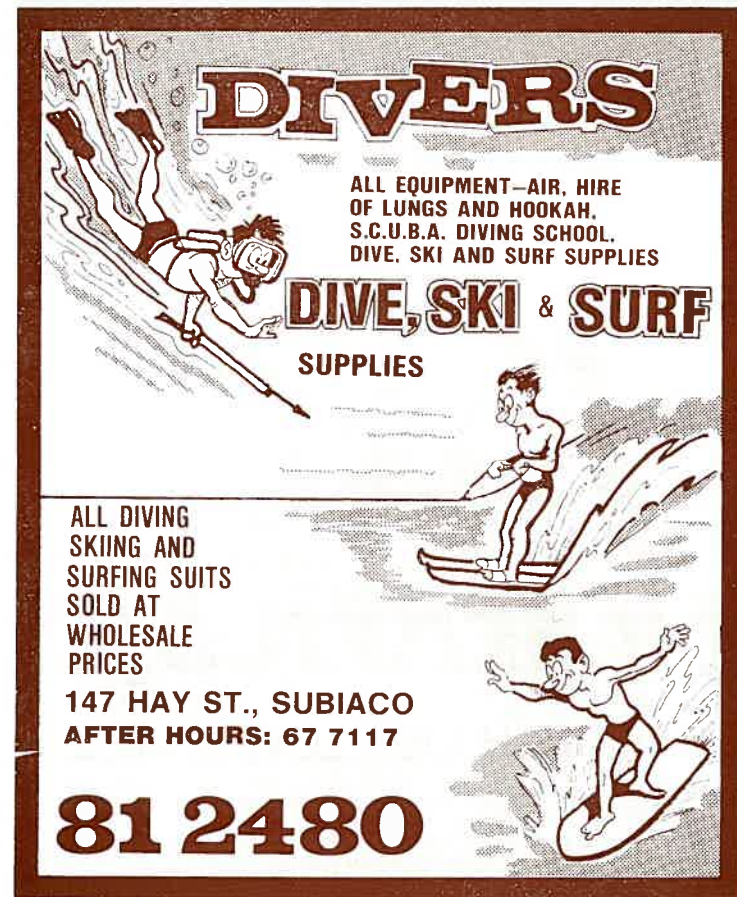
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U.E.C. NEWS

VOLUME 13

Nº 4

NOVEMBER '73

"JAMES

MATHEWS"

M. POLLARD

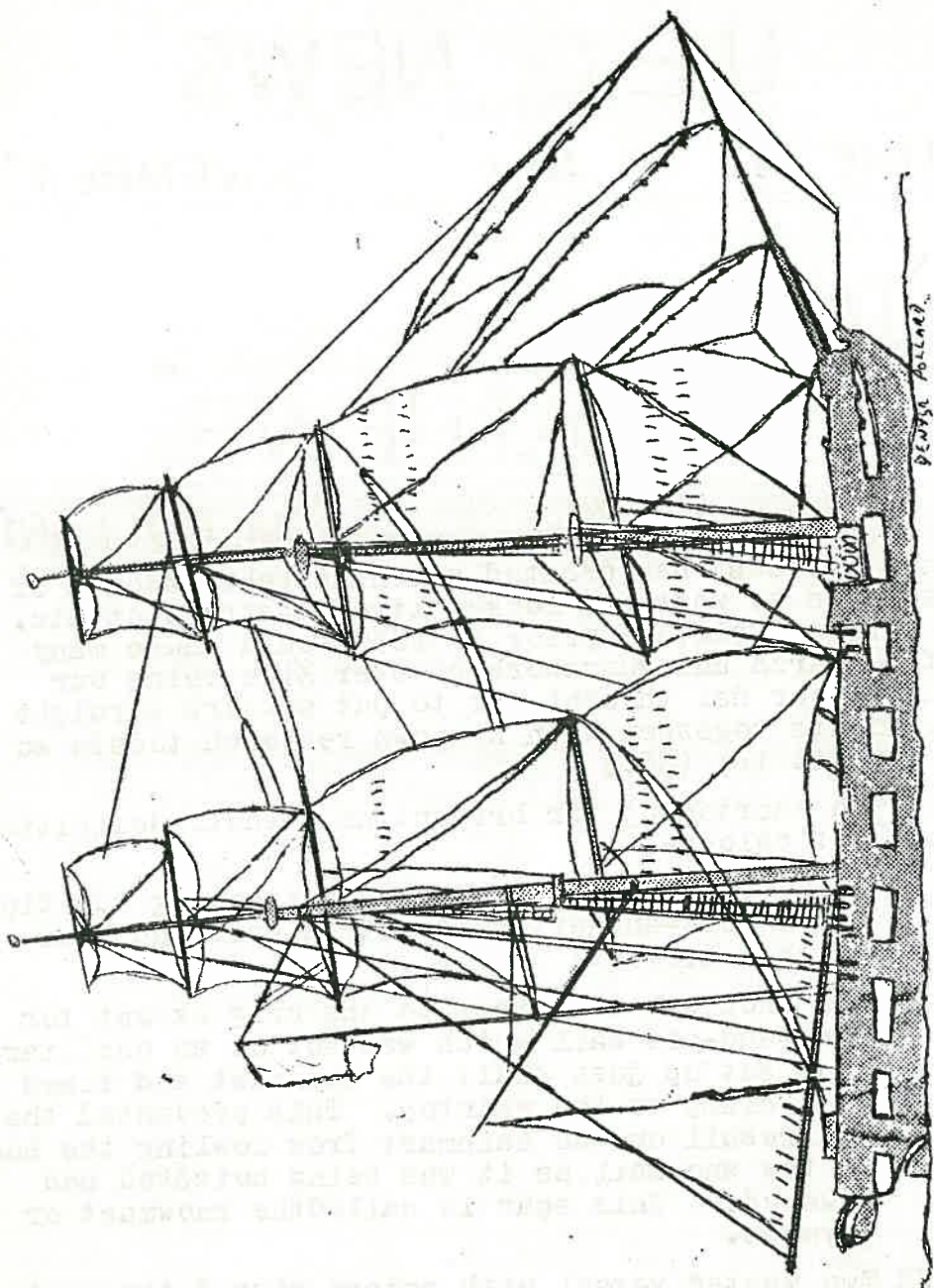
The "James Mathews" has created a considerable amount of speculation as to what she looked like construction etc. Being a prize of vintage prior to 1838 could cause many hours of research and guesswork however Mike being our Research Officer has thought fit to put matters straight on a few points together with his own research todate so members here it is; (Ed.)

Brig is NOT a shortening for brigantine. Their definitions are as set out below;-

BRIG; Two masted Square rigged vessel having additional lower fore-and-aft sail with a gaff and boom on the mainmast.

SNOW-BRIG The snow was identical to the brig except for the fore-and-aft sail which was set on an auxiliary spar set up just abaft the mainmast and fixed by a clamp to the maintop. This prevented the squaresail on the mainmast from fowling the hoops of the snowsail as it was being hoisted and lowered. This spar is called the snowmast or trymast.

BRIGANTINE Two masted vessel with square rigged foremast and fore-and-aft rigged mainmast.



Most corals are sedentary, however a specimen of solitary coral living on the Great Barrier Reef moves about by means of a small worm living in the base of its skeleton.

Most corals are fixed for life this has been the downfall of many individual specimens, those that must succumb to the "Crown of Thorns" starfish. Fortunately there was no indication of infestation in the Abrolhos, with luck the undersea garden that holds the "Batavia" will offer enjoyment for many years to come.

ACTIVITIES;

- Sun; 18th Nov; Training Base Woodmans Point 09.00
- Mon; 19th " ; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall 20.00
 Meriwa St. Nedlands.
- Sun. 25th " ; Boat trip/family day. Macedon/Denton
 Holme. Do NOT forget Log Books. (Compulsary
 on all boat trips). Tilley's Landing 07.30
- Sun. 2nd Dec. Training Base Woodman's Point 09.30
- Sat. 8th Dec. Xmas Party. Venue "EL PRES" 37 Etwell St.
 East Vic/Park. Juniors to be accompanied
 by adults. 20.00
- Sun. 9th " Training Base, Woodman's Point. 09.30
- Sun. 16th " Training Base & Night Dive Woodmans Pt.
 Barbecue etc. Make all day session.
- Mon. 17th " General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall 20.00

NOTE; Easter Bookings for Yanchep Caravan Park 12 each
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 contact Mike Pollard; (Sec.)

FOR SALE; Aqualung; "Seabee" Aluminium cyl. Nemrod Snark 11
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 Christchurch Crammar School Claremont.

WANTED 2nd hand 72 Cu.ft. cyl good con. (No Reg.) contact
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worth a visit, we sometimes forget, the sea has more to offer than man has put into it.

Corals live in all seas, but regions such as ours have few in number compared with tropical regions, in particular we lack the reef-builders.

Reef-building corals are found north and south of the Equator in regions where sea temperature doesn't fall much below 18 deg.C. Each begins as a larvae, which after a period of freeswimming settles on the bottom and changes into a polyp. A small lump appears on its side, a bud. It enlarges, a mouth appears at the free end and a crown of tentacles grows around the mouth. The bud eventually looks identical with the parent but is not separate from it. By repeated budding of the parent stock, and of the new growths formed from it, a colony sometimes numbering hundreds of thousands is formed. Between them they build a common skeleton, which may be several feet high, and the same across. The polyps, being in close connection are fed communally by their many mouths and stomachs.

Corals, whether solitary, reef or soft, feed like sea-anemones. Their tentacles are armed with stinging cells which paralyse swimming animals which are then pushed into the tentacle ringed mouth. In reef-building coral the polyps are withdrawn into their skeleton during the day, emerging only at night when plankton rises from the deep waters. Corals are carnivorous their tentacles reacting to animal food only. Microscopic plants in the tissue of living coral appear to maintain the polyps during the day when feeding is not in progress.

The true corals are the hard or stony corals, there are also soft corals, some of which are precious. Soft corals are not true corals, their tentacles are fringed and each polyp has eight tentacles rather than six or a multiple of six as in true corals. Soft corals are usually tree like, the stem and branches being reinforced with chalky material. Stripped of flesh the corals coloured red and black give rise to the precious coral of commerce. Sea-fans are related and similar but have a horny material for reinforcement.

Unless we are very lucky and a picture of the "James Mathews" is found in a archive here or in England we will never know for sure what she looked like. This article is just an exercise in statistics!

First of all the facts --- we know that she was a snow with a square stern and was built before 1838. She also had a figurehead. We as yet have no knowledge of how she was painted or the shape of her bow.

I have recently looked up all the pictures of brigs that I can find, built before 1838 and painted before 1840. So far I have found 70. Of these only 22 had figureheads and of these 11 are snows and 11 are brigs. We thus have no trends emerging here. -- Snows or brigs are just as likely to have figure heads.

These ships with figureheads were found to be painted as follows;-

Gunports" painted along the side.	5 brigs	6 snows.
White stripe painted along the side	3 "	3 snows
Light stripe painted along a light hull	2 "	2 snows
Dark hulled ship	1 Brig	

Here we find no difference between snows or brigs in any given style of painting but the "gunports" were twice as popular as the other designs. We therefore have a two to one bias in favour of the "gunport" design.

Taking the shape of the bow. All these 70 ships have three types of bow. I have classified them as follows;

Type 1) Bows like the "Victory".
Type 2) Bows like the "Endeavour".
Type 3) Bows like the "Cutty Sark". We now find the following trends;-

Ships with figureheads and "Gunports" painted along the side all have a type (1) bow. (6 snows 5 brigs.)

Ships with figureheads and a white stripe painted along the side have, 3 snows and 2 brigs with type (1) bow. One brig has a type (3) bow.

Ships with figureheads and light stripe painted along the side all have a type (1) bow. (2 snows and two brigs.)

Ships with a figurehead and a dark hull -- the only ship a brig) painted like this has a type (1) bow.

We therefore find that of some 22 brigs and snows with figureheads built before 1838 all except one has a type (1) bow.

We now have quite a good possibility that the "James Mathews" looked like the picture on page 2. A snow with a figure head, painted with "gunports" along the side and having a bow similar to that of the "Victory".

However this does not mean much I think, just such a ship would probably look "romantic" enough to appeal to a marine artist and I feel that if a choice arose between a "romantic" brig with "gunports" or a plain black, work stained collier type brig the artist would paint the brig with the "gunports"....

TREASURER'S REPORT.

D.Cline

Membership ; Honorary 12 Life 4 Full 27
 Junior 7 Social 4 Country nil

Finance as of 1st Nove.'73;
General Fund ; \$481.36 Boat Fund ; \$72.48
Building " ; \$853.76 C.B.C.Dep.; \$16,500.

SUBS ARE NOW OVERDUE!!!

Noms; J.Chappell Lot 311 Lefties St.Farrestdale.
J.Rogers 76 Swan Rd.Attadale
Ric. & Ian Sasin "Grosmere" Pula Rd.Brentwood,
S.Wood 11 Curowatha Ave. Armadale,
J.Ruscoe 21 Oleander Way Kalaroo.
J.Kovacs Coogee Beach Caravan Park.

DIVING REPORT

Graham Weir.

POINT PERON ; 28th October;- There was one member for

SPLASH ZONE;

SCUBA COURSE; Venturer & Rover Sections Scout Association;

A word of thanks on behalf of the participants who undertook the recent scuba course run by some of your Club Divers.

Our special appreciation to Les Coleman who did a sterling job in co-ordinating the course as prime instructor. Our thanks also go to his supporting staff - Mike Evans, Dennis Parker and Kevin Collett, for the practical side and to John Walden and Mike Pollard for the theory sessions. It is gratifying to find people who are willing to give up their valuable time to pass on instruction in activities like this.

I was particularly impressed by the high standard of instruction and emphasis on safety and feel sure that the twelve of us who completed the course have been given an excellent insight to the basic skills of Scuba diving.

K.B.Harrison Venture Leader 1st Bicton.

SQUASH; At the general request of members another Squash night was arranged for on Oct. 20th. The roll up was not as good as expected but better than first thought as a number of members came late. 18 members in all turned up and two Knock-out competitions were arranged. One for the girls and one for the boys. The ladies was won by Marian ? a friend of Elaine Airey while the gents was won by Lyn Jones. However over all the night was most enjoyable to all who attended and it is a pity that once more we were down financially to the sum of \$3.40. It is a pity that these nights are not better patronised.

CORAL

Jon Carpenter

The clear, clean waters surrounding the Abrolhos Island group offer ideal conditions for that tiny Polyp whose skeleton we name coral. There is a veritable "garden" of corals, though not the bewildering variety of a tropical reef. Our home waters offer no comparison, sorely lacking larger coral types. This is one of the reasons why the Abrolhos are

light is simply changed in direction. Instead of a single strong beam of direct light, there are numerous weaker beams scattered in all directions. Scattering decreases the illumination of an object because it diverts some of the light energy away. Diffusion occurs when light is scattered both by suspended particles and by microscopic vibrations of water molecules, and it causes a severe decrease in colour.

The blue colour of clear spring water or subtropical ocean water is caused by selective scattering, blue light is scattered more than any other component of light. In the oceans, colour generally varies from blue in the subtropical regions to blue-green to yellow-green as one travels towards the Poles. The shift from blue to yellow-green is caused by both selective absorption and by dissolved yellow substances from decayed marine life. As turbidity increases, selective absorption becomes a stronger influence than selective scattering, and it tends to absorb colours towards the violet end of the spectrum more strongly than those toward the red end. The reduction of light intensity and the alteration of colour temperature by scattering and absorption are not usually predictable, except in rare cases. Particles responsible for scattering and absorption, such as plankton, decayed organic matter and minerals are present in varying concentrations depending on the locality time of year, and wind and tide conditions. The turbidity of water can limit visibility as severely as a thick haze of fog in the atmosphere.

Visibility depends both on light transmission and on the inherent contrast of objects. It varies in most waters from season to season and even from day to day and ranges from more than 160 ft. in clear South Pacific water to less than four inches in New York Harbour. Horizontal visibility is usually greater than vertical visibility because natural water bodies are composed of stratified layers. The behaviour of light in the sea makes photography a little more challenging and difficult under water than on land.

the cave dive - "A" class qualifier.

10 members with their families gathered on the south side of the Point. Several of us swam to the small island and back along the reef line, but from observations, it appears that this whole area has been cleaned out by line fishermen and divers as there were no sightings of marine life except for the odd rock cod. Due to the conditions we called it a day about 1.00pm.

Sunday 25th November; Boat trip and family day to the Ma don/Denton Holme. Prediction - Our President armed with chipping hammer in attendance.

TRAINING BASE REPORT

Mick Evans

With five training base days behind me I can truly say that I am getting into the swing of things. Generally the weather has been kind to us, and this is evident by the number of trainees turning up each Sunday for instruction. It is pleasing to see divers coming down to tackle again a test that they had bombed out on the week before. This shows a measure of toughness in the mind because once you have been down it is a bit harder to get up again and the easiest way out seems to forget it.

The idea of having physiology lectures away from training base has been left in abeyance. The number of trainees at base can be handled smoothly with the present system. T

Two of our members are leaving this month, Kevin Cargeeg is going to Europe and Doug Koontz is going to the United States Doug recently completed his advanced certificate. The best of luck to you both.

Two hose anchors which have been missing since the start of the season have now been replaced and everything is now complete at that end. Some person or persons tried to break into the office and engine room but damage was minimal. I suspect that they were just bored; perhaps they need to join a diving club!!

My thanks to Vern Willis who made the shelter look a bit

more respectable by nailing some sheets of iron on it; I may get someone to finish the painting around the building!!!.

Roster of Examiners;

~~XXXXXXXX~~

- 18th nov.; T.Menikides, D.Kenney, D.Davies & H.Threlfall.
 2nd.Dec.; B.Price, L.Coleman, K.Collett & F.Willis.
 9th Dec.; K. Errington, June Errington, D.Simonsen & L.Jones.
 16th Dec.; D.Davies, H.Threlfall, T.Menikides & G.Weir

EXAMINERS

At a recent meeting of Examiners the following qualifications were agreed upon to enable members to attain the status of Examiner;

- (1) Must have completed "A" class Certificate.
- (2) Any member may nominate to the Base Committee, the names of persons they consider suitable to be an Examiner. Base Committee will submit the nominations to the Examiners Committee together with their comments and recommendations.
- (3) Meetings will be held from time to time by the Examiners Committee, to handle general business and consider nominations and appointments of new Examiners.
- (4) Examiners who fail to attend Base on three (3) consecutive rosters may come up for consideration by the Examiners Committee to have their name removed from the Examiners List.
- (5) Examiners must be prepared to attend the occasional lecture night which will be organised by the Examiners Committee.

EXAMINERS LIST

1973 - 74. Season.

- B.Price 21 Waverley St. South Perth (67 3587).
 L.Coleman 2 Glen Ave. Mosman.
 K.Collett 40 Leschenaultia St. Roleystone (95 5430).
 Dot.Davies 22 Antigonus St. Coolbellup

- K.Errington 26 Mullings Way Myaree
 June " as above.
 M.Evans 2 Etwell St. East Vic/Park.
 G.Gougoulas 15 Hargreaves Rd. Coolbellup.
 L.Jones 51 Potts Ave. Melville (30 3711).
 K.Kennedy 145 Bridgewater Drive Kalaroo (92 6646).
 D.Kenny 37 Etwell St. East Vic/Park.
 W.Marshall 206 Morley Drive Dianella (49 3762).
 A.Menikides 11 Marri Rd. Wembley Downs (41 5828).
 D.Parker 243 Ravenscar St. D/View. (46 1409).
 M.Ollard 12 Ellesmere Rd. Lynwood (68 2956).
 D.Simonsen 16 Princess St. Mosman Park (31 4976).
 H.Threlfall 48 Bawden St. Willagee (37 2813).
 R.Wallis 13 Sulman Rd. Wembley Downs (46 2888).
 G.Weir 10 Dion Place Coolbellup
 V.Willis 9 Leonard St. North Beach (47 1382).
 After Xmas also add;
 C.Croft 130 Grand Promenade Dianella (71 1678).
 B.Geddes 11 Penryn Ave. City Beach (85 9926).
 J.Walden 173 Watts Ave. Wilson (68 2935).

UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY;

B.Gadsby

Through sheer bad luck I was unable to attend last months General Meeting therefore the monthly slide competition was not held. I was working afternoons that particular week but could spare a short time to attend the meeting to screen the slides. Unfortunately I was called to a job enroute. In my occupation one can always expect the unexpected. Apologies to all who brought slides. There should be plenty of slides at the November meeting. There will be two chances of winning a roll of colour film.

UNDERSEA ENVIRONMENT;

Light in the sea;

The intensity of light is reduced much more rapidly in water than in air, depending in part on the distance it has travelled through the water and in part on the turbidity of the water through which it travels. The reduction of light intensity is caused by two processes. Absorption and scattering. These processes not only effect the overall intensity of light but also its colour quality. Scattered

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.



December, 1973

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- Hon. Archeo. ; Mr. J. Green C/O W.A. Museum.
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- Auditors ; Mr. K. Kennedy.
- Editors ; B. & D. Parker 243 Ravenscar St. D/view.
(46 1409).

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U.E.C. NEWS

VOLUME 13 N° 5 DECEMBER 1973

"DIVER" NEWS EXTRACTS

The following articles are reprints of articles taken from "Diver" a Newspaper solely dedicated to diving. These are from the October issue of this paper.

DEEP DIVE RECORD; Another record breaking saturation deep dive has been carried out in the North Sea by Comex Diving. This time the dive was to 621 ft and a total of 22½ hours was spent at bottom depth.

The dive was a systems proving exercise forming the first of a programme of routine diving support provided by Comex for the exploratory oil rig "Ocean Rover".

The divers, who performed two working dives on the sea floor in the vicinity of the wellhead, were Rab Butler (Dive Leader), John Beaumont and Gunter Straub. The dive began at 1626 on Monday September 10th, when the three men entered the deck chamber in preparation for their pressurisation.

In fine northern weather, and at 0850 Tuesday morning, the divers who were by then under pressure, began their descent to the bottom in one of Comex's standard 1,000 ft. Diving Bells. Ten minutes later the bell was alongside the wellhead, 15 ft. off the sea bed.

The first diver out was John Beaumont supported by Rab Butler

as Bellman. During his excursion, which lasted 30 mins. he reported excellent diving conditions and complete comfort. Water temp. was 10 Deg.(C) but inspite of the cold, which can be a considerable hazard at these depths, the electrically heated suit and respiratory gas supply provided the necessary protection.

The work, which in this instance was simply to retrieve some guide wire sinkers by shackling them to lifting wires, was carried out with no problems. Following Beaumont's Dive and after a light lunch back on deck, Rab Butler and Gunter Straub transferred under pressure into the waiting diving bell and were lowered to the sea floor.

This time, Butler undertook the excursion whilst Straub remained as "tender" in the bell. After this second working dive the two divers were returned to the deck decompression chambers and began their decompression, which was to take 3½ days. They had spent 22 hours at bottom depth.

Saturation diving is now proving to be the most effective safe and comfortable technique for working at depths in excess of about 300 ft. The most significant aspect of this practice is the reduction in both the complexity and urgency of the various tasks involved during the compression and decompression phases as seen in bounce diving. In the system employed by Comex, the divers are first pressurised to a "living depth" pressure in the deck compression chamber.

The pressure is very close to the pressure to be encountered at the "working depth", which is of the order of 30 ft. deeper. Thus when the divers descend the 620 ft. to the sea bed the only change in pressure they will experience will be the 30 ft. between living and working depths. This ensures that they arrive at depth in the very best of condition with no ear clearing problems, and with stable temperatures and gas mixtures.

DIVING SAFETY; The safety standards of divers in

For further references re these creatures see Dangerous Marine Creatures 'Halstead' (Club Library?) and U.E.C. News May '68 and March '71.)

ACTIVITIES:

- Sun. 16th Dec.; Training Base, Woodmans Point 09.30 followed by Night Dive. Make this a family day and Barbeque.
Mon. 17th " ; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall, Merriwa St. Nedlands. 20.00 hrs. Xmas windup.
Sun. 30th " ; Harbour Dive. 10.00 Hrs. See elsewhere, Diving Report for further details.
Sun. 6th Jan.; Training Base Woodmans. 09.30.
" 13th " ; as above.
" 20th " ; Boat trip. 'Sphinx' Roe Reef, family day. Tilley's landing 07.30.
Mon. 21st Jan.; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall 20.00.

EASTER BOOKINGS; For those wishing to go to Yanchep for the Easter Break 24 sites have been booked, 12 Caravan and 12 Camp. Those who have not yet done so book now or for ever hold your peace. Contact Mike Pollard by end of January.

FOR SALE; One U.S Divers 'J' valve tank with back pack and boot \$80.00. One U.S. Divers Deepstar 11 Regulator \$45.00 Excellent condition. Phone Norm McKenzie 91 1555 (work).

SNIPPETS; Doug.Koontz is going overseas. Pleasant trip Doug. and hope to see you back soon.

LOG BOOKS; Members are to be reminded that at all times both at Base and on boat trips your log book is to be available. This is your record of your dives and a none entry or none production could mean you miss a dive or even an entry for a certificate.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL.

numerous from 100 ft. and an unknown number from 50 and less without any ill effects. We all realise the danger and I feel that it is this which has prevented any serious accident and given members the experience to know their capabilities when an emergency arose. However it could be a point for further discussion.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

D. Kenng.

As you read this you will probably think to yourself, Ah hah! we do have a Pres. after all!!

Well my mublest apologies one and all, I feel quite guilty about missing so many Mags, and the unkindest cut of all was the last mag. I got my brain into motion but alas the great print was already turning and my work of art was hung on the back of the dunny door as bumfodder!!

With the weather warming up the cobwebs are being shaken off the wet suits and diving is getting back to normal.

Our "inflatable Mike" is still plugging away at the "James Mathews" with able assistance from the Research Group. I also heard the Museum Team (no names) have been doing quite a lot of saturation diving on "Schooners".

I was sorry to dissappoint Graham on the boat trip, he predicted that I would be there with suitable tools. Well I had the tools lined up but felt that I would be setting a bad example for our law-abiding members, so I dipped out on the trip to exercise my will power.

The festive season is upon us again, and many of you will be sloshed to eyeballs most of the time, so could I suggest at this time to adopt the motto "if you drink, don't drive" because I would like to see you all in the New Year fit and well. While on the subject of Grog". By the time you read this we will have had our Xmas party which will have been at my place this year and if all goes well should have been quite nice.

We have lost our O/C Base for a while as he is going

known injuries or attacks by these creatures. It could be argued that these particular specimens were not hungry but surely not all these encounters were with Killers nicely full with 13 porpoise etc. However, I think it would be unwise to assume that these creatures are harmless to man. Some divers tend to ignore warnings, just because a Killer whale is a dolphin we mustn't think he's 'Flipper' in a new suit.

Despite its reputation, in recent years Killer whales have been exhibited in marine aquaria. Trainers are observed to place their arms, legs and heads in the mouths of these creatures. Scientists and trainers agree that in aquaria these creatures exhibit a gentleness and high intelligence matched only by the more popular dolphins and porpoises.

Ken and his crew must have enjoyed their encounter with the Killer whale, but I wonder if those Killers are sorry they passed up a giant penguin dinner!!

MARINE STINGERS;

John Bele, a member at present over east has a Gov't pamphlet published in Queensland on identification and treatment of these creatures. As we are getting into the warmer weather and the period for these creatures perhaps a few words at this time may prevent any serious injury among members although this information has been printed on previous occasions and is featured at Base. Thanks John.

Physalia physalis; Portugese man-o-war; probably the best known of the so called stinging jellyfish. Is in fact a Colonial creature and not of the Jellyfish family. Consists of a blue inflatable float from which tentacles several feet long hang in the water can cause very severe sting even when washed up on the beach. Found in all seas most of year round. Locally more common early summer.

Chironex; Box Jelly; Body i - 10 ins. mostly about 5". Body transparent faintly blue. Exceedingly dangerous can kill adults. Not known below Tropic of Capricorn however in late summer a similar species is often found in Cockburn

Sound. Has a virelent sting and tentacles which Barbara and myself measured on one creature extending in excess of 20 ft.

Cyanea; Snottie - Giant blubber; World wide distribution Round, flat on top coloured milky white, mustard brown or white and dark markings. Usually to 15 ins. across with numerous tentacles normally colourless varying in length from 5 to 20 ft. One recorded in North Atlantic at 150 ft. Sting characteristics; multiple lines with zig-zag pattern. Initially shown as white dots. Pain moderate. Not known to be fatal.

Carybdeid Medusa; Called locally 'Sea wasp'; There are apparently a number of these all basically the same. Consisting of a small square shaped bell with a tentacle extending from each of the four corners. The species are so closely related that in this article we shall leave them as a group as the local one or two are not known to me by name.

The bell of the local species is usually about 1" to 1½" across and the tentacles can extend from a few inches to about 4 ft as was observed by watching one in a bucket. This also applies to most of these creatures, they extend and retract their tentacles at will.

Found locally during summer months in large colonies due to localised currents often large populations in Bays Rottneest, Cockburn Sound (near Base) Busselton late summer. Sting painful. Most stings effect the breathing, can cause back ache, chest and abdominal pains induce vomitting. Do not remain in water if avoidable.

Treatment; Protective clothing. any very thin covering of the skin will suffice. There is no penetration of the stinging cells other than direct contact. For best treatment pour on methylated spirits. Do not rub. A mixture of formalin 5% however protection is needed for the eyes. Any form of spirit, 'Whisky' 'Gin' etc. some perfumes and aftershave lotion. Not petrol etc. Do not rub. (Any member being stuñg, please collect specimen and supply to Ed. or Musæum with data!!!)

Australia is appalling warns Dr. R.L.Thomas, Director of the Royal Australian Navy's School of U/W Medicine.

Safety precautions are totally ignored among amateur divers and last year the number of diving fatalities almost trebled the 1971 figure.

Dr.Thomas issued his warning to the Queensland Underwater Federation a few days after he had given evidence at the inquest on four Sydney divers who died after entering a cavern in the underwater cave complex near Mount Gambier S.A.

Dr.Thomas described the dive as suicidal because the divers failed to take safety precautions recommended by every cave diving body in the world...

They had no "buddy" system and no return-to-surface line, he said. He added that divers never bothered to study anything more than instruction notes or elementary books which were grossly inadequate on safety procedures.

He recommended that divers should study the British, U.S. Navy and R.A.N. Diving Manuals and have regular medical checks.

Dr. Thomas said that student divers should be taught theoretical but not practical means of free ascent because of the danger of permanent disability or death to the student.

(Editors Note; With regard to the above article it is interesting to note that we as an amateur organisation have on at least two occasions to my knowledge approached the Dept. of Navy to obtain a copy of the R.A.N. Diving Manual but on each occasion have been told that as it was classified material we could not have one. In wiew of this article perhaps a further approach could be made to the Dept. of Navy. We did or do have both the R.N. and U.S.Manuals!!.

With regard Free ascents this matter has come up on previous occasions as members will realise this is a practice which of our members holding a club certificate will have carried out at least three Free ascents. To my knowledge free ascents have been done by at least two members from 200 ft

of Killer Whales, some whalers make a livelihood by their intervention during the whaling season.

On the East coast of Australia a pack of Killer whales appeared during whaling season regularly every year. Whales proceeding along the coast would be intercepted by the pack and herded towards the awaiting ships. Harpooning the helpless monsters at their will the men would have saved many hours of fruitless searching. The Killers reward for their service was the tongues of their victims. This occurred for many years until the collapse of whaling in Australia. The amazing thing about this co-operation is the fact that nobody taught the Killers, a fine example of a high intelligence in these creatures.

Killers also eat seals and porpoises, and there are a number of records of complete seals found in a Killers stomach. The greatest number recorded is the remains of 13 porpoises and 14 seals that were taken from the stomach of one Killer Whale, while another contained 32 full grown seals.

Penguins are sometimes captured by Killers, they upset ice floes capturing the birds as they tumble into the water.

The grey whale deserves a mention, they are said to become so terrified when attacked by Killers that they roll over on their backs with flippers outspread. One Killer puts his snout against the closed lips of the Grey whale, forces the mouth open and tears out the tongue.

It is easy to see from these gory episodes why the Killer whale has a bad reputation. Men have been pursued by this creature when standing on ice floes. In this case we might forgive the killer, mistaking man for giant penguin, after all penguins are said to look like men and I don't think the dinner suit makes for much difference.

Killer whale encounters by divers have resulted in no

into hospital for a short period and will miss the party hard luck Mick, but let's see you back real soon.

To round off I would like to wish all our members, young and old a very enjoyable Xmas, a safe diving holiday and a successful New Year.

TREASURER'S REPORT

D.Cline.

Membership ;	Honorary 12	Life 4	Full 40
	Junior 8	Social 4	Country 1
Finance as at 3rd Dec. '73;			
	General Fund	; \$415.57	Boat Fund; \$77.48
	Building "	; \$853.76	C.B.C.Dep; \$16,500.00
	Compressor "	\$ 200.00	

NOTE; The compressor Fund has been started by members who took part in the original locating of the "James M." by presenting the money received from the Museum for the finding of the wreck and for the purpose of obtaining a three stage compressor for filling bottles.

All members who have not yet received their badges contact the Treasuer stating their name, address and date of joining the Club. Don CLINE (67 4704).

URGENT ATTENTION; It is noted from the Club mailing list that many members have not yet paid their subs. which are now three months OVER-DUE; Members must be reminded that this is the last magazine for none financial members and the (y things stand at present our postal bill will drop from over 200 to less than 100 so "buck up" and lets have thos subs. and support the Club coffers!!!.

Noms; John Cresswell 22 Loris Way Kardinya.
Ivan Knight 15 Riverbend Flats, Fogerthorpe St.M/Land

DIVING REPORT;

Graham Weir

Sunday 25th November; "Macedon & Denton Holme".
This was the first boat trip for the seacon, with the weather in our favour for a change. Seven visitors and youngun's

alighted at Rottnest enroute to the wreck site where 16 members and two visitors enjoyed a couple of hours diving. One of these visitors has since filled in his nomination (more work for Gerry). The days activity went well. With the juniors, who were free diving setting an example at buddying.

One Initial member turned up with (twin 65 Allies) but due to Club regulations was restricted to free diving. This rig should be given a little attention at a later date when in deeper waters.

The families were together again at the Island at 12.30 to imbibe in a few quickies at the session, making it a rather enjoyable day.

There is no boat trip for December, January 20th being the next one. This is to Roe Reef and is a family day. Fifty foot free ascents can be carried out on this trip for those eligible and log books are compulsory for all members. (Club Officer take note).

HARBOUR DIVE; December 30th; This day is vacant in the calendar and as has occurred on previous occasions a dive in the Harbour at Fremantle has been arranged.

Time of commencement will be 10.00 hrs. however the actual berth will not be known until 29th inst. owing to movement of shipping but it is hoped to be in the passenger terminal area. Members taking part can either phone pm 29th or call at the Victoria Quay Police Station enroute who will advise of the berth.

It must be understood that the diving area will be restricted to the berth allocated and about 200 ft. from the quay the area will be marked. Any queries contact (Ed) 46 1409.

TRAINING BASE REPORT;

Mike Evans

Those members who have made the trip down to base recently will have noticed our new Club flag fluttering proudly over the building. The features are U.E.C. lettering in gold with a black diver all on a green background. I am

KILLER WHALE "ORCA"

John Carpenter

Having recently read an article on a families struggle for survival after their yacht was sunk by "Killer Whales", I was surprised to hear of Ken Kennedy's encounter with these creatures. His recent talk has prompted me to write this months article 'Killer Whale'.

The Killer Whale is the largest member of the dolphin family, the older males being up to 30 ft. long. Females are smaller at 15 ft. The mammals colour is very striking and distinctive, a jet-black back contrasts the white undersides and throat, with a characteristic white patch just above and behind the eye. Flippers are totally black, while tail flukes are white on the undersides only. The dorsal fin is very conspicuous usually about 2 feet high, but in old males maybe up to 6 feet. The old males also have very long flippers, up to one fifth of the animals length.

Killer Whales are found in all seas, being particularly numerous in the Arctic and Antarctic, where there is abundant food to satisfy their voracious appetites. Hunting in packs numbering from 5 to 50 the Killer whales appear to take interest in anything likely to be edible, they are very inquisitive. A voracious feeder the Killer whale will take anything that swims in the sea. Included in its diet are whales, dolphins, seals, penguins, fish, squid ... divers?

Attacking a whale they are said to work as a team, firstly one or two will seize the tail flukes, to stop the whale thrashing about, and slow it down, then others will attack its head and try to bite its lips. Gradually the whale becomes exhausted and its tongue lolls from its mouth to be immediately seized by the killers. At this point its all over for the whale; the tongue is rapidly removed and the Killers take their fill seeming to favour a meal around the head of the monster victim. The habit of tongue eating has led to Killers pestering whaling fleets, they often take tongues from whales awaiting processing. Killer whales injured by gunfire during these episodes are said to have been eaten by their fellows. In contrast to the shooting

XMAS PARTY; Although this will probably covered in a later Mag. by our Social Organiser to whom we must also offer our appreciation as well as to our hosts Dave and Nellie Kenny. I could not let this mag. go to press without saying that all those attending the party had a most enjoyable evening, as predicted by our most worthy, (cannot say humble)! Presidente. About 95 attended a most convivial evening and for those not present I can only say, better luck next time and get there!! (Ed.)

MERRY
XMAS

TO
ALL MEMBERS
AND
THEIR FAMILIES

sure all club members join with me in thanking Barbara Parker and Hazel Jones for their creation.

Recently examiners and Committeemen met to read through and discuss the Physiology booklet written and submitted by John Walden. These papers are of a high standard and the meeting decided to get plates made up and have the booklets printed as soon as possible.

Committee, examiners and their families attended a barbecue at Les Coleman's place last Saturday night. Several of the most hardy members dived for crabs late in the afternoon, their catch being two. The show proper started about 8.00 p.m. with ribald humour and beer flowing untill 11.30pm when we made our unsteady way home. Our thanks must go to Les and Dianne who put alot of work into the night.

Someone partly broke into the box on the jetty and reefed out about 68 ft. of cord used for 50 ft. swims along the sea-bed; I hope they needed it more than us. White ants were noticed at base last Sunday and this will have to be attended to shortly. The Souther Cross had its oil changed last Base day.

As this will be the last Mag. of the year I take the opportunity to wish members and their families a Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year and good diving.

Roster of Examiners;

16th Dec.; D.Davies, H.Threlfall, T.Menikides & G.Weir.

6th Jan.; D.Kenny, D.Parker, C.Croft & B.Gedden.

13th Jan.; J.Walden, L.Coleman, W.Marshall & V.Willis,

PHOTOGRAPHY;

Bob.Gadsby

Congratulations to John Carpenter for taking off a roll of Colour film at the last shoing of slides. Mike Pollard came a close second and collected a roll of black/white film.

COVER PHOTO; I have had a few questions asked about the cover picture and I thought you also might be interested. The diver is Colin Harris and he is swimming over the "Macedon" wreck which is situated just off Rottnest Island on the Transit Reef. The object Colin is holding in front

of him is the Colin Harris special homemade underwater housing. Apart from looking impressive it works too. It would be one of the best home made housings that I have seen for a long time.

The photo is a black/white duplicate from an original Kodak Ektachrome transparency. The depth was around 25 feet and the exposure was 1/60th at F5.6, camera Nikonos with 28mm lense, no fillin flash.

Light in the Sea; The behaviour of light in the sea makes photography a little more challenging and difficult underwater than on land. However, creative work can be done even under adverse conditions with patience, perseverance and just a handful of special techniques. For example, the reducer contrast caused by light diffusion can be minimised by limiting camera to subject distances to no more than one fifth of the visibility. The large variations in light intensity that depend on so many conditions can be taken into account by using an exposure meter, an essential tool in available light in underwater photography. The reduction of contrast underwater can be offset particularly by using filters. Vibrant colours, otherwise obscured by the filtering effect of water, can be obtained with flash bulbs or with electronic flash.

The case of artificial light is important in underwater photography, and the trend is toward increased use of electronic flash. The problem with focal plane shutters arises when electronic flash is used for fill in light; when the available light illumination is comparable to the flash illumination, one image is obtained with the available light during the 1/60th second exposure and a second image is obtained with the much shorter burst of light from the electronic flash. The result can be disastrous if the subject is moving, but the ability to synchronise at faster speeds with the compact rapid shutters eliminates the ghost image.

Flashbulbs or electronic flash permit pictures with

contrast and brilliant colour to be taken without regard to the depth or the time of day. Blue flash globes or electronic flash are recommended for distances closer than about two meters to achieve colour balance with daylight type film.

Photo subject for December ; General.

SPLASH ZONE;

Report from F.I.N.S.; Fishing Industry News Service Sept.73.

Another First for W.A.; A prawn (male 37.2mm Carapace length Tag No.702) released in Shark Bay on April 10th '73 was recovered from the Wollongong Co-op Fish Market on July 23 - 104 days later.

The sea distance for the swim has been measured at 2,550 mile (south about) indicating that the prawn maintained an average speed of 1.02 miles per hour, covering 24.5 miles per day.

This "long distance swim" apparently overheated the prawn as when it arrived it was a pink colour. Foul play is suspected! This establishes a new world record for prawn migrations"; the previous record was held by a prawn which swam 400 miles from N.S.W. to Queensland, but took 12 months for the trip.

Obviously W.A. prawns are much fitter than N.S.W. prawns!!!.

DANGERS of Dumping Plastic at Sea; F.I.N.S. has on a number of occasions printed warnings about this practice and have even supported measures to limit the use of plastic on boats however for bait etc. is realised that it is an ideal wrap and therefore are urging all users of plastic to carry the wrappers to be destroyed on shore. The reason for this is that on numerous occasions vessels have been disabled mostly just temporarily (luckily) by plastic being taken into the water intake of the motors. At least one of our members has run into trouble by having plastic wrap around his outboard. So members do not deposit plastic in the sea!

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.



January, 1974

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FOR ALL SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS**

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+ * + * + * +

U.E.C. NEWS

WHAT MAKES A SAFE SCUBA DIVER

by DR. D.G. WALKER

This article is one of a number of papers which were presented at the 1973 "Man and the Sea" Underwater Symposium conducted in Brisbane by the Queensland Underwater Federation on August 11th '73. These articles are condensed.

The inclusion of the word safe is deliberate. Anyone can use a Scuba Unit but being a safe diver is a different matter. As Stanley Miles wrote in his historic article "165 Diving Accidents";-

Any worthwhile activity where injury or loss of life are accepted as outside possibilities should be so planned to ensure that these are kept to a minimum level. What are the accepted death and injury rates for any activity must vary considerably with the enthusiasm or profit in that particular field. Always there must be a striving to reduce it and always it must be small or the participants will be discouraged and its progress lapse."

To this can be added the risk of Government Controls.

When I dive my first priority is to neither kill nor injure myself, while my second priority is to ensure the same for my diving buddy. I hope that he has similar priorities.

But how is one to ensure a reasonable degree of safety in so potentially dangerous an environment as that met with

underwater? ..

The story of man's progress underwater has been one of technical advances halted by unexpected deaths, injuries and behaviour disturbances. Only after the problems have been recognised, defined and circumvented can these advances be utilised safely. The history of scuba diving has been no exception to this sequence of events. Through their investigation of such deaths and disabilities, doctors have become intimately involved with the art and science of diving. Their willingness to probe until sufficient facts are discovered has made the union of Medical and Engineering science basic to safe advances in diving. Infact, "Stickybeaking" is essential for your diving safety.

The purpose of the present investigation into accidents associated with diving activities, "Stickybeak Project" is to discover the facts and then communicate them back to you, the divers, to stimulate better teaching and better practice of diving. Your assistance is essential to obtain this information ... infact it is part of the deal!

But discovering the facts is one thing, getting people to apply the findings is another. It is said that Australia is full of experienced divers but remember that "experience is the name that men give to their mistakes". There seems to be a shortage of divers who understand and respect their underwater environment. Luckily, very few divers die for their errors; most survive ... and a few even learn and pass on their new knowledge. Death or injury is too high a price to pay for understanding, so learn from the experiences of others.

What are the essentials of safety and how do we know what they are? I am sure that you know the basics that are quoted, first your physical and emotional fitness for the general and specific requirements of diving, the your training to ensure knowledge and understanding of underwater problems plus practice to instill correct procedures. Finally, there must be an awareness of the

setting when moving from a brightly lit area into a dim one or vica versa. Check exposure settings from time to ti

(3) Large part of the picture area blocked off by some fuzzy object; Did you get your finger in front of the lens? or did the flap of the camera case fall across the lens. Be sure the lense is free and clear when shooting.

(4) Picture is slightly fuzzy, soft looking all over even where you are focusing; Probaly camera movement during exposure caused this; Use a faster shutter speed and practice holding camera steady. Recommended minimum speed of hand held camera 60th sec.

(5) Main subject fuzzy; rest of picture area sharp; Subject did the moving so all you need is faster shutter speed. (unless you wanted to express a feeling of motion by blurr).

Subject title for Monday Jan.21st; Open. Bring your slides and let us have a good showing. Three entries per member;

ACTIVITIES;

- Jan.20th Sun; Boat trip, Roe Reef and family day depart Tilley's 07.30.
Jan.21st Mon; General Meeting, Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands 20.00hrs. Guest speaker Harb. & Lights Dept. 'Boat safety' plus film.
Jan.27th Sun; Long W/E commences Friday 25th. For those interested Jurien Bay Trip. attend G.M. for details. Cave dive will be included in next "Sepia" dive. Other activities for L/W at G.M.
Feb. 3rd. Sun; Training Base Woodman's Point 09.30.
Feb.10th Sun; Training Base Woodman's Point 09.30.
Feb.17th Sun; Training Base Woodman's Point 09.30.
Feb.18th Mon; General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands 20.00hrs.

MAGAZINE; Will all members who have had experiences which may be of benefit to members whether physiological, marine or boat hazards etc. write them down and submit to the editor for printing. Material is alays in demand.

Yet these tropical waters of the north are the breeding areas of many less hospitable creatures, the stonefish being what might be termed, the thorn in a rosebush.

Divers who have the opportunity of going north should be wary at all times of that stone that looks like a stone but, is it a stone ...fish?

See also U.E.C. News, (Dec.'63 'Stonefish'), (Jan.'66 Fishes that Sting), (Jan.'70 'A new W.A. Stonefish'). It may also be of interest to members that recently while line fishing from a rock on Woorra Station 100 miles north of Carnarvon I caught one on a line it having taken the bait, from memory a piece of chop!. The fish was of the type most aptly described in this article and carrying the scientific name of "Synanceja horrida" (Linnaeus).

PHOTOGRAPHY

B.Gadsby.

Camera Goofs and how to avoid;

In photography you can always count on two things; the weather will not co-operate and your equipment will malfunction;-

(1) Film totally blank; This happens sometimes event to experienced photographers and the cause is usually improper loading of film in camera. With conventional roll type and 35mm film be sure to load film carefully according to instruction manual. Be sure film leader is securely attached to take up spool, that the film is riding straight and that the full spool is properly seated.

(2) Dark muddy prints or transparencies; lack in shadow detail; Under exposure of course. Pale washed out prints or transparencies; Over exposure.

Gross exposure errors usually occur because the photographer forgets what type of film he has in the camera or because he forgets to use the light meter or built in metering system for the correct exposure number to match the film being used, or because he forgot to change the exposure

limits of your experience and knowledge. I am aware that the training I have obtained has been essential for my survival and that my physical health and determination to survive have been of equal importance with my dive planning and choice of equipment. Facts found during my investigation have convinced me of the dangers consequent on underestimating the problems of being unprepared to deal with the unexpected.

It is human nature, however, to cut corners and skimp on safety, especially when others seem to get away with breaking the rules. So that you don't have to take all of this on my unsupported word I have selected illustrative cases from among the 12 open circuit scuba deaths of 1972 and the 9 which have occurred so far this year. The names have been changed and the details made less identifiable but the facts are accurate to the best of my knowledge.

These tragic deaths confirm the ill consequences of inexperience, inability to manage the unexpected, equipment inadequate for the circumstances (e.g. lack of life jackets, air contents gauges, lifelines etc.) and failure to practice real buddy diving techniques. The need for pre-dive planning for all foreseeable emergencies is glaringly apparent when trouble strikes. So plan your dive, Dive your plan and realise the limits of your abilities.

Although the examples that follow are all from fatal incident the lessons illustrated are applicable to any dive. Please report your none fatal diving incidents to "Stickybeak" detailing why nothing serious eventuated.

Follows 3 diving mishap reports;

You will have noticed many dangerous breaches of safe diving procedures and all contributed to the outcome. In my view, an instructor without an air cylinder type inflatable life-jacket and expert ability in lifesaving, is not adequately equipped for his responsible task... Teach and think safety.

But a certificate of training can mean no more than permission to buy air. It cannot make you apply your knowledge and it certainly doesn't mean that you are fit to go diving without an experienced buddy. Courses rarely teach to the

stage where the correct responses to underwater misadventure has become almost automatic. as the following illustrates. Then follows three further diving incidents. The incidents vary from being lost while going through surf to running out of air at 150 ft.

As my comments on this case indicate, buddy diving is not just two divers in the same sea. It means a two diver team acting as one unit at all times. If you are looking the other way or are separated by several feet you are just not a buddy pair. Two heads are said to be better than one but this is true only if there are two brains actively considering the dive. Any other way is merely to increase the number involved in the fatality. Such is the usual cause of multiple cave diving deaths where a group of divers ignore sound diving practice and so all are at risk.

At Mt. Gambia 8 have died recently because they forgot that cave diving has risks additional to those met with in open water. Very few of the thousands who have visited the Mt. Gambia caves have got into serious trouble. But serious trouble if it occurs, can soon be fatal ... and newsworthy.

What are the lessons these incidents can teach?

There are the risks of decompression sickness, though as yet no deaths have occurred at Mt. Gambia. There are the risks of becoming lost, a very real risk if sediment is disturbed. The horrifying stories of the two incidents last year should convince everyone of the usefulness of lifelines for these victims became lost soon after submerging and four died after swimming about desperately seeking an exit until their air was gone. Two were lucky and found the exit as their air ran out. One of these parties had a lifeline but left it at the waters edge.

Training in diving with a blacked out mask enabled one diver to avoid fatal panic in the nil visibility of the stirred up silt. Further details on the Mt. Gambia incident.

fish does have enemies, certain ground feeding sharks and rays with crushing teeth which normally take crabs and hard shelled molluscs occasionally take stonefish. Lying still on the bottom the stonefish is subject to attack by large conchs (Molluscs).

Reports on the effect of the poison on humans differ. There are reports of no effect at all on some people that have handled specimens. At the other extreme are reports of fatal results. It seems a slight prick that does not break the sheath will not inject any poison. Also it seems that once the poison has been ejected they are harmless. This suggests renewal of the sheaths and poison sacs is not possible. By contrast there are authentic cases on record of immediate, extremely painful symptoms with death following. These speak of excruciating pain with the victim screaming, half mad with agony, collapse, delirium and maniacal raving. Death follows in about six hours but if the wounds are not fatal the agony may last for up to eight hours then slowly diminish. In one case a patient did not fully recover for a year. In some cases the legs swell to elephantine proportions, there maybe large blisters and the skin may slough (tissue drop off). Fingers and toes are said to go black and drop off.

Antidotes, which must be applied quickly include a weak solution of hydrochloric acid or formalin and permanganate of potash. At the serum laboratories in ~~Queensland~~ Melbourne an anti venom has been produced.

Exaggeration of these reports can be put aside. Aborigines have enacted since the bronze age a play in which a dancer imitates a man paddling in tidal pools looking for fish. Suddenly he lifts one foot, grabs it in one hand, screams and limps away. He sits, then lies down, he writhes and screams then wails a death song. The interesting feature of this play is a clay model fish which the dancer carries, it has thirteen wooden spines along its back.

Our northern waters are tempting bait to most divers the rich variety of marine fauna and the great reefs of coral that we sorely lack in our local waters are in abundance.

STONE OR FISH?

.. J. Carpenter

Stonefish is its name, that seemingly lifeless rock sitting among many others that have never lived. A cold eye or ugly mouth may give it away, but the unwary hand or foot may find it very easily. Thirteen punctures each one an injection of instant agony and possible death could result from the encounter with this tropical nightmare.

Undoubtedly the ugliest fish of all, the stonefish is certainly the most poisonous as well. Some 6 - 12 ins. long the stonefish has a heavy head which is broad and flat, and the body tapers rapidly from behind the head to the small tailfin. The mouth is wide with a fairly large gape. The pectoral fins are large and winglike. A battery of thirteen spines are incorporated in the dorsal fin running along the mid-line of the back. There are just to add insult to injury, another three spines one on the anal fin and one each for the pelvic fins. The scaleless skin is covered by warty growths and a layer of slime. Colour is best described as that of mud, seaweed or stone and how many different coloured muds, seaweeds and stones are there?! There are three known species of stonefish, all are found from the Red Sea to East Africa and across the Indian Ocean to the coasts of Western Australia and Queensland.

Stonefish live in shallow seas, especially where the bottom is coral rock or mudflats. Completely still their only reaction to a foot placed near them is to erect their spines. Each of these spines has two poison sacs near its tip. Pressure on this tip causes a sheath covering it to slide back leaving the point of the spine bare and exposing the grooves down which the poison flows. The fishes can stay alive ten hours out of water and are still able to inflict a poison wound when dead.

Stonefishes wait for food to come to them, their stone-like appearance camouflages them from their victims. Any passing animal of suitable size is snapped up so rapidly that the eye fails to see the action. Surprisingly, the

I have not dealt with decompression sickness though New Zealand divers have shown how to maim oneself using scuba, and hookah divers have killed themselves by their gross ignorance of diving tables. Remember that this is not a kill-or-cure disease, you may spend the rest of your life a cripple. Another compelling reason for planning your dive:

There is a proverb that "The way to be safe is never to feel secure". By this is meant that complacency and a know-it-all attitude makes one a bad insurance risk. The history of diving is punctuated by deaths of experienced divers who just knew the rules didn't apply to them. No statistical evidence supports this belief. Nature's laws govern us all.

It is hoped that this study of illustrated case will convince you that accidents do not really come "out of the blue" but are nearly always a culmination of a chain of events or incidents which have to be broken early enough by the necessary action and prevent an unfavourable outcome. It is hoped that you are convinced of the value of accident reports, minor as well as major incidents demonstrating how correctly to respond. Learn how others solve their underwater problems before meeting a similar trouble yourself.

So support the incident reporting scheme and the notification of diving deaths scheme. Bear in mind always that the failure of divers to report the occurrence of minor "bends" leads to a false sense of security regarding Diving Tables while human nature ensures that divers take chances with the depth-time limits of their dives; result is the injured innocence of crippled divers. So report boating and equipment incidents and "dirty air" and dizziness and all the little annoyances that could be warning of potential serious danger.

The overall safety diving record in Australia is good. Let us all strive to make it even better.

I end with this advice from Juvenal;-
Pray for a brave heart, which does not fear death, which places a long life last amongst the gifts of nature which has the power to endure any trials, rejects anger, discards desire ... If we have common sense,

Chance, you are not devine;
it is we who make you a goddess, yes,
and place you in heaven.

So I answer the question of the title of this talk

Train thoroughly,
Always follow safe diving procedures
and so survive Chance.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

D.Kenny

Well for lack of some opening remark - a very happy
New Year one and all and may we continue to see your
smiling faces in '74.

Apart from one or two exciting moments '73 was I think
rather a quiet year. The discovery of the "James
Mathews" was perhaps the most notable. On the other
end of the scale, the support given to our inter club
or challenge activities was nothing short of disaster!

Perhaps not enough publicity was given prior to these
events, whatever the reason let's try and make '74 a
year to remember. We could start by pulling off the
scuba Champs. in March. An event which has been won
by other clubs for years. To anyone who has not
participated before, it is a reward and valuable
experience.

Don't think you are not good enough, or too inexperienced
because the only way to gain this experience is to
join in even if you don't score too high. I didn't do
too good the last time I had a go, however I'm going to
have a bash this year and I hope you'll join in with me
at least to show the club has a bit of spirit!

I heard on the grapevine that our ex Pres. is willing to
spend some time with those interested both on theory and
the practical side. So let's see you there.

I'm glad to say the Xmas party went off very well. It was
good to see all the "ancients", (Pardon me yoose blokes)

invitation to be Patron of the U.E.C. Air Commodore
Hughie I. Edwards V.C., D.S.O., O.B.E., D.F.C. will be a
very busy man in his new position as Governor and I am
certain I speak for all when I say how honoured we are that
His Excellency has accepted the Patronship of our Club.

VICE PATRON;- On behalf of all members I again feel in the
position to speak and congratulate our Vice Patron Mr. Alan
Bond on the launching and naming of his America' Cup
Challenge Yacht "Southern Cross". I feel certain that
members will be behind this challenge and look forward
to the event to see if it can be carried off to his
satisfaction. With 100 plus divers barracking for him it
must mean something even perhaps to use them to a far better
advantage should the necessity arise!. Good luck Alan Bond.

Robbs Jetty Dive; On Sunday 23rd December '73, Dave Kenny,
John Carpenter and myself (Mike Pollard). paid Robbs Jetty
a visit. I had hoped that we would pick up some nice
bottles etc. dropped from the ships that berthed there. In
fact it was a washout from that point of view. .

However, we had a bonanza from what the fishermen had lost.
The total haul was 19 knives (enough for a revolution), a
bag of fishing lines, weights, hooks, pliers etc. 2
gidgies, 4 torches, and a lighter. There's still a fortune
in returnable bottles, Coke, Fanta etc., waiting to be
collected!. Nine knives have been cleaned up and are in
good condition, the fishing line is usable and the lighter
works. At the moment the torches are being cleaned up,
at least one will never work again, one is doubtful but I
have great hopes for the other two. Not a bad haul for
one mornings dive!!.

JURIEN BAY; Some members are considering a Long Week-end at
Jurien during the period 25th - 28th Long Week-end. This will
be a Camping trip, self contained and probably set up in the
bush so any person interested contact the Organiser Tony
Menikides or be at the Next General Meeting for final
arrangements. All members are welcome.

This fits the account of the wreck very well and also helps to explain why she bilged and sank so quickly.

This is an easy site to work, its shallow, near the shore and as long as the wind is south or west it is calm over the site no matter how hard it is blowing. North of west round to N.E. it is hopeless to consider entering the water if it is blowing more than force 2-3. A nasty break develops over the site in stronger winds.

I hope that the next report on the "Hames Mathews" will be the result of the excavation.

FURTHER TO ABOVE; On the 13th January Mike Pollard and John Carpenter visited the site and found holes dug at intervals over the whole of the site. It was thought that the Museum may have carried out preliminary excavation. A check with the Museum reveals that none of their staff have been near the site which means one thing only;

It appears that the work had been carried out within two or three days of the finding and the amount indicates perhaps two days spent on site. Members are advised that on this wreck there is little of monetary value but that the wreck will show what goods were carried and probably other vital information to piece together this freeze of an era of the earliest known complete wreck after the foundation of this Colony.

Should any member be aware of the identity of the person or persons involved please advise a member of the Committee or Museum as the matter has been placed by them in the hands of the Police. This wreck is a classified wreck and comes under the authority of the Museum Amendment Act. Should any information come to hand of any member advise accordingly so that appropriate action can be taken.

SPLASH ZONE;

OUR NEW PATRON; It is with great pleasure that we advise members that the new Governor of W.A. has accepted our

there enjoying themselves and as usual the last to leave. I think a good time was had by all and we even showed a few dollars profit when all was squared off. Incidentally for the benefit of the "basket" who took half my flame tree home with him, it has responded to 'first aid' and is on the road to recovery...

A couple of other items of interest which should not go unnoticed are, the Easter trip to "Yanchep". 20 sites are booked so contact the Sec. as soon as possible, both caravan and camping sites are available.

The other item which will soon come to your notice is the new physiology paper which has been compiled by John Walden and altered and corrected (where necessary) by a band of very tired examiners, known as "The mid-night oil mob". It is a good paper and worthy of a debt of gratitude to John Walden who must have spent many a late night compiling it. Hopefully this will be available shortly for a moderate fee to Club members.

Well, I think that's sufficient for now, if I write much more the editors might not have time to print it. Good on yer Parks!.

TREASURER'S REPORT

D.Cline

Membership ;	Honorary 12	Life 4	Full 52
	Junior 15	Social 4	Country 2
Financials as at 7th January '74;			
	General Fund	;\$382.70	Boat Fund ;\$51.48
	Building "	;\$853.76	C.B.C.Dep. ;\$16,500.
	Compressor "	;\$200.00	

SUBS are OVERDUE; Full male \$12.00 Juniors \$3.00
Female and Social \$6.00 also Country.

- Noms;
- B.Lloyd 7 Bruton St. Amelia Heights.
 - S.Manson 17 Wandarrrie Ave. Yokine.
 - W.Finigan 73 Tyler St. Joondanna.
 - T.Bristow 2 Kinnane Place Attadale.
 - I.Clements 35 Colne Way Girrawheen.
 - D.Mills Flat 107, 17-23 The Avenue Nedlands.

Noms. con't. D.Byrne 1 Prowse St. Beaconsfield.

TRAINING BASE REPORT .. M.Evans.

With Christmas/New Year behind us most people will be shaking the cobwebs from their minds and trying to return to the condition that existed a few weeks ago.

Divers are no exception, and the high level of fitness required by a free diver to move about unconcerned at depth can be quickly eroded by alcohol and easy living.

My thanks must go to Keith and June Errington who ably ran Training Base on 9th December while I was resting in hospital, having thermometers poked under my tongue and being asked person questions. My thanks also to Graham Weir who ran the Night Dive for me the following week when I packed it in in the afternoon.

About 14 divers attended the Harbour dive which took place at "A" shed Victoria Quay on 30th December. An area about 100 ft. from the wharf and 300 ft along the wharf was flagged off; This included a Japanese Whaler whose Master had given permission for diving around the boat. One hookah was unserviceable so we were reduced to one hose. Divers not qualified to use scuba were buddied with a senior diver on hookah, the rest were paired off on lung. Visibility was 8 to 10 ft. and depth varied to about 40 ft. An assorted collection of junk was raised. Neville Barker had the best find; a small curved knife. Diving finished about 1.00pm.

I have received a few second hand complaints about instructors and examiners not being available when the trainee requires them but generally training is running quite smooth. All equipment is working well and Gerry Gougoulas has supplied and fitted a pressure gauge to the jetty installation.

I spent a week at Geraldton over Xmas and took the opportunity to do a bit of free diving in the Harbour. My companion was a 13 year old relative who had a brand new set of basic gear, he was anxious to get wet. I was

not surprised to find him an adapt pupil as at this stage of their mental development people are very receptive to new ideas and the only prerequisite to start diving is a liking for water. With a thorough grounding in correct diving procedures and supervision during training a young person can develop into an efficient diver. Elementary.

Roster of Examiners;

3rd. Feb.; L.Jones, D.Simenson, B.Price & K.Collett.
10th " ; B.Wallis, K.Errington, J.Errington & G.Weir.
17th " ; D.Davies, H.Threlfall, T.Menikides & G.Gougoulas.

WRECK RESEARCH

M.Pollard.

Second Report on the "James Mathews";

The preliminary work on the "James Mathews" is now finished. A plan of the wrecksite has been drawn and all is now ready for the excavation. At the moment we are waiting for the Museum to work up their sand pump and metal detector and then I hope we will be able to go ahead with the clearing of the site.

During the winter and spring a total of 12 dives took place on the site with an average of 3.3 divers working on anyone dive. I would like to thank the following divers for their hard and often cold work on this rather boring aspect of marine archeology, John Carpenter, Ken Churchward, Les Coleman, Colin Harris, Mick Evans and Tony Menikides. We also had a visit from 8 members of the U.E.C. and members of the Museum were with us on three occasions.

The timbers are very soft and worm eaten but when one digs down into the sand they are in pretty good condition. Samples have been taken by the Museum for identification of the type of tree the timber came from to try to get a lead on where she was built. - unfortunately, it is a type of pine which could mean she was built in the U.S.A. or Europe so there is no help here yet.

On taking soundings through the sand with a thin metal rod it appears that there are rocks just under the sand below her stern while under the bows there seems to be deep sand.

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.



February, 1974

**THE MAGAZINE
FOR ALL SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS**

PRICE: 5c.

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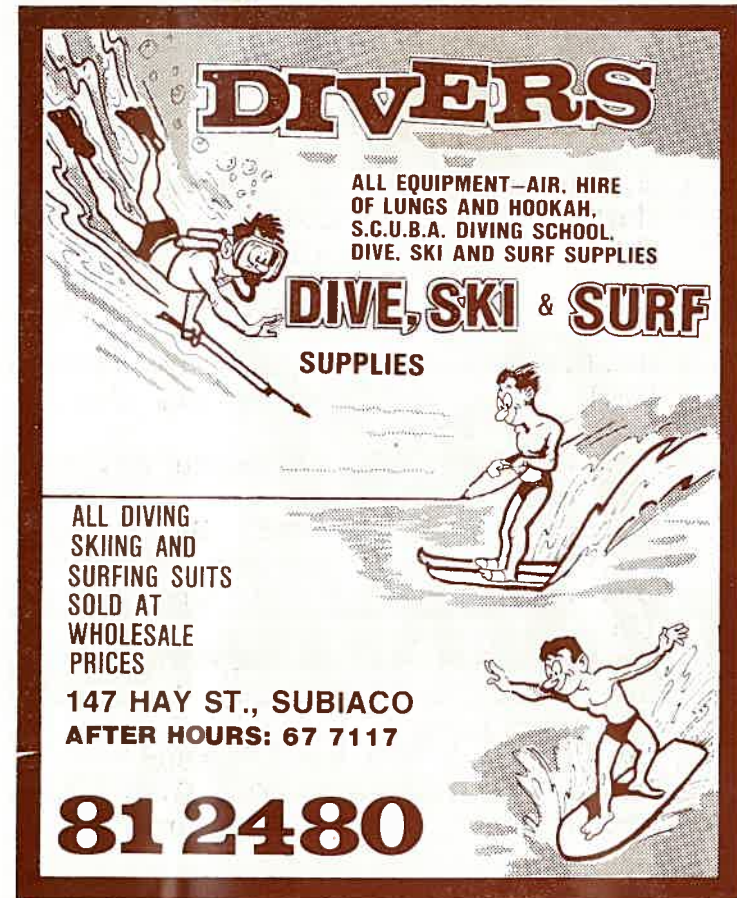
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;- Mr. J. Carpenter 116 Chapman Rd. Cannington

;- Mr. L. Coleman 2 Glen Ave. Mosman.

O/C Juniors ; Mr. G. Gougoulas 15 Hargrave St. Coolbellup

O/C Diving ; Mr. G. Weir 10 Dixon Place Coolbellup.

O/C Base ; Mr. M. Evans 2 Etwell St. East Vic/Park.

O/C Build. ; Mr. R. A. Wallis (46 2888).

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U.E.C. NEWS

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No 7

FEB. 74.

AIR FOR BREATHING

J. STUBBS

M. ROBERTS

The following article is another resume of a paper presented at Brisbane "Man and the Sea" Underwater Symposium conducted by the Queensland Underwater Federation in August last.

The problem of compressed air contamination is a growing one, associated with the steadily increasing numbers of amateur divers and the consequent demand for compressed air supplies. The growing number of clubs and diving groups inevitably means more air compressors put into commission, and these can be of all manner of types, from those specifically designed for the job, to ex-WD machines originally intended for other purposes than supplying breathing air for divers. These machines will be run by persons not necessarily aware of the various problems involved and the standards required for the production of air fit for human consumption. It is to this end that we have attempted to compile a body of relevant information for the guidance of compressor operators in obtaining air to the requisite standard and also for the diver himself, for his protection and future well being.

There are several standards of air purity in existence which have been issued by various reputable agencies, and we give below a table of the best known of these. It will be noted from examination of these standards that they exhibit a considerable degree of similarity though some would appear

to be more specific than others. It should be appreciated that the quality of an air supply is the responsibility of the supplier and though no system of certification of air quality exists, and indeed it would seem doubtful that any such scheme could operate at all it is therefore in the interests of all concerned to ensure that acceptable limits are met with. (In W.A. all filling stations are registered and the compressor is examined by the Dept of Machinery annually. Dept. of health periodically examine air output.)

Testing for contaminants; The first problem to be overcome will be that of the measurement of the contaminants present in the diver's supply. For our particular purpose it must be simple, precise and portable and relatively inexpensive, to enable frequent and rapid monitoring of the air supply. The principle employed is usually a small bellows or tube aspirator, drawing a measured quantity of air through a graduated glass tube containing a chemical reagent which stains in proportion to the presence of the contaminant substance. The result is read off on a scale printed on the tube itself.

The gases which can be tested for are CO₂, CO, Nitrogen Dioxide, Nitrous Oxide and Water Vapour. There is at present no tube available for oil vapour levels and this can present some problems as far as portable gas analysis is concerned. However, a suggested guide to the detection of oil vapour contamination, but not of course a quantitative analysis is to pass the air sample through a pad or tube of cotton wool or tissue, and then to examine the fibres under a strong ultra violet light for any staining. The oil stain will show as a green or bluish tint. The best time to test a compressor is at the end of a run and in the case of cylinders the sample being taken from the last cylinder filled.

Toxicity of Contaminants in Compressed Air; Perhaps the most insidious danger which may face the diver when breathing compressed air is that of CO₂ poisoning. With the result of any oil-lubricated compressor, the introduction of CO into the airstream can result from the partial com-

PHOTOGRAPHY;

B.Gadsby

Congratulations to Dennis Parker on winning a roll of colour film in last months competition. The subject was perfect. (a large fish "Sweetlip", the exposure, focus and composition was perfect, in all a good winner.) A very good range of subjects was shown which was entertaining and very well received.

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY; Total flash photography is made simple because the exposure depends only on the flash to subject distance. It can also be used to achieve subtle fill-in effects. The most obvious difference between total flash and fill in flash is that the back ground is severely darkened in total flash pictures while fill-in flash restores the warm tones in the foreground but does not darken the background appreciably.

The use of fill-in flash allows the otherwise shadowed interior of face masks to be illuminated even showing the colour of the subjects eyes. Also pictures taken in less than 3 ft. depth suffer from the loss of warm tones even in the clearest water but these warm tones can be restored through the use of fill-in flash. Close up photography requires the use of flash both to reveal the vibrant colours of many marine subjects and to gain depth of field. (Increase of depth of field gained when using small aperture, 'F stop'. Subject matter for this month 'Open'.

ACTIVITIES:

Sun. 17th Feb.	Training Base Woodmans Point	09.30
Mon. 18th "	General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall Meriwa St. Nedlands. Guest Speaker Dr. Colin Pearson Fremantle Museum. Subject Relic Restoration.	
Sun. 24th "	Boat Trip "Ulidia" Tilley's Landing	07.30
Sun. 3rd March	Training Base	09.30
Fri. 8th March	Theory Examinations. Venue to be advised.	
Sun. 10th "	Training Base Woodman's Point	09.30
Week/end 16th/17th	Scuba Champs. Woodman's Point.	
Mon. 18th	General Meeting Naturalist Club Hall	20.00.

Apologies to Graham Weir; Report located after printing (Ed)

ARTIFICIAL REEF.

On May 24th 1970 members of our Club laid down an pilot artificial reef in 45 ft. water on the S/E corner of Rottnest. The site was chosen from a number of surveyed sites and was recommended as the most suitable for our purpose. The reef consisted of 80 car tyres.

The site has been kept under surveillance by Lyn Jones who has visited the area periodically. However on 20th January last in company of Lyn (the only person who could drop the pick within the reef) Meerman's and Parkers (writer) visited the reef and examined the reef

Not having visited it since it was laid the change is indescribable not I might add purely due to the reef. Posidon grass is now quite thick in the area where when it was laid there was none. The tyres are thickly covered with weed growth and although the cable has parted the tyres are established and providing cover for marine creatures. Two of the original anchors were found and are ready to support further additions. A number of photographs were taken as conditions were good for photography although there was a current running. The sea surface was quite rough.

I called on Dr. Chittleborough (one of our advisers on the project) and advised him of the result. I shall be calling with the phot's. as they have only just returned. Dr. Chittleborough has suggested that subject to granting of permission by appropriate departments that the reef be extended as the pilot reef has proved its point of stability. He was extremely interested in the extent of weed growth (posidon) in the surrounding area. It is with these extensions in mind that within the next couple of months we shall extend the reef (add to it) subject to approval of the Fremantle Port Authority and Harbour and Lights Dept. the latter being directly interested. The depth of water at the site is 45 ft.

Members will be kept informed of what transpires and assistance will be sought as required. It is hoped that about a further 100 tyres will be laid with the next addition.

-bustion of lubricating oil in the compressor cylinders; a further likely source of hazard is the risk of exhaust fumes (in the case of a compressor driven by an internal combustion engine) being drawn into the intake. CO is an odourless, tasteless, colourless gas and the symptoms of poisoning are almost unnoticed until the critical involvement level of the gas combining with the haemoglobin of the blood stream is reached, which level is 40%. On a person at ordinary atmospheric pressure (1 Atmos. absolute) the effect of this gas is to produce light headedness, a feeling of faintness, quickly followed by collapse due to tissue anoxia.

In the diver the situation is much more complex. At 1 atmos 100 ml of blood will carry 19 ml of oxygen in the combined state of oxyhaemoglobin and 0.3 ml in simple solution in the plasma. In the event of CO contaminated air being breathed then this gas will unite with the haemoglobin. CO has 300 times the affinity for the haemoglobin molecule than oxygen and has the ability to remove an oxygen molecule already attached to the haemoglobin molecule. In the diver breathing CO contaminated air, the symptoms listed above are suppressed and delayed by the increased partial pressure of oxygen in simple solution in his blood, so that although more and more red corpuscles are being converted to Carbon Mon. haemoglobin, the amount of dissolved oxygen in his blood is sufficient to supply the needs of the tissue respiration, even at amounts from 1.5 to 4 litres per minute with the aid of a slight increase in respiration rate. However, when the CO involvement is just 40%, but less than 50%, it is quite probable that no symptoms would be noticed during surfacing, but on return to the surface, instant collapse and death would result from tissue anoxia, due to the sudden reduction in the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood.

In mild cases of CO poisoning a headache will develop on surfacing and persist for some time after diving. The level of contamination at which this symptom occurs is hard to determine. The authors have experienced levels as high as 25 ppm with exposure at 20m depth for one hour duration, without noticeable symptoms. This would suggest that the "surfacing headache" symptom, could indicate quite high

levels of contamination, and should be viewed with concern. If divers experience any symptoms attributable to air contamination, immediate steps should be taken to remedy the faults in the air supply.

Oil Vapour; will be present in the output of every oil-lubricated compressor and the amount will vary both with piston design and operating conditions, such as temp. oil supply to the cyls., oil viscosity and oil pressure.

Oil vapour will cause nausea and acute discomfort when it gains access to the bronchial and pulmonary spaces. Prolonged inhalation will cause pulmonary oedema and consequent lipoid pneumonia.

Although it is known that certain vegetable oils will be tolerated by the body, ie. they will be assimilated and dispersed by the body processes, it will be appreciated that the temporary accumulation of such oil will interfere with the respiration, therefore it is necessary that every attempt be made to avoid oil mist contamination in breathing air.

Nitrogen Dioxide; is produced by combustion in the compressor itself and is an irritant to the eyes, nose and upper respiratory passages. It has a very highly distinctive odour and can be detected in very small concentrations. High concentrations can produce emphysema and bronchitis if breathed for a sufficient time.

Water Vapour; The contamination of the air supply with excessive levels of moisture is not a hazard from the physiological point of view. The injurious effect that water moisture has is on the divers equipment itself, namely the demand valve and cylinder. At extremely low temperatures the air will be at or near the freezing point of water. When the air moves from high to low pressure areas, the expanding air will drop a few more degrees in temperature and ice will form and either prevent or restrict the flow of air.

Solid Particle Contamination; The inhalation of dust particles is injurious to the delicate surfaces of the lungs and

lying on the beach while the almost complete roof is being washed out in the shallows. The access track along the cyclone fence is crumbling away. Concrete filled drums and limestone boulders are dropping into the sea. We may have to hike across the beach next time we go down. Some unknown person nailed a plank on the jetty for use as a diving board, this person's ears must have turned red last Sunday as I struggled to remove it. The 3" nails were too much for me and I had to leave it partly off until next week

Roster of Examiners;

31 March; W. Braithwaite, D. Kenny, D. Parker and C. Croft.
10th " ; B. Geddes, J. Walden, W. Marshall and V. Willis.

SPLASH ZONE:

BASE SECRETARY; It has been suggested by the Committee to appoint a member to the position of Base Secretary whose duty it will be to run the office, Card index system, new members etc. This person need not be an active diver and could be either male or female. Any interested member contact either O/C Base or member of the committee.

It is understood that congratulations are warranted to one of our stalwart members on the addition to his family A prospective diver/writer/journalist. Well done Hugh and good luck to all.

There is no truth in the rumour that the new car acquired by the Editors was obtained from the proceeds of profit from the Mag. It was purchased through hard work and/or something. That's our story anyhow.

Keith Errington deserves a hearty pat on the back for his recent finding of a Gold Watch near Cockburn Boat Owners ramp recently. The Club had been contacted by the loser and a reward offered. Les Coleman searched to no avail and passed on the information to Keith who meticulously covered the area locating the watch as expected away from the sight indicated by the loser. The club benefit by the donation. Thanks Keith.

enough to write a report. Looking through the training cards I see that so far this season four divers have completed the requirements of the Initial Certificate and several more members will have done likewise by the of the season. There are a few divers within striking distance of the Advanced Certificate but as yet no finishes. Come on chaps, give it a go.

I wish to point out to all Examiners and Instructors an existing rule at Training Base. When a trainee wishes instruction or examination on a certain test he will be introduced to the appropriate person by O/C Base who will explain what is to be done. Unless pre-arranged with O/C Base this rule will apply to each additional test. Last Sunday an uninformed instructor and examiner each took a first day trainee onto an unauthorised test, skipping several other tests enroute, this is unfair to the trainees who will have to do the tests again in the correct order.

Graham Weir, Warrick Braithwaite, son Warrick and myself spent a pleasant evening last week at Warrick's place, casting lead weights for sale at Training Base. Four hours and many Aristotles later we had 40 gleaming lead weights lying in the back of the Landrover. Thanks Warrick, son and Graham. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Warrick to the Examiners panel.

Approximately half those who boarded the "Dauntless" on 20th January and found there was no Boat-trip took off for Point Peron where a few of us spent an enjoyable couple of hours diving through caves about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile off shore. Anyone looking for a qualifying cave dive can contact a couple of "A" class divers who will take them through the caves at Peron or arrange with Keith Errington who may take them out to the cave at the "Sepia".

The long week-end at Jurien Bay was quite a success, diving and social wise. I could write for quite some time on the junket but I think Graham has covered it in his report.

The restless sea has moved up the beach at Base and claimed our shelter. The supports and foundations are

will cause irritation and possible damage if sufficient quantities and duration of exposure are experienced.

PRECAUTIONS TO BE OBSERVED WHEN OPERATING AIR COMPRESSORS;

It should be appreciated from the outset that the running of a compressor is not a job for an untrained or uninformed person. The operator should have a clear understanding of all the many related factors involved in the production of pure, clean dry air. These factors are as follows:-

Cooling; Every attempt should be made to keep the compressor as cool as possible, so that the contained air will not reach a temperature at which the oil vapour will ignite to release CO and other combustion products. Also high operating temperature effect efficiency of the chemical filters employed in the final filtering and drying of the air.

Compressor Lubrication; The problem of compressor lubrication and the prevention of ignition and explosion within the cylinders of the compressor itself is a complex one. Therefore it follows that the selection of the correct grade and type of oil used is vital if we are to avoid twin dangers, ignition and CO production and there attendant perils to both operator and diver. The requirements for a good compressor oil are set out below:-

- (1) Stability towards oxidation, must not form lacquer, gums, deposits or acidic compounds in the presence of oxygen.
- (2) Low carbon-forming tendency, any carbon formed must be soft and fluffy, not hard and flint like.
- (3) The ability to retain insoluble matter in suspension.
- (4) Have a high degree of thermal stability such that it will evaporate before pyrolysing.
- (5) Inhibit rust.
- (6) Have a flash point not less than 50 deg.F below the maximum discharge temperature of the compressor.
- (7) Have a high film strength.

Recommended oils; Shell Talpa and Talona Oils; These oils are specially compounded for compressor use and where possible should be used. Oils in this series have all the properties discussed and are available in SAE grades 20 to 60.

Liquid Paraffin and Medicinal Oils; Although often recommended by manufacturers for certain compressors these straight mineral oils have a high viscosity index with little or know dispersant or defergent qualities and will tend to form carbon deposits and are therefor unsuitable for divers compressors.

Vegetable oils; It is a wide spread belief that these oils are ideal for use in compressors which belief no doubt stems from the idea that such oils are relatively safe to inhale. Although to some extent this is true it should be appreciated that any oil inhaled for ever brief periods is injurious to the lung surfaces, particularly at higher partial pressures encountered in diving. Apart from this conside4ation, vegatable based oils rapidly disintegrate under the conditions encountered in compressors and produce quantities of lacquer and gum and for this reason alone are unsuitable for compressor use.

TABLE OF AIR PURITY; STANDARDS:

	USN	Canada	Uni. Calif.	Britain	BSAC
Nit.	70%	As At.	As Atmos.	-	As At.
Ox.	20-21%	-	As Atmos.	-	21%+0.5
CO2	1%	500ppm	300 ppm	500 ppm	300 ppm
CO	20 ppm	10 ppm	20 ppm	10 ppm	10 ppm
Oil	130mg per Lit.	M3	droplet free	lmg per M3	lmg per M3
Wat.	free	dry as Pos.	Drop free	Dry as Poss.	.02 gr. per M3
Dust	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Odour	-	Free	Absent	Free	Free
Nit/Dio.	-	Free	-	-	Nil less 1 ppm.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dave Kenny

How the time flies, mid. February already and the SCUBA Champs. are only a few weeks away. I'm glad to see that members are rallying and keen to have a go. Those

interested got together at John Walden's place last Sunday and had a bit of question and answer time and also got a hints on the practical side of things. If they've sunk in we should have a winner between us, let's hope so anyway. If you don't want to take part in the competitive side Graham Weir I'm sure would appreciate a hand to organise events, so let's see a good turnout.

As you will no doubt know by now if you have been to the meetings, we have a new Club Patron, His Excellency the Governor, Air Commodore Hughie Edwards. not to be confused with our other well known air diver, Hugh Edwards. May I take this opportunity on behalf of Club members to thank His Excellency for accepting the position as Patron and welcoming him to our Club.

As I am running late as usual with my report I aim to keep it short in order to give our lightning fingered Ed. a chance to type it out. See you folks!

TREASURER'S REPORT;

D. Cline

Membership;	Honorary 12	Life 4	Full 61
	Junior 16	Social 4	Country 3
Finance as at 4th February '74;			
General Fund;		\$573.50	Boat Fund; \$51.48
Building "		\$853.76	C.B.C. Dep; \$16,500.
Compressor Fund		\$200.00	
Noms;	Heather Jowett	26 Daglish St. W/Downs.	
	Alex Houghton	3 Greenwood Place Lynwood.	
	George Wilson	13 Maple St. Rivervale	
	Brian Whitlock	60 Melvista Ave. Claremont	
	Trev. Garmony	8 Hilview Tce. St. James.	
	Paul Thomas	12 Boscombe Ave. City Beach.	
	Jane Penrose	43 Matheson Rd. Applecross.	
	Ray. Penrose	as above.	
	Owen Peters	4 Bourneville St. Floreat.	

TRAINING BASE REPORT

Mick Evans.

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Photography; Mr.R.Gadsby 44 Levinia St. Coolbellup.

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Auditors ; Mr.K.Kennedy

Editors ; B. & D.Parker 243 Ravenscar St. D/view. (46 1409).

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UEC NEWS

VOLUME 13

No 8

MARCH '74

IN MEMORIAM

All members join in extending their deepest sympathy to Naom and Doris Haimson and their family on the sudden death of their son and brother Lex. on Sunday 3rd March '74. After years of love and care, to lose a son as he is on the threshold of life is a bitter loss indeed.

"Age shall not weary him, nor the years condemn -----."

Lex was a prominent and popular member of our Junior Diving Group, where his happy nature and quick wit brought him to the fore. At his last Scuba Championships (1972) he acquitted himself most creditably and was always to be found "where the action is."

Members were looking forward to Lex rejoining our ranks after his recent twelve months overseas in Israel. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Roster of Examiners;

31st March ; K.Kennedy, T.Menikides, L.Coleman, D.Kenny.
7th April ; D.Simenson, K.Kollett, K.Errington and
June Errington.

DIVING REPORT

Graham WEIR.

Long Week-end, Jurien Bay; Only a small turn up with three camps at Sandy Point and another two camps at Jurien Bay. Both groups joined up at Sandy Point Sunday morning for a days diving. Weather was lousy for most of the time and diving conditions left alot to be desired, although members gained considerable experience in rough weather diving including quite alot of surface swimming in full gear.

Before packing up on Monday to come home, and after a hard slog in Mick Evan's Landrover, a visit was paid to Bob Bartles Memorial at North Head. Despite the adverse conditions we managed to enjoy ourselves including a couple of night sessions in the tents.

Sunday 24th; This trip was scheduled for the "Ulidia" however it was unanimously decided to go to Roe Reef as conditions were ideal and a good days diving enjoyed by all who attended.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS; Several Volunteers are still needed to organise practical events, also controllers and time keepers, so how about it some of you divers who are not participating. Attend at Base or see me.

Theory Examination; This was held at the Auxiliary Section of the Police Dept. on Friday 8th March at 8.00pm Thirteen (13) contenders fronted up and we presume these will be participating in the practical sections. Two ladies only are participating and these are both from our club namely Keith's daughter and our treasurers wife. Good luck to all contenders.

The following is the Theory Paper presented. Members can try their knowledge;

recent marriage. Noella has been a staunch supporter of the club for a number of years and has been our delegate to the Conservation Council for two years. I'm sure all members will join in wishing them all the best for the future.

Members may be wondering where Adrian and Margaret Meermen have been these last couple of months. I checked and to my surprise found that Adrian had been in hospital for a few days and that he had been in bed at home for a number of days. It appears that Adrian wrenched his back at work resulting in his present predicament. It is hoped that he will soon be back with us not forgetting his back-stop Margaret whom we miss to the same extent.

AUSTRALIAN SHELL CONVENTION;

The third Australian Shell Convention will be held in W.A. from the 19th August to 7th September of this year and any member wishing to participate will be most welcome, in fact it has been noted that we as a Club may be approached to assist in some way to help make the convention a success however all members will be welcome to participate should they so wish.

The convention will cover all manner of activities from presenting papers to trips up and down the coast to various collecting sites including a trip for a limited number to the Abrolhos. Every day of the Convention is taken up with activities for those wishing to participate. Further information will be included in this Magazine for any activity which will involve the Club as a whole. Any member interested in full participation can get further information from Tom Mackay on 46 4213. (Pres. W.A. Shell Club.)

It may be of interest to newer members that the W.A. Shell Club was founded on the instigation of our Club Hon. Conchologist Mr. Tony Kalnins at a Town Hall Exhibition held by the U.E.C. in February 1965. Many of our members were early office bearers and the inaugural meeting of the Club was

is to record the scene as the eye sees it. The human eye in concept with the brain, constantly interprets every scene. Colour film emulsions, for all their fidelity, lack the capacity to interpret. As a result the images produced on them are often a disappointment. At a depth of 25 ft. for example a pink coloured seafan appears as pastel lavender to the eye, but when photographed without a correcting filter, it appears drab and predominantly blue in colour.

Filters used for underwater photography generally produce whiter whites and blacker blacks and this together with increased distinction between different colours, helps to provide shape dimension and light modeling of subjects. Filtering tends to deepen the 3D perspective by clearer separation of objects and by giving foreground objects more colour and brilliance than those in the background. It also increases the small exposure latitude of reversal colour films slightly, making errors in exposure a little less noticeable.

Loss of light through filtering in an environment where the light intensity is already low may seem like an expensive price to pay for increased contrast and brilliance of colours. But it is often worthwhile in bright water where the increase in exposure is permissible. Excessive or improper filtering can ruin pictures by making colours appear unnatural and the whole scene unreal. It is better to use no filtering or weak filtering than to overdo it. Even weak filtering will improve contrast and coloration.

Filters of the colour correcting type can be used either with colour or with black and white film, yellow filters are generally used only for black and white film.

They all tend to darken a water background by absorbing some of the blue light.

SPLASH ZONE:

Congratulations to Noela McCarthy and Barry on their

Section A; Attempt all questions;

- Q.1.; What is the theoretical depth limit for compressed air diving and why is this limit set?
- 2 ; What are the partial pressures of oxygen and nitrogen at sea level?
- 3 ; What is "anoxia" and how is it caused in scuba diving?
- 4 ; What are the three manual methods of resuscitation regarded as the most effective?
- 5 ; What is the main cause of "air embolism"?
- 6 ; Sketch and indicate the shape and colour of the flag towed by a diver denoting "diver down".
- 7 ; What is the 'no decompression' limit for a dive to 100'?
- 8 ; Define (a) Bottom time, (b) Ambient pressure and (c) Residual volume.
- 9 ; What is an 'absorption canister'.
- 10 ; For what purpose is a buddy line used?
- 11 ; What gas is the main stimulus for respiration?
- 12 ; What is the standard rate of ascent for "Australian Decompression Tables"?
- 13 ; What is the absolute pressure at a depth of 198 ft.? Answer in P.S.I.
- 14 ; What is the danger to a diver who suffers a ruptured ear drum?
- 15 ; How is thoracic Squeeze" caused in a free dive?
- 16 ; Describe the mechanics and dangers of "Hyperventilating"
- 17 ; Name and define the law which relates to volumes and pressures in compressed air diving.
- 18 ; What is Pneumothorax?
- 19 ; A 72 cu.ft. tank is filled to 2500 psi. State equivalent in atmospheres.
- 20 ; An unconscious and presumed drowned diver is brought to the surface, blood stained froth is present around the mouth. What steps would you take?

Section B ; Questions worth 10 points each;

- Q. 1. What are the symptoms, treatment and preventative action for the bends?
- 2 What are the symptoms, treatment and preventative action for Air embolism ?

Q.3 ; What trouble may result from a dive to 100 ft. wearing a hood without air holes?

Section C ; Questions worth 10 points each;

- Q. 1; What are the advantages and disadvantages of both a single hose 2 stage and a two hose single stage regulator ? State the breathing characteristics of each type when the diver is face down.
- 2; You are given the job of raising a canon from a depth of 132 ft. The canon weighs 480 lbs and has a volume of 3 cu.ft. How many cu.ft. of free air is required to raise it? Disregard the weight of the lifting container.
- 3; Describe the precautions you would take for a working dive where 'No decompression Limits' are exceeded.

WRECK RESEARCH

Mike Pollard

Supply Ships to the early Swan River Settlement wrecked in the Fremantle area;

"Marquis of Anglesea" On Anglesea Point. Broke up about a year later. Any remains would now be under harbour extensions.
Sept. 1829.

"Rockingham" Almost certainly broken up by 1834 - 35.
May 1830

"James" "Thames" Driven ashore in great gales. Thames and "Emily Taylor" destroyed or buried under reclamation by the Fishing Boat Harbour. James probably been broken up. Should be near James Rocks. Still to be found if not broken up.
and "Emily Taylor"
May/June 1830

"Eagle" Unknown Ketch (Indian) 200 tons. Same gales as above. May have been salvaged later.
May/June 1830

"Elizabeth"
Sept. 1839

"Lancier"
Sept. 1839

"James Mathews"
July 1841.

Only odd timbers left. Shallow sand over rock; not deep enough to preserve more than the odd plank or rib.

On the outer reefs. Probably only minimal timbers left, if any.

So far it appears that a large portion of this ship is still under the sand and in a remarkably good condition.

The "James Mathews" is the earliest known Colonial ship of which there is any substantial structure left. It seems a shame that they should not be preserved. Perhaps if enough people feel strongly enough about this, the money could be found for this task.

Once lifted and preserved she would make a wonderful exhibit at the Fremantle Maritime Museum and judging by the popularity of all other ship reclamations throughout the rest of the world she would, I am sure, well repay any monies spent on her preservation as a tourist attraction. One thing in her favour is her small size, only about 80 ft. x 21 ft.

How about it West Australians!!

PHOTOGRAPHY;

Bob Gadsby

Well done Jon Carpenter for winning First prize in February's photographic competition. A fine underwater photo of divers working on the sea bed with their air exhaust bubbles ascending towards the camera made a worthy winner.

My thanks again go to Alfred's emporium Camera Shop at the corner of Pier and Hay Sts. Alfred's kindly donate a roll of colour film as first prize for each months competition. If you need any photographic gear go to Alfred's and mention my name for a special discount.

FILTERS;

Filters properly used can be extremely helpful. They serve many purposes, obvious and subtle, but the principal one

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.

R11



APR 1974

APRIL

January, 1974

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALL SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS

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U.E.C. NEWS

VOLUME 13

APRIL 1974

N° 9

EDITORIAL

First I must apologise for the late publication of the April issue of the Magazine, however there are numerous reasons for this, first and foremost being that over the whole of the Easter period I was working and since have had no time to catch up.

The other main point is that although I have asked for the magazine copy to be available at the Committee Meeting of the month of issue this has gradually been getting worse so much so that some has been getting to me the week-end before the General Meeting.

I did not mind writing articles and chasing them up occasional boats with 150 members there should be many more scribes than there are. This is my tenth year as editor and although the Cl8b is almost as large as it has ever been the articles are far fewer even though more members have boats and are carrying out more private diving.

Many times I have been informed by members of incidents which should be published for information of others, to which I have suggested that they write the article as in most instances they were personally involved, whether it be technical, interest or just splash zone. This has been the last I have heard.

I can assure members that this magazine would have lapsed many moons ago had it not been for the patience of Barbara and help every month from Pam and Barry Geddes. I am certain none of us want to see it lose any of its regularity as a monthly but I am certain few realise the time involved not only with typing printing etc. but chasing advertising, covers, labels both keeping stocks and writing them for postage, plus folding and stapling. All of this takes time and yet it is also expected that we chase copy.

The main contributors have always been those mentioned above and I might add that Pam and Barry were for a number of years editors of a similar mag. in the the B.S.A.C. in London and their experience broadened our mag. considerably.

A little more participation by members generally would make the job much easier and perhaps a break up of the work enable us to carry on in the same manner as it has since it was first published in 1959. Just give it some thought.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT;

This report comes all the way from the Abrolhos Is's. by carrier pidgeon at enormous expence! I was lucky enough to make the trip on a 43 ft. cruiser, which is like home away from home. It has radio, radar, echo etc. and two diesels. We have a fluctuating crew, some come and others leave by seaplane. The weather has been reasonable without being anything to rave about and the last few days we have had rain and strong winds. Most of the time is spent fishing or diving. We had two guys making a promotion film for W.A. and rendered underwater assistance to them. Hugh Edwards is also with us and acts as guide and advisor when needed.

We have taken quite a few U/W photos which I hope will be successful. All in all I would mush rather be diving than writing so I'll short circuit pretty soon.

1944 with no further danger of a Japanese invasion she was paid off.

In 1958 she was cut up for scrap by the Snider Salvage Co. and finally blown up and sunk in the bay 300 yds SE of base. She lies on a sandy bottom in about 10 ft. of water and measures about 90 ft. long x 12 ft. beam. portions of a double hull can still be seen as well as a small doorway. There are still occasional brass fittings to be found under the sand inside her hull.

A photograph of her may be seen in Janes Fighting Ships 1924 in the U.E.C. Library.

ACTIVITIES;

At the March General Meeting Mr. Mike Brown of the Water Safety Division of the National Safety Council gave an attentive audience a most constructive talk on the expired air method of resuscitation using both a full size manakin and small baby size. The attention of the members and later questions showed how well the talk was received.

- Sunday 5th May : Bow trip "City of York" Tilley's Landing 07.30. North east Fremantle Traffic Bridge.
Sun. 12th " ; Training Base followed by Night Dive Woodmans Point. 09.30.
Sun. 19th " Training Base Woodmans Point 09.30 Closing Day. Will all available examiners and instructors make themselves available on these days. You may not be needed but there could be a sudden rush.
Mon. 20th ; General Meeting. Naturalist Club Hall Mer iwa St. Nedlands 20.00hrs.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

MCUNTS BAY SAILING CLUB FRIDAY
JUNE 14th 8pm \$5 single.

CAVES DIVES; Any "A" class trainee requiring Cave Dive before the closing of this season please contact either myself or O/C Base.

WRECK RESEARCH -- The three wrecks near Base Mike Pollard
 With the imminent dredging of the channel for the Transfield oil rig the three wrecks by training base stand a good chance of either being destroyed or buried under tons of sand. This is a short article to preserve their memory. (See also U.E.C. News March '66)

The nearest to base is under the green can wreck buoy 300 yds. S.E. of base. Under this is the remains of the ex Dutch submarine "K 11". The next is the rusty hulk on the beach about 400 yds. S.E. of base. She is the "Alacrity" ex "Jean Bart" and almost alongside her to the southward is the remains of the third, the wooden schooner "Abemamma". The latter two will be in next mag.

K 11; Construction steel.
 Dimensions; L 218.8 ft x B 20.2 ft x D 12.2 ft.
 Displacement 660 tons surfaced 810 tons submerged
 Built Built by M.Fijenoord of Rotterdam and launched in April 1924.
 Engines Two sets N.A.N. Deisels each of 1200 BHP giving surface speed 15 knots (17 on trials) 45 tons fuel oil carried. Submerged speed on electric motors 8 knots.
 Armament 1 x 3.5 in gun (22 pdr) 1 x 12.7mm(maxim) 2 x 21" torpedo tubes. 4 x 17.7 in tubes. two of each calibre in the bow and two 17.7 in the stern. twelve torpedoes carried.
 Complement 31 Diving limit 33 fathoms (198 ft.)

The K11 was a unit of the Dutch navy defending Java against the Japanese. After the invasion of the East Indies she came to Fremantle. Her range was too short for her to be used in an offensive roll for the rest of the war so she was based at Fremantle as a defensive submarine in case a Japanese fleet ever came down in this area. In

We will head for "Zeewyck" today and later for the 'Batavia' Oh! what a drudge!!!

The Scuba Champs are over and looking back I must congratulate Graham Weir for his organising and his helpers in the various events. Everything went smoothly with a very friendly atmosphere. No one was out to kill, and the friendly joking put many newer competitors at ease.

I must mention our juniors who really were outstanding. Steve Wood and Diane Errington. The way they performed was a credit to themselves and the club. It also reflects the training they have received - a very creditable performance. Congratulations. As for the bum who won the senior section Well, what can one say except a cheat, fluke or maybe he used his casting vote! I feel no pain".

See you when I get back - if I get back! Dave.

TRAINING BASE REPORT;

The long summer is almost over and cool conditions with a few drops of rain are heralding a new season. When you read this there will be few Training Base days left. If you think you can complete your current certificate in this time then come on down and give it a go.

The Championships went off beautifully but I was abit disappointed by the small number of club members who saw fit to come down and lend support to the competitors. A hole in the air-line under the jetty was repaired by Graham Weir on the second day.

Conditions were ideal for the night-dive last Sunday Mar.31st and five members and one visitor armed with an assortment of torches slipped into the inky depths. Kevan Collett went in with his cousin Sue and tried out the electronic flash attachment fitted to his Nikonos. Quite a few crays and sizable fish were sighted and Neville Barker speared a yellow tail. Neville has brought down a 12 volt generator which is ready to be bolted into place and has promised to get hold of a voltage regulator. All we need now is 18 - 20 metres of the appropriate wiring and a few light fittings

to make things a bit more civilised for the next night dive on Sunday 12th May.

At the last 30 metre dive off Roe Reef I experienced vertigo and for the benefit of members I would like to give an account of same. There were four of us in this group diving our third and final 30 metre for the day. I left the surface and swam down experiencing the usual difficulties in clearing my right ear. At about 9 metres, after having been only partly successful in clearing the offending ear, I was elated when air suddenly rushed into the middle ear accompanied by mud bubbling and popping. But my elation was short-lived when the diver below me appeared to be descending in a right hand spiral, and me following him. I immediately recognised this as vertigo and decided to abort the dive. At this time it suddenly occurred to me that I might not be able to distinguish up from down. On tipping myself end for end I saw the well lighted surface and although my own little world was still spiralling, I was much relieved. I stayed beneath the surface for another minute or so feeling a little nauseated but quickly becoming oriented again. On surfacing I came close to vomiting and realised that I had a sore ear.

Shortly after beginning the ascent I was sure that a trickle of bubbles was coming out of my ear but a subsequent examination showed that the eardrum was intact. For some hours after leaving the water the effected ear was rumbling and popping at intervals and I was surprised when the doctor at Fremantle Hospital told me that I had an infection in the ear as I was not aware of any discomfort in the ear before diving. I am hoping that with all that air hurtling through my right eustachian tube, the tube may have stretched, or something, and my ear clearing problems finished. I'll find out next time I dive.

This has been an interesting experience although not one I wish to repeat. I think the main thing to do when confronted with an unusual situation while diving

is to keep your mouth piece in place and think your way out of trouble.

Mick Evans..

DIVING REPORT

Graham Weir

First off, I would like to thank all competitors for their co-operation during the Championships. Also thanks to all those who were of such great assistance in the organising and running side of things. Congratulations to Dave, Diane and Steven for taking out the sections. The scores each contestant were as follows;--

D.Kenny	500	Winner open section	U.E.C.
B.Geddes	433½		"
K.Errington	421		"
S.Wood	407½	Winner junior section	"
D.Errington	373½	Winner ladies section	"
J.Carpenter	366		"
J.Bavera	354½		U.R.D.
M.Evans	331		U.E.C.
D.Cline	278		"
P.Cline	234		"
G.Gougoulas	187½	Withdrew second day	"
A.Giacomel	44½	Withdrew after theory	U.R.D.

Rottnest; Sun. 24th 100 ft. training dives.

Dive and training wise, a very good day although the attendance on these trips is still way too low and we are not even covering half the boat costs. So how about it chaps, lets see a bit more patronising of club events.

Eight divers passed either their first or second 100 footer with budding proficiency divers clocking up another three dives with expired and free ascents thrown in. After lunch it was back to the old "Macedon" for safety reasons as six divers had already found it necessary to decompress on the 100 ft. dive site. All dives and staging were carried out very efficiently which takes a load off the O/C making it a day of pleasure instead of works, thanks fellows.

Next boat trip is to the "City of York" on Sunday 5th May Details at the April General meeting.

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OFFICIAL ORGAN FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS' CLUB OF W.A. INC.

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MAY

April, 1974

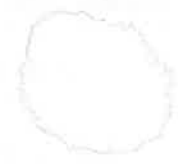
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FOR ALL SCUBA ENTHUSIASTS**

PRICE: 5c.

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U.E.C. NEWS

VOLUME 13

Nº 10

MAY '74

PRESENTATION

NIGHT

KURRAJONG HALL

FRIDAY 14th JUNE

8-00 pm

MEMBERS ARE ADVISED THAT THE VENUE FOR THE
PRESENTATION NIGHT HAS BEEN CHANGED TO THAT STATED
ABOVE; THE MOUNTS BAY SILING CLUB IS UNDERGOING
RENOVATIONS AND KURRAJONG HALL HAD TO BE OBTAINED
AT SHORT NOTICE. MAKE THIS A GOOD NIGHT AND
LL TURN UP. THIS IS YOUR NIGHT SO MAKE IT A
SUCCESS. ALL YOU NEED IS YOU! FIVE DOLLARS OR
TEN WITH A PARTNER. LIQUOR? FOOD, MUSIC PROVIDED
SEE YOU ALL THERE.

LOCATION - HACKETT DRIVE CRAWLEY

TURN UP

PRESIDENT'S REPORT D.Kenny.

It looks like this may be the last Mag. before the Presentation Night so I'll give it a last plug. This year we have decided to return to the old club style of do of previous years, rather than the rather stiff upper lip style of last year. It went down well with quite a few but the majority ruled a return to the less formal and rather more enjoyable Hall hire- band and buffet supper, so this year folks I would like to see each and everyone of you there to celebrate our annual event. It will be held at Kurajong Hall on 14th June. For \$5.00 per head you can drink as much beer as you like, stuff yourself with a multitude of goodies and then dance yourself silly till 2.00am to the sound of the world's greatest band- "The bitter Sweet" who were specially imported by "Enonemous" at "enormous" expence. So lets see you there with all your mates, inlaws, grannies and ex wives!..

As you can see I'm full of exuberance since my island holiday which was most enjoyable and I can honestly say beats work anyday and to think the Museum Bods get paid for it!. The whole trip was spent on board a 43 ft. fibre glass launch 'Sea Dog'. We had an initial crew of eight which dwindled as some flew back to Perth. The most exciting part of the trip of course was the stay at Beacon Island, where we dived several times on the 'Batavia'. They had reached a very interesting stage where they were removing large sections of grown knees in the stern section and had hoped to uncover some carvings on the actual stern. During the course of this work they had to uncover some 700 canon balls bar shot and cannister shot. Having given them a hand to crowbar some timbers loose I can honestly say those guys really earn their bread.

The rest of the time was spent taking photos and shooting the dd fish for din-dins. If anyone is interested in seeing some slides of the trip I'll

Kenny for standing in for me. From what I heard there was quite abit of illness of another type on the boat also.

As this is my last report for the 1973-74 season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those concerned for their assistance through-out the season, in particular Mick Evans and Keith Errington. Thanks fellas.

SPLASH ZONE;

It seems that with winter with us many of the older members have become migratory and headed for the warmer climes. Harold Roberts (THE original Beachmaster) is spending a very pleasant holiday on Ningaloo (near Exmouth), another stalwart Ken Kennedy and his better half are on an extended trip round the north of Australia and will possibly go to New Guinea while 'don Furer' Bill Fleay has gone out the back of Leonora on a survey expedition. Perhaps material for some good articles in the Mag!!!. Hope they all have a good time.

ACTIVITIES;

- Fri; June 14th; Presentation Night Kurrajong Hall 8.00pm
Your Night; be there. See pl this Mag.
Sun. " 16th; Waroona Dam, Freshwater dive to 80 ft.
Family day, picnic.
Mon. " 17th Annual General Meeting. Election of officers
plenty of vacancies for all. Attend and
say your piece and offer yourself for
persecution.
Sun. July 7th; Navigation swim Lake Leschenaultia 09.30.
Family day oicnic, sporting events etc.

At week-ends there will be wreck research dives and possibly other functions which would be decided at short notice dependant on the weather. Contact Mike Pollard for particulars venue etc re wreck research.

Ed; Owing to a number of unforeseen circumstances this Mag. is late. It is hoped that a reorganisation of this dept. will prevent further incidents of like nature.

changeable barrels. Later they were used for training Voluntary Defence Corps. In this present day are used by High School cadets.

The Police had to be informed he said as many of these had been taken from stores in the Metro area over the past few years. A telephone call on 27th March revealed that 4 Bren-guns and 3 Le-enfield 303 rifles had been stolen from the Applecross Highschool on the 9-10th Jan. Our find was one of them. I had a phone call on the following Saturday from Detective Bennett asking me to show the location of the find. I did. A launch had caught fire 1 1/2 hours before at the same place.

On the Monday Police Divers found two more complete Bren-guns in the area shown, part of the robbery. Just sheer luck I reckon otherwise they would still be down there.

Since then I have inquired about retaining the gun as a memento of those dives. I know every Scuba diver treasures the artifacts of the ~~day~~ deep as sentimental value. Instance; the earthenware ink bottle from the "Sepia" to a set of tiger shark jaws the animal being shot by me some two years ago.

The actual proof of this incident lies on the tongues of Verne and myself with the star subject in Major Hugh Connants Vault.

DIVING REPORT

Graham Weir

Sunday 16th June; This is a family pickic day with fr (1) water diving available for those who are after a cold dip. WAROONA DAM; As depth at the base of the tower is usually about 75 -85 ft. at this time of the year with very poor visibility, all dives at the tower must be A' class buddied. Buddy lines are recommended and a divers float and flag are a must. Barbecue sites are available although it is advisable to take a bit of dry wood to get them going.

100ft Dive; 26th May; Due to illness I was unable to go on this trip and thanks go to Keith Errington and Dave

bring them along to the next General Meeting. Hugh Edwards (not the Guv'nor) also said he'd bring some along so it should be fairly interesting.

Those of you who planned to go on the 'Sambo' to Rotto' a few Sundays ago will no doubt have been dissapointed; take heart though I hope in the near future to get more members with boats to run rostered trips. I'll be investigating this further and have high hopes we can at last offer regular dives to our 'A' class divers. See you at the next meeting folks!

TREASURER'S REPORT

D.Cline

Membership; Honorary 12 Life 4 Full 83
Junior 20 Social 4 Country 4

Finance as at 6th May '74;

General Fund	; \$407.25	Boat Fund;	\$114.48
Building "	; \$1386.26	C.B.C.Dep;	\$16,500.00
Compressor "	; S/200.00		

Noms; Richard Stanfield 72 Hubble St. East Fremantle.
John CLARKE 210a Marmion St. Palmyra.
Bill MARSHALL 12 Pearl Pde. Scarborough.
Lindsay SCOTT 97 Clydesdale St. Como.
Mark JAMMAL 103 Brandon St. South Perth
Sheila DENNY St.Catherines Cledge Nedlands.
John COLLOVA 1014 Richardson Rd. South Coogee.

WRECK RESEARCH

Mike Pollard

"ALACRITY" (ex Jean Bart)
- Dimensions; Length 145.6 ft. Beam 27.1 ft.
Depth 13.5 ft.
Tonnage ; 353 tons gross. 349 tons underdeck
32 tons nett.
Rig ; Rigged as a ketch.
Built ; 1893 by the Societe Anonyme des Forges
et Chartiers de la Mediterranee at
Havre, France.
Engines ; Two tripple expansion engines each wit
cylinders of 15 ins. 33 ins. and 35 1/2

ins. diam with a stroke of 23½ ins. developing 122 N.H.P.

Wrecked ; April/ May 1931.

The "Alacrity" was built in France and launched as the "Jean Bart" (a famous French Admiral) in 1893. Like all the early steamers she was rigged as a sailing vessel to extend her range, in her case a ketch.

Early in the 20th century she was purchased by Messrs. Howard Smith & Co. and renamed "Alacrity". There is a reference to her in the Fremantle Shipping Register in 1902. Sometime before World War I she was acquired by the Dept. of Naval Works and was used as a maid of all work. During the war she was even used as an UNARMED patrol vessel searching for German raiders in the Indian Ocean and also as a tug in Fremantle Harbour. In 1919 she took Admiral Lord Jellicoe around Cockburn Sound during his inspection of the site as a potential naval base and was used in the construction of it until the treaty of Washington caused its abandonment in 1920.

In December 1925 she was sold by the R.A.N. to Tilley's and in April 1931 Tilley's sold her to the wreckers, the Fremantle firm of J.E.Hall Machinery and Metal Merchants.

Sometime in the period 20th April - 30th May 1931 she broke adrift from the Commonwealth mooring in Cockburn Sound and drifted ashore in Jervoise Bay where she now lies.

Her hull with the name "Jean Bart" on it used to belong to Tilley's. Construction; Steel. Twin screws two decks.

"ABEMAMA"

Construction; Wood, iron fastened. single deck. Poop and deck houses.
Dimensions ; Length 133.6 ft. x Beam 32.6 ft. x depth 12.2 ft.
Tonnage ; 395 tons gross, 317 tons U/deck 337 tons nett.

3-4 ins. I picked it up and had a look, passed it to Vern who did the same then threw it away as it looked like rubbish. A little further on I lost sight of Vern searched around for about a minute to no avail I then ascended. There he was grasping onto the cliff face holding a long piece of metal. I swam over to look at it and then helped or hindered Verne to get it back 30m to the boat. It was heavy. I think we were both exhausted when we climbed aboard.

Examination of it proved it to be a rifle of some kind with the date 1942 imprinted. The barrel was missing though it registered then that the tube I had located was the barrel. Vern was out of air by now and I was low, A change of tanks for Verne which wasn't appreciated "Verbally with a grin said "fill it up with flyspray Eh!".

Anyway, over we went, easy entry when sitting on the side of a boat. This was a crucial time to be on reserve, but it happened. I indicated to Verne and I knew that I had about 4 mins left. At this moment I was handed a trap with 3-4 crabs in. There's no doubt about it, he doesn't believe in one at a time.

Starting to go back now, my partner went on for the barrel. I changed hands so often that somehow the door of the trap opened and they all escaped, it wasn't noticed till reaching the boat. Terrible mishap, all gone!. Disgusted with myself I dropped the trap.

Verne wasn't far behind, he'd found the barrel and wasted no time getting back. Two fine specimens when put together weighed about 12 kgs. A few barnacles and a wormlike shell had grown on them, The trigger moved and the sights moved also, "not long down". Anyway we headed back to trailerize the tub and separate for home.

I was curious to know what sort of gun it was informing the Army in preference to the Police on Monday. I was told to bring it in. Its fairly hard to part with relics discovered especially this type. Tuesday rolled along so I went visiting the Barracks in Francis St. whereupon I was introduced to Major Hugh Connant, he informed me it was a Bren-gun used in the war, highly accurate and having inter-

closely. When using an underwater camera for the first time shoot plenty of film, preferably black & white until you become proficient, then switch to colour, the possibilities are boundless and waiting.

An UNDERWATER ADVENTURE; John Scadden

While most U.E.C. divers were participating in the 30 metre dive at Rottneest on 24th March Verne Willis and I and our wives had quite an eventful day also.

A few weeks prior to this day we had arranged to go on this dive in my boat so, - we left the traffic bridge at 9.15am hoping to catch the "Sambo" but the motor was fairly drawing the petrol with an air leak in the pipe somewhere, we didn't make much leeway as the seas were getting choppy. Just short of halfway we decided to turn back owing to forecast warnings of winds freshening to the West. So back we went.

We reached the heads at 11.15am with Vern making good progress at the wheel, we decided to use our time to dive in the river at Blackwall Reach thinking that the rumour of car bodies would be good hunting grounds for two more or less game divers.

Arriving at our destination we anchored into what we thought was a good 20m of water. We donned our equipment and did a dive into 10-12m, visibility was 2-3m, muddy bottom, only two car bodies were located coming up with five crabs and four cobblers, enough for lunch or tea.

Retiring for about 2 hrs. during which we had lunch, most enjoyable!. The stubby's that is. A chit-chat followed with the conclusion that we dive on the opposite side of the boat. This revealed very much the same scenery as the first but it was new country with more scrap metal and muscle shells, anything would be noticable down there, and that's where it all started.

While moving along I noticed headlights, car fenders etc. but one thing did register and it was tube like and metal, heavy with a handle at right angles to it protruding

Rig ; Three Masted Schooner.
Built ; Built in Liverpool, Nova Scotia in 1918.
Master ; (in 1925) S.A. Allison. Owners (in 1925) G.S.H. Atkins of Adelaide S.A.
Registered ; Fremantle. Code signal T.N.C.K.
Wrecked ; Friday 17th June '27.

Not very much is known about this ship. In 1923 she is mentioned coming into Albany in distress having lost most of her sails and leaking after touching bottom in Coffin Bay on 23rd October.

She was also used in the construction of the Beadon Point Jetty.

Even when she was driven ashore not much is in the papers. There is a photograph of her and the mention that she was stranded in the strongest gale recorded to that date. Sometime after she was stranded vandals set fire to her and she was burnt out.

She lies within 20 - 30 ft on the south side of the "Alacrity" For most of the year she cannot be seen, or at the most only the odd wooden post sticks up out of the sand, but after a few winter gales have moved the sand (about August) almost the whole of her hull to just before the turn of her bilges can be seen. The timber appears to be pine and she is iron fastened. The rudder and rudder fittings have gone.

The Fremantle Port Authority are showing great concern about these wrecks and I suspect that although they may be covered up with sand they will not be destroyed except perhaps for the "Alacrity" which is starting to become dangerous.

PHOTOGRAPHY; Bob Gadsby M.I.A.P.

I was unable to be present at the last General Meeting (Mar) and my apologies to those who brought slides. We should have a good showing at the next meeting so lets see those slides which were taken at the last couple of field days.

CAMERA TECHNIQUE; Camera technique seems to be a common

problem, particularly in available light photography. Because of buoyancy it is very difficult to remain motionless underwater than it is on land, where the weight of the photographers body helps to steady him. One way to minimize the problem is to release the shutter with the same care used above water for shooting at only one half of the shutter speed. Still life and slowly moving subjects can be photographed at 1/60 th of a second if extreme care is used to prevent camera movement. A divers exhaust bubbles will appear blurred at this shutter speed, appearing to be rising rapidly towards the surface. A shutter speed of 1/125 th of a second is even a better choice to help minimize the effect of camera shake, but caution must still be excersized. Underwater exposures with medium speed colour films are often impossible at shutter speeds faster than 1/125 because of low light levels, and increases in shutter speed are accompanied by a penalty in depth of field. The shutter speed must be set at 1/125 or faster to avoid the 'ghost' effect when using electronic flash for fill in light.

Exposures for available light must be determined with an exposure meter to obtain the necessary accuracy. Flash exposures however can be determined by dividing the specified flash guide number by four to account for the loss of light along its water path. This is approximate and some correction may be required after the first results have been examined. Electronic flash exposure meters can be enclosed in water tight housings to determine accurate exposures in bodies of water having different optical properties, but they cannot be used to determine flash bulb exposures.

Light from a flash is scattered by particles suspended in the water, often resulting in pictures that look as though they had been taken in an underwater snow storm. This damaging effect can be reduced by positioning the flash at least three feet from the lens port, thus reducing the intensity of the light scattered by the particles directly in front of the

of the housing, this can be done by holding the flash with the left hand and extending it outward along a line making an angle of about 45 Degs. with the lens axis. Care must be taken so that the light covers the same field as the lens, and this requires some concentration and practice until it becomes second nature.

The undersea world offers the underwater photographer countless beautiful scenes and still life shots but at times the inclusion of a diver can have added effect. A diver can balance the composition, add human interest or help to complete a story. However at times divers can be terrible "hams" and it is advisable to brief the diving model before you enter the water. A set of hand signals should be agreed upon on the surface to prevent confusion below.

Rarely will voice communication be used therefore hand signals should be clear and concise. Models should be coached to look frequently at the operator for hand signals, to exhale when they think they are going to be photographed, and to avoid awkward poses.

Care must be taken to avoid light reflections from face masks unless the effect is desired, and the perspective achieved when using wide angle lenses can be particularly unflattering to female models depending on camera angle, sometimes causing hips to appear much broader than they really are. Closeups of still life and slow moving marine animals are undoubtedly the easiest to take.

Exposures for closeup photography are nearly constant because of the small variations in camera to subject distances, and visibility usually plays a reduced roll.

Patience, however, is required to photograph the small, seemingly nervous fishes that tend to dart constantly in and out of sharp focus. When photographing fish, some knowledge of the species is useful to be able to anticipate their movements. Some fish identification books are helpful in this regard. The photographers movements must be slow and smooth to avoid frightening fishes, and it is often fruitful to pick a suitable spot and remain motionless because some species are exceptionally curious and will approach

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB W.A. INC.



AUGUST, 1974

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political and economic pressure be placed on Japan and the Soviet Union (who between them take 85% of the worlds catch), to similarly comply. It is suggested that the Cheynes Beach Whaling station be diverted to either other fishing activities or to whale research. Retraining schemes and social assistance should be made to employees to ensure that such a transition occurs with a minimum of friction.

But action must be taken before it is too late. *

Mosman Bay Deep River Dive July 28th

"NIL VISIBILITY - CONDITIONS PERFECT" By JON CARPENTER

LOCATION of the dive site was accomplished easily, thanks to Keith Errington, who also provided shot line and safety line, not to mention anchor boat. Thanks also to Mike Pollard and Dennis Parker for ferrying the divers.

Nine divers took part and all were successful. Each was requested to retrieve a handful of mud from the bottom as proof of a qualifying dive. I assumed the muck retrieved by each diver was mud, but I was not prepared to verify this, despite attempts by certain divers to cover me in muck on surfacing. A few also seemed incapable of executing a duck dive, the result being a cold shower for the occupants of the anchor boat.

Some delay occurred when divers were not fully kitted up when they arrived at the dive site. Despite this, actual dive proceedings took only one hour.

A power boat race in the vicinity had no effect. We had been forewarned that a race was to be held. A Harbour and Light vessel approached our position, but moved out after confirming that we conformed to their instructions. One unidentified vessel approached us and enquired as to our purpose in the area. This presented no hazard as one diver only was in the water at any time, and he was roped to the anchor boat.

Fine weather throughout the diving period, and nil visibility made conditions perfect. Those who participated passed easily. Members headed home about noon. *

U.E.C. NEWS AUGUST 1974

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Property	KEITH ERRINGTON	Library	ELAINE AIREY
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UEC News

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Would contributors kindly post or deliver copy to the Editor, Hugh Peters, 15 Mackie Street, Victoria Park. Phone 617966. If not available, leave name and number.

Committee meetings, 1st Monday in the Month
General Meetings, 3rd Monday in the Month
Held at Naturalists Hall, Merriwa Street, Nedlands

The President says

"ON WITH THE NEW" by DAVID KENNY

SINCE this is the first mag article from your "leader", due to gross laziness, I should begin by extending a vote of thanks to the outgoing office bearers and at the same time warn the incoming mob that they will be in for a busy year. Signs to date have proved that we have a keen and eager committee with a lot of new ideas on how to inject a bit more life into the club. Don't get me wrong, we have one of the best clubs in W.A. However every club reaches a stage when things appear to be going a bit run down. What any club needs to keep it together is enough social activities to keep people in touch. This is what the new committee is aiming for.

Another change which has been on the cards for a while is the editors of our club mag, Barb and Dennis Parker, have at last decided to hang up their stencils and hand over to our new editor Hugh Peters. To Barb and Dennis, on behalf of the Club Members, I extend a sincere debt of gratitude for the sterling job they have done over the last eight or nine years, truly a club record. Congratulations.

Hugh Peters, as most of you know is another of the club stalwarts, who was the father of the Dolphin Club which he organised and ran for more years than you could poke a stick at! He was also responsible for their periodical the "Dolphins Digest". Armed with this experience and knowledge, I believe we have a most able and competent editor in our Hugh!

With training base closed some members might think the Club is dormant until summer. Not so. There is quite a lot of activity going on at present. Ken Harrison, with the assistance of Les Coleman and Bob Abrahams, are training a group of about 20 Adventure Scouts at Beatty Park during the week and from reports are doing a fine job. Good work men! Another group who have become known as the Swan River Torchlight Grovellers are out there each Sunday, diving in places which shall be nameless (after all we don't want every bugger there!), in freezing cold and murky conditions. Visibility is considered excellent if

In 1972 the I.W.C. set a quota of 5,000 minke whales based on an estimated population of 150,000. The following year, 1973, the Japanese re-estimated the minke whale population at 300,000 and asked for a quota of 12,000. By making a few alterations in the calculations they were able to double the world minke whale population in one year.

Today the I.W.C. has total whaling bans on the taking of all blue, humpback, right, grey and fin whales. Sei whales may well be commercially extinct at this stage. Sperm and minke whales are still being exploited. The I.W.C. presides over the demise of whale stocks. It teaches conservation only after stocks are commercially extinct. Very few of the great whales are left in the Northern Hemisphere, and in the south, stocks are declining at an unprecedented rate. There is no question that these creatures, if not given adequate protection, will face biological extinction.

After the collapse of the humpback whaling industry in 1963 only one whaling concern remained in operation in Australia: the Cheynes Beach Whaling Company Pty. Ltd., operating from Albany, Western Australia. Cheynes Beach hunts sperm whales off the southern coast. They operate under licenses from both Federal and State Governments. Products of their enterprise include meat and solubles which are made into meal and used in pet and poultry foods, and of course, there is oil.

Sperm oil has been used over the past few years as a high grade industrial oil. Recently however, high quality substitutes were released for sperm oil and sperm oil derivatives. The oil substitute is of petrochemical origin, is inexpensive and identical in properties to sulphurised sperm oil. In it is the final answer to those who would protect the holy cow of whaling in Australia.

Project Jonah is an international society devoted to the protection and understanding of all species of whales. It advocates that whaling to be controlled by the United Nations and that research in whaling is of immediate concern. With a view to allowing such research to take place before all species are wiped out, it supports a ten year moratorium on all whaling. Project Jonah asks that Australia cease whaling and that the maximum possible

impartially police the restrictions and to convince each nation that other nations were similarly adhering to the restrictions. (This has just been changed with the implementation of an international observer scheme.)

Finally not all of the whaling countries were even signatories to the Convention and hence not bound by it. Peru and Chile broke away in 1952 and were joined by Ecuador to form their own body. "The Permanent Commission for the Exploitation and Conservation of the Marine Resources of the South Pacific".

By the mid 1950s it was quite obvious that blue and humpback whales were in an alarming state of decline. In 1954, a complete ban was suggested on the taking of all blue and humpback whales in the Northern Hemisphere, by the I.W.C. Scientific Sub Committee, but six nations lodged objections to the ban on blue whales. The ban on humpbacks was not even implemented. Incredibly in 1957 the Scientific Sub Committee reversed its former decision and recommended that the number of humpbacks being taken should increase. But their reasons were not that the humpbacks could stand this increased exploitation, but that there was danger now for the fin whale. It was hoped that this would be a means of reducing the pressure on the latter species.

By 1959 it was clear that the I.W.C. was being black mailed by some countries who were threatening to leave. In the words of the chairman of the commission, "Conscious of the importance of maintaining the Convention, the Commission showed a willingness to consider making some increase in the Antarctic catch, if thereby the loss of those member countries which had given notice of withdrawal could be averted".

By 1963 the carnival was over. The blue whales and humpback stocks were decimated. A ban was imposed on the taking of all humpbacks from the Southern Hemisphere, but a similar ban prohibiting the taking of blue whales was objected to by Japan, Britain, Norway and the Soviet Union, rendering this restriction no more than theoretical. In 1966 it was recommended by the Scientific Sub Committee that the taking of all fin whales in the Antarctic should cease. This did not happen until 1974. And the pressure is now on the sei and minke whales

you can see the light of your torch while held against your face mask! It has not been too good lately! Not to mention the Squash Nite which was also a success. Which is more than can be said for the underwater hockey at Beatty Park. A grand total of three have shown up every Tuesday night. Mind you the weather has been foul and the water not too warm. Still, you did ask for it!

The boat population should be quite healthy from reports. Mike Preston has a new D Rover which to quote he is "slumming" together at present. Kevin Collett has a \$300 "bomb" that he's just fixed up. Gerry "Googlearse" (with apologies) is still working on the hull of his new (essel, and Brian Price has burnt his off (painful!) and is giving it a new look. To round it off Ken Kennedy will have his new crayboat mobile. Maybe we should form a power boat club!

Well I think to round off this report, late as it is, I should mention the Presentation Nite. Thanks to a lot of help, in spite of the change in venue, everything went off extremely well. Everyone enjoyed himself. The food was excellent and the band supplied good music till the wee hours, a trifle loud according to some of our more senior members. Perhaps they could wear their wet suit hoods next year! All in all a great and most successful nite. We didn't quite break even, but so the hell what! At \$5 a head it was more than value.

Well that's all for now folks. See you all with your gear on at the Marathon Swim on 25th August. *

FINANCES TO 5th AUGUST 1974

General Fund	270.28
Boat Fund	64.40
Building Fund	1864.42
Interest Bearing Deposits	<u>16500.00</u>
	<u>\$18699.10</u>

MEMBERSHIP

Life 4. Honorary 12. Full 86.
Country 4. Social 5. Junior 21. Total 132.

Training

"OPENING OF BASE" by GRAHAM WEIR

FIRST OF ALL, I would like to thank members for electing me to this position. Although I was under threat of three months suspension at home (this did not eventuate) if I took on base, I am looking forward to a good season.

There will be a Base Maintenance Day on September 1st. Volunteers are requested to attend to help out with a general clean up ready for opening day, which is SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15th.

There will be a couple of changes for the coming season, one of which is that all trainees are asked to give their name and next test number to Hanna (who will be in charge of the office), immediately on arrival at base. This, I hope, will speed up training and stop the necessity of wasting time running around asking who wants what test next. Thanks to Les Coleman and Keith Errington, there will be COOL CLEAN AIR, we hope, as these staunch members are in the process of installing a cooler which will be operational from opening day.

For those members who have not been near Base during the winter months, a vast change to the beach and beach line, both North and South of the groyne, will be noticed. Some of this change, I am sad to say, is not to the good of our training base.

Initial and Advanced trainees, with only their Instruction period to complete, are asked to attend to this matter as soon as possible. *

ROSTER OF EXAMINERS

September 15th D.Kenny, J.Carpenter, K.Errington, D.Parker
22nd.K.Collett, R.Wallis, L.Jones, M.Pollard.

UEC NEWS AUGUST 1974

attributed to the discovery of petroleum in Pennsylvania in 1859. The competition between sperm oil and petroleum was too strong and this whaling industry collapsed

Technologically, whaling received a new lease of life with the invention of the harpoon gun. Shortly afterwards came the arrival of steam powered whale catchers, and then in 1930, the first floating factory ship, with this final development, a fleet of catchers could roam at will completely independent of land, all processing of whale carcasses being done at sea.

But meanwhile the southern right whale stocks were decimated like their northern counterparts and the Pacific Greys were slaughtered in their Californian breeding grounds ... and then with its new technology the whaling industry took on the fin, the humpback and the blue whales, and they began to decline.

At last it was becoming obvious that the supply of whales was not an inexhaustible resource. Whaling nations were becoming concerned about the future of their industry. In Washington therefore in the year 1946, the International Whaling Commission was formed. Specifically it was established to preserve for future generations "the great natural resource represented by the whale stocks" since the "history of whaling has seen overfishing in one area after another to such a degree that it is essential to protect all species of whale from overfishing." The initial member nations of the commission were Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Soviet Union, the United States of America.

Perhaps the I.W.C. was doomed to failure. In retrospect there were many glaring weaknesses built into the framework of the commission. One example is that any member nation not wishing to be bound by an amendment to the I.W.C. schedule, but by the same token, passed by the necessary three quarters majority of member nations, can simply lodge an objection and decline from being restricted by that part of the new schedule. In other words, there is simply no need for a nation to be bound by any decision of the commission.

Where nations did agree to be bound by the commission, there was no system of international inspection to

Whaling Conservation

"PROJECT JONAH" by EDDIE BARRETT-LENNARD

Text of an address given at the July General Meeting.

WHALING is a current area of considerable controversy. Whales themselves, have figured in mythology and literature. They are extraordinarily complex in behaviour and highly modified to their watery environment. They are largely unknown and completely unique.

The hunting of whales has been mainly based on eleven species, the Atlantic, Greenland and southern right whales, the Pacific grey, the blue, the fin, the sei, the humpback, the minke whales. Of lesser importance have been the narwhal, the white and bottlenosed whales, the porpoise and the other smaller dolphins.

Historically, the hunting of whales is believed to have occurred in stone age times and there is evidence to be found of this today, in the eskimo tribes of North America. Archaeological findings include an Alaskan whale hunting settlement which has been dated back to 100 or 200 years A. D. Actual records of European whaling date from the ninth century.

As early as the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, the French and Spanish Basques were hunting the Atlantic right whale from the shores of the Bay of Biscay. Their industry expanded across the Atlantic to Iceland and stock of the species became severely depleted. In its stead the Basques discovered the Greenland right whale, a beast of greater proportions and with thicker blubber than the former, and this whale began to support the expanding European whaling industries from the beginning of the seventeenth century. By the beginning of the twentieth century, European whalers had destroyed most of this stock.

In North America in the 1700s, with the demise of the right whales, the New England whalers turned to sperm whaling, the sperm whale producing a far superior lighting fluid and candle wax than any then known. American sperm whaling reached a peak in 1850 and then slowly declined. The saving of these sperm stocks has been

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Diving

"LAKE LESCHENAULTIA 74" by Jon Carpenter

Conditions were ideal for this year's navigation swim, weather excellent, eleven divers participated. Everything proceeding smoothly. Three divers reached the target. Most deviated to great or lesser degree. There was a tendency to swing to the right of the target, no doubt due to metal interference. Some bared left and eventually entered reeds on the opposite side of the

Lake. Water temperature was constant from surface down, 9 deg.C. After the initial cursing, divers picked their feet and proceeded. Gerry Gougoulis provided surface safety cover in the aluminium dinghy.

Nevil Barker made an almost perfect swim and surfaced 3 feet 4 inches from the target. Needless to say he passed item 3 and deserved first prize. His nearest competitors were at least another 10 feet out. As usual Keith Errington and Dave Kenny toughened the competition. Keith, last year's winner, made second with a distance of 13 feet 1 inch off target, Dave 3 inches behind at 13 feet 4 inches. First prize a Suunto compass donated by Dive Surf and Ski, thanks to Bob and Ron Borg, went to Nevil Barker, Keith receiving a flagon of Kaiser Stuhl cream sherry, Dave a bottle of Yalumba Autumn Brown sherry. Both bottles rapidly drained during the barbecue. Autumn Brown consumed rapidly by certain women members, (no names Nellie).

Second attempts at the swim were not carried out. However Ken Harrison broke the ice and took water temperatures. Dave Kenny found a tank boot which proved to be the one he lost at last year's swim.

Finishing at 12.30pm the competitors and myself proceeded to the barbecue area. After Dave Kenny had finished everybody's leftovers, he presented the prizes to Nevil Barker and Keith Errington. I presented our president with his bottle, of which he was only to lick the cork.

A suitable rock was found for shot putting. Men first, D. Kenny setting the pace and winning, the show off. I

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wasn't really trying! Actually it was the glare from somebodies head that put me off. The women were next to throw, Irene Gougoulis winner by a long shot.

Tug-o-war next. I made sure Kenny was on my side. We were bound to win, at least after we wucceeded in getting the other, sorry, Les Coleman's team to back down! They were, however, soon back on their feet and made it a draw. Cheaters were prolific. Gents were obliged to relieve themselves prior to this event.

Children's tug-o-war was carried out in similar fashion, with assistance from the older kids. You know who. A tree climbing contest was arranged. I didn't realise we had such a big contribution from the ape family in the club. What with accusations of mothers being Rhesus Positive! Rhys Errington climbed to victory. Older members grunted and wheezed during some really feeble attempts. Myself staying firmly on the ground, not wanting to prove kinship with the other apes.

Keith and Les arranged a treasure hunt for the smaller kids. Twenty cents, a princely sum, was reimbursed to Les Coleman, after he threatened me.

I'm sure the day was enjoyed by all. Members who failed to turn up missed some good humour and fun. Our next outing should prove as good, so why not attend. *

"A BIT PERSONAL"

WOMEN'S LIB. Who will be the first lady member to get a story in the mag. What's it like to be a diving wife? Come on, I dare you!

JUNIOR DIVER. Don't let the others get away with it. You're in this too!

COLOUR SLIDE contest for July was won by Colin Harris.

GOT A PET BEEF? Write a letter to the editor. Never know, you might just come up with an idea which does prove of benefit to the club. But keep them short and to the point.

U.E.C. NEWS AUGUST 1974

If I were asked what is the greatest sensation, I would say without any hesitation - finding a wreck. After weeks, months, years, of studying historic documents for clues, then patiently searching the sea, the first sight of a long lost wreck is such an experience that words cannot adequately describe the sensation.

This is the greatest satisfaction of all! *

Squash Night July 20th

"AMBER FLUID REPLACES STEAM" by DENNIS PARKER

A most enjoyable night was had by members and friends attending this function. With 23 playing members arriving at the Cambridge Courts, together with non players and children, making in excess of 50 persons. A well attended function.

Fifteen players participated in a knockout competition which soon eliminated the aged, unfit and non players. However as the overall champ was El Pres, there could be the inference of favouritism on the part of some. We must admit though that El Pres stayed the course and had to play five competitive games. So he can't be too bad.

Financially we broke even on the night, and the goodies brought by the ladies were well appreciated, with the amber fluid to replace steam let off playing.

It was a unanimous vote that we hold another squash night in the near future. With a few more in attendance we could even swell the club coffers. *

PROJECT JONAH

If, after reading the whaling conservation article in this issue, you wish to become more interested in the cause, the author will be only too willing to supply you with further information.

You may contact him by writing to Eddie Barrett-Leonard St. George's College, Crawley, W.A. 6009, or by ringing 86.4610

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For the Younger Diver

"WHAT CAN I EXPECT FROM DIVING?" by HAROLD ROBERTS

THE ANSWER to this question is - satisfaction. This is the word I would use as a result of some years of experience. The reasons for this satisfaction are many.

When I started diving in 1954, I had read all the books available, and the newspaper articles of those people engaged in the sport at that time. I fiddled around on my own, with a mask and snorkel - a gas mask connected by a tube to a float on the surface - and numerous trials brought about by a curiosity for something new.

It was not until I was invited out by the UEC in 1956 to dive on the newly discovered Cottesloe wreck, that I saw the light of truth. When I was allowed to try Bill Noonan's scuba unit in the harbour, and sat on the bottom breathing easily, I was completely sold. I was away like a rocket. I became a member, dived with the Club, socialised with the Club and worked hard for the Club.

I was learning and learning fast. Every week end was precious to me, with new things to try. Two-hundred foot dives, manta board crossing to rottnest, mud dives, navigational dives, Mundaring Weir dives, wrecks, fish all added to increasing experience. I joined in the activities of spear fishing clubs and realised the fun they had in their type of sport. I was a pilot during the war years, but here was something to surpass even flying.

Out of all this activity I was learning that in this sport, whether it be spearing or scuba diving, know-how was the most important thing in the game. Get this and it created a great self reliance and independence in your spirit. Satisfaction is still the word used for these experiences.

An important thing I have learned is that satisfaction is increased when you have been a leader. It is only through taking an active part organising that you get the real benefit.

Scribbling

"COME ON IN - THE WATER'S FINE"

EVERY PERSON who loves diving has a story to tell. This is equally true be you young or old, male or female, raw rookie or veteran.

What is there to write about? Well it doesn't have to be a learned piece of research. Nor does it have to be a death defying adventure. And very few of us have discovered an ancient galleon, with pieces-of-eight spilling out of rotting chests.

So what? Remember that incident you told your friends about? At the time, you may have felt amused or sad, amazed or shocked, apprehensive or downright terrified.

The story that interested you and your friends will interest everybody. Many of your readers will have been in a similar situation or predicament. They will understand. Your account may well remind them of an experience and encourage them to write it down.

Can't write? Well give it a go. The editor will help you sort it out. Probably you learned something from your experience. Share it with others.

Another thing. A yarn does not necessarily have to be directly about diving. All divers love water, be it on, in, or under a river, lake or ocean. This widens the scope. Tell us the how, when, where and why of the happening. Tell us what you saw, how you felt, and what you learned.

Forget this business of false modesty. Enjoy seeing your name up top, next to the title of your story.

And wouldn't it be great for the editor to have a whole sheaf of stories just waiting for enough space to fit them in. If you reckon it can't be done, take a look over the page. *

"SHIVER ME TIMBERS!"

Memories of a wintry Swim

SUMMER and autumn had gone, and with it the diving season for fair weather types. June and official winter had come in with clear sky and bright sun.

That pleasant Sunday morning, the temptation to dive was too difficult to resist. Grabbing mask, fins and swim trunks, I leapt in the trusty bus and headed for Woodman Point. Once there I could see the beach was deserted, with only one or two ardent fishermen on the rocky groyne.

There were good excuses for delaying awhile; the warm car, a good program on the radio and the morning paper to browse through. Then with great determination, a scramble into bathers and down to the beach. A pause in the shallows, for ritual spit and rinse of mask, set feet atingling. A short wait further in till at least half the goose pimples had seized up, then a final plunge. Believe it or not, it wasn't too bad at all!

As action seemed most necessary, a brisk overarm soon had me by the big buoy, out of breath and all. Yes, the tattered remnants of the scuttled mini sub were still there, but not much in the way of fishy tenants to watch. Must keep moving, so off again at more leisurely pace, diagonally across the bay toward the groyne.

Down below, in about 15ft, I came across a pile of empty shells in an otherwise bare expanse of white sand. This looked interesting. Up with fins and down for a look see. Sure enough, close by was a sizeable hole, and from its depths the unwinking yellow eye of a cosily coiled octopus.

Half way out the groyne, at some 20ft, I had previously come across a brilliantly coloured box fish. Perhaps he would still be there. I went to find out. So he was, in exactly the same spot, pectoral fins aflutter, getting his clumsy body nowhere; his ungainly shape more than offset by beautiful striping of green and blue. Approaching cautiously from the rear, I grasped him

gently between finger and thumb.

He seemed to paralyse, tail turned sideways, motionless. When released he immediately sprang into action, scuttling smartly into the protection of a rocky overhand.

Forty minutes in the water now, skin beginning to register the onset of chill. But the aquatic tour was not quite ended. Finning back toward the beach, there was another collection of shells, this time neatly ringed by an old motor tyre. Dead centre of the heap was one half of a much larger shell.

Attracted by the shell itself, I picked it up and surfaced for closer inspection. From its hollow I prised several tiny fleshy sea creatures which seemed to be stuck there. The reason soon became very clear. To my surprised gaze, the miniature perfection of a blue-ringed octopus!

I had always imagined this colourful cephalopod preferred the warmth of tropic waters. I had first come across them in Broome, when accompanying my hosts to Cable Beach to indulge their passion for shell collecting. My hostess had told how, on her first encounter, she had "played with the pretty thing for half an hour and let it crawl over my hands and arm".

But since the lethal properties of this particular octopus had now been well publicised, I let the shell sink back to the sea bed. Young occi could find his own way home!

Emerging from the water, a couple of strollers took one look at my purple-red tinge of skin and remarked "You can have it on your own!" A vigorous towel rub and all was well. Into clothes again then off for a brief stop at the local shop to take aboard some nourishment.

Nothing spectacular had happened during the morning, but that dip had proved thoroughly enjoyable, city cobwebs brushed away, and golden brown of summer reinforced a little longer before giving way to pallid night club tan.

An unhurried homeward journey chomping on succulent pie, lively pop tune playing. Life was good! *

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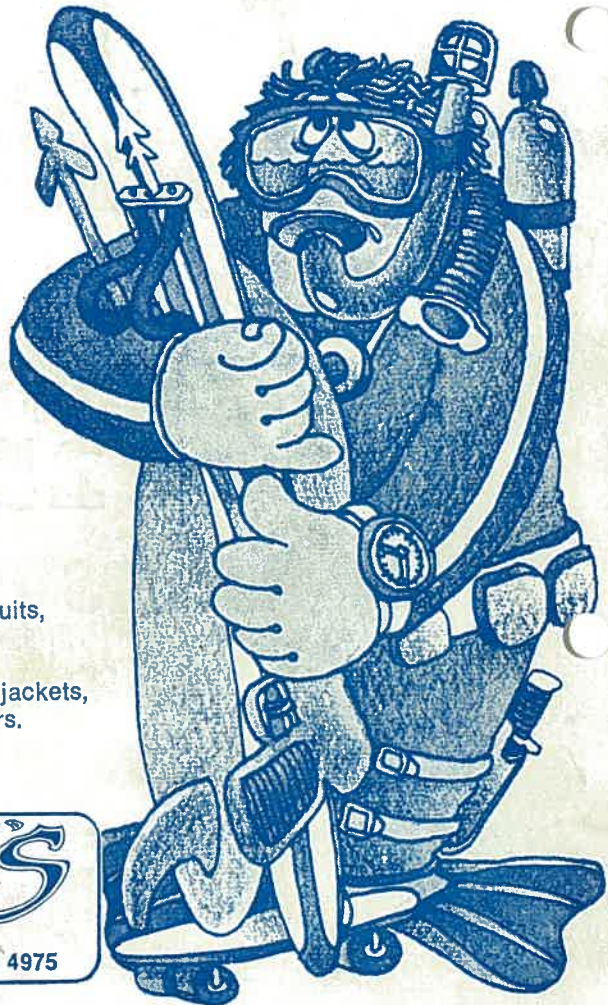
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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB W.A. INC.



SEPTEMBER, 1974

Price: 5 cents

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First we went to Hell. That is a few acres of coral reef, that got pushed up out of the water. It's real weird looking. They have a post office there, so we mailed everybody cards from Hell. Later we went to Pedro Castle. This is a castle that Henry Morgan owned. A pro diver owns it now and has restored it to the way it was when Morgan lived there.

We arrived at the airport in plenty of time for the plane. It touched down on schedule. Boy, that air conditioned cabin, free from mosquitoes, felt good. When we took off, we watched the island for as long as we could. It was really beautiful. Both of us were sorry to leave but it was good to know we were leaving the mosquitoes behind.

The plane touched down at Montego Bay, Jamaica at 10.30. We goofed around the airport until 7pm, when we managed to get the last two seats on the last plane out that day. I don't know what we would have done if we hadn't gotten on. I think the airport closed after that last flight.

When we got on the plane, we had forty cents between us. They served us a good meal, thank the Lord. We were on a Boeing 727 jet and I mean it was speedy. We reached Miami airport at 8.30pm and caught the 11pm express bus for Atlanta and slept nearly all the way.

The girl I told you about was supposed to be staying at Fort Lauderdale. I had planned to stop over to see her but as I had only a dime left, we decided to push on. I bet I ate solid time for a whole week when I reached home! *

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UEC NEWS SEPTEMBER 1974 16

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Committee Meetings 1st Monday in month
General Meetings 3rd Monday in month
Held at Naturalists Hall, Merriwa Street, Nedlands

Flash From the White House

"TWO HUNDRED FOOTER COMING UP!" by DAVID KENNY

THE S MAG comes out so soon after the last one that I'm starved for news. The Marathon Swim will be over. Hope it's a roaring success. If not we can always drown our already numbed brains with some wine from the Gods!

At the meeting the other night Kevin Collett offered to organise another 200ft dive. This requires a lot of careful planning and forethought. I'm glad to see he has already set up a dive committee to assist. With Uncle Ken Kennedy making his boat available it should be a piece of cake.

The start of the training season is on us so its about time all you trainees shook the cobwebs from your suits and prepared for a more efficient training schedule. Base boss Graham Weir, with assistance from Les Coleman and some of the usual hardy annuals, plan to run training on a group system. This should help a lot of you through the course more quickly.

Rather than trim the wick, I'll call it a night on this note: "Carry your bag sir?" "Hell NO, let her walk!" *

<u>FUNDS</u>	General	\$174.54	Int/Bearing Deposit	\$8500.00
	Boat	\$ 64.40	Building	\$9842.54

<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>	Full	86	Life	4	Honorary	12	Country	4
	Social	5	Junior	21	Total	132		

NOMINATION Robert James GUDE, 4a Prospect St, Claremont

EXAMINERS ROSTER FOR OCTOBER

6th.	K.Kennedy,	W.Marshall,	B.Geddes,	J. Walden.
20th.	D.Kenny,	D.Parker,	K.Errington,	J.Carpenter.

DIVE DEEP into your pockets. Dig out your shekels. Reach for your cheque book. The Club's coffers need filling. In other words, MEMBERSHIP SUBS ARE DUE 1ST OF OCTOBER!

That afternoon, some fellows came along with a boat. They could not swim very well, so we got them about 20lbs of fish and several big lobsters. We got them to take us to two huge freighters which had run aground on a reef, one in 61, the other in 64. These were interesting to explore as neither of us had ever been on an ocean going ship before. Then we got the guys to take us to several good wrecks on the outside. They ranged in age from the late 1500s to just weeks ago. The older ones were literally piled up on top of each other, there were so many of them. The swells outside were rather large. Gary was seasick; but I felt fine.

We were so sunburned it was pitiful, especially the backs of our legs. It was a lousy night to be sure, but we finally got to sleep. Next morning we just lazed in the sack till 10. I tell you it was terror to move. For dinner we had potted meat, then went to the Tortuga Club. When Mr. Bergstrom saw our condition, he told us there was an old woman in the kitchen who could fix us up. She fixed some kind of goop made of butter and fish oil. Rubbed on our burns, we had no further trouble. It was a miracle!

Next morning, two men came to our hut. One was a professional spearfisherman who had heard of us. They invited us to dive with them. We got his boat and went out at 8am. Back by noon, we had 230lb of fish. The biggest was an amberjack that weighed 32lbs cleaned. Back at camp that evening we roasted fish, boiled lobsters and had quite a feast. Then we sat round the fire and talked and thought. It really was beautiful, the picture of a tropical paradise. There were more stars than I had ever seen before. We saw the Southern Cross for the first time. The sea was beautiful. The palms and beach finished the picture perfectly.

With 23 dollars each left, we had been toying with the idea of going to Jamaica. In Georgetown, next morning, we found we could get to Jamaica for \$10 extra on our ticket, so booked on the next morning's flight. For a final look round at Cayman, we rented an old Chevy, 12 hours for \$10 and another \$10 as deposit.

East End is very isolated. The only thing near where we planned to camp was the Tortuga Club, a modern hotel run by Eric Bergstrom, who was a great guy. I doubt if we could have made it without him and his wife, who by the way, is a dish! They supplied us with drinking water, a pot to boil lobsters in, let us use the showers and were generally a huge help.

Set up camp a mile down the beach, then spent a couple of hours in the water getting familiar with a reef some 200 yards off shore. Put on dry clothes, ate a can of pork and beans, then beat a hasty retreat from a massive mosquito assault. We had to get in our hammocks 6pm each evening, or build a big fire to keep from being eaten. Discussed the island till 11pm. Love at first sight for all of us.

Got up early and high tailed it to the beach, where the wind kept the skeeters away. Out hammocks were in a grove of sea grape trees twenty yards from the sea. Found a thatched hut - just a roof on legs - a little way up the beach, so moved all our gear into it. Had our last can of potted meat for breakfast, then spent the morning wreck diving on the inside of the reef. They were just a mass of junk. The good ones are on the outside.

We needed provisions. There was supposed to be a store at Gun Bay, seven miles away. About noon we started off, Brock and I swimming, Gary walking along the beach. We saw many cannon and lots of fish and pretty coral, but like I said, that soon got boring. At Gun Bay we never did find that store. We set out walking for East End. None of us had shirts, Brock and I no shoes. Misery! At last we found a store, drank some Jamaican soft drinks, bought 5lbs of potatoes, pork and beans, crackers and potted meat. While talking that night, Brock said he'd had enough of the mosquitoes. Up at dawn, we packed his gear, went with him to the airport where he caught a flight back to Miami.

Wreck Research

"WHERE IS THE GEMMA?" by MIKE POLLARD

SHE came into Fremantle on 10th January 1886 with a cargo of coal from Fleetwood, England, with a crew of 10, master E. Bolt, and was retained here for use as a hulk.

She next appears on the 27th September 1886 as having grounded 150 yards from the New South jetty. She had just loaded a cargo of grain and other perishables from the Mary Blair. On the 29th September she was still a hulk and now full of water. The crew assisted the Harbour Master heave her upright. From 1st - 6th October there was a team of divers working on her patching her hull and on the 21st October she was pumped afloat, towed to deep water and anchored.

In February 1888 she next had a mention in the newspapers. A sailor George Cocke was knocked down while loading bundles of wire and broke his leg. He was treated by a Dr. Barnett.

The Gemma served as a cargo hulk for a further 5½ years until on 15th August 1893, quietly and with no fuss she was towed to Jervis Bay and beached.

In the early 1960s two wooden wrecks were found in Jervis Bay just south of Training Base, by members of the UEC.

One, very broken up, about 300 yards south of the ALACRITY, was called the REDEMPTORA which was half mapped by the club during the winter of 1971, the other just south of the present site of the A.S.I ship building yards. This one consisted of a load of granite blocks - hence its name "the wreck of stones".

She was full of these blocks when she sank and now this is all that can be seen, a dry stone wall in the middle of Cockburn mud. However if one wafts this mud away, her ribs can still be seen, albeit badly eaten

by Toredo worms. The sides of her hull can also be found. They seem to have split at the turn of her bilges and fallen outwards. The hull is sheathed with Muntz metal and an occasional brass bolt may be found on her. It looks as if at some point she was set alight as there are a few lumps of what seem to be once molten metal to be found as well as probable charred timber.

For a while I thought that this wreck was the GEMMA. However on 22nd September 1973, Pat Baker of the W. A. Museum, and I measured her. The length of the wall of stones was longer than the Gemma. They measured 125ft long, 34ft wide and 4ft 6ins high. The length of the wreck is approximately 158ft and allowing a rib size of 9ins, outer planking of 3ins and inner planking of 2ins, her beam would be about 36ft 4ins.

I now think that this ship could well be the REDEMP-TORA which on heresay information was beached and burnt at Clarence, while the one we mapped during the winter of 1971 is the GEMMA.

I think it would be well worth while taking timber samples off both these ships and having them identified. The REDEMPTORA being built in America should have very different timbers to the GEMMA, being German built.

SPECIFICATIONS OF THE GEMMA (ex H. BEENKE)

Construction	Wood
Dimensions	Length 120.4ft Beam 26.7ft Depth 13.5ft
Tonnage	318 tons gross. 306 tons net
Rig	Brig
Built	at ELSFLETH on the river Aller, between Bremen and Bremerhaven, Germany, in 1868 by J. Ahlers.
Master	E. Bolt. Owners - C. Bethell of London
Wrecked	Scuttled in Jervoise Bay 15th August 1893 *

ARE YOU GOING TO SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER THIS SEASON?

A Yarn From Young American Correspondent DAVID BARROW

"CARIBBEAN DIVING SAFARI TO GRAND CAYMAN ISLAND"

Gary and Brock picked me up and took me to their apartment in Atlanta. They are Marine Reservists. We all had last dates with our girl friends and spent the rest of the night packing and trying to remember what we were sure we had forgotten. An Army Surplus store was located in the city where jungle hammocks were bought. The bus left Atlanta at 2pm and travelled all night. Met a great girl from Oshawa, Ontario, but that is another story!

Arrived at Miami 6.30 next morning, but our baggage had rot. Spent the morning in a pretty park on Biscayne Bay, checking the bus station every two hours. Our baggage finally arrived at noon. The plane for Cayman took off at two, and only when I actually sat in my seat did I really believe I was on my way. I had planned for so long. Flew over Cuba; saw the Bay of Pigs, and arrived in Georgetown Grand Cayman Island 4.30pm. Went through Customs and tried to figure out what to do next. Finally we piled in a taxi driven by a Jamaican named Thompson. We called him Sunbeam. He turned out to be a real buddy.

It was too late to try and camp that night. Sunbeam introduced us to the schoolmaster, who said we could stay the night in the school. Later Sunbeam picked us up and took us to a wild dance at a place called Club Inferno. We had a good time to say the least.

Brock and I got up early and walked to the harbour in Georgetown. This was our first real introduction to the mosquitoes - they steadily got worse. Spent an hour fooling around. Speared a few fish which we gave to some kids. Sunbeam and Gary came down to pick us up, had breakfast and went to see the fellow with the only compressor on the island. Learned he was on Little Cayman with all his gear, filming sharks. Well, what the heck, the water was so clear and warm you didn't need a lung. Loaded up our gear and had Sunbeam take us twenty miles to the other end of the island.

SOME Unusual evidence has now come to light in favour of the Portuguese. This is a report which has almost gone unnoticed since 1967, in the back pages of a language journal. The author is Dr C. G. von Brandenstein a West German linguist working at the W.A. University.

He has been studying the language of four aboriginal tribes, the Kariera, the Ngarluma, the Nyamal and the Indypani, whose tribal grounds range along the coast and inland, roughly between Roebourne and Port Hedland.

Dr von Brandenstein became interested because those four tribes speak their language in rather a European manner, while other aboriginals do not. The tribes say "I shot three ducks", where other aboriginals say, "By me, the shooting concerns three ducks".

Then there are near-Portuguese words, used only by the four tribes:

FIRE. Portuguese fogueira. Aboriginal pogara or vogara.

The tribes are unable to pronounce "f".

FLAME. Portuguese chama. Aboriginal tzama

The tribes are unable to pronounce "sh".

ASHES. Portuguese cinza. Aboriginal tyinda

There is even one nine letter word identical in each language--TARTAROGA, turtle. These words are all 16th century Portuguese.

The tribes' songs are also unique in Australia. Some resemble minstrel songs of old Europe, and are accompanied by an instrument using a bow which makes rattles on the edge of a violin sized piece of board. Could they have copied this from a sailor playing a fiddle?

Turtle, fire, flames, ashes, seem much more than mere coincidence. A fairly lengthy contact would be necessary for the tribes to absorb these strange words from the foreigners.

Taking it all round, it would appear that the Portuguese can be credited with the first major contacts along the western side of the Southland.

One day, perhaps, divers will discover Portuguese wrecks along this area of our shoreline. *

For the Younger Diver

"WHAT DID MCGLOB DO WRONG?"

McGLOB decided the day was too nice to stay home, so why not go for a dive? It took a while to get his lung down off the top shelf and his fins and goggles from behind the radiator. Soon everything was in the car. Good day to go to a secret bay he knew about. Plenty of fish to spear. No one around. It was midday when he reached the bay. He put his gear on the sand, then ate his lunch.

McGLOB had no weight belt, so he put some rocks in his pants pocket, then put on his rubber suit. He shook the sand out of his mouthpiece and put the demand valve on his lung. He put on the rest of his equipment, then loaded his spear gun. The water near the beach was clear and shallow, so he tossed his fins and speargun into the water and in he went.

He put on his fins and goggles. In went the mouthpiece and down went McGlob. The suit was quite buoyant so he had a little trouble getting down. He finally reached bottom at fifty feet. McGlob stayed at this level about twenty minutes, when it became hard to breathe. Being a safety minded diver, he reached for his Res-Q-Pak and squeezed it. "This is the life," he thought, as he took a deep breath and shot to the top.

Back on the beach, he took off his gear and carried it to the car. He stood the lung up beside the rear bumper and put his gear in the boot. The lung he put in the front of the car so that it could be refilled easily. When he got home he was too tired to unload, so he went to bed. *

BEFORE you read any further, write down all the things that McGlob did wrong. No cheating mind, for the answers are on the next page. How did you score?

"WHAT McGLOB DID WRONG"

THERE are other possible answers, but the main ones are listed below.

- 1 High pressure cylinders should not be stored where an accidental fall could damage the valve.
- 2 Store rubber equipment in a cool dry place.
- 3 First rule of scuba diving - "Never dive alone".
- 4 Keep regulator off sand. Valve seats could be damaged.
- 5 Don't dive for an hour after eating. Stomach cramp is serious. A diver could run out of air before relaxing. Without a buddy, he'll be in trouble.
- 6 Weights go on last to enable dropping in emergency
- 7 Check tank pressure to know how long you can dive, or if you can dive at all.
- 8 It is dangerous to load a speargun out of the water.
- 9 A speargun can be damaged by throwing in the water.
- 10 Goggles are not used for diving because it is not possible to equalise pressure round the eyes. Eye squeeze is mighty painful. Also, with the nose exposed, water could be inhaled.
- 11 Before entering water, blow mouthpiece clear of water. Try a few breaths to see regulator is working and that air is turned on.
- 12 A rubber suit must be purged of air to submerge easily.
- 13 An ascending diver whistles out air to avoid embolism.
- 14 A Res-Q-Pak or other inflatable device, is meant to float a diver on the surface, not to take him there.
- 15 The cylinder might have been tipped over and resulted in an unguided missile.
- 16 Salt water divers must immediately wash all gear with fresh water, to rid it of highly corrosive salt. *

NEW MEMBER. Donald John AGAR, 44 Leonora Street, Como.
Welcome aboard Don.

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Research

"DID THE PORTUGUESE DISCOVER AUSTRALIA?"

AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINALS are thought to have migrated to the Southland from Southern Asia at least 20,000 years ago. At that time Australia might have been land-linked to Asia, so that our original inhabitants could have walked here. But that is old history.

Lots of argument has gone on about who it was, in modern history, first discovered Australia. Modern history could cover the last five or six centuries.

Since, during this time, Australia was an island continent entirely surrounded by water, newcomers must have arrived here from across the sea. Our knowledge of early visitors has come from old written records, or the discovery of wrecks which have sparked off enquiries.

The earliest documented records concern two Dutchmen, Willem Jansz, skipper, and Jan Lodswycksz van Rossengin, agent, in a three master called Duyfken, or little dove. Coming from New Guinea in March 1606, the Duyfken charted 200 miles off Cape York Peninsula without knowing it was separate from New Guinea and part of the fabled Southland.

Some historians hold that other maritime explorers came here before the Dutch. Even in 1290, Marco Polo spoke of Greater Java, the biggest island in the world, 3,000 miles around." Those who say the Portuguese arrived here long before the Dutch, use these arguments:

In 1499 there is an account, written in Spanish, of an animal resembling the kangaroo, in country much like our South West karri forest "bearing her whelps about with her in an outward belly, much like unto a great bag or purse" with "snout like a fox, ears like a bat, hands like a man".

In 1541, there was a French map, probably derived from Portuguese originals, showing a land called Great Java, with striking resemblance to parts of our coast in the right latitudes.

In 1916, two Portuguese carronades - short naval cannon of the 15th - 16th Century, were discovered at Napier Broome Bay, at the top of Western Australia.

big brothers in the USA and Italy pay handsomely for a good story and illustrating pictures - from \$150 to \$350 can be yours from "Skindiver" or "Mondo Summerso".

However there are skindivers all over the world deluging them with stuff. They have a lot of good work to choose from and only want the best. So if you want to learn, to serve an apprenticeship, to get your articles edited for free and knocked into shape, let "Dive" have them. One thing is for sure, if your article isn't good enough for us, you'll never sell it elsewhere, with the pay mags.

If you have something valuable to contribute to the skindiving world, or a fine photo sequence you would like to see published, then there may be reward enough from sending your article to us. "Dive South Pacific" has survived for ten years on the generosity and fellowship of skindivers who wanted to assist the magazine and thus enable it to better serve their interests. Many of them realise that if they enjoy reading the articles of others it is necessary to contribute something themselves when it is within their power. *

* TRY yourself out with shorter stories in the UEC News then have a go with "Dive South Pacific". Several UEC members have already published in that fine mag. ED.

"THERE'S NOTHING NEW ABOUT SCUBA AND SNORKEL!"

ARISTOTLE, the ancient Greek philosopher records a small type of diving bell used by sponge divers, into which they could stick their heads to take a breath without surfacing. The air in these bells was replenished by sending down weighted skins filled with air.

He also wrote, "Just as divers are sometimes provided with instruments of respiration, through which they can draw air from above the water and thus remain for a long time under the sea, so have elephants been furnished, by nature, with their lengthened nostril". *

"NOTICE OF MOTIONS"

First given at the August General Meeting by L. Coleman and to be put forward at the September General Meeting.

Re the U.E.C. Constitution

First Motion - Clause 6 Membership. Sub clause G to be altered to read: Membership subscriptions are payable on October 1st each year. Notice of due subscriptions are to be circularised in the September issue of the Club Magazine. Members who fail to pay their subscriptions within two calendar months of the subscriptions being due and payable, will be deemed to have resigned from the U.E.C.

Second Motion - Clause 26 to be altered to read: The financial year will end September. Any person joining after March need only pay half fees. All fees and charges to be decided by the Committee. And, after 1: Full male member \$12.00 delete reference to boat fee. And, after 2: Female member \$6.00 delete reference to boat fee.

Third Motion - Boat Fee. To be altered to read: An optional fee of \$10.00 will cover all boat trips for the season. Alternatively a charge of \$3.00 per head per trip will be payable. *

"RARE FISH IN NULLARBOR"

TINY BLIND FISH have been discovered in the Nullarbor by an Adelaide group of potholers. The group was exploring caves when they saw fish swimming in subterranean pools. Thinking them to be some kind of eel, they caught some of the 2" long fish for the South Australian Museum. They were identified as blind gudgeon, one of the rarest fish in Australia. They have been found before only on a remote part of North West Cape, WA.

The fish are thought to have been carried to the Nullarbor along one of the underground streams proved by geologists to run under the dead heart of Australia. Living in the dark, they have lost the use of their eyes. *

"HOW TO WRITE SKINDIVING ARTICLES"

by

WADE DOAK - EDITOR - DIVE SOUTH PACIFIC

THE BIG TROUBLE in writing is that you think it requires something special. You think that whatever you really want to say has to be expressed in impressive words, phrases and sentences. Perhaps you recall some fancy style in old books or magazines and feel obliged to copy it. You think "written" English is different from spoken English. Forget it! All you've got to do is get yourself across. This calls for simplicity, concrete language and a little planning.

You've had an interesting diving experience and you want to tell others about it. You also have some photos that make the text real. So where do you start? "We set off at 8.30 from the wharf .." Nothing is deadlier. No one gives a damn when or how you left. Don't make the mistake of recording the experience simply as it happened. In your preplanning, recast and rearrange it. "The shark attacked as soon as I jumped into the water" Your reader is hooked. You can back track later and give him the surrounding details - where, when, how and why.

Make it plain from here on. Your reader can't say "Explain that bit - I don't get it". If they can't follow you, they give up or the editor gives you up.

Having made a start, you now make headings and fill them out into paragraphs each linked logically to the rest. Consider your sentences - scrawl the awkward ones down on a piece of paper and poke them around to get the best order. Is there a more appropriate, or more vivid word? Don't just go down to the bottom - you glide, plummet, grope, meander ...

People have ears and noses and their bodies can feel. If you mention your sensations of smell, sound, taste and touch as well as vision, you make the reader relive fully your experience. Back to the shark - sound - touch - taste - you've got him crawling up the wall!

Don't forget to situate events clearly. Lengthy description of scenery is stultifying, but mention enough to create atmosphere or a sense of locality. It is most skillful if you can blend it in with the action.

"The current carried us reeling past lovely corals and around bends. Contact with the walls on either side could strip away flesh at the rate we were going. Fish in all sorts of distorted positions were frozen solid into spatial relations with us, in the mass of animals streaming through. Shooting the rapids underwater was an entirely new thrill. (Cousteau traversing tunnels in a coral reef)

A series of short punchy sentences has a speeding up effect. An excellent technique for a passage of hot action, just as is used in movie sequences.

Be personal! Avoid the overmodest elimination of yourself. Passages which go "you do this you do that" when you mean "I" are annoying. And if your diving mates will forgive you, try to capture their personalities too. Direct quotes can really liven up an article. "I know where all the crays have gone!" said John. "To America in plastic bags".

Diving articles aren't just for entertainment though. The primary thing is to be interestingly informative. So don't skim over the technical details of your new piece of gear, or the unusual technique you used. Magazine readers love to learn something of value from your experience.

If your story involves a series of many similar incidents, you can handle it best by relating one such incident in fine detail, generalising from that thereafter.

The last and hardest thing to do, is stop. Try to round off neatly, perhaps by stressing a point made at the outset, or summing up your feelings on the whole piece of action, or with a touch of wry humour.

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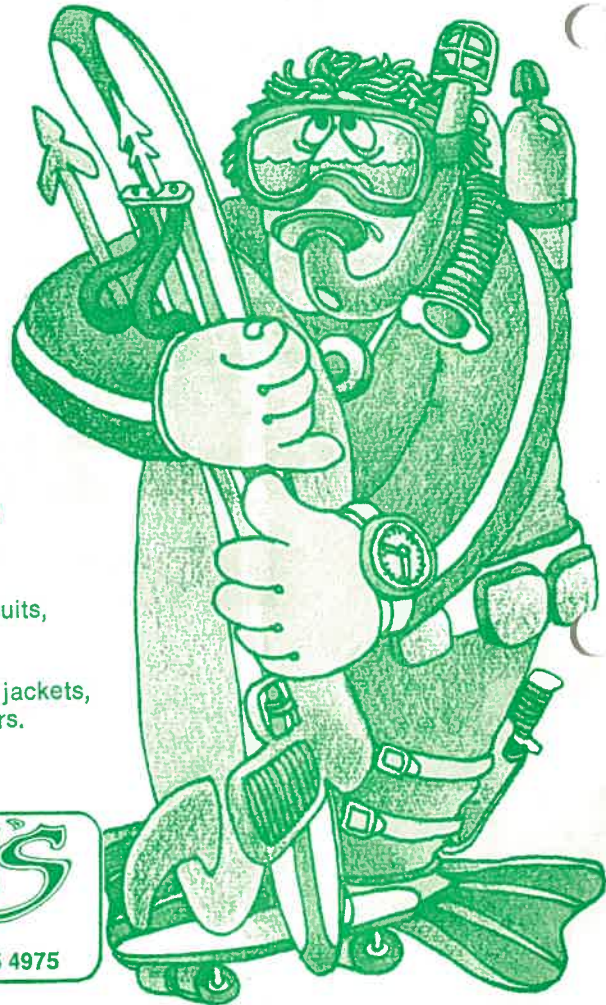
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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB W.A. INC.



OCTOBER, 1974

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Editor's Thoughts on the Mag.

"THINK OF A GORGEOUS YOUNG GIRL!"

ARE you thinking? Strikingly beautiful face, perfect figure, nice nature ... That's enough, you can stop now. Think of the same beautiful creature dressed in rags or a drack sack. Not so good. The contents might be first class, but the packaging is highly important.

And so with the mag. No matter how good the material is, decent presentation cannot but improve the whole mag. The essence of all this is, it takes time. Response to my call for more stories was most heartening. Several folks have said, "I have articles on such-and-such. When do you want them?" The answer is, and always will be, NOW.

Why the hurry? An editor's job is to use the available space to the best advantage. It means each article has to be drafted to fit. This often requires trimming or even re-arranging. Did you realise that a whole paragraph may need redrafting so that, by deleting excessive 'ands' and 'buts', two lines of type can be saved.

Another thing. In a club with 100 plus membership there are as many likes, dislikes and interests. While it is impossible to satisfy all tastes, the best we can do is to print a wide variety of subjects. There is a limit here, too. Some articles, because of the time factor must get precedence. So please don't be hurt if your story fails to appear in the very next issue. Your contribution will be most welcome, and will appear. But give me time *

DARE NO.2 "YOUR MOST HUMOROUS UNDERWATER EXPERIENCE"

You must have a funny happening to tell. Let us laugh with you. Even a short story will do. If we have no starters, I have a little beauty, but keep me company.

Think - write - send - NOW. Idare you!

DARE NO.1 "WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A DIVING WIFE" is still open for any latecomers. Cummon ladies, be in it.

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB

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Committee Meetings 1st Monday in month
General Meetings 3rd Monday in month.

Held at Naturalists Hall, Merriwa Street, Nedlands

The President Reports

"UEC AND TRANSFIELD"

YOU will be pleased to hear that a meeting with Gwyn Hitchin of Transfield (who as a matter of interest, did his bit for the UEC as a member some years ago), proved quite satisfactory. It was indicated to us that Transfield are aware that the dredging is causing us some upset, both in the water, visibility wise, and on the beach. However since the final dredging won't be completed until the end of January, they have asked us to bear with the situation and then there will be a re-appraisal of the whole situation. One thing that will remain is our new 'beach'. This will be sprayed to hold it from further movement and will be seeded to stabilise it with grasses. A question that most have been asking is, "What about our deep water area?" This, we have been told, if necessary, will be dredged to give us what we had before. So all in all it could give the training base a new face! One thing in our favour, we have an ex-UEC member barracking for us!

I must apologise for missing out on the last General Meeting. As you are no doubt aware, John Walden doctored me in some time ago to relate some of my 'illegal doin's in the ol' country', while I was with the dreaded 'Mobile Squad'. Now that I've got you wondering, come along and learn the truth about El Pres! The reason I missed incidentally is a group of unmentionable people within the Club are doing a course at the Uni on Marine Archeology. Unfortunately it is on Monday nights. It has been an interesting course and will no doubt get a full airing at the next General.

As we are coming into a fairly active club time of the year, I would ask members to keep an eye on their calendars and support forthcoming events. We have a River Trip on Oct 27th, which is always very popular. I'm sure boat owners will rally to the cause and fill their craft to the gunwhales! Another event to remember is the Social Nite on Nov 2nd (see advert). I feel that if members really support this one, they will be clamouring for more so let's make it a real success!

"DEEP DIVE 75" by KEVIN COLLETT

WORK on the 1975 200ft (60 metre) dive is well under way. With the help of a committee of hardworking members in Dave Kenny, Keith Errington and Jon Carpenter, and the very sound ground work laid down by John Bele during the 1972 dive, we hope to have a smooth operation.

Ken Kennedy has kindly offered the use of his boat. We also have the valuable assistance of our club doctor, Naom Haimson.

Unfortunately there is a limit of twelve divers who can take part, and that quota has already been filled. There may be some vacancies at a later date.

The program will be the same as in 1972, starting with a check on all personal equipment to be used. This will be held at training Base on November 17th. Then comes a medical examination, followed by a recompression tank dive, 100ft dive, 150ft dive, then the 200ft. *

"CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION EXPLAINED" by LES COLEMAN

THE FIRST motion was brought forward in an attempt to overcome the age old problem of members leaving the UEC without formally resigning. Provision is now made to overcome this in so far as any member who has not paid his annual membership fee within two calendar months of them becoming due, will be deemed to have resigned from the UEC. This also means that late payers who intend to stay with us will have to mend their ways.

The second motion had the effect of extending the Committee's powers to adjust, from time to time, the seasonal boat fees and daily trip rates. Previously the Committee had the power to adjust annual subscriptions only.

The third motion dealt with the actual boat fees and charges, which are now set at \$10.00 per head per season, or \$3.00 per head per day for those who do not wish to pay the seasonal fee. As with all fees and charges which appear in the Constitution, these will be reviewed by the Committee as and when required. *

Squash Night September 7th

"FIRST TIME IN FRONT" by DENNIS PARKER

IN ANOTHER squash night, 33 playing members and their families attended, making a total of about 65 people. This was the best ever turnout and for the first time we came out in front by the large sum of \$9.60.

We ran the usual knock-out competition in which eleven males and seven ladies participated. These were run as two separate contests in the first instance, with Irene Gougoulis winning the Ladies. However, her penalty was play Lyn Jones who, in his normal sadistic way made her pay the price.

El President met his match and was beaten in the last but one round by Mike Ferrier, who in turn fell to Lyn. The contest has now raised sufficient interest for us to provide a trophy, which is in course of construction.

There was ample opportunity for non players to have a knock and I feel that those who attended had a most enjoyable night, to conclude with eats provided by the ladies, and the normal amber fluid finally washed down by coffee. *

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Social 5 Junior 22.

"NOMINATIONS"

Brian Matthews, 113 Moreing Road, Attadale.
Chris Palmer, 3 King Street, Coogee Beach
Valerie and Bernard Bruens, 10/18 Clydesdale St, Vic Park
Warren Hopkins, 2 Fairview Street, Coogee Beach
Victor Throssell, 5/3 Roberta Street, Daglish.

The Waroona Dam is coming up next month. Anyone for a 90' dive! Another most enjoyable day. So let's see you get with it. If you need a lift, con a mate with a car.

Our ranks are to be diminished by two and a half, on Oct 11th. Don and Peri Cline and their new daughter Marlys are leaving for America after a most memorable few years in Australia. However Don assures me they will be back in a couple of years, sailing up the Swan River in a 31' sloop. To Don, Peri and junior, on behalf of the club members who have had the pleasure of your company and clubmanship, a safe trip and see you all in a couple of years.

Enough of my wafflings for the present. See y'all at the next General. *

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Fem Takes Editor's Challenge

"WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE A DIVING WIFE" by RAINA ROBINSON

SKINDIVING for girls is only as good as you are prepared to make it.

Hundreds of 'divers' sit round at club meetings arguing about what to do next weekend. When the outing flops because nobody turns up, they have a post-mortem at the next meeting. Nothing could be more discouraging. For this reason I've always disliked clubs.

The South Pacific Divers (Sydney Club) were always doing something different or unusual. They had good press coverage, with their adventures regularly featured in magazines - television news. Maybe it was their president that stirred things up, maybe that's why they made him a life member, maybe that's the reason he holds the Australian deep dive record to 340 feet on compressed air, or why we were married underwater in Marineland.

Then we were off on our honeymoon with no idea of where we were going or when we would return. No ties or deadlines. We followed a stream of adventure that the underwater world is to us.

Since we just happened to have a Land Rover, diving gear, film studio and most of our belongings with us, our honeymoon developed into a round Australia trip: stopping and diving wherever it suited us.

Mount Gambier, South Australia, had the most magic moments. The chasms and caverns of the water filled under ground springs, along with 200foot visibility, are unreal. For a wedding present that only a dedicated diver could give, Snowy Raggot gave us the location of a newly discovered underwater garden. He had not dived there and told us we would be the 'first' to dive at the location. It was an incredible thought. Now I know why guys get excited about virgins!

cold water. Get a wetsuit. It's unbelievable the difference in comfort it makes, and it's a great incentive to keeping your weight down, too!

Perhaps the kids are your excuse not to dive; you don't feel you can leave them alone. Why not? There are usually other wives on the beach who I am sure would not ignore a child in danger or in need of help. Perhaps the diving wives could form a sort of baby sitting pool among themselves, or perhaps the men would be willing to help out now and then, since they are their kids too. That may sound Women's Libbish, but why should they have all the fun to themselves?

Lastly, unlike most hobbies, diving is not particularly expensive after the initial outlay. Even tanks can be rented for four dollars, including air and regulator, if you can't quite squeeze the purchase out of the budget.

Come on, ladies, start enjoying the good life! It's great fun, and the club needs you as instructors, examiners, and even just divers. Don't let the men hog all the fun! Learn to dive! *

THE NEW PRODUCTION CREW OF THE UEC NEWS gathered at the White House for a special occasion - to bring out its first issue. June sat on the floor closely scanning her precious stencils, pouncing on errors and muttering about a poor job done by the proof reader. To which Keith replied, "Well you typed it!"

In backed Dennis with the printing machinery. Power on! The gang clustered round to see the first sheets. New printer Jon got crowded out and was left craning his neck over a sea of shoulders. A few delicate adjustments and the duplicator settled down to a steady rhythmic choof. Pages were grabbed for a closer look. Pretty good!

Page 1: 150 times one side then the other. All this four times. An assembly line formed to gather, fold, and pop in cover. Dave manned the stapler and rent the air with choice underwater language when he stapled a tender finger. A keen eye discovered one page back to front. Out came the staples with frayed fingernails. Near midnight it was done. Patience. We're only young. We'll improve! *

and common interests between husband and wife. If you are beginning to think you are a 'scuba widow', then perhaps the solution is to fight back. Learn to dive so that you can be with your husband more during your leisure hours. Perhaps you will find other shared interests that will give you both more enjoyment of this sport and of each other.

If you're feeling a bit trapped in the house, then diving weekends with your husband may help to alleviate this problem. Going to the beach is good fun too; the kids usually enjoy the sun, sand and surf, and it's a good excuse for a bar-b-q or picnic. And last, but certainly not least, there is the fellowship of other wives and other men divers. Divers, male or female, are a fun loving bunch, and if you are a diver there is a certain passport you carry that makes you welcome just about everywhere you dive.

No doubt there are dozens of excuses not to dive, but that's all they are: excuses. One of the first excuses might be, "I look terrible in bathers". Okay, so you're not a fashion model. There's no way a woman who has had one or two children is going to look like a 16 year-old in a bikini, but the exercise of diving is certainly going to help! I find, for diving, I prefer a sensible one-piece swimsuit which does a great deal for a girl who might have a little extra around the waist. Save the bikini for sun bathing. It will last longer.

"Can't swim". "I don't have the endurance". These are other excuses. There's no better time than the present to learn to swim, or improve your swimming techniques. You'll find that while being able to swim is important, you're not expected to be a Shane Gould or Esther Williams. Far more important that you learn to relax in the water.

One of my biggest complaints about diving is that the water is too cold. Despite the fact that my husband carries a wrist thermometer, 18 or 20 Celsius is not what I call warm water. But there's something you can do about

Western Australia is the land of shipwrecks - that's the way we found it. Coming from Sydney and having only the old Dunbar to dive on, we found there are more wrecks here than you can poke a stick at. To date we have explored thirty wrecks and still have over four hundred to dive on. I had visions of having the world's greatest antique bottle collection.

However, the Western Australian Museum have the same idea, only they gather old gold and silver as well. To keep things that way they have laws to the effect that all shipwrecks prior to 1900 are classed as 'historical' and are now protected, thus preserving the maritime history of this state. It was a bold move but a good one.

My husband shoots a lot of underwater cine film for national television. It's lucky for me because I usually get to join him. A couple of interesting assignments were when the museum asked Denis to document the raising of a cannon from the Gilt Dragon wreck and the James Matthews roof slates.

We think Western Australia is great. The place is unspoiled and unpolluted and people have a genuine interest in the ocean. We have purchased a house by the sea near the Mullaloo reef and have a baby Sea Horse with his own built in snorkel.

For the present this is the nearest we can get to our other home under the sea. *

DEAR EDITOR

Please find enclosed, a story written by myself -- you could say I took up your dare!!

I hope my brief story will be suitable for publication in your newsletter, and gets a few of the wives more interested in taking the plunge themselves.

If any of the diving wives have any queries, they should not hesitate to contact me on 92.6503 at any time.

Sincerely, RAINA ROBINSON

"ILLEGAL WHAT-NOT SECRETED IN SOCK"

HAROLD ROBERTS recently went North to fish. He was armed with all manner of equipment including fine Rum and some damned good Scotch. Spear guns bristled from his Land Rover and a most illegal what-not was secreted in his sock.

The great day came, perfect conditions, no wind and plenty of fish. A line over the side resulted in an instant bite. From then on for half an hour he pulled, pushed, cursed and even frothed at the mouth, at the weight on the other end.

He had come face to face with the thrill of hand line fishing. The fish he had hooked was a 150 lb slimy cod!

Harold says that you don't have to get wet and don't have to exert yourself or get cold. You just sit in the boat like a big galah and have fun.

Actually he had caught a small schnapper and the stupid cod had swallowed it. He doesn't want that bit spread around as he thinks some of the boys won't speak to him if they know. He's thinking of giving up the 'Beachmaster' title and sticking to line fishing.

Incidentally, if any one wants to know where he caught it, the answer is NO. He won't tell. And if any members have ideas of going up that way, let it be known that tourists are making bloody nuisances of themselves! *

THE BIG FISHERMAN the self same Beachmaster can always be relied upon to come up with something new. He's done it again. Rosemary Priest and Harold Roberts are now Mr. and Mrs. H.G.H. Roberts. Best wishes and congratulations from all at the UEC.

MORE MATRIMONY. This time our old friend, Eric Christiansen. All the very best to Pat and Eric.

"ROSTER OF EXAMINERS FOR NOVEMBER"

3rd G. Gougoulis, C. Croft, W. Braithwaite, K. Collett.
17th R. Wallis L. Jones, M. Pollard, W. Marshall.

One of the most disappointing aspects of this problem was the female turnout at the Scubachamps. There were two female entrants, a very capable junior girl, and myself: three months pregnant and still in the throes of morning sickness!

Surely there must be more ladies who are able to compete. You aren't asked to do anything more than try your best, and there is no disgrace in not completing a test or failing to score top marks. On a few of the tests I scored better than some of the men; on most I scored a good deal less, but I enjoyed myself!

The advantages of diving are numerous. An obvious one that leaps to mind is the great exercise, and it's a lot less tedious than regular exercise. Have a look at some of the well known lady divers of recent years: people like Eva Cropp, Van Laman, Valerie Taylor. True, they started out with a good thing, but you can bet the exercise of diving helps them keep it. I know few women who like that creeping midriff bulge, or heavy hips; and as fast as diving burns up energy, it has to do some good.

The pure and unspoiled - so far - beauty of the under sea world is something that no amount of TV specials, colour photos or inspired descriptions will ever give you or let you experience. You have to see it for yourself to really appreciate it deep down inside. And there is more to diving than just suiting up and hitting the water. There is also the study of sea shells, sea life, photography, wreck research and a whole raft of marine sciences and subjects to interest you at any level or degree of training or involvement. More, there is the sheer beauty, freedom and enjoyment that scuba offers: weightlessness, timelessness, independence.

But there are several advantages to diving with your husband, not the least of which is sharing interests. In just about every magazine you read there is bound to be some sort of article about the breakdown of modern marriages, and often the chief cause is lack of companionship

Mermaids Wanted

"DON'T LET THE MEN HOG ALL THE FUN!" by PERI CLINE

IN ONE of the first books written by Jacques Yves Cousteau there is a photograph of Mrs Cousteau and the children, diving. No doubt there were other lady divers before Mrs. Cousteau, but that photograph is thirty years old, and it proves my point that lady divers are nothing new. Unfortunately however, there is a dearth of lady divers at Training Base.

When my husband and I joined the UEC I had hope of making friends with other lady divers in the Club, and I Have made a lot of friends I value highly. The difficulty is that while many of them are ladies, and many of them are divers, very few are lady divers. The lack of lady divers shows up at Base, on dive trips, and in competitions like the Scubachamps.

I haven't the slightest complaint against any of the men instructors or examiners, but there were several times I wished desperately for a lady instructor. On some days the last thing you really want to cope with is a strange man trying to teach you something that, for some reason, you can't seem to master on the first or second attempt. I have a feeling I might have overcome a difficulty or two much quicker if my instructor had been a woman who had perhaps suffered the same problem. She might have been able to say just the right thing that would help me sort it out.

The lack of lady divers on boat trips is fantastic. I think on one trip I counted a grand total of four lady divers out of some twenty or twenty five men divers, and I know most of the men have wives. It is the boat trips that give the greatest range of scenery under water; it makes all the cold and murky water at Base worthwhile. The beauty of the fish and coral is truly some of my most treasured memories of diving.

"IT'S A FATHER! IT'S A FATHER! I'M A GIRL! I'M A GIRL!"

PERI gave birth last night (13.9.74) at 7.50 pm to a healthy 6 pound 12½ ounce baby girl, Marlys Michells. VIVE LA DIFFERENCE!

On Thursday, the day before the baby arrived, and as a direct result (I am informed) of the standard of training offered by the UEC, and the fact that I have completed that training to A standard, I was offered a position as Trainee Diver with OCEAN SYSTEMS, INC., an American commercial diving organization. I was told that if I accepted the position I would have to be on the oil rig off Davao, Philippines, within a fortnight.

Without the training offered by the UEC, ladies and gentlemen, I would never have been offered such an attractive position. My thanks to you all.

As a result of the above, Peri and I must very regretfully offer our resignations as members effective October 1st. We sincerely hope to return to Perth someday, if not as residents, then at least as visitors, and look up all our old friends. Until the departure date, however, I'll be seeing you all at Training Base every Sunday! I still have to make up that ten hours of instruction!

Would anyone be interested in a completely reconditioned Remington International office typewriter with wide carriage? Make me a good offer and it's yours!

Best regards to you all! DON & PERI CLINE

"EASTER 1975"

This may seem a long way off, but the fact is, bookings have to be made very early for these popular holidays. The Committee would appreciate your suggestions for a suitable venue.

River Dive September 29th

"CAR WRECK IN BLACKWALL REACH" by JON CARPENTER

SEVEN DIVERS entered the water at 10.30 am. We had initially intended to raise the vintage car, discovered on a previous visit to Blackwall Reach. However due to poor turnout by members, we decided to abandon this idea and concentrate on examining the vehicle. We managed to raise a lay gear from the gear box, plus a tyre and rim. Mud guards were extremely fragile and broke easily, however the chassis, engine and wheel hubs seem to be quite solid and possibly in good condition.

I felt, despite the reasonable condition of the car that it wasn't really worth the effort of raising it. However on second thoughts it would prove valuable experience for club members, and also enable us to identify the vehicle with some accuracy.

The museum expert on the vintage car collection, Eddie Rigg, reckons from examination of the lay gear and tyre rim, the vehicle could be vintage 1929 or thereabouts. The lay gear was of particular interest, as he recognised it as a Citroen patent. Possibly the car may be a Citroen.

It should be possible (with a little help from our friends - you), to raise the vehicle, with the aid of lifting bags loaned to us by the Marine Arch Dept of the Museum. If the vehicle is a write-off, we can always dump it back from whence it came.

When I arrange for this to be carried out, I hope the Club will rally together for a concerted effort. After all, who knows what we will raise next, maybe a cannon. Of course those with experience at working with air bags will be chosen for this task.

The Marathon Swim was a flop due to insufficient number of participants. So far I have six definite starters for the Swim, the date of which has been brought forward to November. Prizes amount to a total of \$25 and are worth trying for. Why not have a go.

I must apologise for my poor attention to duty as OC Diving. General and Committee Meetings I have missed due to my attendance at a course of Marine Archeology which unfortunately falls on Monday Nights.

UEC NEWS OCTOBER 1974

We have a river trip and Barbeque at the end of this month. It appears some members who lack suitable water transport may have to rely on those who do, and are willing to offer assistance. However it may be possible to reach the location chosen by car.

At present our calendar of activities lacks locations for boat trips. This is partially due to the lack of attendance at club functions. Boat trips will cost the club some \$115 if we use a vessel like Sambo. We require your support to enable us to get out and do some diving. If support is not forthcoming we may have to rely on members' boats to get out of the Heads. *

"COMING EVENTS"

- | | | |
|-----|----|---|
| OCT | 20 | Training Base Night Dive. |
| | 21 | General Meeting. |
| | 27 | River trip and Barbeque. Boats will be launched from behind Goodwood Race Course 10am sharp |
| NOV | 2 | Cabaret Night |
| | 3 | Training Base |
| | 4 | Committee Meeting. |
| | 10 | Waroona Dam, Barbeque. |
| | 17 | Training Base. |

"MARINE ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION"

This group has been formed as a voluntary organisation of interested persons who are experienced and capable of assisting the W.A. Museum, or others, in the marine archeology work in this State. Office bearers are: President, Mike Staines; Secretary, Jeremy Green; Treasurer, Lorraine Frawley, Enquiries re membership to Graham Wontner, 26.2378. Next meeting October 21, 7.30pm, at 8 Glyde St, East Fremantle.

"MEMBERSHIP FEES"

These became due on October 1st, and the Treasurer has some bills to pay. Bring along your loot to the General Meeting. Lyn will welcome you!

UEC NEWS OCTOBER 1974

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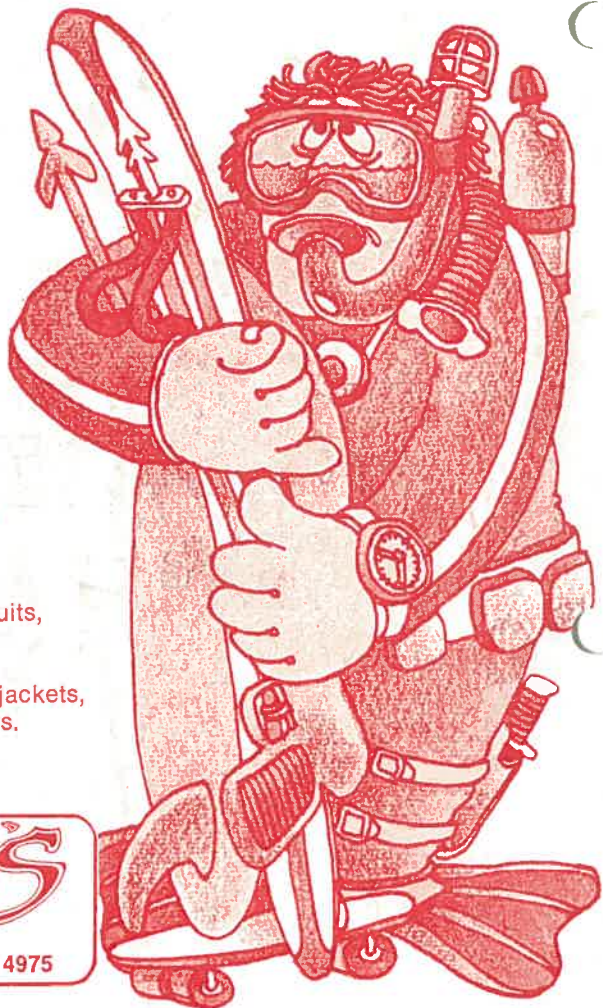
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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB W.A. INC.



NOVEMBER, 1974

Price: 5 cents

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Would You Believe?

"THE BOMBER STRIKES AGAIN!"

SOMETIMES in the cool of the evening they would take a small boat out through the harbour into the Mediterranean. On one of these trips they fell in with a remarkable fisherman. They were well over a mile off shore when they saw him swimming all alone with a battered petrol tin which served many purposes - float, equipment container, spyglass and the anchor for his fishing basket. He rested awhile on the gunwale of their boat and chatted.

His equipment consisted of some cigarettes, one of which he kept alight in his mouth, and a few home-made bombs with fuses attached. The petrol tin was open at one end, and in the other was a piece of glass puttied in so that it was watertight. The cigarettes and bombs were wrapped in a watertight bag which he carried in the tin.

His method was to swim or float quietly, with his head in the tin, looking down into the sea. When he saw a fish shoal he would light the short safety fuse with his cigarette, and let it down into the water. Immediately it exploded he would slip under the surface, collect what stunned fish he could reach and return to his tin and put them in the basket which was floating nearby. He explained that it was possible to fish only when the water was absolutely calm because once his cigarettes got damp they were useless. He had to move very slowly without splashing.

He had been out about two hours and had caught five smallish fish. At their request he let off a bomb. The explosion could hardly be heard from the boat and did not disturb the water. They gave him a tow back to shore in the dusk for his trouble. *

The above incident happened in 1924. Extract taken from NAIRN BUS TO BAGHDAD by J.S. TULLETT. Published 1968 by A.H. & A.W. REED, SYDNEY

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB

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& Building 46.2888

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Biologist DR. G. CHITTLEBOROUGH C.S.I.R.O.

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"THE UNLUCKY LADY ELIZABETH" by MIKE POLLARD

A MAN of fiery temper was Captain Thomas Samuel Scott. Bad enough that he had lost his ship, but to be harried and questioned like a common criminal by this Court of Enquiry! Leonard Morley Clifton, if you please, Collector of Customs for Fremantle Port; John Stone, Justice of the Peace; Commander Archdeacon, Royal Navy, nautical assessor. A bunch of chairborne experts the lot of them!

His hot blood had certainly got the better of him. He had told them a thing or two! On the other hand, perhaps he had gone a bit too far. After all, the final hearing was yet to come. They might well take away his 'kipper's ticket. Damnation!

Reckoned he should have put the vessel on a port tack and heaved the lead more often, did they? Lot they knew. It was all the fault of the filthy weather on this misbegotten colonial coast, with its waters full of sand, shallows and shoals. And in the uproar, the nagging fear for the safety of his very own daughter on board. He was not a happy man.

THE SKIPPER was rather proud of his three masted barque Lady Elizabeth. All 160 feet of her was in pretty good shape. The sturdy iron frames, the copper fastened hull, and the sheathing of felt and yellow metal which had been replaced only three years before. One thing had always pleased him. His ship had decks of wooden plank-ing. Far easier on the feet.

Mid morning on Tuesday, 25th June 1878, the Lady Elizabeth cleared Fremantle. Captain Scott was in high spirits. A light easterly had eased him out of harbour. The sea calm. Down below, the holds were stuffed with sweet smelling sandalwood, destined for the joss houses of the orient. J.H.Monger had consigned 456 tons; and G.Shenton 155 tons. This precious cargo would turn a pretty penny when sold in Shanghai.

This was followed by a three hour theory session, including R.& R. Thanks go to Gerry and the training aids he obtained for this. At this point candidates were required to pass in a theory paper, some of which left a lot to be desired. Another theory session was organised to clear up the weak points prior to everyone going on air.

Finally the big night arrived and all were started on hookah, in the three feet section of the main pool.

Gradually the complexity of the exercises was stepped up. Buddy breathing on hookah, on aqualung, ditch and recovery, diver rescue and free ascent, first at six feet then to ten feet and finally at sixteen feet. Mouth to mouth resuscitation and cardiac massage were demonstrated to Gerry's satisfaction or repeated until a suitable standard was reached.

The course culminated with a Saturday morning at Base, where we dived in typical Transfield conditions. This gave everyone a taste of visibility and water temperature at the lower end of the scale.

All in all I think most candidates enjoyed themselves. Two of the Rangers were non starters and the third dropped out as the course went on to air. Of the fifteen starters we finished with twelve.

In the capacity of Venturer Leader, my sincere thanks go to Les, Gerry, Graham and Bob, for their time and for the use of their gear, without which this course could not have run.

To handle a group of high spirited teenagers on a semi hazardous project is no easy task. Thanks to the high quality of instruction and safety standards, we had no problems, except for an occasional blocked eustachian in the early part of the course.

For the Venturers and Rangers, a project like this highlights the year's activities. This is what they look for. Thanks to the generosity of my fellow divers, this is what we could give them. *

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

ADULTS DEC 7TH

KIDS DEC 14TH

UEC Project

"SCUBA COURSE FOR VENTURERS AND RANGERS" by KEN HARRISON

THIS YEAR a scuba course was voted to be the prime activity for a small group of Venturer Scouts and Rangers from the Melville District Scout and Guide Groups.

For those unfamiliar with the structure of the Scout and Guide Association, Venturers are the 15 to 18 year olds in the Scout Association. The Rangers are the over 15 year olds from the Guides.

Participants in the course numbered 15, made up of 12 Venturers, and 3 Rangers. This was later depleted to 12 Venturers.

As both Venturer leader and a member of the UEC, I was fortunately able to enlist an instruction crew of five, namely Les Coleman, course coordinator, Gerry Gougoulis, R & R instructor, Bob Brahams, Graham Weir and myself as general instructors.

The course venue was Beatty Park, Friday nights at 6.30 pm. All participants were instructed to bring their own mask, snorkel, weight belt and fins. Wet suits were optional. Commencement date was mid June - did I say wet suits were optional?

The course basically followed the UEC Initial Certificate, with a few modifications, and activities designed to suit Beatty Park. For the 13 actual starters, item one on the agenda, much to their dismay, was a 16 lap swim which occupied all of the first night's instruction.

Most of the nights were run at a rather high pressure pace, with a fairly tight schedule to keep. Time only allowed for just over an hour each week, because by eight o'clock the pool lights were turned off regardless. More than once we were caught short and finished up stumbling around in the dark collecting gear.

The first three nights were spent familiarising all and sundry with swimming without masks, clearing masks, buddy breathing on snorkels, snap diving to ten and sixteen feet and swimming the contour of the diving pool.

THE CAPTAIN was not a superstitious man. He probably did not even recall that his craft was launched in Sunderland, UK, just thirteen years ago.

NEXT DAY at sunset, the wind increased and swung to NNE. By midnight it was blowing a gale with heavy seas. He reduced to close reefed topsail and hove to. Thursday morning found him in a heavy gale from NNE, with mountainous seas. After midnight the wind shifted to NW and by daybreak was veering west. By noon it had fallen to a gale from the west, barometer still falling. On Friday it was blowing hurricane force squalls, very heavy seas, the ship labouring. Saturday's weather was no improvement, so early Sunday he turned for Gage Roads.

The Elizabeth was now making five knots in heavy squalls. Land was sighted from the masthead but could not be distinguished. The skipper set course SSE. Two hours later he found he had been set south. He wore ship NNW and set reefed topsail, staysail and mizzen staysail. She was making $1\frac{1}{2}$ points leeway.

Mid afternoon a man was lost overboard. Seas were too heavy to lower a boat. All they could do was to cut away two lifebuoys. By four, Rottneest was sighted due north.

Sometime after eight that night, land and breakers were seen on the starboard beam. Although the helm was put hard up, the course now ESE, the ship was doomed. A few moments later she grazed bottom, then struck heavily twice, knocking the helmsman from the wheel. The ship's head swung to the south. Both anchors were run out.

At first the carpenter reported little water in the hold, but constant battering soon had it pouring in. Two hours after striking, water was above the decks, the ship gradually heeling to starboard. Near midnight, heavy seas stove in the poop and gutted the cabin. Waves were now sweeping over all except a small corner of the poop where Captain Scott, his daughter, officers and crew remained huddled throughout the rest of the night.

At daybreak they saw the Pilot boat lying behind the rocks on which the ship had struck. The Pilot, Captain Nash, had been out all night at great risk, but had been

unable to make contact owing to darkness and the rain squalls. The ship's boats were lowered and hung under the stern, clear of the reef. The Lady Elizabeth was abandoned. The pilot boat took the lucky survivors to Rottneest.

ON TUESDAY 13th July 1878, the remains of the once proud Lady were sold to M. Higham and Sons, for £320. They also bought the sandalwood for £9. What was salvaged was later sold for £5.15.0 per ton.

AS WAS to be expected, the Court of Enquiry had the la say -

"We much regret that Captain Scott should have made use of expressions, at the last sitting of this Court, which were both unbecoming and amounted to gross contempt of this court".

In measured tones, the Chairman cleared Captain Scott of criminal charges and stated his certificate would not be endorsed.

The Skipper heaved a sigh of relief and apologised for his unseemly behaviour! *

LLOYDS SPECIFICATIONS. Length 160ft, beam 30.5ft, depth 18.1ft, poop 49ft. Tonnage, 673 gross, 658 nett, 581 under deck. Owners Wilson & Co. Wrecked 30th June 1878 at approximately 20.40 hours in Bickley Bay, Rottneest.

COMING EVENTS

- NOV 18 General Meeting.
- 24 Boat Trip Carnac Island Family Day - Sepia.
- Dec 1 Marathon Swim and Training Base 9.30AM
- 2 Committee Meeting
- 7 Christmas Party, Kenny residence 8PM
- 8 Training Base
- 14 Kids Christmas Party, Les Coleman's home 4 PM
- 15 Boat Trip to "Mira Flores". Ken Kennedy's boat leaves 7.30 AM from Mosman Bay Jetty.

MEMBERSHIP FEES now due. Paid yours?

Having qualified through the State Championships, Lyn represented the State in 1963, in company with Wally Woodward. As our social programme has shown he also excels in squash. For services to the Club, Lyn has been awarded a number of trophies and was made a Life Member in June 72.

Like most successful men, Lyn would be the first to acknowledge that Hazel has been behind him in most of his achievements. Like most women this fact would be denied by her. Thank you Hazel and Lyn. This Club owes much to you both. *

NOMINATION Graeme Edward Quinlivan 2 Dallwin St Dianella.

FINANCE General \$267.09 Boat \$64.40 Building \$11.92
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KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY, 14TH DECEMBER, 4 PM

UNCLE LES COLEMAN'S PLACE - 2GLENN AVENUE, MOSMAN PARK

MEMBERS CHILDREN ONLY - AGE LIMIT 12 YEARS AND UNDER

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IF PARENTS WISH TO STAY LATER, BRING B.B.Q

KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY, 14th DECEMBER, 4 PM

Know Your Members

"LYN JONES" by DENNIS PARKER

LYN JONES is well known to members for being on hand for most Club activities, and ready to enter the water at the drop of a hat, on most boat trips with his boat 'Naiad'. However, these are his more recent involvements apart from, of course, his re-election as Treasurer.

He joined the Club in 1959, while based at Albany, together with other Albany men including Joe Castlehow. Their exploits at this time would make your hair curl. Lyn first took office in 1961 and was elected Treasurer in June 1962 and through to 1965.

Participating in all club activities, Lyn took part in manta board runs in search of wrecks, the first manta run from Fremantle to Rottnest, and the first known manta run off Rottnest, at a depth of fifty metres.

In 1965 and again in 1968 at both Town Hall exhibitions he was OC Finance which included the arranging of rosters. The replica of the 'Batavia' cannon carriage held by the Club was made by Albert Ottey, assisted by Lyn, from the timber of the wreck 'Alex T. Brown' on the beach at Yanchep. This was first featured in the '65 Exhibition.

Lyn was a foundation member of the Building Committee, on which he has remained since its inception in August 64. He has been on the Base Committee and has held office as OC Diving and as Vice President, but as yet, has not seen fit to accept the position as President.

Lyn represented the UEC on the Council of Underwater Activities from 1961 until the Club withdrew from that body. Other projects he featured in were the 200ft dive series and the first of the Abrolhos trips. It was his diabolical idea to include an obstacle course within the Scuba Championships, of which he was the original organiser.

The President

"SUPPORT YOUR CLUB FUNCTIONS" says DAVE KENNY

IT SEEMS apparent that our club members recently have been plagued by a mild dose of amnesia and an almost total lack of conscience. I am of course referring to the Cabaret night on Saturday Nov 2. This was the night you all voted for at the general meeting, pledging almost total support. Well you might be pleased to hear that after doing a mighty job on the hall, purchasing supper (admittedly only tea, coffee and about fifty packets of biscuits, peanuts, live band, door prizes, raffle prizes), we had the fantastic support of eighteen members and the only factor which enabled us to pay the band was Elaine Airey had a party of 20 - and that, my dear members is what I call support! In spite of the small number we had a most enjoyable night and made merry until the band packed in at 1 AM.

To sum up, the next time you stick your hand up and vote for such a do, we'll rip a couple of bucks off you there and then. It seems the only way.

'Nuf said! This is the last mag before our Xmas party which will be at my "hacienda" again this year. Last year we had about 100 bods. Let's see if we can top that this year. Remember Dec 7th - grog, wine, salads supplied. There will also be raffles so bring your small change and a steak.

On Dec 14th, Les Coleman and his good lady Di, are giving a Xmas party for the kids. If you want to give the little perishers a rollicking good time, bring them along to "Uncle Leslie's".

I'm going to wind up now as the Ed keeps telling me if I want full page adverts for the parties, I should curb my ramblings - so I will. See you all at the Xmas Party.**

FOR SALE. Healthways Scubair Regulator, two years old. Good condition \$40. Ring Brian Price 67.3587 or 23.0331.
FOR SALE. Small wetsuit top, long arms, as new condition. Further particulars from Bob Wallis 46.2888.
FOR SALE. Full wet suit, small men's Zero brand, head hood, fins, eight belt. \$70. Ring Odgers 37.5457.

"COMING DIVE OUTINGS" by JON CARPENTER

BOAT TRIP 24th NOV 74 - CARNAC ISLAND FAMILY DAY - SEPIA

Boats and members to assemble at small jetty, Mosman Bay near Johnston Street ramp, 7.30 am. This is normally the assembly point for our deep river dive.

Ken Kennedy's vessel will hold 15 divers. However they must be equipped with life jackets of their own. Other boats may be required should numbers exceed 15.

As club members have kindly offered their boats to ferry divers out to dive locations and back, let's have some respect for their vessels. Bulky diving gear soon knocks hell out of a boat. A little caution will prevent you paying for damages and possibly a fat lip.

The Sepia dive will be the club's first sea dive this season, and maybe you haven't dived for some time. Check your gear thoroughly, then yourself. By the way, your tank should be tested annually. If it is overdue, it presents a hazard to yourself and others. Human torpedoes are unwelcome on diving trips.

Divers will be buddied at all times, preferably with an 'A' Class diver. However, should insufficient numbers prevent this, at discretion of OC Diving, a known competent diver will be senior buddy.

All divers will have their entry and exit times recorded. This will be done from Ken Kennedy's vessel. Therefore divers on other boats must approach this vessel before and after diving so that recording is possible. This must be repeated before and after every dive.

If 50ft free ascents are permitted, all tests will take place prior to actual diving.

The Sepia is in 50ft of water. An hour is the limit to which you may stay at that depth without decompression stops. A single cylinder may last one hour at that depth, some light breathers a little longer. So check your tables, especially hookah divers. Remember, a cylinder lasting one hour does not allow enough remaining air for decompression.

The first aid kit and Air-Viva will be located on Ken Kennedy's vessel.

the ambulance left, the remaining group proceeded to take turns hitting a ball on a string up and down a coiled wire; sounded like it was called scrotem tennis. Money was mentioned and I bet that was all. One member amused himself and others, attempting to introduce pebbles into the neck of a beer bottle from a considerable distance. He could still be there. An extremely rare and rewarding sight was the unexpected appearance of a three humped camel. I didn't know we had so many 'arabs in our club...

talk about sheiky comments. Filling in the crevass from the camp to the loo was difficult. We had to open more cans to ensure a good fill. Collecting our pebble filled bottles we fell into the awaiting and sinking vessels.

A bearing was taken on the Swan Cement stacks and most of us went downstream. The occupants of the yellow vessel were again subjected to erratic boat handling. One occupant was severely drowned (unfortunately not with beer - he could have drunk his way out of it). As we moved down stream we occasionally had the occupants of another vessel sitting on our laps. Talk about coming close, we could see the veins on their red eyeballs, the retina that is. Multiple stops for leak problems delayed our homeward journey, but as cans emptied, less water accumulated.

Eight vessels converged on one ramp. Needless to say boat trailers were not required for the journey home.

THIS REPORT is in some respects fabrication. Should anything or anybody resemble anything or anybody in the report, it is purely accidental, I think. Names have been left out to protect the innocent. You should worry. Show me an innocent club member and I'll eat the UEC flag.

ANNONYMOUS.

THANKS - Les, Rod, Mike, Keith, Bob, Charlie, Lyn, Adrian

UEC NEWS is available by subscription to non members. Perhaps you would like to make it a Christmas Gift to a friend. Send \$3.00 for postage paid 12 issues, direct to the Treasurer, giving full name and address of recipient.

27th Oct 74

"RIVER TRIP AND BOOZE UP BARBEQUE"

DESPITE the confusion that probably occurred due to alteration of watches and clocks, members arrived on schedule.

Eight asserted vessels turned out and headed up the Swan, with the Brewery in tow. Weaving our way up the winding river, obstacles were the main worry. The occasional tree branch, but worse, drunken bodies. The bulk of these fell from a certain yellow vessel, they may have only been concussed due to the erratic movements of said vessel and pilot (pronounced pillock), or both.

Hitting the bank for the seventh time, it was decided to stay, before the hull had developed an uncontrollable leak. The other vessels drow in bailing madly with beer cans. The yellow vessel disgorged its remaining occupants the others evacuating in the normal manner. This kept the flies away from the barbeque area for a while. Staggering and crawling up the bank, a suitable receptacle was discovered for the barbecue fire. A woman was heard screaming as a somewhat confused gent attempted to place combustible material on the pan. Moving away from the confines of the building, we chanced upon another receptacle not in use. By luck we had stumbled upon a barbecue area. There was no doubt, flies do not occur in such numbers anywhere else.

Members who hadn't been dragged off by alligators began to collect wood. Avoiding the passing cars, timber was removed from a wooden structure and we soon had a fire. We managed to put it out and start a barbeque.

The smell of burning meat, mainly hands, fingers, etc. was soon wafting through the gums, which soon began to slobber like a dogs pet(ty). Arguments were started by a couple of dog owners. After we separated them they were chained to suitable trees, which should do better this year. Above the buzz of flies could be heard the faint sound of human and other chatter. Pieces of meat were soon flying about. To prevent this happening a liberal dosage of mortein should be sprayed on each piece before frying. Try mentholated for something different. After

The Sepia comes under the Museum Wreck Act, so looting is a NO NO. Pirates take note.

Membership and boat fees are due, so bring your wallet to the next General Meeting. Logbooks must be carried for all boat trips.

How about a decent turnout. We're finally getting on to the Sepia. If you haven't seen her, you haven't dived on the best wreck in our local waters.

Since Ken Kennedy can only transport 15 divers, the first 15 to have their names listed will be accepted. If you are interested ring me on 35.1410 Ext 8, if you have a life jacket.

This trip is also a family day, so bring your group, plus the necessary cats and drinks.

HERE are a few safety and general precautions -

1. Always dive with and in sight of your buddy.
2. Ensure the divers flag is flying.
3. Check gear thoroughly prior to dive day and before entering the water.
4. Observe at all times the Spearguns Control Act and Museum Amendments Act Relative to Wrecks.
5. Plan your dive, basing decisions on all conditions effecting the dive.
6. Still know your diving signals? Refresh your memory.
7. Read up your notes on expired air resuscitation (mouth to mouth and nose), also Sylvester Brosch and cardiac massage. Remember you rely on fellow club members to get you out of trouble. They expect you to do the same for them.
8. Do not enter the water without informing OC Diving. Ensure you are recorded as entering and as emerging.
9. If you lose your buddy, arrange with him that you both surface after a period of predetermined time.
10. Preferably avoid dives requiring decompression. If unavoidable ensure you consult tables prior to dive, or wear a decompression meter.
11. It is advisable that at least one diver tow a float and flag, in any buddy group

1ST DEC 74 MARATHON SWIM

So you can swim around the groyne at Base. Big deal. How about churning the water between the jetty and the green buoy a few times, here? Germaine Greer summons women members to show the men a clean pair .. of heels I mean.

We don't often give club members and others a second chance to take part in our annual Marathon Swim, so jump in and have a go. Fabulous prizes await the winners.

The following members have challenged you, in fact have put money on it - Dianne Errington, Dave Kenny, Ken Harrison, Nevil Barker, Steve Wood.

Inflation what it is, \$1.00 is cheap for the privilege of entering this time honoured event.

Boats will be required for safety purposes. Any offers? There are 3 sections - Open, Ladies, Juniors (under 18)

UEC CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY, 7TH DECEMBER 8PM

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YOU'VE JUST GOT TO BE THERE

RAFFLES - BRING YOUR SMALL CHANGE

UEC CHRISTMAS PARTY

COME ONE COME ALL

Training

"GROUP TRAINING SCHEME" by LES COLEMAN

AS YOU will know, we have reorganised our training methods at Base.

The Group System we are using now, is an old and tried method of training used successfully by many clubs and organisations.

The advantages of this method of training are many and varied. Some of the main ones are - each member of a group gets to know the others and gets to feel he really belongs. They learn to help one another during each training session and get to meet more instructors and examiners. There is no waiting for instructors or examiners, making it much easier for trainees and OC Base.

To make things more interesting there will be visits from OC Photography and Wreck Research, explaining how each section of the club operates. Maybe some will learn what type of camera to buy, or a swim on one of the near wrecks such as the "James Matthews".

Swimming competitions or other humorous contests between rival groups could add to the fun.

To successfully operate this scheme it will be most desirable for each member to attend training regularly so that all may progress together as a group. Absences by some could hold up the entire group. This will also apply to instructors and examiners who, it is hoped will arrive punctually when rostered.

The success of the group training method will depend on ourselves as a club, and not on any one individual. *

FRESH INFORMATION ON THE "JAMES MATTHEWS"

A VERBAL report just received from Graham Henderson of the W.A. Museum reveals that this vessel was French built in 1835. After her owner sold her at Princess Island she was registered under the Portuguese flag and named "Don Francisco". She was acquired by the notorious slaver Francisco Selis de Souza, alias Cha Cha of Whydah and slaved between Sierra Leone to Havana in April 1837. Captured by HM brig "Griffen" she was re-registered as the prize "James Matthews". *

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U.E.C. NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB W.A. INC.



DECEMBER, 1974

Price: 5 cents

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attract fish to the set lines. Well I came up under this and got tangled. At first I panicked, but then woke up that I still had my air going. It took some time, but I got out.

Another time I had been down below a long time and working hard. When I got back on board I was completely dazed. A bucket of ice water was thrown over me. That fixed me up.

I had seen how my buddy could catch and handle an octopus. It looked easy so I had a go. This one had tentacles about two feet long. In a flash the thing had wrapped itself round my head - mask and all. To wrench it off would mean losing bits of hair and skin, plus the mask. So I had to stay put while my buddy cut it off piece by piece.

Then it was time for me to take off. I pocketed a few dollars in wages and again headed west.

When I told one of these trained diver types that after working at one hundred feet for an hour and a half, I staged for fifteen minutes at eight feet, you should have seen his face. He reckoned I should be dead.

The world's fun. That is if you don't stay in one place too long! *

LANCELIN EXPEDITION - EASTER 1975

It may seem a little early to consider the Club's Easter activities. However, sites for tents, caravans and Kombis are now being booked for the Lancelin camp out and diving session. This promises to be thoroughly enjoyable, as UEC expeditions of this nature usually are.

More details to come in future mags, so keep an eye open and book now. *

"BEST WISHES FOR A FANTASTIC FESTIVE SEASON!"

UNDERWATER EXPEDITION CLUB

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D.S.O., D.F.C., R.A.F. (Retired).
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Conchol MR.T.KALNINS 94 Whatley Cres Maylands 71.9068
Biologist DR.R.GEORGE W.A. Museum
Biologist DR.G.CHITTLEBOROUGH C.S.I.R.O.
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Buoyancy

"BUMS AWAY!" by Barbara Parker

THIS SCREED is for those plagued by problems of buoyancy, and those interested in other divers' points of view. Also for those who wonder if the UEC is only for athletes capable of entering the International Scuba Championships, or to teach ordinary men and women to enjoy scuba diving safely in an enjoyable social atmosphere.

Body structure and physiology vary widely between individuals according to age, sex and inherited factors. This fact has caused and will cause difficulty for buoyant people endeavouring to pass one, perhaps two of the tests in the UEC Certificate in its latest form. The main cause for concern, particularly for females, is that test which requires a trainee to dive to 10ft and swim 40ft before surfacing, in bathers only and in sea water. Training Base committee reports that most females and some men find it difficult or even impossible to stay submerged in this test, and have asked that it be deleted or modified.

Out club physician has explained that the average female, who may weigh exactly the same as a man, say 10 stone, will displace 1/10th more water. She will normally have shorter arms and legs and have smaller hands and feet. You get the picture. Many a potentially happy and competent scuba diver can be stopped cold by this test, which is not really relevant to scuba diving. It is rather like asking you to run a couple of miles in 10 minutes before teaching you to ride a motor bike.

It has been remarked that this test shows if you are 'at home underwater!'. I think it just shows you are negatively buoyant. Here is a case in point. Not so long ago a male member, who had completed his Initial and most of his Advanced, ran into us just north of Trigg. He had his gear - full rubber suit, the lot - and suggested a swim. We had our masks and flippers and took off for the outer edge of the reef.

a lamp on the end also hung down for the skipper to signal the divers. If he thought they hadn't seen the flashes, he would drop a carbide bomb.

Another line had a shark clapper on the end. This was two pieces of leather with lumps of lead on the free ends. When sharks were seen from the boat, the line was jerked up and down so that the pieces of lead banged together. It was supposed to scare them away.

The first time I heard the clapper, I took off for the surface in a hurry. My buddy came after me and hauled me back by the leg. I learned the hard way, and fast. It was safer to stay put when sharks were about. Later, I got used to seeing them, some up to twenty feet. They never really bothered us, although one time I saw my buddy whack an inquisitive one off with a stick.

There was plenty to eat on board, some of it new to me. We mainly fed on park sausages, fish, octopus, dried figs and raisins. For drink we had coffee and wine. Bread was made by putting lumps of dough on a piece of shiny tin with a bowl over it. The heat of the sun cooked it and it came out round and flat. The crew also cooked and ate leathery brown kelp, sea urchins and the muscles of sea anemones. I didn't.

The skipper told me that the abalone flesh was exported mainly to France. His daughter used to grind the rough outside off the shells to show their true colours. Abalone shells are used to make brooches and other jewelry. It is sent to New Zealand, America, and of all places Greenland.

Close shaves? Sure! My buddy saved my life several times. Like when I came up in murky water and clouted my head on the bottom of the boat. I went unconscious and dropped the mouth piece. He got me out of that.

Once I got caught in a net. Over the stern they hang a kind of net bag filled with bits of rotten fish to

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We took off early next morning and was that boat a tub! Gear jumbled everywhere, most of it old, makeshift or home made. Only the sails were in good condition. The skipper was most particular about that. It was clinker built, about twenty feet long. The motor ran on kero.

My first diving, as a job, was to help get bait. In shallowish water, they went after anything that moved. They used hand lines, hand spears, and one had a home made speargun that used smokies. Bombs were carried in bandoleers — short lengths of plastic hose filled with carbide and plugged both ends. When the diver found the right kind of hole, he would pull out a tiny stopper in the plug, then drop the bomb in. A bang and out would float an eel.

Fishing, mainly for crays and abalone, was done up to five miles offshore. The country was mostly sandy, with outcrops of rock where the abalone were stuck. We got them off with tyre levers and put them in net bags.

At one time I had worked for a while in a sports' store so I knew what good scuba gear looked like. What we used was nothing like that. The air came from a hand pump with a big wheel like they use for hard hat divers. Plastic hoses with a wire taped down each side gave air to the divers. The hose ended in a kind of a mouth grip, with a head strap to keep it in place. Air came out all the time so you had to be careful to let the extra come out the side of your mouth.

Weight belts? They were lumps of railway line, one on each side. They took you down fast. We used ordinary face masks and flippers. Usually we just wore bathers and a pullover if it was a bit cold.

Anchored for fishing, lines hung down all round the boat, to tie things on such as shell bags, or weight belts when it was time to go up. One held an emergency air cylinder with two hoses attached. A power line with

The depth dropped off into holes and caves of 20 to 30ft and the surge was felt as the swells came through. This diver stopped abruptly and wouldn't come any further. I went back to him and found him tense, out of breath, gripping the limestone. I talked to him for a few minutes and he reluctantly came out, made a few halfhearted duck dives, looking around him rather apprehensively. In the end I accompanied him back to the beach then rejoined Dennis for a decent free dive. This member has since moved on to greener pastures. He had easily completed the 40ft swim in his bathers, but I don't believe he was at home in or under water. I had a similar experience with a female member who had her A Class certificate, and took her back to shore.

To those people who are despondent about that particular test, I advise them to say "To hell with it!". I have checked the training schedules of several other clubs and have not found the equivalent of that test. The nearest is in the British Sub Aqua tests. Here is a quote — note that this is really a buoyancy test!

"Group A Test 3. Swim 50yds wearing a 10lb weight belt. Weight may be reduced for junior or lady members, or those with a low buoyancy index".

Their test which approximates our 10ft dive to don all gear underwater, is as follows —

"Group B Test 1. Sink all basic equipment in deep end of training pool. Dive for each object in turn and fit at surface". That sounds like the common sense method!

Even the most buoyant bod could get down in 8ft of fresh water and grab his flippers, etc. What a piece of cake! They do have some excellent tests executed in sea water to further confidence in trainees doffing and handling of gear. Their scuba gear, not just bathers.

The sight of some poor devil floating bum up and battling to stay down is hilarious for sure. However when this matter was discussed at the last general meeting, an unfunny comment came from the back of the hall,

"Tell them to breathe out before swimming!"

Anyone advising a trainee to expel his air and then exert himself to the extent of a 40ft underwater swim

without gear, has never heard of shallow water black-out. I hope that person does not instruct at Base, as he needs to overhaul his physiology. We all know that to expel half a lung full before free diving helps obviate excess buoyancy, but a free diver is wearing basic gear, chooses his own time to surface, and is not exerting himself over a set distance.

If you have a high buoyancy index, don't despair. It is a positive advantage when diving, and can be a life saver. Naturally, when either free diving or using scuba, you can weight yourself to possess negative buoyancy.

So if the UEC won't relent and make that particular test optional, don't worry. If your husband or friends won't teach you the really relevant tests necessary to safe diving, you can always join another club. And remember, you have your own built in buoyancy vest!

No disparagement is meant to those divers mentioned, who will of course remain nameless. We all dive within our capabilities, which may vary from day to day. *

CLUB CALENDAR

DEC 16 General Meeting
22 Training Base followed by Night Dive
29 Fremantle Harbour Dive
JAN 5 Training Base
6 Committee Meeting
19 Training Base

ROSTER OF EXAMINERS

DEC 22 K. Kennedy, W. Marshall, B. Geddes, J. Walden
JAN 5 D. Kenny, K. Errington, D. Parker, J. Carpenter
19 G. Gougoulis, C. Croft, W. Braithwaite, K. Collett

NOMINATIONS

John Robert Morgan 67 Safety Bay Road, Shoalwater
Wally Taylor 14 Reserve Road, Spearwood

FINANCE. General \$335.97 Boat \$64.40 Building \$11.92
Compressor \$203.75 IDB \$8,500 Deb Stock \$10,000.

For the Younger Diver Teenage Wanderer Reckons

"THE WORLD'S FUN!" by D. H.

MUCKING ABOUT in water always appealed to me. Many's the time I copped a belting for shooting off to dive in creeks for fresh water crays. Sometimes we swam in dams or any place else there was water. One time, in a dam, I got hooked up when a snag caught a rip in my jeans. Thought I was a goner for sure, but my mate pulled me free.

I had shot through from home many times during my sixteen years. Now I was on the road again, this time heading west. It was warm and muggy the evening I reached the fishing town near the border. As usual, I made for the water, looking for a quiet spot to wash off the dirt.

I came to a deserted jetty which looked like a good place. Dumping my bag, I stripped off till all I had on was the knife on its belt round my waist. Ever since the bloke on the circus gave it to me, I had worn it next to my skin, out of sight. Probably there were sharks in the estuary, so I kept the knife on and dived in. Was that water good!

Lazing around and scrubbing, I could hear a motor chugging, and men's voices laughing and shouting in a foreign language. They were having a good time and the sounds were coming nearer. A spotlight went on and I could see the shape of a boat heading for the jetty. Next thing I was caught in a dazzle of light and an extra shout went up. The boat altered course slightly until it was along side me. I looked up to see a line of grinning faces. A man reached over with a boat hook and caught me by the belt. Hands grabbed and hauled me aboard. They thought it was a huge joke! Those Greeks were a merry bunch. As I ate, I told them how I came to be there. Before going to sleep they had me signed up as a crew member.

"TILTING OUT OF TROUBLE" from TIME MAGAZINE

A SKINDIVING student had surfaced rapidly from the bottom of a 14ft training tank. Despite his training, he had evidently held his breath all the way up. Within seconds he was half unconscious and his left side paralysed. The victim was rushed to a doctor, who himself was an enthusiastic skin diver.

The doctor saw at once that the stricken diver was suffering from air embolism, in which compressed air in the lungs expands rapidly, forces its way into the pulmonary veins leading to the heart and travels through the arteries to the brain where it cuts off part of the circulation and causes unconsciousness and paralysis. He told the diving crew to carry the patient to an examining room. Inexperienced at the job they let the unconscious man's head sag forward until his chin touched his chest. At the same time they were holding his waist and legs higher than his head and shoulders. The doctor noticed a twitching of the paralysed side of the diver's face, and a barely perceptible motion of the man's arm.

The twitch in the head-dropped position gave the doctor an idea. His examining table had a tilting mechanism. He propped up the diver's head until his chin rested on his chest, the same position that had produced the hopeful twitch. Then he spun the control wheel until the head end of the table dropped 15 degrees. The doctor kept this up and down motion of the head going for 15 minutes. Slowly the diver regained control of his face muscles and began to talk. Within two hours he was well enough to go home, and has since recovered completely.

In later experiments with cats, a doctor found that tilting repeatedly succeeded in clearing air embolism.

It is thought that in the head-down position the brain received more blood. Its small vessels dilate and are better able to push the air bubbles along. The bubbles then split up and become so small that they can be dissolved in the blood. *

"THE CHACHA OF WHYDAH"

YOU MAY have thought that someone was having you on when reading this name in the brief item of the "James Matthews" in the November magazine. Not so. Mike Pollard has come across some interesting information about this unusual man.

Francisco Fellis de Sousa left Rio de Janeiro, Brazil sometime between 1788 and 1800, as a peasant who wished to see the world. He sailed to Whydah (Ouidah) in Dahomey, West Africa, and in a short time became the Governor of a Portuguese fort there. He then turned to the slave trade and worked on his own account as a broker.

In the course of business he came to be owed a lot of money by King Adandozan of Dahomey. While trying to recover the money owing to him, he was thrown into gaol.

Sousa was befriended by Prince Gangpe, who had him released from prison, in exchange for rum and trade goods on the cheap, which the Prince sold at a profit to increase his power. In 1818 the Prince overthrew King Adandozan, and became King Ghezo. Francisco retained the friendship of the new King, and in 1843 was appointed Chacha, the Royal Broker. Answerable only to the King he became rich and powerful.

Francisco was always hospitable to the English although they were responsible for the loss of some twenty of his ships, including the "Don Francisco" which later became the "James Matthews".

It is said that when he died in 1849, the King had a boy and girl beheaded and three men buried alive, in funeral rites that lasted six months in mourning for his friend.

Assuming he was about 16 when he arrived on the slave coast, he would have been well over 70 when he died. Not bad for a part of the world known as "The White Man's Grave". In the words of the old song of the time -

"Beware and take care of the Bight of Benin
There's one comes out for forty goes in"

Francisco's vacant Chacha-ship was contested by three of his one hundred children! *

"THE DIVING SCENE" by JON CARPENTER

WAROONA DAM - 10.11.74. Nine divers took the plunge in 100ft of water. Conditions were excellent, visibility approximately 10ft plus. Water temperature was not recorded, however it was extremely cold at the bottom. This I can personally vouch for. A pair of bathers and a wet suit top proved a little too thin for my liking. Fifty feet free ascents were permitted and 100ft qualifying dives. Les Coleman's ali boat provided surface support and hookah.

Diving over, we descended to the barbeque area, to tuck into the food. I left early but other members enjoyed rides on a large disc towed behind Les's boat. Most pulled out around 3pm. By the way, marron were large and plentiful. The obscene word uttered by a diver after emerging from a 50ft free ascent is regretted. He reckoned he nearly didn't make it to the top. *

BLACKWALL REACH - 24.11.74. Six divers donned gear, to yet again enter the murky water of Blackwall Reach. Due to the presence of only one A Class diver, myself, Owen Peters and Ken Harrison were chosen as senior buddies for the other two diving teams.

Ken Kennedy turned up a little late at our assembly point. Actually I think we were all surprised to see he was still game to go out diving. His late arrival was due to weather and water conditions. His suggestion that we at least take a dive in the river made me relieved. No chunder trip out of the Heads. A few members, a little disappointed, took off, but we can't help weather conditions.

Eight people moved out in Ken's magnificent vessel Orca, and dropped anchor 100ft from the wall. As the engine died feverish activity took place. With that unexplained rush, six divers struggled into their gear as if gold were down there. 8.30 and the first pair hit the water, surprisingly a reasonable temperature. The other groups followed at five minute intervals.

Bob Taylor and I swam up to the wall and descended in to the murk. First sight was a Holden Sedan and nearby

Bill Gault was back on the scene again, cracking the whip. Good to see you back, Bill. Sorry we had to thrash the pants off you! Better luck next time.

Since my report is always last in, and this month is no exception, I will round off by wishing all our members a Very Happy and More Prosperous New Year. Over the Festive Season, remember -

"If you get tanked, unless its 72 cu ft, Don't Dive" *

AWARD OFFERED FOR CLUB BUILDING PLAN

THE chairman of the Building Committee, Bob Wallis, has offered an award to the value of \$10, to the club member who submits a plan which, in the view of the Committee, comes closest to the finally accepted design.

You don't have to be an architect. Just jot down all the facilities you consider necessary in a club house on the ocean front. Then get pencil and paper and start doodling. A ruler may help.

Don't say you can't. The committee is looking for lots of ideas. Perhaps your design, or part of your design, may be just right for incorporating into the final plan.

If you get stuck with what seems to be a technical problem, give Bob a ring. He'll put you straight.

Of course, if it's a close finish, the plan carrying the most information will have the edge.

Talk it over at home, or with your friends, but get cracking. Put in more than one sketch if you wish. Bob wants to get hold of them as soon as possible. Entries close at the February General Meeting. The award will be made at the Presentation Night. *

MEMBERSHIP. At the time of going to press, there were only 58 financial members to start off the club's new financial year. Get rid of that guilty feeling by getting your current fees to the Treasurer.

LOST on Waroona Dam dive. One pair of blue continental fins, float type. May have been picked up by mistake from Les Coleman's boat. Contact Ken Harrison 37.1786.

FOR SALE. Ladies SSW Seabee wet suit \$15.

Contact G. Cousins - office hours 21.0191. ext 299.

"A HOOLIGAN A LUNATIC AND THE PRESIDENT" by DAVE KENNY

NOVEMBER was not such a good month from the diving point of view. In fact, the Sundays were some of the roughest on record. But did that deter the fearless divers of the UEC?

About 7am one Sunday, having arranged to accompany a certain "inflatable diver" from Cockburn Sound, I poked a bleary eye out the window, to find it was blowing half a hooligan. Beauty, I thought, at last a lazy morning in bed! But I did the right thing and nipped round to the phone box. A voice indicated there was a body at the other end.

"Is that the inflatable lunatic?" I asked. "Yes" came the reply. "You're not going out in that", says I. By this time it was blowing a full hooligan and trees were having trouble remaining upright. "Yes, of course" replied the lunatic in an incredulous voice.

Well I undertook to meet him at the ramp, then headed back to the house cursing to myself. As I ate breakfast I realised I was wasting good food because very soon it would be on a return ticket!

Gear was loaded and the trek to the ramp soon over. The seas were very rough and only one boat was heading out. Others were standing about waiting for someone to say "Home James". After hanging about for some time, I decided it would achieve nothing, so joyfully pointed the bus in the direction of home. I got my lazy morning in bed. In fact I flaked out for four hours!

Of all the UEC competitive events, the most exhausting and gruelling would have to be the Marathon. I'm glad to say that, although it was cancelled earlier, it went off extremely well. We had 15 altogether, but this number was reduced to half pretty quickly. With four outside competitors to four UEC members, we managed to pull off a first in each section. This was a terrific effort by all concerned, including the Uni, WSSC and BSAC. A pity a few more didn't swell the numbers. They probably had more brains!

a Morris 1000. Opening doors and boots we found no bodies. We decided to swim upstream. Kegs, as usual, were abundant. I found another beer spike. An extra large lady's handbag provided no goodies. Unfortunately it clashed with my wetsuit, so it was returned to the waters. A wallet proved just as empty. I must have collected a ton of bottles, mainly Sepia type. The return journey proved to be rather difficult. Inflating my life jacket didn't help much. The swim from the wall out to Ken's boat was just about the end of me. If Bob had not come to my rescue, maybe I would have been the purpose of the next dive at Blackwall Reach.

MARATHON SWIM - 1.12.74. Out of the original 15 entries 12 took part in the Marathon. Lack of organisation caused some delay at the start, however they were away at 10.25. Competition was plentiful, divers from Western Spearos, BSAC and Uni gave our members some new blood to do battle with.

Ideas on dress varied considerably. Bob Abrahams ploughed through the swell looking like a channel swimmer. Fins, bathers and goggles met his needs. This extreme was followed by the other - complete wet suits. Some saw fit to discard these or part thereof during the swim. This was due to severe overheating. Talk about steam swimming!

Keith and daughter Dianne provided some entertainment at the jetty - a game called catch the face mask. Dave Kenny, the fictional hero of the UEC, decided to do his bit, despite injury to a certain limb (further details unavailable). Little prompting from Bill Gault, caused this person to come forth with a considerable quantity of foulies, which unfortunately cannot be repeated. This magazine should have an 'R' rating anyhow. Dave consistently enters club functions. We can all take a hint here. We could do with a few more showoffs. Why not muck in a little, to use a Kennyism. 'Nuff said!

Charlie Croft was the most consistent swimmer. His pace didn't alter nor his arms falter throughout the three hour stint. Naturally it paid off despite some stiff competition from Uni's Neil Taylor. Charlie won by sheer determination and stamina. Bob Taylor and Dianne Errington were first in Junior and Ladies Section respectively. Both completed 28 laps in bathers only. Seven divers actually finished the swim, the others dropping out at various stages. They gave their hardest, at least they entered. At 13.25 it was all over, much to the relief of a sore backside and, oh yes, the swimmers.

Entries for next year's Marathon are now open. Any takers?

FULL RESULTS OF 1974 MARATHON

1st Charlie Croft	UEC Winner of Open	34 Laps
2nd Neil Taylor	Uni	32 Laps
3rd Dave Kenny	UEC	30
4th Bob Taylor	UEC Winner of Junior	28
5th Dianne Errington	UEC Winner of Ladies	28
6th Hugh Morrison	WSSC	26
7th Donna Morrison	WSSC	26
Keith Harding	BSAC Dropped out	20
Ken Harrison	UEC " "	16
Bob Abrahams	UEC " "	14
Skip Gromon	UEC " "	8
Mal Ferrier	UEC " "	2
Nevil Barker	UEC Non-starter	
Steve Wood	UEC " "	
Kevin Collett	UEC " "	

Boat trips leave from Mosman Jetty unless otherwise notified. Life Jackets a must on Ken Kennedy's boat. *

Classified "R" - for Research

"A DROP IN THE OCEAN"

THERE WAS this former club member who became highly intrigued with what it would be like to evacuate his bowels while suspended in the ocean. You know, ambient pressure on the body and all that.

Next boat trip he plunged over the side clad only in wet suit jacket. Breathing happily on hookah, he soon reached the required depth. He unclipped the flap on his jacket, assumed a 'Knees Up Mother Brown' position and commenced to concentrate.

Initial attempts produced absolutely no result. Greater effort was obviously necessary. With grim determination, eyes shut, teeth clenched, body tensed, arms round knees with vice like grip, he strained with all his might. His red flushed face slowly started to purple. Could he hang on? Just about to admit defeat, he let go a great gasp of pent up breath and croaked - "Eureka! I have done it!"

Then he realised that Neptune had played him a fine old trick. That which had been displaced was immediately replaced by an equal amount of sea water. You know ambient pressure on the body and all that. At first it was a freezing pain deep down in his vitals, but gradually warmed to body temperature. Relaxing awhile to regain depleted strength, he commenced a languid swim to the surface, eager to tell his mates of victory.

No sooner had he set foot on deck than Neptune was at it again. That which had replaced the displacement decided to free itself again. Which it did to the utter astonishment of the onlookers.

Insult to injury, the watchers' noses started to twitch. With great wariness they inspected the jacketed diver to find the cause. What they discovered was that he had forgotten about his jacket flap, free floating behind. It had served as an efficient catchment area. He had brought some of the buoyant fruits of victory with him. They threw him back into the ocean! *