

U.E.C. NEWS



JANUARY 1991

U.E.C. NEWS
(Underwater Explorers Club of W.A. Inc.)

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SURFACE
MAIL

POSTAGE
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AUSTRALIA

M. CASTLE
WHATS ON
JANUARY

DIARY OF COMING EVENTS

SATURDAY	19	WORK ON BOAT RING DENNIS 457 3335	ALL DAY
SUNDAY	20	ROTTNEST DIVE. RICHARD/JULIE.	0800HRS
MONDAY	21	GENERAL MEETING.	2000HRS
SUNDAY	27	NO DIVES ORGANISED, BUT IF YOU RING THE	
MONDAY	28	DIVING OFFICER DIVES CAN BE ARRANGED.	
MONDAY	28	SKYSHOW. WATCH IT FROM OUR BOAT. SEE SOCIAL FOR DETAILS	

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	3	CITY BEACH DIVE. BOB/MAREE	0800HRS
MONDAY	4	COMMITTEE MEETING.	2000HRS
SUNDAY	10	CHAMPION ROCKS. PETER/MICHEL	0800HRS
TUESDAY	12	MAGAZINE PREPARATION NIGHT.	1930HRS
THURSDAY	14	ST. VALENTINE'S NIGHT RIVER BOAT TRIP. 458 2224	
SUNDAY	17	PARKER POINT DIVE BARRIE/JULIE	0800HRS.
MONDAY	18	GENERAL MEETING. CLUB VIDEO.	2000HRS
SUNDAY	24	CARNAC DIVE GLEN/RON.	0800HRS

COMING UP ALBANY DIVES IN APRIL

SATURDAY	23	FISHING. ROTTNEST. BOOK 458 2224.	0630HRS
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THE NOVEMBER COVER. TIBI

OF OUR NOVEMBER MAGAZINE COVER WE FEATURED SOME OF THE DOLPHINS WHICH BEACHED THEMSELVES ON FUKUEJIMA ISLAND, JAPAN. THE TRUE REASON OF EVENTS WERE HIDDEN IN LIES AND COVER UP. WHY WOULD 582 DOLPHINS JUST HAPPEN TO BEACH THEMSELVES NEAR A VILLAGE OF DOLPHIN EATING PEOPLE? THE TRUTH IS THE DOLPHINS WERE SLAUGHTERED. AN EYEWITNESS, WHO WATCHED FOR SEVERAL HOURS FROM THE DARK BEACH SAW FISHERMEN IN BOATS DRIVE THE DOLPHINS ONTO THE BEACH. WHAT FOLLOWED SHOCKED JAPAN AND THE WORLD. PEOPLE WERE USING KNIVES AND SAWS TO CUT UP DOLPHINS WHILE THEY WERE STILL ALIVE.

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ALL OPINIONS EXPRESSED ARE GIVEN IN GOOD FAITH AND IN ALL CASES REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE WRITER AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE POLICY OF THE U.E.C. OR THE EDITOR.

patronage. Now I appreciate that this particular event coincided with a U.E.C. General Meeting and our first loyalties are to the club, so the following comment is NOT a criticism of any club members in ANY way. However, if this pathetic display of support of an AUF initiative is in any manner indicative of attitudes at large, then I despair. Historical political considerations aside, the AUF and diving in general deserve better than this. I found the seminar worth while and informative and have no hesitation in exhorting all U.E.C. members to support the AUF at future seminars. I will keep you all informed as to upcoming dates and topics both through the Newsletter and the Notice Board. A strong contingent from U.E.C. whenever possible in future will help us as well as help the sport. We have a tradition of high profile involvement in WA diving. Let's continue this tradition now.

Concerning the subject matter of the seminar itself:

David Hay of Sterling Leisure demonstrated admirable self control in avoiding the specifics of the Aladin range and presented an informative discussion of the principals and technology underlying modern dive computers. Exotic considerations such as tissue half lives, tissue models (mathematical) and out gassing were presented in simple and concise terms. He completed his presentation with a useful list of selection criteria for the potential purchaser of one of these exiting little beasts.

Simon Jones of Perth Diving Academy presented an interesting summary of most of the diveable areas of the West Australian coast from Esperance to the Northern Territory border. He covered both commonly known and lesser known sites with emphasis on names of dive operators (where available) and general diving conditions. This session was, of necessity, virtually a series of brief summaries but was, none the less, of considerable value.

SCUBA Diving Seminar

Glen Collingwood

On December 17, I attended a SCUBA Diving Seminar conducted under the auspice of the AUF and sponsored by the Ministry for Sport and Recreation. Apart from the seminar topics themselves (Dive Computers, and Western Australian dive sites) a couple of points piqued my interest.

Firstly Ray Horne (AUF) explained the Governments changed attitude to sports funding in general. For example; no longer will it be possible for, say, a school to apply to MSR for a grant to purchase, say, cricket equipment; instead finance will be made available for the regulatory body to conduct training programs to facilitate the continuation of the sport. The thrust seem to be for the Government to encourage (via financing) each sporting body to utilise existing experience and expertise to promote the training of youngsters, or less experienced participants in the sport.

Of course the AUF, as the regulatory body for SCUBA diving in Western Australia, now has the task of taking up the 'extended education' gauntlet on our behalf. Mr Horne made it quite clear that the AUF has no intention of getting into the Diver Training act or in any way encroaching into those training areas that are properly and traditionally serviced by the various training agencies. AUF will, however, conduct a series of SCUBA Diving Seminars aimed at extending the education of divers into areas not normally dealt with by these agencies. The seminar of December 17, was the first of these.

The second point of note was the appalling attendance. Of the many thousands of certified divers in the Perth area, only some 28 attended what was to prove to be a most enjoyable and informative evening. The seminar was extensively advertised through dive shops and with the very reasonable cover charge of \$3.00 per head (including refreshments) there is, in my opinion, no excuse for such a poor

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. CASLEY

Well, the "silly season" is behind us now for another year. "Thank Goodness", I hear you all say as you breathe a sigh of relief and survey the damage. I hope each of you and your families enjoyed the festive season and Father Christmas brought you some goodies! The Xmas dive event was immensely successful with many families turning up. It would also appear that we have some up and coming divers amongst the youngsters. Even though a strong sea-breeze sprang up, we had difficulty getting the young snorkellers out of the water. Thanks also to John and Cath Walden for the wonderful B.B.Q. they arranged for the crew that took the boat down to Rockingham.

New Year's Eve was celebrated this year at Mike and Sue's "temporary" home, belonging to Suzie and Kerry. We all had a good time welcoming in the new year and popping champagne corks into the pool, until the small hours of the morning. Well done Sue and Mike - especially the coup you had against the Wasley family in the "Champers Cork in the Pool" competition. Your turn next function Nick and Sharon!

"Underwater Explorer" also has a new "temporary" home for 3 months, as she is now berthed in "Challenger" harbour on the second to last jetty. This location has many benefits for Club Members - mainly easy loading of gear and shorter days out diving. A levy of \$2 will be placed on members parking their cars in the toll free carpark to help defray the cost of the pen. You will save 50 cents on parking - so no complaints please!

Lastly, if your name appears on the following list please pay \$50 at the next General Meeting, this for the Long Week end in March at Rottneest. The remainder will need to be paid at the February meeting. Members currently booked on are: Julie Raines, Alan Burbridge, Kerin & Frank Hubbard, Nick & Sharon Wasley, Pat Smith, Ian Cowan, Deidre & Martin Smith & family, Peter Horton, Tibbi Csomay, Richard Naylor, Bill Boustead, Janet & Albert Kramer, Dennis Stubberfield and Yours Truly. We can still accept bookings for a limited few more people - so get in quick and give me a ring if you want to go.

That's all for this month folks, except for another reminder to pay your annual Subscription if you haven't yet paid. Why not come to the next meeting and catch up with your diving mates. See you all there!

*GOSSIP COLUMN

ITEMS CAN BE SENT IN OR PHONED IN TO THE EDITOR 341 3001.

KAREN LAWRENCE IS IN KATHMANDU NEPAL WHITE WATER RAFTING.

PAT RECEIVED A HAIRDRIER FOR CHRISTMAS.

PETER NEEDS SOMEONE TO HOLD HIS HAND UNDERWATER.

GUES WHO MISSED THE BOAT WAITING FOR IT AT EAST STREET?



CHART ROOM CHATTER

D. STUBBERFIELD

Most members will now be aware that the boat has been "penned" at a berth in Challenger Harbour, which is reached from Mews road, Fremantle. This took a little organisation, to make sure fenders and mooring lines were adequately placed, and many thanks by the way to those who assisted. To date operations from this berth have proved even easier and more convenient than expected with boat crews, in particular, already reaping the benefits. In due course all diving members will also note and benefit from the change, especially when it comes time for working parties!

The first Club event from the new berth, was an exploratory dive trip, traditionally held at this time of year when virtually no bookings are taken for routine diving. This trip started horrifically with the usual 25 knot sea breeze to chase us over to Geordie Bay, where the night was spent. The following day was spent exploring the reefs off North Point and Little Armstrong Bay, where one good dive site was located and now appears in our Book. The next morning was sufficiently calm to try the South of the island around Salmon Bay and Nancy Cove, this time without success.

The boat itself is looking smart and performing well, but will require a working day, which I have scheduled for Saturday 19th January, to assess our long term plans for the boat and fix up as many of those small jobs which always need doing on all boats.

This might be a good time to re reiterate the Club's long standing policy on boat usage by members. Indeed we have now found a new use for her - go down to bustling Fremantle and have a picnic aboard her while at the berth - don't laugh its been done and was terrific fun. (It also lets potential vandals know she's always guarded) Seriously, the boat is ours, yours and mine, and may be used at any spare moment by members and families, subject to the following Club rules (and Laws of the land). (a) All boat usage must be co-ordinated through the Diving Officer, Brian Murray, who knows the current availability of the boat and can inform other members of any available proposed non - routine trips. (The Boating Officer must also know when the boat is going out, but he will be informed by the D.O.) (b) A Club designated or approved Skipper must be in charge, and for dive trips a Club designated Diving Officer as well. The crew shall be a minimum of 4 members for short trips and 6 members for Rottnest trips. All Club diving procedures and regulations must apply. (c) Social trips, both to the islands and up river, are also actively encouraged, but must have a Club Skipper in charge. There are 2 more skippers available

62000 DOLPHINS ARE SLAUGHTERED BY FISHERMEN EVERY YEAR, TO EAT. DOLPHIN LIVER IS A DELICACY IN SRI LANKA.

(the other guy who is waiting on a pitching boat) and current accepted practice (by other dive (charter?) groups).

Stay tuned for the next exciting chapter.

Cheers



Training Report

Glen Collingwood

The 1991 Training Year has started quietly yet auspiciously with Dennis Stubberfield about to complete the training of Larry Park. Unfortunately ill health in the family have delayed Larry's 'FINALS', however, with a little luck he may well be presented with his Certification at this month's General meeting.

I have had a number of enquiries, of late, regarding 'old' SDFA divers upgrading to the new certification level. I am confident that some of these enquiries will result in new U.E.C. members and in the issue of the first of the new SDFA cards. Remember that these new cards (or at least the certification that the card represents) are nationally accredited and will be honoured by dive facilities anywhere in Australia. If you are experiencing difficulty with your old cards not being accepted by shops and filling stations then I recommend an Upgrade to you. Please ring me (450 6817) for details of Upgrade Days.

During the course of the coming year I hope to present to you a selection of special interest activities aimed at expanding our diving enjoyment through ongoing diver education. I look to you for your ideas and support. Please let me know of your areas of interests and any speciality course that you would enjoy.

Safety Report

Glen Collingwood

When club policy is being determined, and particularly when that policy has the potential to affect the safety of diving club members it is not unreasonable that the policy determination proceed in a cautious and extremely considered manner. Neither is it unreasonable that new technology be embraced (on a club basis) with caution and only after the new technology has proven itself to be reliable and safe.

Such is the issue of Dive Computers (these ubiquitous little beggars that keep popping up in spite of what appears to be a conscientious attempt to treat them as the black sheep of the diving family). Much has been said at both the official and the non-official level regarding the use of computers on club dives and despite a couple of pronouncements regarding club policy it is my opinion that the waters are still somewhat muddy. Dive computers have been around, in one form or another, for many years and in the main have proven to be of indifferent value. This latest batch (appearing over the last three or four years) are, however, a new ball game entirely. Even so, the apparent reluctance on the part of the various committee's to accept their use unreservedly, simply because they are electronic and new and leading edge technology, has only served to demonstrate the policy makers admirable concern for the safety of diving club members has a whole. While it is relatively simple for an individual to make his or her own diving policy decisions (in this case to use or not to use computers) the committee's deliberations are not always, by necessity, straightforward.

What this is leading up to is simply that I believe that the issue of the use of Dive Computers on club dives must be put to rest once and for all (well at least the next twelve months). For my part, I have the utmost confidence in dive computers, and regularly use one as part of my normal diving procedure. I have put to committee that we carefully reconsider the use of computers in the club and that firm, clear, and concise policy be determined on the basis of diver safety, diver comfort

now, so twist their arms to take a boat load of you out! In general folks the Club has a policy which encourages all members to get the maximum usage from the boat and I hereby exhort all members as I have done in the past many times, to get out and work her hard! (the boat that is).

Finally, may I suggest that finding out what is going on with boat trips and working parties is really up to the individual member because the magazine, the calendar and Club meeting night can only go a small way in letting ALL members know ALL that is taking place at a given time. It is totally unfair and unreasonable to expect Officers of such a big, complex Club to contact you all. To each member its only a single phone call to discover and take part in anything that is going

Cheers Folks!

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

It's that time of the season those of you in hibernation have to join the regulars on Club excursions to our known dive sites and enjoy UEC company over the long hot summer. So how about it?

Don't forget to book on for Saturday 2 tank dives to Carnac/Stragglers and also night dives scheduled when the weather settles.

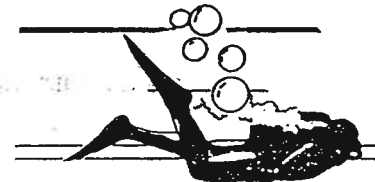
UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	MARIE CASLEY	457	3333
SECRETARY	PAT TROY	328	8163
TREASURER	PETER HORTON	445	2336
O/C DIVING	BRIAN MURRAY	459	8374
O/C TRAINING	G. COLLINGWOOD	450	6817
O/C MAGAZINE	TIBI CSOHAY	341	3001
O/C BUILDING	R. NAYLOR.	272	5614
O/C SAFETY & TECHNICAL	C. COLLINGWOOD	450	6817
O/C SOCIAL	PR. H. SMITH	458	2224
O/C BOAT	D. STUBBERFIELD	457	3333
VICE PRESIDENT	M. SMITH	458	2224

U.S. DIVERS REGULATORS SAFETY RECALL

Due to a potentially hazardous safety problem that may exist with some of the High Pressure Seats used in U.S. Divers Regulators manufactured between 1 July 1988 and 27 August 1990, U.S. Divers has voluntarily decided to initiate a recall for inspection. If you have purchased a U.S. Divers Regulator since 1 July 1988, or if you have had this regulator overhauled since that date, DO NOT DIVE until you have your regulator inspected by your Dive Shop.

AQUA-LUNG AUSTRALIA PTY., LTD.
Call toll free 008 333 3433 should you need further information.



SECRETARY'S SPIEL

by Pat Troy



AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING ON JANUARY 7, 1991 THE FOLLOWING POINTS WERE RAISED FOR DISCUSSION:

TRAINING AND SAFETY.

GLEN COLLINGWOOD ATTENDED A SEMINAR ON DEC. 17, 1990 AT WHICH DIVE COMPUTERS WERE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH. HE WILL BE PREPARING SOME ARTICLES ON THIS SUBJECT.

DIVING.

A VERY GOOD DIVE WAS REPORTED ON SUNDAY 6.1.91. SOME SPECTACULAR CAVES WERE FOUND JUST OFF EAGLE BAY.

BOAT REPORT.

A BUSY BEE WILL BE HELD ON THE 19TH JANUARY TO ATTEND TO A FEW THINGS ON THE BOAT. ALL ARE INVITED. CONTACT DENNIS ON 457 3333 AND DONATE SOME TIME AND EFFORT TO YOUR CLUB.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

OUR BOAT WAS CHECKED FOR CRAY FISHING LICENCES AND UNDERSIZE CRAYS BY FISHERIES OFFICERS ON SUNDAY 6.1.91. ALL WAS IN ORDER. HOWEVER I WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT IF YOU CATCH CRAYS, YOU MUST HAVE YOUR LICENCE WITH YOU. IT IS AN OFFENCE NOT TO!
DO NOT GET CAUGHT BECAUSE NOBODY ELSE WILL LET YOU TAKE CRAYS ON THEIR LICENCE. THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS MATTER, SO PLEASE TAKE NOTE! ALSO CRAYS MUST BE MEASURED WHEN YOU CATCH THEM, UNDER WATER, NOT WHEN YOU BRING THEM TO THE SURFACE.

TANK FILLERS FOR THIS MONTH.

BRIAN WALKER	3-9 FEB.	541 3448
RON PHONEMYNT	13-19 FEB.	417 4140
PETER HORTON	20-26 FEB.	445 2336
RICHARD NAYLOR	27- 2 MARCH	277 5614

TANKS WILL BE FILLED EACH TUESDAY 6.45- 8PM. RING FOR PICK UP ON FRIDAY. TANK FILLS ARE \$5 FOR TWO TANKS, \$3 FOR ONE. TANKS WITHOUT A NAME OR TANKS OUT OF TEST WILL NOT BE FILLED. RICHARD.

FOR SALE.

SEA SPORT BLADDERLESS BC.. SMALL MEDIUM OR LARGE. GOOD CONDITION. US DIVERS REGS WITH SEA SPORT OCCY AND UWETEC COMBO GAUGE AS NEW CONDITION. \$500 A SET OR I WILL SPLIT.
RING BRIAN JURY 2771644.

NOMINATION.

PARK L.R. GOSNELLS.

SOCIAL SECTION

MARTIN SMITH.

THE NEW YEARS EVE PARTY WENT OFF WITH A SPLASH. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MIKE AND SUE FOR ALL THE WORK THEY PUT IN. WE ALL HAD A MARVELLOUS TIME.

THE SKY SHOW RIVER CRUISE IS NEXT ON THE SOCIAL AGENDA. THIS IS ON MONDAY 28TH JANUARY, THE AUSTRALIA DAY HOLIDAY. IT WILL BE A B.Y.O. FOOD AND GROC. I WILL BE PICKING UP THE BOAT FROM FREMANTLE AT 3.00 P.M., PICKING UP MEMBERS AT PT. WALTER AT 4.00PM AND FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE PICKED UP AT THE ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB, THE BOAT SHOULD BE THERE ABOUT 5.00 PM.

THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO WATCH THE SKY SHOW. SO DON'T MISS IT. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION GIVE ME A CALL ON 458 2224.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY CRUISE.

THIS YEAR WE WILL PUT THE BARBIE ON BOARD. SO BRING YOUR PRAWNS AND SAUSAGES AND BUBBLE FOR A GOOD TIME. DRESS TO SUIT THE OCCASION AND THE WEATHER. ITS ON THE 14TH OF FEBRUARY. THE BOAT DEPARTS FREMANTLE AT 6.00 PM. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL 458 2224.

NOTICE OF MOTION.

" THAT THE CLUB ADOPT THE " NEW WAY F.A.U.I. " DIVE TABLES." MOVED BY MARTIN SMITH. SECONDED BY BRIAN MURRAY.

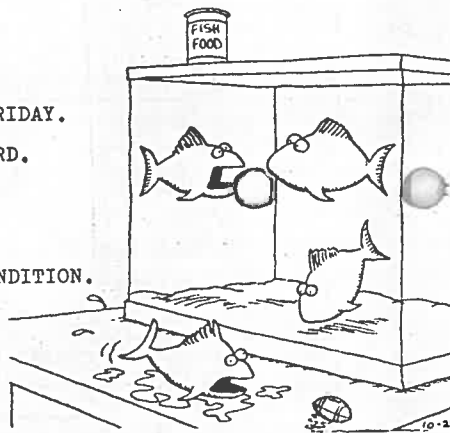
IN SHEAR FRUSTRATION I AM COMPELLED TO MOVE THE ABOVE MOTION, ONLY IN THE INTEREST OF THE FUTURE OF THE CLUB MEMBERSHIP. TOO MUCH TALK AND NO ACTION IN THE PAST HAS LEAD TO A LOT OF HEATED DISCUSSIONS. WE CAN ARGUE ABOUT SAFETY UNTIL WE ARE BLUE IN THE FACE, BUT THE FACT IS THAT THESE ARE ACCEPTABLE DIVE TABLES AND ARE USED BY OTHER RECOGNISED DIVING INSTITUTIONS. IT'S TIME THE CLUB KEPT PLACE WITH THE REST OF THE DIVING FRATERNITY AND OFFERED ITS MEMBERS THE SAME TABLES.

RICE PUDDING.

SKIPPERS PLEASE HAVE SOME RICE PUDDING ON BOARD EVERYTIME YOU GO TO SEA. IT MIGHT COME IN HANDY. THE FOLLOWING STORY PROVES IT.

JAPAN BUILT A NUCLEAR POWERED COMMERCIAL RESEARCH VESSEL, THE 80000 TONNE MUTSU.

STUDIES BEGAN IN 1963 AND THE SHIP WAS LAUNCHED IN 1969. THE JAPAN ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE DESIGNED AND INSTALLED A PRESSURIZED WATER REACTOR WHICH SHOULD HAVE POWERED MUTSU 145000 NAUTICAL MILES WITHOUT REFUELING. IN 1974 THEY PUT OUT TO SEA FOR TRIALS, BUT THE REACTOR REACHED ONLY 1.4 PER CENT OF ITS RATED OUTPUT OF 36000 KILOWATTS OF HEAT BEFORE THE RADIATION ALARM SOUNDED. " SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE SHIELD " THEY CRIED. ENGINEERS TRACED THE LEAK TO PARAFIN WAX SEALS BETWEEN SEGMENTS OF THE LEAD SHIELD. MUTSU DRIFTED WITHOUT POWER WHILE THE ENGINEERS TRIED TO SEAL THE LEAK WITH RICE AND BORATES WHICH THE SHIP'S COOK PREPARED. (IN CASE YOU DO NOT KNOW CARBOHYDRATES ARE JUST THE IN THING TO SLOW DOWN FAST MOVING NEUTRONS.) AFTER MUTSU DRIFTED 45 DAYS IT WAS TOWED INTO HARBOUR. THE RICE PUDDING WAS RELACED WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE. BUT NOW MUTSU'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED. 27 YEARS AND 50 BILLION YEN LATER THE SHIP WILL BE SENT TO THE SCRAPYARDS.



"It's a complete pass, Bozo. He had possession of the ball before he flipped out of the tank."

LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND AT ROTTNESST 2-3-4. MARCH
IT IS NOT TO LATE TO BOOK WITH MAREE 457 3333.
THE BOAT WILL BE AT ROTTNESST FROM 24 FEBRUARY
TO 9 MARCH. ACCOMODATION AVAILBLE DURING THAT
TIME. COME FOR TWO WEEKS OR JUST FOR A FEW DAYS!
RING MAREE SHE WILL EXPLAIN!

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Sender:
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FEBRUARY 1991

U.S. NEWS



FRIDAY 1961

Hamelin Island, from where we were finally picked up. No ill effects can be reported from the swim, except fright and exhaustion.

However, if you think I am going to let you get away without telling the morals of this story, you are all wrong.

Moral 1: use your equipment and gauges correctly - don't be tempted to stay when you only have 50 ATA left - no, matter how big the cray is!

Moral 2: get a compass and learn how to use it - don't trust your instincts.

Moral 3: always inflate your BC when you get on the surface - no matter what else might happen you are a lot safer with air in your BC.

Moral 4: always swim forward of the boat.

Moral 5: exercise extreme care when diving in unfamiliar waters.

Dennis's and my performance on that dive wasn't very good and the reason is simply complacency. No matter how experienced you are you cannot cheat on the rules. Safe diving is the only way to dive, so remember ALL the rules every time you put on your scuba gear.

So what else can go wrong on a long weekend at Hamelin Bay? I hear you ask. Ever seen the boat ramp? If you have, then you have a fair idea of what's coming up. After a great deal of effort, we finally got the boat onto the trailer - the wrong way! The boat wasn't on the rollers properly causing severe scratching on the hull and - Oh no! - a hole. Tears were practically dripping from Albert's eyes as he inspected the damage. Nothing for it but to have a quiet beverage and work out what to do. The answer finally was - do nothing - let Janet and Maree work it out. We were on cylinder filling duty at the local hardware while the boys relaxed. Here we were in a hardware store at 9pm on a Sunday evening getting the good oil from the owner on how to repair holes in boats so we could go diving the next day. No problem - Dennis got to work the next day and we were ready to jump back into the water.

Thankfully Monday's diving was uneventful. We dived in the same general area but stayed well clear of the outside reef. 2 large blue groper drifted around the bay feeding for an hour whilst we went off to enjoy our diving.

And so ended an eventful weekend. The diving was spectacular and I would urge Club members to give it a go when they get the chance. If you promise to take me with you I will show you the really good spots. If you don't believe me - ask Janet and Albert.

FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	17.	PARKER POINT DIVE. BARRY/JULIE	0800HRS
MONDAY	18.	GENERAL MEETING.	2000HRS
SATURDAY	23.	FISHING WEST END OF ROTTNESST. BAIT SUPPLIED.	0630HRS
SUNDAY	24.	CARNAC DIVE. GLEN/RON	0800HRS

MARCH

SATURDAY	2.		
SUNDAY	3.	ROTTNEST LONG WEEKEND. IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO BOOK.	
MONDAY	4.	PHONE MAREE ON 457 3333.	
SATURDAY	9.	NIGHT DIVE COURSE. PHONE 450 6817	
SUNDAY	10.	ROE REEF. RICHARD/GLEN	0800HRS
MONDAY	11.	COMMITTEE MEETING. ALL MAGAZINE ARTICLES PLEASE.	2000HRS
THURSDAY	14.	MAGAZINE NIGHT. GETTING THE MAGAZINE READY.	1930HRS
SATURDAY	16.	NIGHT DIVE COURSE. DIVING AT NIGHT. PH. 450 6817	
SUNDAY	17.	SCARBOROUGH DIVE. DENNIS/PETER H.	0800HRS
MONDAY	18.	GENERAL MEETING. COME AND MAKE FRIENDS.	2000HRS
SATURDAY	23.	SOCIAL. A NIGHT AT THE CASINO. PHONE 4582224	
SUNDAY	24.	WEST END DIVE ROTTNESST, MARTIN/MAREE	0800HRS
FRIDAY	29.		
SATURDAY	30.		
SUNDAY	31.	EASTER LONG WEEKEND. DETAILS IN NEXT MAGAZINE.	
MONDAY	1.		

GOSSIP.....

- ..DENNIS ISN'T THE ONE WHO TALKS MOST AT THE MEETINGS ANY MORE.
- ..RICHARD IS MAKING A CONCRETE TANK: WILL BE A BIT HEAVY FOR HIS BACK, BUT FIRST HE HAS TO LAY SOME BRICKS. WHICH MIGHT BE EVEN MORE PAINFUL.
- ..GUES WHO DID A VANISHING TRICK UNDER WATER? SHELL I GIVE YOU A CLUE?
- ..SOME PEOPLE HAVE A HATE-LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH DIVING. THEY LOVE IT ONE MINUTE AND AND ABANDON THEIR GEAR THE NEXT.
- ..THE GIRL FROM THE BUSH IS BACK.
- ..A YOUNG LADY BLAMED HER LATE COMING UP ONE DIVE ON HER CAMERA. IT DIDN'T WANT TO STOP TAKING PICTURES - SHE SAID.
- ..THERE IS A RUMOR THAT WE GOT THE BEST SWIMMER IN WA. IN THE CLUB, HE DIVES WITHOUT FINS.

DUE TO MOST OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS BEING AT ROTTNESST ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH, THE COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE ON THE SECOND MONDAY, 11 MARCH. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MAGAZINE MUST BE READY ON THAT DAY.

Training Report

Glen Collingwood

We have our first new diver for 1991. Larry Park (as mentioned in last months Newsletter) has successfully completed his course. Congratulations Larry. Thank you Dennis.

Michel is currently training three students and the next couple of weeks should see James Walker, Chris Wood and Peter Bell enter the ranks of the great diving community.

Already I have three or four potential starters for the next course due to start in about three weeks. If you know of any one who would like to learn to dive let me know and I'll follow them up.

At the next General Meeting (February 18) Michel will take you through the use of the FAUI 'Nu Way' dive tables. As the committee has recently adopted these tables as a replacement for the BSAC/RNPL tables it is in your best interests to be thoroughly conversant with their application. Bring a note pad and pencil and get with the action. We have limited copies of these tables available at \$3.50 each and they will be on sale at the meeting.

Now for the special news. Judy will be running a FAUI Night Diver Course. This will commence on Saturday, March 9 with an afternoon of theory followed by a shore dive that night and a boat dive on the evening of Saturday, March 16. This course is part of the FAUI Master Diver program however divers from any agency may participate. You must hold a FAUI Scuba Diver Certificate or equivalent and a current medical certificate. The course is very reasonably priced at \$55.00 (\$100.00 plus from a commercial shop) and includes all course material (including a text book) certification, boat dive and air fills. You will need to supply all your own equipment including torches. This is a great experiential opportunity for new divers to continue their diving education and a great opportunity for experienced but uncertified Night Divers to 'get legal'. Please enrol by March 2, to facilitate the acquisition of course material.

We are also planning to present a guest speaker at a General Meeting soon to discuss the concepts of Underwater Navigation. From this, we hope, will come sufficient interest to warrant the running of a Speciality Course.

More next month.

Boating weather information may be obtained by ringing 11541. Please do not rely on radio and television weather bulletins. If you have any doubts, please contact the diving officer.

HAMELIN BAY

THE AGONY AND THE ECSTASY OF A LONG WEEK END.

By Maree Casley

I had been looking forward to this weekend for ages and the only thing that could muck it up was the weather - or so I thought - little did I know what the next 72 hours had in store.

On arrival at the caravan park, we were greeted with the news that our diving companions and the owners of the boat from which we were going to dive had problems with their boat. Hopefully we would see them Saturday. In the meantime Dennis and I pitched our tent, had a cuppa and hit the hay. Next day, whilst Janet and Albert raced around fixing the light bar on their boat, Dennis and I did some four wheel driving along the coast. Janet and Albert arrived by 5pm Saturday and promptly started sorting themselves out. It wasn't long before we were confronted with problem number one. Did you know that there isn't a lot of room to turn a car and boat trailer around in the Caravan Park? I thought so - neither did Albert, Jack knife! No problem - apart from severe embarrassment as we endeavoured to get the car and the boat going in the same direction. O.K.!, so we looked pretty stupid in the caravan park - but no-one would know us at the Augusta Hotel. So we headed off wearing our sunnies just in case - for a lovely, relaxing meal in Augusta. I hope the kangaroo that jumped out in front of the car on the way back enjoyed it's last meal. Although the kanga wasn't very big, it certainly put a fair dent in the front bumper.

Next morning promised beautiful weather for diving - low swells and wind beckoned us. Dennis and I guided the Skipper to a safe anchorage at our favourite dive site and we all had a perfect dive - finding some very bold territory and caves. It was so good we decided to do it again, this time over to the reef and before long we found a massive cave, full of Port Jackson sharks, with an exit on the outside of the reef. It was a truly awesome cave. Janet and Albert then went off and meandered back to the boat, while Dennis and I continued on. Time for us to get back too after finding I had 50 ATA left of air. Wouldn't you know - the biggest crayfish on the face of the earth was hiding under a ledge and we spent a few minutes trying to coax this gargantuan into a goodies bag, with no luck. 30 ATA left, so off we went - next stop Madagascar. I had lead off in the wrong direction. I know it was the wrong way because Dennis's compass told me so! O.K. so we turned around and went in the correct direction - 10 ATA of air left. About 30 metres later I had to surface. After inflating my BC. and swimming about 3" I was out of air and on the dreaded snorkel. Have you ever had a nightmare come true? Well my nightmare was just about to start and I was wide awake. Not only were we on the wrong side of the breakers, but the wind had sprung up and rough conditions had developed. No problem, except we were way behind the boat with no hope of being able to reach it. A long hard slog of a swim ensued, to a rock awash, where Dennis and I landed, waving frantically to Janet and Albert. We then took off for the rocky shore of

PRIOR to commencing the dive. The DO is to assist with contingency planning if required.

For my own part I was disappointed that the recommendation was not a little more adventurous and did not embrace the more up to date research represented by the BSAC 88 Tables, however I fully support this initiative which will improve flexibility in planning the second dive of the day. The 'Nu Way' Tables are recommended to club members and we have a number of copies available for sale at a very reasonable price. See Me.

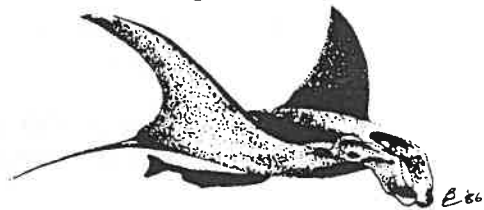
Miscellaneous

I mentioned above, the sub-committee's recommendations for reducing overall dive trip times. One recommendation was accepted and as a result DOs and Skippers will be encouraged to depart from the customary procedure of allowing a two hour surface interval between dives (for lunch) and move as quickly as possible from the first dive site to the second. The first shift of divers will be adequately rested and with the application of the 'Nu Way' tables, and the resulting flexibility regarding surface intervals, could be back in the water in as little time as one hour. I must stress that at no time will safety be compromised and as is currently the case the majorities opinion will influence the DO's decision.

On a recent Sunday dive a buddy pair inadvertently over stayed their dive time by more than fifteen minutes. While all those concerned with this incident realised that this was an accidental safety breach, and that consideration of all the 'known' facts at the time left the DO and Skipper reasonably certain that the divers were not in danger, I must stress that the DO would have been well within his rights to have radioed for help and to have declared a diving emergency. Not only did this pair place themselves in danger, they may well have precipitated an embarrassing public incident. PLEASE monitor your gauges, INCLUDING YOUR WATCH. Your safety, the DO's peace of mind, and the club's reputation are in your hands.

I trust that all this has shed a little light on your committee's continuing efforts to provide safe, convenient and enjoyable diving.

See you next month.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT By M. Casley

Summer is now well and truly with us and that is our signal to get out and enjoy it. The type of weather we've had recently allows us to really indulge ourselves. My particular passion is night diving, so I hope the other devotees out there are on Brian's list so that we can organise night dives more often. Recently a group of us headed out towards Rottneet for a night dive, but unfortunately the site we wanted to dive on was unsuitable, so we moved over to Kingston spit. Although the area wasn't wildly spectacular, it was, surprisingly, very pretty and contained a lot of interesting fish life and corals etc. Dennis and I saw a 2 foot eel, out and about looking for tea, something new to me because the only ones I've seen have always been hiding in crevices.

With the increase in diving activity, now might be the ideal time for you all to ensure that your medicals are up to date. The Club has adopted the recommendations of S.P.U.M.S. in accepting new members and strongly urges all present diving members to renew their medicals in accordance with those recommendations to stay current. It is also Club policy to only accept members having current medicals for further training within the Club. Renewed medicals are particularly important if you have suffered a recent bout of illness or had an accident. In fact any accident which involves lung damage will require a diver to get a medical clearance to resume diving.

S.P.U.M.S. recommend the following for frequency of medicals:-

- Up to 30 years of age - every 5 years.
- From 30 to 50 years - every 3 years.
- Over 50 years of age - every year.

At the recent general meeting and technical sub-committee meetings, much time was taken up discussing the use of new tables on Club dives and it has been decided that we will adopt the "Nu-Way" tables (used by F.A.U.I.). These tables are a conveniently laid out version of the U.S Navy tables, which allow for greater flexibility when doing repetitive dives. At the next general meeting we will be conducting an information session designed to acquaint members with the new tables. It would be good idea for you all to obtain a set of Nu-Way tables so that you can participate in the sessions. It must be stated, however, that members who wish to stick with the BSAC/RNPL tables (or any other table equal to or more conservative than the Nu-Way table) may do so, provided bottom times set by the D.O. on Club dives are not exceeded. In other words, nobody will mind you and your buddy coming up early!

I hope to see you all at the next meeting so we can all familiarize ourselves with the Nu-Way tables. If not at the next meeting, how about coming out on the boat and trying them out in beautiful weather actually diving!

"TILLER FLAT TATTLE" by Stubby!

Not one but two Working Bees were held on the boat this month, the first being held on Saturday 19th., January, during which about half the jobs we planned to do were completed. That sounds pretty normal, so I would call it a satisfactory day's work. However, the turn out of members was appallingly low considering the whinging I have been hearing about what we should do to improve the comfort of our boat trips. I'm afraid these things are just not going to be done if the Club membership in general does not help. We are barely able to cope with routine maintenance as things stand. Furthermore, those stalwart few who do put in the effort, will not continue to give up large amounts of their free time working on the boat, just to give the bulk of members cheap diving! What will happen is that Club Membership fees will be put up to pay some one else to do the work, then we can all relax!

This is why I have always been extremely cynical when people say to me "We must get out and do more fund raising to pay for all these nice things we want rather than just put the fees up". If we can only just maintain the boat, will somebody please explain to me who is going to do the fund raising?

That's my whinge for the week folks! To those who have helped, and they have done consistently, my heartfelt thanks. The second work day was called at short notice to fix an annoying little weep of water coming in around the rudder post. This was quite a fun exercise as it turned out and proved to be highly successful. Your "ancient mariner" (that's Me to a couple of my more disrespectful, disreputable shipmates) decided that to do this job we had to get her stern up out of the water! You would not believe the diversity of methods suggested to me (mostly by the aforementioned) to achieve this. In the event two of us spent a delightful time splashing about in the dock with an air hose, about 17 assorted empty plastic containers, one double air mattress and two single air mattresses, all of which placed "expertly!?" under the keel and blown up, lifted her about 15 inches!

Pat Troy, I hate to name names, but can you imagine Patrick in all his Best boating gear, seated elegantly, knees parted around the rudder post, down in the Tiller Flat and belting hemp caulking, mixed with poly-paste into the timbers of the ship! He topped it off with some of the stickiest, blackest, filthiest, most authentic, tarry bitumen you have ever clapped eyes on. But it worked! even Pat was surprised. Not for nothing is he the king of bilge rats and we love him dearly!

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

WE ADVERTISED OUR TRAINING IN THE NEWSPAPERS.
HAVE PLASTIC TAGS WITH YOUR NAME ON YOUR TANKS.
MARTIN IS GOING TO WELCOME AND INTRODUCE GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS AT THE GENERAL MEETING.

impossible if the diver choses to dive the limits that the computer will allow (a random multi-level dive can not be predicted on the surface, therefore neither can the duration).

After considerable discussion it was decided to recommend to Committee the following:

1. That the use of dive computers be unreservedly endorsed as an aid to safe and enjoyable diving.
2. That divers with computers NOT be allowed any additional dive time and that they be required to conform to the time parameter of the dive profile stipulated by the DO who will make his decision on consideration of ALL the available conditions.
3. That divers with computers NOT be restricted to the depth parameter of the dive profile stipulated by the DO and that they be allowed to dive to the depth allowed by their computer provided that they remain within the time parameter set or the time allowed by their computer, which ever is the lesser.

These recommendations were supported unanimously by the DOs and Skippers present at the meeting (including one or two who have long been staunch advocates time concessions for divers with computers).

NOTE: While it was not specifically discussed, I believe that the de-restriction represented by Recommendation no. 3 was intended to apply to the second dive of the day. As always 'good sense' must apply and applying an unrestricted depth parameter to the first dive would probably seriously prejudice the profile of the second dive.

Dive Tables

The above mentioned sub-committee also examined the club's use of the BSAC/RNPL tables and a replacement for them. After much discussion regarding the relative merits of BSAC/RNPL, BSAC 88, and FAUI 'Nu Way' (a reprint of the long standing US Navy Dive Tables (old PADI Tables)) the following recommendations were put to Committee:

1. That the club adopt the FAUI 'Nu Way' dive tables for use on club dives.
2. That the DO of the day use the 'Nu Way' table to determine dive profiles and that all divers be encouraged to make contingency plans

Safety Report

Glen Collingwood

Chapter two on the computer issue.

A week prior to the last General Meeting a special Technical Sub-Committee met to discuss, among other things, the question of the use of diving computers on UEC club dives. I was pleased to convey to club members (at least those present at the January GM) the findings and recommendations of the sub-committee. I am now able to inform you that at the February Committee Meeting those recommendations were endorsed.

For those of you who haven't heard, I will endeavour to summarise the sub-committee's deliberations.

Firstly, the use of computers on club dives was, on the basis of their proven reliability and convenience, unreservedly endorsed. That momentous step having been taken, the issues of 'how to allow their use' and 'what advantage or concession will derive from their use' were addressed.

It was accepted that a computer, properly used, has the potential to extend the diver's time underwater (particularly on the repetitive dives) and/or allow a degree of flexibility with respect of depth. It was also acknowledged that while a diver with a computer is taking advantage of and enjoying the extra time, a significant degree of inconvenience may well be experienced by the non-computerised members of the party as they wait on the boat for the computerised diver to complete his (no sexism intended) dive. Additionally it was recognised that the crew of the day may well have an already tight 'venue/time' package complicated by the extended dive times that computers may allow.

It must be born in mind that the 'profiles' of the two dives of the day are frequently influenced by the mundane considerations of departing Freo at a reasonable hour, getting to the first site, diving in two shifts, having lunch, getting to the second site, diving (again in two shifts), and returning to Fremantle, all in good time. Depending on the sites chosen for the day, this can be a daunting task and while the sub-committee also recommended ways of shortening the overall time involved (more on this later) it was felt that it is unreasonable to further complicate the DO's job by insisting that he cater for the extended dive times of divers with computers. It should also be remembered that the DO (or Skipper) has the responsibility to call for external assistance should a diver be unduly late in returning to the boat. A diving accident must be assumed if the diver is more than ten minutes late (current club policy). The monitoring of dive times, while not impossible, is made more difficult if the DO has to consider every person individually. Also bear in mind that predicting the duration of a dive is nearly

Well apart from all that I'm pleased to report, Boat usage is up, the Boat and machinery is operating excellently and we can look forward to a very interesting and packed season from now on. This starts with Social cruises, notably the Valentine's Day night, two weeks at Rottneest, including the long week end in March, Night Dives at Rottneest, Saturday diving, Yanchep at Easter and possibly Safety Bay for Anzac. Check with our O.C. Diving, Brian, on 459 8374 frequently, to keep abreast of developments!
Cheers Folks!

"Stubby"!

SOCIAL SCENE

MARTIN SMITH



Well the weather really turned it on for the 1991 Skyshow. After picking up people at Pt Walter and Royal Perth Yacht Club, we headed up stream to find a good spot near the Narrows Bridge.



With a perfect vantage point only 300m from the bridge, we waited for the show to commence. It was only 6p.m. so we killed some time by swimming to other boats to 'sus' out the local talent.

It was good to see a few "old" faces back, including Alison Keen.

It scene was set for a spectacular show and what a show it was – even better than las year, especially the last big "bang".

You will notice that the social calendar is in the middle of the magazine. Pull it out and hang it up somewhere. Plan your social life ahead and give me a call about any of the coming events.

We have a Casino Night planned for 23 March. There are several package deals that the casino can do depending on the number of the group, so give me a call on 458 222 as soon as possible.

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

**SOCIAL CALENDAR
1991**

U.E.C.'s more intrepid members have enjoyed night, early morning and Sunday diving over the past trying (weather) month.

Good underwater terrain, plenty of life and reasonable visibility were reported, but these regulars would like some company from other U.E.C. divers, so how about it?

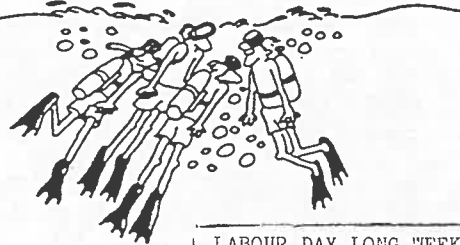
February/March are ideal for night dives so if you are interested, please give me a call or see me at the next meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: A reminder

Should the weather report state a 2m or above swell, strong winds (20 - 25kph) or both, the dive is automatically cancelled.

Please tell your guests.

For dives Phone 459 8374



LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND AT ROTNEST 2-3-4. MARCH IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO BOOK WITH MAREE 457 3335. THE BOAT WILL BE AT ROTNEST FROM 24 FEBRUARY TO 9 MARCH. ACCOMODATION AVAILABLE DURING THAT TIME. COME FOR TWO WEEKS OR JUST FOR A FEW DAYS! RING MAREE SHE WILL EXPLAIN !

MARCH: SAT 23RD

NIGHT AT THE BURSWOOD CASINO. VARIOUS PACKAGE DEALS ARE AVIABLE.



APRIL: FRI 19TH

WINE TASTING AT A VENUE TO BE DECIDED. A GOOD NIGHT OUT.



MAY: SAT 18TH

PROGRESSIVE DINNER. TIME TO HOP ON AND GO



EATING AT DIFFERENT PLACES.



JUNE: FRI 14TH

BOWLING NIGHT WITH SUPPER INCLUDED. SO LETS GET PHYSICAL.

JULY: SAT 20TH

A CULTURAL NIGHT AT THE THEATER.



AUGUST: WED 14TH

QUIZ NIGHT THE NEW FORMAT USES ELECTRONIC SCORE BOARDS.



SEPT: FRI 13TH

RIVER TRIP WINE TASTING. A DIFFERENT APPROACH.



OCT: FRI 11TH

ITALIAN NIGHT AT A NORTH BRIDGE RESTRAUNT.



NOV: SAT 23RD

PRESENTATION NIGHT. THIS YEAR WE WILL BE OUT TO MAKE IT A GOOD ONE. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.



DEC: TUES 31ST

IT'S NEW YEARS PARTY TIME AGAIN.



TANK FILLING.

TANKS FILLED EACH TUESDAY 6.45 TO 8 PM. PICK UP FRIDAY

RON: FEBRUARY	10 TO 16.	417 4140
PETER H.	17 TO 23.	445 2336
RICHARD	26 TO 2 MARCH	277. 5614
BRIAN W.	3 TO 9 MARCH	451 3448

NOMINATIONS

PETER CHRISTOPHER BELL	INNALOO.
CHRIS WILLIAM WOOD	BALLAJURA.
JAMES TASMAN WALKER	CANNINGTON.
DENNIS GEORGE McDONALD	INNALOO.
LUC GERARD FAUVET	SHELLY.
GEOFFREY CHARLTON	WILLETON.

U.E.C. NEWS

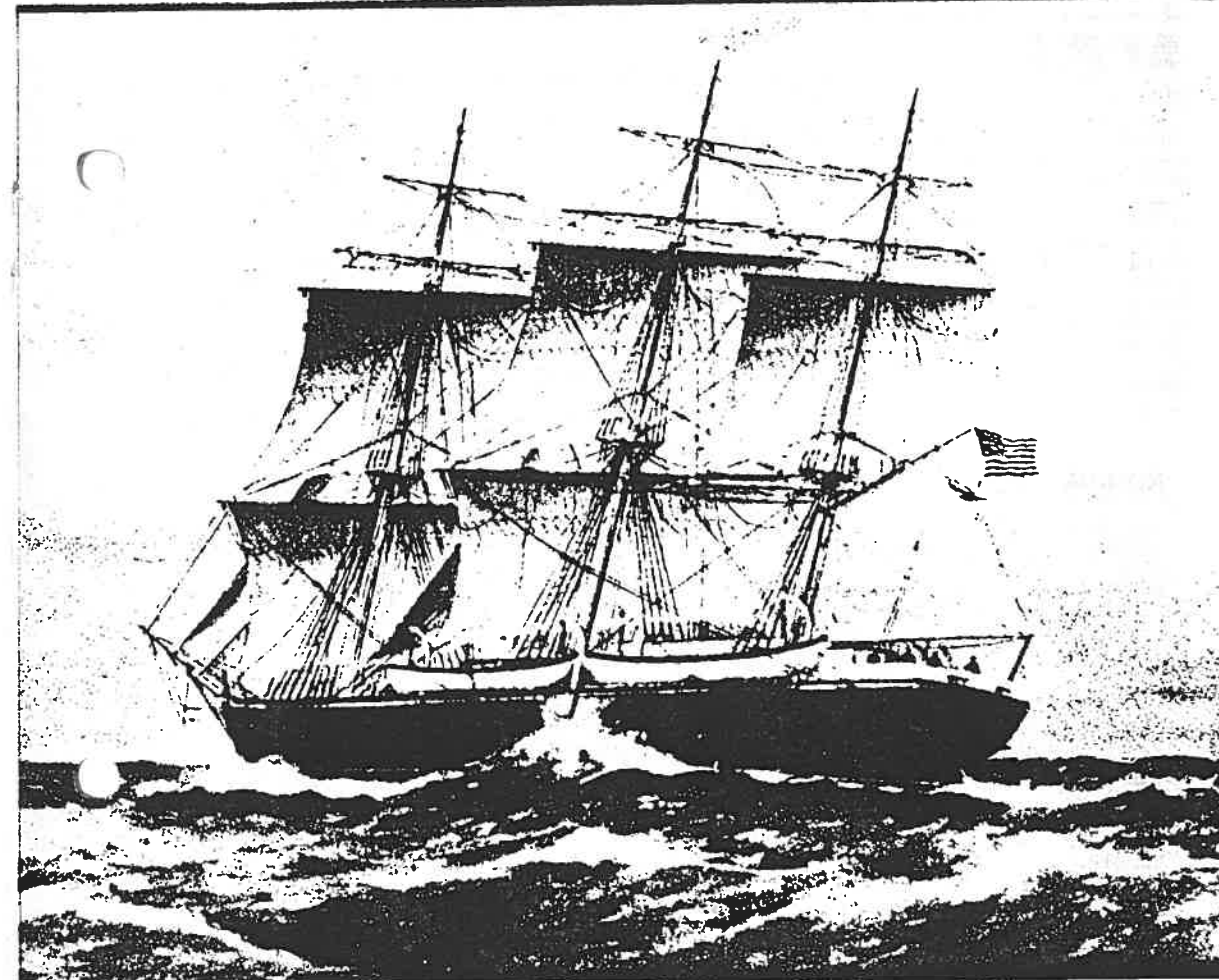
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SURFACE
MAIL

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA



Three-masted whaling ship

MARCH

1991

MARCH

Dates to note

MONDAY	18.	GENERAL MEETING.	2000HRS.
SATURDAY	23.	CASINO NIGHT, RING MARTIN 458 2224.	
SUNDAY	24.	WEST END DIVE. M. SMITH * M. CASLEY.	0800HRS.
SATURDAY	30.		
SUNDAY	31.	EASTER AT ROCKINGHAM. RING BRIAN 459 8374.	
MONDAY	1.		

APRIL

TUESDAY	2.	COMMITTEE MEETING .	2000HRS.
SUNDAY	7.	DIVE AT ANGELLA'S CAVE. B. COTTON * M. ROUX.	0800HRS.
WEDNESDAY	10.	MAGAZINE PREP. NIGHT.	1930HRS.
SUNDAY	14.	STRAGGLERS DIVE. P. HORTON * J. RAINES.	0800HRS.
MONDAY	15.	GENERAL MEETING.	2000HRS.
FRIDAY	19.	WINE TASTING. RING MARTIN 458 2224.	
SUNDAY	21.	DUFFIELD RIDGE DIVE. B. KENNEDY * R. PHONIMYNT	0800HRS.
SUNDAY	28.	HUGALL'S PASSAGE DIVE. G. & J. COLLINGWOOD	0800HRS.

NOMINATIONS

IAN JOHN WASHBOURN. SPEARWOOD.
 SUZANNE JACKSON. MAYLANDS
 MIKE JACKSON. MAYLANDS.
 BRETT JAMES LOOKER. BAYSWATER.
 AINSLIE MARGARET CHOATE. BOORAGOON.
 MICHAEL JOSEPH CROWE. NEDLANDS.

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	HARVE CASLEY	457 3333
SECRETARY	PAT TROY	328 8163
TREASURER	PETER HORTON	445 2336
O/C DIVING	BRIAN MURRAY	459 8374
O/C TRAINING	G. COLLINGWOOD	450 6817
O/C MAGAZINE	TIBI CSOMAY	341 3001
O/C BUILDING	R. NAYLOR.	272 5614
O/C SAFETY & TECHNICAL	C. COLLINGWOOD	450 6817
O/C SOCIAL	PH. H. SMITH	458 2224
O/C BOAT	D. STUBBERFIELD	457 3333
VICE PRESIDENT	H. SMITH	458 2224

IF YOU FEEL LIKE HAVING FISH FOR DINNER, IN JAPAN YOU DO NOT HAVE TO GO AND CATCH IT. YOU JUST SEND YOUR ROD TO GET IT FOR YOU. WELL, NOT QUITE BUT THERE IS A TUNA BOAT THAT THAT DOES IT. THE BOAT HAS TEN RODS WHICH ARE COMPUTERISED THEY CAST LURES, DETECT THE NIBBLING FISH, REEL IT IN AND THROW IT INTO THE BOAT.

GOSSIP.

PETER M. TOLD US HE GOT THE BEST MEMORY IN AUSTRALIA.
 BRIAN M. DOESN'T WANT ANY SKELETONS TO COME OUT OF THE CUPBOARD.
 P.T. DOES NOT STAND FOR PAT T. IT IS SHORT FOR PHANTOM OF THE TOILET.
 TIBI C. WAS SEEN BITING PARKING METERS IN THE CITY, WHAT MADE HIM WILD?
 IT TOOK FIVE UEC FISHERPERSONS EIGHT HOURS TO CATCH TWO FISH.

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

Phone : 459 8374

The weather continues to frustrate our regular band of divers with cancellations over a number of Sundays, however, some of us have managed to "get wet" over the past month at our tried spots, enjoying the underwater scenery, some crays and fish.

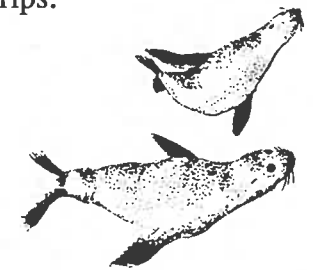
Saturday dives are proving popular, so if you want to join us for 2 quick dives, how about giving me a call or see me at the next meeting.

Saturday dives leave at 7.00am and generally return around 12.00pm.

- ◆ **Albany** : The weekend 20/21 (at the moment) 2 boat dives Saturday and Sunday, overnight Friday/Saturday plus meals around \$120.00 each. Limited vacancies.
- ◆ **Exmouth** : June 21 - 26 tentative. We need 16 members for this to be viable. Around \$850.00 all inclusive.
- ◆ **Abrolhos** : September, 3 days diving/fishing. 2 days or nights to and from Geraldton, 18 vacancies available. \$350.00 approximately, all inclusive.

Those members who intend to join us for any of these, give me a ring or once again see me at the next meeting.

* All dives will be run as Club dives and profiles adhered in the above mentioned dive trips.



The month of February and early March has seen the greatest period of boat usage ever, with the successful introduction of some sustained Saturday diving, and one very highly acclaimed "quickie" on a Saturday, in which 2 dives were completed and the boat returned by 1230 pm. All this was aided greatly by the fact of our being berthed in Challenger Harbour. Coincidentally, the period saw some of the worst weather we have had for diving in a February March for many years, which meant an unprecedented number of dives had to be cancelled. The boat also had to perform in some very rough conditions as a result, but I'm happy to say handled it well and sustained no damage.

While the boat and machinery performed very well, maintenance and minor modifications to improve her, continued on a low key basis, utilising the convenience of the harbour Berth. In fact so convenient has this berth been, I will be proposing that we keep it for a further month to help us get ahead with the annual slipping programme and allow us to, at least measure up for modifications to make her a drier boat. The installation of a separate 12 volt electrical system is also planned while we are in the berth, since we have acquired, free, courtesy of Martin and Peter, virtually all the hardware necessary for such an installation. This will mean the end of those irritating problems associated with the mixture of 12 and 24 volt equipment, and the ability of utilising much less expensive 12 volt gear for any future acquisitions.

Finally a few words about boat crews, training and the appointment of Skippers. Two new skippers have been appointed, these being Frank Hubbard and Nick Wasley. Frank, who owns his own boat, has extensive experience and knowledge of local waters, done all his courses and certainly handles the boat well, will fill in where needed on a non-routine basis, since his work prevents him from being a regular Sunday/Saturday diver. Nick, having all the above and sufficient local knowledge and formal coastal navigation to handle our needs, will take part in the Skipper's roster as soon as possible. Training, both in house and at TAFE will continue for Mike and Bob as time and their commitments allow. They are doing well and only need practice. This year's Rottneest long weekend, has highlighted problems with boat crews, Skippers and D.O.'s, on trips away, which has been building for some time and now needs resolving. This is, our current practice of expecting these members to operate the boat, with all the attendant responsibility and work, during these trips, without any recompense or reduction in cost. This is unfair as they have paid for a "holiday" too, especially so, if they bring their families along. With the forthcoming trip to Two Rocks at Easter in mind, this issue will be addressed, to give them a fairer deal.

Cheers Folks!

"STUBBY"

Well, the Club's annual "Rotto Romp" has come and gone and as usual was a roaring success. Twenty four of us turned out for a really enjoyable weekend of pleasant diving, despite the weather which wasn't all that wonderful. Perhaps the highlight of the weekend was the degree of comraderie and cooperation displayed by everyone.

The evening B.B.Q's provided the forum for a lot of laughs and good food, with some members of the congregation continuing the evenings by taking in the heady atmosphere of the Quokka Arms after the local festivities. Never let it be said that the U.E.C. is composed of a bunch of "wimps". Anyone who can survive a couple of hours at the Quokka Arms, listening to the loudest rock band this side of Sydney and then be bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, ready for a hard days diving at 6.30 am the next morning deserves a medal in my opinion. Some people may claim that I am biased, though, because I was one of them.

Sundays diving timetable was supposed to prove that good organisation could work, with a plan to dive at the West End. The problem was how to get 19 divers, plus gear and friends down there with a boat only "allowed" to take 14. Easy - get half of the crew to catch the bus to Green Island, do one dive and then change over! This sounds easy but when a screaming southerly became apparent on the south side of the Island, the plan seemed doomed to failure. However, the tenacity and flexibility of U.E.C. members won the day by catching the said bus, next time around, to Geordie Bay where diving on the north side of the Island was organised. With military precision this proceeded, with 3 dive trips being held before we called it a day.

The weekend proved to be a success in more ways than one. For the week prior and during the Long Weekend, we also enjoyed the company of Erin Jane Nottage who joined Mum (and Dad on the weekend) for a week full of surprises. Erin is just 8 months old, but that didn't prevent her accompanying Mum on the boat. She soon found many willing Uncles and Aunties to keep her entertained whilst Mum enjoyed her diving. It was good to see so many of our members pitch in and help Roger and Pattie. "Well done crew!"

By the way, there is a veritable treasure trove of goodies left over from the weekend. If anyone is missing something - come along to the next meeting and hunt through the lost property cabinet.

Sadly, the U.E.C. missed out on the opportunity to view the annual coral spawning at Rottneest, because the weather just wouldn't allow us to get to the right spot at the right time to witness the event. Maybe next year will be different - let's hope so.

Finally, welcome back Suzie and Kerry Ashton - our resident globe trotters. I know they have some exciting tales to tell and eagerly await reading about them in future magazines!

SOCIAL SCENE



"I will be making a decompression stop!"

THE WEATHER FOR THE VALENTINE'S NIGHT CRUISE WAS PERFECT. AFTER PICKING UP HALF A DOZEN COUPLES AND A COUPLE OF SINGLES, WE HEADED UP RIVER TO FIND A NICE QUIET SPOT. AFTER FINISHING UP AT FRESHWATER BAY, WE FIRED UP THE BARBIE. I MUST SAY "HI!" TO HARRY, HE HAD A GREAT TIME.

THIS MONTH WE ARE GOING TO THE CASINO ON FRIDAY 22ND MARCH AT THE ATRIUM RESTAURANT (SMORGASBOARD). I HAVE BOOKED A TABLE FOR 20 PEOPLE. FIRST COME FIRST SERVED. AFTER DINNER WE ARE GOING OVER TO THE CASINO TO HAVE SOME FUN. IT'S GOING TO BE GOOD, GIVE ME A CALL ON 458 2224.

IF YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS ONE, CHECK THE SOCIAL CALENDAR. MAYBE NEXT MONTH WILL SUIT YOU.

SOCIAL CALENDAR 1991

MARCH: SAT 22

NIGHT AT THE BURSWOOD CASINO. VARIOUS PACKAGE DEALS ARE AVAILBLE.

APRIL: FRI 19TH

WINE TASTING AT A VENUE TO BE DECIDED. A GOOD NIGHT OUT.

MAY: SAT 18TH

PROGRESSIVE DINNER. TIME TO HOP ON AND GO EATING AT DIFFERENT PLACES.

JUNE: FRI 14TH

BOWLING NIGHT WITH SUPPER INCLUDED. SO LETS GET PHYSICAL.

JULY: SAT 20TH

A CULTURAL NIGHT AT THE THEATER.

AUGUST: WED 14TH

QUIZ NIGHT THE NEW FORMAT USES ELECTRONIC SCORE BOARDS.

SEPT: FRI 13TH

RIVER TRIP WINE TASTING. A DIFFERENT APPROACH.

OCT: FRI 11TH

ITALIAN NIGHT AT NORTH BRIDGE

NOV: SAT 23RD

PRESENTATION NIGHT. THIS YEAR WE WILL BE OUT TO MAKE IT A GOOD ONE. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

DEC: TUES 31ST

IT'S NEW YEARS PARTY TIME AGAIN.



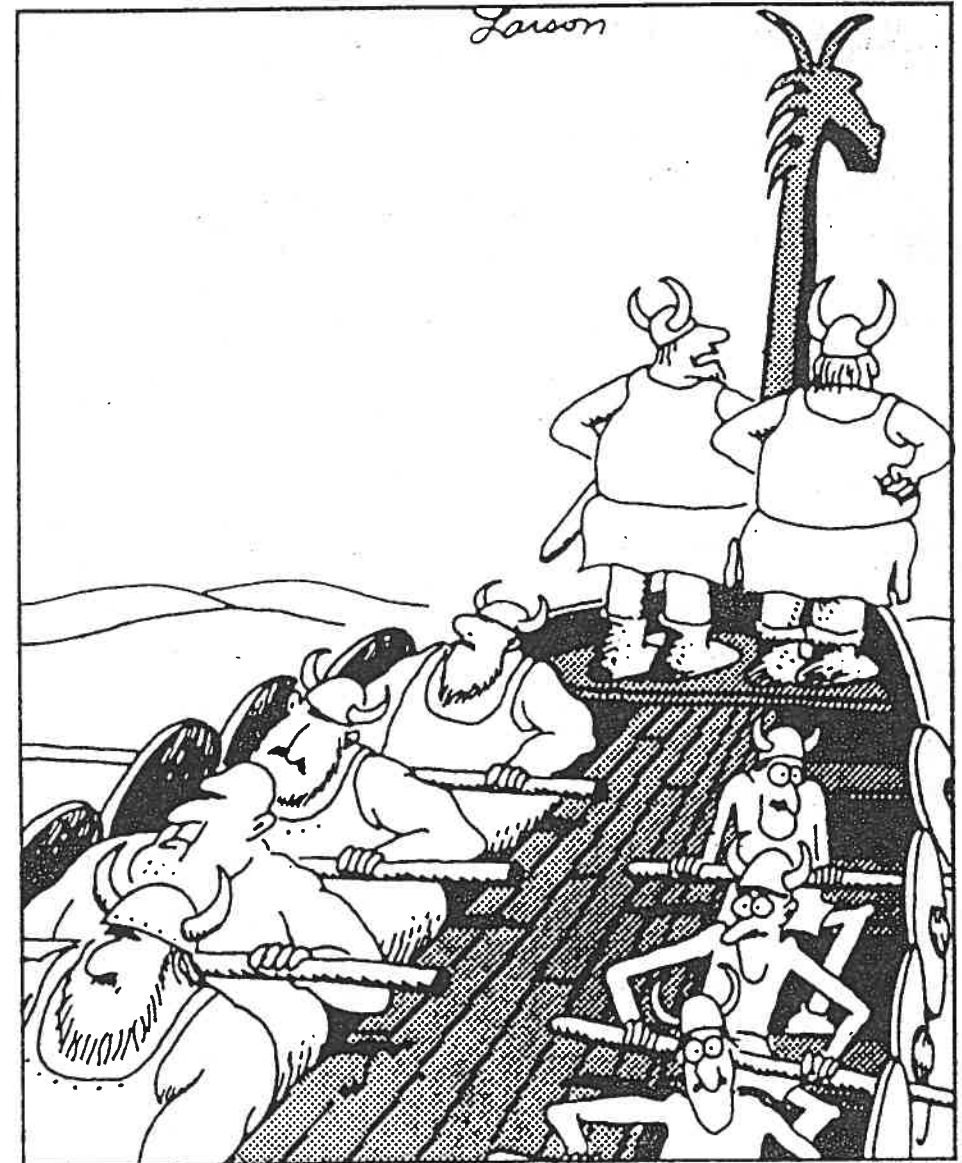
TOP TEN DIVING TIPS

To get the most out of your diving and to steer clear of potential problems, keep these diving tips in mind.

1. Limit physical exertion before, during and after diving for example, brick paving the day before or constantly pulling the anchor during the dive.
2. Wait 24 hours to dive after drinking alcohol.
3. Avoid taking drugs when diving including medication for the flu, hay fever etc.
4. Wear scuba equipment that is familiar to you, fits properly and is comfortable.
5. Maintain equipment to prevent wear and tear and untimely breakdowns.
6. Always dive with a buddy and stick to the buddy rules.
7. Avoid dives requiring decompression requirements. When diving over 10m, get into the habit of taking a "5 minute at 5 metre" decompression stop.
8. Drink fluids (of the non-alcoholic variety) frequently to prevent dehydration.
9. Cancel the dive if you feel unwell, have been ill or feel unusually tired.
10. Keep in shape - maintain weight and fitness for diving by swimming, walking, cycling, running or underwater hockey.

APRIL 1991

U.E.C. NEWS



I THINK YOU ARE RIGHT, ONAR... WE ARE GOING AROUND IN CIRCLE

Sender:
 Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.
 Unit 1/22 Shields Crescent, Booragoon
 P. Box 1157, Booragoon W.A. 6154

U.E.C. NEWS
 (Underwater Explorers Club of W.A. Inc.)

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Dates to note

APRIL

SATURDAY 13. EVERY SATURDAY RING BRIAN ON 459 8374 FOR DIVES.

SUNDAY 14. STRAGGLERS DIVE. PETER HORTON + JULIE RAINES. 0800HRS

MONDAY 15. GENERAL MEETING. BRING A FRIEND. 2000HRS

SATURDAY 20. WINE TASTING + BBQ + CELLAR SALES + LOTS OF FUN. 458 2224.

SUNDAY 21. DUFFIELD RIDGE DIVE. BARRY KENNEDY + RON 0800HRS

THURSDAY 25. ANZAC DAY DIVE. RING BRIAN *** 459 8374

SATURDAY 27. RING BRIAN FOR DIVES.

SUNDAY 28. HUGALL'S PASSAGE DIVE. GLEN AND JUDIE COLLINGWOOD. 0800HRS

MAY

SATURDAY 4. MISTERY DIVE. RING BRIAN.

SUNDAY 5. GARDEN ISLAND. RICHARD NAYLOR * BRIAN MURRAY. 0800HRS

MONDAY 6. COMMITTEE MEETING. 2000HRS

WEDNESDAY 8. MAGAZINE : SORTING, FOLDING ADDRESSING. 1930HRS

SATURDAY 11. WILL BE GOOD DIVING. RING THE DIVING O.C.

SUNDAY 12. ROE REEF DIVE. 0800HRS

SATURDAY 18. PROGRESSIVE DINNER BOOK EARLY RING MARTIN ON 458 2224.

SUNDAY 19. CITY BEACH DIVE. MARTIN SMITH + MICHEL ROUX 0800HRS

MONDAY 20. GENERAL MEETING. 2000HRS

SATURDAY 25. DO NOT MISS THIS SATURDAY DIVE. RING 459 8374.

SUNDAY 26. SOMEWHERE AROUND ROTTNEST DIVE. BOB COTTON + JULIE 0800HRS.

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY.

A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF DIVING OVER THE PAST MONTH BY MOSTLY REGULARS.

SOME INTERESTING COUNTRY COVERED IN OUR EASTER AT "WARNBRO" DIVES AND ITS UNFORTUNATE MORE MEMBERS DIDN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ORGANISED CLUB ACTIVITIES LIKE THESE.

STILL SOME VACANCIES FOR: EXMOUTH, SHARK BAY AND ABROLHOS. 459 8374.

FOR SATURDAY DIVES CHECK WITH D.O. 4598374

FLORIDA KEYS NOW LARGEST MARINE SANCTUARY

Over the past few years, South Florida's reef tracts have suffered set-backs due to pollution, algae growth and increased diver impact. A University of Florida study revealed that diver interaction on these reefs was affecting the reefs' health.

A bill passed by both houses of Congress, and signed 16th November 1990 by President George Bush, now protects the waters and reefs of the Florida Keys, making it U.S.A.'s newest and largest national marine sanctuary.

The Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary covers about 2,600 square nautical miles from Key Largo to the Dry Tortugas.

The pre-existing federal sanctuaries there, at Looe Key and Key Largo, covered only about 110 square miles. The push for a new sanctuary covering all the 160-mile-long Keys reef tract was strongly backed by many environmental groups, among them the Florida Association of Dive Operators (FADO).

The only immediate effect of the new sanctuary is to require that most ships larger than 50 meters in length navigate in water at least 300 feet deep, well away from the reef. At the Looe Key and Key Largo sanctuaries, rules ban spear-fishing and collection of fish or coral. Boaters who run aground on protected coral face hefty fines. Lobster diving, hook-and-line fishing, and commercial fishing are allowed in most areas of the preserves.

During debates over the Keys-wide sanctuary, federal staff predicted the management plan will incorporate a "zoned use" system. As outlined, that would designate certain areas in need of more restrictive protections, while allowing traditional marine pursuits to continue elsewhere.

National attention to the Keys' environmental problems, including unflattering stories in Newsweek and National Geographic, probably helped build Congressional support for the sanctuary.

The sanctuary bill calls for in-depth studies of water quality and prohibits oil-drilling activity or undersea mining. The most pressing problem for the sanctuaries staff is coming up with money needed to develop a management plan for the large area. (This information taken from Underwater USA, Jan. 1991)

before hitting the Bahamas. *Very unfortunately*, our Camcorder was stolen from the car about the last day we would spend in Albuquerque, and that's when all the hassle started. It's pretty difficult to find a camcorder with our PAL system in the USA. Finally we found one in Miami - a SONY TR55, which is much smaller than our original video camera. This now meant that we had to buy a new marine housing as well, because *Marina* was too big for the small TR55. **THEREFORE, Marina is now for sale, only used once in open water!**

Components include: Three pedestals that will fit SONY CCD-F40, CCD-F340E, CCD-SP7, CCD-SP5E, CCD-V9, CCD-V90E. Remote control connecting cords. Wide angle lens. Euro filter. Sports finder. Spare O-ring and waterproof gasket. (RING KERRY on 331 2385)

GOSSIP

1. Rumour has it that Maree (of all people) actually caught some one else napping in the morning - PAT!
2. When Sharon goes camping She travels lightly - a plastic bag, a tea bag and a hot cross bun. Not much else!
3. Everyone is green with envy (or something else), over the latest addition to Pat's gear. A pink "Barbie Doll" carry bag!.
4. James Walker (son of local hero Brian - not that famous ghost who walks) copped a touch of sunburn. Despite valiant efforts he couldn't remove it under the shower!
5. Who was found wandering around in nothing but a flannelette nightie and ugg boots? You still cut a dashing figure after all these years Alison!.
6. Which long sighted navigator removed his hand from a certain Lady's posterior as if it was a hot iron, when said person discovered it was the wrong Lady in front of him! "A likely story!"
7. Further rumour has it that Dennis and Maree celebrated a significant 5 year anniversary over Easter. (Feigning tiredness at 7.30 pm and turning in, is just a touch obvious Dennis)!

SOCIAL SCENE

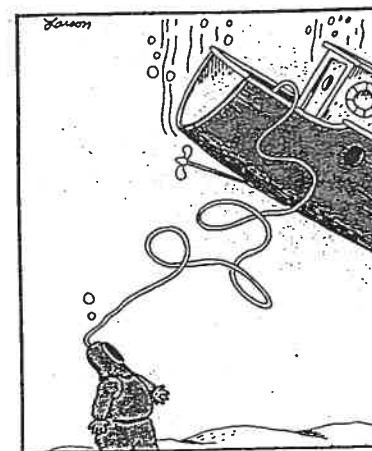
Martin Smith

Unfortunately the Casino night in March was a non event due to lack of heads.

The next social event on the calendar is the WINE TASTING on Saturday 20th April. This will be a day time outing. We propose to hire a 25 seater bus, pick up people at pre determined spots and make our way to Houghton Vineyards. After sampling the local poison we can light the BBQ's, which are supplied. All you have to do is turn up and enjoy yourself. The total cost for the bus and BBQ pack and salad should be around \$7.50 per head. The pick up points will depend on the locations of the people coming. The bus will fill fast, so give me a call, QUICKLY.

Next is the long awaited PROGRESSIVE DINNER. In short, for people who have not been on one, this is what happens. We all get picked up by the bus and go to different houses to "feed our faces". We work through the different courses and arrive back at the pick up point. It's a lot of fun. Again seats are limited to 25, so give me a call on 458 2224.

Social activities are here for you to enjoy and meet other club members whom you might not otherwise meet. I know there are lots of new members that I and other older members have not yet met, and so I look forward to acquainting myself with you.



Very contagious to adults

SYMPTOMS

Continual complaining as to need for bottled air and sea water . . . mostly deaf to family and friends . . . walks on land with blank expression . . . no taste for housework of any kind . . . repeats pages from divers' manual off by heart . . . bubbles to self . . . hangs out at dive shop longer than necessary . . . continually blows nose . . . makes secret phone calls to diving pals and has deep conversations with them.

NO KNOWN CURE!

TREATMENT

Medication is useless, but disease is not fatal. Slow-moving cure — patient should go diving as often as possible.

EASTER AT ROCKINGHAM by M. CASLEY

Due to the lateness of the hour, we couldn't make any arrangements for diving at Yanchep this year, so some hastily arranged bookings were made to venture south - to Rockingham. A small, but select, contingent arrived late Thursday afternoon at the campsite, whilst Dennis, Nick and Kerry brought the boat down. After securing the boat near Penguin Island ferry jetty, we rushed off to pitch our tents and make our way, en masse to a local watering hole for tea. Following some adroit navigation by yours truly, we fetched up at the Waikiki Hotel, where we were all in for a pleasant surprise, being able to gourmandise to our hearts' content for a mere \$10 each. What a bargain!

Diving on Friday turned out to be pretty ordinary, motoring over to Coventry Reef to have a look at the "Carlisle Castle". The surge on that dive was horrific and the best we could do was to catch brief glimpses of the wreck as we were swept to and fro. The second dive wasn't much better, although it was considerably prettier, with lots of sponges and soft coral. The rest of the weekend was fairly much the same, although it improved gradually until Monday when diving became more of a pleasure and less of a hardship.

People came and went all weekend and the boat was nearly full on most days. Even if the diving wasn't too flash, the company certainly was. The atmosphere at the camp was great, with everyone really enjoying sitting around, having a good yarn and getting into the holiday spirit. Easter eggs and hot cross buns were abundant and I didn't observe any ill effects from over indulgence in the Easter goodies.

Diving down in the Safety Bay area certainly has a lot of potential, with some truly great spots just beckoning! The problem is the exposed nature of the whole area. Sea conditions need to be exceptional for the diving to be really enjoyable. The proximity of most sites to the jetty does mean however, that the time spent out on the ocean is kept to a minimum. Another interesting feature of the area is that it now a marine park - similar to Marmion, with one Officer from C.A.L.M. stationed down there, to cope with the tough job of informing everyone of this latest development. Full details on this Park will be passed on to us, as soon as it becomes available.

Ten CLUB BADGES with our new logotype the Seahorse has been ordered and can be purchased from Kerry or Susie at the General Meeting for \$8 each.

EVER THOUGHT ABOUT TAKING UP U/W VIDEOGRAPHY?

...but thinking: "No, that's *too expensive* - cannot afford to buy the gear now".

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE!

* * * * *

FOR SALE

* * * * *

SONY Electronic Marine Pack 40 M, will fit most SONY 8mm Camcorders. This unit has only been used once! (Read the story below.) Now selling for the incredible low price of

\$1,500 *incl. wide conversion lens and "Red filter".*

Contact: Kerry Ashton, Ph. 331 2385.

The True Story About Marina

By KAS

As proud owners of a complete SONY underwater video set, we completed Charlie Snow's PADI Underwater Videographers course.

Full of excitement, we set off around the world to dive some of the top spots, and to make underwater video films in the Bahamas. Our shiny yellow Sony housing (that we had named *Marina*) had been tested on the wreck in Fremantle harbour during the course. *Marina* really sits steady in the water and is very easy to manoeuvre. She performs beautifully! Before we left, we had a custom-made, padded aluminium box made for *Marina*, so She would be comfortable during the trip.

In San Diego we hired a car and drove through the natural beauty of Arizona's desert, up to Grand Canyon, and through New Mexico's interesting Indian country to Albuquerque, from where we would fly to Florida, hire another car and dive the Florida Keys,

The Giant Staircase is a wall dive, which slopes down at irregular angles and, as the name implies, looks much like a giant's staircase with the final step dropping off 1800 metres into The Tongue of the Ocean. And talking about The Tongue of the Ocean, I shouldn't forget to mention The Dungeons, a series of caves weaving in and out of the wall. Some, formed by inter-connecting pillars of coral, wind into the wall for 30m. Our depth was about 25m, and on the subject of depth, I have to tell you about the thrill of our deepest dive together with the experienced Dive Masters. It was fun! Down 55m on The Wall we stopped at a sandy ledge, where we were greeted by a Chickenfish!

We had an incredibly good time at this 'Divers Paradise'. You always had this feeling of being part of a BIG family, with the friendly owners and staff always around. An hour before dinner, everyone would meet in the spacious bar/lounge, chatting about the day's diving experiences. Conch Fritters were generously served together with free drinks. We made a lot of new friends here, as you can understand. The food was excellent and this must be the place where I put on my 10 kilos!

Did I mention the Hot Tub on the beach?



FREE. GINGER KITTEN. 6 MONTHS. MALE STER/VAC. FREE.

341 3001

FOR SALE

Brand new DACOR Underwater torch
(operating depth 300 ft) \$30

Powerful DACOR u/w Light
(incl re-charger 220V) \$140

Also: Two SCUBA tanks of steel, \$75 each
(need to be tested this month).

Contact: Kerry Ashton, Ph. 331 2385

MORRAY 5mm WETSUIT
USED FOR YEARS BUT
STILL IN GOOD NICK
\$ 100. 331 2385.

TWO SIX POUND WEIGHTS
\$12 341 3001

TIP OF THE MONTH: NEVER EAT SQUID RINGS AT A JEWISH BARBECUE.

THE ENGLISH MEDICAL JOURNAL "LANCET" DESCRIBED A DANGEROUS ILLNESS SUFFERED BY A YOUNG GIRL. SHE BLEW HER NOSE SO HARD THAT AIR AND INFECTION WAS FORCED INTO BLOOD VESSELS IN HER BRAIN.

THE CLUB ESKY WALKED. IF YOU KNOW WHERE IT IS BRING IT BACK.

FO'CASTLE FURPHIES by D. STUBBERFIELD

I am pleased to report that Boat operations continue at a good level, with no problems occurring to the boat or its machinery. We seem to have at last stopped the annoying oil leak from the tappet cover of the engine, as well as carried out a number of small maintenance items.

"Underwater Explorer" was taken to Safety Bay for the Easter holiday and the Club carried out 4 dive trips from this area during that period. Good practice in boat handling, seamanship and navigation was also gained by boat crews. Nick Wasley and Kerry Ashton did all the work in taking the boat to Safety Bay, while I accompanied them to do the worrying! It was a fast uneventful trip in which valuable local knowledge was gained. Initially, the plan was to operate from the Penguin Island ferry jetty, which we found just possible in that shallow area, by paying careful attention to the advice gained from local Skippers. However, it proved more practical to move operations to the Safety Bay jetty after the 1st day, and this was a much easier and safer option. A sterling effort was put in by Brian Walker who worked his heart out as relief Skipper and "deckie" during the weekend, once again leaving me free to do the worrying! Of course everyone present helped in some way, and I must say I am delighted with the high level of competence shown by Club divers in general, when it comes to mooring and anchoring the boat. (The lack of "roaring and shouting" which now tends to accompany our boat work is a clear sign of your expertise.) The trip home on Monday, lightly loaded as we were, was fast and also uneventful, taking only 90 minutes. Frank Hubbard kindly did much of the boat handling, including some of the trip home, on Monday. Makes you wonder what on earth I did all weekend doesn't it! "This worrying sure takes it out you but"!!

Fuel usage for the month has been remarkably low, with a full fuel load giving, 1 trip to the "Stragglers", 1 trip to Rottnest and the entire Easter weekend, including the trip up and back to Safety Bay. This may well be attributable to better injector performance brought about by our improved fuel filtration system.

Finally, a reminder that the boat will only be berthed in Challenger Harbour until the end of April, with operations moving back to East Street Jetty from and including the weekend of the 4th and 5th of May. The value to the Club of having the boat in Challenger Harbour has been considerable, but impossible to measure in actual dollars, due to the many variables influencing our costs.

Our best guess puts the cost to the Club for the 4 months at about \$300, with inestimable value in fuel saving, antifoul saving, convenience factors and last but not least advertising and publicity value. (We and the boat are becoming quite well known and, hopefully, favourably viewed around the traps). There will be some problems in getting the berth next year as the area is becoming very popular and we can't book ahead, but despite this, we will do our best to get a berth again next season, this time for the 5 month period ending April 1992.

Cheers Folks!

"STUBBY"

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

M. CASLEY

Anyone notice a chill in the air lately? Summer has now passed and we are enjoying some pleasant Autumn weather. John Barnett on the Box went to great lengths the other night, to inform us all that April, May and June are the least windy months of the whole year - but watch out for north westerly gales! I can see it now, gentle breezes during the week and the gales turn up on the weekend - I suppose I am a classic pessimist. However, I have plenty of evidence available to suggest that the weather will be no kinder to us aqua-philes in Autumn, than during the rest of the year. Let's hope that the weather can show some kindness towards us in the next few months.

This is the last month that we have the convenience of using Challenger Harbour - so let's make the most of it, I for one, will miss seeing the boat tied up down there; but funds simply won't allow us to continue to use the Harbour, during our less busy period.

Dennis and I are buzzing off to Adelaide for a couple of weeks in May, so you won't be hearing from us until June - and no cries of Yippee! from any of you either. We will catch up with you all in June, so until then "Happy Diving".

SHARK TRACKS

Researchers are implanting ultrasonic transmitters into young sharks off the Bahamas to learn more about the creatures' migration and daily travel patterns. Officials believe the shark's activity space changes in size and location as it matures. The study hopes to provide an understanding of the shark's predatory role in the marine environment. The research team, comprising of the chief scientist and five staffers, is complemented with volunteers who gain the experience of a lifetime.

A DIVING PARADISE IN THE BAHAMAS by KAS

After travelling around the Bahama Islands for six weeks, we finally found the perfect diving paradise.

ANDROS is the largest of the Bahama Islands, over 100 miles long, but the least populated. It is fringed by the second largest barrier reef in the Western Hemisphere. We booked in to a place called Small Hope Bay Lodge, that is totally geared towards divers of all skill levels. The dive sites are within 10 minutes of their own jetty. Dive gear may be stored in a 'pigeon hole' in the shed on the jetty. A huge bucket with fresh water is also provided to wash gear. We lived in a comfortable cabin right on the beach amongst coconut palms and Casuarina pine trees. Every morning we could watch the sun-rise over The Tongue of the Ocean through our big windows.

The Resort had three Dive Masters working during the low season. The scheduled dives, including the depth, were written up on a black board in the lounge the previous evening. Then there was BRAD, the incredibly charming and good-looking Dive Master that runs the more advanced or 'speciality' dives. Brad would only take two divers with him on each dive occasion. During our stay at Small Hope Bay Lodge, he was booked in advance by Paul Heinerth, a well known U.S. Cave Diver. Paul owns a dive shop in Hudson, Florida, where he also teaches cave diving when he is not on a National Geographic expedition somewhere in the world. There are some fabulous caves and 'blue holes' here in Andros, that's why Paul wanted to come and dive here. After seeing Paul's u/w video film one afternoon, Kerry and I also booked Brad for a cave dive when he was free again. That turned out to be an incredible experience! Words cannot give justice to my feelings when gliding down through the narrow, deep shaft and swimming into a tunnel of huge rock pillars in the pitch dark. (Torch on here.) Brad led the way back out again to the bell-shaped crater, perhaps 100 metres across, and we swam around its perimeter at a depth of 30 metres, exploring magnificent natural formations and observing all the many different tropical fish. Our total depth had been 42 metres but this 'blue hole' was certainly much, much deeper. Brad had explored the vast system previously on an oxygen/helium mixture.

Other neat dives out of Small Hope Bay Lodge were The Barge, an LC landing craft that sank in 1963. Sitting in 70 ft of water, the wreck is home to friendly morays and groupers and schools of colourful grunts, that will greet you at the anchor line and eat from your hand. Pretty coral formations are also found here and I saw all my favourite reef fishes: the Queen Triggerfish, Queen Angelfish, Stoplight Parrotfish, Blue Tang, Rock Beauty, Indigo Hamlet and Yellow Goatfish, just to mention a few. What a top spot for photography or videography! (Our replacement housing hadn't arrived from Michigan yet, so we didn't get any footage of this, or anything else underwater from this island for that matter. Must go back there one day!)

MAY 1991

U.E.C. NEWS

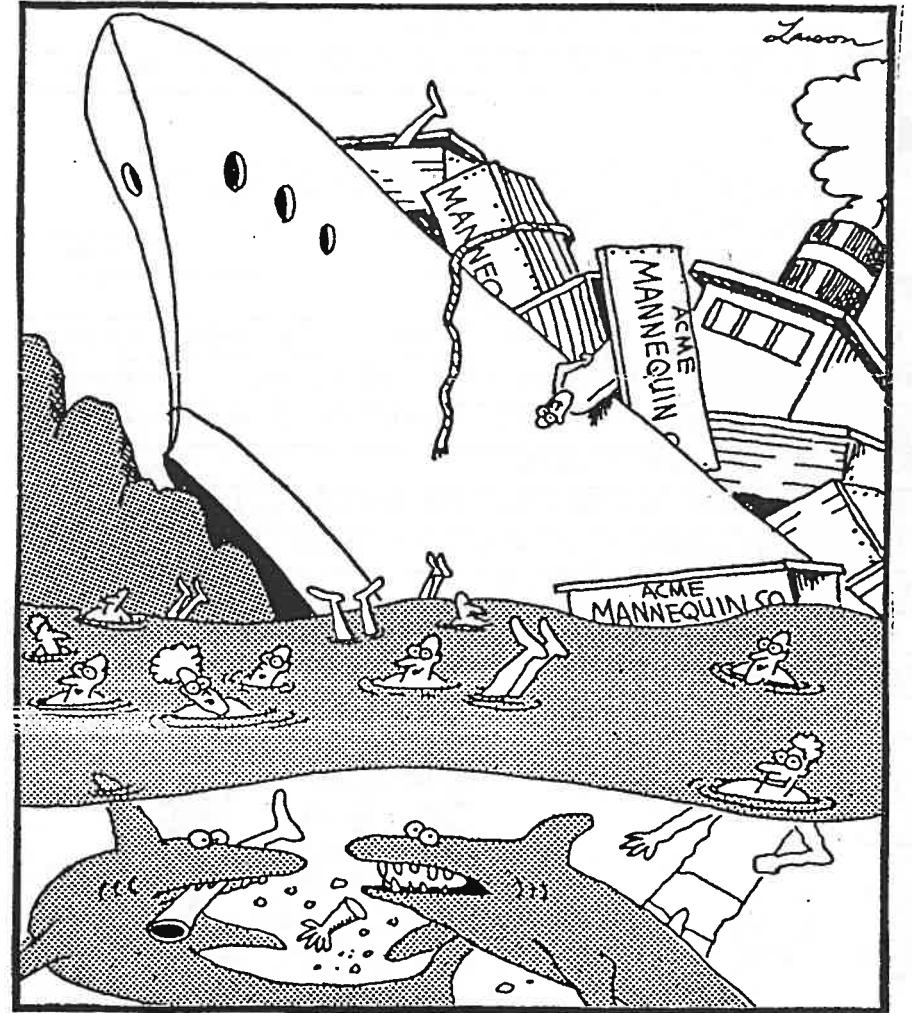
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"What is this? ... Some kind of cruel hoax?"

FROM THE EDITOR

THANKS TO MICHEL ROUX FOR HELPING WITH THE MAGAZINE.

Dates to note

MAY

SATURDAY	18.	*PROGRESSIVE DINNER. 458 2224.	
SUNDAY	19.	CITY BEACH DIVE. MARTIN SMITH * MICHEL ROUX. EAST ST. 0800HRS	
MONDAY	20.	GENERAL MEETING.	2000HRS
SATURDAY	25.	GOOD DAY FOR A DIVE RING 459 8374.	
SUNDAY	26.	DIVE SOUTH OF ROTTNREST. BOB COTTON * JULIE RAINES..	0800HRS

JUNE

SATURDAY	1.	FOUNDATION DAY LONG WEEKEND. AT BARRY'S SHACK NORTH HEAD.	
SUNDAY	2.	GOOD FUN, ROOM FOR 20. BYO. DON'T MISS OUT RING BRIAN	
MONDAY	3.	AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.	
TUESDAY	4.	COMMITTEE MEETING.	8000HRS
SATURDAY	8.	DIVE TODAY FOR FUN . 4598374.	
SUNDAY	9.	DIVE NORTH OF ROTTNREST. PETER HORTON * RON PHONEMINT	0800HRS
WEDNESDAY	12.	MAGAZINE NIGHT AT THE CLUB ROOMS. COME AND HELP	1900HRS
FRIDAY	14.	BOWLING NIGHT WITH SUPPER . GOOD FUN. RING 4582224	1900HRS
SATURDAY	15.	DIVE ON A WRECK 4598374.	
SUNDAY	16.	DIVE AROUND THE STRAGGLERS. BARRY KENNEDY * J. COLLINGWOOD.	
MONDAY	17.	GENERAL MEETING. GUEST SPEAKER. DOOR PRIZE.	2000HRS
SATURDAY	22.	RESEARCH DIVE 4598374.	
SUNDAY	23.	DIVE ROTTNREST. G. COLLINGWOOD * BRIAN MURRAY	0800HRS.
SATURDAY	29.	JUST A DIVE .	
SUNDAY	30.	ANOTHER DIVE ON SWIRL REEF. RICHARD NAYLOR - PETER MORTIMER.	

NOMINATIONS.

KAREN GURRY BENTLEY.
JACKY ORMSBY LEAMING.
ROBIN SHEPPARD NORTH FREEMANTLE.
CRIS KHOO IPT. LAWLEY.

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	MAREE GASLEY	457 3333
SECRETARY	PAT TROY	528 8163
TREASURER	PETER HORTON	445 2356
O/C DIVING	BRIAN MURRAY	459 8374
O/C TRAINING	G. COLLINGWOOD	450 6817
O/C MAGAZINE	TIM COONAY	341 3001
O/C BUILDING	R. NAYLOR.	272 5614
O/C SAFETY & TECHNICAL	C. COLLINGWOOD	450 6817
O/C SOCIAL	PR. I. SMITH	458 2224
O/C BOAT	D. STUBBERFIELD	457 3333
VICE PRESIDENT	I. SMITH	458 2224

- Members have been and are disinclined to run for committee under the present circumstances.
- We have an Annual General Meeting to elect committee members. Let our voices and trust be heard then.
- Consider quarterly business general meetings as an alternative.
- Above all, we are a dive club, as members we do not wish to be de facto committee members!

I herewith give notice of the following MOTION to be presented at the June General Meeting.

That the Constitution be altered as follows:

Insert as Clause 16(f):

"A majority of members present and voting at a general meeting may waive the formal proceedings required by Clause 16(b) for the monthly meetings, other than the Annual General Meeting."

KERRY J ASHTON

P.S. This change would then allow members to vote on the format of their general meetings.

FOR SALE - U/W VIDEO HOUSING -
\$1,500

SONY Electronic Marine Pack 40 M
(has only been used once)

"See me, feel me, touch me" at May meeting in the club room
(or ring 331 2385 - Kerry And Susie Ashton)

REGARDING THE GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE CLUB

Dear Fellow Members,

The present procedure is in accordance with the Constitution, Clause 16. However, there has been considerable discussion concerning our monthly meetings enough, I believe, to propose a change.

Discussion points are:
(add/delete as you wish)

1. The meetings are long-winded with minor discussions that should be dealt with at committee level.
2. Members would like to see/hear dive-related presentations and talks at a reasonable hour.
3. Many current members are not or seldom attending the present meetings.
4. New/prospective members are put off.
5. The committee has been appointed for the day-to-day running of the club. Clause 6.
6. Let the committee get on with the job without having to duplicate and rubber-stamp the minor decisions each month at our (the members) meeting.
7. Members so interested are entitled to attend committee meetings. (Ref. committee minutes.)
8. Minutes of the committee meeting must be tabled at the next general meeting for perusal. Clause 6(a).
9. Members have recourse to special meetings and may present motions to a general meeting where needed. Clause 9(a)3 and 16(c).

Training Report

Glen Collingwood

The training year progresses well with the latest small groups of students earning their Certificates. There have been two courses in recent months resulting in the following successful candidates:

Night Diver

- Ainsley Choate
- Chris Murray
- Kevin Collingwood
- Michael Crowe
- Ron Phonemyint

SCUBA Diver

- Robin Shepherd
- Jackie Ormsby

with Chris Khoo needing to complete three dives to finish.

The next Open Water course should get under way in about two weeks. At this stage an Instructor has not been assigned, however with two definite (and one 'maybe') students a start date of Sunday, May 19 has been scheduled.

I would like to set up a FAUI Diver Lifesaver Course soon, however, as we will need to bring in a guest Instructor, numbers will be critical. As usual we will only be able to make this course available to club members and we will be aiming to charge somewhat less than the current 'Commercial' rate. When I get some indication of interest from club members I will be able to approach Instructors and negotiate a favourable fee for their time and expertise. Please ring me if you are interested.

FOR SALE

2nd hand wetsuit, Female Medium size..... \$100
in very good nick

Lady's Swatch-watch good for 30 mts u/w.....\$ 25

(Susie Ashton - 331 2385 or see me at the meeting)

Safety Report

Glen Collingwood

Recent club diving has been, in the main, without incident. There are, as always, the small things that happen that cause one to grin and try to hide in a cloud of embarrassment. However, all in all, diving continues safely and enjoyably.

While nobody would ever consider attempting to SCUBA dive without the obvious essential equipment such as a regulator (except, of course, when attending a Night Diver Course dive in the river - but then, as I said these things do happen), there are times when insufficient attention is given to those pieces of equipment that are often considered of secondary importance. The silly things, like forgetting a mask or weight belt (or regulator), are mostly the result of hasty or slap dash packing of gear, but there are times when some equipment is passed over as not really important and therefore non-essential. Divers frequently enter the water draped with so much equipment that they look like an advertisement for the "Ideal Survivalist", and in fact a good deal of this equipment is non-essential to the activity of diving (the 'hook', crowbar and catch bag may be 'essential' to the task of catering to the gastronomic quirks of the diver and his friends, however they are not essential to DIVING). A watch (dive timer), depth gauge (with maximum depth indicator), and knife are NOT non-essential diving equipment.

All too frequently we see divers on the boat who do not have all their essential gear with them. Indeed some divers do not own all that they really need. A diver who is acquiring his own equipment must, at times, set very real priorities regarding just what he can afford, and therefore buy, and what he needs. While we all appreciate that balancing the often conflicting factors of **can afford** and **need** will inevitably lead to compromise, we must clearly understand that a watch, a depth gauge, and a knife are items of essential safety equipment and must receive a higher acquisition priority than any item of culinary weaponry. When diving, if you don't own all the gear that you need, then hire, beg, borrow (or steal ?) it.

On the day, your Dive Officer will endeavour to make himself aware of what equipment is being used and should he notice a lacking he will try to set the matter to rights, however it is your responsibility as a diver to have, and use, such equipment as is necessary to ensure that the dive is conducted within the nominated dive parameters (depth and duration) and safely. Do not rely on 'diving on' your buddy's watch or depth gauge. Dive profiles are extremely personal things and your buddy's profile may well be sufficiently differently to yours to provide you with dangerously unreliable information

was an ordeal to really test your commitment to become a "real diver", to prove you could make the grade. You had to sit in the beer-garden of the pub and listen to the endless yarns of the older, and I mean older, "real divers". The stories ranged from "how I got narked at 150 feet" to "how big the sharks were", but mostly "how pissed I was the night before". If you could listen to this lot and still turn up for training the next week, then you passed the test. Assuming you paid for your round of course.

I often think back on some of the dives I did with the U.E.C. back in those days. The "charter boats" that were used back then left a lot to be desired, both in comfort and safety. Mostly they were rejects of the fishing fleet trying to make a few extra dollars on the weekend. They were often described as having "character" by whom ever was responsible for their hire. The most characteristic thing I remember about them was the smell of fish. The safety equipment usually consisted of a white tin box with a red cross on it, it's contents often no more than a few band-aids.

Diving was much more social back then. One tank dive trips were the norm, usually a wreck dive. This was quite good as it kept all the divers within a small area, making the D.O.'s job much easier. The rest of the day would be spent either in the Quokka Arms or just sunbathing. It was customary for the girls to sunbathe topless in those days. Now that's one old habit I do miss. Some of the stories I was told about some of the return trips would make your hair curl.

The comments I have made here are not meant as any form of criticism but just as an observation of how things were. Believe me, as different as things seem by today's standard, divers including myself always had a great time. That's why I keep coming back for more. Which goes to prove that even after ten years of diving, it just keeps getting better.

IT HAS BEEN TEN YEARS ALREADY?

It seems like only yesterday that I first turned up for training at the old Naval Jetty (now part of the Cockburn Power Boat Club). I remember my first impression being, what a scruffy bunch they looked. What did impress me though was their enthusiasm. I was dragged from one member to another, introduced, then given a personal lecture from each one how much I would enjoy scuba diving. Once I had been trained properly by the U.E.C. and not some namby pamby dive shops. If you learn to dive with the U.E.C. you'll be "a real diver" I was continuously told.

What is a "real diver"? you might ask. Well "real divers" never believed in using swimming pools to train, much too cissy. It was straight into the murky depths of Cockburn Sound. The first "test" was a swim around the jetty (hopefully before the sea breeze came in). This was supposedly 200 mts, bull.... it was. If you survived that, you were allowed to continue the training. Equipment was sparse to say the least. Usually you hired some and borrowed the rest. Mostly wetsuits from surfing mates who were never the same size as you. B.C.s were optional, silicon masks and fins unheard of, and wetsuits came only in black. Part of the training included "free ascents" I believe they now throw people in prison for using such methods.

If you survived the training in the water, you were then faced with two more tests before you gained acceptance from the other members. One was carrying your dive gear back to your car after the training. The hike through the sand dunes would test the fittest member of the S.A.S. I am sure, if you were to search the area today, you would still find some of the abandoned weight-belts and other dive gear left behind by absolutely knackered trainees who promised themselves to return "some day". The other test was the visit to the pub afterwards. Now this

for planning the next dive. Neither do we need a repeat of the recent incident where neither of the divers in a buddy pair had a watch. You can well imagine the problems that may have arisen had this pair been more frugal with their air.

Diving from a boat is, arguably, the most convenient and enjoyable, and certainly the most flexible, way of accessing the vast majority of dive sites available to us in Perth. However, diving from a boat (especially one such as the 'Underwater Explorer') demands a specific entry and exit methodology to ensure the comfort and safety of all on board. When on your own boat and not diving with the club you can, of course, enter and leave the water in any manner that you wish, but when you are on the UE think of the others on the boat. Water entry should be by a 'backward roll' over the side, or by a 'step entry' from the duck board. Should you use the latter method you **MUST** seek assistance to finish 'kitting up' on the duck board, as clambering over the transom in complete gear is both foolhardy and dangerous. Your crew will be only too happy to provide any assistance asked for (it makes them feel needed (and don't we all need to feel needed)). Water exits should also be performed in an orderly and safe manner. While there is, as often, a very cloudy line between club policy and club procedure, there are various methods of water exit that may be employed depending on the conditions on the day. Irrespective of the favoured method at the time, a diver should **NEVER** leave the water via the ladder while wearing fins, and he **MUST NEVER** scramble over the transom with full kit in place. A recent demonstration by an experienced diver provided a valuable lesson to all on board when he, attired in all his paraphernalia, including fins, floundered on board and fell to the deck, narrowly missing injuring another diver who was attempting to render assistance. The only time that fins may be worn when on board a boat is during those few moments immediately before entry into the water. Take your fins off **BEFORE** coming back on board. Your crew will help; it's their job.

We all like to be independent, and independence, as expressed in demonstrable confidence, is a much desired trait in a diver, but never forget that diving is a co-operative sport. We're taught about buddy pairs. We're taught to assist each other. We're taught to think ahead and to anticipate, and therefore avoid, trouble. The diver who is so independent and 'gung ho' that he shuns all help, who doesn't think ahead, and who insists on 'doing his own thing' with complete disregard for any reasonable safety considerations is a dangerous fool. Individual style and flair is one thing but stupidity and irresponsibility is quite another.

Dive safely and I'll see you next month.

AN IRISH DIVING WEEKEND AWAY

B. Cruise

Another diving weekend away was on us and this time we were off to Burtanport, in the wilds of Donegal. Leaving Dublin at 5 pm we had at least a five hour drive ahead of us, over some of the most remote and beautiful roads in Ireland. The route we had to take would mean going through Northern Ireland and so crossing the border with the Republic, which added to the sense of adventure. None of us had been to this dive location before. So off we headed with regs. ready, bottles (cylinders) bulging with air and looking forward to a great weekend.

The border crossing proved to be a bit of a delay as the curious men had to search a car full of diving equipment, sleeping bags, etc. Someone had done a good job of hiding the vodka and whisky, as we managed to conceal it from the "authorities".

It was dark when we arrived at our destination, so we could not get any idea of what the place looked like. There was only one thing to do after unpacking and that was to head for the local. There we met with all those club members who had arrived before us, everyone swapping details of their various journeys to this remote spot.

As we all knew that diving would start at 9 am the next morning everyone decided to hit the sack early. Most of us were out of the pub and in bed by 2 am. Many of the more remote pubs in Ireland are known to have "fairly loose" opening and closing times.

The next morning saw scenes of frantic activity. Inflatables had to be taken from trailers and put in the water. Engines had to be fuelled, checked and mounted on the inflatables. Diving gear had to be checked, dive lists drawn up, weather details confirmed and the general details and preparations that proceed any club diving venture.

We were located off the head of a wide fairly long inlet with a sandy shore, ideal for mooring the boats. On one side towered almost vertical cliffs ensuring deep diving and sheer cliff faces underwater. The other side of the bay was a series of small rocky inlets backed by sloping green hillside.

Diving in the Atlantic at anytime of the year can be a hit and miss affair because of weather conditions. A biting north easterly ensured at least that we would not have too rough a sea. Our destination was Aranmore Island, almost at the mouth of the inlet and on the steep side of the bay. Two inflatables, each with eight eager already fully geared up divers (apart from the cosin) headed off on a thirty minute trip to our dive site. The stiff breeze ensured that the front two in each boat would be soaked before getting into the water. One advantage of using inflatables means that the divers can be dropped off almost directly over the dive site, quite close to otherwise inaccessible locations were a less manoeuvrable vessel to be used.

We were dropped into 25m depth and as my head submerged I knew we were in for a great dive. The bottom was perfectly visible from the surface. Much of the bottom was strewn with huge grey bare rocks. There was

After a briefing about dolphins and what to expect at the encounter on the reef, twelve of us divers went aboard the dive boat Explorer II. At the dive site, we sat down on the sandy bottom about 15 m deep, taking turns to feed the dolphins that would periodically rise to the surface to breathe and then ever so gracefully glide back to us for more fish from the goody-bag. The ultimate experience though was when we were allowed, one by one, to take the goody-bag with us and swim around with the dolphin, feeding and stroking him. That is an experience I will never forget!

Tuesday 8 January - Theo's Wreck

It took UNEXSO's dive boat about 20 minutes to arrive at the dive site. The current was so strong on the surface that we had to pull ourselves on a line along the side of the boat to the anchor-line and then descend. A pretty tricky manoeuvre with a video in one hand!

Theo's Wreck is a 230-foot steel freighter, with a five-level superstructure, lying on its side in 100 feet of water. The prop and rudder are dramatically perched on the edge of the famous Grand Bahama Ledge, a 2,000-foot drop off. Visibility was about 25m today and it was an awesome sight when the ship appeared as we descended. A beautiful Queen Angelfish abandoned the ship when we approached. The big Blue Parrotfish didn't take any notice of us. Open cargo holds allowed us easy and safe access into and around the ship's hull, where we found ourselves surrounded by dozens of varieties of sea life.

* * * * *

This was just some of the diving we did with UNEXSO in Grand Bahama. We also attended a three day PADI Marine Identification course, including dives on the nearby reefs as well.



June

DIVING WITH THE UNDERWATER EXPLORERS SOCIETY IN BAHAMAS

UNEXSO is almost as old as the Underwater Explorers Club of W.A. As a matter of fact, they are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year. UNEXSO was founded in 1965 by Al Tillman, who became NAUI instructor Number 1. Today, the staff numbers more than 50, including the largest team of diving instructors in the Bahamas and Caribbean and operate five large, custom-built, diesel powered dive boats out of Port Lucaya on Grand Bahama Island in the Atlantic Ocean.

THURSDAY 3 Jan - The Shark Dive

Great excitement! Today was the day we had booked in for 'THE Shark Dive'. Early afternoon found ten of us sitting in UNEXSO's classroom for a briefing by Mike Stafford, assistant dive operations manager and 'shark feeder'. We also had to sign papers saying that we were aware of the dangers on this dive. When descending at the 'Shark Junction' we were met by schools of Yellowtail. We had been told to go to the bottom and sit still with our backs to an old recompression chamber, very similar to the one we have in the UEC club room. Soon some really big Nassau Groupers appeared and Mike started to hand out dead herring from a big tube. As from out of space, eight Caribbean reef sharks approached silently from all directions.

I managed to get some good video shoots of them snatching the herring out of Mike's hand, including some close-ups as the sharks circled and darted in and out above and around us divers in explosive bursts of speed, all the while observing us with cold, steely eyes.

FRIDAY 4 Jan - The Dolphin Experience

If you've ever fantasised about diving with dolphins in the wild, you can now make your fantasies a reality - but only at UNEXSO. This is the only destination in the world where scuba divers can swim freely with dolphins in the open ocean on a scheduled basis. Divers are coming from all over the world to participate

virtually no marine life growing on the rocks. The main features were the football sized sea urchins nestling in the kelp beds, and the very large sea cucumbers. At 25 metres we could peer over drop offs which dropped 30 metres or more. The scene was almost like diving in a miniature flooded grand canyon.

The dive ended all too soon, as is usual on good dives and we returned to the surface to be picked up by the boat. We then had to wait while the other four divers had their turn hoping they would not be too long as we would be getting colder and colder. The sensible ones had wind-cheaters and beanies, to keep out the wind chill. Water and air temperatures would have been about 10° C.

After the last diver had finished the dive, cold but satisfied with the dive, we all headed back to base for a hot shower and a hot meal before the afternoon dive. Normal diving procedures required both inflatables to stay together going to and from a dive, for safety reason.

Back on shore, those who had been detailed to compressor duty, a much hated task, usually lasting two hours or more, would have a long wait before getting that much needed hot shower and bite to eat. The rest of us wasted no time in getting out of our cold wet suits and into some warm clothing. That's the advantage of having a dry suit. They keep you completely dry, and fairly warm in almost any conditions the Irish winter cares to throw at you.

The second dive was to be on the wreck of a trawler sunk in late 1981. The 128 foot fishing boat named SKIFJORD, a local fishing trawler which ran aground on a reef on a dark stormy night. Within minutes it sank stern first, having been hit by a huge wave. Though only 100 metres from land five crew members tragically drowned, the other four managed to reach shore. I was very excited as wreck diving fascinated me.

As any diver will tell you, knowing where something is underwater is different to actually locating it. Our morning dive to locate the wreck proved a fruitless exercise, even though we were dropped within metres of its reported last position. Another dive club also in the area that weekend came to our aid with the exact co-ordinates of the wreck, and a shot line was quickly attached to it that afternoon.

When I finally dropped down the shot we saw an almost pristine trawler lying in about 18 metres. It was an amazing site. My first real wreck dive, most of the rigging was still in place and even the most mounted radar unit was still in place. There was little evidence of marine growth, though there was an abundance of fish life. The trawler was lying almost upright and was in remarkable condition probably due to the suddenness of its sinking. After examining as much as was possible in 30 minutes we returned to the surface. It was hard not to think back to that tragic night when the trawler sank, and a quick prayer was said for those souls now resting in Neptune's kingdom.

I was more than happy with my diving in Burtanport as we headed back to Dublin the next morning, promising to return again to the area to avail of the great diving and the relaxed licensing laws of the local pubs. All in all a great time was had by all.

DIVING REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

Once again those tried and true members have been venturing out Saturday and Sundays, and having all the fun, whilst the majority of members do what? We don't know, but it's not diving with the UEC.

On a number of occasions the boat has been full with us having to turn divers aware on Anzac Day. Remember dives are always arranged on Public Holidays, but book early!

Saturday dives are on each week, 2 tank, Carnac, Stragglers or close in areas, back early and Sunday regular dives to our selection of proven sites.

How about joining us over the next month before most put their gear into hibernation and enjoy what we have to offer our club members by way of sites, safety and fun.

To book on phone Brian - 459 8374

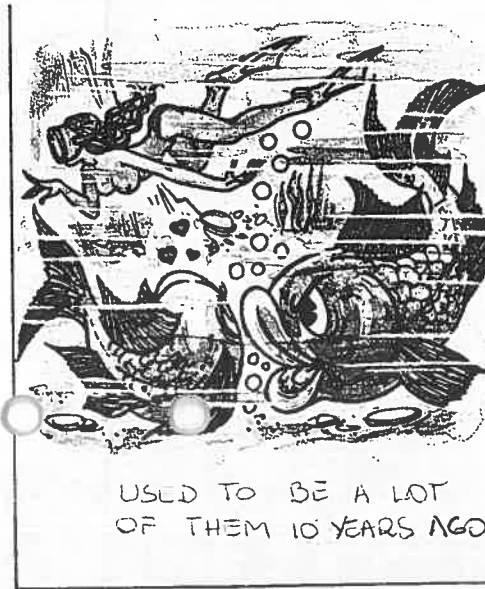
TANK FILLERS FOR THIS MONTH

Tanks will be filled each Tuesday between 6.45 to 8.00 PM. Pick up ring filler who is on for pick-up Friday.

Peter Horton	12-18 May:	445 2336
Richard Naylor	19-25 May:	272 5614
Brian Walker	26May-1June:	451 3448
Ron Phonemyint	2 - 8 June:	417 4140

All members to have their names on their tanks. NO NAME - NO FILL

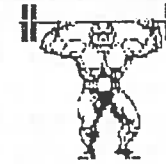
R. Naylor



USED TO BE A LOT OF THEM 10 YEARS AGO!

SOCIAL CALENDAR 1991

458 222 4



JUNE: FRI 14TH
BOWLING NIGHT WITH SUPPER INCLUDED. SO LETS GET PHYSICAL.

JULY: SAT 20TH
 A CULTURAL NIGHT AT THE THEATER.

AUGUST: WED 14TH
 QUIZ NIGHT THE NEW FORMAT USES ELECTRONIC SCORE BOARDS.



SEPT: FRI 13TH
 RIVER TRIP WINE TASTING. A DIFFERENT APPROACH.



OCT: FRI 11TH
 ITALIAN NIGHT AT A NORTH BRIDGE RESTRAUNT.



NOV: SAT 23RD
 PRESENTATION NIGHT. THIS YEAR WE WILL BE OUT TO MAKE IT A GOOD ONE. WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT.



SHARK BAY/DIRK HARTOG ISLAND SAFARI 1991

Were off again for 6 days of diving, fishing, island hopping, whale watching and having fun.

TOP GUN is the boat
1 - 7 JUNE
13 - 19 JULY
10 - 16 AUGUST are the dates
\$800.00 EACH ex Perth is what you hate
SCUB. GEAR is all you take

We leave Perth on the Friday aboard the Top Gun mini bus and return the Saturday week p.m. Food, fills, tackle and bait are supplied, as are dive masters.

Deposit \$200.00. Limited vacancies. First in basis to club members so book on quick.

Brian Murray 459 8374

JUNE 1991

U.E.C. NEWS



I TOLD YOU! YOU SHOULD HAVE LEARNED TO DIVE WITH THE UEC!

for special prices contact Julie Slatter - 451 3322
for Express Road Freight - Interstate and Intrastate



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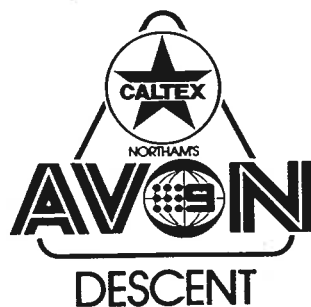
JUNE 1991

U.S.C. NEWS



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TO BE IN THE RESCUE
TEAM RING 341 3001

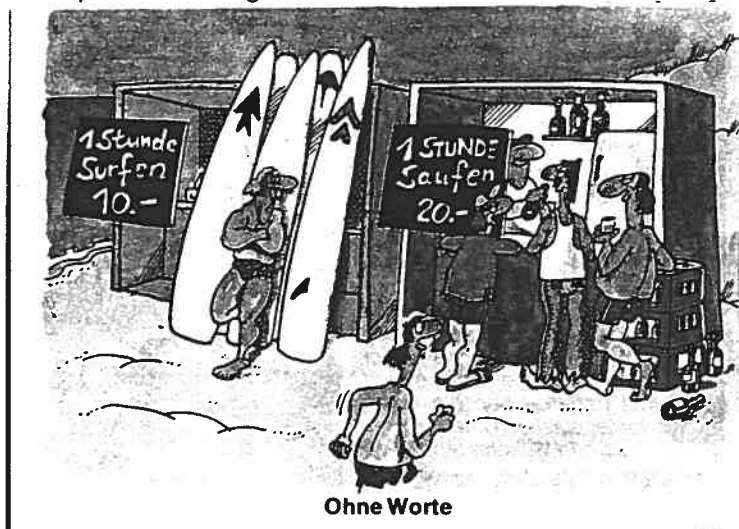
Although the real action bursts forth on the first weekend in August, preparation and planning is a continuing year long exercise.

Estimated to cost in time and equipment more than 10 million dollars, the annual challenge against the river brings together a wide cross section of people, associations, corporations and Government bodies.

The Descent relies heavily on a huge dedicated group of people who give their time and effort for free.

The Caltex Avon Descent is BIG in many ways. It attracts on average around 500 teams comprising some 800 to 900 competitors.

It also attracts the largest spectator audience of any single W.A. sporting event. It is estimated that between 80,000 and 100,000 people scramble up the valley to see men and women pit their skills against the river.



Ohne Worte

Dates to note

JUNE

SATURDAY	15. DIVE ON A WRECK 459 8374	
SUNDAY	16. DIVE AT THE STRAGGLERS. B. KENNEDY * J. COLLINGWOOD.	
MONDAY	17. GENERAL MEETING. ROBIN SHARP WILL SPEAK ON UNDERWATER NAVIGATION.	2000 hrs.
WEDNESDAY	19. THE BOAT COMES OUT OF THE WATER FOR ANNUAL REPAIRS, FROM NOW ON ANY SPARE TIME YOU HAVE CAN BE SPENT AT THE ROYAL PERTH YACHT CLUB HELPING.	

JULY

MONDAY	1. COMMITTEE MEETING.	2000 hrs.
SATURDAY	6. AVON DESCENT RESCUE TRAINING, AT BELL'S RAPIDS BRIGADOON.BYO. BARBECUE AFTER.	0900 hrs.
SUNDAY	7. BOAT REPAIRS. BE THERE.	
WEDNESDAY	10. MAGAZINE PREPARATION NIGHT. COME AND HELP.	1900 hrs.
SATURDAY	13. AVON DESCENT TRAINING. WINE TASTING AFTER.	0900 hrs.
SUNDAY	14. BOAT REPAIRS, SEE YOU THERE.	
MONDAY	15. GENERAL MEETING.	2000 hrs.
SATURDAY	20 - 27. AVON DESCENT RESCUE TRAINING.	0900 hrs.

NOMINATION.

JOHN MORGAN. YANGEBUP.

TANK FILLERS.

PETER HORTON 9-15 JUNE. 445 2336.
RICHARD NAYLOR 16-22 JUNE. 2725614.
BRIAN WALKER 23-29 JUNE. 451 3448.
RON PHONEMYNT 30 JUNE - 6 JULY. 417 4140.
TANKS WILL BE FILLED EACH TUESDAY, BETWEEN 6.45 - 8pm.
TANK FILLS ARE \$3 FOR ONE \$5 FOR TWO.
PICK UP TANKS ON FRIDAY. ADVISE TANK FILLER.



66

Safety Report

Glen Collingwood

Once again I am pleased to be able to report that club diving has been without incident.

While this is really most gratifying, it does make writing a Safety Report somewhat less than challenging. There is a real temptation to simply say, "well done", and leave it at that. But then that wouldn't be in character; would it?

The U.E., while being a stalwart craft with a heart brave and true, is, none the less a relatively small craft. With fourteen aboard, with the gear of those fourteen, with fourteen portable freezers (for the crays you fool) and with Pat's salami and french bread stick, there appears, at times, to be very little room to move. Now while most of the gear is racked and ready, and while things are neat and shipshape there is little problem BUT....

We all know the feeling. The dive is over; we're cold and tired; we just want to get dry and warm. We stumble (even stagger on a rough day) to the front of the boat with single mindedness. Our gear is dumped in a soggy pile at the blunt end. The next diver on board comes over the transom and starts to feel like an end runner in a Grand National; debris strewn from stem to stern and the daunting task of negotiating this obstacle course without doing himself or somebody else's equipment a mortal injury. By the time that diver number fourteen is back on board the boat looks like a battlefield. There are times when the crew feel the need to send rescue teams into the rubble to look for survivors. But seriously people, untidy habits and thoughtlessness can lead to dangerous conditions on the boat. The risk of personal injury and equipment damage is very real when the deck is left strewn with unsecured equipment. Don't forget that Murphy is always on the boat. Chances are that your mask will end up under the next weight belt. When the dive is over secure your gear. Strip your unit (or set up for the next dive), rack the cylinder, and stow your small and breakable gear. And while you're at it, close your weight belt. Not everybody can afford the luxury of weight retainers. Mr Murphy assures me that an un-retained weight WILL slip off the belt on to MY toe. Close the belt (that means slide the free end of the belt through the buckle and close the buckle thus forming a closed loop) against the chance of somebody needing to move the belt to retrieve their mask.

OK folk, the dives are over and we're heading home. There's really only one antisocial way to spend the next hour isn't there? Of course, crawl into the pointy end, fluff up the life jackets (those cute little yellow cushions) and go to sleep. Bullshit!! DON'T DO IT. Life jackets are emergency equipment and are designed to keep a person afloat should we ever need to abandon ship (heaven forbid). A jacket that has been damaged by being scuffed around the deck under someone's carcass will not work as intended and is dangerous. The last thing that I want to see is somebody in the water with a life jacket on and with the padding (the flotation) drifting away through great rents in the covering. Listen sleepyhead it could be you. If you must sleep in the cabin bring your own cushions (or maybe petition the committee to provide a waterproof mattress), don't use the life jackets. I promise you, if I see it happen you won't get any sleep and I'll be asking all crew to take the same approach. Feeling guilty? Good. I make no apologies for putting a few individuals on the spot. Tact never was my strong point and never will be where safety is at issue.

Dive safely and I'll see you next month.

FOR SALE

S/H WETSUIT 4½. DIVE BAG. MEDIUM FINS. THE LOT \$50. J. OGDEN 330 1168.

S/H WETSUIT (SEASUIT) MENS 3 NEAR NEW \$100 R. SHEPHARD 335 7730.

BOAT REPORT

D. STUBBERFIELD

Back on Deck again after a short holiday in sunny(?) Adelaide, I am pleased to report that the Boat is running well and there are no major problems with hull, machinery or running gear. I am also delighted with the way boat crews are using the Boat and becoming "fast on their feet" in organising Saturday dives to take advantage of any fine weather we have - Nice work team! Now, after that blatant piece of buttering up, comes the pay off - its boat slipping time again folks and we need crews and all Club members to turn out and work your little tails off to get Her ready for next season. A boating Sub-Committee meeting has been organised for Monday the 10/6/91, to discuss and recommend a work plan. This will broadly entail slipping on or about the 19th of June, doing as a matter of urgency, all work under the water line, including painting; any work above gunwhales needing power tools and as much as possible of what remains.

I would like to see all work completed up on the hard, but must be in a position to refloat Her after as short a time as possible, to give Dave at Matilda Bay Marine a fair go!. The boat will be slipped and put up on the hard at Royal Perth Yacht Club, courtesy of Life Member Dave Kenny, Proprietor of Matilda Bay Marine, who also keeps a weather eye cocked, on us and the boat whilst She is up, helping where he can.

There is a small amount of electrical, mechanical and shipwrighting to do, the inevitable painting and, hopefully, alterations to the upper works to provide more seating and shelter. It proposed to do as much as possible at Royal Perth, and if necessary take Her to the berth at Fremantle to complete work above the water line and decks. This will also help to establish Our claim to that berth, early, for the forthcoming season.

Please contact me for information, your offers of help, ideas for work needed and any other matters relevant to the Boat.

Cheers Folks!

STUBBY"

9. Fly home soon after completing your last dive (or go to altitude 300m soon after a dive).
10. Dive whenever possible, even if you feel unwell, have a hangover, are dehydrated or have had a recent illness.
11. Ascend quickly (rate greater than 60 feet (18m) per minute).
12. Do a minimum depth of 25-30 MSW on each dive.
13. Do deep bounce dives.

(reproduced with the permission of FAUI - FAUI NEWS Vol.12 No.3 December 1990)

Catch & Cook

Glen Collingwood

There are those of us who rather enjoy a quiet night dive in the Swan, and then there are those of us who prefer the heat of the hunt (well, that is, to go on a crab and prawn dive). For my own part I go for the hunt. The skill and personal danger aside (try getting a big male Blue Manna, in his prime and in full fighting trim, into a catch bag with half a dozen other irate P.O.W's and then tell me there's no skill or danger), the joy is in the feasting.

The following recipe is one that I particularly like. It's a change from the always welcome fresh bread and butter and vinegar; it's spicy yet delicate; it's foolproof. This is a Thai recipe called Poo Ja (stuffed crab shells - not a literal translation).

4 medium size crabs
125g (4oz) lean pork (or chicken)
1 small brown onion
2 cloves garlic
20mm (3/4 inch) knob fresh ginger
1 tsp chopped coriander root
2 finely chopped coriander leaves
125ml (1/2 cup) thick coconut milk
25g (2 tbs) cornstarch
1 egg, lightly whisked
salt to taste
freshly ground black pepper
oil for deep frying

Cook the crabs in rapidly boiling water. Carefully remove the top shells and set these aside. Extract all the meat from the body and claws and shred finely. Chop the pork (or chicken) very finely or pass through a mincer. Chop the onion, garlic and ginger. Place all the ingredients in a bowl and mix thoroughly. Transfer the mixture into the crab shells and place in a steamer for 30 minutes. Remove, set aside to cool. Just prior to serving, heat the oil until it begins to smoke, then deep-fry the stuffed shells for 2 minutes, until the tops are a golden brown.

Serve on a decorative bed of lettuce (Cos lettuce looks great) and garnish with shredded red and green chillies to taste. I serve Poo Ja with a sauce of chopped hot green chillies in light soy sauce (I use Kikkoman Salt Reduced).

I've followed this with a Mango Mousse for dessert.

Maybe this one next month!!

HOW TO GET DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS

1. Be physically unfit.
2. Be overweight.
3. Put absolute trust in decompression tables and dive computers, and dive them to the limit.
4. Do multiple dives in one day.
5. Do multiple days non-stop diving (without a rest day).
6. Do multiple ascents on each dive.
7. Do the deepest dive last.
8. Booze heavily between and after dives.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By M. Casley

Adelaide Rules O.K.? Well not for my money it doesn't. Two weeks in Adelaide in May is about as much as I can take. It was freezing and winter was still officially a month away. Dennis and I had a good holiday but give me Perth anytime.

The topic of the month has to be the Notice of Motion to change the Constitution that appeared in last month's magazine. It would seem that there is a groundswell of opinion in the Club that our meetings are a bit D & B (dull & boring). While I agree with most of Kerry's thoughts about the role of the Committee in dealing with Club business and putting more fun back into the General meetings, I am reluctant to agree with him that a change in the Constitution is required to solve the problem. The Constitution is a well thought out and comprehensive document that seeks to clarify the parameters within which the Committee and the membership as a whole must conduct the affairs of the Club. The Constitution has sufficient leeway in it to allow us, the members, to conduct meetings in almost any way we please. To change the Constitution is a tiresome process which is unnecessary in this instance. What happens when a new bunch of members come along and wish to hear monthly reports from Office - bearers? Go to all the trouble of altering the Constitution again? And what about the 49% of members that may want to hear from Office-bearers? Effectively under this plan they would have no say. Basically, the Constitution already has plenty of scope within it to accommodate Kerry's proposal whilst still preserving the integrity of the Constitution for all current and future members. The Committee has discussed the points outlined by Kerry and we think the meetings can be streamlined within the existing Constitution. Let me show you how.

Appendix 1 of the Constitution "STANDING ORDERS FOR PROCEEDINGS OF MEETINGS" Clause 3 allows for the Suspension of Standing Orders. What this means is that by a two thirds majority of the members we can suspend business at any time. The proposal put forward by the Committee is to table Minutes (as we have done in the past and which was subsequently rescinded), deal quickly with correspondence and Nominations, hear the Treasurer's Report and pass accounts for payment (an absolute necessity for the efficient running of the Club) and finish up the meeting after General Business. General Business would be very short and contain only those items of business that were too late to get into the Magazine. All reports from Office - bearers would remain as they are in the Magazine. In this way we could then very quickly welcome any guest speakers or proceed with any other entertainment that has been planned.

Whilst on the subject of guest speakers and entertainment it is important for you all to let Martin know what you are interested in so that he can make the necessary arrangements. Also, if this plan were to succeed the meeting would need the co-operation of all members i.e. no interruptions and limiting questions and therefore further discussion to a minimum. Minutes of all Committee Meetings are always on hand for members perusal and Committee Members are always on hand to deal with any specific queries you may have.

A change in the Constitution is a course of action the Club should only take if absolutely necessary, and as I have pointed out in this case it is not necessary. The measures that I have outlined are considered by the Committee to be the best course of action. Please consider very carefully the arguments that have been put to on this matter. I hope to see all of you at the next meeting so that this proposal can be discussed and a solution arrived at.

Dear Editor,

I really am at my wits end. I have no one else to turn to so I hope you can help me.

I really must complain about the treatment that I received on a recent diving trip on the Underwater Explorer. It has upset me greatly and I hope that you can help set the situation to rights.

I was quietly swimming along looking for those adorable little crayfish. I already have one in my catch bag and it was having a lovely time brushing against my thighs (well I was having a lovely time so it should have been). I thought my buddy was right beside me where he should have been but he had his head stuck under a ledge looking as well; as if I was blind and couldn't find crayfish by myself. Really you can't trust men; they're never there when you need them. Anyway there I was, minding my own business when the great hairy shark (a wobbythingo) jumped up and attacked me. He bit me in the crotch. I tried to get free but he (of course it was a HE; what sort of girl do you thing I am?) just hung on. My useless buddy (another HE) was nowhere to be found and I had to fight this depraved beast off all by myself. I was really upset.

When I got back to the boat and told them all what had happened all I got was smart mouth comments and no sympathy at all. One of those unspeakable people even said, "Well Jude, he's (the wobbythingo) probably had gone home to shave his teeth". That's the sort of remark I'd expect from someone who owns a blow-up sheep with a built-in 'cliff top' feature.

Anyway that was two weeks ago. Ever since then I've done nothing but think of that great animal and what he did to me. It really has me upset. Fancy molesting me like that; it really is too much. He doesn't even care. He hasn't called me. He hasn't written. I even went back last week but he won't come out to see me.

What can I do? Please help me!!

Desperate Diver.

REGARDING OUR GENERAL MEETINGS

Quite simply, some of the club members and I have discussed this matter, and we all strongly feel that our General Meetings should be more 'fun' and entertaining, e.g.

- * Post a copy of the Minutes from the Committee meetings on the notice board for anyone interested to read;
- * Reports, yes, but only brief ones regarding diving and social. We don't care if "U.E." needs another nut or bolt to be replaced!
- * Engage guest speakers and arrange slide or film shows.

There must be a change soon, otherwise The Committee might be sitting there on its own in the club rooms at our General Meetings.

Susie Ashton

REGARDING THE GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE CLUB

The motion to be put to the June General Meeting is:

That the Constitution be altered as follows:

Insert as Clause 16(f):

"A majority of members present and voting at a General Meeting may waive the formal proceedings required by Clause 16(b) for the monthly meetings, other than the Annual General Meeting."

This motion, if passed, would allow members to discuss and vote on the format of their General Meeting. This should be flexible, e.g. quarterly or bi-monthly "business" meetings. At present we are required by Clause 16 of the Constitution to run the meetings as described in Appendix 1 every month.

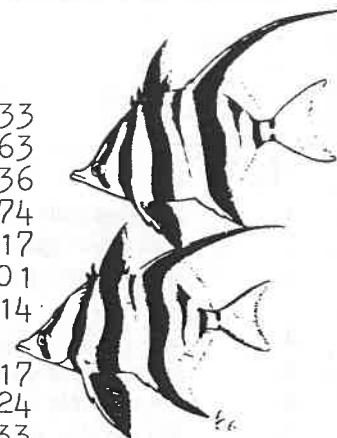
As a dive club we should have presentations/seminars on dive related topics. These would let us know what is out there, the latest equipment, the latest safety/medical procedures, the latest regulations and so on. Diving is a diverse pas-time, let us see what others in the diving community are up to!

Our dedicated and diverse Committee have taken on the task to run the club. The newsletter is the regular communicative organ of the Club to let us know what is happening. This can be reinforced with brief current updates at the General Meetings on say: diving/working-bees/social. Members have recourse to Special Meetings, and may present motions to a General Meeting where needed. In fact, calling Special Meetings is a faster process to air/satisfy disenchantment than going through the General Meeting process. Compare Clause 9(a)3 and 16(c). Please also refer to the points listed in the May newsletter to assist you in making your decision.

HAPPY THINKING AND VOTING
Kerry

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	MAREE CASLEY	457	3333
SECRETARY	PAT TROY	328	8163
TREASURER	PETER HORTON	445	2336
O/C DIVING	BRIAN MURRAY	459	8374
O/C TRAINING	G. COLLINGWOOD	450	6817
O/C MAGAZINE	TIBI CSOMAY	341	3001
O/C BUILDING	R. NAYLOR.	272	5614
O/C SAFETY & TECHNICAL	C. COLLINGWOOD	450	6817
O/C SOCIAL,	PR. M. SMITH	458	2224
O/C BOAT	D. STUBBERFIELD	457	3333
VICE PRESIDENT	M. SMITH	458	2224



Training Report

Glen Collingwood

The current Open Water course got under way as scheduled on Sunday, May 19 and progresses well under Julie Raines' tutelage. The aspirants are Toby Klien and Mark Wendt.

Work commitments continue to plague Chris Khoo, however, Judy hopes to complete his training on Sunday, June 10.

The advertised FAUI Diver Lifesaver Course has drawn very little interest so far. This is something of a disappointment. I have only one person, at this stage, who has committed to the course and obviously this is just not enough to let it happen.

There was a time in the distant, heady days of yore when a fledgling diver, having just completed a training course, could claim with naive confidence that he was a 'COMPLETE DIVER'. Why not; he'd done it all. He'd spent sixteen weeks with a paragon of diving excellence being bludgeoned and coerced into the mould of the master. He'd done thirty dives and who knows how many free ascents. He'd dived at night. He'd dived deep. Bloody hell; He Was A Diver; he was set for life. This, however, is the 90's. Equipment has changed. The Safety Record has changed for the better. Training methods have changed. Recreational SCUBA diving is no longer the exclusive domain of the Iron Men of the world, or of the suicidal. The Complete Diver is recognised for what he is; a complete myth. What I'm driving at is this; whether you are happy about it or not, modern Diver Training techniques are superior to those of the old days. You no longer get 'the Gospel according to Whoever' in one shot to last you the rest of your life. Modern training is progressive and on going. It is safety orientated and it is thorough. It NEVER ends. Modern Diver Training has the potential to produce divers of superior overall knowledge and expertise. That potential can never be realised unless you, the diver, are aware of the need for on going training and experience. Whom of us can sit back and honestly say that we know it all; that we have nothing to learn. Continuing training is essential; it is YOUR obligation to yourself and your buddies.

The ball's in your court.

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

The Club regulars over the past month have kept up tradition and continue to dive in all weather conditions with surprisingly good diving at popular locations.

There is little of the season left before the yearly lull over refit of U.E. so my suggestion is to make at least one last effort and join the regulars on either Saturday or Sunday dives.

If you do plan to dive with us, please ring the D/O and book on for your preferred day as it is not convenient nor correct to tell a buddy you intend to dive without advising the D/O, only to find the boat is full, or not going that day.

8

You are expected to ring the D/O, not vice-versa

IN THE NAME OF RESEARCH

I read this the other day in The West Australian:

"The brave Nisshin Maru No. 3 and her studious crew returned in April with the carcasses of 327 Minke whales slaughtered in the icy southern seas in the name of research. The meat was later sold for human consumption for \$13 million."

"Back in Japan, pro-whalers have been trying to harpoon support of their own. At a recent Tokyo banquet, dubbed by the Japanese media as a "blubber bash", dozens of Japanese MPs and other dignitaries feasted on whale meat to register their support for an end to the moratorium. Media reports said the menu featured raw whale meat, whale skin, bacon, barbecued whale and whale tongue."

The following BIZARRE incident was also reported in the same article:

"In the early hours of November 3 at Fukuejima, an island near Nagasaki in southern Japan, nearly 582 Risso's dolphins turned up on a beach. Media reports said local villagers helped drive the dolphins ashore and then took to them with meat knives, slicing flesh off the quivering creatures as they lay dying on the sand."

Sick, Man, that's all I can say.

SATURDAY MORNING DIVES ARE FUN!

It's not very often I have to leave my comfy bed before sunrise but I will do it again with pleasure, next time I decide to go diving with UEC, because it was well worth it! Saturday May 25th we were picked up at East Street Jetty at 7am by 'Captain Richard' and his son Adrian. It didn't take us too long before we were all in the water, with a comfortable temperature of 20.4°C. We were diving on a reef somewhere in Huggalls Passage - an incredibly beautiful divesite with heaps of lovely soft and hard corals, many swim-through caverns, and canyons full of crayfish. I must admit though, it was quite difficult to catch one, with my newly found loop, in the heavy surge that we had this day. So, if it hadn't been for my generous friend Brian Murray, I would have had to come home AGAIN without my favourite delicacy. (Yes, Brian, we cooked it in CURRY and Cognac - it was delicious!)

There was a happy bunch of divers on board the 'U.E.' this sunny Saturday morning, with Judy as D.O. Kerry and I certainly enjoyed the great atmosphere and the innuendo from our boisterous buddies. THANKS ALL for a lot of fun!



* * * * *

5

PROFILE ON PAT (BANZAI) TROY By Roger Smith

This tall striking figure with the rugged good looks and boyish charm has always stood out from the crowd. This has been assisted by his tendency to dress in the latest fashions, his tastes inclining towards expensive Italian three piece suits. Gucci loafers and personally monogrammed socks. He is known for his rapier like wit and is constantly heard quoting passages from Milton, Keats, and Shakespeare. He is usually spotted at all the trendiest places around town driving his customised Ferrari. Hold it! Hold it! Sorry, I've got a bit mixed up here, we're supposed to be talking about Pat Troy. I think I've got the wrong profile here, let's start again.

If we were to do a survey on Pat, I think the tick would go in the box that says "None of the above". Trying to do a piece on this man is like writing about "The Bermuda Triangle". So many stories have been heard about this almost living legend that it is hard to find the truth, but still I'll do my best.

Every time the boat leaves the jetty Pat is aboard. He has, as one might say, "become one with it". Pat assures me that the relationship is purely platonic, but some times I have my doubts. Some people have suggested that Pat uses the boat to doss down on at night. Pat denies this. But it's a known fact that none of the City Missions will put up with his disgusting habits any more and have put him on their "Black List".

Pat has developed a unique style of diving all of his own. This can best be described as extremely slow, so slow in fact that on some dives weed starts to grow on him. Nudibranchs have been observed crawling on top of him to mate and small shrimp-like creatures often build nests and lay eggs in his beard. Other divers often swim up to him and prod him to check that he is still alive.

One of the most common questions asked about Pat is: How old is he? Well, nobody really seems to know whether he is older than he looks (impossible) or much younger. He is often heard singing along to the latest hits of Kylie Minogue and Millie Vanillie which suggests the latter. Another story goes on to tell us that Pat tried to learn all about SCUBA

diving at the age of 40, but unfortunately for him the "Aqualung" hadn't been invented yet.

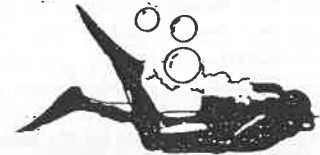
The attire usually worn by this non trend-setter of men can best be described as casually original. His battered hat would make the "Bush Tucker Man" green with envy. His shirts manufactured in some bygone age and lovingly preserved with multicoloured patches reflect his conservationist attitude and the need for recycling. His only pair of shorts were the best money could buy at Big W. Until recently Pat always wore a sturdy pair of leather brogues out diving, but since someone told him that they had come back into fashion he has refused to wear them. He now makes do with an old pair of slippers he rescued from the dog's basket.

The latest acquisition to his already colourful wardrobe is the now infamous "Burbie Doll" tote bag. This another product of recycling is used to carry some of his dive gear in. It is not, as some of the more unkind members of our club have suggested, to carry sweets in to offer to unwary children.

From what little information is available on Pat's background, I have pieced together the following: It seems Pat was born to an Eskimo mother and Irish discoverer for a father. The only reason he was known as a discoverer was, he discovered there were no seals or Polar bears in outback Australia. Which prompted him to pack himself and Mrs Troy off back to the South Pole. The young Pat being left in the loving care of a tribe of nomadic Aborigines. After being passed around from tribe to tribe (nobody wanted him then either), he was finally left to grow up amongst an outback tribe at Gngangara. This tribal background has given Pat an earthy attachment to his present location in East Perth, where he now resides somewhere between the Norwood Hotel and the railway bridge, or it might be in the Norwood Hotel or under the railway bridge. I'm never quite sure.

One of the main things that has brought Pat into the limelight lately is his legendary lunches. These culinary delights, although lacking in refined presentation, are a delight to any hungry diver's palate. His famous "Rotto Dive Rolls" are starting to be copied by the best chefs in the best restaurants in the world. But none has yet been able to truly duplicate the delicate way he rips open a French roll with thumb and forefinger, slips in the cabernosi sausage and then smothers it all in "Black and Gold" brand of tomato sauce.

The reason Pat gives for bringing along such large lunches is, he claims: "Every bugger on the boat wants to try some as soon as I start to eat". The real reason probably being that the majority of it ends up in his beard or down the front of his shirt. If you would like to partake in some of Pat's gastronomic goodies, be sure to book early, as once he has commenced eating he goes into a sort of feeding frenzy. The only thing you will get from him once he has commenced eating is a menacing glare and a snappy "Piff off" through his bulging cheeks.



SHARK BAY/DIRK HARTOG ISLAND SAFARI 1991

Arrangements have been made aboard "Top Gun" for those intrepid persons in the U.E.C. to join the 1991 Safari on this 6 day escapade of diving, fishing and fun to some of the most exciting dive sites on the West Coast.

The Safari includes: **2 tank dives per day**
Air fills
Unlimited snorkelling
Night dives

Fishing for some of the prize northern fishes with lines, bait and you catch transported back to Perth provided free.

All meals, including tea and coffee and accommodation on board "Top Gun" provided whilst island hopping for 6 days.

Bus to and from Denham, the port of departure, for divers and their own diving gear free.

The Safari does not include alcohol or soft drinks, nor meals during travel to and from Denham. These costs will be your responsibility.

This total dive, fishing, island hopping and having fun safari to U.E.C. members for only \$800.00 each all inclusive as outlined.

Available dates are: **July 13 - 19**
August 10 - 16

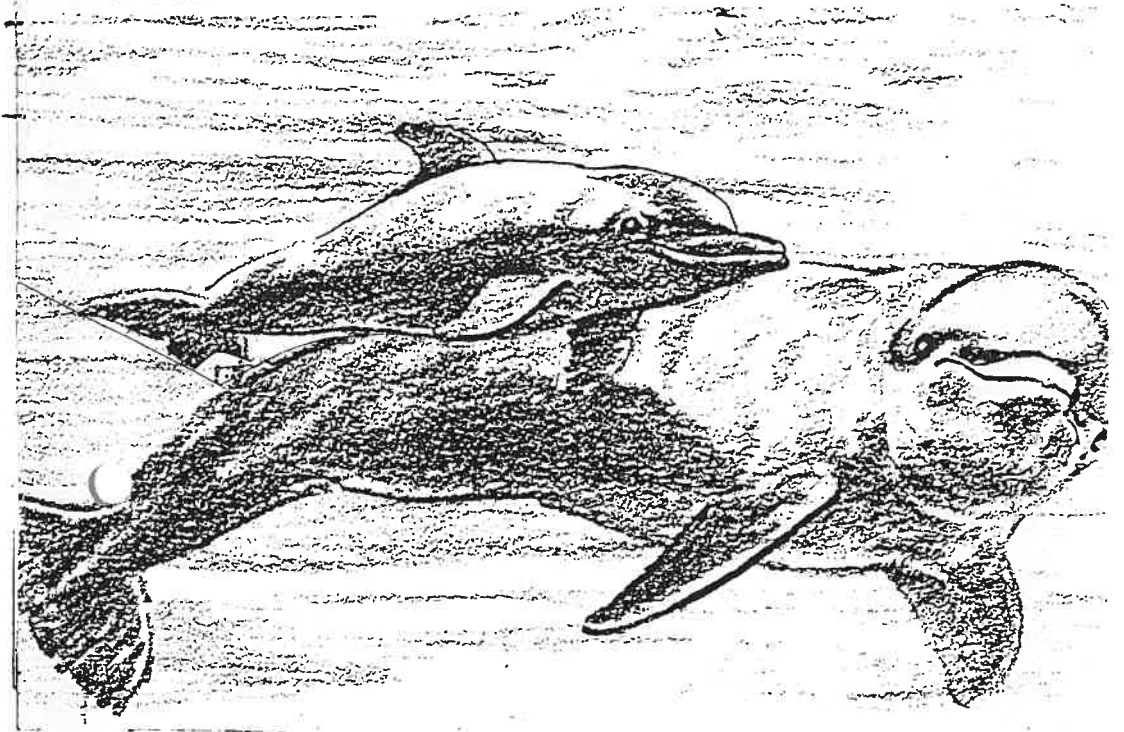
Limited spaces are available and its first in basis so book early as U.E.C. members are being given first choice.

All you need to reserve your space is ring me with you preferred choice of dates available. QUICKLY.

Brian Murray 459 8374

U.E.C. NEWS

JULY 1991



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THE OVERNIGHTERS

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Richard Naylor and I spoke about his aquarium with Hermit crabs. One of my questions was: "Do you have both sexes of them? Maybe you'll end up with lots of baby-hermits?" Richard actually didn't know, so I became interested and wanted to find out all I could about this "humble" little crab. The following is the result of my studies:

THE HERMIT CRAB

Hermit crabs are another of those queer things that are found in the sea. The front end is well developed but the rear part has been adapted to living in a gastropod (univalve) shell or, in one case, a hole in a stone. In shells the rear is coiled to fit the shell or and the last two appendages have been modified to form hooks to anchor the crab in the shell. The large claws may be equal or nearly equal in size or either the left or the right claw is the large one according to the sub-family. These heavy claws are used as a stopper for the shell into which the crab can retreat at any alarm. It is most interesting to watch small hermit crabs feeding in rock pools. They steady themselves with the larger claw while they scrape their food off the surface of the rock with the slender one. Rock crabs, on the other hand, use right and left claws alternatively to scrape the thin coating of seaweed etc. from the rocks. (Life on the Australian Seashore by G.Y. McKeon, 1966)

FEEDING RELATIONSHIP

A great variety of strategies is adopted. A symbolic relationship often exists between the common hermit crab and the anemone. The anemone is not found exclusively on hermit crab shells but may be found also on the shells of living marine molluscs or on the carapace of other crabs or simply on rocks. The range of options available is thus fully exploited. However, having climbed onto the outside of the inhabited hermit crab shell, both the anemone and the crab benefit. Extra protection for the hermit crab from predators is afforded by the batteries of stinging cells on the tentacles of the anemone. On the other hand, when the hermit is feeding the column of the anemone bends and the substrata nearby is swept by the tentacles, thereby picking up fragments of food left by the crab. The relationship is thus mutually beneficial. Extra drag created by the anemone on the shell is outweighed by the protection afforded. (Basic marine biology by A Milne & P Stebbing, 1984)

REPRODUCTION

Reproduction involves copulation. The second pair of pleopods on the male's abdomen acts like pistons within the first pair to transfer sperm to the female for storage. The eggs are fertilized as they are laid and are held under the broad abdomen of the female. They hatch as pre-zoea larvae, moulting immediately to the first of several planktonic zoea stages. Zoea larvae have a full complement of head appendages, but only the first two pairs of thoracic appendages (destined to become the first two or three pairs of adult maxillipeds), used by the zoea for swimming. After several moults the megalopa stage is reached, with abdominal as well as thoracic appendages. This settles on the sea bottom and metamorphoses into a crab. (The encyclopaedia of underwater life by Dr K Banister and Dr A Campbell, 1985)



BE PROUD OF YOUR CLUB

BUY a U.E.C. BADGE \$8

(See Peter Horton at
the General Meeting)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By M. Casley

The last general meeting was an interesting evening in more ways than one. Firstly, Robin Sharp, from Barracuda, gave us an overview of navigation underwater and gave us some handy tips on how to find our way around. Robin was kind enough to bring some notes on navigation and copies of those notes are at the Club rooms if anyone wants to read them.

The proposed notice of motion to change the constitution was also debated. Although that motion was defeated, it was made quite clear from those members present that they were eager to see a change in the way we conduct general meetings. As from the next meeting we will try and implement meetings in the way outlined in last months magazine. As well as eliminating reports from most of the Office bearers, general business will also be reduced to a minimum. In an effort to speed up this segment of the meeting I will draw up an agenda. If you have any items of general business, please ring me prior to the meeting so that they can be included in the agenda. Hopefully these changes, and some interesting guest speakers will lead to more fun-filled and informative meetings. It is in this respect that we encounter our first hurdle. I am sure that there are many of you out there that have heaps of good ideas for guest speakers but unfortunately you are keeping them a secret. Now is your big chance to really make a contribution to making our Club a fun Club to belong to. Give Martin a ring if you think of someone who can come along to a meeting and give a talk or show a film or some slides. And while on the subject of Social and PR how about coming along to some social events and supporting your hard-working committee members in their endeavours.

The other major news for this month is of course the annual slipping of UE. I know that this activity puts the mokkas on diving for many people so why not put that spare time to good use - come down and put in a few hours work on the boat? UE belongs to all of us and we all have a duty to keep her in top condition for the lowest cost. Each of you can contribute quite significantly to reducing our overall diving costs by doing some work on the boat. If you don't, then it stands to reason that:

- a) the boat will be out of the water longer curtailing your diving activities longer

- b) the same old workhorses will be doing all the work again which can strain even the best of friendships and

- c) conceivably the cost of keeping UE in top condition can go

through the roof if we have to engage professionals to do the work that we as Club members are too bone lazy to do ourselves.

Sounds like strong stuff doesn't it? Well, it is and it is meant to be. Every year that we have had this boat I have seen many of you enjoy the fruits of other members labour. You are front and centre when the boat is back in the water, looking like a million dollars, champing at the bit for a dive, yet your presence is noticeably lacking whenever there is some work to be done. If you think that these comments are directed at you, then they probably are. Do something about it and get yourself into some work clobber and we will see you at RPYC soon.

Lastly, our intrepid travellers are off again. Susie and Kerry are off to Queensland for a spot of diving. Bon Voyage and happy diving to you both.

Dates to note

JULY

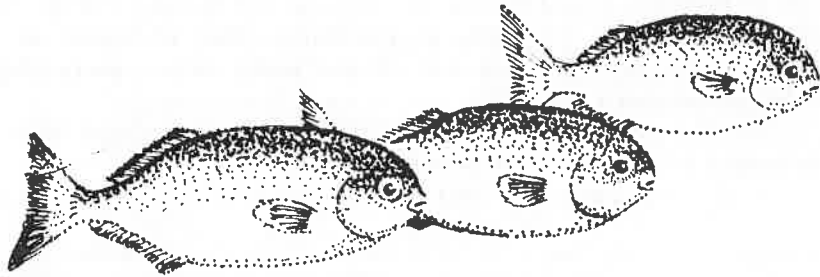
SATURDAY	13.	AVON DESCENT TRAINING. WINE TASTING AFTER.	0900 hrs.
SUNDAY	14.	BOAT REPAIRS, SEE YOU THERE.	
MONDAY	15.	GENERAL MEETING.	2000 hrs.
SATURDAY	20 - 27.	AVON DESCENT RESCUE TRAINING.	0900 hrs.

AUGUST

SATURDAY	3	AVON DESCENT. COME AND WATCH IT.	
SUNDAY	4		
MONDAY	5	COMMITTEE MEETING.	
WEDNESDAY	14	MAGAZINE NIGHT. HAVE YOU EVER HELPED?	

NOMINATIONS.

TOBBY KLEIN ROLLEYSTONE.
MARK WENDT.



BOAT REPORT By D. STUBBERFIELD

The Boat is snugly up on the hard at Royal Perth Yacht Club battened down under a big tarpaulin, kindly lent by Westrail, to facilitate our annual maintenance programme, which by the way needs YOUR immediate and prolonged attention. The major priority is the exterior, both under and above the water line, and I am pleased to report both these areas are in pretty good shape, so the amount of work needed is quite small (the result of a very strenuous effort last slipping). However, there were a few areas needing attention and good progress has been made, such that we are almost ready to start painting. Mechanically, the engine exhaust system is the only major item needing attention and this is at the procuring stage. No work on the electrics has been done at yet, apart from recalibration of the echo sounder sum log section, which was found to be reading 0.5 Kts high at 10 Knots.

The "shipwrighting" section of our annual maintenance plan, is probably the most important this year (Basically, if we don't get this right we sink!) and good progress has been made on the rudder entry into the hull, which is the major job to be done. Fibreglass, patching and repair will be extensive and I am looking for willing experts urgently for this work. Carpenters will also be needed for modifications to the cabin and canopy to make her a drier more comfortable boat. The marlin board and all metal fittings, including anchors and chain have been sent off to the galvanisers which should give us another 3 years of trouble free diving and or a very tradable boat if and when such a move is made. A notice has been pinned up in the cabin detailing work to be done and rough priorities applying, so WHEN you come down to do your bit everybody will know where they stand and where we are going.

On the subject of "new" boats, Kerry and Treasurer Peter Horton have worked up a plan to purchase a newer craft, of modest Specifications and cost, which is felt to meet our needs and our ability to pay for. Details of this will be discussed at future meetings and only bare bones brief reports will be published in the magazine, bearing in mind the sensitive and sometimes confidential nature of such plans. Therefore folks come to the meetings and hear all about it, have your say and get the boat you want!

CHEERS FOLKS!

STUBBY!

FISHING.

The last time I was in Japan my host invited me to go fishing with him off the coast of Sendai. Having been on U.E.C. organised fishing trips I gladly accepted the invitation, just to see how they do it.

The boat turned out to be a 12 metre one, equipped with the latest electronic hardware. Apart from the usual navigational instruments and radar, a satellite plotter traced the boat's track over a map displayed on a screen. Much better than a paper chart spread out over the toilet. The skipper knew what he was doing, Just like Peter he went straight to the fishing spot; no waltzing around the ocean for hours trying to find it.

He throttled back and cut the engine. Only now he turned on the colour display of an echo sounder. On the 3 dimensional screen he pointed to fish which were displayed according to size and distance from the bottom. He picked up his microphone and said, "OK go", to my companions, who lined the sides with baited hooks. At his words they all dropped their lines and waited intently. After several false alarms one of the anglers yelled with delight, just like Maree on Saturday, "I got one, I got one!"

He pulled his line in madly, to reveal a white fish about 10 cms long. "Congratulations", came over the loud speaker. I thought the fisherman would throw his catch back, but no, he put it in a plastic bag. At the Skipper's command they all reeled in their lines and he moved forward until more fish appeared on the screen. He did this several times, until everybody got at least one fish.

After a barbecue lunch we raced back to harbour and everyone marched into a boathouse with our catch in plastic bags. We found more food and drinks laid out and we toasted a successful day out. My host awarded prizes and the man with the biggest fish (about 20 cms), won a gadget for his car. Other prizes went for the biggest variety and the smallest fish. I won a prize for being a foreigner, a hair drier.

Not that my hair needs much drying nowadays!



The first time I heard about the PINEAPPLE-FISH I honestly thought my friends were "pulling my leg". We (Melanie, Sharon, Nick, John, Michel and Kerry and I) had made a weekend-trip down to Busselton, to once again dive under the famous and wonderful jetty. As always, we had a great dive amongst the magic pillars in calm and clear water. To me, it seems like diving inside a gigantic aquarium! Anyhow, at dusk it was decided to go for a night-dive and look for the Pineapple-fish! That's when I first heard about this creature and I thought: "No, this is a joke. There is no such fish!" so I didn't go. When they came back from that dive, they proudly informed me that they had seen one! I still didn't believe in it, of course.

The other day I was going through and cataloging all my dive magazines, and guess what... in *Scuba Diver December 1987/January 1988* I found this article, "Fish for Marine Aquarists" by Rob Burke, and a picture of an adult Pineapple-fish. I almost dropped off my chair! So, here goes:

PINEAPPLE-FISH

(*Cleidopus gloria-maris*)

This fish is one of only two species belonging to the family *Monocentridae*. Both species look similar, with bright yellow colouration and a black lattice pattern over the scales, but each fish is unique to a single area - *Cleidopus japonicus* is found only in Japanese waters; *gloria-maris* only off Australia. This unique fish has a deep, rounded body which is totally enclosed by the large, armoured scales. The head is proportionally large, and covered with thick bony plates. Sharp dorsal spines, and a pair of massive pelvic spines, all of which can be thrust open and licked into place, complete the impregnable armour of this fish. Only the eyes remain unprotected, and these are well camouflaged with broad black markings, which radiate from the centre.

Beneath its chin, on each side of the head, the Pineapple-fish sports a small pit, filled with symbiotic bacteria. These bacteria are phosphorescent, hence the alternative name sometimes given to this fish: Port-and-starboard-light fish. The eerie greenish light is used by the Pineapple-fish at night, to attract and locate its favourite prey of shrimps. As the Pineapple-fish patrols its nocturnal domain, the two lights are directed to the bottom, where they look remarkably like a miniature pair of car headlights. Any shrimps in the immediate area are hypnotically drawn into the beams of light, and instantly sucked into a capacious mouth. The Pineapple-fish will continue patrolling for food, until daybreak. It then returns to a favourite cave (or deep crevice), and retires for the daylight hours.

The Pineapple-fish was once believed to be a rare deep-water species, likely to be seen only when taken by trawler fishermen, working depths beyond 30 metres. However, since the advent of scuba diving, it has been found to be common in moderate depths between 5-10 metres, and its supposed rarity is due more to its nocturnal life style, than lack of numbers.

There are few recorded enemies of the Pineapple-fish and, armoured the way it is, this is not surprising. However, they are occasionally taken by octopuses, which are often found in the same caves and crevices inhabited by this unique fish. If startled or attacked, the Pineapple-fish is capable of emitting a series of loud croaks, sufficient, perhaps, to frighten an attacker away.

The Pineapple-fish reaches a maximum length of 25-30 cm, and is found along the coasts of NSW, Queensland and WA. It is regularly exported to the USA for the aquarium trade.



TANK REPAINTING TIPS

I found this article in a recent issue of SCUBA DIVER which had been reprinted from the St. George Scuba Club Newsletter and thought that some of you may benefit from reading it. The article is as follows.

Divers inclined to improve the appearance of their blemished scuba tanks by scraping off old chipped paint and applying a new coating of paint - maybe iridescent yellow, bright white or red - should know it's important to use caution.

The metal properties of scuba tanks should be carefully taken into consideration when giving tanks a facelift. Tank manufacturers recommend not painting your tanks because of the special process the tanks must go through.

But for those divers who insist on a new paint job, the following recommendations are offered:

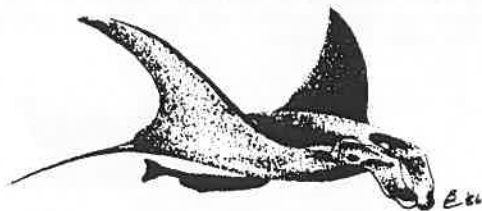
- Never use a heat process or caustic paint strippers to remove old paint. Heat destroys the molecular structure and the cylinder may burst under high pressure.

- Avoid any paint process which involves elevated temperature curing.

- Any cylinder which has been subjected to elevated pressure paint or that has been exposed to heat from a fire or other source must be removed from service and hydrostatically tested.

- Also remember that most new cylinders have galvanised coating to protect the metal. If this protection is removed, it could cause unnecessary stress to the metal surface.

- The appearance of most tanks can often be dramatically improved with soap and water, solvent wipe or scotch-brite scrubbing.



HOW THE DIVING EMERGENCY SERVICE WORKS

DIVING EMERGENCY DEVELOPS

RING DES 008 088200 OR *INTERNATIONAL:
61 8 223.2855 by whatever means available.

Your call will be received at St John's Ambulance Headquarters, SA, who will put you into immediate contact with the on-call specialist diving doctor. He/she will ask a number of questions such as:

- How many patients?
- Is patient conscious and breathing?
- Diving profile
- Where are you?

The DES doctor will offer immediate first aid advice if necessary.

The DES doctor will get a contact number from you and leave you his/her contact number.

The DES doctor will then contact the nearest hyperbaric facility and advise them of the situation and your contact number. The facility should be the next people to contact you and will be the people to organise a retrieval if necessary

* Calls from outside Australia are not free.

U.E.C. NEWS

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AUGUST 1991

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Catch and Cook

Glen Collingwood

It will become self evident that this recipe did not involve any catching, trapping, snaring, hunting or any other violent behaviour (unless we consider judicious use of elbows at Freo Market to be violent). In fact nothing has to die (I refuse to be drawn on the subject of the 'awareness' or otherwise of any plant life) to provide this delightful concoction.

This recipe for Mango Mousse is easy to make (so was Poo Ja Maree, so there) and takes little time if you plan ahead - anything with gelatine takes time to set so don't leave it to the last minute. The flavour is sweet and tangy with a sorbet-like texture which goes very well after any spicy dish.

1 1/2 cups mango puree
(3 medium mangoes), see note
1 sachet gelatine (3 level teaspoons)
juice of 1/2 lemon
1/2 teaspoon vanilla essence
300ml thickened cream
1 tablespoon Bundaberg Rum
1/2 cup sugar

To make the mango puree, peel mangoes, cut flesh from the seed and puree in a food processor. Pour 1/4 cup of hot water into a cup, and add gelatine and whisk briskly with a fork until the gelatine is completely dissolved. Place mango puree in a large mixing bowl, add the dissolved gelatine, sugar, lemon juice and vanilla essence, mixing thoroughly. Whip the cream until lightly thickened then fold it through quickly with the rum. Pile quickly into a serving dish (or individual glass goblets) and chill in refrigerator until set. Serves 4.

Note: When northern Australian mangoes are not available (the season is November to March), substitute Philippine mangoes rather than canned mango, which lacks the fresh flavour necessary for the success of this dish.

You may, of course, garnish this dish to taste with whipped cream and/or slices of strawberry or Kiwi fruit. The overall taste can be varied to suit by careful selection of the mangoes - well ripened fruit will yield a full sweet flavour while less mature fruit will result in the sharp sorbet-like quality mentioned above.

Next month, a lovely simple prawn entree.

Training Report

Glen Collingwood

This is going to be a quick one, Allah be praised.

Judy's current Scuba Diver course should be completed by the next General meeting. New divers will be Mark Wendt (passed on from Julie's last class), Russell Mortimer, Paul Tompsett, Ross Cooper and Chris Khoo. Bad weather has plagued this course but all being well and with a little favour from above this weekend will see a finish.

This Saturday will see the commencement of the FAUI Diver Lifesaver Course. The Instructor will be Margaret Neville. We can still accommodate additional students so, quickly, ring me on 470 3770 (a new number). The cost will be 90.00 to club members (commercial courses cost around \$250.00).

Next course will be FAUI Recovery Diver (another Master Diver core unit).

That's it for now folks. Cheers.

Safety Report

Glen Collingwood

No diving, no incidents!

How about that. A 100% safety record for this month. I guess that Winter makes it just too easy.

Next month, however, I'm going to talk about pre-season equipment checks and relate an anecdote about a certain club member who takes inordinate pride in being extremely conscientious about having his equipment serviced.

Till then stay safe, stay happy.

GOSSIP COLUMN

- Roger and Patti Nottage, happy new home-owners, had been curious about the flame glowing in the vicinity of their home. It was discovered to be a "flatulence flame" from a nearby sewerage treatment plant.

- Has Pat "Designer Label" Troy taken recycling too far? A secondhand, well-used handbag is now proudly housing his tool kit.

- Geoff Charleton is reported to have complained that he is almost decapitated every time he sets foot on U.E.. Is that a saw in your hand Geoff?

- Alison is not just painting the town red - her hair looks like it has seen the wet end of a paintbrush.

- Was that Big Bird spotted up at the Avon Cescent or just Martin showing off his ankle-length raincoat.

- Tibi was dumb enough to take a holiday and leave me in charge of the magazine and this is what you get. C.H.B.L. - Can't Help Bad Luck.



CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Have you changed address recently? Changed phone number? To ensure that you continue to receive your magazine and so that the rest of us can give you a "bell" sometimes, make sure you advise Peter Horton so that he can update his records.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT BY M. CASLEY

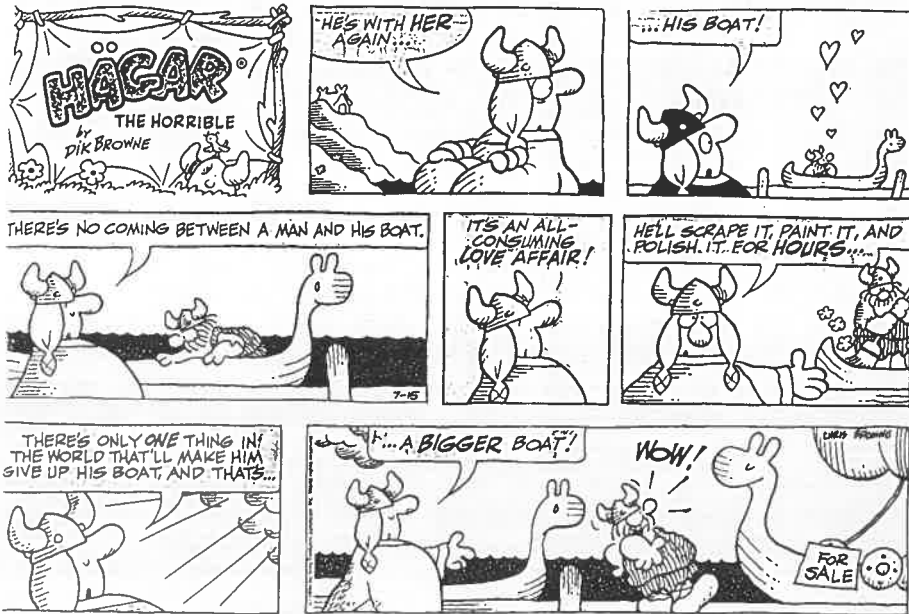
The 1991 Caltex Avon Descent is over for another year. From the Club's point of view our participation in the race was highlighted by two significant events - both widely publicised. I don't want to dwell unduly on either incident but I do want to convey to you all the feelings that all of us present during the weekend felt.

As you no doubt know, two U.E.C. trained rescuers were attached to the Westrail Rescue Unit at Extracts Wier. Tim Moore and Martin Smith, along with others were instrumental in saving the life of a young canoeist. The atmosphere changed dramatically from dread and despair to euphoria as the young man regained consciousness. We were all in the midst of real-life heroes. The mood soon changed back again as the news filtered through that a young man had died, whilst trapped in his canoe at Katrine Bridge.

Again, two U.E.C. trained people were on hand with the rest of the rescue team. Despite valiant and courageous efforts by both Ian Cowan and Neesha Copley, the young man could not be recovered from the river in time for the subsequent resuscitation attempts to be successful.

I am enormously proud of these people and all the other members present on the weekend. They all did a magnificent job under very difficult and dangerous conditions and all of them are heroes in my eyes. They were all volunteers, who willingly give up their time to try and make the race a safer event. There is no doubt in my mind that without our presence and that of many other volunteer groups at the race, many more people would suffer serious injuries. I congratulate everyone for their wonderful efforts throughout the weekend and hope that all of you will too. My thoughts are also with Ian and Neesha who now have some very difficult emotions to deal with.

The events of this years race highlights the need for participation by groups such as ours and critics can say all they like but one thing is for certain. The value of having well-trained people on standby is a heck of a lot better than the alternative - Untrained spectators, or no-one at all!



Remind you of anyone?

STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS.....STOP PRESS

The Club now has a new Officer in charge of Social and PR. Due to other commitments Martin is unable to continue with his Committee position and Social and PR portfolio. Thanks Martin for all your efforts during the year. Welcome also to Alison Keen who has kindly taken over the reins. The same rules still apply - Alison needs your input but most importantly your attendance at social functions and a helping hand occasionally.

AVON DESCENT TRAINING

By Geoff Charlton

What makes a perfectly "sane" person (I use the term loosely because what sane person would roll backwards off the side of a boat into 20 degree water) leap into the Avon river without SCUBA? You guessed it, Avon Descent Rescue Training, - what else?

That leap is very quickly reduced to inching into the water, which makes the Indian Ocean seem positively warm. This is under the watchful eye of Tibi (the whip-cracker) Csomay. Tibi, incidentally, seems to be the only truly sane one, he's the only one who stays dry.

The first two sessions were held at Bell's Rapids at Bondy's Brigadoon, and involved swimming to tea-trees a 3rd of the way over the river and either being rescued by a "donut" bearing diver, or carrying the donut out yourself and rescuing someone else. Then you relax and let the cold water rush inside your wetsuit as you get pulled back to shore.

At the first of these mornings (whoever heard of being anywhere but home at 9am on a Saturday) the wimps were weeded out (he shall remain nameless), leaving the rest of us to battle rapids both on foot and swimming. On this particular morning, Dennis showed his ingenuity by donning a pair of cut down fins (to much ragging by the rest of us) which proved brilliant for fighting the current. My old fins have since gone under the bandsaw.

Week two was a variation on the same, however, the next week we were treated to a change of scenery, Emu Falls. This was more work in climbing against rapids, swimming with them (making use of the current), and floating down them, taking great care not to end up in "The Washing Machine". It also gave us lessons in getting lost in the foam (by Brian Walker), and hitting a rescue diver with the rescue ring (on the head I might add) from 15 metres (by Tibi).

Week four, and back to Bell's for final drills (anybody interested in a two piece kayak - going cheap). All sessions were followed by story telling (some tall ones at that) around a barbecue.

Four weeks of, I must say enjoyable, work in the river leading up to Australia's Premiere White Water Event (or so they tell us).

In next month's mag, THE BIG EVENT.



DIVE TRIP TO ABROLHOS ISLANDS NORTH

Available to Club members only as limited vacancies apply on this popular dive tour.

- Dates - October 11 / 12 / 13 and 14
- Vessel - MV Top Gun
- Cost Each - \$450 ex Geraldton (as at this time)
- You Need - 1 tank, personal dive gear and sleeping bags, beer etc.
- Provided - All food, tea, coffee, air, fishing gear, bait and you keep your catch.

Departs Friday 11 October 0600 Geraldton Wharf.
Returns Monday 14 October 1900 Geraldton Wharf (approx).

Diving will be as per club policy procedure with maximum depths 20m but usually 12 - 15m coral areas, supervised by Club Dive Officers.

Maximum 14 vacancies

First in basis on this trip as the next is not available until 8/9/10/11 November.

Brian Murray - Phone: 459 8374

BOAT REPORT By D. STUBBERFIELD

Considerable progress has been made on the Boat despite some sustained periods of very foul weather, during which very little work could be done. In addition, the Avon Descent and its training programme, now thankfully behind us for a year, cost us some minor delays. However, I am able to report that most of the under water work is complete, except for a small amount of anti fouling and minor mechanical work inside the hull. The marlin board and all metal work, including both anchors have been regalvanised and reinstalled and the modified 12 volt electrics completed. Painting of the hull exterior, including rubbing strips to the gunwales is complete, as is most of the fibre glass patching on the decks and cabin. Only minor amounts of this work remain. Engine mechanics including the exhaust and tappet cover should be complete by the week end putting us in a good position to complete the slipping programme within the next two weekends.

The "shipwrighting" section of our annual maintenance plan, (you know, the part we must get right or we sink!) is all but complete and, thanks to our dear friends and life members Dave and Peter, one or two quite serious problems successfully overcome. Work on the comfort factors, such as canopy and wind breaks, has started and hopefully these efforts will be complete while the boat is up on the hard standing at Royal Perth, but if not, will have to be completed later on the water.

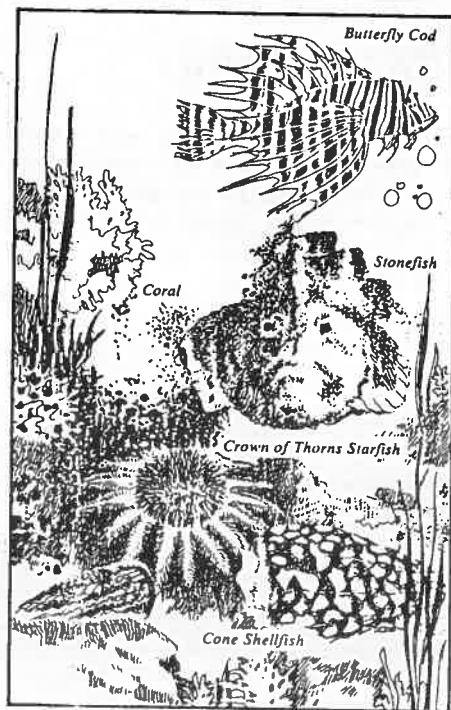
A great effort, by relatively few members, has been put in to date and we need to have a wider Club involvement from this point, especially since the Avon Descent is out of the way and the weather is or should be, improving. Please contact me at home or work for details of how and when you can help, if you are a little unsure of what you can do or when you can do it. I can be contacted on the following phone numbers:- 457 3333 (home), 274 9606 (work). We need every hour we can get both at week ends or during the week.

CHEERS FOLKS!

STUBBY!



Poisonous marine killers, including stone fish, jellyfish and blue-ringed octopus could help to save lives. They are being studied in Australia, where doctors at the University of Queensland are working on the idea that secretions from the otherwise deadly creatures could provide the blueprints for heart and asthma drugs.



UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	MAREE CASLEY	457 3333
SECRETARY	PAT TROY	328 8163
TREASURER	PETER HORTON	445 2336
O/C DIVING	BRIAN MURRAY	459 8374
O/C TRAINING	GLENN COLLINGWOOD	470 3770
O/C MAGAZINE	TIBI CSOMAY	341 3001
O/C SAFETY & TECHNICAL	GLENN COLLINGWOOD	470 3770
O/C SOCIAL & PUBLIC RELATIONS	ALISON KEEN	444 6548
O/C BUILDING	RICHARD NAYLOR	272 5614
O/C BOAT	DENNIS STUBBERFIELD	457 3333

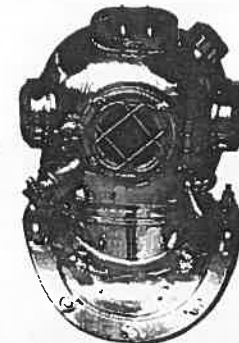
FISHY AFFAIR

What do you do when you descend into the deep blue briney for a dive? Take your video or stills camera down with to capture all the action on film? For most of us this activity is well beyond the reach of our budget. What about hunting for fish or crays? This is certainly a lot cheaper but can end up being boring because you are so busy chasing food for the family that you miss most of the really interesting things going on about you.

Well, I've got the answer for you AND it's cheap. How about investing in an aquarium and filling it with your own specimens. Aquariums are quite inexpensive to buy - just look in the Sunday Times. The range available is extensive and most of them are sold with accessories so you can purchase one to suit your budget.

The good thing about keeping an aquarium is that is is so simple to stock it with some very pretty and fascinating specimens. I might add that all the specimens that I currently have don't move very fast making collection VERY easy. One thing though, make sure you do some research before you plunge in head first otherwise you will be creating a lot of work for yourself and you will probably kill your animals. Go to the library or buy a good book and happy hunting.

A battered antique diving helmet found in an Australian wreck in 1867 puts Australian pearl diving back quite a few years. Helmets were thought to have only been used from the 1880's.



Dear Desperate Diver,

I was one of the intrepid Saturday divers on board that day and did happen to notice a very worried looking "wobblythingo" flash past me desperately trying to find a place to hide. It appears there was more than one desperate diver down that day, you looking for him, he looking for a place of safety.

All aboard the UEC did have great sympathy that day, it was just that we weren't sure who we were to feel the most sympathy for. He obviously thought he was onto a good thing until the crunch came, quite literally, and total confusion set in. He probably thought he would try swinging with a different set, but realised too late that he really was straight.

My suggestion to you would be to keep returning to the same destination each week (I'm sure the crew will drop you off there every Saturday) and be patient, as good things come to those who wait (and wait, and wait) and without a doubt HE will return, as they all return to the scene of the crime.

But remember his motto: "If in doubt, spit it out!"

So don't be too dismayed, you were just not his type of fish that day.

Signed: Not So Desperate



MARCH 1992 ROTTNESST LONG WEEKEND

There are only a few places left for next years Rotto weekend. If you want get in on the action give come along to the next general meeting - \$50 in hand - and I will reserve a berth for you. For the rest of you who have booked can you also bring along your \$50 deposit to secure your spot.

DID YOU KNOW?

- a new species of mussel is now found in W.A. waters after being introduced in the water ballast of some international ships?
- whales and dolphins are born backwards (tail first). Otherwise they would drown in the time it takes to get born?
- that Japanese fisherman have no compunction about discarding the whole body of a shark - minus the fins which is found to be gastronomically irresistible in Japan? Tough luck for the shark.
- the Safcol Company has invented and introduced plastic-free bindings on the bait boxes they use on their fishing fleet? Plastic waste contributes towards the death of many dolphins, seals and other large fish that get caught up in it.
- Japanese drift netting has now extended to the Indian Ocean. Do we need our fish life depleted by using this horrific practice?
- that oil spills have the potential to cause enormous damage to fish life, bird life and coastlines? I bet you did. Did the skipper of the Kirki?

NOMINATIONS

Russell Neil MORTIMER Thornlie
Paul Andrew TOMPSETT Huntingdale
Ross Malcolm COOPER Bullcreek



TANK FILLS

There are a number of people who still owe money for tank fills. Please settle your accounts soon.

DATES TO NOTE

AUGUST

MONDAY	19	GENERAL MEETING AVON DESCENT FILM	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	25	HOPEFULLY U.E. READY FOR DIVING	0800 HRS
FRIDAY	30	ITALIAN NIGHT NORTHBRIDGE	1900 HRS

SEPTEMBER

MONDAY	2	COMMITTEE MEETING	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	8	COME FOR A DIVE	0800 HRS
WEDNESDAY	10	MAGAZINE WRAP NIGHT. LEND A HAND.	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	15	EVEN MORE DIVING	0800 HRS
MONDAY	16	GENERAL MEETING CATCH UP WITH BUDDIES	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	22	MYSTERY BBQ? MUNDARING WEIR HOTEL	1200 HRS
SUNDAY	29	BETTER WEATHER BETTER DIVING	0800 HRS

OCTOBER

SUNDAY	6	DIVING	0800 HRS
MONDAY	7	COMMITTEE MEETING	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	13	GET YOUR GEAR READY COME DIVING	0800 HRS
WEDNESDAY	16	GET THE NEWS FIRST WRAP NIGHT	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	20	DIVING, DIVING, DIVING,	0800 HRS
MONDAY	21	GENERAL MEETING WHO'S THE GUEST SPEAKER	2000 HRS
FRIDAY	25	WA UNDERWATER CABARET - A BIG EVENT	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	27	FANCY A DIVE?	0800 HRS

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	3	WEATHER EVEN BETTER - COME DIVING	0800 HRS
MONDAY	4	COMMITTEE MEETING	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	10	DIVING	0800 HRS
WEDNESDAY	13	HAVE YOU EVER HELPED AT THE WRAP NIGHT?	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	17	GREAT WEATHER COME DIVING	0800 HRS
MONDAY	18	GENERAL MEETING MEET NEW MEMBERS	2000 HRS
SATURDAY	23	PRESENTATION NIGHT SEE YOU THERE	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	24	IT'S NEARLY SUMMER HOW ABOUT A DIVE?	0800 HRS

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Alison Keen - Social Director/PR. Phone 444 6548

Best contact times - 7 - 7:45 am or 5:30 - 6:30 pm (also avail. for social occasions)

Back in my old job again! Thanks Martin for your effort in the last six month. I've tried for the last three weeks to get visiting speakers for our meetings. It is not as easy as it sounds particularly on a Monday night. So far none of my contacts can make it this year. If you can find someone to talk about a diving topic or show a slide presentation please contact me.

AUGUST: FRIDAY 30th

Italian Night at Northbridge. "Come and hava da Pasta". Meet at the Brass Monkey at 7:00 pm sharp to wander on to possibly Mamma Madiera's or The Sorrento. Coffee and look at the night people afterwards. Numbers to "Maria" Casley at the meeting or phone Alison 444 6548.



SEPTEMBER: SUNDAY 22nd

Mystery B.B.Q. - Well it was a mystery when we started to type this. Mundairing Weir Hotel 12:00. BYO meat - B.B.Qs supplied. - Lamb on spit 3:00 pm. - Drinks from the bar. - Bush Band at 2:00 pm. Coffee shop also there. Phone Alison. "Rumour has it that the vis underwater is not good today!"



OCTOBER: FRIDAY 25th

Fremantle Sailing Club "W.A. Underwater Caberet" at Freo. \$25
Details and tickets from Alison.



NOVEMBER: SATURDAY 23rd

Presentation Night. A "fun" evening with old and new members \$10.
B.B.Q. meal and drinks at the bar. Payment by Monday 18th General Meeting.



DECEMBER: SUNDAY 15th

Christmas Fun day for divers friends and family.

TUESDAY 31st

It's New Years Party Time again. Who's the lucky householder? I'm away then!



U.E.C. NEWS



SEPTEMBER 1991

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THE OVERNIGHTERS

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J.E.C. NEWS
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BOAT REPORT

By D. STUBBERFIELD

Well the boat is back on the moorings, looking like a million dollars. However, She is far from complete due in part, to the necessity to free the hard standing at Royal Perth, but also the lack of overall committment from the majority of members. This must change in future because those members who did put in the effort will not continue to be "used" in this way.

Moving right along, the rest of this report will be devoted to the subject of a boat replacement for the Club and the committee has now made this our top priority, along with the provision of weather proofing this or whatever replacement acquired. This has largely come about because I have actually found a suitable boat for the Cub, at what might be an attainable price, but also because it is now crystal clear to all Committee members and quite a few others that now is the time to move on this all important matter.

The committee held a special meeting to discuss the purchase of a "new" boat and decided to proceed along the path to the point where a definite proposal could be brought to the full membership next meeting. This has included a full inspection of the the boat concerned, an in depth financial assessment, an appraisal of our boat's value as a "trade in" and preliminary disscussions with the owners of the "new" boat. The result of all this has been that we cannot recommend the purchase at the current acceptable change over price, but this may change if the boat does not sell. However, dont hold your breath, because it will sell!

All this has highlighted a major problem with the way we are trying to do business and the lack of ability of the Committee to move quickly and to "wheel and deal", inherent in all Club situations. By the time we get your approval there's nothing left but the dregs. So I will be proposing some ways to get around this at the next meeting. However, the major problem hampering us, is the age old one of having our current asset, to dispose of as a part of any deal and it hangs like a millstone around our necks. For reasons of "commercial confidentiality" I will not go into details here about the appraisal and costs involved, you will have to attend the meeting to hear about things like that. I will be seriously suggesting we sell our boat now; and quickly, and organising generous finance in advance to give us the freedom to negotiate. Therefore I ask that you give this serious thought for this forthcoming meeting.

CHEERS FOLKS!

STUBBY!

This is a story of a club member who shall remain, as long as possible, anonymous.

Now it happens that this person; this gentleman; takes a great deal of pride, and a great deal of comfort in the FACTS that his dive gear, while not being the 'best' (that is it's not the most expensive dive equipment to be had should cost not be a selection criteria), is 'up to date' and is well and regularly maintained. His equipment is not abused, it is not loaned indiscriminately, it is washed thoroughly after each dive and it is serviced regularly.

You can well imagine his horror when, at his regulator's last service, he was told that the inside of his Conshelf 21 looked something like the bottom of the UE after a long and hard season. Now this situation was patently impossible. The 'reg' was last serviced in... ah! well, I think it was serviced about six months ago. I remember having it done; I think. I had thought that this piece of equipment had been serviced last by the gentleman who had discovered its' deplorable condition. But no; Tom was adamant that he would never install a filter back-to-front. Now that means that it must last have been done by that northern suburbs, inland shop that shall remain nameless. And I haven't spoken to them for over 18 months. OOPS!! I was sure that it was only 6 months since the last service.

Further inspection of the 'reg' revealed that the diaphragm and some of the 'o' rings had NEVER been replaced in spite of the fact that these items are consumable and 'should' be replaced every service (or at least every second service). This is a three year old regulator. It has been serviced on a number of occasions. IT HAD NEVER BEEN SERVICED CORRECTLY. So much for blind trust and faith in the integrity of the Dive Shop technician.

These days I keep a register of when, where, and by whom my gear is serviced. I do not simply trust that the job has been done correctly. I give my custom to the technician who can demonstrate that parts have been replaced; who provides a written report of the equipment's performance both before and after service, and who will 'stand behind his work'.

The moral to the story is - Don't rely on your memory
 - Keep a Register of all your equipment and when it is serviced
 - Don't trust your gear to just anybody - be discerning - your life depends on it

Dive safely and I'll see you next month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By MAREE CASLEY

After many weeks of hard, dedicated work by some of you, U.E. is now back in the water rearing to go. Many thanks to those who put in so much effort on the boat. Sadly, once again the bulk of the work was done by only a small group of members, leaving the rest of you to bask in their reflected glory and enjoy the fruits of their labour. One way to overcome many of the inequities that currently exist in the Club is to purchase a less maintenance intensive boat. This Folks, will be the subject of our next general meeting. Owning a newer boat with considerably less maintenance requirements certainly presents many advantages. There are some disadvantages as well so it is in the interests of all members to come along and present your views and listen to those of others. If you are not there, or don't take the trouble to make your feelings known, you have no right to complain about the direction the Club may take in response to this question.

I've got some more good news for you as well! As from the 1st of November, membership fees will rise. The new fees will be:- Ordinary Membership \$55, Family Membership \$90, Junior Membership \$30 and Social and Country Membership \$20. If you pay your fees before November you can renew at last year's rates. Get in soon and save yourself some money.

Lastly, there are still a couple of vacancies for Rottnest next March. Let me know if you want to be in on the action. There are still people that need to confirm their bookings by paying their \$50 deposit.

Catch and Cook

Glen Collingwood

The following recipe, for a light dish called 'Noosa Prawns' is one that I found quite by accident while browsing through one of those interminable, archaic magazines that proliferate in the waiting rooms of Doctor's Surgeries and Hairdressers. Among all the dross there is the occasional gem. This is one.

This dish is simple and easy to make if a little time consuming. The result is, however, more than worth the effort.

- 1 kg green king prawns
- 3/4 cup flour
- 2 level tablespoons cornflour
- 1 tablespoon vinegar
- shredded coconut
- extra flour, for dusting
- oil, for deep frying
- 1 clove garlic
- a few slices fresh ginger
- lime or lemon wedges

Note: Substitute banana prawn king prawn, Queensland tiger prawns or red spot as required.

Peel prawns, leaving the tails attached. Slit down back and remove vein from each prawn, rinse quickly under cold running water then flatten very slightly with heel of hand. Refrigerate until ready to cook. Make a batter with sifted flour, cornflower, a good pinch of salt, vinegar and 3/4 cup water. Spread a bed of coconut on a flat plate, dust prawns lightly with flour then coat with batter. Allow excess to run off then press prawns into coconut, coating well. Place sufficient oil to deep fry in a wok or deep fry pan, add a clove of garlic and the fresh ginger. Heat gently and when a piece of coconut, dropped in, sizzles gently, add prawns, one at a time. (Don't have oil too hot or the coconut will burn before the prawns are cooked.) Fry for a few minutes until prawns are cooked and coconut is a beautiful golden brown.

Serve this dish hot, garnished with lime and lemon wedges, and with the Chilli Plum sauce.

The Chilli Plum sauce is a simple concoction made from equal parts (say 1/4 cup) of Maggi Chilli Sauce and plum jam and about a tea spoon of soy sauce. Blend all together in a small saucepan and stir constantly while heating. When the sauce is smooth and bubbling hot serve with the prawns.

More next month.

Training Report

Glen Collingwood

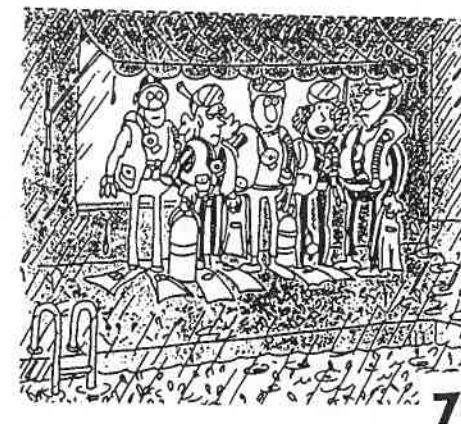
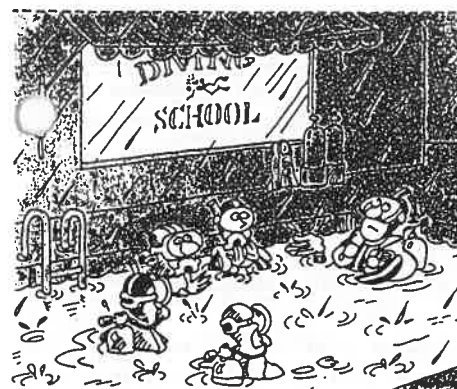
The successful completion of a Diver Lifesaver Course is a time for praise and congratulations for everyone concerned. So! Congratulations people. The candidates, Ainsley Choate, Ron Phonemyint, Geoff Charlton, and Larry Park; the Instructor, Margaret Neville; and I'm going to give myself a pat on the back for getting this one off the ground. A 1000 phone calls and litres of tears later it's all worth while. Well done my friends.

The next Scuba Diver Course (Judy again) starts with an Intro night on Tuesday, October 1. Please get anyone who is interested to book onto this programme by ringing me on 470 3770 by Thursday, 26. We need to order Course material by then, what with the long weekend and all.

Paul Tompsett and Chris Khoo are still (through injury and work commitments) outstanding, but we try and try again. One more good weather weekend should do it.

I'm looking for interest in the Recovery Diver Course advertised last month. This is a fun type course and, as mentioned, is a Master Diver module.

That's it for now folks. Cheers.



DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

The Good News! U.E. is back in the water.

The Bad News! Only one day diving has been had by the regulars since, however, we now commence our build up to the season and look forward to your support now and over summer.

Still some vacancies for Abrolhos 10 - 14 October. Please contact me as soon as possible.

Also some members have asked for a dive in the "Underwater World" tank and I have initiated this for around the 6th October.

Again, contact me for diving - 459 8374

OCTOBER

SUNDAY	6	DIVING	0800 HRS
MONDAY	7	COMMITTEE MEETING	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	13	GET YOUR GEAR READY COME DIVING	0800 HRS
WEDNESDAY	16	GET THE NEWS FIRST WRAP NIGHT	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	20	DIVING, DIVING, DIVING,	0800 HRS
MONDAY	21	GENERAL MEETING WHO'S THE GUEST SPEAKER	2000 HRS
FRIDAY	25	WA UNDERWATER CABARET - A BIG EVENT	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	27	FANCY A DIVE?	0800 HRS

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	3	WEATHER EVEN BETTER - COME DIVING	0800 HRS
MONDAY	4	COMMITTEE MEETING	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	10	DIVING	0800 HRS
WEDNESDAY	13	HAVE YOU EVER HELPED AT THE WRAP NIGHT?	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	17	GREAT WEATHER COME DIVING	0800 HRS
MONDAY	18	GENERAL MEETING MEET NEW MEMBERS	2000 HRS
SATURDAY	23	PRESENTATION NIGHT SEE YOU THERE	2000 HRS
SUNDAY	24	IT'S NEARLY SUMMER HOW ABOUT A DIVE?	0800 HRS

Fantasy in Micronesia

HAVE you been to Guam lately? If not, have you thought about the kind of holiday you could enjoy there?

With the cheap air fares now available between Perth and the eastern States, suddenly the Pacific vacation is far more affordable than it has been for many years.

In round terms, add special discounted internal air fares to your overseas holiday budget, and the Pacific islands begin to sound a more attractive destination.

Balmy tropical weather, snorkelling and adventuring in blue-water reefs, tripping from island to island... American-administered Micronesia may be just what you need to put an end to the winter blues in readiness for the summer months ahead.

There is plenty of variety to choose from in this scatter of 2,000 tiny islands in the North-West Pacific, dotted over eight million square miles of ocean.

The main island groups - the Mariana, Caroline and Marshall islands - perpetuate the fragrance and romance of the tropics through such quaintly named places as Palau, Saipan, Pohnpei, Truk and Yap.

Guam is the main entry port from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane (seven-and-a-half hours' flight from Sydney). From there you can island-hop by Continental Micronesia (or "Air Mike" as it's known locally) to beauty spots half-way to Hawaii.

Guam is the commercial hub of the island group where duty-free shopping for goods from Europe, the Orient and the United States is popular. It has three international resort hotels and three public 18-hole golf courses; but the surrounding shoreline is renowned for its scuba-diving opportunities. Miles of coastal lagoons and reefs teem with tropical fish.

Charter fishing is also superb in Guam, with daily departures from two spots at the southern end of the island. The big ones come in through deep channels in the sea floor.

A 35-minute flight away is Saipan - today a far cry from when one of the small, neighbouring islands was the launch-pad of the atom bomb raid on Hiroshima. Today Saipan is a resort island with luxury hotels built on arguably the best beach area in Micronesia. It has many cocktail lounges that provide live entertainment, including native dancers; nightclubs and bars, discos, plenty of shopping and two golf courses.

Both Guam and Saipan are more highly developed tourist resorts than Pohnpei, Truk or Palau. Pohnpei is the capital of the Federated States of Micronesia and is almost exactly midway between Manila and Hawaii. It consists of a single, large volcanic island of about 100 square miles and 25 smaller islands within a barrier reef.

Known as the "garden island of Micronesia," Pohnpei has tropical forests, mountain streams and cascading waterfalls - and a long and interesting history with many mysteries still buried in the ruins of the ancient city of Nan Madol, one of the prime targets for visitors.

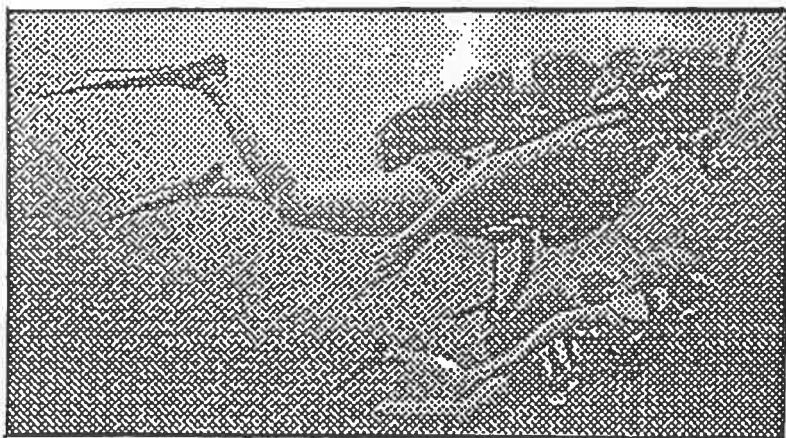
And so on to the fantasy island of Truk and its giant lagoon of startling blue waters. The lagoon, one of the world's largest (enclosing an area of 822 square miles) is a diver's museum. The wrecks of more than 60 ships of the Japanese wartime fleet lie at various depths, still with their cargo of 45 years ago and many visible while snorkelling. Because the lagoon has been declared a monument, salvaging souvenirs has been prohibited.



THE ANNUAL
WA UNDERWATER DIVERS
CABARET



PRESENTED BY
FREMANTLE SAILING CLUB
DIVE SECTION



VENUE: FREMANTLE SAILING CLUB
MARINE PARADE
SOUTH FREMANTLE

DATE: FRIDAY 25TH. OCTOBER 1991. 7.30 P.M.

COST: \$25 PER HEAD DELUXE SMORGASBORD
BAR FACILITIES MUSIC FOR ALL AGES

PHONE: ALISON KEEN 444 6548
Tell me and pay me on Monday, Sept 16th
General Meeting.

OR Phone and get a payment to me
at home before Thursday, October 17th.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Alison Keen - Social Director/PR. Phone 444 6548

Best contact times - 7 - 7:45 am or 5:30 - 6:30 pm (also avail. for social occasions I)

Thanks to those people who contacted me about visiting speakers, any new ideas would be gratefully appreciated particularly people who can make it Monday nights.



SEPTEMBER:

SUNDAY 22nd

Mystery B.B.Q. - Well it was a mystery when we started to type this. Mundaing Weir Hotel 12:00
BYO meat - B.B.Qs supplied. - Lamb on spit 3:00 pm. - Drinks from the bar. - Bush Band at 2:00 pm.
Coffee shop also there. Phone Alison. "Rumour has it that the vis underwater is not good today!"



OCTOBER:

FRIDAY 25th

Fremantle Sailing Club "W.A. Underwater Cabaret" at Freo. \$25. Pay me on Monday 16th
general meeting or phone and get a payment to me by Thursday 17th October.



NOVEMBER:

SATURDAY 16th

Karaoke night at the Leopold Hotel Canning H'way Bicton. Meal from
6:00 pm - smorgasbord. Show from 8:00 pm. Cost \$15. Phone me to join in the fun by Thursday.



SATURDAY 23rd

Presentation Night. A "fun" evening with old and new members \$10. B.B.Q meal
and drinks at the bar. Payment by Monday 18th General Meeting.

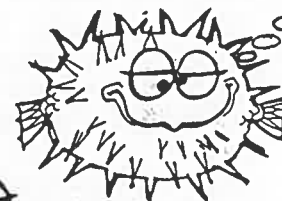
DECEMBER:

SUNDAY 15th Christmas Fun day for divers friends and family.

TUESDAY 31st It's New Years Party Time again, Who's the lucky householder? I'm away then!



See you Sunday
22nd



September
sounds fun!

Why not join
the next
event.

Alison
5



UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB ANNUAL REUNION EVENING FOR OLD AND NEW MEMBERS

The Underwater Explorers Club's Reunion Evening will be held at the Clubrooms on Saturday 23 November 1991. As in the past, the evening will be a social event with a barbecue supper, music, etc, starting at 8.00pm

Trophies will be awarded to members for their various achievements and contributions to the running of the Club.

The following trophies will be awarded, based on your votes. Please complete your nominations on this form and return it to the Secretary at the next General Meeting or post it as soon as possible to P O Box 1157, Booragoon WA 6154.

Trophies to be Presented are:

Research	<input type="radio"/>	<u>Donors</u>
Most Safety Conscious Diver	<input type="radio"/>	Club Trophy
Conservation	<input type="radio"/>	Lyn Jones
Club Person of the Year	<input type="radio"/>	Dennis and Barbara Parker
Most Improved Diver	<input type="radio"/>	Bob Wallace
Personal Diving Prowess	<input type="radio"/>	Ken Kennedy
Boat Person of the Year	<input type="radio"/>	Club Trophy
	<input type="radio"/>	Dave Kenny

Please nominate a person for any or all of the trophies listed below and state reasons for your nomination:

- Research
- Most Safety Conscious Diver
- Conservation
- Club Person of the Year
- Most Improved Diver
- Personal Diving Prowess
- Boat Person of the Year

Please Note:

If you cannot think of a person worthy of any of the awards, please leave that section blank, as the trophies are only presented if warranted.



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OCTOBER
1991

U.E.C. NEWS



Dive
this summer!

OCTOBER
1991

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NEWS



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Well, what a month this has been. This has been four weeks, or so, of incident after incident. To put your minds at rest; there has not really been any situation that has been life threatening, however, lessons have, I hope, been learned with little damage more than embarrassment.

Let's start with the last trip to Rottneest. Now I know that everybody, and I mean everybody, who is regularly on the boat knows that one of our esteemed, married, buddy pairs, who shall remain nameless, are unsure about who is leading who (on dives that is). But really, it is good practice to decide, before the dive, on the dive plan. Not only was there disagreement before the dive, there was ongoing disagreement during the dive, and, would you believe, after the dive. The trick is that only ONE person can lead a dive. Agree on this, if nothing else, before the dive. If you both like to lead then take turns.

The same day. A buddy pair with, would you believe, one of our friends from above but this time with a different buddy, found themselves on the wrong side of the breaker line in Parrakeet Bay. Now a quick check of a compass, had one been present, would have revealed a general northerly rather than the intended easterly journey. The result was a struggle across (or through the reef - it was never made clear which) and a pair of tired divers, unable to make it back to the boat, resting on an inner reef. The Underwater Navigation Course referred to elsewhere is indicated.

Also the same day, but this time not our people. PDA's boat 'Lionfish II' dropped anchor about 75 metres from us on Swirl Reef. As we were putting our divers in the water we observed a pair of divers from the other boat pass under UE and keep going. Forty minutes or so later we, on UE, discovered this pair about 300 behind UE (almost 400 metres from their own boat) swimming home. Later discussions revealed that they had surfaced about a kilometre from their own boat and were 'well on the way' before being sighted and picked up by tender. I hasten to add that this pair (one of whom is a leading SCUBA educator) were, due to their fitness and stamina, in no real danger. However, for anyone less fit the situation was potentially lethal. It seems to me that this was a situation that could have been easily avoided. A number of basic 'rules' were, for some reason, broken. The entire dive (except the swim home) was with the current from the outset; not out against and home with. The rule of thirds was ignored, nor was a modification (the rule of halves) applied. The divers were entirely preoccupied with the scenery rather than being aware of their location. Fortunately this event only led to red faces rather than an emergency and I believe that lessons were learned.

And there's more. But maybe later. Meanwhile dive safely.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By MAREE CASLEY

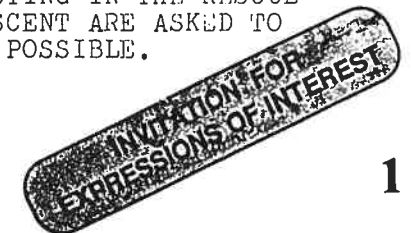
Last month's General Meeting made a momentous decision regarding the Club's future operations. The members present gave overwhelming support for the Committee to scout around for a "new" boat. Although it's not curtains for U.E. yet, you can be assured that the Committee is exploring all options to allow us to purchase a suitable boat as soon as possible. This decision has far-reaching ramifications for all Club members - in essence we have to find the money to pay for it. There are several alternatives available to us. Two additional sources of revenue are: (1) Increase our fees or (2) make optimum use of the boat for diving and social functions. Clearly option 2 is the most beneficial to all of us. As divers we reap the benefit of the cheapest and best diving in town whilst still enjoying the wonders that our sport provides us with. And the good news is that the commitment required from each of you is minimal.

I sat down recently armed with a calculator, some figures from Peter Horton and our membership list. I found that we have quite a few members who have NEVER been on the boat, a lot of members who use the boat VERY OCCASIONALLY and a few committed members who need an operation to get them off the boat. It is obvious to me that if those members whom we never or rarely see come out and dive with us, the dream of a newer, drier and faster boat would soon be a reality. If all of you committed yourselves to just 1 or 2 dives during the coming months we would soon be the proud owners of "U.E.2".

Also, please remember that all membership fees are now due. To avail yourselves of membership at last year's rate, please pay before the end of October.

Lastly, I would like to remind you that we are quickly approaching our Annual Presentation Evening. Please consider who you think is worthy of your vote in the various categories and send in the slip from last month's magazine. And while on the subject, cancel all else on your social calendar for Saturday 23rd November so that you and your family can attend the Presentation Night. An invitation is particularly extended to all our new members, members that we have trained throughout the year and all our Life Members to come along. This is an ideal opportunity for "old" and "new" to meet and compare notes. It's only \$10 per head for a fun evening's entertainment and all you can eat into the bargain. I hope to see you all there.

CLUB MEMBERS INTERESTED IN ASSISTING IN THE RESCUE TEAMS IN NEXT YEARS AVON DESCENT ARE ASKED TO ADVISE TIBI 341 3001 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



Progress on change-over of our boat has been extremely slow, in fact, apart from one or two tentative enquiries early on, all activity has ceased. Our Broker has advertised "U.E." twice and will probably give it a break for the moment. This, we are assured, is due mostly to a general down turn in the business and some pretty bleak weather rather than any thing wrong with the boat. However, it's early days yet, and we had no illusions that this process was going to be a push over. At this stage our Brokers, Beacon Marine, have suggested we return to "normal" operations, which means diving business as usual and whenever the Club requires the boat. Any enquiries from prospective buyers will be accommodated during the week or by special appointment. "Business as usual" also means maintenance and cleaning must be kept up, to keep her in top condition. (Any one who has sold a house will know exactly what that means - mostly a pain in the butt). I will thus be calling on all Skippers to organise cleaning details every trip to keep her clean and free of seagull poo, dust, dirty finger marks, sand, seaweed, dead fish etc, etc.

There's good news too, the Committee have agreed with me that, because this boat selling business may be a long process, we should proceed with weather proofing and making our boat more comfortable and dry; albeit in a form which can be converted to any new boat we may get. If any part of it must be temporary it will be of a least cost option. This is necessary, since our very existence as a viable loan proposition, depends on continued high levels of boat usage, which we simply will not achieve if she's wet and uncomfortable.

Meanwhile the Club's treasury and financial expertise is proceeding with all the steps necessary to procure a suitable bank loan, which will allow us to "wheel and deal" at a moments notice when the time comes. This brings me to the other side of the coin, the location of a suitable new boat. That too has come to a temporary dead stop due to the distinct lack of talent around the town. We will try and have a quick look at the Geraldton scene while on the Abrolhos trip as well, and have been provided with a couple of contacts to see up there.

Finally, the boat itself! She is going rather well at the moment and looking very smart. A number of minor items of machinery have been repaired or upgraded in the last couple of weeks, putting her in top shape and almost completing the annual slipping schedule. A working party will be formed to install the new canopy as soon as possible after my return from Geraldton, and we have undertaken to carry out the tricky design and procurement of "storm" covers which have to serve the triple requirement of being universally adaptable, highly effective and of course cheap. It has been suggested that instead of providing constructed seating on the boat, members use small fold up deck chairs which you might acquire for yourselves and, perhaps others, from various unspecified sources. This, in view of the inadvisability of doing too much work to the boat at this stage.

CHEERS FOLKS!

STUBBY!

Catch and Cook

Glen Collingwood

Prawning season is nearly upon us again as can be inferred by careful observation of those among us who gaze vacantly into the amber depths of the Swan rambling inanely of torches, of nets, of high tides and full moons. While we dream of giant Kingies we are, none the less, often obliged to settle for their little cousins. The following recipe for Creamed Prawn Soup, while not a first hand experience, comes highly recommended and does make settling for second best a first rate option.

This dish is not difficult BUT be careful of the MSG. It does help the flavour (so I'm told) but is not essential and some folk can react badly so if in doubt don't use it.

125g green river prawns
2 cups (500 ml) milk
2 cups (500 ml) cream
1/2 teaspoon MSG
1 medium onion, finely chopped
1 teaspoon soy sauce
juice of 1 lemon
1 cup desiccated coconut
2 slices of bread for croutons
pinch of salt
3 peppercorns, crushed
1 clove of garlic, crushed
1 tablespoon sugar

Combine coconut and milk in a pan and heat until tepid. Remove from heat and set aside for 35-40 minutes. Toast bread slices. Discard crusts, cut into small squares and keep warm. Peel and clean the prawns.

To the coconut milk, add cream, salt, MSG, prawns, peppercorns, onion, garlic, soy sauce and sugar and slowly bring to the boil stirring occasionally. Reduce the heat and simmer for 4-5 minutes. Add the lemon juice and stir.

Serve this soup hot with the croutons and garnished with parsley and enjoy.

More next month.



At the October General meeting Margaret Neville FAUI, NASDS, LSDA, will be present to present Certificates to our new Diver Lifesavers. We look forward to thanking Margaret in person for the effort and perseverance that has made this course a success. Paul Tompsett has completed his course and was, as you know was presented with his certification at the last meeting. Well done Paul.

Judy's current Scuba Diver Course (of one student - Lenka Thompson - Margaret Langston's niece) proceeds well. Two more weekends (weather permitting) and the Club will have another diver.

The next course will be conducted by Dennis Stubberfield (I think) and should get under way later this month. The way to book for this course is to ring me on my home telephone number - 4703770.

I have had no interest shown in the advertised Recovery Diver Course to date and I am about to give up on this. Another option will be Underwater Navigation. OK, let's all just stand there and say, "Who, me! I don't need a navigation course".

Instinct is great my friends, but it doesn't always get you back to the boat. Few of us have a reliable homing instinct and quite frankly in adverse conditions even the best of us need all the help that we can get. There are those among us who, after years of experience, still have those embarrassing experiences of coming up miles from the boat, or on the wrong side of the reef and breakers. Like most aspects of diving, Underwater Navigation skills have to be learned; they do not, in the main, come naturally. These skills can take forever to acquire 'in the course of time and experience' but can be learned quickly and effortlessly (well, almost effortlessly - I exaggerate as an encouragement) with the right instruction.

I'd like you to reflect a while on the mysteries of the Dive Compass. That bulky, annoying device that always snags on your BC and is often left on the boat or at home because, - well how does one read the thing anyway. The fact is that a dive Compass, like any land compass is a simple, uncomplicated tool that can be used with confidence and without confusion after appropriate instruction and a little application.

I believe that this course, which is a FAUI and NASDS Master Diver Module) is extremely worthwhile and I commend it to you all. I have recently completed my own Underwater Nav training and I can testify to the security for knowing where I am at any time during a dive. There is, I must confess, a certain smug satisfaction in being able to return directly to the boat at any time.

That's it for now folks. Cheers.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF WA, WILL BE HELD IN THE CLUBROOMS 22 SHIELDS CRESCENT BOORAGOON, COMMENCING AT 2000 HRS. MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER 1991.

OCTOBER 21 GENERAL MEETING, VIDEO. WITH FAMOUS UEC AND EX-UEC STARS IN SHARK BAY.

+++++

NOMINATIONS:

LINKA THOMPSON, FERNDALE.
ANDREW PAYNE, RIVERTON.
JIM ROBSON, PERTH.

MEMBERS WHO OWE MONEY FOR TANKFILLS ARE ASKED TO PAY. CANNOT REMEMBER? NEXT MONTH WE WILL PUBLISH NAMES.

+++++

IAN COWAN WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS HIS THANKS TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED HIM AFTER THIS YEARS AVON DESCENT.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Alison Keen - Social Director/PR. Phone 444 6548

Best contact times - 7 - 7:45 am or 5:30 - 8:30 pm (also avail. for social occasions !)

Thanks to those people who contacted me about visiting speakers, any new ideas would be greatly appreciated particularly people who can make it Monday nights

OCTOBER:

FRIDAY 25th

Fremantle Sailing Club "W.A. Underwater Cabaret" at Freeo \$25. I will distribute tickets on Oct 21 General Meeting for those who have ordered and paid for them. Late deciders could try phoning Fremantle Sailing Club. But I dont fancy your chances.



NOVEMBER:

SATURDAY 16th Karaoke night at the Leopold Hotel Canning H'wy Bicton. Meal from 8.00 pm -smorgasbord. Show from 8.00 pm. Cost \$15. Phone me to join in the fun by Thursday.

SATURDAY 23rd Presentation Night. A "fun" evening with old and new members \$10. Delicious B.B.Q meal and drinks at the bar. Payment by Monday 16th General Meeting. Do support this important night and catch up with friends you haven't seen for awhile.



DECEMBER:

SUNDAY 15th Christmas Fun day for divers friends and family.

TUESDAY 31st It's New Years Party Time again, Who's the lucky householder? I'm away then!



KARAOKE NIGHT
Sat 16th November
Leopold Hotel
326 Canning Hwy
Bicton.

Meal from 6pm onwards
Smorgasbord

Show 8pm
Cost \$15

Contact: Alison by Thursday
to make up a table.

What's a Karaoke Night?

Alison knows!
Ask her.

I'm saving myself to meet olde new members!
\$10 for nibbles and dips, BBQ and fresh salads plus dessert and coffee!

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

As the weather improves, the intrepid diving regulars venture out of hibernation to once again enjoy UEC company on our many and varied dive sites. All we, as a club, now require from diving members is to have the boat operational to diver capacity. This can only be achieved via more members participating on our regular schedule dives ie:

WE NEED YOU!

Next Dives	Site	Crew
27 October	Garden Island	Martin / Judy
3 November	Rottnest South	Bob / Brian
10 November	Rottnest North	Peter / Peter
17 November	Roe Reef	Barry / Maree

To book on please ring - 457 3333

DATES FOR YOU TO REMEMBER:

GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 21
COMMITTEE MEETING NOVEMBER 4
MAGAZINE NIGHT NOVEMBER 13
A.G.M. NOVEMBER 18
PRESENTATION NIGHT NOVEMBER 23.

GET AWAY FOR A DAY



AFTER THREE MONTHS TRAINING IAN COWAN SPENT THREE WEEKS IN TAIWAN AND HONG KONG WHERE HE WAS IN A TEAM WHICH REPRESENTED AUSTRALIA IN DRAGON BOAT RACING. THEY WON THE INTERNATIONAL CUP AT THE MAIN EVENT AGAINST 129 TEAMS.

TANK FILLERS ROSTER.

BRIAN WALKER	OCT 13-19	PHONE 451 2153
RON PHONEMYNT	OCT 20-26	PHONE 417 4140
PRTER HORTON	OCT 27-NOV 2	PHONE 445 2336
RICHARD NAYLOR	NOV 3- 9	PHONE 272 5614
TANKS FILLED TUESDAYS 6.45- 8PM.		
PICK UP FRIDAYS 7-8 PM.		

REMINDER TO MEMBERS :

WE NEED YOU



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W.A. 6000

SURFACE
MAIL

U.E.C. NEWS
(Underwater Explorers Club of W.A. Inc.)
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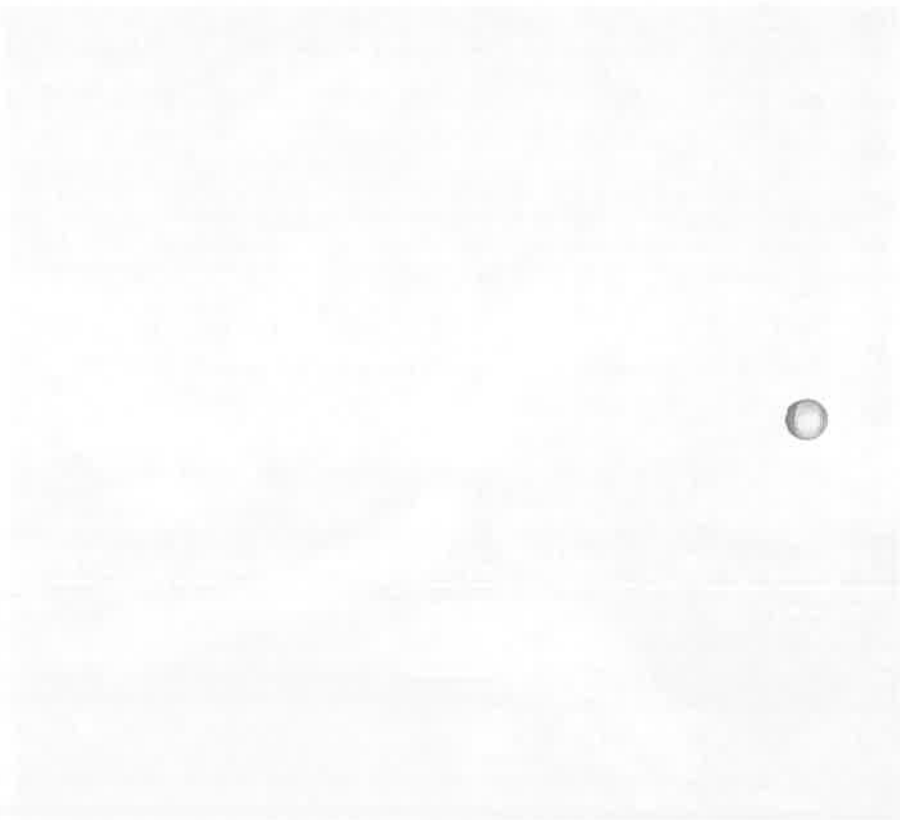
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NOVEMBER
1991

U.E.C. NEWS



MEMBERS
1901
U.S.C. NEWS



Catch and Cook

Glen Collingwood

Joy of Joys! Cray season is at last upon us. For a lot of divers this is the sole reason to live. After all, why, for the love of all that's sane and reasonable, would anyone in the full possession of their senses encumber themselves with 30 kilos of hardware and jump into water beyond their depth if it wasn't for crayfish? They will, of course, all (well almost all) have taken their summer holidays in Bali or where ever else crayfish go during 'the season', but those that see fit to endure the next few months at home will not all be there to welcome the travellers return.

Fresh cooked, buttered, garlicked, peppered and with fresh bread is arguably the only way to enjoy crayfish, however with summer barbie time approaching give a thought to this offering.

This recipe has been unashamedly purloined (stolen) and if you are one of those who read all the newspapers you will recognise it. It is, none the less, simple and straightforward. 'Drunken Crayfish with Orange' should appeal to some on the strength of the name alone.

1/2 small crayfish tail per person
(uncooked)
1 cup white wine
1 tablespoon butter
juice 1/2 orange
1 tblspn whisky, brandy, or rum
1 tablespoon cream
salt and pepper to taste

Cook the crayfish tails on the barbecue in an oven bag with the white wine, salt and pepper for 20 - 30 minutes.

Remove the meat from the shells, reserving the shells. Place the crayfish meat in a pan with the butter and fresh orange juice. When heated through, add the spirit and flambe. When the flame dies down, season the tail meat with salt and pepper and stir in the cream.

Place the crayfish meat back in the shells and serve garnished with a twist of orange peel.

The dish is best prepared on a kettle type barbecue, with a low fire and indirect heat for 20 - 30 minutes with the lid on.

More next month.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By MAREE CASLEY

Doesn't time fly by when your having fun? November is with us again and that means goodbye to the old Committee and welcome to a new Committee. The Annual General Meeting is this coming Monday evening the 18th. Mark that date on your calendars because this is your opportunity to say thanks to all the Committee Members that have worked so hard for your Club during this past year. All positions become vacant so if you feel you have something to offer the Club, come forward and stand for election. If you don't feel you have the time to devote to being on the Committee, please speak to the officers that are elected and offer your services on a Sub-Committee. If all of us pull together, the workload is shared and more work can be achieved. Don't forget you must be financial to be eligible to vote so bring your chequebook.

This past year has seen some changes for the Club - all of them for the best. In summary they were:

- (1). Berthing the boat at Challenger Harbour during Summer which proved to be a huge success
- (2). Streamlining our General Meetings procedure attracting a bigger attendance
- (3). Approval to purchase a newer boat to provide for faster and drier dive trips and vast savings in maintenance costs and time.
- (4). An increase in the number of Saturday dives giving us more flexibility to avoid poor weather.
- (5). Our training programme began in earnest, with a corresponding increase in membership and speciality courses are now available.

November also brings with it the Annual Presentation Night on Saturday the 23rd. Come along and find out who walked off with all the trophies. This night is the culmination of the previous years Committee's efforts as well as just being a GOOD NIGHT OUT - so be there!

Lastly, I would like to say how much I have enjoyed being President this past year and I sincerely thank all the Committee members for the support and encouragement they have afforded me personally, and for all the sheer hard work and dedication they have put in for the benefit of all Club members. I also thank all Club members for their continued enthusiasm and support of the Club and hope that it is continued throughout the next year.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DOLPHINS AND PORPOISES

The terms dolphin and porpoise are sometimes used synonymously for small cetaceans but there is a difference.

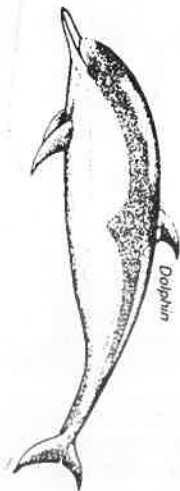
Dolphins usually have a narrow beak and a slender streamlined body form, while porpoises have a blunt snout and a stout, rather stocky form. Another difference is that the dorsal fin of dolphins curves backwards while that of porpoises is triangular. Both porpoises and dolphins are members of the family Delphinidae which embraces some of the toothed whales, sometimes large but mainly small. It is a very large family containing about 50 species and has a world-wide distribution. Only 6 of these species are porpoises.

Porpoises are fairly small animals. Most species grow only up to about 2 metres. Most dolphins grow to between 2 and 4 metres long though the biggest, the Killer Whale (*Orcinus orca*) grows up to 9 metres long.

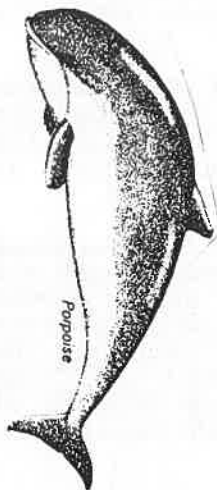
Porpoises do not occur in Australian waters. The commonest dolphin seen off the Western Australian coast is the Bottle-nosed Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*). Other species which have been reported along our coast include: Risso's Dolphin (*Grampus griseus*), The Common Dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*), and the Striped Dolphin (*Stenella caeruleoalba*).

Only within the last 15 years has another species, the Irrawaddy River Dolphin (*Orcaella brevirostris*) been recognised as an Australian species, from specimens caught in fish traps off Broome. This animal belies the earlier statement that dolphins have a narrow beak since it has a blunt nose and a short shelf-like beak.

The distribution of dolphins along the Western Australian coast is poorly understood and the Western Australian Museum would welcome information, particularly when dead dolphins, or any other marine mammal remains, are found on the beach. The Museum should be informed as soon as possible after the finding; where possible the remains should be removed at least above high water mark pending further examination, and a photograph should be taken.



Basic appearance difference between Dolphin and Porpoise.



Training Report

Glen Collingwood

How to start the final Training report for the year? I guess that it's current business first then a summary of events.

OK! Current Business - Lenka Thompson has completed her open water (Scuba Diver) training with a display of commendable competence. Lenka will, I hope, be a regular diver with the club while she is here with her Aunt Margret. She will be presented with her Diving Credentials at the next General Meeting. Well done Lenka. Chris Khoo has also finally finished (wow! there's some kind of record here I'm sure - Chris started on April 2 - this year - work commitments are a nuisance at times). Good one Chris.

In Summary - It's been a good if not exceptional year. Open Water courses virtually back to back. A Night Diver course. And of course more recently the Diver Lifesaver course. It has been a busy time. Numbers have not been high but the flow has been steady. In the main the nett gain to the Club is quite tangible. I believe that a satisfying percentage of the 'new people' will continue both with their diving careers and with their club involvement. We have come to expect and accept that the 'drop out' rate is high. This seems to be the case across the breadth of the diving world; it is not peculiar to the UEC by any means. However, the training programme this year has yielded a group of divers who give every indication of being ambitious, steadfast and on going. There is talk among the new ranks of Master Diver ratings together with demonstrated application to substantiate the talk. Altogether it's been, from my point of view, a year to be content with and a year upon which my successor may build a continuing programme of advanced diver training.

Two commercials before I finally go.

The next Scuba Diver Course is scheduled for early December. We have three (I think) at this point in time. The Navigation Course (with guest Specialist Instructor) is set for about the same time. The intention is to get both of these courses out of the way before Christmas. Please ring me at home - telephone 470 3770 - to confirm your participation.

That's it folks

Cheers

TOOTH SQUEEZE

TOBY KLEIN

On Friday 11 October I was diving with Julie Raines at Marmion. After 12 minutes in the water at the depth of 4 metres I felt severe pain in one of my teeth. When I tried to go deeper the pain got worse. After I signalled Julie, we both surfaced. I was unhappy to miss out on the dive. I went to the dentist to discover that I had a tooth barotrauma! There was only one cure for it. It had to come out. It's OK now. It was a primary molar, and I will grow a new one. I was diving again by Sunday.

Safety Report

Glen Collingwood

Well well well, my last chance to harangue you all for all those little lapses. What an opportunity; another semi-captive audience (well you don't have to read this) and the fingers are itching to get on with it. Would you believe that there is almost nothing - well little, - not too much any way, - to comment upon.

I had intended to continue from last month. But then again it's almost Christmas and I guess nobody wants to be bawled out over two successive months and certainly not so close to that time of year when all is good will and forgiveness. We have ahead of us a new season (isn't it strange how the 'diving season' doesn't really start until the 'crayfish season' starts - or is my point of view biased) of diving and boating, and boating and diving, and we are looking forward to a season free from accidents and incidents. So in the main I'm going to leave it at that; a commendation on a generally safe year past, and an exhortation to make the next year as safe and safer.

Dive saf.....

Got you!... It's never that easy is it. OK a couple of passing comments.

Your diving safety (and your buddy's) starts with your fitness. In my experience diving does NOT get you fit. It is, however, a much safer activity if you are fit. You should be able to swim back to the boat. If you can swim out (even underwater) you should be able to swim back. If you can't, then you need to do some serious soul searching and take some serious remedial action. This applies 'with knobs on' to DOs. While I appreciate that it is not the DOs job, in a diving emergency, to get wet (accident management is a dry activity) it is none the less one of the DOs roles to engender confidence in his (or her) charges. A DO who needs help getting back to the boat is a worry. Think about it.

Your diving safety continues with your conduct on the boat. Now while I appreciate that some Training Facilities still teach the donning of the SCUBA unit 'over the head', it is not a practice that can find acceptance on our boat. The funny thing about boats is that they have a tendency to move at odd and unpredictable (unpredictable for the maritime naive among us) times. An unexpected movement from the boat while 20 kilos of hardware is in free flight can have disastrous results. Don't do it.

Ok! That's all folks - truly this time.

Dive safely.

BOAT REPORT

By D. STUBBERFIELD

A somewhat "fraught" month as far as boating goes with bad news and more bad news. However, I do have some good news at last and that is; no more bad news! At the time of this report things are looking good with the boat in top running order and our first dive trip for November being "booked" to overflowing.

Our problems started with a breakdown at Stragglers, our first and only tow home in 7 years. Repairs to the motor took a little longer than we anticipated as it became necessary to slip the boat and remove the engine to complete the task. This was done with the help of Life member Bob Wallis, who kindly donated his boat, his jinker and a considerable amount of his time in carrying out a well organised and executed slipping, with the help of a small, but very select, team of members. The boat was slipped, engine removed, repaired and reinstalled in about 6 hours one Friday. Another, even smaller and more select team, including Your's Truly, Bligh-Stubby, took over on Saturday and again with Bob's invaluable aid, launched the boat, fitted up the motor, refueled and took her home to the mooring. Unfortunately time finally beat us, and final adjustments prevented the boat being used for diving on Sunday, instead, yet another team took her to Bicton Baths jetty, where they fitted the new canopy frame and tarpaulin cover.

Let me take the opportunity now, to thank those who worked on the boat over the last 3 or 4 weeks. Your efforts are certainly much appreciated and have not gone unnoticed.

Finally the latest on the "new" boat acquisition! Our boat has been advertised with a feature photo and there seems to be a slight tremor of movement in the market place, enquiries having been received from a couple of other boat brokers, for a chance to list her. These have been referred to our broker, who so far has done all the advertising and the work, so he gets the business! However, no actual offer has been received at this stage!

At the other end of the deal we have been advised, by a contact in Geraldton, of a likely boat for us to buy. I'am waiting for more information and a photo of this boat to be sent and will certainly take a run up there if it looks promising and our resident Shipwright thinks its a good bet. Another likely prospect from Geraldton was also investigated, but consultation with a Perth contact who had already seen her, lead us to drop more serious enquiries.

So the process goes on, and I hope to give you some more news at the next meeting - and all the juicy bits I cant publish in the magazine - come along and hear all about it!

CHEERS FOLKS!

STUBBY!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB

INVITES:

Old - New Members.

to their

Presentation B.B.Q. Night

Place: at their Booragoon Clubroom

Date: Saturday 23rd November

Time: 2000 hrs.

Cost: \$10 - To be paid at the AGM

R.S.V.P. Alison Keen
97 East Street
Mt Hawthorn 6016
Ph - 444 6548

Bar Available

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Alison Keen - Social Director/PR. Phone 444 6548

Best contact times - 7 - 7:45 am or 5:30 - 8:30 pm

NOVEMBER:

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TUESDAY 31st It's New Years Party Time again. Who's the lucky householder? I'm away then!



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ALL COMMITTEE POSITIONS WILL BE VACANT.

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

As the weather improves, the intrepid diving regulars venture out of hibernation to once again enjoy UEC company on our many and varied dive sites. All we, as a club, now require from diving members is to have the boat operational to diver capacity. This can only be achieved via more members participating on our regular schedule dives

17 November
18 November
24 November

Roe Reef
Annual General Meeting
Challenger Rocks

B Kennedy M Casley
G Collingwood M Roux

1 December
2 December
8 December
15 December

Champion Rocks
Committee Meeting
Stragglers
Christmas Dive
Warnbro

P Naylor J Raines
D Stubberfield R Phonmyint
D Stubberfield M Casley

16 December
22 December
29 December

General Meeting
Rottnest Area
Hugall's Passage

M Smith J Collingwood
B Cotton J Raines 5

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(Underwater Explorers Club of W.A. Inc.)
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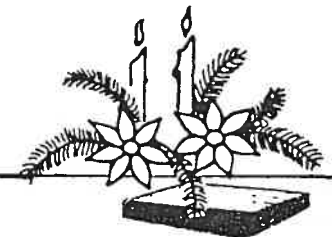
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U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine



Merry Christmas



DECEMBER 1991

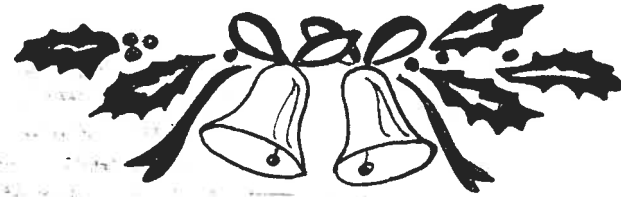
YOUR COMMITTEE 1991/92

PRESIDENT	Glen Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
VICE PRESIDENT	Maree Casley	Phone 457 3333
SECRETARY	Pat Troy	Phone 328 8163
	(work)	Phone 327 8777
TREASURER	Peter Horton	Phone 445 2336
DIVING OFFICER	Judy Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
	(work)	Phone 451 3322
TRAINING OFFICER	Glen Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
SAFETY OFFICER	Geoff Charlton	Phone 332 6270
BOAT OFFICER	Capt. Bligh/Stubby	Phone 457 3333
BUILDING	Nick Wasley	Phone 364 8941
SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385

The Underwater Explorers Club of W.A. (Inc.) was established in 1954. Our aims and objects are:

- a) To promote and participate in diving and its allied activities with the use of SCUBA;
- b) To encourage safety methods and procedure and to acquaint both club members and the public with the facts on safety and the use of safe, reliable equipment;
- c) To organise social events and meetings, providing fellowship, instruction and exchange of ideas among members;
- d) To provide and maintain club houses and other facilities for members and their guests.

General meetings are held on the third Monday every month at 8pm. Our address is: Unit 1/22 Shields Crescent in Booragoon. All welcome.



*** STOP PRESS ***

Saturday 11th January 1992

DIVE-IN TO NICK AND SHARON'S
for a U.E.C.-GET-TOGETHER-BBQ

* * *

All welcome! BYO meat, drink and bathers
(optional?)

* * *

\$2 per head to cover costs
Address: 14 Worthington Road, Booragoon
Please reply on telephone 364 8941.

* * *

FISHY FACTS

CYANIDE is used to capture fish alive, mostly to supply the world market for tropical aquarium fish. Philippine fishermen daze reef-dwellers such as Butterfly and Parrot fish with hydrocyanic acid formed when cyanide tablets are dissolved in water. Using rudimentary equipment - goggles, fins of wood and a tube of plastic loosely connected to an air generator on the surface - young Philipinos gamble with their lives as they douse reefs with cyanide solution squeezed from crude plastic bottles. The fish absorb the cyanide through their gills. The substance acts on their respiratory systems and, groggy and dazed, the fish are then easily taken to the surface in scoop nets. Cyanide-fishing is prohibited by the Philippine government.

(The West Australian, Monday Nov 25, 1991)

CONSERVATION CORNER

One of Australia's rarest and most unusual sea creatures, the Leafy Seadragon, is to be protected in WA to stop smugglers capturing and selling them abroad.

Inshore sea grass areas, the creature's main natural habitat, are under increasing threat from pollution and excessive fertiliser run-off. Many of the most accessible of these areas appear to have been stripped of Seadragons by collectors and little or no recolonisation has occurred.

The animals move about the fringes of kelp beds along the WA and SA coasts and are so well camouflaged that few divers have seen one. They have been protected in SA waters since 1982.

FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

Back in the Editor's chair again and happy to be so. Kerry and I had a great time travelling around OZ, diving and filming the Great Barrier Reef, Flinders Reef in the Coral Sea and the Solomon Islands. The Great Barrier Reef has an extensive reputation to live up to, and it does so with splendour. We didn't see much damage at all from the Crown of Thorn Starfish out-breaks we have all heard so much about, but there is another threat to deal with nowadays; we saw an untold amount of divers crashing about, breaking off corals like nobody's business. Now you tell me who you think does the most damage to our wonderful underwater world! LET'S GET THAT BUOYANCY UNDER CONTROL! And tell our diving tourists that they CANNOT sit on top of a coral bommie to have their photograph taken! It really upsets me when I see things like that.

* * *

Of special value, at the Presentation BBQ Night at the club rooms, was meeting our "old" Life Members Ken Kennedy and John Walden with their respective wives, and listening to their stories about diving in the early days. We thank you for coming along, and we thank Alison for organising the party.

* * *

We all know TIBI, and understand all the time and effort he has put in to our monthly magazine over the years, and gratefully thank him. TIBI has also generously offered to help me out or "stand-in" whenever I call upon him. Isn't he a great Buddy!



PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

Well folks - another Club year and a new Skipper at the helm.

The year past has been eventful and progressive and my sincere thanks are extended to the retiring committee (and especially to Maree, as past President) for a job well done. It is always difficult to follow a 'class act' (the achievements and hard decisions of the past year are testimony of a hard working Committee of considerable talent and dedication) and I look to you all as a Club to support your new Committee as you have supported your last.

Your new Committee brings with it enthusiastic new blood together with the dedication, perseverance and unquestionable expertise of individuals who are serving you yet again. For my own part, my last twelve months as Training and Safety & Technical Officers have been an enlightening and educational experience that has, I trust, prepared me for the coming year. Your Committee, again, evidences considerable expertise and experience and we all look forward to a year of progress, growth and exciting, happy, safe diving.

I believe that this is a pivotal year for the Club. With last years decision to sell the U.E. and it's successful sale we now face the acquisition of her replacement and the not inconsiderable financial commitment entailed. The Club's future, to a large extent, hangs in the balance. The new boat will, I am convinced, introduce a level of comfort and convenience that we have only dreamed of and will quickly be recognised as an asset of excellence. All this comes, of course, with a price. I can assure you that your Committee is dedicated to making this landmark venture a success, however, it's success or failure depends almost entirely upon just how much use the boat will get. Without sufficient boat usage the whole exercise becomes, not only a fiasco, but a costly fiasco. However with your support and commitment to Club diving this endeavour WILL become one of the highlights in the Club's existence.

This is going to be a great year for the Club's diving and social activities. It's going to be a year of achievement. It's going to be a year to remember. We are going to look back on 1992 as a year of good vintage. Let's get down to it and make it work.

In the meantime, my friends, I wish you all, on behalf of the Committee and myself, a safe, happy and joyous Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Till next month

best dives, I recall the "Hirokawa Maru" (6860 tonnes, length 172m), one of the three Japanese transporters which were bombed and sunk close to Honiara. This wreck, as most of the others, is easily accessible from the shore.

The bow starts in 3m of water and continues past 50m. The old transporter was completely covered in the most beautiful soft coral gardens I have ever seen on a wreck, including huge gorgonians. A white Firefish (or Butterfly Cod) also had his residence on the top deck, which made it easy for us to film him. There were myriads of small, colourful reef fish absolutely everywhere!

The Japanese Submarine dive was also quite an experience; it is possible to swim through the majority of the vessel and exit near the stern. A very large school of medium size Barracudas was hovering above the hatch. We dove many more wrecks here in the "Iron Bottom Sound" but that would take up every page in this magazine and more to tell you about, so I finish here and will continue the Solomon Sojourn story next month.



HAVE A NICE DAY



See you
at the
meeting!

SOLOMON SOJOURN

Part 1 - HONIARA (Guadalcanal)

by KAS

The more than 990 Solomon Islands are a widespread archipelago of mountainous islands and low-lying coral atolls, located south-east of Papua New Guinea and only three hours by air from Cairns. Kerry and I found this country one of the most peaceful and beautiful areas of the Pacific, inhabited by very friendly and happy people. As a dive destination, the Solomon Islands has it all: Wrecks of all sorts from the epic Japanese-American battles, giant clams, enormous schools of fish, sharks until they bore you, stunning coral reefs, drop-offs, caves and caverns.

The first five days of our two week trip to the Solomons we stayed at the Kitano Medana Hotel in HONIARA, the capital, on the island Guadalcanal. There are two dive operations established here: *Island Dive Services* at the hotel, and *Dive Solomons* which is run by Troy Griffiths, who came from Perth. Kerry and I were diving with both operations so we could cover as many different dive sites as possible on Guadalcanal and in "The Iron Bottom Sound" that witnessed some of the worst naval battles in history during WWII. You find literally hundreds of wrecks of troop carriers, transporters, submarines and planes on the sea bottom.

Consequently, that's exactly what we were diving on these first five days, and it changed my mind about wreck diving totally! Before, I didn't think much of wrecks, but now I must admit that I have become a more keen wreck diver, because it was absolutely superb here. To mention a few of the

SECRETARY'S

Pat Troy, from the last
Committee meeting 2/12/1991



After some discussion concerning the purchase of the boat "NorWesta", Dennis Stubberfield moved that we no longer pursue the option of purchasing that boat. Nick Wasley seconded the motion. Maree Casley was the only committee member to vote against the motion. The motion was carried.

Another boat, named "Plan Jak II", is for sale at Jurien Bay. The details are: Length 36 ft; hull = wood; age = 14 years; the motor has run for 1000 hours; the asking price is \$31,000. After considerable discussion Dennis moved that we pursue the option of assessing "Plan Jak II" as a possible replacement boat for the club. Pat Troy seconded the motion. Maree was the only committee member to oppose the motion. The motion was carried.

NEW NOMINATION:

Mr Peter A. E. Moffatt, South Perth

GOSSIP

Rumour has it that ALISON is making an effort to beat out the moths, cobwebs and junk from the club rooms. Could all members make an effort to put things away in the kitchen, and Ladies - keep "The Ladies" clean! and Guys - please KEEP OUT - use your own!

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

Just a quick one this time folks.

The current SCUBA Course got under way on Friday, December 6 with Dennis Stubberfield as the Instructor. All things being equal this course will finish before Christmas.

As for the Underwater Nav course - I still don't have sufficient (at this stage there are only three committed) to run it. It is a NASDS (FAUI) Master Diver Module. The price, when it gets going, will be in line with our usual low pricing policy. More I can't say until numbers are known.

There will be a course (SCUBA) in January so keep an eye out for this one and let your friends (and others) know.

That's it folks

Cheers



SONY underwater housing
for only \$999

(Will fit most SONY video cameras)
Call Kerry And Susie for more info on 331 2385

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



Here goes! My first report - I hope you can cope!

After much sitting at home - due either to the weather being unkind, or the boat being unwell - we finally got it all together (we thought), on November 23, for one of our 7am Saturday specials (of course with daylight saving it was really 6am!). Well done to those who turned up. A quick trip to the heads with the wind in our faces (even at that hour) indicated that we didn't quite have it all together after all. A hurried conference amongst crew and passengers resulted in a 'scrub' dive at Bicton Baths. After cleaning the hull of U.E. (a prospective buyer (the actual buyer, as it turned out) was to check her out that afternoon) five divers set off to check out the contours of the river bed while the remainder scrubbed the old girl's decks. Excellent viz and calm conditions provided a pleasant consolation dive. Sadly - no crays.

On with business. Anyone who is interested in being on the Roster for Skippers and Dive Officers for the next twelve months (Saturdays and /or Sundays) please rock up to the clubrooms on Tuesday December 17 at 7.30pm. If you can't make it then, call me on 470 3770 to register your availability. We will also review Dive Officers responsibilities and general emergency procedures. If I don't hear from you one way or the other I will have to assume that you are not available for this year.

I look forward to a good turnout.

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all of you the very best for the festive Season.

Merry Christmas

Judy



SAFETY REPORT

Geoff Charlton

Well, so far so good. In my two weeks as Safety Officer, there's not really anything to report. Not having the boat makes things too easy, doesn't it. We do, however, have a minor spot of wrist slapping to do.

The incident occurred the day before the "UE" was sold; the dive flag was not properly secured. Fortunately, it was in an area with little boat movement and what there is, is slow.

Just before I finish...

The recent death of a diver near Yallingup is a firm reminder of the need for good buddy contact at all times. This means - you DO NOT go into the water alone, especially in unfamiliar waters.

Anyone with cylinders to be tested in January, please contact me to organise a group discount at ASE in Willetton.



DID YOU KNOW THAT...

each year about 40 people worldwide die as a result of shark attacks. Conversely, more than a million sharks are killed annually by people. Truly, SHARKS are the ones at risk!

Well, as you may know by now, our boat has been sold. Her last trip was out through the heads to check the weather, "not good enough!" so back to Bicton Baths for her last clean up and "nappy" change and, for us, a dive in the river. That afternoon, Pat and I showed her off to the person who was to become her new owner. She looked smart, handled beautifully, and frisked about like a spirited filly. Perhaps she sensed a quieter life and a caring owner - boats have characters and souls you know!

No wonder they liked her. She will serve her new owner well, lightly loaded and conservatively run. Unfortunately, she could no longer cope with hoards of divers stomping around her decks, full work schedules and heavy loads. She deserves the rest, She who has given us so much and so many fond memories. Even in the depths of her worst maintenance problems, many of them not of ours or her own doing, She was teaching us and developing us and binding the Club together. We poured our very souls into her and were so proud of her. She repaid us handsomely and was a credit to all who ever worked on her. I believe we must never be without a boat for long, we club divers and friends. Let this be our fond farewell and best wishes to "Bombo", the "Underwater Explorer".

And now, pleading a touch of conjunctivitis and commercial sensitivity, I will close this chapter of U.E.C. boating history without saying any more; referring you all to next months report for the opening annals of our future boating era.

STUBBY!



SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



Please note my NEW phone number: 242 3919, and my best contact times: 7-7.45 am plus 5.30-6.30 pm.

Well, I'm back for another fun-packed year!! Presentation Night seemed a good night despite the fact that I was feeling lousy. 29 people swelled into 41 on the night and I do hope those extra people learn to use the phone soon. Not so many of the 'new faces' appeared to see who the club feels deserves a pat on the head for their contribution or achievement but there was entertaining stories from 'old members', a quiz from Judy and fun stories from Dave Kenny. Thanks everyone who helped me.

You may notice that my phone number has changed and please note that I am away in England from 19th Dec to 25th Jan. So if you phone me, you will get Sue and Mike. Have a safe and Happy Diving Christmas and New Year!

DECEMBER

Sunday 15th: Christmas Fun Day for divers, friends and family. It's a BYO day down at Safety Bay Jetty from 8am - dive - BBQ - Navigation Hunt. Due to the boat situation, final details will be available after the Committee Meeting on 2nd Dec. So phone me.

JANUARY

Monday 28th: Sky Show River Cruise on the Australia Day Holiday. Boat will leave Freo at 3pm, picking up members at Pt Walter and R.P.Y.C. PLEASE PHONE MAREE on 457 3333 to book on.

FEBRUARY

Friday 14th: Valentine's Day. Do you want to cruise up and down the river as usual? Ring me now, and let me know.



SIX TROPHIES WERE AWARDED AT THE PRESENTATION NIGHT IN NOVEMBER 1991

Club Person of The Year: JUDY COLLINGWOOD
- presented by Bob Wallis

Personal Diving Prowess: NICK WASLEY
- a Club award

Safety Conscious Diver: GLEN COLLINGWOOD
- presented by John Walden in Lyn Jones' absence

Boat Person of the Year: PAT TROY
- presented by Dave Kenny

Most Improved Diver: LARRY PARK
- presented by Ken Kennedy

APPRECIATION AWARDS, presented by the Club:

To GEOFF CHARLTON, GLEN COLLINGWOOD, PETER HORTON, BRIAN MURRAY, RICHARD NAYLOR and DENNIS STUBBERFIELD.

CONGRATULATIONS ALL!

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Monthly Magazine

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JANUARY 1992

YOUR COMMITTEE 1992

PRESIDENT	Glen Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
VICE PRESIDENT	Maree Casley	Phone 457 3333
SECRETARY	Pat Troy	Phone 328 8163
	(work)	Phone 327 8777
TREASURER	Peter Horton	Phone 445 2336
DIVING OFFICER	Judy Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
	(work)	Phone 451 3322
TRAINING OFFICER	Glen Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
SAFETY OFFICER	Geoff Charlton	Phone 332 6270
BOAT OFFICER	Capt. Bligh/Stubby	Phone 457 3333
BUILDING	Nick Wasley	Phone 364 8941
SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385

(iv) The retail sale of organotin additives used to create anti-fouling paints will be prohibited.

(v) All boat slipping facilities servicing vessels using organotin-based or other toxic anti-fouling paints, or treating boats with organotin-based or other toxic paints will have to be licensed as 'prescribed premises' under the Environment Protection Act (1986).

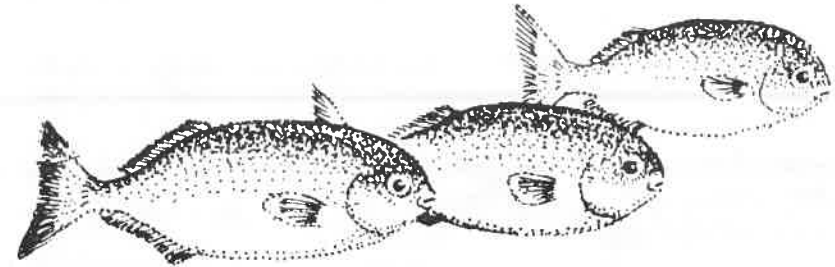
(vi) Clearly readable labelling will have to be added to organotin-based marine anti-fouling paint containers to the effect "NOT TO BE APPLIED TO VESSELS WITH HULL LENGTH LESS THAN 25 M".

* * * * *

The Underwater Explorers Club of W.A. (Inc.) was established in 1954. Our aims and objects are:

- a) To promote and participate in diving and its allied activities with the use of SCUBA;
- b) To encourage safety methods and procedure and to acquaint both club members and the public with the facts on safety and the use of safe, reliable equipment;
- c) To organise social events and meetings, providing fellowship, instruction and exchange of ideas among members;
- d) To provide and maintain club houses and other facilities for members and their guests.

General meetings are held at 8pm on the third Monday every month. All welcome. Our street address is: 24 Shields Crescent in Booragoon.



DIVE CONTACTS for the Solomon Islands:

Island Dive Services, PO Box 414, Honiara
 Dive Solomons, The 'G' Club, PO Box 186, Honiara
 Island Dive Services, Gizo Hotel, Gizo
 Adventure Sports, PO Box 21, Gizo
 Uepi Island, Marovo Lagoon, Solomon Islands

CONSERVATION CORNER

The following article was printed in Western Fisheries Magazine (Number 2, 1991), Fisheries Department of Western Australia.

DRAFT WA REGULATIONS ON ORGANOTIN PAINTS

The Western Australian State Cabinet recently approved that regulations be drafted under the Environmental Protection Act (1986) to control the use and sale of TBT anti-fouling paints and the labelling of anti-fouling paint containers.

This will mean that:

(i) It will be prohibited to use anti-fouling paints which contain organotin on vessels which have hull length less than 25 metres. Additionally, these paints will be prohibited from use on pilings, buoys, or other structures in enclosed or semi-enclosed waters, such as lakes, marinas, estuaries and coastal embayments.

(ii) To control the leaching of TBT from vessels with hull length greater than 25 metres:

* only anti-fouling paints that do not exceed leaching rate of five micrograms organotin per square centimetre of painted surface per day after the first 14 days that a vessel is placed in the water can be sold or used; and

* these rates must be reviewed within five years of proclamation of the Regulation by the Environmental Protection Authority.

(iii) All existing stocks of anti-fouling that do not comply with the above requirements must not be sold after 30 days from the date of proclamation of the Regulation, and must not be used after 90 days from the date of proclamation of the Regulation.

FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

I hope you had a very merry Christmas and a happy new year's party, and made a lot of promises you are going to keep!

* * *

PLEASE CONSIDER....

that THIS will be your *last issue* of UEC News, unless you pay your membership *before* the end of this month! If you cannot attend the General Meeting on Monday 20th January, please send a cheque to: The Treasurer, U.E.C., PO Box 1157, Booragoon 6154.

Could I also mention that, as a UEC member, you will benefit from 10% discount when shopping at Barrakuda Dive, 67 McCoy Street, Myaree (Phone 317 1755) and Dive, Ski and Surf, 413 Hay Street, Subiaco (Phone 292 5167) and 15% at The Scuba Diving Centre, Burswood Hotel, Great Eastern Highway, Victoria Park (Phone 472 3434 - Mike Shortland, their new Manager).

* * *



DID YOU KNOW THAT...

some species of SHARKS can smell *one* part of blood in a *hundred million* parts of water!

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

With the 'silly season' behind us (I fail to see just why the one time of the year when most people really make an effort to be considerate and compassionate should be considered 'silly') and the revelries and excesses of the past few weeks a receding memory, we move into another year of achievement and prosperity. It is my hope that the Christmas period was one of joy and encouragement to you and your families.

I guess that the issue of the moment is the 'boat replacement'. Believe it or not, it's only about six weeks since UE began her new career. It really seems like a lifetime ago. Also consider that in that time little diving has been possible due to poor weather or holidays. The interest shown by club members with respect to the boat replacement has been exceptional. Some of our best attended 'meetings' have been visits to each new candidate. It is gratifying to see that we have all taken this task to heart with an enthusiasm that is nothing short of outstanding.

The Committee reported, to the December General Meeting, that a number of replacement options have been carefully considered, and that boats meeting our requirements were extremely 'thin on the ground'. Certainly we can have exactly what we want in terms of comfort, speed, and diveability; but at a price that we can ill consider let alone afford. The hard cold facts are that we need to reconsider our 'want list' and/or our budget. The reality will almost certainly be a case of getting a little less than we want and paying a little more than we want. With our reasonably restricted budget we stand little chance of doing more than replacing the ageing, timber UE with a younger (maybe larger) timber UE2 (?). However, it was felt by the Meeting that, should it be possible to find additional funds (without increasing our Bank Loan commitment), the Committee should be free to exceed our budget to acquire a vessel that more closely meets our requirements. The Meeting moved that the Committee of Management proceed in this manner.

Numerous discussions and ad hoc meetings later we have, in the last few days, become aware of a boat that appears to offer us a viable, low maintenance option that is only moderately in excess of our budget and that we believe is in accordance with the wishes, expectations and requirements of the Club. The short term, financial shortfall can, we believe, be accommodated by virtue of the generosity and dedication of a small number of individuals without undue strain on the Club's long term resources. Dennis' Boating Report will bring you 'up to speed' on this whole issue.

In the mean time, my friends, I thank you for your support and let us all look forward to happy and safe diving.

We went down to 37 metres here, and had sharks cruising by in all directions. This must count as one of the most incredible wall-dives in The Solomons!

Our third and last island visit was UEPI. Back on the little domestic aircraft again, a short trip to Seghe and then 45-50 minutes transport by another "Skinny Tinny" type of boat across the beautiful Marovo Lagoon (140 km long and the largest lagoon in the world) before we reached our destination. The only accommodation in UEPI is at the resort's very comfortable, large bungalows tucked in amongst tall coconut palm trees in the jungle. You are well looked after and the food is excellent! You MUST book in advance to get in here - it's becoming extremely popular with divers, as Uepi boasts "*the world's largest natural aquarium*" and it is literally THE dive site with diving recognised as the most spectacular in the Solomon Islands, literally on your doorstep, or "jetty step".

A dive under the jetty is full of surprises and amongst other things we saw Giant Clams and Anemone with White-maned Anemone fish. Good-sized Whaler sharks were constantly cruising along the wall in 10-20m depth. They are used to being fed here and were obviously still hanging around, looking for more. When we did a night dive on the wall under the jetty, I was a bit "concerned".

You should not leave this island before you have done a dive at *The Point* at the change of tide. That is a TOP SPOT and a chapter on its own, that I might report on another time! All you do is, don up at the dive jetty, slide into the warm water, snorkel about one km over the shallow reef along the island, and when you see the gap at *The Point*, swim out a bit, go down to 25 metres and just drift back again, watching the whole underwater world go by! An absolutely magic dive!



SOLOMON SOJOURN

Part 2 - GIZO and UEPI

by KAS

It didn't take long to get to GIZO from Honiara with the domestic airline. The bird's eye view over all the little islands, coral cays and lagoons was spectacular. After landing on the grassy air-strip cut down through the centre of Nusatape Island, we walked down to the waterfront and jumped on a boat to cross over to Gizo, another small island in the Western Province with a town of approximately 1000 smiling people. The Gizo Hotel is situated right across the street from the jetty and overlooking one of the Solomon's most beautiful lagoons. *Island Dive Services* is located in the hotel but we were actually diving with the other operation down the road, *Adventure Sports*, owned and run by Danny and Kerry Kennedy, ex-patriot Americans and extremely nice people. Danny calls his dive boats "Skinny Tinny" and that's exactly what they are. The procedure is: Jump in the water with your mask, weightbelt and fins on, and he chucks in the rest of your gear to don in the water, because there is no room in the boat. The worst part is getting back into the Skinny Tinny, because this aluminium boat has quite high sides and no ladder!

Gizo diving also offers some magnificent wrecks, especially the 'TOA MARU', a Japanese transporter that was sunk by the Americans. Tea pots, saki urns, small crystal jars, a gas mask, and even a telephone, were easily recognizable among the debris. This would be the biggest and most intact and interesting wreck we have dove on so far. We actually went back a second time to get some more footage from 'TOA MARU'.

The Plum Pudding Island wall-dive featured some graceful spotted Eagle rays and lots of beautiful Angle- and Clown Triggerfish. This island is also called *Kennedy Island* nowadays, because it was here that JFK was shipwrecked. *Grand Central Station* was another absolutely fantastic wall-dive, where you meet just about every kind of pelagic and fish imaginable. Huge Double-headed Parrotfish, schools of Barracuda, more Eagle rays a.s.o.

SECRETARY'S

Pat Troy



At the committee meeting on January 6, 1992, the following motions were carried:

1. The committee agreed to authorise Dennis Stubberfield to make offers for the purchase of a boat for the club subject to ratification by the committee as soon as possible.
2. A letter will be sent to the relevant authorities complaining about the distance people must carry their diving tanks for refills at the new Rottneest Island facility.
3. Dennis Stubberfield will be asked to make an offer of \$35,000 for the boat ROXANNE III, subject to satisfactory, inspection and sea trials.

* * *

NEW NOMINATIONS:

Elizabeth Maglione, South Fremantle
Anna Zofia Wood, Claremont

* * *

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

The new year begins well. Dennis' course is all but complete with Elizabeth Maglione fully certified (congratulations Elizabeth) and Anna Wood with a couple of dives remaining to finish.

Judy's new course of six (phased as two groups (it's amazing just what we'll do to suit everybody)) is under way. The interesting point of this course is that it welcomes back an old (that is old from a historical point of view, not from any consideration of age) UEC member (Peter Harrold) who originally commenced training with Maree Casely and who now returns with new enthusiasm; and also welcome back to Dot Davies who takes up a family membership with son Daniel (the current student). The other students are Peter Giglia, Kristi Melbourne, Clint Collins, and my son Marcus. Good luck to all.

We have received an enquiry from a group of six potential students (from Sharon Wasley's work). These people have demonstrated admirable caution in thoroughly investigating the various training options available to them through the various shops and from the UEC. Should these folk come to us for training and ongoing support and diving, I would expect their course to commence before the end of the month, or early in February.

Rumour has it that there are people in the Club who really are keen to continue with FAUI (or NASDS if you will) Master Diver training. I hear that there are 'lots' (what ever 'lots' means) of these folk around. The fact is that only three (OK, maybe four) really seem to be enthusiastic about it. So this is where it's at; I'm going to start nagging. It's your own fault; I don't like nagging but you asked for it. Recovery Diver is still offering as are other Master Diver Modules. Over the next couple of weeks you can expect to be approached regarding participation in any or all of these courses.

For now, Cheers and happy Training

Glen

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



Hi! As I sit here waiting for inspiration, I ponder over the last month. Christmas! New Year! Celebrations! Parties! Oh boy, doesn't anybody dive any more?

Our Christmas dive back on the 16th December was well attended. Thanks Dave, for the use of 'Nancy D'. A bit sad about the dives though; poor viz and surge didn't encourage many second attempts on the day. Socially, however, it was a great day out.

In lieu of not having our own boat, our patronage has been well received by Sorrento Quay Dive. One problem we have had, has been with divers not letting me know in enough time to book space on the SQD boat. Until we have our own boat again (which I hope will be VERY soon) I need to take bookings for weekend dives by Wednesdays. Even then I can't guarantee a space for everyone as SQD trips are very popular and are always heavily booked.

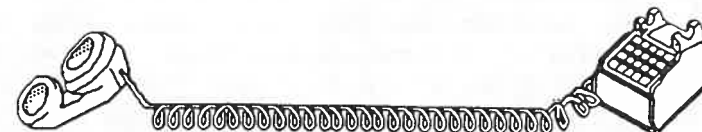
One other problem that needs addressing is that of last minute cancellations. If you are booked on for a dive (be it on our club boat or on any other) and find that you won't be able to go, please extend the courtesy of letting us know in enough time to re-allocate your place to someone else.

We look forward to our new boat, and seeing you on it.

Phone 470 3770 to book dives.

Till next time,

Judy



SAFETY REPORT

Geoff Charlton

Basically a quiet month in the diving life of the UEC, a couple of incidents rate a mention, one of them being just plain embarrassing, the other with the potential to be hazardous. Both occurred while diving from Sorrento Quay Dive's boat "Sunseeker".

First the embarrassing one. A club member (who shall remain nameless) brought his spare reg, just in case, but where's the BC? Still at home by the sound of it. So remember club policy - no BC, NO DIVE.

Now the other one. This diver, whilst looking for Crayfish at Kingston Spit, lost contact with his buddy and obviously didn't look around often enough. To top this off, he kept going for too long (practice lost buddy procedure after 2 minutes). I am told the skipper was in half a mind to raise a diving emergency when the offender surfaced some 50 metres from the boat. The moral of this story is simple - always maintain good buddy contact, it may save severe embarrassment (at least), if not your life.

An important announcement to finish with. The first Saturday the new boat is operational will be a "Workshop" for Skippers and D.O.'s, this will be a chance to practice rescue techniques (getting the diver onto the boat), refresh yourselves on emergency radio procedures, Boat familiarisation for Skippers, and basic boat handling for D.O.'s. More info on the actual date, at a later date.

BOAT REPORT

Dennis Stubberfield



My first and I hope, only, boat report when we didn't have a boat. Having looked at literally dozens of "listings", quite a few "almost, but not quite right" and two or three potential Club boats; some inescapable facts about boat buying for a very modestly wealthy, widely diverse Dive Club such as ours, have emerged.

- (1) It's about as easy as picking out green "hundreds and thousands" from the front lawn! - You know, the thing you used to tell your kids to do when you wanted to get rid of them for a couple of hours on Sunday afternoon!
- (2) We don't have enough money!
- (3) There are quite a few boats out there in our price range but:- The deck is shot, The motor is clapped out, It's too old, It's made of wood, It's made of steel, It's made of fibre glass but all of the above applies, It's generally a wreck! etc., etc., etc!
- (4) There simply aren't many boats out there anyway nobody's willing to sell in a depressed market.
- (5) I simply don't like this or that boat!
- (6) You simply don't like this or that boat!

However, as the good weather and the season rolls on, with the Club not generating income, Members not diving or interacting together and a certain touch of panic sets in, I haven't heard much of points (5) and (6) lately thank goodness!

Several times in the past two months, the point has been reached when there is simply nothing left to look at and no prospects appear forthcoming. We, (your Committee) have broadened our general view of the type of boat we would accept, while trying to maintain the conditions of low maintenance and "youth" we all strive for. The result of that, many of you saw in the boat "Norwester", which unfortunately was not constructed robustly enough for our heavy needs. This approach and the raising of our upper price limit a little, has kept us in the market and provided your boat procuring sub committee with something to do!

Maree and I even made a quick trip to Geraldton from Jurien Bay (we were having a delightful rest as a guest of Barry's at North Head) to see our broker for a brief two hours. Our timing was perfect and we were able to see a 32' Aluminium boat, which had just arrived on the "hard" outside their office. Normally well above our price range, Aluminium has not even been dreamt of, but this particular boat has become the latest victim of the depression so we have made our best offer for it and we might just get lucky!

STOP BLOODY PRESS! YOU BEAUTY! OUR OFFER HAS BEEN ACCEPTED!

I've just this minute received the news from Geraldton and if all the checks of hull, motor and handling hold up as expected we will be out diving again in our own nice young aluminium boat called "EXPLORER 1", (formerly ROXANNE 111) by the long week end in January! Skippers can also look forward to much safer night navigation by radar! But I'm jumping the gun a bit, there's lots to do before we go diving in her and even more work to get her as comfortable as we require. Come to the next meeting folks, to hear all about it and to be allocated your job on your new boat!

Cheers Folks!

Stubby

GOSSIP COLUMN

Overheard at Rockingham during the weekend of the Christmas dive, regarding early morning starts on weekends away: "You get used to diving crowds - you can't sleep in because of the SMELL." And then SHE tried to cover up by saying she MEANT the smell of bacon and eggs frying! (I'll take extra Rexona next time, just in case!) (Source: J.C.)

* * *

Nick has found the *best* prawning spot in the river, and will show us where it is on the Club Prawning Night the 22nd.

* * *



Pressure Hose and Boot
for \$250, including:
"Apollo" PRESSURE GAUGE
with Electronic Timer and
Water Thermometer;
"Apollo" DEPTH GAUGE -
Brand new! Ring 331 2385.

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



JANUARY, Monday 28th

Sky Show River Cruise

on the Australia Day Holiday.

Boat will leave Freo at 3pm, picking up members at Pt Walter and R.P.Y.C. PLEASE PHONE MAREE on 457 3333 to book on.

* * *

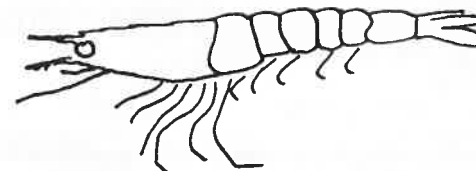
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, Nick and Sharon, for organising the "Dive-In-Party" at your place on the 11th. Lots of great people, lots of yammie salads, lots of freshly grilled prawns. We all had a great time. Mid-night came too early! It was a hot night, so the swimming pool was well used; also for popping champagne corks into.

* * *

STOP PRESS * STOP PRESS

UEC IS GOING PRAWNING

(on scuba) on WEDNESDAY 22nd JANUARY. If you don't want to dive, don't let that stop you from coming along. We need moral support on the foreshore as well, and we'll cook the catch on the beach and share it with you. Ring Judy (470 3770), Nick (364 8941) or Susie (331 2385) for more details after the January General Meeting.



U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine



FEBRUARY 1992

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VICE PRESIDENT	Maree Casley	Phone 457 3333
SECRETARY	Pat Troy	Phone 328 8163
	(work)	Phone 327 8777
TREASURER	Peter Horton	Phone 445 2336
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SAFETY OFFICER	Geoff Charlton	Phone 332 6270
BOAT OFFICER	Capt. Bligh/Stubby	Phone 457 3333
BUILDING	Nick Wasley	Phone 364 8941
SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385



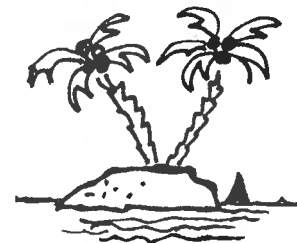
FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

How was your Australia Day long weekend? Have you seen UEC's new boat yet? Have you been out DIVING on her yet? Kerry and I had a great time camping on Woody Island outside Esperance... and diving, diving, diving. Excellent! With about 30 other people we dove from the regular Esperance-Woody Island ferry, complete with compressor to refresh our tanks. It was mostly deep diving, and we found a slightly different marine life, including many types of starfish. The "Abalone divers" were satisfied with their harvests, and kindly shared their tasty dinner with us "non-catchers". Our best dive was the last day around Seal Rocks. Good visibility and quite calm waters. Absolutely great! The seals didn't exactly play with us underwater, but we had one that was quite happy to "show off" in front of our video camera for a while. The grand finale of the weekend was a pod of dolphins jumping in and out of the bow waves on the way back to the civilization. The trip was organised by the *Desert Divers* in Kalgoorlie.

ROTTNEST LONG WEEKEND

The long weekend at Rottneest in Feb/Mar is now coming large and with not much time available to finalize last minute details. Costs have now been decided and it will be the same as last year - \$130. There is still a lot of monies outstanding for this trip and it is imperative that you all pay up by the February meeting at the latest. Also to ensure that everything goes well on this weekend, please come along to the February meeting for a briefing on what to bring, etc.



EASTER LONG WEEKEND AT YANCHEP

Yippee! The U.E.C. have secured the ONLY 4 camp sites at Yanchep for Easter this year. It is a real coup because as you know, in past years diving here has been difficult to organize due to accommodation problems. The camp sites have been booked from Thursday evening the 16th to Monday morning the 20th of April. Yanchep offers some very good diving in a lot of nearby locations. Costs for this weekend will be kept to a minimum, with everyone providing their own meals, transport and contributing towards the cost of the camp sites. Members are welcome to come for the whole weekend or make day trips. However, it is imperative that I know who is coming and when, so that dive trips can be planned to accommodate everyone. If people turn up without letting me know, I cannot guarantee them a dive. Please ring me on 457 3333 to register your interest.

Maree Casley

Safety Report (continued)

Sorry. almost forgot. there are a couple more things I need to say. Firstly, ensure your occv is tucked away properly when you backward roll off the boat. When you exit the water, hand ALL YOUR GEAR to the people on the boat (except your mask) before you climb up the ladder. NO-ONE is exempt from this rule!! The ladder is not designed for the weight of you AND your unit.

That IS all folks. seriously. Until next month.....

Guess Who Has a New Dive Buddy (continued)

Sorry if I suckered you all in a bit, but what would your dream buddy be like? I would love to see some views in next months newsletter, especially from you girls. Who knows we may be able to help you find him/her.



Heard on a commercial dive boat recently.
"I don't need to dive with a buddy. I'm schitzophrenic!"

Boat Bitts (continued)

with only a few scars and bruises, a fraction tired out. The boat panned and wounds licked we were forced by strong winds to leave her at Jurien till the following Friday. The trip from Jurien, with Nick replacing Peter, started with choppy seas and a fresh South Easter, but this abated and we literally flew home from Ledge Point, with the motor fairly bellowing with high spirits, once again never missing a beat. Nick, determined to prove his worth, conned her most of the way and I don't think we could have got him out of the seat with a crow bar. We didn't try very hard, beyond a few insults which he totally ignored, (sensible lad), since we were content just to be there and see her safely home.

Since then much has been done to get her out diving with Geoff Charlton producing a ladder to get us in and out of the water virtually as we tied up at Pier 21, from Jurien. Much is still to be done and she will remain penned at Pier 21 for 2 weeks, where 240 volt power, and good security is available to help us get the really urgent things done. A Skippers and D.O's meeting was held on 5/2/92, to establish priorities, and organise the work, which will mainly consist of a marlin board, canopy and frame, some weather proofing, tank racks and many minor odd jobs. It is not proposed to pen her in Challenger Harbour this year because of the cost and the need to conserve our limited resources; the Committee opting instead to hire "pen with power" facilities on an ad hoc daily or week-end basis as the need arises.

Finally Folks we have to name her, since it was felt Roxanna 111 was not appropriate for our use - or maybe you wish to retain her name - we intend to discuss this next meeting giving the whole Club the opportunity to have an input. The current thinking is for "Underwater Explorer", or simply "U.E. 11", since the first "Underwater Explorer" has had her name changed back to "Bombo". Give it some thought and I will look forward to hearing your views next meeting!

Cheers Folks!

Stubby

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

Well my friends, what a boat it is! thirty two feet of robust, low maintenance, fast, work horse with all the potential in the world and at a price that was nothing short of stunning. We have delivered!

This is a vessel upon which hours of love and dedication can be lavished; upon which effort and money can be spent to enhance and refine, without the fear of over capitalisation. This is a vessel that will lift our skippers to a new level of expertise (radar and HF radio) and provide a new level of safety. This is a vessel of which we can be proud, both now and in the future. We have her; now let's make her our own.

Already the work has begun. Tank racks (the new improved version) will be installed in the next few days; a canopy and other wet weather protection work is in hand; a marlin board is on the way. Enough of this. Dennis will keep you all well informed as to the progress. However, all this will not happen over night; it will not happen on a 'add hoc' basis; it will not happen as a reaction to a perceived pressing need. It will happen as a series of designed, considered steps that will be part of an overall plan and vision. There exists the potential to make this vessel one of the most attractive dive boats of her size in Perth. There also exists the potential to turn her into a 'dog'. The difference is, very little extra cost and a lot of careful, considered planning and decision making. That is your Committee's trust; to give the best possible after the best effort.

However, to make this worth while we must use her. The year has started well with a firm commitment from the membership to dive often. Dive trips have been well patronised to this point with Saturday's (or maybe the shorter day) being in great demand. We will continue to give you great diving but we must ALL continue to use the vessel heavily. Only a full boat every time we go out will make her viable and vindicate the effort that will go into her.

Now, about the 'effort'. There is work for everybody. No matter how you view your own skills and ability there is a job for YOU to do. The really nice thing about this boat (being aluminium and all) is that anything that is done on her now does not have to be re-done as a maintenance item in twelve months time. Your effort is a permanent part of the boat. I can not emphasise this point too strongly; a lot of work and effort must go into the boat in the near future and YOUR input and involvement is essential.

Continued on Page 4

SECRETARY'S

Pat Troy



At the committee meeting on February 3rd, 1992, the following motions were carried:

1. The club will retain the radar unit for the following reasons:
 - 1.1 It makes night diving safer;
 - 1.2 It is a navigation aid;
 - 1.3 It assists in the training of new boat skippers;
 - 1.4 It is of little monetary value on the open market.

The HF radio will also be retained for much the same reasons.

2. In future, the Club will only participate as a rescue team in the Avon Descent on the following conditions:
 - 2.1 A wet suit allowance per person is paid;
 - 2.2 Head protection to Australian standard is to be provided;
 - 2.3 Personal insurance coverage is to be the same as for other volunteers;
 - 2.4 At least two "rubber duckies" are to be provided and crewed by trained persons;
 - 2.5 A suitable donation is to be made to the Club;
 - 2.6 Diver identification is to be provided;
 - 2.7 Good communications with the shore is also to be provided.

* * *

Guess Who Has a New Dive Buddy (continued)

Well what a wonderful fuss these two lovely people made of us. We were dragged inside, sat down at a table and told to wait while they cooked. "The best Crayfish dinner we would ever taste". They then provided us with an ice cold bottle of wine while we waited. Again what can I say, it was absolutely superb. It truly was the best meal I have ever had in my life. I didn't think my mouth could water any more that day but it was certainly working overtime again here. I ate that much I could hardly move myself off of the chair when it was finally time to leave.

It was very late by the time we eventually arrived home, so my new found dive buddy, very generously suggested that we leave all the dive gear in the boot of the car, so that she could wash it out, get our tanks refilled and repack them before she picked me up again the following Sunday. Well I did tell you I'd found the perfect buddy.

As soon as I got home it was straight to bed and off to sleep. Boy had I had a truly awesome day!

The next thing I remember was the terrible buzzing of the alarm and my wife nudging me with her elbow.

"Will you get up? Your supposed to go diving today". She bellowed into my ear.

"Ah! Yes with Patricia". I replied jumping quickly up with one leg already out of bed.

"His names not Risha, its Troy".

"I beg your pardon"? I said feeling a bit confused.

"His names Pat Troy. That scruffy looking bloke with the thick glasses and a beard. Thats who you always tell me you end up diving with". replied my Wife

"Tell me dearest". I asked withdrawing my leg back into bed. "Did I go diving yesterday"?

"No way" she replied with her best "Bossy" look on her face. "I made you stay at home and paint the fence. But by the look in your eyes I think the fumes have got to you".

Ain't dreams wonderful things till you wake up?

Continued on Page 13

SAFETY REPORT

Geoff Charlton



Angel Fish

Well, we've been diving off the new boat for two weekends now and I'm pleased to say that generally speaking, you've all been good little veremites. But if you think you're getting off that easily, think again.

I'm always interested in seeing new ways of wearing and using SCUBA, but this one takes the cake. The diver in question was at the back of the boat (still in the water) and had handed his weight belt to a helpful hand on board. With both fins hanging off one arm, he was making a valiant effort to remove his unit. In the ensuing struggle he lost a fin, a true sinker to boot, it went straight to the bottom in 15m. Was our man worried? No way! He simply got his weight belt back, and with the remaining fin on one foot and SCUBA unit under one arm went straight down to retrieve the elusive fin. I will simply say this. We are not amused!!

There are a couple of other things I need to mention. The first is your gear, the depth gauge in particular. The question "My maximum depth indicator is stuck, what depth did we reach?" has been heard on at least one occasion. The needle that is stuck after your 35m dive is pretty useless on most club dives. In a similar area, the depth gauge which just doesn't work is downright dangerous. It renders your tables basically useless. If yours matches one of the above, please get it either fixed or replaced. If you have one that works well, but you don't know how accurate it is - we can check it, free of charge, more info next meeting (hopefully).

While on the subject of gear, it is important to know how to use your own gear properly. An Air dive 2 is a great piece of equipment, but only if you know how to use it. You must be familiar with the equipment you are using. Before you buy any new gear, it pays to hire it (if possible) beforehand, it could save you an expensive expensive mistake if you find you don't feel comfortable with it. If your new gear comes with an owner's manual, READ IT before you dive.

On to dive tables. I am aware of some members who insist on using their BSAC/RNPL tables. The UEC officially changed to FAUI NU-WAY tables to reduce the surface interval needed on repetitive dives (the tables are based on US Navy tables). Whilst we respect your desire to use BSAC tables, the crew of the day reserves the right to shorten your bottom time on the second dive to help maintain the time parameters of the day.

That's all folks.....

Continued on Page 14

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

Another course completed and new divers in the water. Judy's course (three for the club as it turned out) is complete and we welcome Peter Harrold, Daniel Davies and Clint Collins into our diving community.

We have, however, fallen on a dry spell. I've had a number of prospects to follow up but each time it's "not just yet" or "I've changed my mind" or some such. Oh well! them's the breaks I guess. On the other hand we must remain optimistic. All enquires may be directed to myself, as always.

The 'Recovery Diver' course (navigation skills etc.) IS on. I have barely enough takers to start this one going, but we will proceed. The date will be announced at the next General Meeting as I am in the process of 'tying this one down' with the students and the instructor. The cost will be 'modest'; again, this will be announced at the GM. There is always room for one more, so let know if you are interested.

My contact number is 470 3770.

For now, Cheers and happy Training

Glen



President's Platform (continued)

Dennis, in his Report, raises the issue of a new name for her (Roxana III doesn't really have the right ambience). This issue will be considered at the February

General Meeting and a resolution will be sought (after all we can't keep sliding around the problem by saying 'the boat' or 'the vessel' for much longer). Again, YOUR thoughts and input is important, so come to the Meeting and have your say.

One other point at this time (unrelated to the boat which seem to be the all consuming passion at the moment). You will note on the Club Calender (elsewhere in this issue) that the March General Meeting is scheduled for a 'Hotel venue'. I would like to see this as a significant social event with heaps of enthusiastic participation. The intent is to meet at 6.30 for a Counter Tea and then to proceed into the General Meeting (while still at the hotel). There will be a guest speaker (not sure who at this stage) who will talk to us about 'other than recreational' diving. The promise is for an interesting, relaxed and enjoyable evening with a difference. Let's make this a success.

That's all for now, my friends. Dive safely.

CLUB CALENDAR

for your convenience



February

- Friday 14 Valentine's Day cruise - depart 6pm
Phone Alison 242 3919
- Saturday 15 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 7am Skipper: Dennis DO: Brian
- Sunday 16 Dive 'Angela's Cave' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Ron
- Monday 17 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
- Saturday 22 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Geoff
- Sunday 23 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 7am Skipper: Peter H. DO: Brian
- Monday 24 Depart at 8am for the Labour Day Pilgrimage
Contact Maree 457 3333
- Friday 28 Depart at 6pm for the long weekend at Rottnest
Island. Contact Maree 457 3333

March

- Sunday 8 Dive 'Roe Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Bob C. DO: Maree
- Monday 9 Committee of Management Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
- Saturday 14 Dive 'Eagle Bay' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Maree
- Sunday 15 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 7am Skipper: Martin DO: Peter.M
- Monday 16 General Meeting - at a Hotel venue to be announced
at the February General Meeting.
Counter Tea - 6.30pm
Meeting - 8pm

GOSSIP COLUMN

Congratulations to BRIAN JURY on his Christmas engagement to SHERYL LOW.
(You can't keep secrets from us!)

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen

I'm back from a chilly Christmas in England and just made it back in time to jump onto our new boat for the "Sky show". Dennis managed to moor us on a good spot despite bumping into a few "neighbours". As usual, a lovely evening, complete with rain effects. Thanks, Dennis and Maree, for organising it.

By the time you read this magazine, we will have cruised the river again in the never-ending search for a Valentine for me! Sorry if you missed out. Some tasks are just impossible.

* * *

YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE SIZE OF GLEN'S!

It was huuge! He showed it to us that night on the Swan riverbank.... at least 20 cm long! Kevin presented the smallest, but the biggest catch - we counted 17 in his prawn net (or to be more precise: 16 and 1/4). Oh yeah, we are talking about prawns here. What did you think?

We had a great time down at the Chidley Point, finding a spot out of the wind; the Collingwoods, some of the Mortimers with young mates, the whole Nottage family, Bill Boustedt came to socialize for a while and had some of my cheese "bickies". Geoff was there for our safety, but "didn't want to get his feet wet". Kerry and I introduced our American friends Pat and Dom, who think this is one of the most unique diving experiences, and when you think about it - it is in fact; to be able to do what we Perth-people take for granted - go down to the city river and catch big prawns and crabs and cook them on the beach. In our little group, intrepid scuba divers caught enough prawns of good size to satisfy us all. The story about Dom's (Roselli) catch of the *Giant Blue Manna Crab* was told many times around the "camp fire". (P.S.: We do not intend to venture east towards Maylands for the present.)



Sue

What a great day it was. Weather perfect, no swell and Crayfish in abundance. To top all of this off my new dive buddy was superb. Her eyesight was amazing, the way she spotted Crays was as if she had Xray vision. As soon as I hooked them she was there holding the bag open, then she was off again to find some more. I couldn't have found Crayfish if I were stepping on them. My eyes would only focus in one direction, towards the lovely Patricia. I'm sorry I just couldn't help it, she looked so perfect in her snug fitting pink wetsuit that a friend in the fashion business had made especially for her. No matter how much I spat in my mask, it just kept misting up.

One of the highlights of the day was lunch, which Patricia had kindly brought along for the two of us. Both of her parents are Chefs and throughout her life Patricia had certainly learned a lot from them. I won't go into detail but let me just say that some of the best restaurants in Perth would have a hard task to supply a lunch like this one, especially in a quiet bay off of the back of Rottnest.

On the trip back to port I was treated to a long luxurious massage as I lay in the sun. (I forgot to mention that my new dive buddy was also a qualified Massuer). The usually very tedious journey seemed to take no time at all. So I arrived back at Fremantle feeling very refreshed.

I was given the job of getting the car from the carpark while my buddy unloaded our gear from the boat, after which she kindly demonstrated how to pack it properly into the boot of the Mercedes. (I did tell you it was a bit of a squeeze).

Before we returned home Patricia asked if I minded if we dropped into her parents Restaurant which was situated nearby in Fremantle and gave them a few of the Crayfish we had spare. Well after all she had done for me throughout the day I could hardly refuse, not that I minded anyway.

Continued on Page 12

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



Well, what a celebration for Australia Day! A new boat, good weather, and thirteen divers! Of course as a matter of principle, we had to try West End. The first dive was a bit surgy. I certainly enjoyed the second dive more. Out again on Monday at 7am. With only six divers on board we made Stragglers in less than half an hour. Two good dives with perfect conditions and excellent viz. Plenty of crays as well.

At this point I want to reiterate; if you wish to take crays while diving you **MUST** have your current crayfishing license **WITH** you on the boat. It is of little value to you at home. The Fisheries Dept. inspectors can, and will, come on board to check; and it will be you, not the crays, that end up in hot water. However, it is the Skipper of the day, and the Club, who ultimately 'carry the can' so expect your crew to ask to see your licence and expect to return crays to the water if you do not have it with you.

I have noticed that 'dive bookings' are showing a trend in favour of the 'early start, early return' Saturday dives. To provide more variety I have scheduled some Saturday dives as 'Rotto' dives (8am start - 4pm return) and some Sundays as 'local' dives (7am start - 2pm return). Please refer to the calendar in this issue and take your pick. Of course, the destination for the day can change 'on the day', but only if all passengers are agreeable and if numbers permit. You will also note that the rostered crew have been shown on the calendar for your convenience.

We can expect fairly good weather for the next couple of months now, so book on as early as you can for dives because all spots on the boat have been going quickly. I don't mind taking booking for any of the dives scheduled for the coming month at the General Meetings.

The last Saturday of the month has been slotted in as a 'Free Day' to accommodate Skipper training, DO training, exploratory dives, rescue revision etc. The first of these 'free days' (March 28) is being considered for a spot of fishing. Details have not yet been finalised but remember that, as for diving, it's Club members only. Please register your interest at the next general Meeting.

One last item: I'm looking for divers for a 'short notice night/twilight diver' list, for those days that will come, mid week, when the weather is just too good to ignore.

Happy diving,

Judy

BOAT BITTS

Dennis Stubberfield

Well Folks we did it!- Almost a month ago our offer for "ROXANNA 111" was accepted and after a tremendous effort by all concerned we've had her diving for 2 week ends and the Sky Show. Four weeks and it feels like 6 months, so much has been achieved!

On Friday 17th, a high powered U.E.C. group arrived at Geraldton to carry out inspections and sea trials, with a view to taking delivery and sailing her back to Fremantle. The big "unknown" as far as we were concerned was the motor and we gathered around on the deck, following her launching, our prayers and supplications creating a giant "aura". Wayne Sinclair, resident motor expert for our Broker, fiddled briefly with things in the engine hatch, checked oil and water, walked straight up to the start switch stabbing it home without a moments hesitation. There was no time for a pregnant pause - Instantly into life, burst that beautiful little "Cat" with an exhilarating roar, which quickly settled down to an enthusiastic, purr! Relief washed over us like a wave! First hurdle jumped! The ensuing sea trials revealed a few minor problems which were quickly fixed and our confidence grew in the motor as it seemed to roar away happily, bolting round the harbour like a frisky colt, at the slightest touch of throttle. Not a sign of black, white or blue smoke did we see at any stage of the trial or subsequently. Decision time - was she good enough to sail back and thus accept? The "Cat" fans had little doubt and the others felt that she was OK in all else! "Pay the man and make her ours Maree" was the word after an hours self persuasion for each of us. A gust of joyous relief, blew over us decision, irrevocable, taken. It was then and, only then a few people and comments came out of the wood work to tell us what a bargain we had achieved! Like the guy who wanted to look over her for somebody in Darwin. I felt sorry for Treasurer Peter, who was in almost physical pain from the strain of committing the Club so deeply in such a short time. These comments gradually soothed the poor Lad's shattered nerves!

The next hurdle was to get her home and this turned out to be no sinecure! Leaving Geraldton at 4.30 am, Saturday, with a pretty sketchy and ambiguous weather report accompanied by a light SOUTH WESTER (instead of an Easterly) at that hour, did not auger well and created vague disquiet amongst us! How right we were, by 8.00 am off Dongara that breeze had freshened and the sea developed quite a lumpy chop. By 10.00 our worst fears were realised as the ceiling closed down to a 1000ft, with thick grey scudding cloud and frequent rain squalls. Very large short seas made conditions on board impossible to get rest and to stand without hanging on. As for sleeping in the V berth - forget it! By midday we were in the middle of a young gale, with huge steep seas and greatly reduced speed, thinking about putting on life jackets! There was nothing we could do but hang in there and fight on! Thank heavens for the Radar and Echo sounder which allowed us to keep enough safe sea room between us and the coast and give us the glimmer of an idea where we were and how little progress we seemed to be making! The trip turned into real hardship sailing and my fellow crew and the boat deserve the highest praise for the effort! That motor seemed to roar along almost happy to be at work again, after a year of idleness and never missed a beat or faltered in any way. We reached Jurien just after 3 oclock,

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GUESS WHO HAS A NEW DIVE BUDDY?

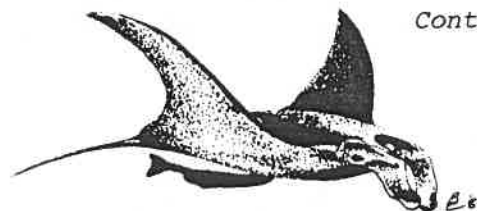
By Roger Smith

I find one of the main difficulties of diving on a regular basis, is finding a dive buddy who you can get on well with. A person who also likes to dive often and at short notice. My best ever dive buddy went and found a husband and left for the wilds of Africa. Then my old mate Paul went North and is now off to see the rest of the world. So for a while I have been looking for that someone special to spend time underwater with. Well at last it looks like I have found someone who's perfect.

Her name is Patricia, and she has just moved to Perth from Queensland where she worked as a dancer in a night club and part time as a model. It was when she was modeling swimwear on Hayman Island that she became interested in Scuba diving. She is 25 years old 5'10" tall and has long blonde hair. I hope she won't be too embarrassed when I tell you that she is also rather beautiful.

Last Sunday Patricia called to pick me up, as she lives close by and we drove down to Fremantle together in her Mercedes convertible. It was a wonderful warm morning and as we sped along the Kwinana freeway with the top down, I thought "Rog you're a lucky man". I was a bit disappointed with how tight a squeeze it was to get our gear in the car though, but still you can't have it all ways can you? My enthusiasm for the car obviously showed, for when we arrived at Fremantle Patricia asked if I would like to take the car for a short spin around the town while she loaded our gear on to the boat. There's no need to tell you what my answer was.

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U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine



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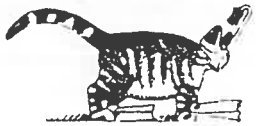
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MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385



FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

Interesting news from the *Cousteau Society*: Bones of what are believed to be four PILOT WHALES have been located in a underwater cave of a remote island reef in Fiji waters. Just how or when the animals became trapped inside the cave is a mystery. Cousteau's *Alcyone* crew recently undertook a three-week expedition to film the bones.

Diving to the cave's underwater entrance, a small film team ventured deep within this sunken cavern, swimming through corridors barely large enough for a single fully equipped diver. After 50 minutes in the cave, the divers had to undergo two hours of decompression before surfacing. That's what I call CAVE DIVING!

* * *

DID YOU KNOW...

what is the purpose of the holes in Abalone shells?

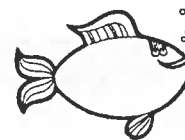
Clean sea-water enters the mantle cavity through the largest two or three holes in the shell. (They have five or six holes.) Sensory organs in the mantle cavity constantly check the sea-water for food and predators. This cavity also contains the snail's breathing organ, known as the gill, which removes oxygen dissolved in the incoming sea-water.

Oxygen-depleted sea-water, including the body wastes it contains, is eliminated through the remaining three holes in the shell. The male and female gametes are also released through these holes, during periods of the year that are suitable for reproduction. Small funnel-like parts of the mantle cavity line the openings and ensure that used and clean waters are not mixed up.

As the abalone grows its shell, new holes develop and old ones are sealed. (Source: *Sea Frontiers*, Dec. 1991.)

* * *

GOSSIP COLUMN



Heard from a balcony at Geordie Bay, Rottnest: "I can handle 3 of those!" (Up to you to guess what.)

CHARLIE SNOW will be back on 22 March!

MONDAY, overcast but not much wind. Excellent diving again. U.E. went out 7.30 am and came back early afternoon after four dives. The trip back to Fremantle was pretty smooth. We all agreed that we had had a great long weekend at Rottnest, and THANKS VERY MUCH to MAREE and DENNIS, for organising this year after year. March 1993 we will be back in our "old" houses in Thompsons Bay, which should make the lugging and filling of tanks not so "complicated".



Suzie



COME ALONG FOR
Fund Raising
PUB CRAWL UP AND DOWN
THE SWAN RIVER



NEW NOMINATION

Kathryn Dehring, Swanbourne

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

Recently I inadvertently had my nose rubbed in a fundamental principal; a basic tenet of Club faith; and I hold it up for you scrutiny.

I had (or to be more honest, my beloved had) offered to loan (as opposed to hire) a cylinder to a club member who had done a small though not un-appreciated favour for us a few weeks before. After much discussion about and around the issue of paying debts (or re-paying favours) the gentleman commented, "My dear lady, you're missing the point. We are a club; we are here to help each other."

Occasionally the light dawns. This was one such occasion. We are indeed a CLUB. We are, indeed, here to help, support, encourage, exhort, and comfort each other. We are, indeed, a CLUB; a body of people with similar aims, and with similar interest who have come together to help each other. The Underwater Explorers Club is a dive CLUB (the obvious is, apparently, not always obvious at all). We are members of this club to help each other in the activity of diving safely (have a good critical look at Rule 2 of the Constitution and Rules if you have any doubts). Club rules are designed and promoted to help us dive safely.

It is all too easy to get lost in the peripheral issues. The ownership of the Clubrooms is something of which to be proud; but it's a side issue. The acquisition of the new 'Underwater Explorer' has been an exciting and joyous occasion; but it's a side issue. The politics of club life are grist for the mill; yet they are side issues. The central issue is that we are here, each and every one of us, to dive safely and to promote safe and enjoyable diving within our own group and within the recreational diving world at large. Some of us (Committee Members, Skippers and Dive Officers) seek, for all sorts of complex personal reasons, to be among the Policy Makers and Administrators and to us falls the task of making the rules and ensuring that they are complied with. In this way we 'help'. For most of us, however, we help each other to the realisation of this 'central issue' by simply maintaining currency of skills, adhering to the principals of safe diving and complying with Club diving policies and rules. In this way we 'help'.

Club diving rules and diving policies are established for the safety and benefit of all and without intent to discriminate against any individual. Everyone, of course, has the right to express his opinion and have his opinion heard and everyone has the right to seek to change the rules by democratic process. However, nobody has the right to compromise another by virtue of selfishly and stupidly breaching 'rules in place' that have been formulated for safety and comfort of us all, because they do not conform to his own singular beliefs. The individual who, for whatever reason wants to 'go it alone' has stopped 'helping' his fellow club members. He has become a hindrance. Anyone who sets himself (or herself) above club rules has, in effect declared himself to be against the fundamental tenets of the Club.

Please consider.

Catch and Cook

Glen Collingwood

OK now! We're back again with another gastronomic delight to titillate your pallet.

This recipe for 'Sesame Honey Squid' will work just as well with cuttlefish. So next time one of those aggressive little critter comes darting out of a cave like a charging mutated pachyderm (you know, arms upraised like the trunks of a demented freak elephant) give some thought to stuffing it in your tucker bag. Be careful though, they can be quite aggressive and they can bite.

500g small squid hoods
1/4 cup light soya sauce
2 tablespoons dry sherry
1 tablespoon honey
1 teaspoon sesame oil
2 teaspoons grated fresh ginger
1 clove garlic, crushed
1 table spoon oil
1 medium onion, quartered
1 medium red pepper, thinly sliced
2 teaspoons cornflour
1 tablespoon water
1 tablespoon sesame seed, toasted

Using a sharp knife, cut diamond pattern inside squid; do not cut through. Cut squid into squares.

Combine soya sauce, sherry, honey, sesame oil, ginger and garlic in a bowel, add squid, cover, and refrigerate for several hours or overnight.

Remove squid from marinade; reserve marinade. Place oil in a large shallow dish, heat on HIGH for 1 minute, add squid, onion and red pepper and cook on HIGH for about 4 minutes or until squid is tender; stir occasionally.

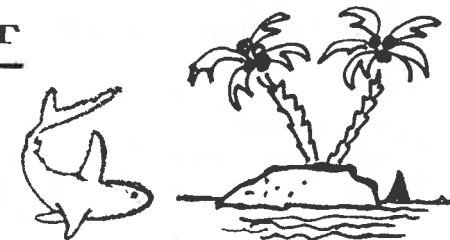
Combine blended cornflour and water with reserved marinade, add to squid and cook on HIGH for a further 2 minutes or until the mixture boils and thickens.

Serve with a scoop of lightly pressed steamed rice and sprinkle the squid with sesame seeds. Garnish with parsley and/or coriander leaves.

The dish is best prepared with a microwave oven as the directions indicate. However, you might try stir frying. The cooking times above assume an oven of 600 to 700 watts output. Vary the times to suit e your oven.

Enjoy

ROTTO REPORT



FRIDAY evening, 27 March, fifteen intrepid divers braved the waves aboard former *Roxanna III* to Rottnest for UEC's annual long-weekend diving adventure. By the time we reached Geordie Bay in the dark, we all looked more like drowned rats. The *Underwater Explorer* was skilfully skippered by PETER HORTON. We soon forgot the cold and wet clothes, after a "warming" port or tinnie. A strong wind was blowing the whole night, keeping FRANK and KAREN HUBBARD awake and alert on their new yacht *Nuthin*.

SATURDAY diving was a bit rough and a few pieces of diving equipment were lost on the sea bottom. Late afternoon saw a queue of sore divers lining up for the massage table in Chalet 348. A 5-star foot massage was also conducted by KAREN GURRY.

The "obligatory" get-together and BBQ in the evening was pleasant as always with most of the "regulars" in attendance plus a couple of new members. Among the general amusement was avoiding stepping on inquisitive quokkas, and how to get a quokka to eat celery, when he actually prefers a carrot! A few of us walked up to the tennis court to swing the old leg to Mucky Duck's Bushband. The wind had died down considerably by now, and we all had a good night's sleep - even our youngest club member ERIN NOTTAGE.

SUNDAY, completely blue sky and no wind; great diving was reported and many cray heads were gratefully accepted by me. BBQ again in the evening, but this time only with half the crowd present - the rest had gone to the rock concert in Thompsons Bay. Some came home VERY late, and ended up sleeping on our balcony! (Same couple as slept on the beach the first night!)

SAFETY REPORT

Geoff Charlton



Angel Fish

Well, what can I say, my first report with a full month's diving off the new (to us anyway) *U.E.* and there's basically nothing to report. I'm pleased to say you've all been diving safely, or else the grape vine is slipping up badly - I'm sure the former is the case. If you can keep this up until the end of November, it'll make my job nice and easy. I'm confident you can do it.

There's a little anecdote I'd like to share with you; it concerns the care of your cylinders. I have two cylinders (like most of you), both are aluminium. A second-hand, ex-school, 88cf and a brand new 95. I had them both tested in January this year. The 88 received no comments on the test report (cylinder in A1 condition). The 95 was not so healthy, showing some permanent stretch. I was surprised, to say the least, as it is four years newer, and has had the same treatment since I bought it. They are both stored full in a 10'x7' garden shed.

The moral of this story is simple: *Always store your tanks "empty", or at least low enough on contents, so the hot weather does not cause cylinder pressure to exceed the working pressure marked on it. Get them filled just before you use them, not just after!* This will save you money in the long run.

That's all for now, bye bye.

THE MARINE STINGER HOTLINE
Australia wide toll free number

008-079 909

For the advice about the treatment
of marine stinger injuries.

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood



All I have for you this month is the formal confirmation that the NASDS (FAUI) Recovery Diver Course will proceed on the weekend of 28-29 March. The instructor will again be the lovely Margaret Neville (ask her what NASDS really stands for). This will be a FULL weekend (8.00 am to 6.00pm on both days) but promises to be an enjoyable and 'fun' time for all involved.

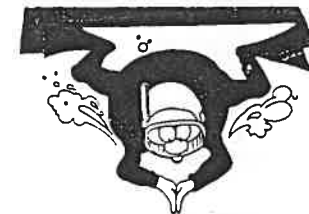
So far I have six confirmed participants (and one un-confirmed); and there is still room for more. Remember that this course is a Master Diver Module. It's not especially demanding but, the skills learned will become part of you forever. The cost is \$120.00 and is, of course, as always, for club members only.

The next specialty course on offer will be either 'Equipment Specialist' or 'Deep Diver'; depending on interest and demand. As always costs will be VERY competitive and again both these courses are Master Diver Modules. Hope to hear from you soon.

Happy diving

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



It's been great to see the weather at last doing the right thing by us. We have been getting in quite a few dives recently. While the swell hasn't disappeared completely, it has been diveable.

I believe that the annual Rotto Pilgrimage was, once again, a huge success for those who went. Total relaxation alternating with great diving - what more could you ask.

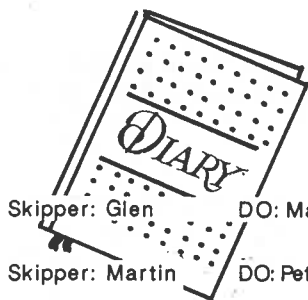
Please note on the Calendar that we have changed this weekend's dives around. Saturday will be a Local Dive (departing at 7.00 am) and Sunday will be to Rottnest (departing at 8.00am).

Now, before I go, an important point to clarify diving arrangements. Please, ALL bookings for ALL dives and ALL enquiries about dives come to me on 470 3770. DO NOT contact the Skipper or the D.O. of the day (their names are included in the Calendar as a point of interest only). If the dives are to be cancelled then your crew of the day will notify you by phone. So when booking, please leave your contact phone number. If you don't hear from us then you can be confident that the dive will go ahead. Remember; You ring ME up until the night before; We ring YOU on the day if cancelling.

Happy diving,

CLUB CALENDAR

for your convenience



March

Saturday 14 Dive 'Lancier Rock' - depart 7am Skipper: Glen DO: Maree

Sunday 15 Dive 'Eagle Bay' - depart 7am Skipper: Martin DO: Peter.M

Monday 16 General Meeting - 'Leopold Hotel'. 326 Canning Highway, Bicton
Counter Tea - 6.30pm
Meeting - 8pm
Police Diving Squad speakers - 8.30pm

Saturday 21 Dive 'Swirl Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Brian

Sunday 22 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 7am Skipper: Dennis DO: Geoff

Saturday 28 No diving scheduled - Phone to enquire.

Sunday 29 Dive 'Radar Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Ron

April

Saturday 4 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 7am Skipper: Dennis DO: Julie

Saturday 4 'BOOZE CRUISE' - Meet at the Left Bank Hotel at 5pm

Sunday 5 Dive 'Roe Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Brian

Monday 6 Committee Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 11 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 7am Skipper: Nick DO: Judy

Sunday 12 Dive 'Jackson Rock' - depart 8am Skipper: Peter H. DO: Julie

Friday 17 to Monday 20
Easter at 'Yancheep' - Contact Maree 457 3333

Tuesday 21 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 25 No diving scheduled - Phone to enquire.

Sunday 26 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Maree

Phone Judy on 470 3770 for dive bookings or enquires. DO NOT RING THE CREW.

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



The Valentine cruise was a dampish one this year but we still managed to cruise up the river to watch the fire works for the opening of the Festival of Perth. There were lots of "Oohhs" and "Aahhs" from the boat, so the 18 of us must have enjoyed the evening; still no special Valentine onboard for me!

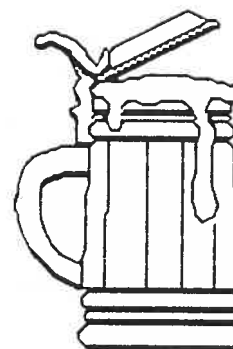
Don't forget we are having a counter tea on Monday 16th at the Leopold Hotel, Canning Highway, Bicton, from 6.30 pm onwards. Order what you want from the menu. The Police Diving Squad are going to give us a talk on a different side of diving.

Anyone want to help organise a social event???
Contact me, Alison.

* * *

Fund Raising

BOOZE CRUISE with U.E.



Saturday 4 April

Pick-up at 5pm "West Bank Hotel"

U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine

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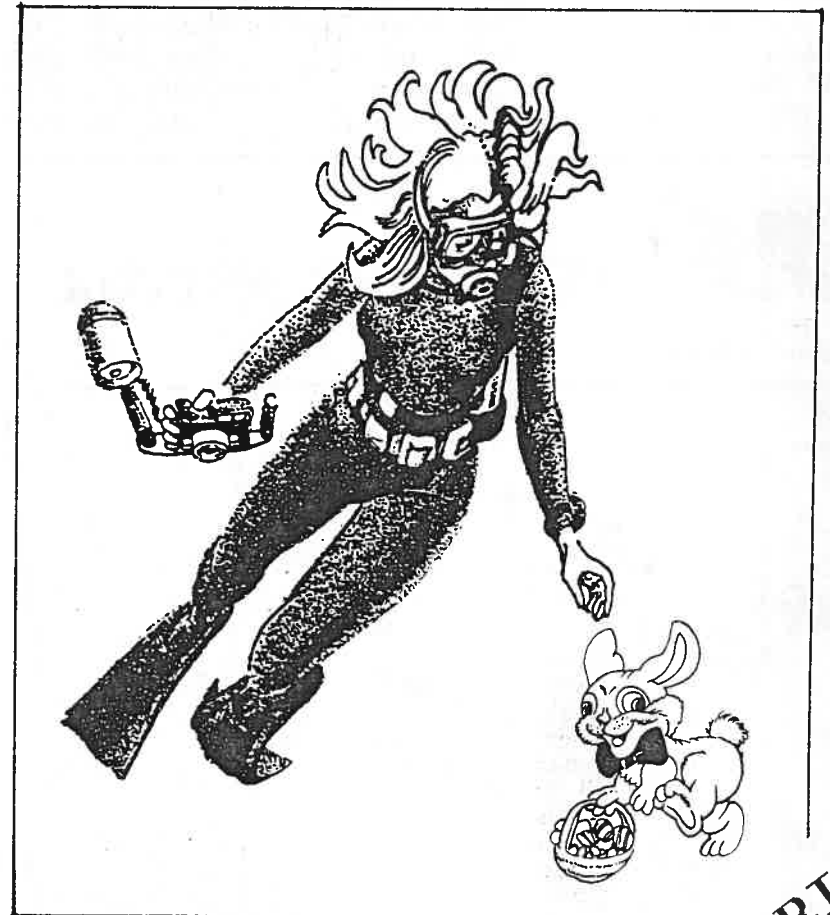
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APRIL

YOUR COMMITTEE 1992

PRESIDENT	Glen Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
VICE PRESIDENT	Maree Casley	Phone 457 3333
SECRETARY	Pat Troy	Phone 328 8163
	(work)	Phone 327 8777
TREASURER	Peter Horton	Phone 445 2336
DIVING OFFICER	Judy Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
	(work)	Phone 451 3322
TRAINING OFFICER	Glen Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
SAFETY OFFICER	Geoff Charlton	Phone 332 6270
BOAT OFFICER	Capt. Bligh/Stubby	Phone 457 3333
BUILDING	Nick Wasley	Phone 364 8941
SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385

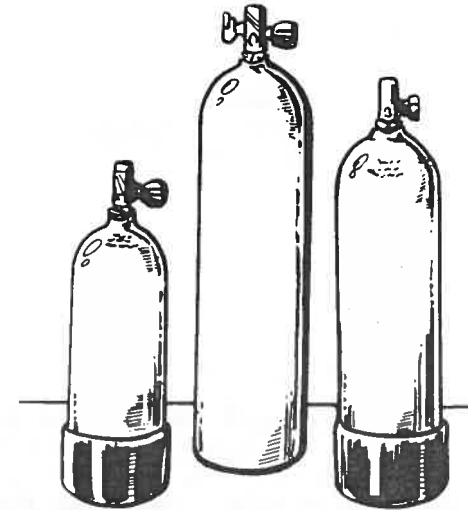
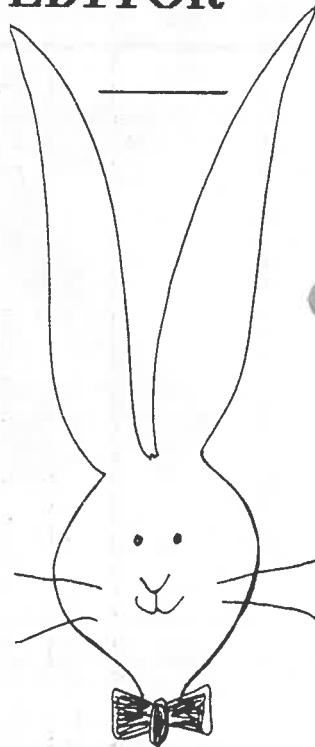


FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

**HAPPY EASTER
HOLIDAY**

...AND DON'T EAT SO MANY BUNS
THAT YOU CANNOT GO DIVING!!!!



OUTSTANDING TANK FILLS

ANYONE WHO HAS ANY
PAYMENT OUTSTANDING ON
TANK FILLS, WILL YOU
PLEASE PAY, AS ALL
MONEYS HELP THE CLUB!!!

* * *

DOWN TO \$888

SONY Underwater Video Housing.
Excellent condition; only used ONCE!
All the "frills" comes with it.

Contact Kerry or Susie on 331 2385

RANDY RECIPIES

Here is another prawn recipe to try. I know that you've all 'done to death' the taste tempters that I've given you so far; so just so you know that I haven't gone off prawns (or is it - gone off like a prawn) I'll let you have this one to try.

This is a Thai dish that complements 'Poo Ja' (remember the stuffed crab shells) very nicely. It's hot and spicy (as is a good deal of Thai cooking) and is a pleasant counterpoint to the delicacy of Poo Ja.

675g fresh prawns
1 shallot
1 clove garlic
25mm knob Kha (Siamese ginger)
2 fresh red chillies
2 teaspoons chopped lemon grass
1 teaspoon chopped coriander root
1/4 teaspoon chopped nutmeg
1 teaspoon shrimp paste
2 teaspoons fresh lime juice
175ml thick coconut milk
salt to taste
freshly ground black pepper
225g rice flour
oil for deep frying

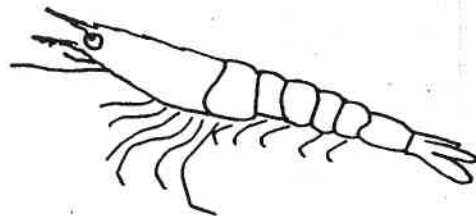
Shell and de-vein the prawns, leaving the tails intact. Chop the shallot, garlic, ginger and chillies and place in a large bowl. Add the lemon grass, coriander, nutmeg, shrimp paste, lime juice and coconut milk, season with salt and freshly ground black pepper, then stir to blend thoroughly.

Place the prawns in the spice-marinate, stir well and set aside for 30 minutes, then remove the prawns, drain well and dust with the rice flour. Heat the oil in a wok until it starts to smoke, then add the prawns and cook for 1-2 minutes until they curl. Drain the prawns on kitchen paper to remove excess oil before serving.

Serve on a platter on a bed of cos lettuce (or any other 'frilly' edged lettuce) with one or two large red chillies sliced and opened like a flower.

NOTE: The shrimp paste is a pungent paste made from dried shrimps. It adds a very distinctive flavour for which there is really no substitute. It is sold in small slabs and is readily available from Asian provision stores as are the other more exotic ingredients.

Enjoy



PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

While on a recent dive trip aboard Underwater Explorer, I, and those aboard with me, witnessed an event that, quite frankly, causes me great despair. I am going to relate the tale to you with only the names changed (to protect the innocent (of course) or maybe to deflect any undue retaliatory criticism) but with the rest of the story depressingly true and relatively unembellished.

We had anchored UE in 15 metres of water on 'Sausage Reef' (un-named on the charts so I've used our real name) and, with the boat hanging over 18 - 20 metres, we proceeded with our dive. Upon surfacing we were confronted with a situation that, if it had not been so serious, would have been quite whimsical. The water was scattered with divers (like discarded confetti strewn across the Highway of Life - as Guru Buggertherestofyou'll mallrightJack Chee would say); 30 odd of them bobbing on the surface or just under it with no apparent purpose or direction. The other dive boat was a sailing vessel of perhaps 15 metres or so called 'Nocturnal Reminisces' was anchored north (up current) of us in 20+ metres. The divers had been told by their Dive Master (???) to dive on our trip line buoy BEHIND their boat (would you believe). With an obvious surface current and a light northerly breeze this directive seemed at the time, and still seems, foolhardy.

But we haven't finished, have we. We were to find out later that a good number of the divers on board had, the weekend before, graduated from P.O.N.D. (Producing Only Nervous Divers - an esteemed training facility) having completed a C.E.I.D.E.O. (Chuck 'Em In Drag 'Em Out - also an esteemed, and internationally recognised, agency) course and having completed (wait for it) a total of three - THREE - open water dives (one in the river and two from a protected shore - NO boat dive) they were now DIVERS. Now we had them diving; two metre stride entries; virtually un-accompanied; in deep water (physically and metaphorically) for the first time; directions to dive against the current; and scared shi... er witless. All this together with an uncaring, "they'll cope" attitude from their DM in charge (one of our people spoke to her and can vouch for the level of support and concern). My friends what is it all coming to.

Listen, I know the commercial pressures imposed by the economic recessing; I know the need to keep course costs viable in a cut-throat industry. But I also know that what we saw was a fatality waiting to happen and I know that some of those divers will NEVER dive again. That, of course, is a sterling commercial result. There is here, and from other sources, evidence of a frightening trend. Training facilities (not all by any means - but some) are, in an attempt to remain competitive, cutting their course content to bare minimum standard (three dives in relatively protected open water and "who knows what" when it comes to the theory component). The trouble is that while the so called "standard" is being complied

with, few students will, under these circumstances, acquire sufficient experience, confidence or skill to enable them to go on to become divers in spite of their 'Certificates'.

There seems to me to be something morally wrong with the attitude of "churn 'em out quick then throw 'em in the deep end". Economic pressures notwithstanding I believe that the training facility and, indeed, the agency has the obligation to maintain safe and adequate standards (not just minimum standards). The application of these standards does, in fact, vary with the needs of each individual student and should be adjusted for each student as required. There is also a need in many cases to nurture the novice diver. Some students are, in reality, ducks taking to water and only need to be pointed in the right direction, but surely even in these cases the "right direction" should include a positive approach to safety and the support of less capable, less experienced, less confident divers. If a student doesn't see a supportive attitude demonstrated by his instructor then he is unlikely to ever see the need and will in all probability become another one of those selfish, uncaring, albeit capable, individuals that we all enjoy diving with so much.

However, to return to my anecdote, we remained in the area until all of the other divers were recovered (and indeed lent a hand in the case of one buddy pair (surprise, surprise, they were in buddy pairs so maybe all is not lost)) then proceeded on our way self satisfied in the knowledge the we in the Underwater Explorer's Club do it all (or most of it) correctly. We DO maintain a high training standard with extra and individual attention to each student dependant upon his need. We DO nurture the novice diver, ensuring that when he dives with us he is paired with an experienced buddy and that at the end of each dive he has taken another step towards diving maturity. We DO maintain high standards of diving safety. We DO constantly review our standards to ensure that Club training and diving is always as safe and enjoyable as we can reasonably make it.

Regrettably I feel that incidents such as have be related will occur more frequently as training facilities, charter operators, and agencies attempt to remain competitive and economically viable in these tough times. However we are constitutionally and morally bound not to lower or compromise our Club standards and to speak out against dangerous and derelict diving practice. Every time we dive with members (especially new members) and with guests we demonstrate that high standards are possible and that because of these high standards our diving is of the highest standard.

Please let us keep up the good work.

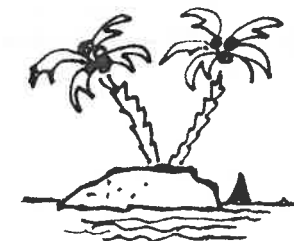


ROTTO TRIP MARCH 1993

Yes, that's right. Maree is taking bookings NOW for the long weekend in March 1993 - U.E.C.'s annual Rottneest diving event.

Don't miss out on the fun!

Pay your deposit at this General Meeting, Tuesday 21 April, to secure your bed, whether it'll be on the balcony or in the kitchen! We will be back in Thompsons Bay next year.



EASTER LONG WEEKEND

A reminder to all members coming up to Club Capricorn, Yanchep, for the Easter long weekend to ensure that you don't forget the following:

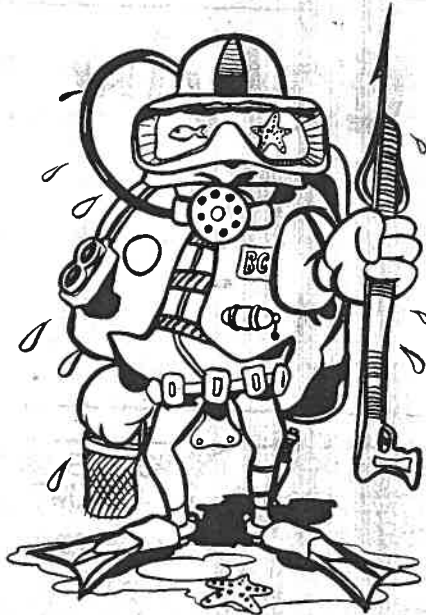
- * Bring a tent or arrange to sleep in your vehicle (or, if you're lucky, in someone else's tent!)
- * Bring all the food you need for the weekend.
- * Bring all your diving gear.

The tent sites are booked from Thursday night 16th April to Sunday night 19th April.

Space is very limited so be prepared to "get close". Also, members intending to come up for the day MUST ring me before home on 457 3333, otherwise I cannot guarantee you a space on the boat. Easter Sunday is fully booked already.

Maree

SPOT THE 5 DIFFERENCES



DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



Where have all the divers gone??

Why aren't members diving??

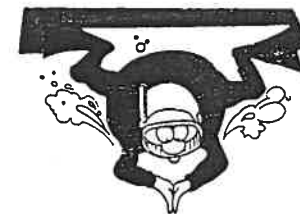
Last weekend (April 4 & 5), we had a **TOTAL** of 6 divers booked on for the **ENTIRE 2 DAYS**. As I write this, it is Thursday morning (very early) and when I check the diary, we have just **ONE** booking for Sunday and **NONE** for Saturday as yet. At this rate who can say what the future of the boat will be. Your Skippers and Dive Officers can do with some support here people. They give up their time freely to take you diving. Please let's keep the Club going.

If you haven't been booking on because of indifferent weather reports (say 1 1/2 metre seas on a 2 metre swell) please remember that the reported conditions will not prevail all day. The forecast maximum is not usually reached until late in the day when we are back. Much has been said recently about weather reports and diving conditions, however, please remember that your crew **WILL NOT** take the boat out if the conditions are unsafe or unpleasant. Their commitment is to give you safe enjoyable diving. From you we need your commitment to dive whenever possible. What I'm asking is for you to book on whenever you would like to dive (not whenever you think the weather will be perfect) and let the crew determine if the conditions are satisfactory. We will not let you down. Remember that diving conditions are often delightful even when the forecast says 1 1/2 on 2.

One last thing. The Sunday dive over the Easter Weekend (Sunday 19) will be on the wreck of the 'Vergulde Draeck' (Gilt Dragon). The boat will leave from Sea Bird at 8:00am. Contact Maree about this one.

I hope to hear from YOU soon!

Judy



BOAT BITTS

Dennis Stubberfield

Back into print again after a marvellous holiday in Rottneest diving and fishing and lazing around - and last but not least, working on the boat. Much has been achieved since my last report but we still have a long way to go and need everybody's help and assistance.

We now have a superbly designed, built and fitted marlin board and an equally outstanding canopy frame. A special mention in despatches to Glen and Geoff and Peter Horton for this work, as they did it virtually single handed, a credit to them. Their next project, much longer term I hastily add, will be to extend the cabin and fit it out! All that remains to make our new "UNDERWATER EXPLORER" dry and comfy is to get some covers and dodgers made up and I have this in hand myself.

Another snippet of good news is that with a clean bottom our boat still moves along quite fast at much reduced maximum revs, which means better fuel economy, cooler and quieter running and a more comfortable ride. However, there the good news ends! The key factor in this aspect of our operations is 'a clean bottom'. Unfortunately lack of anti-fouling has developed into a major problem with literally inches of barnacles building up in a matter of 2 or 3 weeks. Even a weekly scrape by a few dedicated people can't cope. Therefore I feel we will have to slip her, clean up her bottom and put a solid coat of anti-fouling on. The appropriate arrangements will be made in consultation with the Committee, after which you will be hearing from me for help in getting the job done.

The boat and machinery has operated well over the past 2 months with many trips to her credit. The Rottneest exercise, from a boating point of view, was a great success and allowed us to get used to her and appreciate some of the very definite advantages of a metal boat - such as her virtual indestructibility against wooden jetties like those disgraceful structures existing in general at Rottneest. SHAME!! However, not even metal boats can cope with great steel bolts sticking out of wooden piers (a la Rottneest) or with solid concrete structures and so we have attained one or two little dents in the process of getting to know her. The installation of a single lever engine and gearbox control has made life a lot easier for Skipper's and will greatly reduce the likelihood of more dents!

The use of the Radar for navigation and as an aid to getting onto interesting looking charted diving areas has proved a real boon and certainly vindicates retaining it. I'm less sure about the HF radio, however, and further discussions will be held on that subject. Speaking of radios, we are having some problems with our 27 MHz installation so if anyone has any real expertise in this department I'd like to hear from them. Of course the HF radio will be retained until these troubles are sorted out.

Finally, all I can ask of you is to use and enjoy our boat as much as you possibly can, that way we can afford to get all those nice essentials such as weather curtains and cabin revamps all the quicker. I Look forward to seeing you at Two rocks and Yanchep over Easter.

Cheers Folks!

Stubby

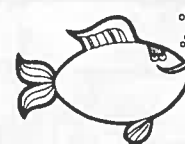


CLUB HOUSE

CLEAN-UP

U.E.C. IS CALLING ALL THE 'WORKING BEES' to the club rooms on SATURDAY 25th of April - 9 AM.

GOSSIP COLUMN



Great news!

CONGRATULATIONS to SHARON and NICK WASLEY on the birth of their son MAX KEEGAN, who came up for air two weeks early, born on the 22 March; 5 lbs 15 oz. WELCOME INTO THE CLUB, MAX!

* * *

Fresh from Singapore! MARY and ADRIAN EDWARDS, two of the Club's most faithful and intrepid divers. Great to have you back onboard!

* * *

SAFETY REPORT

Geoff Charlton



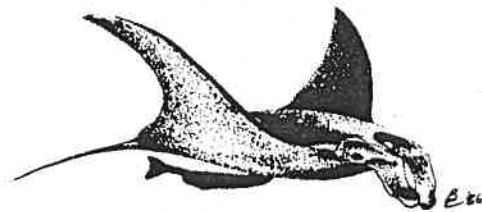
Angel Fish

Well, the simple fact of the matter is that you're making the position of Safety Officer very easy, bordering on obsolete (perish the thought). Keep it up, it's the way it should be.

The only thing that needs to be mentioned is the air contents (cylinder pressure) of some divers when they return to the boat. When you were learning to dive, you would have (or at least should have) been taught that you try to arrive back at the boat with 50ATA in your tank, or at very least 40ATA (that's roughly the top of the red zone on your contents gauge). I am certain your D.O. is emphasising this, but remember that once you descend, you're in control.

Remember, safe diving starts with YOU. So it's nominated bottom time or 50AT's, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.

See-ya,
Geoff.



THE MARINE STINGER HOTLINE
Australia wide toll free number

008-079 909

For the advice about the treatment
of marine stinger injuries.

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

Congratulations to:

Ainsley Choate
Ron Phonmyint
Karen Gurry
Ross Cooper
Brian Cruise

on successfully completing the Recovery Diver course on the weekend of 28-29 March. Instructor Margaret Neville will be on hand at the General Meeting on Tuesday, April 21 to present Certificates. Again, well done people.

The next specialty course on offer will be (as previously noted) 'Equipment Specialist' or 'Deep Diver'; depending on interest and demand. As always costs will be VERY competitive and again both these course are Master Diver Modules. Hope to hear from you soon.

The prospects of a SCUBA Diver course in the near future do not look good. I've had no enquiries from prospective students and at this stage I am unable to make any plans. There are still the usual Membership enquiries from qualified divers but nothing regarding training. WE need to promote in-Club training and to encourage our non-diving friends to join and train with us. Our training standards are as good as, and in many cases superior to, any (you might care to glance at the President's Platform this month). We don't, however, have the high profile that the shops enjoy. This means that we ALL have to promote ourselves. Nobody else will do it for us.

Happy diving

Glen



CLUB CALENDAR

for your convenience



April

Friday 17 to Monday 20

Easter at 'Yanchep' - Contact Maree 457 3333

Tuesday 21 General Meeting at the Club Rooms - 8pm

Saturday 25 Skipper and Dive Officer Training - Contact Dennis 457 3333

Sunday 26 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Maree

Monday 27 ANZAC Day Holiday - ring Judy 470 3770

May

Saturday 2 Dive 'Sausage Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Geoff

Sunday 3 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 7am Skipper: Bob DO: Peter.M

Monday 4 Committee Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 9 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 7am Skipper: Glen DO: Brian

Sunday 10 Dive 'Jackson Rock' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Judy

Saturday 16 Dive 'Roe Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Geoff

Sunday 17 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 7am Skipper: Dennis DO: Ron

Monday 18 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 23 Dive 'Swirl Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Judy

Sunday 24 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 7am Skipper: Richard DO: Maree

Phone Judy on 470 3770 for dive bookings or enquires. DO NOT RING THE CREW.

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



IT SEEMS LIKE ALISON

STILL NEEDS HELP WITH

SOME SOCIAL EVENTS!

COM'ON, GIVE US SOME IDEAS OF WHAT YOU WOULD

LIKE TO DO!

(Restaurant-Night-Out??)

NEW NOMINATIONS:

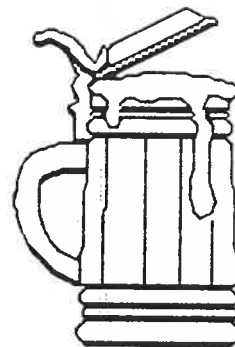
Melvyn Stuart JESSOP, Maylands
Clint COLLINS, Kelmscott

* * *

Fund Raising

BOOZE CRUISE with U.E.

was a fun-filled event
and I am looking forward
to the next time!



Suzie

U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine



MAY 1992

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U.E.C. NEWS
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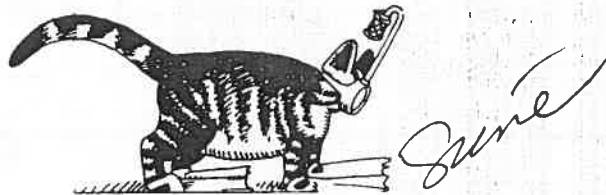
YOUR COMMITTEE 1992

PRESIDENT	Glen Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
VICE PRESIDENT	Maree Casley	Phone 457 3333
SECRETARY	Pat Troy	Phone 328 8163
	(work)	Phone 327 8777
TREASURER	Peter Horton	Phone 445 2336
DIVING OFFICER	Judy Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
	(work)	Phone 451 3322
TRAINING OFFICER	Glen Collingwood	Phone 470 3770
SAFETY OFFICER	Geoff Charlton	Phone 332 6270
BOAT OFFICER	Capt. Bligh/Stubby	Phone 457 3333
BUILDING	Nick Wasley	Phone 364 8941
SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385

FROM THE EDITOR...

I have been asked why I don't change the front picture of the magazine. The answer is simple: I like that drawing very much; it's the best one I have; it's "moving" in the environment I love the most (underwater); it's "breathing" peacefulness; it's done by one of our valued club members, BOB COTTON.

If anybody out there has a better idea about the front page, you are of course welcome to present it to me, and I promise to give it due consideration.



CONSERVATION CORNER

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

there are approximately 46,000 pieces of plastic floating in each square mile of our oceans!

(Facts researched by Prue Corbett of Dorigo, NSW, and published in Greenpeace Volume 3 Number 1 Summer 1992)

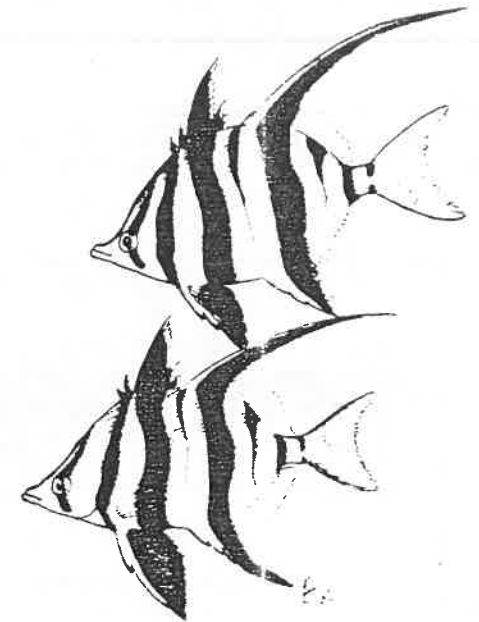
*

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WAS CUT AND SENT IN BY TIBI:

MELBOURNE: A trend in Melbourne's Japanese restaurants to carve slices off live fish on customers' plates has been condemned by RSPCA executive director Richard Hunter.

He said the practice was alien to Australia but fish were not covered under the Cruelty to Animals Act.

But a manager of one Japanese restaurant said there was an increasing demand for fish to be served live.



RANDY RECIPIES

It's a little known fact that not every diver goes after crayfish. Who said that??? Well, it's true. There are some amongst us who still like to play the wet, white hunter with spear gun and gidgee and there are some of us who like to dangle a line. So here we have a recipe for fish, not CRAYfish; just fish.

You may use any white boneless fillets (bream, sweep, flake etc.) so there is a lot of scope to use the odds and sods that come your way. OK! 'Fish with Ginger Chive Sauce' is a delightful, delicate dish that should please just about any one. The recipe is for microwave cooking but the next time that I do it I will cook it in a pan and saute the fish in the sauce rather than use the microwave oven.

- 4 white fish fillets
- 30g butter
- 1 teaspoon grated fresh ginger
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh chives
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/4 cup dry white wine
- 2 teaspoons cornflour
- 1/2 cup water

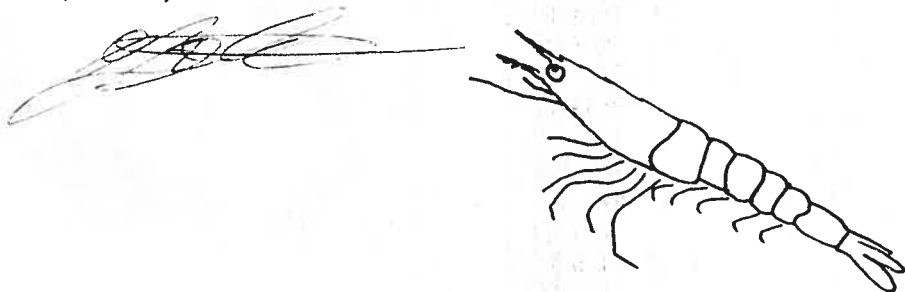
Combine butter, ginger and chives in a large shallow dish, cover, and cook on HIGH for 1 minute. Add fish in a single layer, add the lemon juice and wine, cover and cook on HIGH for 5 minutes. Remove the fish.

Add blended cornflour and water to the dish, cover, and cook on HIGH for about 2 minutes or until the mixture boils and thickens.

Serve the sauce over the fish and garnish with a couple of wedges of lemon and long gratings of lemon rind.

OK! Now back to last month's prawn recipe. It is called GOONG PAAD (Fried Prawns with Chilli Paste). Also, it seems a shame to waste all that extremely tasty spice marinade, so try this variation. After removing the prawns from the marinade and dusting with rice flour, thicken the marinade with rice flour to make a light though lumpy (the chopped spices etc, not flour lumps) batter. Return the prawns to the marinade/batter and coat liberally. Cook the battered prawns for 1 to 2 minutes as previously instructed.

Enjoy



PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

Those of you who follow Mike Murphy's column in The West Australian will be aware of a fatal diving accident and of a subsequent Coroner's finding that placed a good deal of the responsibility, if not blame, for the accident and its tragic outcome squarely on the shoulders of the person who was acting as "dive master" for the dive.

I do not propose to quote, or interpret the Coroner's finding in any way. Mike's article did that capably and in detail. If you haven't read the relevant article then I recommend that you do. As Mike suggests there are lots of legal questions that only lawyers can answer however "the [legal] answer seems to be that any group going diving, whether a club or a group of friends, will be protected legally to the point that the law allows if **accepted procedures are followed**" (the emphasis is mine). Mike then presents a list of operational and safety procedures that presumably represent "accepted procedures". This list contains no surprises. We have been applying ALL these procedures (with the exception of a spare SCUBA unit on the shot line for all dives (we do however, employ a stand-by unit in this manner for specific deep dives)) for quite some years. Our enviable safety record is, no doubt, a result of this. I must admit to a degree of satisfaction in reading this list and finding that in this respect we, as a Club, have not been found wanting.

Our Skippers and DO's are, across the board, competent skilled divers and boat handlers in whom the Club and its members have vested the trust and responsibility for conducting our diving in a competent, professional (not commercial) and safe manner. The Boat and Dive Briefs that are given on every days diving are, in the main satisfactory and adequately cover the points of procedure that I believe constitute following "accepted procedures". We DO follow "accepted procedure" both with respect of the facilities and equipment that are deployed at the dive site and with respect of the procedures that are followed in terms of the conduct of our dives.

However, it seems to me that should we, heaven forbid, be involved in a similar tragic accident, then the issue becomes not so much whether we followed the "accepted procedures" but whether the Dive Officer and Skipper of the day can CONVINCE any inquiring party that we DID, in fact, follow those procedures. To this end I believe that we MUST formalise our briefing procedure and standardise the text of the Briefs. The wording of the Boat Brief and the Dive Officer's General Dive Brief (covering diving procedures and safety procedures), and the scope of the Dive Site Brief should be determined and documented, and then employed on EVERY days diving by EVERY Skipper and Dive Officer. This will ensure that all future briefing are succinct, sufficient and consistent. It will also result in a document that can be produced as irrefutable evidence that (as long as the Briefs were delivered) "accepted procedures" were followed.

Your thoughts on this matter would be appreciated.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Pat Troy

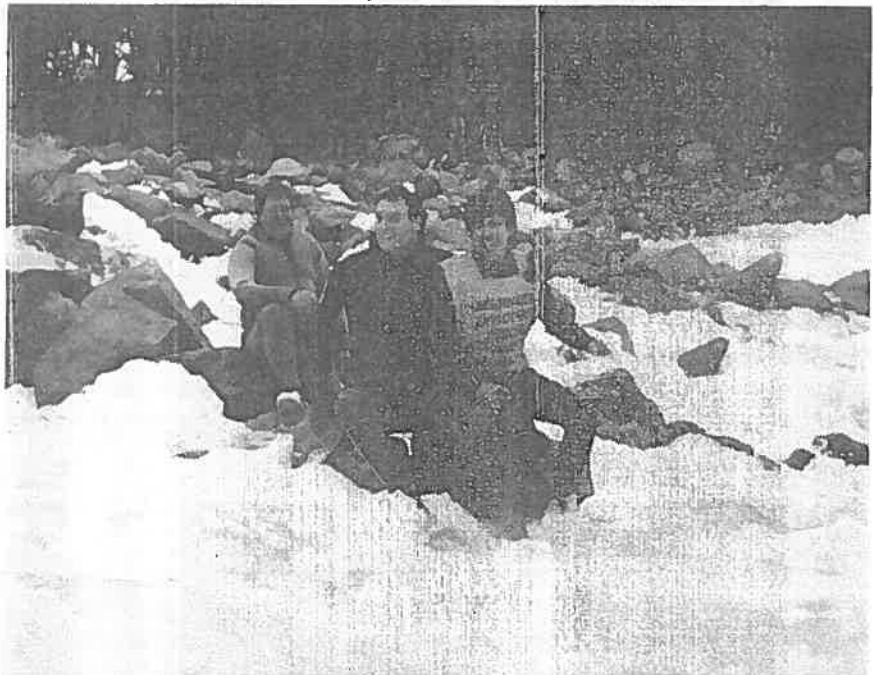
At the committee meeting on 6 April, 1992, the following motions were carried:

- #1 That the boat be slipped for anti-fouling on Friday 8 May. The total cost will be approximately \$1200.
- #2 That we withdraw the previous motion to retain the HF radio.

Footnote: The HF radio will be prepared for sale. The echo sounder will be valued with the view to selling it and the HF radio. The money raised will be used to purchase a new echo sounder.

Other matters discussed and agreed upon:

Glen Collingwood and Dennis Stubberfield are meeting with the organisers of the Avon Descent to discuss U.E.C.'s participation this year.



The highlight of the diving in Cervantes was with the Sea Lions. The pups were just old enough to be left alone by their parents to play with us - after big "Daddy Bull" had checked us out. We had a fantastic time with these marvellous creatures and stayed in the shallow water till our tanks were down to 50 bar. Next day we were back again and didn't have to wait long until we were surrounded by the playful Sea Lions again. This time we counted eleven of them, and we filmed till we ran out of batteries!

Back in the boat, some of them followed us in a line in the bubbly back-waters for a good couple of hundred metres. Finally, they decided not to go further away from the security of their island and "said good-bye" to us with some big jumps out of the water. What a great dive experience it had been!

For a casual and stress-free environment on a diving holiday, you cannot do better than BOB CAMPBELL'S SCUBA SAFARIS IN W.A.

Bob's next Scuba Camp will be set up in CORAL BAY to dive the Ningaloo Reef from July to October. We are going up in August. I'm sure looking forward to that!



June



SCUBA SAFARIS IN W.A.

BOB CAMPBELL is back in full swing with his Scuba Safaris, diving from an inflatable up and down the coast of W.A.

Bob invited all dive clubs in and around Perth to join him at his camp in CERVANTES for three days. Kerry, Charlie Snow and I went up as KAS DIVE. A smiling, bushy red-hair/long bearded Bob greeted us on arrival at the camp on a sunny Tuesday morning in April. We also meet two representatives from Dive, Ski & Surf, and two guys from the Kwinana Dive club. They all left later that day.

Bob's camp set-up is fully equipped for six divers. Table, comfortable chairs, gas stoves, all cutlery, kitchen sink, freezer, fridge and a *microwave oven* - it's all there, and the food is included in Bob's very economical Dive Safari Package price. He has a Bauer Mariner compressor on site. Your scuba tanks, air fills and weight belts are also included. NO hidden costs anywhere!

Bob has planned his Scuba Safari Dive Program to be flexible to cater for the needs of the individual diver, and he makes sure you will be together in a group of divers with similar interests. Just let Bob know what you want out of your diving holiday when you ring and book with him in advance. (Phone 274 4480 after 7.30 pm.) Please note: Don't bother if you want to spearfish!

The diving is done from a heavy duty AVON inflatable in survey, which carries safety gear such as Oxy-viva, first-aid kit, a licensed HF radio and a radio-transmitter beacon. Bob is a licensed and certified Coxswain and Dive Master. A tender boat is also provided.

Bob himself is an amazing person, and a real character. He has been and done everything from a "bikie" to a nurse, but kept his interest and love for the water and diving since he was 14 years old. A couple of years ago Bob decided to "jump off the rat race" - his last job being an insurance broker. It's a pure pleasure to be in his company. There is always a smile, another story, and lots of laughter.

(cont. next page)

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



Well, what a month! Not much in the way of diving to talk about.

Those who were the Easter early - birds, diving on Good Friday, were the only ones to score a dive at Yanchep, before the weekend became 'weathered out'. Major bummer!

(I wish El Nino would go back to Italy or Spain or wherever his home is.)

A bunch of hardy (or was that fool - hardy?) members ventured to Rottnest last weekend - 2 May. Although conditions were, shall we say, "less than ideal" these committed stalwarts, desperate to overcome withdrawal symptoms, enjoyed their outing, in spite of the poor visibility and sloppy surface conditions.

Weather conditions have really been depressing (what an understatement). So bad were they that last Saturday, what seemed to be the only 'divable' spot in Perth was the 'Rockingham Wrecks' site. Even there surface conditions were pretty ordinary. I was down there with a group of students and counted, at one stage, no less than 45 divers. One school had arrived with 23 divers and several Instructors. That group settled for a day at the pub watching the Eagles instead of diving. They (the Eagles) were also 'weathered out'.

Never mind, them's the breaks this time of year.

Happy (and more) diving.

Judy

This so much talked about "el Niño" comes from the rugged west coast of PERU.

Ed.

BOAT BITTS

Dennis Stubberfield

The boat has operated satisfactorily over the last month, when we have been able to get out that is. A working party of able bilge rats took her to Bicton baths jetty for a bottom clean on the Saturday before Easter, to ensure we wouldn't take all day and 400 litres of fuel to get her to Two Rocks for the Easter bash. This proved to be a fairly simple if boring chore and one which was very worth while. The trip to the Two rocks marina, made on the following Thursday only took 3 hours, including the bit through Fremantle Harbour, since she planed along on her nice clean bottom doing about 15 knots at no more than 75% throttle. There is no doubt that this factor allowed us to better than break even on that trip, even though we only managed one days diving. Due to rotten weather again.

The clean bottom also made a dramatic improvement to noise and vibration, no doubt as a result of not having to labour through the water as much. Such being the case, I am very unhappy to report that only 3 (three) weeks later the build up of fur, weed, barnacles and general "gunge" on the bottom has again reached the stage where our speed through the water is so reduced that fuel usage, noise, vibration and even engine over heating is a problem.

Therefore an early slipping is inevitable and will be organised as soon as possible. It will be as short as possible and will hope to take advantage of the remaining warm sunny weather of Autumn!!! We should use the opportunity to take care of a few minor problems with rudder and sumlog fittings which have caused some irritation as well.

The Committee have agreed that we should sell the HF radio, since our 27 MHz installation seems to be OK now and we have a resident expert in Roger Nottage to help us if we get into real trouble. I am on record as having opposed this sale but have changed my views on this, in view of the above and the negligible use which it will get. (Unlike the radar unit, without which, some of our skippers including myself would now feel positively handicapped.) Your Committee and I favour the sale or trading of both the HF radio and the current monster of an echo sounder with a new compact sounder of the type we used to have. This will provide a better service to you and open up the limited amount of space in the cabin, so I will be expediting this as soon as possible.

Finally, be ready for the call to arms! Those arms being paint scrapers, sanders, grinders, brushes (both wire and bristle), spanners, hammers, greaseguns and hacksaws. No blowtorches or alkaline solutions (Such as oven cleaner). I'll be in touch, rest assured since we must be back in the water and diving as soon as possible!

Cheers Folks!

Stubby

THE START OF THE DECOMPRESSION CHAMBER

The birth of hyperbaric oxygen was recorded in 1662, when a Dr Henshaw built an airtight room which he compressed with bellows. The British physician proposed the use of his "domicilium" to aid digestion and prevent afflictions of the lungs. There is no account of anyone taking up the proposal until two centuries later, when it had become possible to build chambers and compressors which would expose patients to pressures of up to four atmospheres. By the second half of the 19th century, there were hyperbaric centres in all major European cities and were often advertised as being comparable to health spas. One French advocate referred to his treatment as "le bain d'air comprime", the compressed-air bath.

The treatment was one of the many therapies that died out as medicine became more scientific and rational. Its final and most enthusiastic advocate was an American doctor, John Cunningham, who in 1928 constructed a huge spherical chamber in Cleveland, Ohio. It was six stories high and had 72 rooms! Cunningham used it to treat people with all sorts of ills, including syphilis, hypertension, diabetes and cancer. The American Medical Association censured Cunningham for providing no evidence to demonstrate that his treatment was effective. In 1937 the Cleveland chamber was broken up and sold for scrap metal.

Within a few years, however, hyperbaric medicine was reborn, with one important difference. This time the patient were given pure oxygen to breathe while under pressure. This practice was quickly shown to be effective in the treatment of the decompression sickness suffered by divers and tunnel workers after breathing compressed air for long periods. Doctors hoped it would also have wider applications. (SOURCE: New Scientist 23 Nov. 1991)

SAFETY REPORT

Geoff Charlton



Angel Fish

What can I say? A month where the weather has kept our sub-aquatic frolicking to a minimum, the result being that I have nothing much to say. Not much, but still one incident that rates a mention. One which could have had dangerous, if not deadly consequences, but as it turned out caused little more than mild heart failure for the crew.

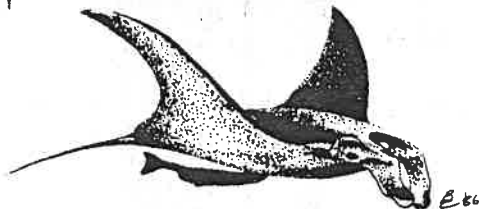
The incident occurred when the buddy pair in question realised that one of them was "lowish" on air, and decided to return to the boat (wise move - they must have read last month's report), they then surfaced and got their bearings. The one who was lowest on air then made a bee-line for the boat (assuming his buddy was hot on his heels), a swim of about 50 metres. This person, on his arrival at the boat, was understandably surprised not to find their buddy nearby, but didn't know where he was.

To cut a long story short, our "lost diver" spotted a well-hidden cray whilst making his way back and got into such a tight spot it was necessary to ditch his unit to escape. In his defence I will mention that his air supply was never in doubt.

Please people, when you decide to return to the boat, do it, and by the shortest practical route. Don't search for more crays on the way, you may not be so lucky.

Catch you next month - same time, same place, different font.

Geoff



TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood



There is little to report this month. There are no courses current though I am recruiting for the next specialty course - 'Equipment Specialist'.

Please register your interest with me as soon as possible to allow this course to proceed in the near future. This is a Master Diver Module. I hope to hear from you soon.

The next Specialty course (after Equipment) will be Deep Diver. Margaret Neville's comments from the last General Meeting regarding fitness should be noted if you are at all interested in this course when it is offered. I'm giving you plenty of advance warning so, if your fitness level is not 'up to par' and you want to be involved in this programme, you have time to get fit.

Happy diving



ELAINE AIREY, our "old" (young-looking) Life Member, honoured us with a short visit at the last Committee Meeting. Elaine returned several boxes of "historical" relics, among them a collection of old U.E.C. News magazines, kindly donated by HUGH PETERS, who was the Club's Editor during 1974 to 1981. Issues of "Dolphin Digest" reveals that U.E.C. had a Sub-Club for youngsters during the sixties.

* * *

CLUB CALENDAR

for your convenience



May

Saturday 23 Dive 'Swirl Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Judy
Sunday 24 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 7am Skipper: Richard DO: Maree
Saturday 30 No diving scheduled - Phone to enquire.
Sunday 31 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Peter.H DO: Judy

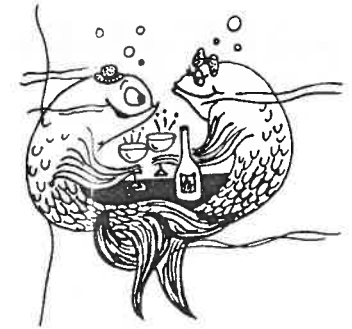
June

Saturday 6 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 7am Skipper: Nick DO: Geoff
Sunday 7 Dive 'Swirl Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Bob DO: Judy
Monday 8 Committee Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
Saturday 13 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 7am Skipper: Barry DO: Maree
Sunday 14 Dive 'Jackson Rock' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Peter.M
Saturday 20 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 7am Skipper: Richard DO: Ron
Sunday 21 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Geoff
Monday 22 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
Saturday 27 No diving scheduled - Ring to enquire.
Sunday 28 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Brian

Phone Judy on 470 3770 for dive bookings or enquires. DO NOT RING THE CREW.

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



For our next General Meeting (May 18) we are hoping to get Dr. DES GURRY to talk about sea stingers.

* * *

Fancy a taste of the old Swan River again?
WINE TASTING - not drinking the river! Lunch at Jane Brook or Lamonts, followed by a look into Evans & Tate, Henley Park Wines, Little River Wines and Westfields.

The date is **SUNDAY 31 MAY**. Talk to Alison at May General meeting or phone me at home around 6pm.

* * *

PROGRESSIVE DINNER coming up SATURDAY 20 JUNE

Costing and details later. Phone Alison with a firm booking to secure a place.

* * *

AND THIS IS A BIG PLUG FOR OUR BIG EVENT

THE QUIZ NIGHT

Venue to be announced later. DATE: SATURDAY 25 JULY.

Be there, or be square! "Warn" your friends now, and make up a table of six! This is a major FUND RAISING event for the Club. All monies go towards the boat loan.

* * *

U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine

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JUNE 1992

YOUR COMMITTEE 1992

PRESIDENT	Glen Collingwood	Phone 272 1246
VICE PRESIDENT	Maree Casley	Phone 457 3333
SECRETARY	Pat Troy	Phone 328 8163
	(work)	Phone 327 8777
TREASURER	Peter Horton	Phone 445 2336
DIVING OFFICER	Judy Collingwood	Phone 272 1246
	(work)	Phone 451 3322
TRAINING OFFICER	Glen Collingwood	Phone 272 1246
SAFETY OFFICER	Geoff Charlton	Phone 332 6270
BOAT OFFICER	D. Stubberfield	Phone 457 3333
BUILDING	Nick Wasley	Phone 364 8941
SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385

FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

WINTER DIVING IN ESPERANCE - Archipelago of the Recherche - "one of Australia's most beautiful seascapes". A bit "nippy" maybe, but you soon forget the cold when you experience all the wonders of the underwater world here. A night dive under the jetty, at the broken off end-bit, was magic! Kerry had a frightening experience: he was "momentarily startled" (his words) as a huge, black shadow silently glided passed him, just as the video light faded away after 1/2 hour filming. I missed "the jaws" because I was looking at a Hermit crab crawling along a pylon at the time. Another day we spent exploring the dive sites around Duke of Orleans (100 km east of Esperance) with a picnic lunch at Little Wharton Bay between the dives. This little beach must be the most beautiful of them all - so sheltered and secluded.



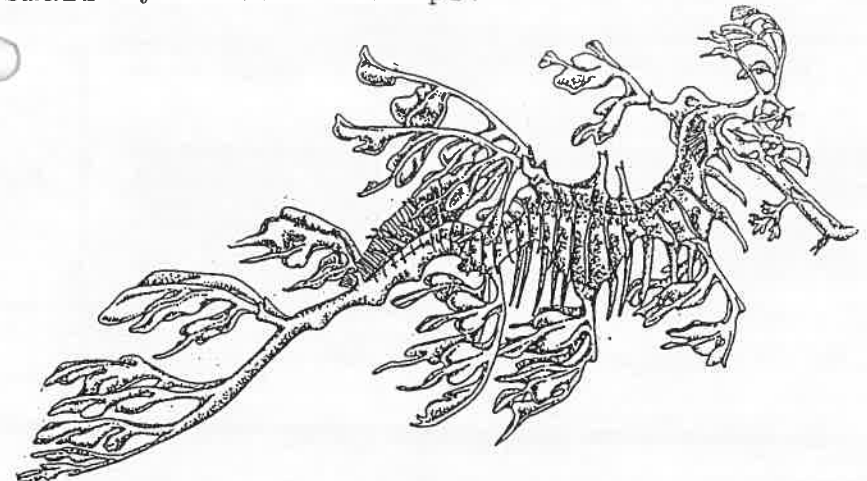
SEADRAGONS

Resembling a piece of drifting weed, and hanging almost motionless in the water - the Seadragon is a spectacular beast. Named after the dragons of Chinese legend, these entrancing animals are true bony fish. Both species of Seadragon; the Weedy and the more ornate Leafy Seadragon, are only found in southern Australian waters.

The Seadragon's camouflage is remarkable. Covered in 'leaf-like' projections, it may only be the flutter of tiny fins or the movement of one of its independently swivelling eyes that betrays their presence.

During mating, the female Seadragon will deposit as many as 250 eggs onto the underside of the male's tail, an area known as the brood patch. The eggs are fertilised and protected in cup-like indentations in the tail for up to eight weeks before hatching. Young hatch over a period of several days.

Adult Seadragons grow to approximately 45 cm. They have no teeth or stomach, and feed on small mysidacean shrimps.



LOOK



THIS IS
THE HAND
YOU
CAN GIVE
US!

IF YOU CAN OBTAIN SPONSORSHIP FROM YOUR WORK PLACE FOR THE QUIZ NIGHT'S AUCTION, PLEASE CONTACT AINSLEY on 316 1319 (evening) OR SUE on 370 3924 (during the day).

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

IT SEEMS that the slow season has arrived. Allow me to define "the slow season". "The slow season" is that time of the year when, for whatever reason, divers (or UEC divers at any rate) seem to decide that diving is not the way to go. Now I appreciate that "the slow season" seems to coincide with the first weeks of winter and with winter comes very indifferent weather. And I also appreciate that for the last couple of weeks of autumn the Underwater Explorer was out of the water to have her bottom polished (however in that time we lost only one possible diving day - that indifferent weather that I just mentioned). But, on the other hand I also appreciate that there are still some weeks of the cray season left and that there are those days (among all the bleak ones) when the weather is so sparkling clear and mild that they are nothing short of magic. Can any one tell me why it is that, after we have endured weekend after weekend of foul weather, when one of those sparkling crystalline days occur our beloved vessel is not being swamped with enthusiastic, eager divers clambering over each other in their efforts to get out there and get down. Maybe I expect too much. Maybe I expect that members of a Dive Club would have diving as a preoccupation rather than just as an occasional interest. But then again maybe I'm being too cynical. After all it is "the slow season".

AVON DECENT time is upon us again. Because of the tragic incident of last year's event the Committee (the UEC Committee) had a long hard look at the Club's involvement this year. After all, being a "rescue diver" is no longer a romp in the park (or frolic in the river). The whole thing had suddenly become very real indeed. Not only are our people, by virtue of their involvement, being exposed to very real and very personal dangers they are being forced to accept the media's "flack" when things go wrong. It is small consolation that a magistrate praises heroic efforts in private when media blood hounds criticise in public. Careful consideration has been given to all aspects of our Club's involvement this year with particular attention to "rescuer's" safety and adequate insurance support should litigation arise or should a rescuer sustain injury. Discussions have been had with the organisers of the event and as a result of these discussions the Committee has decided we will field a team of approximately fifteen "rescue divers" at this year's event. We will again operate as an element of the Westrail team. However, this year participants will be closely screened for fitness, and juniors will not be permitted to take part. Volunteers are now being sought and interested parties should contact Dennis Stubberfield.

APPARENTLY the person who made up the monthly calendar in last month's magazine really messed up the dates (I cringe and hide my head in shame). Not only was the Committee Meeting advertised for the 8th when it should have been the 1st (now really who would expect the first Monday to actually be the first DAY of the month) the General Meeting has been listed for the 22nd. This is WRONG. **THE JUNE GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE THIRD MONDAY, JUNE 15.** I apologise for any inconvenience caused by this error.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

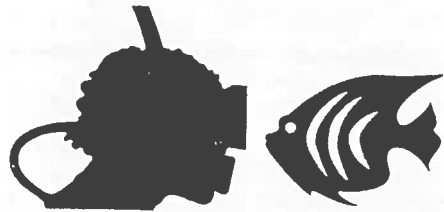
Pat Troy



A Special Committee Meeting on Wednesday 3 June, 1992, was called to discuss U.E.C.'s involvement in this year's AVON DESCENT. It was agreed that The Club would participate in the event, subject to the following conditions:

- #1 The sum of \$1,000.00 be presented to the Club to cover expenses.
- #2 Written confirmation of the insurance coverage be given to The Club.

* * *



NOMINATIONS

Kenneth John SUMMERS, Brentwood



DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



It's that time of the month again, when I must put the brain into gear and come up with something to say about the past month of diving. Little has happened, what with the boat being out of the water and with the weather being unfavourable. However, there are two or three items worthy of note.

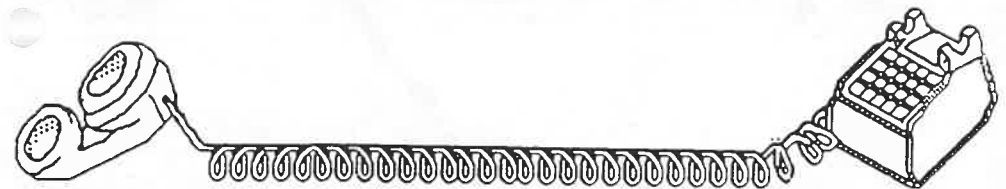
Firstly, all dives, from now until the mornings become brighter again, will leave at 8:00am (no more 7 o'clock starts until October - ish (it's just not fair to expect the crew to find the boat in the dark)).

Secondly, the boat went to Rottnest last Sunday (7th June) with 8 keen divers aboard. I have been assured that just about everybody had a beaut time.

Thirdly, for those of you who haven't heard; after our fifth round of thefts/burglaries, Glen and I have moved house. We have "crossed over to the other side" (of The River that is). Please note our new telephone number (for dive bookings) - 272 1246.

Oh yes! Thank you to the Editor for setting me straight regarding old El Nino. Doesn't it suddenly become obvious why he spends time in WA, given his ethnic origins. I mean who wouldn't prefer to live in the Golden West rather than some (almost) third world country.

Anyway happy diving.



PLEASE NOTE NEW NUMBER
FOR BOOKING: 272 1246

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

The Equipment Specialist course as advertised will proceed soon. The time and cost will be announced at the June General Meeting. Anybody who is still considering getting involved will be able to do so at that time.

I am currently recruiting for a SCUBA Diver course to start early in July. I have had two expressions of interest and while we can proceed with only two I would prefer six or so. It's time to rope in all those friends who have been "thinking" about it for so long. Convince them that by getting the training over and done with during winter they will not waste a minute of summer diving. You might also take the approach that from winter on it can only get better. Oh yes, also keep in mind the Deep Diver course coming up soon.

Happy diving



BOAT BITS

Dennis "Stubby" Stubberfield

The news of this month is the annual maintenance slipping of the boat! Well its over! and the good news is, that it was completed on time, on budget and about 95% of the work finished, and....there's no bad news!

Many thanks to those who helped, putting in a terrific effort to achieve an outstanding result, a memorably short, sweet slipping. The advantages of an Aluminium boat and fine calm weather have to be experienced to be believed; no filling, no patching, no standing round and waiting for filler to dry then sanding it back etc, etc. All this in glorious sunshine. Future boat maintenance will probably take place in October/November when the weather is also fine but diving conditions are not, because we did lose a couple of good diving days. However, we had no choice on this occasion.

The below waterline work achieved was as follows:-

The hull was wire brushed back to bare metal and two coats of white, two pack epoxy primer applied. This was followed by 2 coats of hard racing anti foul, a "pretty" blue in colour. The rudder was shipped and its gland repaired.

Two hull water entries were installed, with valves, to facilitate fitting of a toilet at a later date, without the need to slip the boat.

Above the water, the engine cooling system received extensive maintenance, the electrical system has been thoroughly overhauled, with a new switch and fuse panel being fitted and a 12 volt system being added.

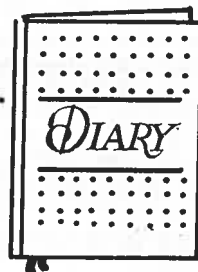
In addition, She, "UNDERWATER EXPLORER" that is, was given a thorough clean up with all the old names and numbers being removed and her own name being put in place. Finally, she is now sporting a brand new, all white canopy cover which really makes her look good. There's still plenty to do, but the major spending is complete till next slipping, (I hope). The main emphasis will now be on "comfort factors" such as the toilet, weather proofing and gradual improvements to the wheelhouse and cabin areas. Mechanically there is not much we can do but We will be looking at better anchor handling facilities, instrumentation locations, a stern door, and ultimately, maybe even a small flying bridge hey!!

Finally, a quick word on her performance during sea trials, held immediately following her launching. On calm water, lightly loaded she achieved just over 21 knots at 2600 RPM., with no uncomfortable vibration and engine temperatures remained beautifully cool at 83°C. Not that we have any intention whatsoever of running her at those revs and speeds, but they are an indication that she is still performing to her best design capabilities! The engine sounds healthy and "tight" and there's no smoke to speak of coming out the back. Very encouraging for those bearing the responsibility for her procurement and operation.

Cheers Folks!

Stubby

CLUB CALENDAR



June

- Saturday 20 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Ron
- Saturday 20 Progressive Dinner - Ring Alison (444 6548) for details and bookings
- Sunday 21 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Geoff
- Saturday 27 No diving scheduled - Ring to enquire.
- Sunday 28 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Brian

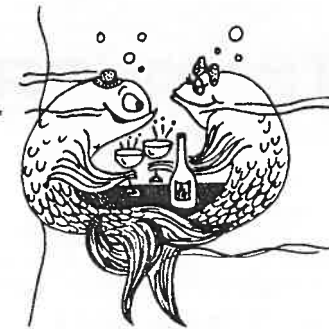
July

- Saturday 4 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Julie
- Sunday 5 Dive 'Eagle Bay' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Peter.M
- Monday 6 Committee Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
- Saturday 11 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Judy
- Sunday 12 Dive 'Roe Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Brian
- Saturday 18 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Geoff
- Sunday 19 Dive 'Jackson Rock' - depart 8am Skipper: Peter.H DO: Ron
- Monday 20 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
- Saturday 25 No diving scheduled - Ring to enquire.
- Sunday 26 Dive 'Radar Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Judy

Phone Judy on 272 1246 for dive bookings or enquires. DO NOT RING THE CREW.
PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



PROGRESSIVE DINNER Details:

- DATE Saturday 20 June
TIME 6.30 pm
MEET At the Club
COST \$25.00 - includes transport and six courses
THEME Indian (dress = optional)
B.Y.O. Drinks
NOTE "Magic Carpet" leaves at 6.45 pm

PLEASE PAY ALISON AT THE GENERAL MEETING
ON MONDAY 15TH JUNE.

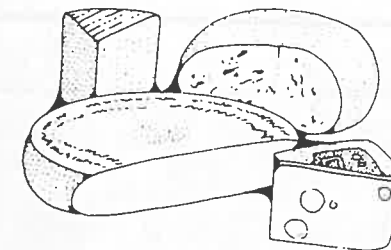
Thank You!

THE QUIZ NIGHT

DATE: SATURDAY 25 JULY - TIME: 7.30 PM -
PLACE: COMO HOTEL, Canning Highway

Make up a table of six; pre-booking price \$5 per person;
B.Y.O. nibbles; Try NOT TO BE more than two UEC
members at each table.

And please remember... this is a major fund raising event
for the Club. Be there, or be square!
All monies go towards our boat loan.



U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine

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SURFACE
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JULY 1992

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SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385



FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

DO YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY AS I DO?

In that case, DO the same thing as I did:

Ring the Western Australian and complain about Friday's supplement no longer carrying diving news! Mike Murphy did a lot of good for the Club with his writing in the paper.

TIBI Csonway (long-time former editor of this newsletter) has kindly promised me to put together the next *U.B.C. NEWS*, because Kerry and I will be on a SCUBA SAFARI with Bob Campbell the first two weeks of August.

Susie

An Australian crawler

By CARMELO AMALFI

WA Museum arachnids curator Mark Harvey keeps a close eye on this spider-like sea creature.

Dubbed 'spaghetti-legs' by scientists, the rare eight-legged giant pycnogonid likes to stalk the deep ocean floor off WA in search of food and obliging mates.

Two specimens were discovered for the first time off the WA coast by CSIRO staff at depths of about 1000 metres.

Dr Harvey said the unusual creatures had no eyes, legs up to 23cm and could live in extreme marine environments five kilometres deep.

The only other specimen on display in Australia is housed in the Australian Museum in Sydney. It was found in the Great Australian Bight in the 1960s.

"Giant pycnogonids are not really spiders although they do have eight legs," Dr Harvey said, adding that the creature was not poisonous.

"They can't swim, so they walk on the seabed in search of food and mates. You can get giant forms of this creature when it occurs in very dark or very cold regions — and these are also known to occur at the edge of Antarctica. They are great survivors."

Dr Harvey said the creature was a primitive relative of arachnids, which include scorpions, spiders, ticks and mites.

It punctures the bodies of other marine creatures and sucks out their body fluids. The creature is on display at the museum until next month.

Picture: NIC ELLIS



West Austr. 2 July 92

CATCH & COOK

Glen Collingwood

This month it's prawns again. Well they tell me that they're running well at the moment so I guess that this offering is topical.

This is another Thai dish (You will no doubt have guessed that I like Thai cooking; this apart from Thai cuisine having become something of a fashion statement), this time called Gaeng Khiaw Waan Goong (Green Curry with Prawns). It's a bit of mucking around this time but will be well worth the effort.

675 g fresh prawns
2 shallots
4 cloves garlic
25 mm knob fresh Kha
(Siamese ginger)
4 coriander roots
10 fresh red chillies
4 small green chillies
2 stalks lemon grass
2 tsp chopped Kaffir lemon peel
10 black peppercorns
1 tsp coriander seed
2 tsp cumin seeds
1/2 tsp turmeric powder
1 tsp shrimp paste
50 g basil leaves
6 Kaffir lime leaves
125 ml coconut cream
375 ml thick coconut milk
25 ml fish sauce
2 tsp palm sugar
fresh coriander leaves

Shell and de-vein the prawns, then wash, pat dry and set aside. Chop the shallots, garlic, ginger, coriander roots, chillies and lemon grass and place in a mortar. Pound slightly, then add lime peel, peppercorns, coriander seeds, cumin seeds, turmeric powder and shrimp paste and continue pounding until smooth. Shred the basil and lime leaves. Pour the coconut cream into a wok, bring to the boil and stir continuously until the oil rises to the surface. Then, add the spice-paste and continue to stir, over a moderate-hot heat until the mixture is thick and fragrant. Add the prawns and one third of the coconut milk and bring back to the boil. Gradually stir in all the remaining milk, then add the basil and lime leaves. Cook until the liquid has reduced by one third, then add the fish sauce and sugar and stir to blend thoroughly. Transfer to a serving bowl and garnish with fresh coriander leaves.

This type of Green Curry Sauce goes well with mussels so don't be slow to try variations on the theme. You might do well to support this dish with plain steamed rice. All Thai cooking goes well with rice as the basic carbohydrate and this recipe is no exception.

Enjoy

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

It has been, over the past seven months, my policy to use this 'platform' to expound Club policy; to exhort; to encourage; and, occasionally, to chastise. I have, in fact taken the opportunity each month to deliver something of a sermon. This month, however, things are different. This month it's pure advertising.

Commercial Number One. The "QUIZ NIGHT". As you will know by now the Club is conducting a Quiz Night & Auction at the Como Hotel on the evening of July 25. That's a Saturday night. What you may not be fully aware of is that a lot of people have put a considerable amount of time and effort into making this a successful and profitable event. This event is a (probably THE) major fund raising event for the year. Traditionally, winter is a time when the normal flow of incoming funds reduces to a trickle. It is also a time when our flow of out going funds are at their greatest. This year with the debt burden of servicing the loan for 'Underwater Explorer' together with the protracted period of extremely poor weather, our bank account is looking pretty miserable. The recent "Progressive Dinner" provided a much needed 'shot in the arm' and my heart-felt thanks are extended to all those who attended and especially to all those who catered the evening. The primary aim of the Quiz Night is to provide extra funding towards, and in support of, our commitment to our beloved vessel. Many of us are actively and obviously involved with the boat on a day to day basis, but there is often little opportunity for those of us who are not of a 'practical bent' to be involved (other than to use her). The Quiz Night will, however, provide an opportunity for ALL of us to be involved, together, in her support. The evening, under the direction of our own Dave "ho ho me hearties" Kenny (just listen to his answering machine) promises to be a time of splendid fun. The Como Hotel is able to accommodate up to 150 people on the night and, while response has been extremely good so far, there are still more 'spots' available however, it is extremely unlikely that tickets will be available on the night. This is a Club function with specific Club goals. Please support it.

Commercial Number Two. The General Meeting for August will be held at the Booragoon Hotel. Following the experimental Club meeting at the "Leopold" several months ago it has been decided to again venture out. The format will be a little different this time with more emphasis on social intercourse and less on the formalities of a normal Club Meeting. We do not envisage having a guest speaker this time. There is no need to feel obliged to attend the dinner part of the evening if you wish to be there for the "meeting" only. This evening will be discussed at the July General Meeting but mark it in your diary now. Alison (and her newly acquired answering machine) will be taking bookings for the dinner.

Commercial Number Three. The weather is going to break soon. It is!! Go on, say it. "The weather is going to break soon". So! Book on for diving, people. Book on for diving.

That's it folk. See you next month.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Pat Troy



NOTHING TO REPORT FROM JULY COMMITTEE MEETING.

DID YOU KNOW THAT....

in Japan, one BLOWFISH species (called fugu) is highly regarded as a food - at about \$200 a serve! - even though it has caused hundreds of deaths there over the last two decades.

Hidden in the entrails of each fish is the substance tetrodotoxin, which is 275 times more deadly than cyanide. Just a tiny amount of this chemical, barely enough to fit on a pinhead, is enough to kill a person. There is no known antidote. (Source: Landscape, Spring 1990)



NOMINATIONS

IAN WARMAN, Applecross
MARK WARMAN, Applecross

Welcome aboard!

GOSSIP COLUMN

We have a new member in the Club who is renown for his great ability to catch ALL sorts of crustaceans bare-handed!

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



Well, I have just read through my report for last month, and I really am devastated to realise that we haven't been able to take the boat out for a dive since June 7!! Please believe me, winter diving can be great; but the weather does have to be on our side. Having had what is I believe, our fair share of winter winds and swell, the conditions from now on can only improve. (Ever the optimist!)

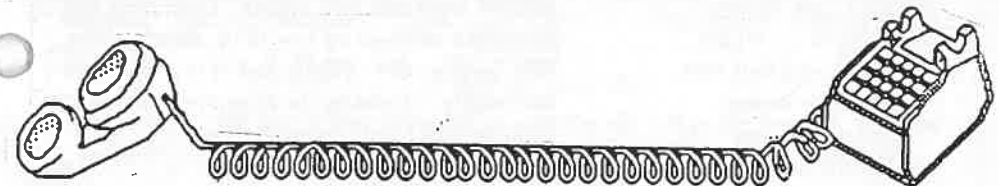
Please help me not to feel forgotten; Phone me on my NEW - Yes - my NEW PHONE NUMBER - 370 2043 - 370 2043 - 370 2043 - 370 2043 - if you say it enough times, you will get to remember it. I believe Telecom have now 'got it right' and this number will be ours for a long time to come. I do apologise for any inconvenience caused by the changes.

I do not expect any of you to book on for a dive for Sunday 26th, as this will be the morning after our Quiz Night, and I do expect to see the vast majority of you there! You will find more details of this important event on other pages of this newsletter.

Diving at the moment is but a memory for most of us, so all I can finish with this month is....

Happy Memories!

Judy



**PLEASE NOTE NEW NUMBER
FOR BOOKING . . . AGAIN!**

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

The Equipment Specialist course that has been advertised and discussed, and advertised and discussed (ad nauseam) is now scheduled to proceed on the weekend of August 8 & 9. It eventuated that most of those involved were also involved in the Avon Descent (training and event). We're nothing if not flexible.

The SCUBA course (also advertised previously) looks likely to be a one week full-time affair in about three (or four) weeks. This may well be more attractive than the more traditional part-time (over four weekends) course. Ask around, you may be surprised at who will be interested. I hesitate to classify this as a "house wife's (or husband's) special", but then again it may well suit a lot of people who have more time on their hands (oops, that should have been "a more flexible schedule") during the week than at the weekends. Give me a ring on 370 2043 to book on.

Happy diving



So we have been on a dive trip again; some are lucky! This time we spent three days on *Force 5* in the ABROLHOS ISLANDS. It's a great boat and she took the huge waves (going over from Geraldton) with dignity. The owner/Skipper Gary and his two staff were very efficient, helpful and kind - the Chef (Jean) dished up some marvellous foods! - and the diving was good, considering the weather conditions. I saw some "new" things too (under the water) such as the most amazing type of Sea Urchin. (I have him on video, if you are interested to try to identify the same.) We also encountered a group of Red Firefish at a depth of 30 m, and heaps of colourful Anemone colonies with their cute inhabitants.

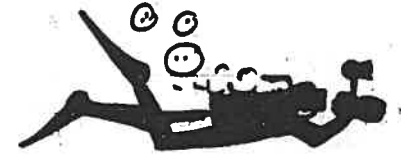
A "disturbing" fact that I noticed was the presence of the *Drupella* snail on the Staghorn corals, and an even bigger number of the *Topshell* snail, munching away on the Plate corals. Is there going to be another plague in the Abrolhos? We all know what the *Drupella* has done to the Ningaloo Coral Reef.

Gure

BOAT BITS

Dennis "Stubby" Stubberfield

Nothing to report about the boat, but I'm looking for any type of underwater photos (slides or negatives) from Rottneest area to be included in our DIVE SITE BOOK, ready to be published very soon, after many years of hard (but fun) work. Do you have any??



Warming up for Descent

CONTESTANTS in this year's Avon Descent feature in Northam's mid-winter festival on Friday, July 31. Next morning they will take to the water in Australia's premier white water event in Northam.

Northam Tourist Bureau official and festival co-ordinator Val Sutherland said entertainment starts at 4pm in the Boulevard shopping centre with clowns, dances, a gymnastics display and a country and western show.

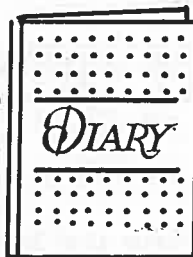
Fires will be lit from 5pm to keep visitors warm. A busking competition at 6pm has \$1000 prize money and there will be a sudden death busk-off at 9.30pm. The float parade is at 7pm and the Mucky Duck Bush Band will entertain from 8pm.

Northam's third annual pub festival (eight hotels, five in the main street) will offer ales of the world, plus jazz, rock, folk music and comedy. Foodstalls will line the Avon Mall and Fitzgerald Street for alfresco dining.

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN SATURDAY 27

For more information about UEC's involvement in the Avon Descent Rescue Team, Dennis is the man to ask. He is our co-ordinator and contact man this year.

CLUB CALENDAR



July

Saturday 25 No diving scheduled - Ring to enquire.

'QUIZ NIGHT' - Como Hotel
241 Canning Highway, Como
7.00pm

Sunday 26 Dive 'Radar Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Judy

August

Saturday 1 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Julie

Sunday 2 Dive 'Eagle Bay' - depart 8am Skipper: Peter H DO: Brian

Monday 3 Committee Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 8 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Brian

Sunday 9 Dive 'Roe Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Bob DO: Geoff

Saturday 15 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Julie

Sunday 16 Dive 'Jackson Rock' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Judy

Monday 17 General Meeting - Booragoon Hotel
cnr Risley Street & Marmion Street, Booragoon
Counter Tea - 6.30pm
Meeting - 8.00pm

Saturday 22 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Maree

Sunday 23 Dive 'Green Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Julie

Saturday 26 No diving scheduled - Ring to enquire.

Sunday 27 Dive 'Radar Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Ron

Phone Judy on 370 2043 for dive bookings or enquires. DO NOT RING THE CREW.

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



REPORT FROM THE PROGRESSIVE DINNER PARTY

On Saturday 20th June the brand new Head Injury Society Bus became our 'Magic Carpet' for yet another Culinary Delight Night - The 1992 Progressive Dinner. This year's theme was an Indian one, and Bill Boustead outdid everyone in his suburban Calcutta outfit. Judy Collingwood, Karen Gurry and Michel Roux also helped to add a Bombay atmosphere.

Everyone seemed to be full of the Orient after my Delhi Delight Cocktail and we flew onto Karen and Frank's Bazaar. We squeezed our way into prawns, squid and Hubbard's pate. A Bargain Spot.

The Gangis Trip was out to Maree and Dennis for two delightful soups. Dennis soon enrolled us into his cult, red-clothing all who came near him.

Bill and Wendy had all the cushions out and we were down on the floor for an Indian Feast. An interesting selection of spices, tastes and textures.

The skies opened, but we sang our way onto Sharon and Nick's for a sweet experience; a wonderful selection of sweets, followed by the occasional port and coffee. Soon Geoff, our driver, was rolling up The Magic Carpet.

Suggestions were made that we should have a Summer Progressive Dinner, and why shouldn't we go past the city at night and go up to my place in Mt Hawthorn next time?!

Big THANKYOU to everyone who put a lot of effort into cooking, serving, setting up, and of course, doing the dishes. Every dollar helps to fundraise for the boat, and we actually made \$300+ out of this event. Well done and thank you!

* STOP PRESS * STOP PRESS * STOP PRESS *

ALL 150 QUIZ NIGHT TICKETS HAVE NOW BEEN SOLD!
SORRY, IF YOU MISSED OUT!

U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine

AUSTRALIA
PAID
POSTAGE

SURFACE
MAIL

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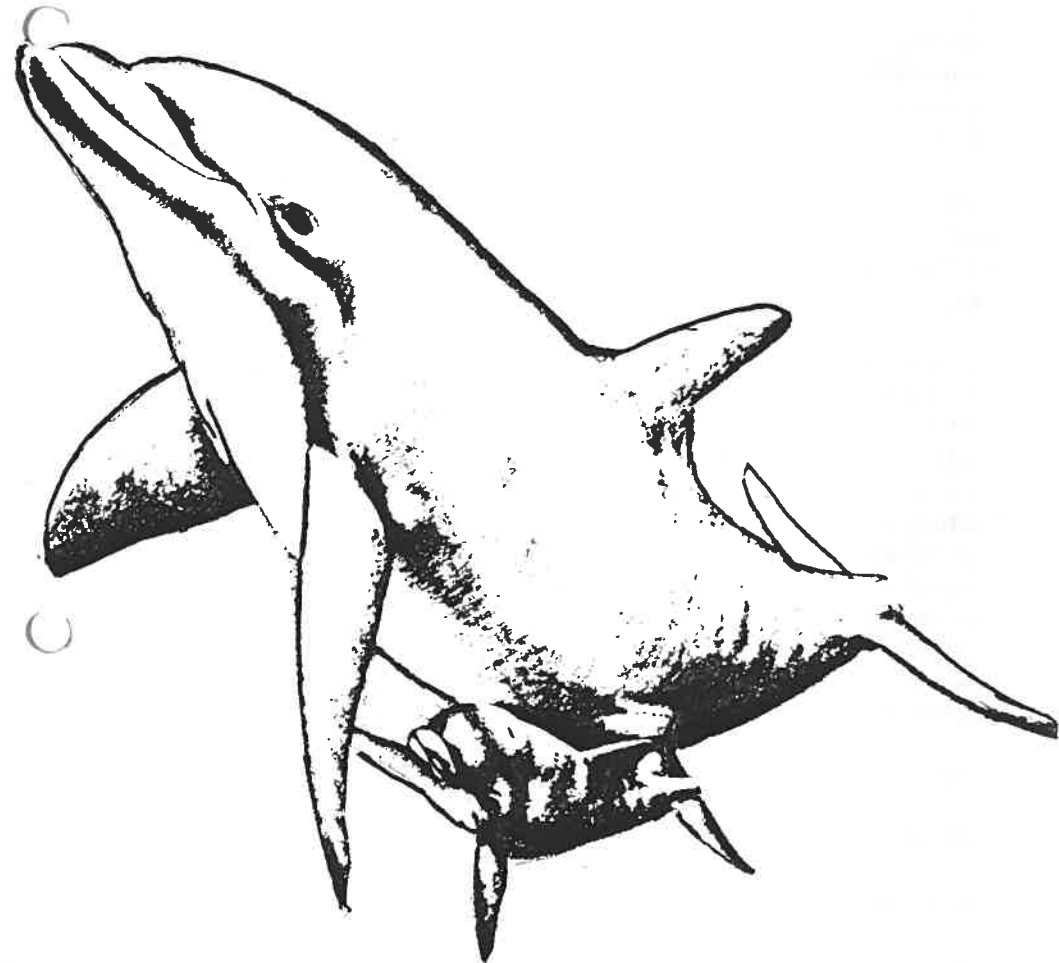
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AUGUST 1992

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood

I think I have finally come to realise that when there has been no diving for the Club at all, it becomes quite difficult to actually find some worthwhile thing to write about, while still remaining on the general topic of diving. However, I shall try.

I must say I have often wondered how I would feel if ever confronted by a 'real' shark (as opposed to a wobbegong) during a dive. I found out yesterday, August 2, when I finally had my chance to dive with the sharks at Underwater World. It really was a great experience. To be so close to those extremely graceful creatures (having been assured that they had all just been fed) was a real buzz. I don't know that I would stay so calm though if I was out on a cray dive and met Jaws. It was a most enjoyable dive, and I recommend it to anyone who wants to get back into the action before braving the last of the winter swell, out on the ocean. The visibility is unlimited, but the water is a bit on the cool side, so wear your gloves and hood.

Having now got the Avon Descent and the Quiz Night out of the way, it is time to seriously get back into diving. I would like to use this page to remind all of you who have been out of the water for some time now, to ensure that you give ALL of your dive gear a thorough check over before you get out on the boat with it. That means make sure your mask skirt and strap are not perished/eaten (cockroaches love silicon); same applies to fin straps, that your cylinder is in test, that your buoyancy compensator has no holes and the inflator mechanism is working properly, and most important, make sure your regulator is serviced if need be. This is a good time to put any or all of your dive gear in for annual service; if you don't wish to do that, at least check out the inside of your demand valve for perished diaphragms. The smallest hole can cause an uncomfortable 'wet breathing' dive at the least.

And don't forget, now is the time to renew your cray licence.

I look forward to seeing many of you on the boat during the coming month.

Happy diving to you all!

Judy

1

CLUB CALENDAR

August

Monday 17 General Meeting - **Booragoon Hotel**
cnr Risely Street & Marmlon Street, Booragoon
Counter Tea - 6.30pm (In the Dining Room)
Meeting - 8.00pm (In the Dining Room)

Saturday 22 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Maree
Sunday 23 Dive 'Green Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Julie
Saturday 29 Barbecue - Boat Trip - depart 11am - Contact Alison on 242 3919
Sunday 30 Dive 'Radar Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Ron

September

Saturday 5 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Geoff
Sunday 6 Dive 'Swirl Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Maree
Monday 7 Committee Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
Saturday 12 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Ron
Sunday 13 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Geoff
Saturday 19 Dive 'Jackson Rock' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Maree
Sunday 20 Dive 'Roe Reef' depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Julie
Monday 21 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
Saturday 26 No diving scheduled - Ring to enquire
Sunday 27 Dive 'Green Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Ron

Phone Judy on 370 2043 for dive bookings or enquires. **DO NOT RING THE CREW.**

HAVE YOU GOT ANY UNDERWATER COLOUR SHOTS FROM AROUND OUR
ROTTNEST DIVE SITES?
DENNIS STUBBERFIELD WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU.
RING 457 3333.



AVON DESCENT '92

Geoff Charlton

Well, the 1992 Avon Descent has been run and won, and once again an elite, hand-picked team from the UEC joined forces with Westrail Emergency Rescue, braving life and limb to fish the not-so-lucky (I'm certain that there are times when skill plays no part) competitors from the waters of the Avon river.

My "descent" started on the Friday morning (one of the joys of being on a Dept. of Social Security funded holiday) as some of us had to set up camp. The real action starting, of course, on Saturday.

So much for the real action of Saturday, in general it turned out to be boring (sorry - that should be Boring (capital B)) with Nick Wasley being the only diver to get wet. Sunday, however was to be somewhat different.

With rain on Saturday night, and the river rising, most of us were kept busy. Nick and Nick had a couple of rescues (that I know of) at Super Chute, Richard and Ron were kept busy at Harts farm, and Brian Walker, Stewart, Karen and myself having a few customers at Syds - although most (3/4) of them being boats blocking the river and not bodies, although we did rescue one injured surfski paddler.

All in all a good weekend away, with the red wine and port flowing at camp in quantities to match trips to Barry's shack. ROLL ON DESCENT '93!!

NOMINATIONS.

PAM SMITH & SOUTH LAKE.
PETER FREDRICK SMITH SOUTH LAKE.

+++++

AN AVERAGE HUMPBACK WHALE WEIGHS MORE THAN SIX ELEPHANTS. GROWS TO 15 METRES LONG. SOME FEMALES GROW TO 18.2 METRES.

The 'QUIZ NIGHT and AUCTION' held at the Como Hotel on the evening of July 25 was a huge success.

With eight rounds of question, one ongoing Raffle (with numerous minor drawings throughout the night and one major draw for a food hamper) a Door Prize (of flights within WA by Skywest), and the Auction (a wide spread of items from bicycle flags to accommodation for two, overnight, at hotels), the evening was packed with entertainment and fun. Winners of the Quiz were the Mortimer/Woods Table with the Stubberfield/Casley and Cruise Tables close second and third on a count-back. Congratulations. The total raised was just over \$1,300.00. I'm sure that you will agree with me that this made the effort worthwhile.

I would like to thank the various people who helped to make the night a success. Firstly, thanks to Quiz Master Dave Kenny, then thanks to Geoff Charlton for supplying the sound system, then Glen and Judy Collingwood for computer work (word processing) and organising ticket sales. Thanks to Ainslie Choate for her help in collecting donations and thanks to Frank Hubbard, Ron Phonmyint, Alison Cooke and Michel Roux for marking the answers.

I would also like to thank the many sponsors for their generosity. Please have a good look at the enclosed list of Sponsors and the items that they contributed. Without their support this night would not have happened. Also a big thank you to those Club members who personally donated prizes or who obtained donations through their work.

OK! Who wants to do this again next year??????

Sue Whipp



JUST STAY IN THIS POSITION AND THEY MIGHT THINK WE'RE A PAIR OF BORING OLD BOOK ENDS AND LEAVE.

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

WELL, WELL, well!!! What a night. One hundred and fifty people, minus a few 'no shows', and the room was packed. One hundred and fifty people from all over enjoying themselves and parting with their hard earned money at, what seemed like, the slightest pretext. That was the Quiz Night & Auction. Quiz Master, Dave Kenny, was at his scintillating best (but then isn't he always) and under his expert direction the evening was a roaring success. There is more about the actual results of the evening elsewhere in this issue so I will not restate what has already been said. However I will take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to those individuals who put so much into the night and to all Club Members who, by their patronage and support made it possible. And to think that there were some who said that it couldn't be done and that if it were done then it wouldn't be a success. Huh!! Well done people.

The social aspects aside, this fund raising effort has proven to be an immense success. The money raised (just a little over \$1,300.00) has been committed to clearing part of our loan commitment to the Bank and to those individuals who, in our hour of need, so generously made funds available. The Club always has substantial financial commitments throughout the year and since the purchase of "Underwater Explorer" these commitments have, of necessity, increased considerably. We had anticipated that we would be able to meet our monetary obligations out of general revenue. However, this year's winter has been unusually bad (from a diving point of view) and the Club's income has been reduced drastically as a direct result. I am extremely pleased to inform you that as a result of the money raised we have been able to meet our increased financial obligations with ease in spite of the 'winter ills'. Had this effort not been made the story would have been quite different.

Now! A little bird (or perhaps a garrulous Life Member) has told me that, in days gone by, fund raising efforts such as this were common place. I have even been told that the Club had 'got into the habit' of fund raising. Oh, what a habit to have. What a terrible thing to have 'kicked' the habit.

It has been said that fund raising, in this depressed economic environment, is a lost cause. The results of the Quiz Night do not substantiate these comments. It may well be that 'Prizes' may be more modest than in more affluent times; and it may be true that people do not just throw their money away. However, we have just seen clearly that people can and will be

was shown in which Nick Wasley became involved when a competitor had a brush with a revolving propeller and lost! He, the competitor lost the left leg of a perfectly good wet suit, suffering minor lacerations in the process, before the suit finally jammed the propeller, stalling the engine. Not a pretty sight at the time, since the blood obscured the minor nature of the wounds! In other incidents Nick again almost certainly prevented a drowning at Super Chute and Ron gained the phone number of a grateful female canoeist - the tart! (not the canoeist - Ron!!) Others were also kept busy at Syd's, Hart's, Glen Avon and Emu's, making sure jammed boats did not create a hazard to following competitors. Karen is complaining of a sore lower half, achieved by she and Stewart's habit of using the quick way down Syd's Rapids to help Brian and Geoff on a number of occasions.

An excellent overall team effort and a very professional and competent turn out, with proper identification, gear and a very crisp and creditable performance. I'm proud to have been with you and proud of our standing and service to the U.E.C. and the Avon Descent. A special thanks to those honorary members whose efforts matched our own and who gave us their best without reservation. I hope we see much more of them, perhaps as future members of the Club where they will be most welcome.

I feel sure the Race Committee and Competitors share my feelings and recognise your true worth, but to make sure, the Club Executive will be meeting with the Race Directors shortly, to negotiate next year's arrangements and to tighten up one or two areas where we don't quite agree on.

I have almost all the TV coverage for this year on tape, thanks to Maree, and Tibbi has some interesting shots to add, so I intend to have an Avon Descent video showing at a meeting in the near future when our Social Officer can fit it in.

CHEERS FOLKS!

Stubby

Academic warns of another El Nino

BRISBANE: Australia was threatened by a second successive year of El Nino, the climatic phenomenon that causes drought, the seventh Australasian climatology forum was told yesterday.

This had happened only once — in 1942-43 — since the

phenomenon was understood, said Dr Steve Turton, geography lecturer at Townsville's James Cook University.

El Nino starts from a change in ocean surface temperatures which affect trade winds to east Pacific areas, setting off a chain of climatic reactions that influence

atmospheric pressure systems throughout Australia, suppressing winter rains in the south and monsoonal summer rains in the north.

It was named El Nino — Spanish for child — by Peruvians who noticed that changes in ocean temperatures affected local fishing.

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN WEDNESDAY JULY 15 1992

BOAT BITS

Dennis "Stubby" Stubberfield

Very little has happened with the boat this month, only slightly more than the zero of last month, since we have not been able to get out again, during what must be a record spell of absolutely hopeless weather. Thank goodness we don't have to go to work on her up on the "hard" as usual, in this most bleak and uncomfortable of working conditions. Richard Naylor, the last Skipper to take her out, reports an outstanding performance coming home from Rottneest, travelling the distance between Philip Rock and North Mole in about 35 minutes, on her nice clean bottom. That's a shade over 15 knots, at 2100 revs with 7 divers aboard, planing beautifully!

Geoff, Glen and Peter have been on board in the last month, progressing the new electrical switch board and repairs to the moorings for which many thanks are due. The repositioned and elegant looking switchboard is now virtually complete.

We have also heard that a spate of break-ins have occurred on boats moored in the area, usually some 2 to 3 nights after rough and stormy weather. Our dinghy seems to have been used yet again for this nefarious purpose, since the lock has been smashed, stolen and the boat set adrift, to fetch up at Pier 21. Radios appear to be the target - ours was removed only days before the events and it seems we have been left alone, for now. I would urge all members to take every opportunity to visit the boat, even if it is only from the beach; hang around, look interested in her and keep an eye on the area whenever you are passing by. You may just prevent a break in. Report to me or the Water Police directly if you see something suspicious.

The other part of my report has to do with the AVON DESCENT, which I know, doesn't have anything to do with our boat, but is of a boating flavour, does have a few of our Skippers involved and our input this year was directed by your Boating Officer. Therefore here it is! This year's AVON DESCENT was probably the U.E.C.'s most well attended and smartest turn out, and we certainly looked good and performed well, being as we were, very much in the public eye, both in training and the Event! Television coverage this year showed us training at Katrine bridge and Extracts weir, and carrying out an actual rescue (the last few moments at stretcher point) at Syd's Rapids on day two of the Event. Also at Extracts a brief glimpse of an incident

generous and supportive if they can see value for money. This has been my first experience with a fund raising activity of this kind from the organisational side of the event and the lessons learned are myriad. However, on reflection, I believe that the most important thing that I have learned is that these events are EASY to organise. Certainly, a lot of effort goes into a successful event. But just as certainly this effort is expended by only a FEW. This event involved a core of three people. It seem to me that, with the resources that the Club has to draw upon, it should be relatively easy for us to stage three or four major fund raising events during the course of each year. Now before you protest that there is a limit to how much money that you (you, I - all of us) can put into the Club, please consider that the vast majority of the money raised this time came from outside the Club membership; from people who have no affiliation with diving whatsoever. These were people (your friends and work mates) who saw the opportunity to have an enjoyable 'evening out' at a very modest cost with the added opportunity to 'score' a few prizes. They saw value for money.

Now, back to that habit. The Quiz Night has proven to me that fund raising activities are viable (even in a recession). It has also shown me that, while the effort is intense (for only a few organisers at a time), it should be possible to run major fund raising events almost 'back to back' all year. Do you know what happens when you do something often enough? It becomes a habit.

SAFETY REPORT

Geoff Charlton

Not much to say this month, to say that the weather has been bad is an understatement of mammoth proportions. Combining this with Avon Descent (raining has meant a very quiet month diving wise (or should I say another quiet month).

The purpose of this report is little more than to let you know I'm still alive and kicking AND (I did say little more) to remind you of something you may have forgotten about whilst you have not been diving - a small matter of gear maintenance. Winter is by far the best (and in my opinion the only) time to get you BC and Reg. serviced. So give it some thought.

Bye for now.

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen

I HOPE EVERYONE ENJOYED THE QUIZ NIGHT. IT SOUNDED LIKE GOOD FUN AND I WAS SORRY TO MISS IT. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED.


THESE FUNCTIONS ARE ONLY A BIG SUCCESS WITH INPUT FROM CLUB MEMBERS.

FANCY A BBQ?

IF WE CAN'T GET OUT DIVING, WE MAY AS WELL USE THE BOAT SOCIALLY. I INVITE ALL MEMBERS, GUESTS AND CHILDREN.

DATE: SATURDAY 29TH AUGUST.
TIME: 11 AM.
PICK UP POINT: EAST STREET JETTY.
BRING: BBQ, MEAT, DRINKS, SALADS, CHAIRS ETC.

RING ALISON ON 242 3919 AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE.



**Our Economy Needs
YOU**

TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL
SUBSCRIPTION NOW!

CLUB MEMBERS! CAN YOU PAY YOUR
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW?
IT WOULD HELP CLUB FINANCES
IF SOME OF YOU COULD PAY EARLY.

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

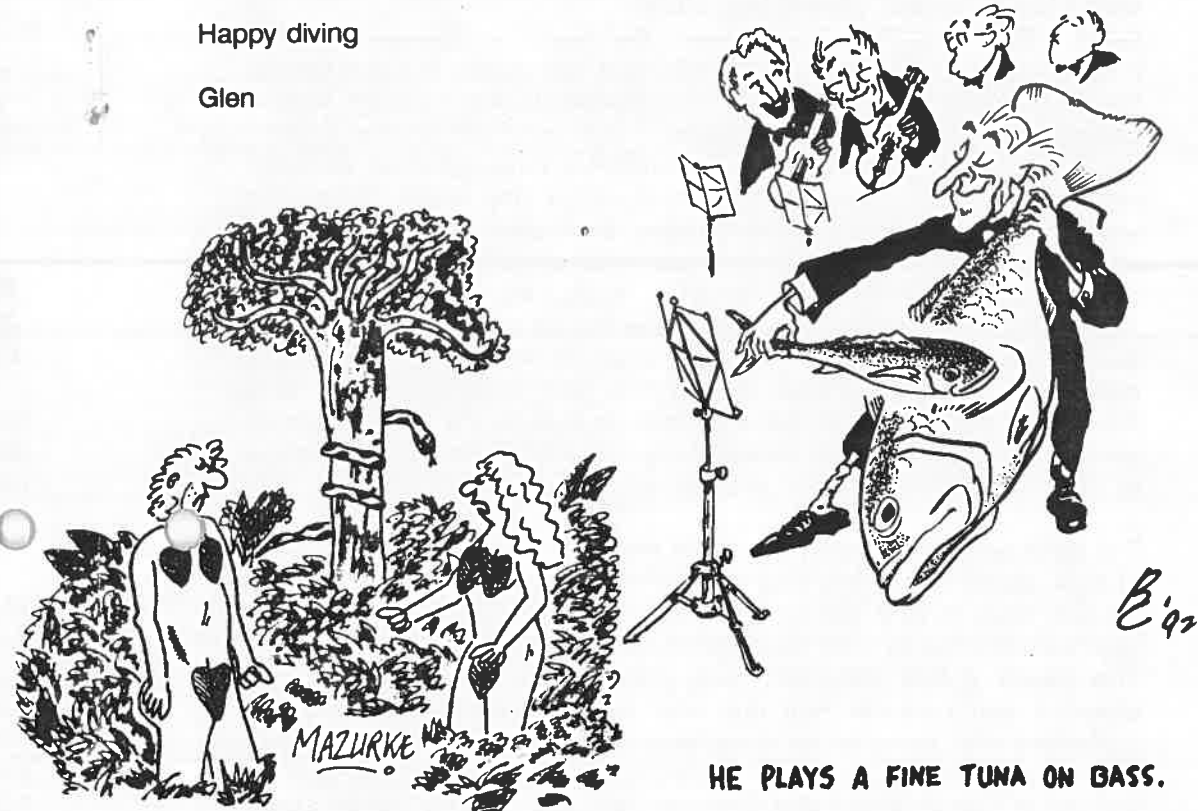
The dates for the Equipment Specialist course have been reassigned to the weekend of August 15 & 16. The Instructor will be Gary Carthew. Start time is 8:30 am (at the Clubrooms) each day. You should be finished at about 3:00pm on both the Saturday and the Sunday.

I'm afraid that that's it for this month. It appears that the poor weather (the cold; the rain; the winter blues) is not conducive to dive training.

I can be contacted by ringing 370 2043 to discuss any training matters.

Happy diving

Glen



'Bloody hell, Adam - what are you doing dressing up in women's clothes?'

HE PLAYS A FINE TUNA ON BASS.

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SEPTEMBER
1992

YOUR COMMITTEE 1992

PRESIDENT	Glen Collingwood	Phone 370 2043
VICE PRESIDENT	Maree Casley	Phone 457 3333
SECRETARY	Pat Troy	Phone 328 8163
	(work)	Phone 327 8777
TREASURER	Peter Horton	Phone 445 2336
DIVING OFFICER	Judy Collingwood	Phone 370 2043
	(work)	Phone 451 3322
TRAINING OFFICER	Glen Collingwood	Phone 370 2043
SAFETY OFFICER	Geoff Charlton	Phone 332 6270
BOAT OFFICER	D. Stubberfield	Phone 457 3333
BUILDING	Nick Wasley	Phone 364 8941
SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385

FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton



FIRST MONTH OF SPRING!!! HURRAH!!!

The wild flower display along the roads this year is absolutely spectacular! And so was the diving on the Ningaloo Coral Reef in August. Kerry and I had also booked for diving under the Exmouth jetty, which you have to do at least 14 days in advance (Navy clearance). What a dive, man! Luckily enough, we had booked TWO dives that day, and I'm already looking forward to go back for more!

Susie

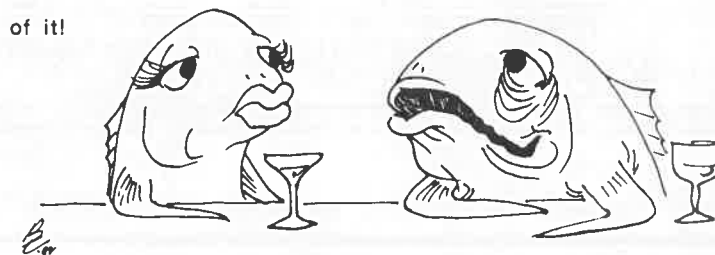
DIVING REPORT (continued from page 8)

as well now. However, I would not wish to deter anyone from wanting to dive. A little more caution than I displayed on the day is all that is required.

The weather did improve for the second dive, becoming almost flat calm, and with blue skies and sunshine the day was deemed to be a great success.

Sadly, that is the only diving I can report on for the moment. Given my propensity for waffling, I hope I shall have many more diving experiences to write about before my year comes to an end. We had glorious weather last Saturday, Sept 12, but only 2 starters for the day. It is a little hard to believe, isn't it? keep trying, Karen and Stuart, we will get there yet! Now that Spring is sprung, I expect to have many more bookings over the coming weeks.

Happy diving, and plenty of it!



YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY M'DEAR...
THERES MANY A FINE FIDDLE LEFT
IN AN OLD TUNA!

TRAINING REPORT (continued from page 8)

Must be medically 'in-date'.

Must be acceptable to the course instructor for training.

As you can see this is a 'serious' course and it goes without saying that you must be fit. This course is a Master Diver Module.

I can be contacted by ringing 370 2043 to discuss this course or any other any training matters.

Happy diving

CATCH & COOK

Glen Collingwood

Well folk this month it's a slight change of pace. We're going to have a shot at cooking octopuses. By 'change of pace' I mean that I assume that there will be no catching involved. While octopuses are abundant in our waters they are shy creatures and are not often seen, let alone caught by divers for the pot. Besides which the critters that this dish requires are so small and cute that one would have to be a real heartless jerk to kill them. However, 'baby octopus' is available commercially from most good seafood markets; and buying them makes it all right now, doesn't it.

The recipe is very simple to make and while it does not derive from any specific nationality it does have an Italian flavour to it. The directions given are for microwave cooking but, as always, the dish may be cooked in the conventional manner. Just remember, in either event, that seafood can be over cooked very easily. So take care.

1kg baby octopuses
30g butter
3 green shallots, chopped
1 tbsp chopped fresh oregano
1 tbsp sugar
1/4 cup dry red wine
425g can tomatoes
2 tbsp tomato paste

Clean the octopuses discarding the heads.

Combine the butter with the shallots, oregano and sugar in a shallow dish, cover, and cook on HIGH for 2 minutes. Stir in the octopuses, wine, undrained crushed tomatoes and tomato paste. Cover and cook on MEDIUM for about 25 minutes or until the octopuses are tender.

There you go. That's all there is to it. The quantities given will serve four. Garnish with fresh sliced shallots and/or oregano leaves.

Enjoy



PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

IT'S GETTING TO be that time of year again. That time of year when the Club's official year starts to draw to a close; that time of year when we have to start looking forward to the new Club year; that time of year when we start thinking about the AGM. It's also that time of year when we have to think about next year's subs. That's right. Next year's subscriptions.

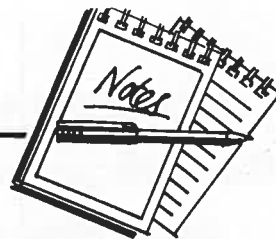
THE COMMITTEE of Management will, over the next couple of months, consider, as we always do at this time of year, the quantum of the various membership subs. Now I do not intend to pre-empt any Committee decision, however, it's entirely likely that subscriptions will rise slightly as they have done in past years. Now, "What's he getting at?" you ask. You've read the pitch. Here's the play. If you pay now you get next years membership at the current price (\$55.00 for an ordinary membership and \$80.00 for a family membership). Not only will you be assisting the Club with a bit of forward cashflow but you may also avoid a price rise. I know we play the same game every year but that's only because every year we have the same problem. Cash flow, as we come out of Winter, is very nearly zero. However, our financial commitment are still there. Early payment of subscriptions DOES help. Besides, you may just save a few bucks.

IT'S SEPTEMBER now and November is almost upon us. What's so special about November? November is the month of the Annual General Meeting. It seems that, if the last few years are any indication, this will mean that the November General Meeting (the AGM) will be the most poorly attended meeting for the year. We all know why. Don't we? If we go to the AGM we might just get 'lumbered' with a Committee position, mightn't we. OK! this is how I see the situation. There are some of us (poor fools that we are) who, for whatever deep, dark and twisted reason, enjoy 'being on the Committee' and whose lives are probably not complete without 'The Committee'. There are also some of us (more likely the majority of us) who, again for whatever personal and private reason, never wish to serve on a Committee. That's fine. We each have the right to choose to serve or not to serve. That right is fundamental and inalienable. However, just as you have the right to not seek nomination for a Committee position, or to refuse nomination for a Committee position (and I assure you that your right WILL BE respected without prejudice) each person who is nominated and accepts nomination has the right to expect that a majority of members will be in attendance to vote. Please think about this. From the other side of the fence; please consider that if you fail to attend the AGM there is no way that you can influence the outcome of Committee elections. You get what you get, in terms of people on the Committee, not what you want.

I know that I'm pushing this matter early, and I can assure you that I will continue, over the next couple of months, to push. It's an important issue.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Pat Troy



Nothing to report.



NOMINATIONS

DAVID RAY, Greenmount

VINCENT COLLINS, Ballajura

GOSSIP COLUMN

Husband made love under water to woman accused of killing his wife, and signed the dive log "Mickey the Moray"

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



Hil Great NEWS! The boat has finally had a run! Back on August 16, nine of us headed to Rottnest for the first trip of the season. The seas were quite sloppy for the morning, and I must admit, perhaps less than ideal for breaking the drought, so to speak. Even a diver of my experience can find themselves caught out on occasions, and that day was one (to my embarrassment). We did our first dive on Angela's Cave, a lovely dive at any time. Having been out of the water for a month or three, I found cramps in the leg inhibited my snorkelling ability on the way back to the boat. But then, what is a buddy for, if not to tow one back. While reclining on the surface, while my ever loving buddy was removing my fins, (ONLY my fins) I became connected to the duck board of the boat by my torch lanyard, which in turn was attached to my B C. The end result of that connection was to be caught under the duck board when the boat rode a wave. Believe me, it HURT! It wasn't only the whopping bruise on my hip that hurt. The fitting on my B C to which my torch was attached came adrift, without being noticed. It hurts having to replace my torch (continued on page 10)

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

Congratulations to Ron Phonmyint, Larry Park, Stuart Lowth and Ross Cooper who all successfully completed the recent Equipment Specialist course. Well Done people. Instructor Gary Carthew will be present at the General Meeting on September 21 to present the Certificates.

There's nothing else on the go at the moment I'm afraid. However, Summer comes and I have great hopes for the warmer weather. Mean while I'd like to hear from anyone who is interested in a NASDS Deep Diver Course. Prerequisites for this course are:

Qualified NASDS SCUBA Diver or equivalent

Must have logged a minimum of 10 dives in various conditions including 5 dives over 20 metres

Must be at least 16 years of age

(continued on page 10)

CONSERVATION CORNER

The Sea Turtle is one of the world's most endangered creatures. Of the hundreds of species that once roamed the oceans, only EIGHT remain.

The newest hospital in the Florida Keys area of the USA has no wards, no recovery rooms, no sick beds and no nurses. The waiting room is a holding tank. The operating table is less than 1.3 metres long. THE TURTLE HOSPITAL is open and ready to operate on sick and wounded sea turtles.


Some of the patients will have lost flippers to sharks; others will bear ghastly gashes in their shells, the life-threatening marks of a meeting with a spinning propeller.

The speciality of the Turtle Hospital will be the treatment of fibropapilloma, a disease first documented among sea turtles in the Florida Keys in the 1930s and now one of the greatest threats to the endangered Green Turtle.

Fibropapilloma tumours were seen on 70% of the Green Turtles stranded in the Florida Keys last year. In some cases, tumours cover half the turtle's body and represent 25% of its body weight. Some of the tumours are up to 12cm long.

Researchers believe the disease is virus-related. But they also think ocean pollution may have something to do with it.

Jim Loney (Reuters)



BUSSELTON JETTY and Geographe Bay
13-15 November - \$240

ALBANY WHALING WRECK and Islands
11-13 December - \$300

Ring Kerry And Susie Ashton, 3312385
for further information. These trips
incl. *everything* except transport!

BOAT BITS

Dennis "Stubby" Stubberfield

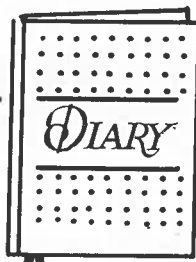
Well not much to report this month so this will be a KISS report (Keep It Short Stupid). This is just the way I like it, since it usually means the boat and machinery has operated without incident and all is well. It has and is. However, we have only done one dive trip and once again Richard was the Skipper. This is not such good news! (Only one trip, not that Richard was the Skipper). We even had to cancel our barbecue day trip on the River, the weather has been so bad. The good news is that we've planned another one for early October and there will be a shake down cruise for Skippers, "Deckhands" and Dive Officers on Saturday 26th September. Speaking of "Deckhands" we have three who are getting very close to the stage where they will be assessed for promotion to Skippers and a one new "Deckie" in Luc Fauvet (experienced yachtsman), who will start work at the beginning of this season - if it ever does begin, with this weather behaving so badly!

Finally, the proposal to publish a dive site navigation book has received yet another set back, with our publisher advising us that, at this stage, it is not a viable proposition for them to take it on without cost to us - in a fairly limited and, right now, shaky market. This situation could change early next year but in the meantime we will look at other options and I will proceed with organising more photo's and adding 10 shore dives to keep the Publishers' happy. The Club's own navigation book has also been upgraded, benefiting from some "fallout" of interest in the publishable version. Indications are that, it would cost us a mere \$12,000 to publish it at this stage, to receive a possible \$40,000 over the ensuing 3 years, in a difficult market! So if anybody out there with a spare \$12,000 to invest and a special love of the U.E.C. (and Maree & I) wishes to be a Patron of us and the arts, please see me as soon as possible! He/She will get their money back plus about 10% flat.....eventually!

Cheers Folks!

Stubby.

CLUB CALENDAR



September

Monday 21 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm - Guest Speaker

Saturday 26 Skippers, Dive Officers and Deck Hands shake down cruise

Sunday 27 Dive 'Green Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Ron

Monday 28 Dive - Public Holiday - Ring to inquire

October

Saturday 3 B-B-Q on the River - Ring Alison on 242 3919

Sunday 4 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Peter M

Monday 5 Committee Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 10 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Brian

Sunday 11 Dive 'Swirl Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Bob DO: Ron

Saturday 17 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Geoff

Sunday 18 Dive 'Roe Reef' depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Judy

Monday 19 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Friday 23 Fremantle Sailing Club Cabaret - Ring Alison on 242 3919

Saturday 24 Dive 'Jackson Rock' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Ron

Sunday 25 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Maree

Saturday 31 No diving scheduled - Ring to inquire

Phone Judy on 370 2043 for dive bookings or enquires. DO NOT RING THE CREW.

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

DON'T MISS THIS GENERAL MEETING - it will be another "special" occasion, because we will have the pleasure of welcoming Mr WAYNE TYSON from "Off the Edge" Hay Street, Subiaco, who will give us a slide show on CAVE DIVING. Very interesting!

SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER

Let's try again! That's a BBQ on board the '*Underwater Explorer*' I mean. This rain is going to run out soon! Same arrangements for members, guests and children.
TIME: Pick-up 11 AM at East Street Jetty, Freeo.
BRING: BBQ pack, drinks, salad, chair, etc.
COST: \$5
RING ME ON 242 3919 AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE.

FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER

Fremantle Sailing Club Cabaret - \$25 per person.

Names and money to me BEFORE Thursday 15th.
Send to: Alison Keen, 97 East Street, Mt Hawthorn 6016.



HAVE A NICE DAY

U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine



OCTOBER
1992

AUSTRALIA
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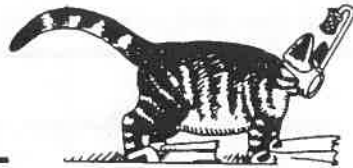
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BUILDING	Nick Wasley	Phone 364 8941
SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385



FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

SECOND MONTH OF SPRING - AND SNOWING IN W.A.!!!

I don't want to go skiing... I WANT TO GO DIVING!
(That's the main reason why I left Sweden to live in Perth.)

Now to the important task of electing a new committee for 1992/93. In trying to make it easier for you, I have made an "Election Form" out of the last page in this Newsletter. PLEASE USE IT, that's all I can say. Don't forget that your vote must be supported by one more club member, and you must also have your nomination accepted by the person nominated (who also must be a financial club member).

I,....., herewith make the following nominations for the U.E.C. 1992/93 Committee:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ACCEPTED</u>
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Diving Officer
Training Off.
Safety Off.
Boat Off.
Building
Social/P.R.
Editor

The above nomination(s) is(are) supported by

NAME:

Signature:.....

Date:

DEAR CLUB MEMBER!

PLEASE SHOW US THAT YOU CARE! FILL IN ONE OR MORE SUGGESTIONS ABOVE, CUT THIS PAGE OUT AND GIVE IT TO 'THE SECRETARY' (PAT TROY) AT THE OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING. (If you cannot attend, SEND IT IN!)

cut here

ABOUT CAVE DIVING

By Roger Smith

Well what did you think of those slides on cave diving shown at the last meeting, was it scary or what? I must say I admire these guys for what they do, but the thought of putting myself in that position scares me to death. I appear to have some weird phobia about cave diving. As much as I love diving I always shudder when anyone brings up the subject. To sit there at the last meeting and watch those slides, then talk to people who took part in this terrifying ritual almost sent me into convulsions. I've had nightmares about it ever since.

I was so scared when I went to bed that night, that I kept all the lights on. Even this did not calm me down enough to fall asleep, so I had to take further precautions. I ran a line from my bed to the toilet in case there was a power cut while I was half way to a late night visit to the loo. Laying there with three torches, a couple of cyalume tubes and a packet of candles under my pillow did not help my insomnia much either.

Can you imagine yourself swimming inside one of those bloody big black caves? Momentarily, you let go of the line to scratch your arse, when suddenly all the lights go out. What would you do, shout for help? Not a chance mate, you're double done for. Did you believe that bull about all those spare tanks in reserve? "One third in, one third out, and one third in reserve". Reserve for what? The way I see it if you cock up on your second third then the last third is only going to prolong the agony, as you attempt to bore through a couple of kilometres of rock with your head. Personally, if someone did manage to drag me as far as the first third I would gladly trade them all my remaining air for a sharp knife to slash my wrists with.

Did you believe this stuff about it is safer to dive without a buddy, just in case the inconsiderate bastard decides to kark it behind you in a narrow passage, blocking your escape route (cheerful sods). If I were crazy enough to get involved in this weird pastime, then common sense tells me that the ideal cave diving buddy would be a midget (come to think of it my buddy is Paul Mullaly). Besides, my remarkable powers of self preservation would soon enable me to easily chew into manageable sized chunks, any person who was silly enough to become deceased between myself and daylight, or for that matter even someone who was a bit slow in getting out of my path.

Well I hope to see you all out diving soon in the wide expanse the Indian Ocean, It will be nice to get out in the sunshine again. Those of you that know me are well aware that I like sunshine and wide open places. For those that don't know me, My name is Roger and I am easily recognizable. I'm the guy with the yellow stripe down the back of his wetsuit.

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

RUMOUR HAS IT that UEC members don't care one whit about the Committee of Management, who's on it or what it does. That is, until something goes wrong. Rumour also has it that the Annual General Meeting is poorly attended because Club Members are afraid of being pressured into performing tasks and accepting responsibilities that they are not comfortable with. Rumour has it!!

As they say, "Ladies and gentlemen, now that I have your attention.....". It should now be apparent that this month I'm beginning where I left off last month.

The Annual General Meeting is, arguably, the single most important meeting, for the membership at large, of the year. It's at this meeting that the coming year's activities and policies have their geneses. Let's think about this for a moment. The Committee of Management is responsible for setting the Club's program for the year. That is, it's the Committee that decides whether there will be fund raising activities; whether there will be guest speakers (and who they will be); whether there will be social events (and what they will be). It's also the Committee that determines the Club's expenditure for the year. The decisions that are made result from the aims, attitudes and objectives of each individual Committee member. It stands to reason that the success, or otherwise, of the Club year is largely determined by who YOU elect to the Committee of Management.

Now, let's get back to those rather cynical rumours. I guess that there are just too paths that we can travel. We can substantiate the rumours or we can refute them. OK! Let's deal with the alleged reason why the AGMs are so poorly attended. If you read my comments last month you should be in no doubt at all as to my attitude towards each persons rights. I assure you that nobody will 'lumber' you with a Committee position against your wishes and I assure you that your wishes will be respected. I, in turn, would hope to be assured that those of us who do accept nomination will have our nominations determined by a well attended AGM and consequently by a well represented Membership. Now about this question of 'caring'. It's fair to say that most members of any Club really don't wish to concern themselves with the administrative details of their Club. They simply want to partake of the activities that their Club has to offer. However, I think that it is also fair to say that it's the quality or content of the

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Pat Troy



At the Executive Committee Meeting hold on 5th October 1992 the following motions were moved and carried:

1. Dennis Stubberfield moved that we sell our plastic dinghy. The money to be placed in general revenue until a suitable inflatable dinghy is available.
2. Dennis Stubberfield moved that we sell the U.E.C. recompression chamber for an amount that is acceptable to the committee.

(Cont. of PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM from page 2)

'offering' that is at issue. As Club members you can choose to take an entirely passive position and just accept what is offered, or you can adopt a more active attitude and ensure that the Committee of Management is comprised of individuals who you believe have the 'where with all' to represent you and your particular interests. To take this more active approach you do have to be at the AGM (in person or by proxy) to vote.

It all boils down to this. If you don't care how the Club is run you might as well stay away. But, then don't complain when you don't agree with Committee decisions. However, if you want the Club to truly represent your point of view; if you want to your choice of leadership; if you want the Club to cater to you and your interests, you have to at least be there 'when the votes are cast'.

It's your choice, my friends. Which way do we go? Do we refute the rumours or do we substantiate them? I'm optimistic enough to believe that we will put them to rest. However, as I have said, it's your Club; so make it your choice.

DIVING REPORT

Judy Collingwood



Hello to all you dehydrated divers out there, waiting for a dive. Truly, it won't be much longer now, and we'll be back into it, trying to make up our minds whether to dive on Saturday or Sunday, or both days. Now is a good time to pause and ponder the responsibilities of diving with another person, that is, BEING a BUDDY.

One of the things we teach in our diving courses is, "BE THE BUDDY YOU WOULD LIKE TO DIVE WITH". It doesn't matter whether you have been diving for 2 weeks or 20 years, correct buddy behaviour is a very important issue and I wish to comment upon it here. At times it seems to be the generally accepted attitude that if one has a few qualifications under one's belt, suddenly some of the basic rules no longer apply. WRONG!

ALL of the rules apply, from day one until we hang up the regulator. Things can, and do go wrong at the most inconvenient times, and when Murphy is around, he picks his victims at random. It is not good enough to assume that because your buddy has a bunch of qualifications, that on the day, he/she won't have any problems. As a Club, we try to offer the safest diving possible, but once you are in the water, you and your buddy are on your own. It is your responsibility to be aware of where your buddy is and what he/she is up to. It is also your responsibility to work together with your buddy, not just expect him/her to keep up with you while you enjoy your own dive. This doesn't mean get intimate. Well, not excessively any way. You don't even have to hold hands if you don't want to. Just Be There and Be Aware.

Hope your diving is safe and happy!

Judy.

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

The NASDS Deep Diver Course advertised last month will take place on the first weekend of December. The course will extend from the evening of Friday 4 through all day Saturday 5 and Sunday 6. The instructor will again be Margaret Neville.

The course cost has not been set as yet, but I will endeavour to keep it to around 60% of a commercial course.

I can be contacted by ringing 370 2043 to discuss this course or any other any training matters.

Happy diving

We welcome advertisers to *U.E.C. NEWS*, which would help the club to cover cost for the printing and posting of the magazine. Please help, if you can. Maybe ask your employer to advertise???

Prices per month are: \$5 for 1/4 page, \$7.50 for 1/2 page, and \$15 for a full page.



KAS DIVE

DIVE TRIP to ALBANY

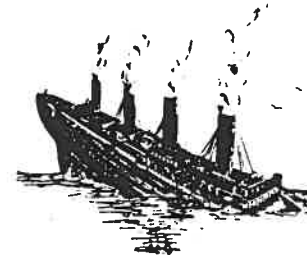
Friday 11 to Sunday 13 December;
WRECK DIVE ON THE WHALE CHASER;

Three more boat dives, all food plus accommodation included in the price of \$300. (Deposit by 12/11.)
Phone Kerry And Susie on 331 2385.

BOAT BITS

Dennis "Stubby" Stubberfield

WHAT!! NO BOAT REPORT????!!!

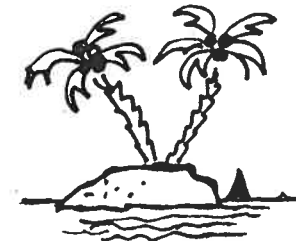


ROTTNEST LONG WEEKEND

MARCH 1993

Some vacancies still exist for the long weekend diving at Rottneest on 27 February - 1 March. Costs AGAIN have been kept to a minimum, and will be in the region of \$130-140, which includes transport, all your meals, accommodation, diving and tank fills for three days.

Please ring Maree on 457 3333 to secure your position.



CLUB CALENDAR



October

- Monday 19 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
Guest Speaker - Simon Jones of Perth Diving Academy
- Friday 23 Fremantle Sailing Club Cabaret - Ring Maree 457 3333
- Saturday 24 Dive 'Jackson Rock' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Ron
- Sunday 25 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Maree
- Saturday 31 No diving scheduled - Ring to inquire

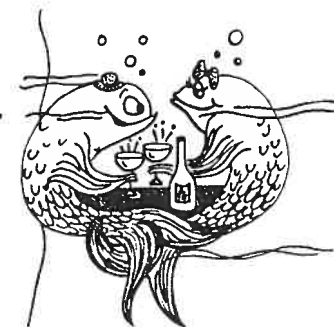
November

- Sunday 1 Dive 'West End' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Ron
- Monday 2 Committee Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm
- Saturday 7 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Judy
- Sunday 8 Dive 'Swirl Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Bob DO: Brian
- Saturday 14 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Nick DO: Brian
- Sunday 15 Dive 'Roe Reef' depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Julie
- Monday 16 **Annual General Meeting**
at the Clubrooms - 8pm
(This is perhaps the most important meeting of the year)
- Saturday 21 **Annual Presentation Night**
4pm at the Wasley's
14 Worthington Road
Booragoon
- Sunday 22 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 8am Skipper: Peter H DO: Peter M
- Saturday 28 No diving scheduled - Ring to inquire
- Sunday 29 Dive 'Angela's Cave' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Julie

Phone Judy on 370 2043 for dive bookings or enquires. **DO NOT RING THE CREW.**

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



THE GREAT CABARET NIGHT

Meet 'lost' friends, and make new ones, at the big annual event at the Fremantle Sailing Club on Friday 23 October!

SUMPTUOUS DINNER

Eat as much as you can from a gourmet smorgashbord!

DANCE YOUR FEET OFF

to a swinging live band!

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS FUN-FILLED EVENING!

Your last change to get a ticket will be to pay \$25 to Alison or Maree at our October General Meeting. It's worth it - trust me!



U.E.C.'s ANNUAL PRESENTATION EVENING

THIS YEAR HELD IN NICK and SHARON's BEAUTIFUL GARDEN SETTING at 14 Worthington Road in Booragoon (if they still live there) at 4 pm on SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER. Trophy presentation at 5pm and lamb-on-a-spit dinner served at 6pm. B.Y.O. drinks and friends, but let them know of your attendance in advance. RING 364 8941. If no R.S.V.P. by 14th November, don't expect any food! Cost: \$12/person.

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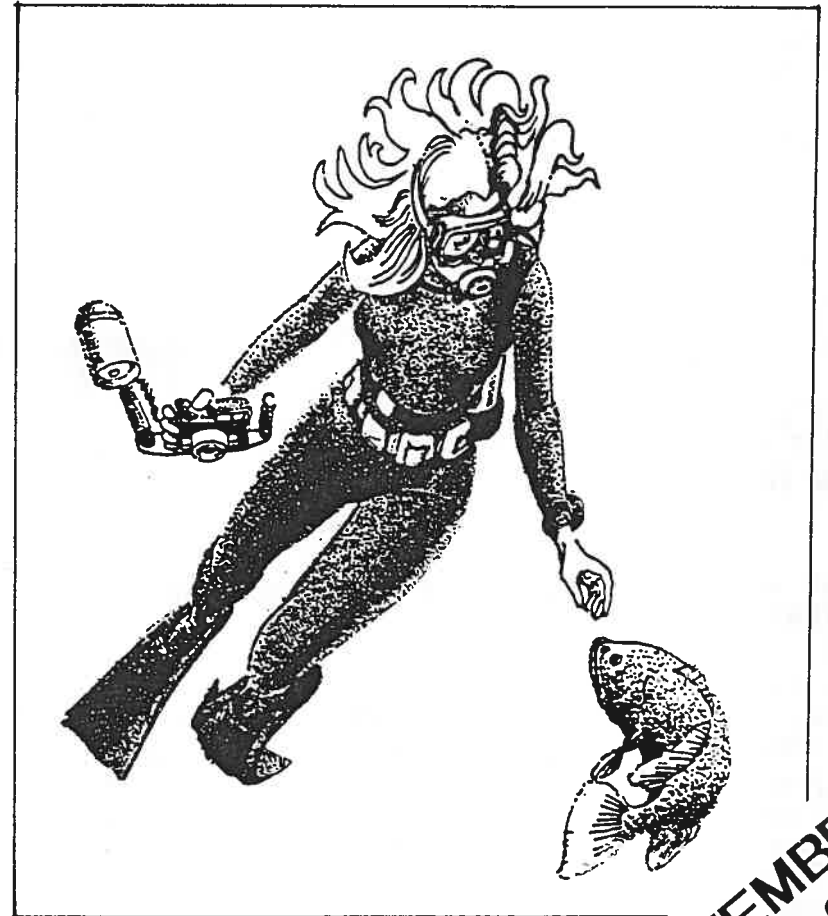
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SOCIAL and P.R.	Alison Keen	Phone 242 3919
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Susie Ashton	Phone 331 2385



FROM THE EDITOR

Susie Ashton

THIRD MONTH OF SPRING - AND THE SUMMER WEATHER IS HERE! GREAT!

As this will be my last "U.E.C. News" for a while, I take this opportunity to officially say "Goodbye" and "Thank You" for reading it (if you did). I have enjoyed "creating" it, but must now concentrate fully on my own business and the KAS CLUB Newsletter.

See you at the A.G.M. on Monday 16th at 8 pm.

barge off the navy pier, and it was perhaps the best dive I have ever done. The fish life was amazing, with large Coral Trout all around - waiting to be hand fed. Oh for a spear gun!. The shop owner was not amused when we suggested trout for dinner.

Although we only got two dives in during our time in Exmouth, the snorkelling at Turquoise Bay surpassed anything else I've seen, sporting small bombies in 2 1/2 meters of water with every fish you can imagine, including moray eels and a big grey shark which I thankfully did not see, but the final member of our group suggested dry cleaning his boardshorts after his view of it!

This short story does have a moral, like most short stories do. Firstly, never trust a mate who tells you his boat loves rough seas and never gets swamped - there must be a reason he's lending it to you; Secondly, never pass up the opportunity to dive Exmouth, particularly with someone you know well as there is nothing better than sharing a great dive with a great buddy, but never, never take a dinghy with you; Thirdly, and most importantly, when the opportunity arises to complete a speciality course in diving, do it, because it can lead to rewarding achievements and increase your safety and knowledge when diving. Margaret Neville always said we would use our knowledge when we least expected it. Well Margaret - you were right!

P.S. - If you don't believe my story just confirm with Ross. He will agree on everything except the size of the King Wave - he still swears it was HUGE ! Typical Male!



CLOTH BADGE FOR SALE (\$6)
See Susie at the meeting or ring 331 2385

CATCH & COOK

Glen Collingwood

Well folk it's back to Thai Corner. It's also back to that good old staple; prawns. Generally speaking Thai cuisine has a reputation for being VERY spicy and VERY hot. I don't entirely hold with this view point. I'll admit that Thai cooking is spicy, but I find that the flavour is usually delicate and not at all hot. This month, however, we do have a hot one. But, remember, 'hot' is relative; and 'hot' is something that you can control. The secret is in the chillies. Use the seeds and it's very hot. Discard the seeds and it's mild. The choice is yours.

This recipe is for a dish called Tod Man Pla (Fried Prawn Cakes with Hot Sauce). Give it a go. I'm sure you won't be disappointed.

Prawn Cakes:

675g fresh prawns
125g long green beans
2 tsp red chilli paste
2 tsp light soya sauce
50ml thick coconut milk
1 egg
25g cornstarch
salt to taste
freshly ground black pepper
75ml vegetable oil

Cook the prawns in rapidly boiling water, shell and de-vein and chop finely. Chop beans into tiny pieces. Place the prawns into a mixing bowl, add the chilli paste, soya sauce and coconut milk and mix well. Lightly whisk the egg with the cornstarch and add to the prawns, then add the beans and season with salt and freshly ground black pepper. Stir to combine the mixture thoroughly, then shape into small patties. Heat the oil and fry the prawn patties, turning once so that they are crispy and golden-brown on both sides.

Hot sauce:

2 fresh chillies
1 clove garlic
15mm knob fresh ginger
25mm piece cucumber
1 tsp chopped coriander root
2 tbsp crushed roasted peanuts
2 tbsp sugar
2 tbsp fresh lime juice
2 tbsp light soya sauce
50ml chicken stock

To make the sauce: chop the chillies (remember about the seeds), garlic, ginger and cucumber into tiny pieces and place into a mixing bowl together with the coriander root and crushed peanuts. Dissolve the sugar in the lime juice and add to the bowl together with the soya sauce and chicken stock, then stir to blend thoroughly.

Serve the patties on a bed of 'frilly' edged lettuce. Spoon a little of the sauce on top and garnish with tomato and cucumber wedges. That's all there is to it.

Enjoy

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Glen Collingwood

With the Club year drawing to a close, I'd like to take this opportunity to spend a little time in reviewing the past twelve months.

This has been far from an average year.

I guess that it really began with the momentous decision by the previous Committee of Management to sell the old Underwater Explorer. As you know she was costing us more than she was worth (more than her monetary worth, at any rate) and we all regrettably accepted the inevitable and offered her for sale. The rest is, of course, history. A fairly quick sale at an acceptable price found us in the market for a new vessel. Then after what seemed like an eternity (it really was only a couple of months) along came our pride and joy. She (the new Underwater Explorer) has, with a little work and lots of love, vindicated the Committee's decision to buy her and she is proving to be a sound investment for the Club. It is very pleasant to know that further financial commitment to this vessel will service to appreciate the asset and not just maintain the asset. We look forward to a long and happy association with her.

Then came the winter's diving. Well, it just didn't happen, did it? Winter, this year, seems to have been just one long, long, long stretch of bad weather. With a new boat to pay for and the usual Club expenditures to meet, the lack of diving generated revenue was all but devastating. However...

The Quiz Night (fund raising under the pretext of having a good time - or was it the other way around) ended up being an interesting and fun filled diversion from the winter woes. This welcome return to serious fund raising, while also providing much needed social activity, has proven to be a substantial shot in the financial arm at a time when things were looking fairly glum. I look forward to doing it, or something similar, again next year. Also, this year we were able to successfully negotiate an acceptable reimbursement to offset the cost of training for our involvement in the Avon Descent. As with the Quiz Night, we received a much needed financial boost, in addition to the opportunity to establish a "precedent" that will aid us in our future negotiations with the Descent Committee. Couple these two funding opportunities with the sale of a few bits and pieces of redundant boat equipment (pot winch, HF radio etc) and the Club has weathered a financially difficult year. In this economic climate any year that does not end up "in the red" can be said to have been successful. Can it not?

Continues on page 3

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Pat Troy



As the committee meeting for this month had to be postponed until November 9, it was not possible to report to you in time on any of the business discussed at the meeting.

As you all know, it's that time of the year again when YOU, the member, will be called upon to elect a committee for the coming year. Please come along to the Annual General Meeting to vote for whoever you consider worthy of a position on the committee, as this is really the most important meeting of the year. Don't be put off from attending because you may be nominated for a position. Nobody will hold it against you, if you decline to accept a nomination. Come along and show an interest in your club - bring along a friend!

(Cont. from page 2)

On the other hand, the Training year has been indifferent at best. Whether we are seeing the effects of the recession, or whether we're continuing to experience a trend away from club based training is anyone's guess. Irrespective of the cause, the result has been the same. Virtually no interest in entry level courses. We have, however, run a series of specialty courses with some success but only time will tell if the Club will continue as a training facility or whether we, as a Club, are moving in a new direction.

All in all the year has been quite successful with innovation and change while still maintaining the Club's values for safety and excellence. However, it's not over yet. At the next General Meeting (the Annual General Meeting in fact) the direction for the coming year will be determined. Well, at least the people who will administer the Club's activities will be chosen; and when you think about it, it's the same thing really. Again I encourage you to be at the AGM and to exercise your democratic responsibility to determine who will establish the Club's direction for next year.

On the personal level, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support throughout the year and to express my thanks to the members of the Committee of Management for their contribution and their efforts. This year has been, for me, a pleasure and a privilege. Thank you.

CONSERVATION CORNER

"WE WANT PEOPLE ACROSS THE WORLD TO KNOW THAT WE ENJOY EATING WHALES"

said Takashi Sato, vice chairman of the Society for Maintaining of Whale Food Culture (Tokyo), at their annual meeting 16 October 1992.

More than 100 whale meat lovers defied ecologists and held a party to enjoy 36 whale dishes, including a dessert of whale brain sherbet. The menu also included blubber soup, roasted tongue, jellied whale brain with chives and ginger, tail meat of the Pilot whale and steamed testicles with western-style sauce.

The International Whaling Commission banned commercial whaling in 1986 but allowed a limited number to be caught for research. Environmental groups claim this is used as a guise for more widespread illegal commercial hunting. *Mr Soto admits that his restaurant uses meat from whales caught for research purposes.*

(The Western Australian, 17 October 1992)

DID YOU KNOW

that the SEA CUCUMBER will throw all of its internal organs at an attacker and still live? Because the organs cannot be drawn back into the body, the sea cucumber has to grow a whole new set!



never before to the hippie's (known as Westie) campsite and speed off in his dinghy. Everything from drowning to shark attack crossed my mind as we sped across the water to our beloveds.

We found them eventually, about a kilometre from shore, tired, cold and sheepish - " We sank the boat." They would not let go of the surfboards, the only things that were rescued as the boat went down. On return to dry land we met the ranger, who thankfully radioed in to the police helicopter to say the party was safe. It appears that police don't like emergency flares! Elation at their safety soon wore off when I realised we had come all this way with a boat worth only a portion of the trouble, for the mere males to sink it. It appears a KING wave (I think only 1/2 a meter high) swamped the boat. The legendary Johno motor kept chugging all the way to the bottom - due to the brilliance of the mechanic (ROSS) it even still works.

Many a tinnie was drowned that night as the boys sulked about the lack of good surf - it appears when they reached the surf it was no good anyway and then tragedy stuck homeward bound. All these events forced us to make firm friends with Westie's campsite - they had a boat and we wanted to use it! Morning came and we decided to salvage our boat with their help - their boat, on the promise we wouldn't sink two. Ross and I, recently qualified salvage experts, thanks to Margaret Neville, set out with 20 litre drums and our cylinders to hunt our wreck.

After much deliberation about the shark population, and many frustrated comments from Ross about my phobia, we entered the magnificent Exmouth waters to find our Johno 3 meters deep and one end of the dinghy still surfaced. We attached the drums equal lengths from the motor, filled them with air and surfaced it. With the help of another companion Ross manoeuvred the motor into the salvage vessel, leaving me holding lots of rope and an anchor from our boat, continually spinning, looking for JAWS!

We then placed the drums under the dinghy, along with our regs, inflating as much air into it as possible. It was then towed back to shore and we became the overnight legends of Yardie Creek. Even friends of mine that arrived in Exmouth three days after the event knew of the stories and seemed to know it could only be us that did it!

We didn't use the boat again, but we did manage a dive from the amazing rigid hull inflatable that the Exmouth Dive Shop has recently purchased. This took us to an old

Continues on page 14

DIVING REPORT

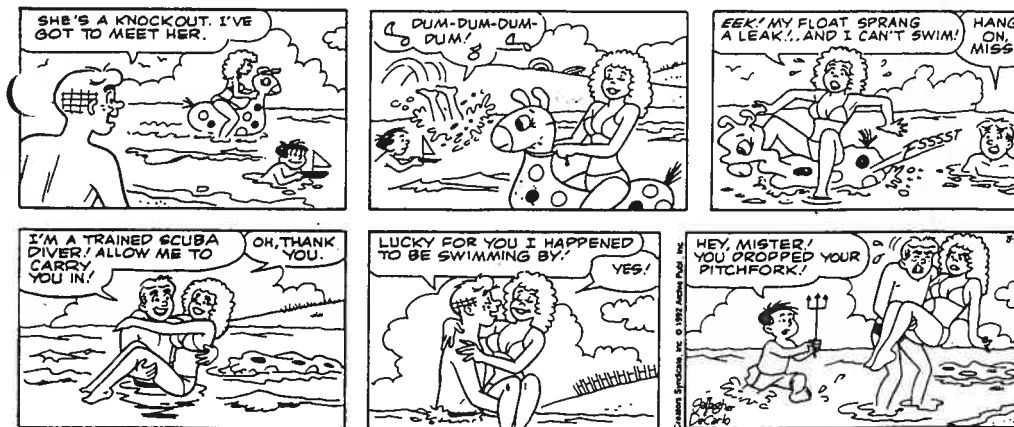
Judy Collingwood

I must extend my commiserationsto all those divers, and it was good to see fourteen of you, who turned up for a dive last Sunday (25th). With all the lovely weather we have been having Monday to Friday, wouldn't you think we could scrape in a Sunday! Please don't sell your dive gear just yet, I promise things WILL improve.

I won't strain your brains this month, I don't have much to say for a change! But I will take this opportunity to say thanks to those of you who have supported me during the past year; any job becomes relatively easy with a bit of help. I can only urge all of you to make life easy for next year's Diving Officer - book your dives early in the week, leave a phone number where you can be contacted, and turn up on time when you do book on.

I have had a fun year as Diving Officer, and wish the next D. O. the same.

I wish you all safe and happy diving.



BOAT BITS

Dennis "Stubby" Stubberfield

Well folks in this my last report for the Club year I am happy to report that the Club boat and machinery has operated well over the month. In fact I am ecstatic to report that this month, at last the boat operated at all! By all accounts the one trip held produced excellent diving in - wait for it - less than 1 metre swells, but as usual a windy trip home.

I believe weather proofing the boat has now reached the point where it must become absolute priority No 1. Therefore the Club boating people will have plenty to do this coming season! Not that there's anything new in that.

Looking back over last year one recalls some momentous events, starting with the decision to sell our beloved first "U.E.". It was the end of a very important stage in our history and one which did great things for the Club. The agonising and at times despairing search for a new boat took on a desperate phase as January dragged on with a third of the season behind us. I for one, felt any boat (within reason) would have been better than none and unashamedly dragged you all over town looking at some very ordinary craft! I do not apologise, I simply had to keep you on your toes!! Finally in mid January "Roxanne 111" became our new "U.E." not a moment too soon for my sanity and the Club's well being. Then followed that epic trip from Geraldton to bring her home in some of the roughest water I have seen and certainly the roughest I ever want to see again! It was a big effort over all for dedicated and highly motivated Club people, from the work effort of the shore party and the sea crew to all those who pitched in and got her ready for diving in record time, right down to those who supported us with their diving the moment we were ready. The season progressed patchily, weather wise, perhaps giving us a fore taste of our current pattern with the wipe out of our easter trip, but the boat proved the value of our investment and the soundness of our judgement by performing well. However, we were lucky too in that inherent problems with the engine cooling system did not require extensive work until right up to the time of her first maintenance slipping when part of that problem quite literally, stopped the boat when she was launched again! The almost snap decision to slip the boat for maintenance early, during a warm spell in May this year was not luck I think, but a case of acute melancholic depression at that thought of another cold, wet winter getting piles sitting on the hard, working on the hull of another boat! In the event it proved to be the way to go in future and highlighted the

SALVAGING EXMOUTH

BY AINSLIE CHOATE

July 1992 is not a month I will forget for humour, laughter, diving and embarrassed males. Ross Cooper and I enjoyed the luxury of travelling to Exmouth with two friends for a long awaited holiday of surfing, diving and relaxing. A week after Uni finished we frantically packed our things, purchased a legendary Johnson 5 horse power motor and then hunted for a boat. Our destination required a boat to reach the surf. Being 'poor' students we couldn't afford to buy one, so we borrowed a 12 foot wooden dinghy off Ross's mate. We only finished painting it (to make it waterproof) several hours before departure. The boat, our pride and joy - the trip would have been cancelled without it - was tied to the trailer by granny knot experts, and took at least half an hour to untie - ie we didn't want to do that often!

The journey began, 16 hours in the car non - stop. Ross was the only one who got any sleep - I managed a wonderful window seat the whole way with the comfort of glass for my headrest, whilst he enjoyed the comfort of my well padded legs!

On arrival at our holiday destination, Yardie Creek, 150 Km's south of Exmouth, we discovered that the 4WD camp was full so we had to double back, this time towing a trailer up the sandy rivermouth. We naturally bogged the car, not once, but three times. This resulted finally in removing the granny knots and taking our bl---y boat off the car, along with all the heavy dive gear - naturally the surfboards stayed put. After much fuss we set up camp, secured the boat and belongings and settled in to drink our still cold beers.

Morning came with great surf on the horizon. The MEN excitedly retrieved the precious surfboards and loaded the boat. Emma, the other half of the female contingent, and I found cameras, life jackets, water containers and other things required for spectators of the first great surf at Yardie Creek. With much glee we all jumped in the boat to watch it sink lower and lower into the water. We decided to brave it till about 20 meters out, when Emma and I decided land was for us, so the boys turned the boat for home, deposited the 'woosie' girls on shore and headed for heaven in the surf.

After three hours relaxing (sleeping) near the tent we were woken by a long haired hippie peering in at us. " Do you chicks know anyone in a white dinghy? They are letting off emergency flares!" This news prompted us to leap into the 4WD, driven as

Continues on next page

TRAINING REPORT

Glen Collingwood

There is nothing new to add to last month's Training report, other than to let you know that there are still vacancies left for the Deep Diver Course which is set for December. I will advise the cost for this course at the next Meeting.

I can be contacted by ringing 370 2043 after hours to discuss this course or any other any training matters.

Happy diving

SAFETY REPORT

Geoff Charlton

With the AGM coming up I thought I'd better put in a report to finish up the year, in a month where we've actually been diving (yes, the weather finally broke). Thankfully the diving was uneventful, but, you guessed it, you're not going to get off that easily.

As you may be aware, the other half of the Safety Officer's job is Technical (OIC of - that is). What, you may be thinking, do I have to say regarding the Technical side of things? I'm glad you asked. Specifically, High Pressure Steel cylinders.

A "new" club member (he joined about the same time I did) has just invested in such a cylinder, with a capacity of 120cf. Unfortunately, the salesman at the dive shop failed to remind (inform) him that these cylinders are actually negatively buoyant, and require an adjustment of at least one weight on the weight belt. The surprising thing about this slip-up is that the salesman concerned is a Master Instructor. Please be aware.

(Surely, as the buyer of this steel cylinder would be a qualified scuba diver, he would have been told when trained, that steel tanks are heavier than aluminium???)
Ed's comment.

low maintenance properties of alloy boats. Only two weeks up and all fine warm weather has got to be a record - any takers for Boating Officer this year! We could actually begin to enjoy working on the boat again at our annual slippings.

The major work done on the boat over the season and during the slipping included the following:-

Major repairs to the engine cooling system.

Rudder unshipped and gland repaired.

Minor repairs and alterations to the engine controls.

Minor repairs and alterations to bilge pumping system.

Major revamp, rewire and repair of the electrical system instrumentation and switch panel.

Hull repainted with epoxy and anti fouled.

Superb aluminium and wood marlin board installed.

Equally superb aluminium canopy frame and cover installed.

HF radio and pot winch sold for \$1000.

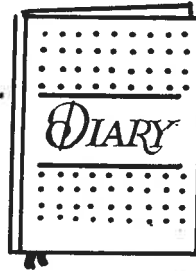
All this and a whole host of little things which have certainly upgraded the boat, protected our investment and made her a much more valuable asset than when we bought her. I must also make mention of the value and use we as crew have obtained from the superb little radar set which came with the boat. Learning to use it and fully appreciating its value has been great experience for crews and it has proved of inestimable value in general navigation and locating possible new dive sites from the charts. I would regard it as a must for all serious boating groups such as we.

Finally I would like to close with a heart felt thank you to all those Club members who have supported me and helped with boating operations this past year. Nobody could do such a big job without you and certainly I could not. You have all worked particularly hard during a specially difficult year to ensure the Club has maintained and improved its already high boating standards. A special mention and thanks must go to boat crews who have made my job as Boating officer a pleasure 99% of the time and never a burden for the rest. I commend you all to the future incumbent and assure you that, much as we have achieved already, there is still much of interest to be done in the forthcoming season!

"Cheers Folks"!

Stubby.

CLUB CALENDAR



November

Monday 16 Annual General Meeting
at the Club rooms - 8 pm

Saturday 21 Annual Presentation Night
4pm at the Wasley's
14 Worthington Road
Booragoon

Sunday 22 Dive 'Hugel Passage' - depart 8am Skipper: Peter H DO: Peter M
This is for the crays - have you got your license?

Saturday 28 No diving scheduled - Ring to inquire

Sunday 29 Dive 'Angela's Cave' - depart 8am Skipper: Dennis DO: Julie

December

Saturday 5 Dive 'Stragglers' - depart 8am Skipper: Barry DO: Julie

Sunday 6 Dive 'Roe Reef' - depart 8am Skipper: Bob DO: Maree

Monday 7 Committe Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 12 Dive 'Carnac Island' - depart 8am Skipper: Glen DO: Ron

Sunday 13 Dive 'West End' depart 8am Skipper: Peter H DO: Geoff

Saturday 19 Dive 'Murrays Chamber' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Maree

Sunday 20 Christmas Dive - Dive on the "D9"
Departs East Street at 8am and Cockburn Power Boat Club at 9:15am
Mystry Bar - B-Q B.Y.O food and drink. Book early with Judy.

Monday 21 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 26 No diving scheduled - Ring to inquire

Sunday 27 Dive 'Angela's Cave' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Geoff

Phone Judy on 370 2043 for dive bookings or enquires. DO NOT RING THE CREW.

SOCIAL SECTION

Alison Keen



U.E.C.

PRESENTATION

PARTY

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER

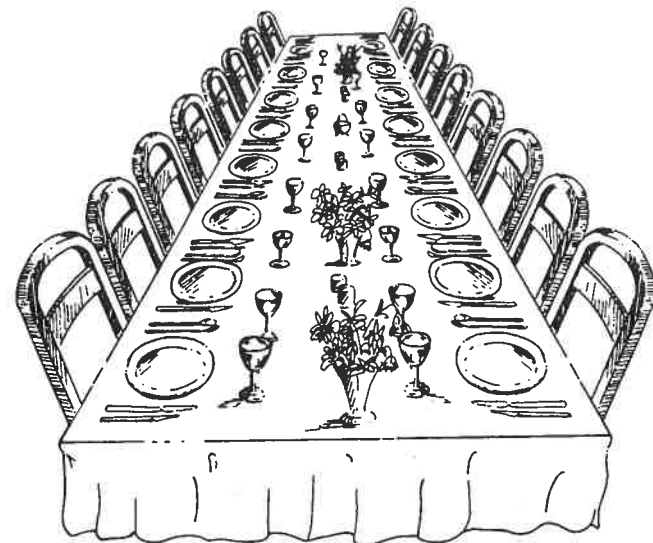
THE BIG ANNUAL EVENT, THIS YEAR HELD IN NICK and SHARON'S BEAUTIFUL GARDEN SETTING at 14 Worthington Road in Booragoon.

4 PM GATES OPEN
5 PM TROPHY PRESENTATION
6 PM LAMB-ON-A-SPIT DINNER

R.S.V.P. by 14th November. Phone 364 8941.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO BRING A FRIEND!

Cost: \$12/person.



U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine



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The Committee

1993

PRESIDENT	Glen Collingwood	Phone	370 2043
VICE PRESIDENT	Maree Casley	Phone	457 3333
SECRETARY	Pat Troy	(home) Phone	328 8163
		(work) Phone	327 8777
TREASURER	Peter Horton	Phone	445 2336
DIVING OFFICER	Ainslie Choate	Phone	316 1319
TRAINING OFFICER	Ron Phonemyint	Phone	417 4140
SAFETY OFFICER	Maree Casley	Phone	457 3333
BOATING OFFICER	Dennis Stubberfield	Phone	457 3333
BUILDING	Adrian Edwards	Phone	457 2117
SOCIAL AND P.R.	Larry Park	(home) Phone	398 5597
		(work) Phone	493 1700
MAGAZINE EDITOR	Judy Collingwood	(home) Phone	370 2043
		(work) Phone	451 3322
		(fax) Phone	458 5324

Editorial Comment

Judy Collingwood

I hope you approve of the new look newsletter. Of course, all of the regular reports are here, but I have included in this issue as a trial run an interview under the heading of 'INTRODUCING...'. I would appreciate readers reactions to this. It is my intention to include at least one member per month, so we can all get to know a little more about our fellow members. If you would care to volunteer to become 'public property', please give me a call.

Any articles of interest will be gratefully received, and published (with discretion, of course). Especially any juicy gossip regarding Club members. Take note of my Fax number (in the Committee list). You may send me any printable matter by fax, but please mark it clearly for my attention, as that fax number does actually belong to my place of employment.

For those who used to enjoy the 'Wrap Nights' - guess what! They are back on. This year we will be looking at meeting at the Clubrooms on the second Monday of the month, at about 7:45 pm. Come along and lend a hand to collate and label the newsletter, catch up on the latest gossip, and get your copy early! All are welcome; we do not discriminate.

Finally, I will close by wishing each and every one of you and your families a very Happy and Safe Christmas, and a Prosperous New Year. Catch you in '93.

Club Calendar

December

Saturday 19 Dive 'Murrays Chamber' - depart 7am Skipper: Richard DO: Maree

Sunday 20 Christmas Dive - Dive on the 'D9'
Departs East Street at 8am and Cockburn Power Boat Club at 9:15am
Mystery Bar - B - Q B.Y.O food and drink. Book early with Ainslie.

Monday 21 General Meeting at the Clubrooms - 8pm

Saturday 26 No diving scheduled - Ring to inquire

Sunday 27 Dive 'Angela's Cave' - depart 8am Skipper: Richard DO: Geoff

Phone Ainslie on 316 1319 for dive bookings or enquires. DO NOT RING THE CREW.

Please note that the 1993 Calendar and crew Roster will be finalised over the Christmas period and will be published in the January 1993 U.E.C. NEWS. Ainslie will be able to advise about early January diving so ring her to inquire.

You will also note that we are going to give 7:00am Saturday dives a go again (starting from this coming Saturday - December 19). They were VERY popular last Summer so let's have a rerun.

FOR SALE

SEASUIT Wetsuit for sale - diamond pattern with plush lining.

Ladies - probably size 14/16 - Hardly used - Cost \$300.00 - Sell for \$190.00 - Excellent condition

PHONE 242 3919

The Social Scene

Larry Park

For all of you who attended the A.G.M. you already know that there is a new Social and P.R. Committee representative. For those who did not attend, but are reading this, you also will now know. My name is Larry Park. My home phone number is 398 5597, my work number is 493 1700. You are welcome to phone me any time with suggestions that you feel would make the social life of our Club mor interesting to you. Before you do, please take time to reflect on the past activities, think about what you like to do, and if you think something should be done a certain way, let's do it together.

Your advice on what you want and how you want things done is welcome always. Remember - this is the only way we'll have a great, fantastic Social Life.

REMEMBER -

1. Book early for our Social Christmas Dive on 20th December. Details in Calendar section.
2. Make a note to be at the this month's General Meeting (Monday 21st) to listen and learn how the Fisheries Department now interpret and police the new rules on amateur crayfishing. THIS IS A MUST!!
3. Please book early for the SKY SHOW - to be held 1st February, 1993. You could find yourself left behind if you leave your booking too late. The boat can only take so many, and this is a popular cruise. I will provide more details next issue.

INVITATION

WHEN : Monday December 21, 1992 at 7:00 PM - yes, that is 7:00 PM

WHERE : U.E.C. Clubrooms
Unit 1, 22 Shields Crescent
BOORAGOON

WHY : To celebrate the Festive Season properly. Come and check out Adrian's Christmas decorations. He is offering something of a surprise as our Host for the evening. Nibbles will be free (that should get you in.) There will be a lucky door prize, and other surprises for those who take advantage of this invitation. This is the final Meeting for 1992, so let's do it in style. We can make it a Christmas Party/New Year Party/Holiday Time Party - whatever you wish. But a Party Isn't a Party without People. Please make the effort, and have a fun time.

President's Platform

Glen Collingwood

Well, Well! Here we are again. Firstly I'd like to express my thanks to all those who attended the Annual General Meeting and secondly I'd like to offer my appreciation for the vote of confidence that returned me as the Club President for another year.

The A.G.M., while not all that well attended, did display an interesting mix of members who, while not always active (at least in the diving department) did prove beyond doubt that they do have the Club's interests at heart. My heart felt thanks go to those did attend and to those who, in their absence, declared their support by assigning proxies to attending members.

Then there was the Annual Presentation Night. It's seems that it's still the "Presentation Night" in spite of recent attempts to name it something more general and perhaps something a little more universally appealing. Oh! well. However, the name aside, the evening was quite a success in spite of the number of awards being down this year due to a lack of noteworthy achievement in areas of some award categories. Those awards presented are as follows:

Club Person of the Year
Most Improved Diver
Boat Person of the Year

Luv Fauvet
Ross Cooper
Richard Naylor

Appreciation awards were made to Judy Collingwood, Geoff Charlton, Nick Wasley, Sue Whipp, Barry Kennedy and yours truly. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of Life Membership to Dennis Stubberfield for his long standing and continuing effort and commitment above and beyond the call of Duty. Well done every one.

While on the subject of the Annual Presentation Night, I'd like to offer my, and I'm sure your, sincere thanks to Nick and Sharon Wasley who opened their home to us all. Thereby providing a venue with a difference and in no small way contributing to the success of the evening.

Talk about awards! As a result of successfully completing the recent Deep Diver course, both Ainslie Choate and young Ron (Phonemyint that is) have been awarded N.A.S.D.S. Master Diver qualifications. Congratulations.

Finally, my friends, I'd just like to point out a bit of the obvious. The "silly season" is upon us (no slur of the true meaning of Christmas intended). Please be aware of the "silly" ones out there on the street. Drive carefully, enjoy the festive season, and don't be a "silly" one your self. Have a joyous Christmas and let's all have a happy and prosperous New Year.

Secretary's Notes

Pat Troy

At the Executive Committee meeting held on December 7 1992 the following motion was discussed and carried:

1. Dennis Stubberfield moved to rescind all previous motions regarding penalties for late cancellation of dive trips and replace them with the following: - That members failing to notify the Dive Officer of cancellation by 8:00 PM the day before without good reason will be placed on the bottom of the list on their next subsequent dive booking when the booking is full.
2. D. Stubberfield moved that the Club medical requirements for entry level divers comply with Australian Standard 4005.1. However we strongly recommend that SPUMS standards be adopted by divers for training and subsequent dive medicals.

Introducing.....

NAME: Maree Casley

OCCUPATION: Gardner

HOW LONG DIVING: Eleven years

DIVING QUALIFICATIONS: SDF of WA Diver, U.E.C. Initial Certificate, NAUI Advanced Diver, PADI Medic First Aid.

FAVOURITE DIVE SITE: West Patch, West End of Rottnest Island

MOST MEMORABLE DIVE: Break - Sea Island off Albany - there is a huge sloping slab of rock covered with huge masses of soft corals and sponges - STUNNING!

MOST EMBARRASSING DIVING EXPERIENCE: Swimming flat - out on a direct course to Madagascar instead of heading back to the boat at Hamelin Bay. Probably the most dangerous as well.

HOBBIES: Perfecting the art of indolance, (I've nearly got it right!). Having a good time. Anything connected with diving, fishing and camping activities.



NEWSFLASH

NEWSFLASH

TO ALL DIVERS

Are you a member of the UEC and one of those diver types who occasionally ventures back to the boat with the odd crayfish or two?

Then have we got a deal for you!

The December 21 General Meeting at the Clubrooms will feature as guest speaker Laurie Capehorn from the Fisheries Department, and he plans to give us an update covering the new rules and regulations of amateur crayfishing, the do's and don'ts, how not's and how to's and just what effect those regulations will have on us as divers.

This is of the greatest importance to the Club and to you as amateur cray-takers, should you fall into that category, and is almost mandatory that you attend.

Friends are also welcome.

See you at the Club - December 21 - 8:00 pm sharp.

It has been some time since you have seen me in print, but the good news is - I'M BACK! (and you thought you had seen the last of my badgering and haranguing didn't you?). Being the festive season - being kind to our fellow man (and woman) I'll let you off easy this month but I should remind you of a few things just to keep you on your toes.

Some good diving weather is finally upon us - YIPPEE! - so before you venture out, take some time to check your gear. Make sure your cylinders are in test, your reg and occy have been serviced and that your B.C. is in good working order, particularly the inflator mechanism. A fault here can lead to dire consequences on a dive so make sure it is free of encrustations and works properly.

Whilst out on the boat the other day I noticed a couple of incidents that caused me some concern. Firstly, please don't sit on the cabin roof or foredeck without checking with the skipper. If the radar is turned on you could be exposed to radiation, so it is not a good idea to get too close. The thought of a microwaved diver doesn't fill me with glee. Secondly, a potentially serious accident could have occurred whilst we were unloading the boat. As you know, it gets very sloppy from the wake of other boats passing and in this instance someone got their foot caught between the boat and the rubber fenders on the jetty. Only minor injuries were sustained (although the air turned quite blue from the exclamations of pain) but it could have been a lot worse. All of you, please be careful when unloading the boat.

Over the Christmas period, many of you will be off with your friends and family diving. I know it is a time for relaxing, but please do not relax your diving standards. Just because there is no Club D.O. to tell you what to do doesn't mean you can avoid employing good diving safety practices. You all know what is required so please be vigilant.

I hope you and your families all have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and I'll see you in 1993.



Nature's subtle signs of danger

As this is my first report as D.O. I would firstly like to congratulate all the other suckers who were also voted onto the committee... here's to a trouble free year (I hope!). As for myself, when I agreed to take on this position I had no idea what it was about. Three weeks later, I have had a vision; a vision of beauty and a stress free environment. All my fellow Club members ringing me at civilised times of the day, booking on to the dive on the answering machine, leaving their name, number and the day they want to dive. The boat being full every weekend, rapidly paying its way. However, others said this would not happen, that the Club would never book a week in advance, only leaving a message and not requiring confirmation because they knew they would turn up, or happily part with a late withdrawal fee. When I was told this would not happen I thought NO! We have a Club of enthusiastic divers; divers that want to try different things like night dives and week day afternoon dives; divers who just want to get in the water.

So here is your chance. If you have any suggestions for a dive location or a dive time please let me know. If you want to change plans or maybe locate to different scenery for the weekend, let me know. I am here to arrange an interesting and full summer schedule for you all, and with a little input from you, we could have a fantastic diving summer. The weather is beginning to be perfect all the time, the boat has been cleaned, you have all had a long break, so now it time to hit the water. Remember to Slip Slop Slap, dive safely, and please call me or my answering machine and fill the boat. To begin your intimate phone life, call me on 316 1319.

M.V. Scuttlebut

CONGRATULATIONS

Patti and Roger Nottage are the VERY proud parents of ANDREW BRUCE, who weighed in at 7lb 10oz on November 25. Mother and baby are both well, sister Erin is delighted to have a playmate, and I bet Dad is over the moon!

(Now that they have one of each, I wonder if they will be out to prove anything else!)

TRAVELLING.

Nick and Sharon are (we hope) enjoying their English Winter this Christmas, having sold the house, hosted our Annual Presentation night, packed up, overcome Sam's tonsillitis, and caught a plane, all within a week! Merry Christmas to the Wasleys! They deserve it.

WHO SAID WHAT?!?!

Maree, (who hurt her knee clambering up on the Hi-Lux): "Pat, what was that word you used to make it feel better when you squashed your toe?"

(Pat, I expect the word was 'Gosh', because you wouldn't want your gentlemanly reputation tarnished, would you?) - Ed.

Boat Blather

Dennis Stubberfield

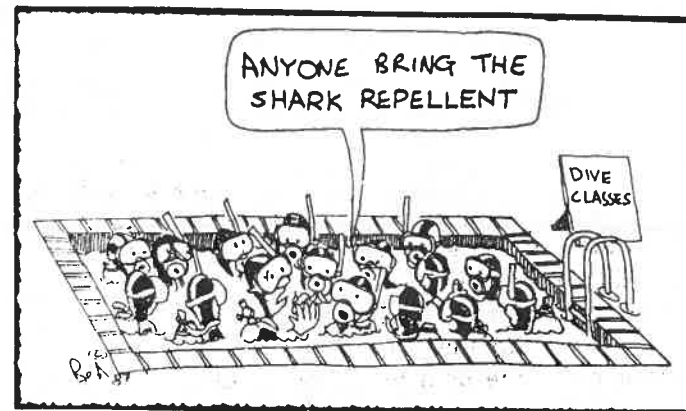
The boating scene seems to be picking up with 3 trips and a working Bee, all three being remarkable in their own way. The first trip was in a blinding rain storm, so bad that Barry couldn't find Straggler rocks and finally wound up having the crew dive at Blackwall Reach in the River! I've heard of divers getting withdrawal symptoms (have even had them myself) but I didn't realise you guys had it that bad. The second trip was also to Blackwall Reach, with the particular purpose of - self immolation I think - No!, deep diver practice I am assured!. The third dive finally cracked it - balmy summer weather, no seas, little swell, NO screaming sea breeze, Cray fish lined up super market style, one woman among five men (the tart!) - you've guessed it - It was hell out there! The dive site was so good and skipper Bob Cotton got it so right, the crew didn't want to shift and stayed for the second dive on the same site. If you want to know where it is - book on for a dive next week end.

Now the serious bit, the working party was called as an emergency matter to correct a number of problems which have developed over the past few weeks; mainly as a result our lack of activity and along with that our lack of attention to the boat. While that may have been unfortunate because it cost us the best diving day since last March, it is a fact of life and we now have to make up for it. Fortunately exams etc., are over, we have come out of a prolonged hibernation and now should be able to cope. The boat urgently needs a series of short work sessions to clean her up, fix a number of small but irritating water inlets (to the cabin), a thousand small odd jobs which added together make the boat not a joy at all! Such things as doors that stick, hatch locks that wont work, seats that are wet, clips and running 'rigging' that wont and her bottom to keep clean - to name a few. I propose that most of this can be done during diving trips so that all of us get involved and we don't lose good diving time! So be prepared folks she's **YOUR** boat!

That brings me to the two main problems that may cause us to lose time. The lesser of these is the anti-foul, which because we can no longer use the good stuff, we are back to the situation of a few seasons ago before we used a D.R.P. type. Continuous cleaning and perhaps two slippings (one short) per year to anti-foul her. We cant just put up with it because the barnacles cause severe vibration problems and also clog the cooling water inlets - and you know what trouble that causes!

Finally the major problem, the one that caused us to cancel a Saturday dive trip and one that can only be fixed by money mainly,- Cooling system malfunction! When it comes to cooling of small marine diesel engines I am convinced Life Membership of the U.E.C. is a life sentence! Once again we are in trouble with fresh water heat exchangers and if we have learned anything in the past 9 odd years, it is that you cant get away with temporary or cheap repairs. A series of "scientific" tests, ie., purple dye in the fresh water tank, has established we have a leaking heat exchanger and it will have to be taken out and fixed properly. Unfortunately there's` no other way - as we will certainly damage our motor if we don't! Hopefully by the time you read this it will be fixed - I fervently hope so without going entirely broke! There goes our nice warm dry weather proofing for a while yet! Now we know why they sell cray boats after 10'- 12 years real cheap!

"Cheers Folks"!



Training Report

Ron Phonemyint

Congratulations to Ainslie Choate and Brian Cruise for completing the Deep Diver course with me.

The next Master Diver Module will be held sometime early in the New Year. This will be either a 'Diver Lifesaver' or 'Night Diver' course.

If you are interested in doing either of these courses or know of someone who wants to learn to dive, please contact me on 417 4140.

Thanks,