U.E.C NEWS
(UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF W.A. INC.)

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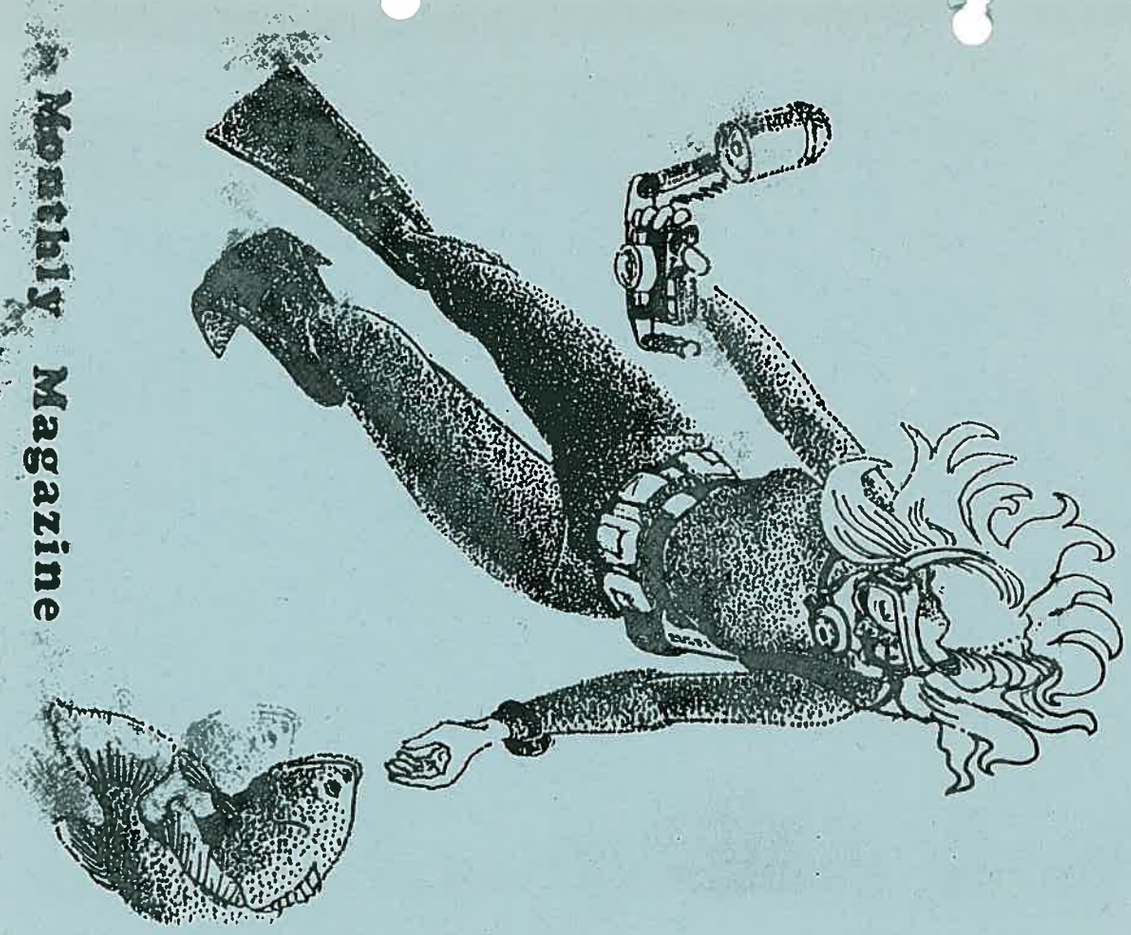
U.E.C.

THE BEST DIVE CLUB IN W.A.

U.E.C. NEWS

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB of W.A.



Monthly Magazine

SAFETY SPOT

NO! WE DON'T GO EENIE, MEENIE, MINIE MO WITH THE DIVE TABLES.

DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE TOO MANY SCUBA TANKS FLOATING AROUND YOUR PLACE? In that case, would you like to sell some of them, or at least one? IAN COWAN is interested in buying a second hand tank. You can phone him on 361 5444 (at work).

P.S. If you happen to have a PINK one!..... well, ... please phone ME

Ed.
(SUSIE ASHTON)
Phone 331 2385
(all hours)

SEMINAR OF DIVING MEDICINE

held by SPUMS (South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society)

The Seminar will be held at the Perry Lakes Superdrome on Saturday February 4th from 9 a.m. The morning program is orientated towards sports divers and will include:

Common diving medical problems (Dr Bob Wong)
Diving medical examinations (Dr Greg Deleuil)
First aid & management of diving accidents (Dr Harry Oxer)

In the afternoon the program will be orientated towards the medical fraternity and will include:

A review of the diving illness (Dr David Davies)
Common diving medical problems (Dr Bob Wong)
Diving medical examinations (Dr Greg Deleuil)
Medicolegal aspects of diving medical examinations (Mr Bruce Duckham)

Panel discussions to follow. You are welcome to bring friends.

- -

CLUB T-SHIRTS

now available in all sizes again!!! At least from Size 10 to 20 anyway.
Get into the old club spirit and buy one to wear and tear this summer!
The price hasn't changed - it's still the incredibly cheap $8 which means you could probably afford to buy one each for your whole family!

FROM THE EDITOR...

Message to all "drop-outs":

Your annual club membership fee was due for payment in November last year.
We have been sending you the UEC NEWS up till now,hoping that you would join again. If you cannot find time, money or interest to pay our Treasurer before or at the January General Meeting....well, I'm sorry to have to say:"THIS IS YOUR VERY LAST NEWS FROM U.E.C." We don't want to lose you as a buddy and friend, so please pay up, and enjoy lots of more great diving this beaut summer! Many more great new spots have been found by our intrepid diving expeditionary force!

ANYBODY OUT THERE ???

...who is interested in a trip to one of the world's most exclusive underwater destinations? It's right here in W.A.! Yes, of course I'm talking about the ROWLEY SHOALS!

Our club member Errol Kirke (Phone 364 4155) wants to organize a small group to go up there later this year, so please contact Errol now for further information if interested. The idea is to charter a boat form Broome,live on it and dive from it!

U.E.C. COMMITTEE

After hours

PRESIDENT	Barry Kennedy	453 6927
VICE PRESIDENT	Dennis Stubberfield	457 3333
SECRETARY	Carolyn French	387 5021
TREASURER	Peter Horton	445 2336
DIVE OFFICER	Peter Mortimer	459 8067
TRAINING OFFICER	John Pasculich	450 0111
SAFETY OFFICER	Adrian Edwards	457 2117
BOAT OFFICER	Dennis Stubberfield	457 3333
BUILDING OFFICER	Richard Naylor	342 4205
SOCIAL & P.R.	Ian Cowan	384 8330
EDITOR	Susie Ashton	331 2385

BOAT BITTS

by Dennis Stubberfield

I am happy to report a satisfactory month's operation with respect to our boat, with only "normal" minor problems which are being attended to as time permits. At this time of the year when we should expect the boat to be working hard, maintenance tends to take second place unless the item is potentially dangerous or could lead to a cancelled dive. This is in fact what the planned maintenance slipping in July/August is all about - to allow us a trouble free run when the pressure is on.

This month the boat took out four dive trips - including the Christmas event, a two and a quarter day exploratory dive trip - all of which accummulated 61man diving days. Two social trips up the river were also held in which groups of club members and their immediate families enjoyed the fruits of their labour and club fees, having a good day's outing and flushing the weed off the keel. I am pleased to report also that an unscheduled Saturday (New Years Eve) trip was organised to take advantage of absolutely brilliant conditions to dive on the West End of Rottnest, where a new spot was found and marked. This is particularly pleasing to me, as I have been harping "ad nauseum" for the club to use the boat. In fact, this particular trip was taken by Maree and myself and co-ordinated by the club D.O. Peter Mortimer. We decided to get an early start so elected to sleep on the boat at the mooring on Friday night. However, the balmy romantic conditions were marred somewhat by the noise of sea gulls, squabbling over their squatter rights and early morning fisherman tearing past without fear of being apprehended by patrol vessels at 3, 4 and 5 in the morning! Last, but not least, a 5 minute job on the boat motor which turned into a greasy 4 hour marathon for both Maree and I, making us late in the morning.
Next time we will take the boat off the mooring and hide behind the north mole or somewhere for the night, and will NOT - repeat NOT - attempt to fix the motor, lavatory, gunwales, echo sounder, pump or ANY THING!!!

To be accurate and complete in my report of the boat this month, I will conclude this section by admitting to a few minor problems which are being tackled by the experts as and when I can catch them! Oil leakage around the rocker cover, which requires panel beating to correct, is proving a nuisance, as is a leaking gland in the lavatory pump, a salt water inlet valve which will not shut off (a wooden bung - tapered - is on board in case of trouble), and minor salt and fresh water leakage. The major problem of fresh water expulsion has thankfully been corrected with the new head. However, the valve clearance in that head requires adjustment - BILL and I, Thursday evening.

On the credit side, a new "you beaut" seagull flag repellent system, that doesn't take 4 hours and Albert Einstein's genius to rig, is in place and I have found a cheap, effective way to put a fender system on dinghy tenders - see me for patent rights and royalties.

Finally, folks, that hornets nest I stirred up about a new boat last month:

You will be delighted and amazed to learn I have about $5,000 in offers already!!! (I wasn't aware our existing boat was SO unpopular in some respects - I am ever so slightly wounded). Having decided we need to plan for a new boat soon - or have we? - the next step is to decide what we want. I

SOCIAL SECTION

Report from your Social Director, IAN COWAN:

HAPPY NEW YEAR, El Gringos and Margaritas!

What a snap, crackle, pop nite it was! Gee, that sauce was hot! Sorry, no Mexican music. After a few Sangrias, champagne, punch, tequila and "Susie/Kerry's Special" (home made Sangria), it didn't matter. Nachos went down well, Chicken Burrito with melted cheese and hot sauce was ree ba, ree ba, and did a good job, as we all danced into the New Year with more champagne and 32 fun people (12 of those were club members).

VOLLEY BALL TEAMS ! ! !

Hey, let's do it 21-1-89! That Saturday I'll be there 2 PM with a white hat and sun-glasses, either playing or sitting beside the volley ball courts waiting for you and your friends, so we can get a regular team going and then discuss tactics in the Cottesloe Hotel to stop dehydration! Ring me on 384 8330 for more details.

Your Social Director

Report from TIBI CSOMAY, who was also at "El Toro" that night:

New Years Eve Party was held by 12 club members and 20 other guests in Mexico Mosman. Good time was had by all, especially in the first hours of this year. The party was made real authentic by the ethnic members of the club "Panjo" Ashton and his lovely wife "Rosita" in their national costume.

- -

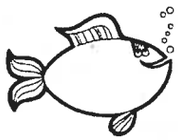
*** STOP PRESS *** STOP PRESS *** STOP PRESS

U.E.C. ANNUAL
VALENTINE RIVER CRUISE

Mark down FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY for an unforgettable event on our beautiful river in the sunset!

Times and more details in your next newsletter, but... BOOK WITH IAN NOW!!! His new phone number is 384 8330

GOSSIP COLUMN



MARTIN SMITH took the boat out to the North Mole and without much trouble found the relocated wreck. It is half way between the new sea wall, near the incinerator and the yellow marker boy, near the end of the mole. It is visible from the surface.

* * *

The ever so popular diving buddy LIS AITCHISON has recently movd back to England. Jungle telegraph has it that she is getting married in May to Alan (who you may have seen at some club social events or on the boat last year).

DID YOU KNOW

...that TADPOLES, of the Australian brown tree frog with transparent skin and muscles, have been used to study gas-bubble formations in decompression sickness?

BUSSELTON IS NOT ONLY A JETTY DIVE !!

Around 20 metres deep, 8 nautical miles south west from Busselton, you can find an excellent artificial reef made of more than 33.000 tires! And forget about your spear fishing equipment on this dive - not allowed! This dive is only for LOOKING and PHOTOGRAPHING LOVERS.

CONSERVATION CORNER

Senator Norm Sanders has urged the Australian Government to take action against the brutal slaughter of dolphins by tuna fishermen in the Pacific. Schools of Yellowfin tuna swim beneath and behind large dolphin herds. Once fishermen locate a dolphin herd, they encircle it with large nets which trap the dolphins and tuna. This deliberate, horrible slaughter claims 100,000 dolphins each year. The Australian Government should protest to the governments of the countries concerned: US, USSR, Mexico, Venezuela, Ecuador, Vanuatu, Spain, Costa Rica and Panama, and the Government should ban the import of Yellowfin tuna, said Senator Sanders.

* * *

Despite a global ban on whaling, Japan, Iceland and Norway seem determined to defy international opinion and carry on killing.

(World Wildlife Fund Australia newsletter Dec. 88)

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN DIVING FOR A WHILE

HAVE YOU ?

know what I think is ideal, but how about some views from the members! What size, what speed compromise (more speed, more maintenance and more cost), what shape, how long, what material and what colour (bearing in mind you will paint it, and paint it, and paint it again, if you choose the wrong colour in the first place). Last but not least, how much do you feel is our top limit in cost? Get some of your friends in business to give you some advice. The UEC Committee and I need all the feed-back and advice we can get on this deal.

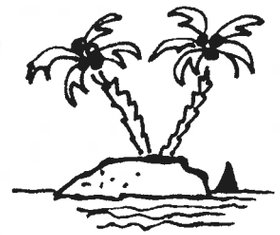
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK WITH BOAT-USAGE, FOLKS! Check with the D.O. early in the week, and if there's nothing unusual planned, tell him to put your name down if anything does develop during the week. Then check back again later in the week. You never know what might be taking place - it's going to be all go and low swell this summer!!

That's all for now, folks. Give me your thoughts and your promise of MUCH MONEY.

Cheers, Folks!

Bligh-Stubby
Admiral and now lately
PRESIDENT OF VICE

ROTTNEST IN MARCH



The club boat will be stationed at Rottnest from 1 to 8 March (Wednesday to Wednesday) and members wishing to dive with us and/or just stay over night during that period, please notify the D.O. who will advise those at Rottnest when and where you will be. At least five club members, including Skippers and D.O.'s, will be staying the whole week. We look forward to seeing you. For further details contact DENNIS on 457 3333 (home) or 274 9606 (work). Please NOTE that the U.E.C. Diving Long Weekend is taking place on 4, 5 and 6 March and the above generous offer DOES NOT APPLY to these dates, unless you have already booked and paid for this event specifically!

NOMINATIONS

The following applications were accepted at the committee meeting 3/1/89:

MICHEL ROUX, 16/9 Clydesdale Street
Como 6152
Phone 450 3213

BOB McLAUGHLIN, 137 Newburn Road
High Wycombe 6057
Phone 454 8580

Continuation of JULIE RAINES' story M.U.D. BENT (from December Newsletter)

It was a wonderful dive and I surfaced and happily did some calculations. I was comfortably within the tables, a J diver at most, having been down 6-9 metres with one accidental drop to 12 metres for just a few minutes. A pretty familiar story, isn't it?

We are all eager to dive again. Our last chance! So, I dived again 2 hours later. This dive was 6-9 metres and again, I accidentally dropped to 12 metres for 3 minutes. As I returned to the boat, I calculated that at most I was a K diver, but as I'd done a lot of dives in the previous few days, I decided it was time to do a safety stop (3 min. a 5 metres) - I needed the practice anyway.

However, on this particular dive, I had forgotten to take into account an error in my depth gauge. I had discovered earlier in the trip that my gauge measured 1.5 metres too shallow! Not a lot, is it? But on this occasion, given that I had forgotten the fact that it was my fourth repetitive dive, it was enough to push me over the edge and in the "pot".

Once I had finally got around to seeking medical advice, I knew what I had to do. I felt like an idiot when finally I telephoned one of my diving buddies and asked her to drive me to the Stirling Naval Base. I couldn't believe that I was about to be one of those hopeless divers that get out through the re-compression chamber! Based on media coverage that I had heard, I assumed that it was the careless, gung-ho or untrained diver who went to the "pot", and I knew it cost a lot of money to treat people. My head hung in shame as I thought of the reception I would get at the H.M.A.S. Stirling. Surely they would say: "Not another one of those silly recreational divers!

But this was not so... the media seems to have given a slightly biased coverage on the situation, creating a negative stigma amongst some of the diving community. There are other like me who have been to the re-compression chamber. At Stirling I was mae both welcome and better.

YOU HAVE LITERALLY GOT BUBBLES IN YOUR BRAIN

In fact, it was a fascinating experience, but one which I would definitely NOT recommend. A cerebral bend is quite insidious in its effects. It is not painful and unless you have a severe case of it, you can think reasonably clearly. So, you tend to think, there is nothing much wrong with you. But there is! You have literally got bubbles in your brain! And you don't know what they are doing to you. For one thing, they block the fine capillaries in your brain, which can kill off the brain tissues. They can also cause changes in your blood chemistry which are not reversed by re-compression treatment.

The longer you delay receiving treatment, the worse the after-affects are likely to be. Some people do not receive treatment at all. Minor bends will slowly dissipate over time and it is suspected that many recreational diver get the bends but either do not realise it, or are too scared to report it. But what have they done to themselves? Furthermore, once you have had the bends, it increases your probability of getting the bends again.

I am writing this article to tell you how easy it is to get bent, to encourage you to avoid it, and to tel you that if you suspect you have got it, then seek medical advice. Don't delay, as it will only make matters worse. Don't be afraid or ashamed to go to the re-compression chamber - the treatment is not painful and you will be mae better!

In retrospect, I believe I got the bends because:

1) Bends are easy to get. **Careful** is not good enough - you have to be **super** careful.

2) Going on diving holidays increases the probability that any diver will get the bends. To start with, you are usually tired, excited and not quite yourself. You may have even suffered from a slight dose of sea sickness. There is lots of enthusiasm about you, encouraging you to make the most of the trip and to go for another dive! Safety precautions can easily be forgotten and errors made. For many it will be a time when they will make their greatest number of sequential dives and even their greatest number of repetitive dives.

3) I made a few mistakes - any of which I might have got away with, but I was unlucky enough to have them all in a sequence.

So what of the future? I am going back to diving. I've learnt a lesson the hard way. Maybe you can learn the easy way. In any case, here is my advice:

DO be super careful and conservative - careful isn't good enough.

DO take your dive tables with you and use them under water.

DO check your depth gauge frequently and compare it with your buddy's gauge at regular intervals. Remember that gauges can become un-calibrated to different extent at different depths.

DO keep a log book. Mine came into use numerous times when I had decompression sickness. To begin with, referring to it helped me determine that I had decompression sickness. My dive profile assisted the doctors in diagnosing my condition. After the treatment I was able to give the medical staff an accurate account of my diving history for a survey they were conducting (the least I could do after all their help). Later, I used it to explain to all my diving friends why I had got bent, and now, finally, I am using it again for your sake. I CANNOT RECOMMEND TOO STRONGLY THAT YOU KEEP A \DIVING LOG BOOK ACCURATE AND UP TO DATE!

AND DON'T HESITATE IF YOU SUSPECT THAT YOU HAVE DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS - SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE IMMEDIATELY!

Don't be afraid or ashamed if you need re-compression treatment. You will be welcome at the H.M.A.S. Stirling because the most important thing is for you to get better!

GOOD LUCK AND SAFE DIVING!

* * * * * * * *

Thank you, Julie, for a well written article and your good advice. It certainly makes us all think a bit "more conservatively" when diving and to keep that log book up to date!

Ed.

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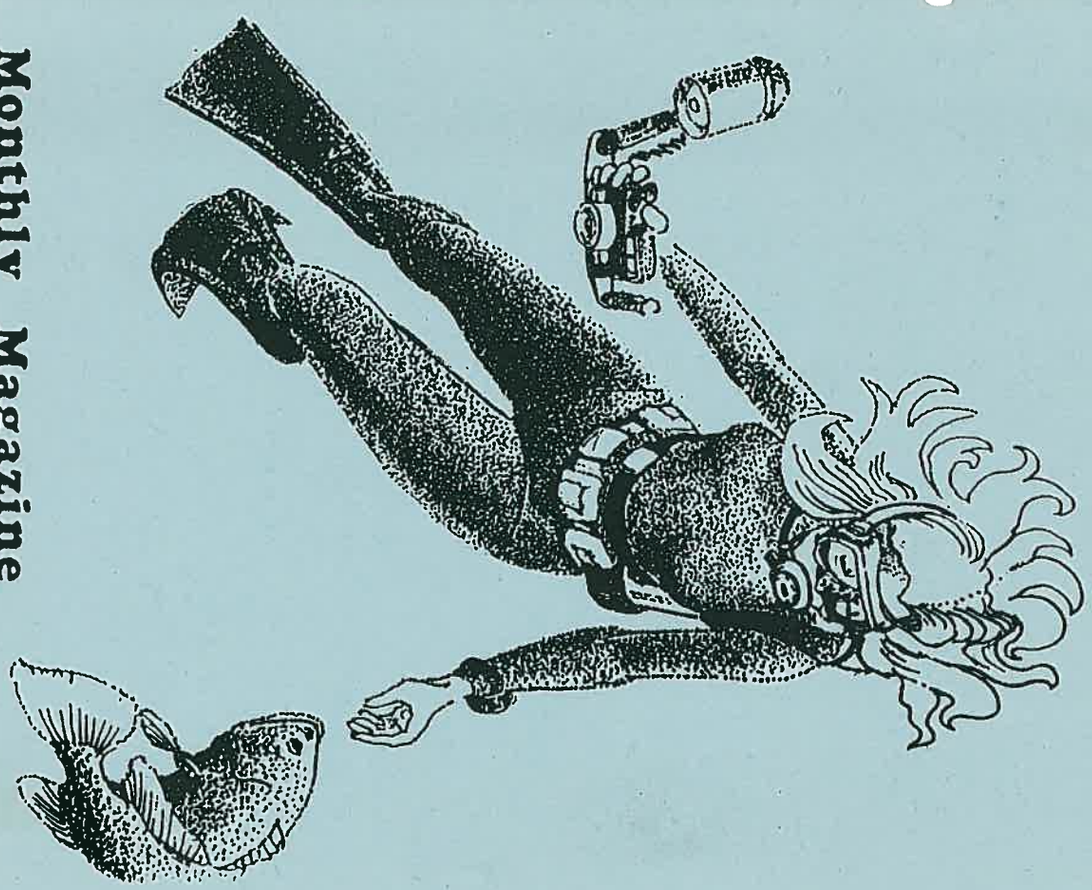


Monthly Magazine

In case you didn't see the following article about us in DAILY NEWS, Tuesday 24 January 1989, here it is:

★★★★★★★★★

WATERFRONT thieves stole $5000 worth of equipment from the Underwater Explorers Club last week.

Club spokeswoman Maree Casley told STRUTH: "We came back from a dive on Sunday, tied up in North Fremantle near the Stirling Bridge and next time someone looked at the boat on Tuesday a whole lot of mechanical gear had gone.

"From the type of stuff missing — turbochargers, injectors, fuel pumps, fuel lines, hoses, cables, wires — we just assumed it was just someone in the club doing some work on the engine which had been giving a bit of trouble.

"But, after checking around members, we realised it was stolen. We had to cancel two dives, spend $5000 replacing the gear and put in a lot of hours work to get running again by last Sunday."

The assumption now is that the thieves have a boat with an engine similar to the six cylinder Perkins Diesel which powers the club's Underwater Explorer, a former crayboat built by Stuart Ward, whose son Steve built Australia II.

★★★★★★★★★

DID YOU KNOW...

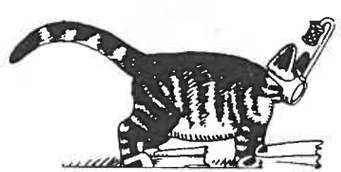
that, as a punishment on convict ships bound for Australia (Hi, Grandpa), offenders were locked up in a crate which was suspended from a yard arm at water level. Every time the ship swayed, the crate went under water. *This is the first recorded diver training method in Australia!*

DID YOU ALSO KNOW...

that it is NO SMOKING in the Club room during our meetings? Yes, that decision was made by your committee quite some time ago, but I guess we forgot to announce it!

DEADLINE for each monthly Newsletter is the first Monday in the same month, in case you feel like you want to contribute with something. Please send your material in that case **directly** to my address.

Ed.



My address is: *Susie Ashton, 5 Ralston Road, Kardinya WA 6163. Phone: 331 2385 (all hours).*

FROM THE EDITOR...

Now listen here, dear club members!

In the process of trying to find out why we don't get more people on our Sunday dives, we have changed the SUNDAY 26th FEB dive to become a SINGLE TANK DIVE. That means that we'll be back on land again before 2pm. We have heard from several members that they think "the day is too long at sea" or "I don't have time to spend the whole day out there" (which I agree to as well), so here is your chance to come and prove that this is what you want! Otherwise, let Peter Mortimer know WHAT IT IS YOU WANT from your club. We want you to DIVE with us!

Ed.

U.E.C. COMMITTEE

After hours

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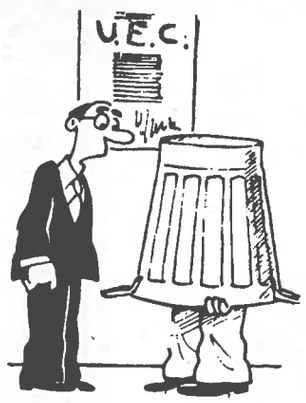
EDITOR	Susie Ashton	331 2385

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

By Barry Kennedy

GOOD NEWS:
S.D.F.A. is now accredited through N.C.A.S.. My thanks and admiration go to BONNY BIRCH and KEN VISIC and their helpers for having achieved this result. What this means is that true amateur training will continue in this State, and the average person will still be able to afford a diving course, and get the best training available. All of this in an amateur club atmosphere, where safety, enjoyment and fellowship are top priority! Let's just hope now that all the bulldust suggested by the Diving Task Force will be thrown into the rubbish bin where it belongs, and the instigators behind it all will somehow overcome their obsession to destroy the amateur organizations.



I don't think you can learn diving in that!

OUR BOAT:
To the thieves who stole the engine parts and equipment from our boat I would just like to say this...
I would not like to be in your shoes when we eventually find out who you are!!

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB:
Lately it seems we are being attacked from all sides, although this is often when a club like ours becomes stronger. It tends to bond the members together as they respond to the threats and fight against the aggressors. I hope that this is the case this time. Although we are overcoming most of the problems brought on by the Diving Task Force, we have just had a run of bad luck and bastardy with our boat. In short, this has cost us a lots of money lately, and we need your support now. So, how about it? Come on, all you have to do is ring Peter Mortimer (459 8067) and come for a dive!

COMMITTEE COMMENTS

The following applications for U.E.C. membership were presented and accepted at the last committee meeting:

Stephen Angus Ferguson
13 Lefroy Road
BULL CREEK
Phone: 332 6255

Mark Fraser Parsons
51A Marion Street
INNALOO

THE DIVERS INTEREST GROUP - - a subsection of the **Friends of Marmion Marine Park** - have done another good job and finally received permission from the relevant authorities to erect signs at boat launching sites in the park, warning boating people to be aware of divers in the waters. I hope this will help us avoid getting our heads chopped off, when entering from the rocks and snorkelling out to the shallow Boyinaboat Reef, which is such a close and beautiful dive spot!

The Divers Interest Group are also always on the look-out for more volunteers to help out with a SURVEY of the marine park. "Those of us who have participated, " says Eva Kersten, "have found it informative as well as enjoyable. Don't be mislead by the involvement and difficulty. Have a go, it's easy once you know how, not to mention all the new vocabulary that you'll develop in the process!"

If you are interested in knowing more about this enthusiastic group of divers, please feel free to come to their meetings, which are held at Sorrento/Duncraig Recreation Centre. Just contact EVA or JOHN KERSTEN on 342 0154 for dates and more information.

Ed.

CONSERVATION CORNER

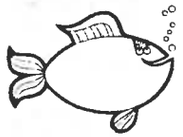
Sad about the 17 stranded dolphins down at Augusta. How about some people from the club that are interested in becoming a part of an "Emergency Rescue" team? Just give me your name and phone number so we can keep in touch so that on the word "*GO*" you are prepared to give your time and act spontaneously to jump in someone's car, chip in for petrol and help out!

IAN COWAN

PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE IN THE DIVE CALENDAR:

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY WILL BE A "SHORT DIVE"!!!

GOSSIP COLUMN



A certain club member went playing golf on the Rottnest course last time we were over there. On the first tee he took a wide swing with his club and missed his ball. "Good thing I found out this soon. This course is about 2 inches lower then the one I usually play on!"

* * *

Our latest "country member" ALISON KEEN has moved to Carnaaaaarvon for 2 years and welcomes anyone (especially handsome, single, young men) to come up for a dive in the Shark Bay area, not to mention the famous QUOBBA BLOWHOLES, which are only 40 kilometres north of Carnarvon and a declared Marine Reserve.

* * *

Guess who is showing off the biggest diamond engagement ring at the moment in the club? - Our sweet Secretary CAROLYN FRENCH! And the lucky man in her life is club member RON COPPERWAITE. They did NOT meet under water or in the club, but in their office, (so Carolyn had to quit work when all the talking started!). Congratulations to both of you! The wedding will be held later this year.

* * *

YOU KNOW IT'S GOING TO BE A BAD DIVE WHEN YOU'VE BEEN PROMISED A WINDLESS DAY, AND AT 9 AM THE SEAGULLS HAVE ALREADY PACKED UP AND GONE TO THE TIP!

BLUDGERS

By Peter Leach

Have you ever noticed after a really nice day out diving how it can be spoiled when we get back to the East Street Jetty? I refer of course to the lazy, selfish people who flatly refuse to lift a finger towards the unloading of the boat!

No sooner has the boat been tied up when, as if by magic, half the people on the boat disappear with excuses such as "Must get to the toilet... Must get a drink... Must get my car" etc, whilst the same old faces unload all the tanks, bags and belts.

In this article I'm not going to name names except to mention the Skipper and Diving Officer, who get up early and leave late, after looking after the boat, for which of course they dive free and rightly so. They are not, however, excused from loading and unloading the boat and neither is anyone else.

So, if you don't want to see your name in print or have it mentioned at the next club meeting, DO THE RIGHT THING!

OK? OK.

FOR SALE

SEAHORNET RECRUIT SPEARGUN

Brand new; only $45

Ring Maree on 457 3333 (after hours)

BOAT BITTS

By Dennis Stubberfield

This month has been a long, arduous and eventful period in which I have seen the best and the worst of human nature and boating performance. The later occurred when thieves broke into the club boat and stole a number of very expensive, very important and some impossible to procure parts from the boat engine and machinery. The effects of this have been devastating to our small organization with its limited resources in manpower and money. Had it not been for the magnificent efforts of those club members who worked so hard, and local suppliers who went out of their way to help us, it could have put us out of business for months. As it was , parts were organized, and fitted by some dozen people, working almost around the clock, to get the boat ready for Sunday diving. Sadly, a magnificent Friday night-dive and Saturday dive in perfect weather had to be cancelled.

Suppliers such as C.H.E.S. of Fremantle and Turbotech of Redcliff (a potential new member from this source) were particularly helpful to us with a collection of new, reconditioned, second hand and some free odds and ends, going out of their way to help us get back to sea. C.H.E.S. even robbed a new motor of a long delivery time part to get us going! The club will be writing individually to those people with our thanks. My thanks and the club's are hereby recorded to those who took part in the refit and literally worked their hearts to a stop. Apart from those who actually put spanners to use, many others also helped with advice and organisation, drinks and contacts - our thanks to them also.

The miserable little jerks who did this will be caught, we feel certain, such parts are very specific! The tale of woe goes on! During the refitting operation the opportunity to service and repair other "minor" problems was taken and this snow-balled into a massive exercise quite distinct and separate from the restoring of stolen gear. Finally, coincidental disaster! Our gear box virtually failed on the moorings, tying up after the Friday 3/2/89 night dive. This problem is in hand and will hopefully be corrected in time for diving on Sunday. (There's nothing left to fail, folks!)

You will note I have been somewhat general and sparse with details of mechanical problems, particularly replacements and or repairs. This is because I have a strong feeling my very detailed monthly reports of mechanical items failed and replaced may have fallen into the hands of the unprincipled, unclean and ungodly. Our magazine has wide circulation beyond the membership, so in future these details will be omitted from the magazine boat report. However, they will be written up in great detail, omitting nothing, in the boat log which is freely available to all members for perusal at the clubrooms. Meanwhile, of course, between accidents, the boat and machinery has operated satisfactorily. I hope next month to have a more cheerful report and get back onto my favourite subject of HOW and WHEN to winkle out a NEW BOAT from the system.

Cheers folks!

Blight-Stubby

DIVING REPORT

By Peter Mortimer

Several good dives this last month around the Stragglers reef area plus one good night-dive last Friday. I find it strange that we had more members on the night-dive than our normal Sunday dives. We have on average had only 8-10 members the last three weeks. If any members have problems with Sunday dives or any ideas how to increase numbers, I am open to suggestions, please ring me! I am sure we will have a good turn-out for our training day 18th February.

PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE IN THE DIVE CALENDAR:

SUNDAY 26 FEBRUARY WILL BE A "SHORT DIVE"!!!

ROWLEY SHOALS NEWS:

The response ERROL KIRKE had at the last meeting from club members who want to go up to ROWLEY SHOALS and dive later this year was tremendous. Here is the latest news on that subject.

The boat will be "The Wave Spirit" - a 60 ft aluminium vessel with compressor and oxygen onboard. "The Wave Spirit" can take a maximum of 10 persons and costs $1100 per day, which includes all food and a cook. Errol has pencilled in a tentative booking for 1-7 September, which should be just about the best time of the year to be up there. (PDA has hired the same boat the 17th and the 30th.) Leaving Broome Friday night 6pm will take us to the R.S. 10am next morning. With 10 people that works out to $770 per person for the whole trip (from Broome) with 5 days on the reef. Not a bad price, I think!

There are still some vacancies left on this trip, and you are more than welcome to attend our next discussion meeting on WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH in the Club room at 8pm, when we should have even more details.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

This is your last reminder:

Money MUST be paid to Dennis by this General Meeting (Monday 20 February) if you want to come to

ROTTNEST IN MARCH

Continuing on, I check diligently for change since the last time I dove here. I want to know what kinds of shells are most abundant, which seem to be disappearing. Look - that old sponge crab is still here, waving his claws at me! Guess he never forgave me for carrying him around for so long when Don dove this reef with me. The colours, filtered out in order of the spectrum, are muted here. At this depth of 85 feet, yellows look deep orange, and blues look royal purple. A small cut will seep green smoke. All the gore goes out of blood when it looks like that, and you don't notice minor cuts and scratches till you surface.

Time loses significance to me, but not to physics. I must remind myself constantly to stay in the parameters of safe diving. What's my depth? Am I cold or working hard so that I'm using more air than normal? Am I still within the time limits for this depth? These details pass mechanically through the left side of my brain, while the serenity and glory of Mother Ocean pleases me in my right mind. With great reluctance I must end my worship. Returning to the anchor so that I can use it as a reference for the trip to the boat, I take note of all the details I didn't have time to check on this trip. There's an interesting new colony of sea urchins starting. And the Pyramid Butterflies seem to be plentiful though the Achilles Tangs seem rarer. Why? So many questions and feelings to sort out. I'll return to this temple soon.

. . .

This article comes all the way from exotic Hawaii, where Chris lives and teaches scuba diving to (mostly) Japanese tourists as a hobby. (Chris is a qualified PADI instructor.)

Barrakuda DIVE

SCUBA DIVING CENTRE

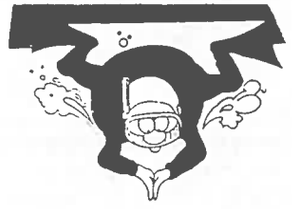
There's a new dive shop in our neighbourhood that I can strongly recommend for their friendly atmosphere and excellent service!

About 6 weeks ago ROBIN SHARP and JOHN WAKEFIELD's dream came true: to operate a full dive training facility. Robin and John finished at Pro Dive Scuba Diving College and became **BARRAKUDA DIVE**. Today their shop is a really impressive "institution", located at 67 McCoy Street in Myaree (phone 317 1458). It's a good place to go and fill your tanks too, outside our own clubroom hours; here you get service from 7.30 am to 7 pm... 7 days a week! GOOD LUCK FOR THE FUTURE, BOYS!

Ed.

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN DIVING FOR A WHILE

HAVE YOU ?

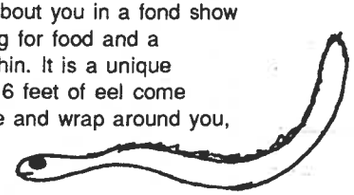


DESCRIPTIVE: MY IDEA OF FUN
By Chris Ulrich-Hansen

Sweating pools, I labour to assemble tank, jacket, and regulator. My wetsuit confines my joints, and serves as a portable sauna. The sun, beating on boat, people, and sea heats everything to a high shimmer. At last, I complete the final checkout and go to enter the water. The boat rocks with the swell and creates an unstable platform to balance the 40 or so pounds of clumsy gear on my back while trying desperately to don my oversize flipper. I feel like a beached walrus floundering about helplessly while the ocean giggles. Fins finally on, air on, regulator in my mouth, and hand on my mask, I perch precariously on the side of the boat. Wiggling my backside as far as I dare over the water, I signal the other diver and fall backwards. A cold shock rewards my efforts, and I gasp as I right myself and start the swim towards the anchor line. The water removes the ineptitude I felt on land, and restores my sense of dignity and grace. The sun no longer seeks to redden my face; it rather approves of my actions, and I feel at home. The smell of salt and rubber are so strong now - no fish smell, so the winds must be from the northwest. Because the water is so much denser than air, it buoys my cloddy gear making it seem weightless. The water density slows my movements, and makes them very deliberate. Legs slowly churn water in efficient fashion and I watch, satisfied with the wash of water over my fins. At the anchor line I set my watch bezel to zero time. Time to go down!

The anchor rope, a little frayed in places from chaffing the boat, is my final staging area. I let the air out of my jacket, allowing me to sink beneath the surface. The pressure builds quickly as I descend, and causes my ears to feel blocked. Grabbing my nose with my free hand an blowing gently, I force air into the tubes connecting the ears with the throat, and status quo is maintained.

Through 8 1/2 stories of water I descend, periodically checking my ears and gauges. The swell, irksome on the surface, now rocks me gently and soothes any remaining cares into insignificance. Finally, I find time to really see what swims with me here in mid-ocean. There's a big Ono! He's gotta be better than 4 feet long... and there he goes. Why didn't I bring the camera today?? The question drifts from consciousness as I land on the bottom. To the right lies the coral formation for which this reef is named. A lone mount of 25 feet in the midst of a flat plain, Gunsight Reef looms. Swimming slowly to it, I see the two outcroppings that form the gunsight. One of the old Gods, Kukailimoku maybe, must have used this place for games. The fish appreciate this playground, and so do I. Butterflyfish, pompous and bright, flock about the top of the mount like so many pieces of popcorn flying out of a commercial popper. The saddle-back wrasse bob to and fro, forever on the lookout for scraps and stray pieces of food. Moray eels are in almost every suitable hole, explaining why octopus seem so rare here lately. The eels rest warily, gaping at all that pas by. These myopic creatures, badly maligned by Hollywood, get so tame they recognize their human friends and will rush out of their hideouts when you call them by name. They twine about you in a fond show of affection, and beg for food and a scratch under the chin. It is a unique experience to have 6 feet of eel come ripping out of a hole and wrap around you, maypole style!



SAFETY SPOT
By Adrian Edwards

CHECK YOUR COMPASS

Some divers wear compasses (or have them on their combo gauge), and some do not. Some divers know how to use them, others do not.

However, NO compass is better than one which does not work properly. I shall explain:

Recently, I had my attention drawn to a basic wrist compass (you know, the standard SUUNTO type most divers use) which the owner had difficulty in obtaining a constant bearing with. Upon examining and testing it, I found that the needle was sticking intermittently at random on no particular reading and was therefore completely unusable.

I am not referring to the common user fault of not levelling the compass and allowing the needle to swing freely. This one was really "jiggered" and the needle could lie in any direction it fancied, even sometimes on NORTH which made it even more tricky.
The big problem, of course, in using a compass like this would be for the wearer to set out on a long compass swim back to the boat (perhaps low on air) and head off in a completely wrong direction, even opposite, and after a long swim, surface low on air "miles" away! So, have a good look at your compass and apply this basic check:

(1) Tie the compass flat down on any horizontal surface, where upon the needle (painted end) should always point NORTH. Don't bother about the number around the outside rotating bezel at this stage. Just check that the needle swings freely and quickly settles down to NORTH.

(2) Now, keeping the compass flat on the table, rotate the body of the compass (the whole thing) around through 360 several times. The needle should always remain pointing NORTH.

(3) If your compass fails this test, i.e. the needle sticks and rotates around with the body of the compass, then I strongly suggest you DO NOT use it for underwater navigation!

A FEW TIPS FOR LOOKING AFTER YOUR COMPASS:

a. Don't store it near any iron or ferrous metals (knife, etc).
b. Don't store two compasses together.
c. Don't store it near a transistor radio or electrical power.
d. Don't toss it in the bottom of your dive bag where it can get thumped around. Put it in a bootie or your mask box.
e. Wash in fresh water to get any grit or sand out of rotating ring.
f. And finally, don't leave lying in hot sun or strong sunlight.

COMPASSES ARE NOT CHEAP - LOOK AFTER THEM!

Something is wrong

I DON'T MAKE MISTAKES

By Peter Leach

"Where are we going?" I asked. "Stragglers" is the reply. Ugh! Diving at the Stragglers is about as interesting as diving in a backyard pool. Still, it's too late now, we've left the jetty so I'll just have to make the most of it.

As you would expect, the dive was absolutely boring until that is everyone was back on the boat with the exception of four divers. It was then that two divers surfaced 70 metres to the rear of the boat, one of them giving the 'Diver in distress' signal. Whilst we were trying to identify who the divers were, one of them left his buddy, submerged and made his way back to the boat under water!

Meanwhile on the boat, two club divers sprang immediately into action; One donning mask and flippers whilst the other handed him a line and payed it out when the first dived in and swam out to our distressed diver. Reaching the diver with the line, we expected the diver to pull himself back in, but no! He had to be pulled in.

Back on the boat - was there any THANKS? ... No! Any expression of relief? ... No! Only a rather foolish face saving act of bravado which went something like this: "Of course I could have got back but it would have taken too much time" and then later: "I could have got back under water but I didn't want to waste the air". Then later still: "Of course I could have got back. I just wanted to see how quick you could rescue me!"

Distress, help

In the meantime, the diver's buddy had got back to the boat and when asked what was wrong with his buddy, the reply was: "He couldn't get back."

This story hasn't finished here. On the way back to Freo we passed a sloop with the skipper jumping up and down on the deck, screaming and pointing and waving his arms around. Slowing down, we spotted two divers about 50 metres behind his boat with Buckley's chance of getting back.

Doing the right thing, we picked them up, but were unable to take them to the sloop because of sea conditions, so we dropped them at the wharf in Freo. When we asked how they were, one diver admitted he couldn't get back but the other said: "Of course I could get back!"

The two incidents raise a number of questions:

1) How many times have you been told to plan your dive so you surface ahead of the boat?

2) If you are in distress, would you want your buddy to swim off and leave you?

3) If you make a mistake and get in trouble, tell people what you did wrong so that others can learn from your mistakes.

4) And finally, no matter how good you think you are and no matter how good you tell people you are - you can still make mistakes, and the sea doesn't forgive people who make mistakes!

SOCIAL SECTION

DID-YA-AVAGOOD AUSTRALIA-DAY WEEKEND?

FRIDAY 24 February - 7.00 PM
East Street Jetty

Wreck nite-dive + barby-que afterwards; believe it or not, BBQ will be fitted on the roof of the boat, so bring your BBQ pack and tank and come along but you must book with me first!

Ian Cowan
Your Social Director
Phone 384 8330 all hours

TRIP REPORT FROM AUSTRALIA DAY RIVER CRUISE

By Susie Ashton

This year I had the great pleasure of being onboard our club boat together with 15 other members and guests for a leisurely cruise up the river, and later to line up with thousands of other lucky people that had a boat, to watch the Australia Day SKY SHOW. It was fantastic to see it from the water! Bob Cotton was our able Skipper for the night and Ian Cowan, who had arranged the whole thing, acted as "deckhand". *Thank you boys for making this enjoyable trip possible for us!*

When we arrived back at the pickup point, Point Walter Jetty, some problems arose: The silly fishermen on the jetty would NOT pull in their fishing lines (even after being asked nicely) so Bob had to go in on the shoreside of the jetty, and accidentally ran over a craypot line, which of course fouled our prop. Ian threw himself into the black waters (full of big jellyfish) without any hesitation, soon to be followed by Martin Smith and Kerry Ashton. It took these three strong, young gentlemen quite some time to free the rope from the propeller. We didn't even have a single pair of goggles or fins onboard, so it made it very hard for them. (Maybe that's a good idea to keep onboard in the future even on "social trips"?) But can you BELIEVE how stupid someone can be to lay a crayfish pot off a busy boat jetty??

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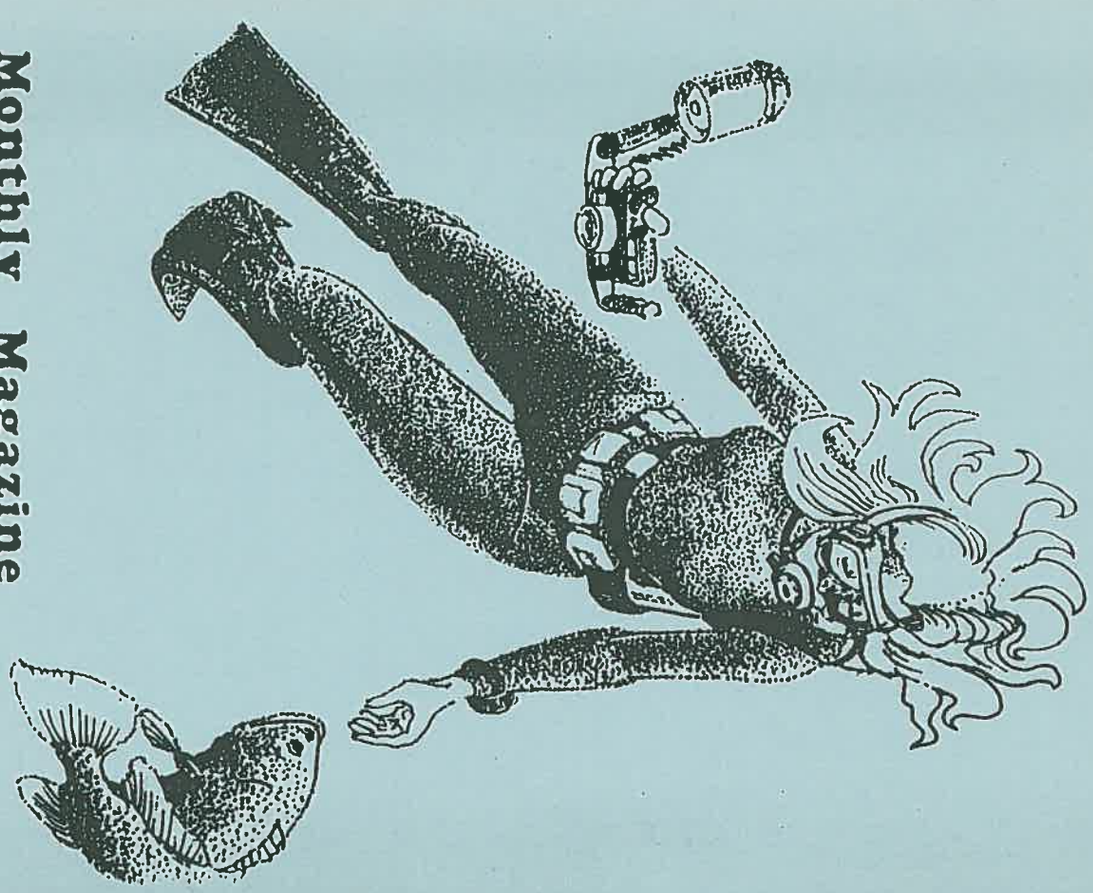
U.E.C. NEWS

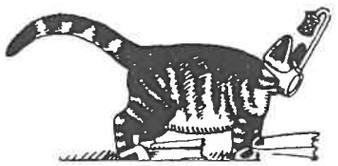
UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB of W.A.



Monthly Magazine

DEADLINE for each monthly Newsletter is the first Monday in the same month, in case you feel like you want to contribute with something. Please send your material **directly** to my address.

Ed.



My address is: *Susie Ashton, 5 Ralston Road, Kardinya WA 6163. Phone: 331 2385 (all hours).*

Happy Easter!

FROM THE EDITOR...

Our March committee meeting was held on the 13th instead of the 6th due to the absence of the majority of committee members, being on well deserved holidays. This is why you cannot find the "normal" reports from your President, Vice President, Diving Officer, Safety Officer and Captain Bligh. They will catch up with you at our General Meeting on Monday the 20th.

(And I didn't get access to "my little beaut" the Apple computer and laser printer this time; that's why it's a different lay-out in this edition.)

Susie

U.E.C. COMMITTEE

After hours

PRESIDENT	Barry Kennedy	453 6927
VICE PRESIDENT	Dennis Stubberfield	457 3333
SECRETARY	Carolyn French	387 5021
TREASURER	Peter Horton	445 2336
DIVE OFFICER	Peter Mortimer	459 8067
TRAINING OFFICER	John Pasculich	450 0111
SAFETY OFFICER	Adrian Edwards	457 2117
BOAT OFFICER	Dennis Stubberfield	457 3333
BUILDING OFFICER	Richard Naylor	342 4205
SOCIAL & P.R.	Ian Cowan	384 8330
EDITOR	Susie Ashton	331 2385

BOAT BITTS

Our Club Boat has been working satisfactorily during its stay at Rottnest and Dennis has even managed to make the toilet flush properly again. What a job on your holiday! If it hadn't been for Dennis.....(with Maree's moral support) where would we have been?! Up S... Creek!
(Who wants to ruin her brand new, pink lycra suit anyway!

Ed.

Easter at Yanchep

FOR ANY ONE INTERESTED IN DIVING AT YANCHEP OVER THE EASTER WEEKEND, CONTACT IAN COWAN ON 384 8330 (all hours).

A BOAT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A 'SHARE FUEL' BASIS.

WE WILL BE CAMPING AT YANCHEP FOR FOUR DAYS.

IF YOU ARE COMING, PLEASE CONFIRM WHAT DAYS YOU'LL BE JOINING US.

WHALING CONTINUES

Late December Japan's "research" whaling fleet quietly set sail from Yokohama. In defiance of the 42 nation International Whaling Commissions' censure, and despite the US governments threat to continue to ban Japanese fishing boats from its waters should the planned hunt proceed. The Japanese aimed to catch 300 Minke Whales. As reported in the Hobart Mercury (December 17) - "Japan's Christmas present to the world this year will turn the Antarctic Oceans crimson with blood of 300 Mike Whales, slaughtered in the name of "science". It is now 6 years since all commercial whaling was halted by international agreement. Since then the whale has become a world-wide symbol of mans respect and responsibility for his environment. Yet Japanese scientists seem to prefer to outrage the world by exploiting a loop hole in the international whaling moratorium.

(Above article from WWF Australia News No. 38)

***

DID YOU KNOW...

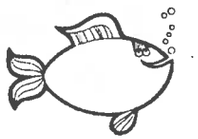
that NUDIBRANCHIA means 'naked gill'? Being rarely longer than 8 cm in length, these moluscs are easily missed amongst the sponge. They are shaped like the terrestrial slug, but there the similarity ends. Perfectly blended colours and patterns adorn the body, and the delicate externals gill sways flower-like on the creature's tail as it busily goes about, feeding on minute particles of sponge and algae. Hooked on nudies? Yes, I am!

DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE TOO MANY SCUBA TANKS FLOATING AROUND YOUR PLACE? In that case, would you like to sell some of them, or at least one? IAN COWAN is interested in buying a second hand tank. You can phone him on 361 5444 (at work).

P.S. If you happen to have a PINK one!..... well, ... please phone ME

(SUSIE ASHTON)
Phone 331 2385
(all hours)

GOSSIP COLUMN



LIS BEASLEY has developed a passion for crayfish and used her feminine wiles to appoint "***UEC's Top Gun Cray Catcher***" as her Buddy.

. . .

We have discovered a way to get better service in a Rottnest restaurant: just ask **SUSIE ASHTON** to flash her bits!

. . .

WHO's the ***Macho Boat Skipper*** that went from dark to grey overnight because someone pinched his Clairol to use as a shark repellant?

. . .

Then there's the story about the ***Boating Officer*** who suddenly turned land-lubber and was last seen jogging from Geordie to Lombardos to recover his wife's bike.

. . .

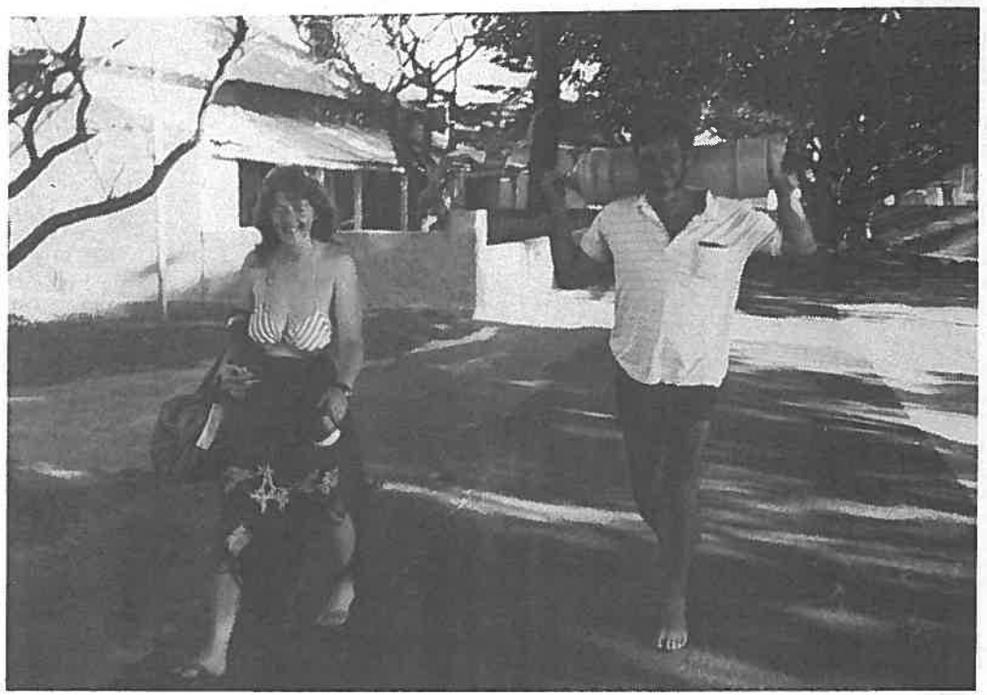
NOTE:

IF YOU happen to forget to pack your wetsuit top...
here's the solution:
a perfect substitute is the Club's fleecy lined sweater.
Just tuck it inside your lycra, and you can dive for 52 minutes (15 m) without being cold. We nominated **MAREE CASLEY** as "***UEC's Macho Female Diver***".

ABOUT THE ROTTNEST TRIP

A big "**THANK YOU**" to the kind organisers of the Rotto Long Weekend in March! As previous year, *MAREE CASLEY* and *DENNIS STUBBERFIELD* had to put in a lot of personal effort for the organisation and running of this annual event, so that the rest of us could enjoy the" Rotto-Dive-Camp". This year was extra-extra great on my account, because my buddy/husband and I took a whole week's holiday on the island, and you couldn't have asked for better weather and exciting dives!

Ed.



How many tanks and how many times have we walked between the cottage and the jetty on Rottnest?

CONSERVATION CORNER

NEW THREAT TO MARMION MARINE PARK

A marine biologist is concerned that WA Water Authority plans to increase the discharge of treated effluent into the ocean off Ocean Reef could adversely affect the Marmion Marine Park's ecosystem.

Dr Bruce Hatcher's main concern is that the additional nutrients flowing into the sea may encourage the growth of types of algae, which would alter the existing sea bed communities.

Dr Hatcher, officer-in-charge of the University of WA's Waterman marine biological laboratory, believes further studies should be carried out before the second outfall is constructed.

"It is my concern — and not a criticism — that we do not know enough at the present time to predict the outcome of this proposed change in outfall," he said.

This was particularly important as the Marmion Marine Park — which stretches from Two Rocks to Trigg — had been clearly recognised as a conservation area.

Available data was inadequate to make any conclusive statements about the effect of the existing outfall, much less the effects of a future outfall.

(Stirling Times, 14.2.89)

COMMENT: I suppose the stuff has to go some where but why into a Marine Park or why into the ocean at all? It should be recycled and used on parks and gardens!

Tibi Csomay

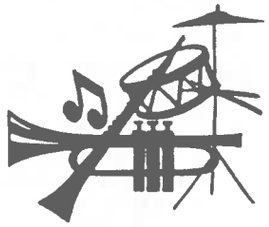
NIGHT DIVE - SHORE DIVE!!

WHY NOT?

Ring me on 384 8330 (any time)
I'm looking for a Dive Buddy!

Ian Cowan

SOCIAL SECTION



TIME OUT FOR DINNER

We are going out for dinner and would like your company
Friday 7th April;
La Mirage, 72 Francis Street, Northbridge is the place.
$27.00 includes beer/wine,
and an excellent international smorgasbord;
or $21.50 for the meal only and you can buy your own alcoholic beverages from a fully stocked bar.

There is a dance floor with one of Perth's top D.J. who stops at midnight, but we are not going to stop there! **FREE** passes are also inclusive, to carry on, at one of the night clubs in Northbridge.

I must have your money by end of this month and I'll give you a receipt, so...
grab some friends and dancing shoes.
rid those 'end of week' blues.

. . .

Ron and myself were out doing our PR work and talking to Julie & John Patterson at the Stoned Crow; they were interested in joining the club. (Julie is yet to be certified.) However, $5.50 will get a roast dinner + veg. on a Sunday afternoon with a live band and fully stocked bar. I'll be there! Especially after a long dive.

I'll be seeing you!

Ian Cowan
Your Social Director
Phone 384 8330 all hours

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U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine April '89

Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.

FROM THE EDITOR....

At our last General meeting (20/3) the members present were asked how they wanted the Sunday dives to be organised. It seemed that most people preferred to spend the whole day out there, but a few voices were raised in favour of half day trips. The club committee will try its best to satisfy all needs in the future, maybe by organising more 'one tank trips' on Saturdays. It was also discussed during our last Committee meeting (13/3) that **night dives** could be organised on Saturdays for interested club members.

Another subject was also brought to the committee's attention by Karen Lawrence. Karen viewed her concern about how U.E.C.'s old conservation atmosphere has disappeared and questioned what has happened to all the "green areas" that the club used to declare, and why don't we declare MORE green areas, instead of going downunder to TAKE things? I appreciate her courage to stand up there in the middle of many fishermen and shell collectors and say what she thinks about them! (But personally I must also admit that I simply LOVE the flesh of a fresh crayfish!)

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After hours

THANKS TIBI

for your efforts and a great job well done in finding and putting together all our old club magazines into a neat Library for everybody's perusal. I think it is of great 'historical' value to the club members to have this in good order, and we would certainly appreciate it if someone out there could donate the missing issues. It is amazing to look through the different years' publications and see how we have changed attitudes with time. For instance, can you imagine today, that we actually had Ron Taylor *stabbing a shark with his knife*, blood pouring everywhere, ON THE FRONT COVER one year! Have a look through the Library but PLEASE don't remove the magazines from their hard cover files. If you want to take it with you home, or any other book that we have on the shelf, just "check it out" with OUR NEW LIBRARIAN... PAT TROY!

Yes, **PAT TROY**, our 'old faithful' club member, has kindly offered to help us to keep some sort of order and registration of our books in the Club Library. All books are there for you to borrow, but PLEASE let Pat know before you walk out with them!

* * *

Stop, hold it, stay there

CAN YOU HELP???

The Club now has a Library where we have all the back issues of the U.E.C. NEWS Magazine. Unfortunately, some are missing. If you have the following numbers and can spare them, we would much appreciate them.

All of 1961, 1962, 1963 and 1964;
June & July 1974;
July 1977;
February 1984;
August 1988.

BIG U.E.C. AUTUMN SALE ! !

We are cleaning out our stock of T-shirts!
ONLY RIDICULOUS $4 each.

SWEATSHIRTS will sell for an incredible low $14!

SOME PRACTICAL WAYS OF AVOIDING THE BENDS

1. Don't make multiple ascents during a dive: How? Pre-plan your dive with your buddy and dive to the plan.

2. Avoid rapid ascents. How? Don't run out of air. Commence your final ascent with 70 ATA reserve air for deep dives (25m +) and 50 ATA for depths less than that.

3. Make sure your buddy has an octopus regulator and you both know how to use it. If not, encourage others to get them, it's cheaper than the treatment!

4. Dive well within the no-decompression limits on all dives. Allow a "fudge factor", i.e. surface to surface, rather than commencement of descent to commencement of ascent.

5. Allow the maximum surface interval between dives.

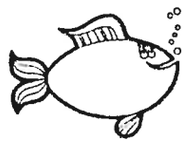
6. Stop for 5 at 5 on every dive possible.

7. Don't ascend fast, i.e. keep with your slowest visible bubble.

But finally, points 1 and 2 are the keys to not getting bent.

Brian Murray

GOSSIP COLUMN



Ask MARTIN SMITH who caught the largest Queen Snapper in Australia on one of the Easter dives.

-*-

I finally got my own little **PINK TANK**!
Rob Northcoat, my scuba instructor [now "Desert Divers" in Kalgoorlie] would be pleased with me. I'm now totally colour co-ordinated!!

Ed.

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

by Barry Kennedy

MAGAZINE
Firstly, I would like to compliment SUSIE, our Magazine Editor, on the excellent job she is doing, the quality of our magazine, and speaking of our magazine, we now have a complete set of club mags bound in annual lots from the year dot to the current issue. My thanks to TIBI, our past editor for the work that he has done to make these available to all club members. There is much interesting reading in these old magazines and they are available through PAT TROY, who is our new Librarian.

DIVING
RON PHONEMYINT is currently working on a plan to produce a decompression trapeze to hang under our boat on club dives to make it easier for our many divers to do their precautionary deco stops on our deeper dives.

TRIPS AWAY
ERROL KIRK wants to hear from you, if you are interested in diving the Rowley Shoals (ph. 364 4155).

RECOMPRESSION CHAMBER
TOM CAPON, Fremantle Hospital, has requested our club to loan him the club's recompression chamber for display purposes at the new reco chamber in Fremantle Hospital. Tom has invited our club to attend a Diver Education Program that he will be running for all those interested.

NOMINATIONS

Kym VLACH, 1 Lessing Street, Hornsby NSW 2077
Phone 06-341 7918

Patricia Maria FRENCH, 91 Rosedale Street, Floreat Park 6014
Phone 387 5021

Anita Margaret APENIS, 45 Blackbutt Road, Woodlands 6018
Phone 446 4103

Elisabeth Marie EDWARDS, 8 Whittington Avenue, Carine 6020
Phone 448 9218

Philip Henry BETTS, PO Box 33, North Perth 6006
Phone 242 2645

DIVING REPORT

by Peter Mortimer

We have had some great diving weather over the last few weeks; any member not taking advantage of it must be mad. One of the members said that the two days diving over Easter was *the best he'd had.* But although we had great weather, sea condition and vis., we were only able to muster 6 members on Saturday and 9 on Sunday. We tried one single bottle trip in March but I don't think that's the answer to the low numbers on the boat. I believe we will have to accept that many of our members like to call themselves divers but don't like doing it.

There has been virtually **no** interest in the Training Course I tried to start in January on advanced diving and rescue. At present, only myself and two other members have passed the swimming test. If this does not change considerably in the next two months, I see little point in continuing it.

There is no way we as a club will be able to buy a new boat if the numbers stay as they are. The boat we have now won't last for ever. **Support your club, dive from our boat!**

Ed's comment: The "one tank dive" on Sunday 19th March had 15 divers!

CHECK YOUR SCUBA TANK !

Make sure that your tank is up to date for your next dive to avoid disappointment with a last minute cancellation because you didn't get your air-fill. *The Standards Association of Australia* now says: **"Effective immediately a hydrostatic pressure test will be conducted annually. This annual hydrostatic test and flaw inspection requirement applies to all makes of aluminium SCUBA cylinders."**

(Guess who's got a NEW, PINK TANK!!!)

organised along the walls of Two Rocks marina. For those with a cray licence it proved enjoyable but other found groping through murky silted water, glimpsing the occasional tiny flounder or blowfish and lots of human litter, not terribly exciting.

Saturday we took full advantage of perfect sea conditions to travel about 3 km offshore, **courtesy of BRUCE BARLOW from Q-Dive**, for a most enjoyable dive around 18 metres. Visibility was good and the area had lots of caves and swim-throughs with plentiful corals and nudibranchs. A second dive closer inshore near a reef dropping from near the surface down to about 7 metres covered some very pretty country with an amazing variety of sea grasses and crayfish literally strolling across the bottom in every direction. THANKS BRUCE, everyone agreed a great day and we look forward to another visit to the Yanchep area.

That night the bookings at the Y-Hilton swelled to 15 with the arrival of Kerry's Kiwi rellies who'd come to absorb a little Australian culture and were no doubt suitably impressed(?).

These hardy souls pitched their tent out in the doublegee patch (sorry, botanical gardens) adjoining the "hotel" (hope they had time to scrape the soles of their shoes before flying back to Auckland the same night).

It is rumoured that at various times over the weekend members of the group were seen performing archery (arching?), conning ladies out on Bruce's boat, getting bogged down sandtracks in the middle of the night and returning to base in different clothes to the ones they left in, catching heaps of fresh fish and crays and generally having a b.... good time. If you missed out this time, DON'T MISS THE NEXT TRIP!

* * *

Ed's comment: Thanks MARY for this excellent article, and thanks RON for organising the trip. I'm quite sure that UEC Social Sub-committee will find another reason to book into the Y-Hilton again!

The dive sites mentioned here were: (1) "3 mile bank" and (2) "Map Reef".

HOW WAS YOUR EASTER?

Trip Report by Mary Edwards

The universal question, as we struggled to re-adapt to Legionnaire-ridden airconditioning and flickering VDU screens after the bliss of 4 or 5 days balmy sunshine, crystal-clear waters and endless beaches. If you paid a fortune for holiday accommodation, steamed for hours in traffic jams or just stayed at home in front of tele and vegetated - SHAME ON YOU!

Only an hours' drive from the city, an intrepid group of Underwater Explorers were enjoying beautiful beaches, delicious steaks and crayfish, good diving and FREE five-star accommodation at the **Yanchep Hilton**. The location of this luxurious hideaway shall remain a closely-guarded secret. I mean, where else at Easter time could you find an uncrowded "hotel" offering a peaceful rural outlook (lots of gum trees for going behind), panoramic views (no walls on two sides), rustic furnishings (see photos on club walls), abundant wildlife (millions of rabbits and a few roos) and only 5 minutes from the beach.

Despite the basic facilities those who made the trip had a great time. Ingenuity was the name of the game, with wool bins becoming walk-in wardrobes (for those who took their fancy gear), the wool table a bed (lucky RON is not a restless sleeper, a fall from that height could've been noisy), oil drums and pieces of packing case converted to tables (and a partition for Ashton's "presidential suite"), while the rails of the sheep pens provided support for IAN's hammock (can he really sleep in that thing?)

We dined like royalty with barbecues and crayfish in the evenings and the delicious aroma of bacon and eggs wafting over the paddocks in the early mornings. Selected fine wines and ales accompanied all meals (claret with cornflakes - yuk) and soothing music from KERRY's guitar, completed the idyllic scene.

In between times we availed ourselves of the many facilities of **Club Capricorn** and enjoyed excellent swimming, snorkelling and fishing off the lovely Yanchep beaches. Friday night, being warm and moonlit with hardly a breath of breeze, a night dive was

BOAT BITTS

By Dennis Stubberfield

Having recovered from two weeks enjoyable holiday - one week of it overseas at Rottnest - it's down to business again with a jolt. The boat has performed well in the last two months, giving no problems and working long and hard hours. The after effects of the disastrous January Crime Wave and coincident problems have worn off and we are even getting a little ahead with spare parts. The week at Rottnest was eventful and well spent, allowing us to check the boat over thoroughly and yielding one more good shallow dive site to our collection.

During this week 1st to 8th, 9th, 10th of March (just couldn't bring ourselves to come home) "Underwater Explorer" towed a boat with motor problems from Rottnest to Fremantle and also towed four Farr 36 yachts from Fremantle up river, looking like a mother hen with chicks (see photos on club wall) for our friend at Royal Perth Yacht Club. She literally "ate" both jobs without incident, digging her tail in, staying cool, and roaring happily away at about 1800-2000 rpm.

A Working Bee of Skippers, D.O.'s and one invited guest was held on board on 18/3/89, when many small items of maintenance were carried out on the engine, running gear and hull. This was followed by a more or less compulsory BBQ and drinks at our place where Skippers and some D.O.'s held a "technical meeting" to discuss boating and diving operations. A major topic of discussion centred around the boat and its maintenance needs and alternatives for replacement. It was resolved (and subsequently agreed at committee level) that we refrain from major expenditure on modifications (to gain higher speed, comfort and room) but would attempt to improve her at minimum cost where possible. We are all very fond of "U.E." and will be sad to see her go. However, go she must eventually, if the wishes of the total club membership and the requirements of progress are to be respected. What makes it worse is that she will be at her best when she does go!

The subject of our boat replacement was briefly discussed at the last General Meeting and following from that I

Guess Who?

should perhaps make a few relevant comments.

Firstly, why have a boat of our own? Couldn't we charter a boat or "hire" member's small boats? The club has tried both those options and subsequently progressed to owning our current boat. Leasing is not available to small, non-commercial organisations, and we could not hope to cover by small boats our present range and extent of operations. The overwhelming majority of our members have indicated they want the instant and unlimited access to their dive boat which only ownership or leasing gives. To charter a boat on every and all occasions, diving and social, which we wish to have, would be prohibitively costly ($400-500/day for 16-20 divers) and is just not on.

The second question is much more relevant: Why should we replace our boat? Why not modify her to suit our needs and keep her until she's "run into the ground"? Meanwhile, we could save furiously and buy another boat then. That is an option we could take but I would strongly advise against it from my own experience and that of others I

SOCIAL SECTION

JAZZ PICNIC - Sunday 16 April - at the Jabe Dodd Park, alongside the lazy river in Mosman Park. Come and listen to Melbourne top clarinettist NICK POLITES free of charge! Barbecues available, so bring your own pack and consumables and enjoy the good jazz in a lovely surrounding. Parking no problem. Starting time around midday and continuing until 4 pm.
Contact me for meeting place.

SHARK TANK DIVE IN YANCHEP Saturday 22 April
Cost will be $30 per person which also entitles you to a full day's pleasure in the Seaworld park and all the shows.
Book with me as soon as possible!

TEN PIN BOWLING - Friday 5 May - Superbowl Melville
By popular demand we have arranged another bowling night out, and this time we will definitely get access to their club room, so we can enjoy a well deserved drink (B.Y.O.) and some tucker afterwards. If you don't want to bring a platter, we can always get something from the Mexican take-away downstairs! Arriba, arriba!
Cost is $9 per person for 3 games (incl. shoes). Limit 16 people.
Must book with me (and pay) before end of April.

DOCUMENT FILM NIGHT - Friday 19 May - at the U.E.C. Clubroom. For more details, please ring ME.

Ian Cowan
Your Social Director
Phone 384 8330 all hours

ATTENTION
KEEN, FIT UEC MEMBERS

WE ARE AGAIN LOOKING FOR WILLING PERSONS TO ASSIST WITH THE AVON DESCENT. REGISTER YOUR NAME WITH OUR SECRETARY IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

you the best and most extensive advice possible, to help in making the best decision. With this in mind I have done a fair bit of research and started a series of articles on some of the various options we might decide on, separate to the boat report. These articles will simply set out to give the facts, possible costs where known and the various advantages and disadvantages of those options. I don't intend to cover them all, just the most likely and/or most interesting. Next month in the boat report I will list all the possible practicable options and attempt to eliminate some of the less favourable ones. I would then seek motions from the club at subsequent General Meetings to try and limit the options to the most favoured few, so we can narrow down the field and concentrate on the most likely possibilities. It is also my intention to get a few boat builders to speak at our meetings on their particular speciality or experience of what might be best for us in their opinion.

Finally, the committee and I must establish what order of cost you, the membership, see as a practical amount to spend on a replacement boat. The figure I have suggested is $45,000, based on $15,000 loan, $15,000 from sale of boat and $15,000 from club sources. It was also based on my assessment of what the members wanted in a boat and how much that option would cost. It was merely meant as a starting point for debate and it is up to you to modify it if you think it is unreasonable. No doubt our actual figure will be quite different, and my figure was intended to serve as a starting point for discussion and represents what I feel is a realistic maximum. In closing, may I expound my latest low on costs, and commend it to all members: "If you give somebody $100 to buy something which you know from experience currently costs $80-$95, you will find the only available satisfactory item, which will actually be purchased, costs $109.50." Hence forth, this is to be known as Bligh's 1st law of economics and will be copy righted.

P.S. Keep the change out of $110.

Cheers Folks!

Bligh-Stubby

have spoken to, who are qualified to comment, for the following reasons:

1. The majority of members want a faster, roomier, more comfortable and maintenance free boat. They believe the club (that is themselves) can afford it and would be prepared to support such a move. I don't think we can modify our boat to achieve those requirements - let alone do it economically and I think that kind of money would be better spent on another boat.

2. Maintenance: Generally, wooden boats require more maintenance than plastic or aluminium and we will have to periodically burn off the paint on our boat, back to bare timber again and increasingly face other maintenance on the hull and superstructure. Again, here is a strong feeling amongst members - especially those who habitually work on the boat - that we should upgrade to something requiring less maintenance while our boat is in good shape, has the highest possible re-sale value, and well before we need to burn her paint off next time!

3. To protect our hard earned investment of currently around $15,000 in our boat, we must replace her soon and in any case before she becomes uneconomical in money and man-hours to maintain. In addition, I am concerned that her re-sale value will start dropping dramatically and disproportionately as she gets older. When that happens we will find it doubly hard to fund a replacement. It is good business to make such moves while re-sale value is high and level of maintenance relatively low, getting into something which will ultimately cost less to maintain, and hold a higher re-sale value. Timing is important and a matter for some debate amongst our financial and boating expertise, but I tend to believe it should be fairly soon - say in the next 1.1/2 - 2 years. Some of us say "the sooner the better", even September next year, and I am confident we can do it, if we want.

What ever we decide, and it is entirely up to us as members to make that decision when ever we choose, I am obliged as a member of the committee and your Boating Officer to anticipate the club's requirements and to get

April 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 NIGHT DIVE
2 DIVE: New area Rottnest	3 COM. MEETING	4	5	6	7	8 NIGHT DIVE
9 DIVE: Carnack Island (½ day)	10	11	12	13	14	15 D.O. TRAINING
16 DIVE: N. Point Reef area SOCIAL: Jazz Picnic	17 GENERAL MEETING	18	19	20	21	22 SHARK TANK DIVE, Yanchep
23 DIVE: Sepia wreck & D9 Cock-burn	24	25	26	27	28	29 NIGHT DIVE
30 DIVE: Parker Point						

May 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 COM. MEETING	2	3	4	5 SOCIAL: 10 Pin Bowling, Melville	6 NIGHT DIVE
7 DIVE: South Rottnest and Green Island	8	9	10	11	12	13 NIGHT DIVE
14 DIVE: Stragg-lers (½ day)	15 GENERAL MEETING SLIDE SHOW	16	17	18	19 SOCIAL: Docum. film night, Clubroom	20 Special marine life dive
21 DIVE: Mortimer Hump - Roger's Rock	22	23	24	25	26	27 D.O. TRAINING
28 DIVE: Rottnest	29	30	31			

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U.E.C. NEWS

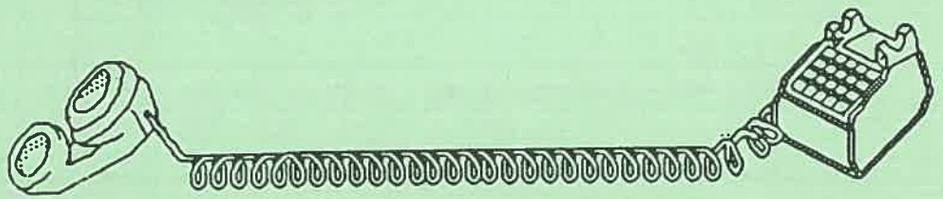
Monthly Magazine May '89

Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.

U.E.C. COMMITTEE

		After hours
PRESIDENT	Barry Kennedy	453 6927
VICE PRESIDENT	Dennis Stubberfield	457 3333
SECRETARY	Carolyn French	387 5021
TREASURER	Peter Horton	445 2336
DIVE OFFICER	Vacant	
TRAINING OFFICER	John Pasculich	450 01[illegible]
SAFETY OFFICER	Adrian Edwards	457 2117
BOAT OFFICER	Dennis Stubberfield	457 3333
BUILDING OFFICER	Richard Naylor	342 4205
SOCIAL & P.R.	Ian Cowan	417 4140
EDITOR	Susie Ashton	331 2385

FOR BOOKING OF YOUR NEXT CLUB DIVE, PLEASE RING BARRY.



a) Wide beam, which gives stability in a sea-way and roominess for passengers;

b) Is relatively shallow and easy to get up on the plane, hence potentially high speeds can be achieved for modest engine power. It has been suggested we cold get up to 20 knots with about 200 H.P.;

c) Can be put in survey and operated by Coxswains' who do not have to have commercial sea time - that is *us* - in the longer term. Being able to operate in survey wold give us enormous potential to repay the boat loan and fund other club needs.)

2. Engine and fitting out. Some of this could be done by UEC members:

a) Fitting good second hand electronics (sounder - radar instrumentation, radios, toilet) all of which we could supply and fit.

b) Use of simple cabin lay-out with little or very basic overnight accommodation.

c) Use of a single fully reconditioned second hand motor and gear box rather than new. This would have to be fitted into the boat by the builders.

With such a policy we could feasibly have a boat for $45,000, certainly, it is worth investigating further, paying particular attention to the ability of the 10 metre boat to accommodate our passenger needs.
Fortunately for us, Mick is to build exactly that hull option for a customer.

We would thus be able to get first hand knowledge of what the boat may look like and how it would accommodate our needs with regard to comfort and room, before we commit ourselves. Mick has also offered to come to a meeting and give us a talk on boats in general and multi-hull Al boats in particular, and I intend to take him up on that.

Well, what now about a fast, roomy, expensive Al, tri-hull, state of the art design boat for UEC!! Next month I'm off to see the fibre glass, boys, to see what they can do, and I will report my findings in the June magazine.
Cheers, Folks!

Marine Life Film Night

DON'T MISS IT!

In the UEC Club room Friday 19th May at 7.30 pm.

FROM THE EDITOR....

MAREE'S AQUARIUM, a lovely divesite off Rottnest North Point, was declared a "green area" by UEC club members at the April General Meeting. ("Green area" means that you are **not** allowed to take **anything** from that site!)

On ANZAC Day, Barry was kind enough to skipper the club boat down the coast to Cockburn Sound so we could dive on the D9, an old dredging barge. What an experience! (And "what a lot of dead mullets", said Charlie.) Anyhow, for most of us it was the first time we saw a **SEAHORSE** - and not only one, but *five*. The size of them was enormous, especially through my new magnifying-glass! (Yes, I have now joined PAT TROY's club.) Well, they *did* measure about 15 cm which is pretty big for a seahorse, I think. Not to mention the **nudibranchs**! I didn't even know that they could grow that big! *They were really fat!* Almost looked "oversized" in a way. Also about 15 cm long. What a day and dive this turned out to be! Very relaxed and enjoyable.

The June edition of UEC Magazine will be produced by Tibi because I'm going to Bali for a diving holiday together with Kerry! Ciao!

NEW LOOK GENERAL MEETINGS

MONDAY 15 MAY at 8 P.M.

* Less and shorter official talk
* Slide Show
* Fun and Friendly
* Wine & Cheese FREE
* SEE YOU THERE!

VOLUNTEERS are required to assist with the **1989 AVON DESCENT RESCUE**. All who volunteer will have to undergo rigorous training in the river at Bells Rapids 5 or 6 Saturday mornings with barbecue after. Only the ten best will be chosen. RING TIBI on 341 3001 if interested.

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

By Barry Kennedy

General Meetings

After the bitter and unpleasant atmosphere of our last meeting, it has been decided to make some changes.

In future we will condense the formal part of the night by tabling the Minutes, rather than having them read out.

Each Officer will have a limited time to report to the meeting.
(Each Officer will produce a full report in writing which will appear in the Club Magazine.)

People who insist on chatting during our meetings will in future be asked to leave.

Members will still be encouraged to discuss or question club events and activities in *General Business*.

At **all** General Meetings in future we will attempt to arrange for a Guest Speaker either from within the Club or from outside.

We will endeavour to make our meeting nights more of a social event, with the emphasis on having an enjoyable, pleasant time.

WHY DON'T YOU COME ALONG TO THE COMING MEETING AND SEE HOW WE MAKE OUT?

NOMINATIONS

Michael Alan Spearman
6 Swift Court
HIGH WYCOMBE 6057
Phone: 454 6987

LOST PROPERTY

(found on boat - held in club rooms for a long time!)

1 windcheater (white with dive masks)
1 " " (blue, white strips on sleeve)
1 " " (UEC Club)
1 towel (green stripes)
1 towel (yellow, blue, green, red stripes)
1 towel (yellow)
1 pair of sun-glasses
1 pair of brown leotards
Assorted T-shirts
1 set yellow wet weather gear

Please come and help clean out our store room!
RECLAIM YOUR OLD CLOBBER!

RICHARD NAYLOR
Building Officer

b) **Fatigue failure**; Yes, this is possible, but modern designs have evolved, which spread the loads and eliminate high stress areas so that for all practical purpose this may not pose a problem in the normal life span of a well designed and built boat. Westrail have found Al a great aid to wagon design. If there is high stress concentrations in a new design - cracks do show up, highlighting the problem. They can be seen and the problem rectified long before the safety of the structure is compromised. Hopefully our boat design would have gone through all that kind of development process.

c) **Noise**; Yes, they can be noisy through engine and water flow sources. Again, clever use of linings - used for deck and bulk head insulation and non slip coatings, can be applied in such a way as to bring the water noise back to normal. Engine room acoustic linings costing very little as a percentage of the total, have also been used quite successfully, so that this factor need not be a problem.

d) **Cost**; Much of the cost of Al boats is labour in the welding and fitting up. While it is impossible to eliminate most of this, there would be some opportunities where UEC members could help in the construction and cut some costs. Certainly, the more basic and uncomplicated the boat is, the less it would cost.

Now I should mention some of the very distinct advantages of Al.

A. Strength and lightness; It is about half the weight of other boats and therefore use less power for the same speed. Al is enormously tough taking a real bashing round jetties, wharfs and rocks without structural damage. Mick tells the story of the cray boat which sunk at the moorings because the hatch covers were left off. She rolled around the sea bed onto a rocky reef for some days under the surf before she cold be salvaged. Apart from all the external bits which were smashed, and the planing strakes which were flattened, the basic hull (and most expensive part) was totally recoverable - undamaged and untwisted!! Wood or GRP would have ended up as small mound of finely ground rubbish.

B. Long life - and hence, holding a good resale value. Some Al boats have been sold as good as new after 15-20 years. This is a major commercial factor - the almost total protection of the initial investment, during pay-back, and one UEC should not ignore.

Well, now to a proposal for UEC to consider! A plan has been suggested, during discussions with Mike, which uses the unique advantages of Al construction, whereby UEC could own a "new" 10 metre, fast, comfortable dive boat, for the kind of money ($45,000 say) which we have so far thought possible - AND - generate additional funds.
This is basically how it goes:

1. Part of the ability to keep costs down depends on our ability to reduce the size of the boat needed and the engine needed to drive her. Reductions in power can also be gained by using a shallow draft, planning hull shape. A tri-hull could accommodate a single, central, least cost engine lay-out. This hull shape in 10 m size has three things going for it:

Over refreshments later in the beer garden all agreed it had been most satisfying to clean so much garbage our of "our" island's waters but what we'd collected was obviously only the tip of the iceberg. Maybe we can do it again sometime soon and at least try to counteract the slobs who continue to treat our oceans like a limitless sewer.

A SAILOR had been marooned on a desert island for almost a year. Day by day, he scanned the horizon for a ship and had nearly given up when a skin-diver suddenly emerged from the sea and walked up on the beach.
As the astonished sailor watched, the diver doffed her helmet, and a mane of glorious blonde hair cascaded down to her shoulders.

"Can I do anything for you?" she asked huskily.
"Well, I haven't had a drink for months", the sailor replied. The diver smilingly unzipped a side pocket in her wetsuit, took out a slim flask and poured him a Scotch. "Anything else?" she queried.
"I'd sure give anything for a good smoke", the tar mumbled, where upon she opened another pocket, took out a fragrant Havana cigar and lit it for him.

He lay back in delight, and when she asked if anything else was required, shook his head. "I'm O.K. now, thanks", he said. The girl was rather astonished.

"Well, wouldn't you like to play around after being alone for so long?' she suggested. The sailor was goggle-eyed. "Don't tell me you have a set of golf clubs in there as well!" he drawled.

ALUMINIUM - THE PERFECT CHOICE FOR U.E.C.'s NEXT BOAT?
An article by D. Stubberfield, U.E.C. Boating Officer and Vice President.

I have been on record as having stated that aluminium would not be the perfect choice for our next boat, but I have to admit that my objections were based on the mostly theoretical disadvantages of aluminium as a boat building material and the seemingly very high cost. However, I work for Westrail who has been successfully building and operating aluminium rail tank cars for over 15 years and there is an ever increasing commercial population buying and operating aluminium boats and many builders operating successfully building them. Now, none of these commercial interests use "ally" for fun - they are obviously finding it commercially viable in droves. So I thought it was about time I looked into the practicalities of aluminium as a boat building material, and why people are willing to pay such seemingly enormous prices for them.

I was fortunate in meeting Mick Lawrence, who is proprietor of "Multi Hulls Australia" in Hamilton Hill and an exponent of aluminium boats which he builds in all sizes. He answered a number of worries I had about aluminium metal (chemical symbol Al - hereafter used) and its use in boats.

a) **It corrodes**; Sure does, but almost exclusively as a result of galvanic action between dissimilar metals immersed in an electrolyte, i.e. sea water. Careful design, building and operation can eliminate this problem. If it does happen, cut it out, redesign and fix it.

BOAT BITTS

The boat has operated satisfactorily over the month of April, seeing us through some pretty rough weather in patches. Our skippers report that She's handling better than ever, and any new boat we acquire is going to have a very hard act to follow with sea keeping attributes.

The Club also did our bit towards the **Rottnest Island clean-up campaign** with nine divers and your Diving Skipper electing to go over on Saturday 15th April - one week after the "official" clean-up day. This proved to be just as well appreciated by the Island Rangers and had the advantage of being much less crowded. Some **2 6** plastic rubbish bags were filled from the areas around the watering and hotel jetties. Our thanks must go to Peter Clash, RIA Ranger who supervised our operations and kept the area safe and clear while divers were down.
Finally, our last Sunday of the month was a non event diving being cancelled due to strong winds and rough weather.

It is getting close to that time of the year again when our annual slipping takes place and when all hands will be required to give *Underwater Explorer* her yearly scrub. I will be outlining the recommended work program in the coming weeks and you can rest assured you will not be left out of anything. The date for slipping this year is tentatively Friday 30 June, somewhat earlier, to give us plenty of time to get Her back into top condition and take advantage of what should be a quiet period in the boat yard. Last year we left things a little late, and the boys at Royal Perth and Matilda Bay Marine were forced to hurry us along. We will avoid that problem this year.

Well, having reported on routine matters, I can turn to the subject of "new" boats. Last meeting the club members narrowed down the list of approximately 25 options to those few which seemed to best suit our needs and wishes. I believe those options will be narrowed down even further, as I begin to assess the possible cost. Already we can virtually give up the idea of new fibre glass and aluminium mono-hull boats up around the 11 and 12 metre length, as they would cost almost twice as much as our suggested maximum, even allowing for the fact that we don't need winches, auto pilots and other such hardware. Our only possibility for a new boat might be the aluminium tri-hull of maximum length 10 m, but we are not sure yet if such a craft will suit our needs. Meanwhile, I'm told the next two months or so is the right time to buy a second hand work boat (next year that is). I will keep in touch with the market and let you know what to expect in prices and types of boat.

I firmly believe we could achieve our goal of a newer, faster, roomier boat by this time next year and, therefore, it makes good sense to get *U.E.* in top shape for the coming season. We would do that anyway and no work that we do will go astray, even if we don't proceed quite as quickly as some of us would wish. Next month I hope to have an article prepared on the advantages of GRP boats to give you all some background on which to base your choice of boat.

Cheers Folks!
Bligh-Stubby
President of Vice

SAFETY SPOT

By Adrian Edwards

The following article appeared in the latest W.A. Sea, Search and Rescue magazine. Most members would not have read it, so I have included it here for those interested.

Those of you who think this irrelevant, just recall the two divers our boat picked up sometime ago and the guy whose dinghy drifted away at the Stragglers.

Remember, you don't always dive with us and you could be at risk when diving alone from your own boat or at some remote spot along the coast with an unknown group. This is why we always preach: "***Don't get too far away from the boat!***"

Back in 1984 the New Zealand Marine Search and Rescue Advisory Committee decided to undertake an exercise, using both aircraft and the Navy patrol boat.

The plan was for two divers to be reported missing, and one of them to mimic the symptoms of decompression sickness and require transfer by helicopter and ambulance.

They departed in an inflatable at 8.30 a.m. in fine, calm conditions and at 9 a.m. flares were sent up and radio messages sent.

The divers drifted away from the inflatable, to make it a bit more difficult for the searchers.

Between 10 and 11 a.m. the rescue plane searched the area in which the divers were thought to be lost. The wind sprung up to about 15 knots, separating the divers further from the inflatable. By 11 a.m., the plane and a helicopter were able to be seen by the divers, and also a long way away — the Navy patrol boat searched the horizon.

At about this stage the divers realised that they were in fact lost.!

By 11.30 a.m., hypothermia became a problem (sea water temperature was 11°C).

The success of the rescue was due entirely to the coincidental presence of a passing fishing boat. Otherwise it could have been a tragedy. The rescuers had to undertake a genuine retrieval, on a couple of very angry divers.

A series of marine operations were then carried out to test some of the conventional methods by which divers attract the attention of rescuers.

Combining the observations of the aircraft pilots, land observers and boat skippers, and after a series of subsequent water trials, the following conclusions could be drawn:

Flares — Flares, both light and smoke, are of great value in identifying the position of the diver. They are considered an essential survival aid.

But divers had trouble unscrewing the caps. Soemtimes the trigger mechanism was very difficult to operate and required the tag to be dug out with a watch strap.

Dye Markers — Their value depends on the sea conditions. They are easy to drop from cold hands, and the one that did, sank very quickly.

Whistle — The whistles were very effective and could be heard over 600 metres — if the observers did not have a motor turned on.

Turning motors on and off in difficult seas, so that one could hear whistles, would increase the danger of engine malfunction.

A Streamer Tape — An orange tape lying on the surface of the water was excellent for identification from the air. Removal of a buoyancy vest and holding it along side the diver, also improved the visibility from the air — but not from the water craft.

Land to Air Radios — These consistently failed to operate effectively. The ground to air radios were hopeless. Two were taken and neither would transmit.

Plastic Tube — An inflatable plastic tube, tested in May 1985, appeared to be very effective. The "Safety Sausage" is inflated by mouth or regulator. Held vertically, the tube immediately becomes erect and visible. It can be seen at a distance of half a mile away. Even if the tube is punctured, it will still float and act as a colourful streamer.

Planes could observe them easily from 2000 feet, the diver appearing as a dot at the end of the tube.

The Safety Sausage wraps up into a small bundle that fits easily into the pocket of a bouyancy compensator. It is unrolled when it is needed. The open end is put over the diver's regulator hose while the other presses the purge regulator hose while the other pressed the purge button. The Sausage if 2.4 metres (8 ft) long and 10 cm (4 in) in diameter.

By Dr Carl Edmonds of the Diving Medical Centre, originally published in "Scuba Action".

ROTTNEST UNDERWATER CLEAN-UP

On Saturday 15th April ten Underwater Explorers braved the chilly winds of East Street jetty at 7 am to set sail for Rottnest and a day's cleaning up in Thompsons Bay. Arriving at the refuelling jetty we were greeted enthusiastically by Rottnest Island Authority Ranger Peter Clash and all headed up to Lombardos for a reviving hot cappuccino and toast while discussions were held on the planned rubbish removal.

Quite a lot of rubbish had been cleared the previous weekend by two other groups of divers but Peter felt there was probably still more to be found in the vicinity of the refuelling jetty - he wasn't wrong!

Leaving Dennis on board *U.E.* to wave dive flags at incoming boats and work with Peter hauling up filled rubbish bags, the nine divers stepped in off the jetty to a "treasure trove" of junk. It became immediately apparent that there was an almost limitless amount of glass to be found - digging a few centimetres into the sand revealed more and more bottles, beer and wine glasses and even intact jugs. The lighter cans were more easily seen as they stayed on top of the sand.

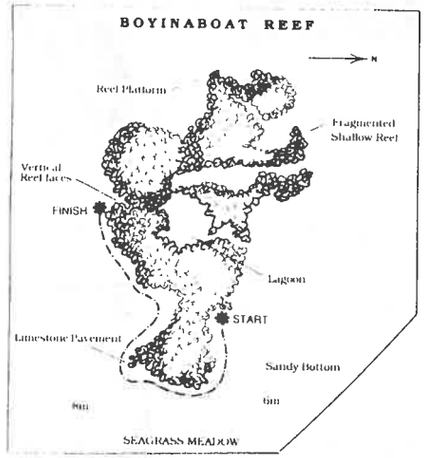
Before starting we were reminded of the necessity to wear gloves with the distinct possibility of broken and jagged man-made hazards plus the chance of natural "bities". Staying down in the shallow water was not a problem - just one or two sand-filled stubbies are as effective as lumps of lead and a garbage bag full of them makes a very good anchor.

After several sweeps of the refuelling jetty yielding, many bags of rubbish and a couple of close encounter with moving propellers, (surprising how narrow a gap you can squeeze into between pylons when you are really motivated!) we formed up into a line abreast marked by wingmen towing dive flags and shepherded by Peter and Dennis in the RIA runabout. The swim across to the hotel jetty revealed some satisfyingly clean areas of ocean floor and some disgusting piles of every imaginable sort of junk where boaties had obviously upended large containers of rubbish straight over the side. Once again many Keep Australia Beautiful bags were hauled on board the boat and after about an hour and a half with most people low on air and fairly tired, we climbed onto the runabout or up onto the beach for a break.

The final count for the day was approximately 20 large plastic garbages full of junk removed from that relatively small area of the bay. Barry made the most intriguing find - a wallet containing driver license, various card and other "specimens". Some interesting old bottles were found in amongst the 1980's models and sunglasses with built-in barnacles are definitely "in" for the trendies.

A small octopus found in one of the bottles was carefully examined and declared safe before being tipped back into the water then, as Peter stepped back onto the RIA boat, he almost put a bare foot on one of the blue-ringed variety wriggling across his deck! It was a sobering thought that one of us had unknowingly picked up the occy in a bottle or can and that there were almost certainly others in the rubbish bags around which we'd perched for the lift back to *U.E.*

Boyinaboat Reef Underwater Nature Trail



An underwater dive trail on a rare reef section in the Marmion Marine Park will be established later this year. The first of ten plaques was placed in about two metres of water at the edge of the Boyinaboat Reef on the 20th April. The remaining plaques will be laid after the winter storms. On completion the trail will stretch one kilometre in length.

The Boyinaboat Reef is one of the most southerly locations for tropical reef and marine life in WA. The reef is situated just 75 metres from the Hillarys Boat Harbour outer wall and its accessibility has made it one of the most popular dive sites in Perth. The trail plaques will give divers information about life on and around the reef. No directions will be given from one plaque to another. Part of the pleasure of completing the trail is in search for and finding the ten plaques.

The underwater nature trail was developed by CALM with advice from the Western Australian Maritime Museum. CALM staff and volunteer divers from the Friends of the Marmion Marine Park and U.E.C. spent over 100 hours underwater surveying the trail's features, fauna, hazards and management concerns.

REPORT from a SHARK TANK

By Ian Cowan

After a rapid departure 12 noon on Saturday 22 April, meeting MARK and ANDREAS along the way, we arrived at Atlantis Marina in Yanchep. Discussing the chances of being munched, Mark was still nervous after all the comforting talk I had given him. We entered the water and congregated on the big rock in the centre of the tank as planned. Mark, clinging to the rock, with eyes bulging and rapid breathing, watched the four grey nurses and one bronze whaler intently. Andreas and I O.K.-ed each other and swam off in different directions. I felt the tank was overcrowded with marine life and the sharks were damaged by the protruding glass frames on the inside; on the outside they are a flush fit. I really believe only two grey nurse sharks are required, not four bloody big ones!

We collected shark teeth from the bottom of the tank. I gave the turtle another pat and scrub on the shell and surfaced with the others. Mark was a lot more relaxed by this time, after 3/4 of an hour with the jaws.

SOCIAL SECTION

As you can see in the dive mag's centre page calendar, we have a documentary Film Night on Friday 19th May, Quasar on Friday 23rd June and a Progressive Dinner on Saturday 22 July.

QUASAR - We would like to organise teams, so call Ron, please, I beg you, please, call first **before the 20th.** Ron has my answering machine plugged in, so no excuses!
The number is: 417 4140.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER - If you can crack a can of baked beans with toast at your place, catering for a few people, I will class that as a course! Simple, isn't it? I need four more volunteers for a 5 course meal with BYO liquid beverages. People will be bussed from place to place and as it is BYO liquid, cost will be minimal. We'll start and finish at the UEC club room, so if you *do* exceed .08, sleep there!

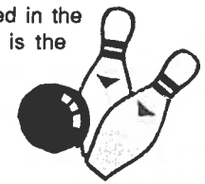
IAN COWAN
Social Director

WANT TO LEARN ABOUT MARINE LIFE?

Talk and slide show by EVA BOOGAARD and JULIE RAINES at the May General Meeting (Monday 15th) followed by fun **Dive Field Trip on Saturday 20 May** with one experienced guidance from Friends of the Marmion Marine Park.

10 PIN BOWLING is not a sport you should take up if you want to get rid of your frustrations! Discovering that single little pin - still standing in the corner after what you thought was an excellent shot - *is frustrating!* Even worse is when you have one pin left in each corner - not much you can do about that , I guess. But there is nothing wrong with the *social* aspect of this game. We all had a great time, mixing (drinks) and mingling (with friends), eating from each others tasty platters in our own private room.

For those who are interested in the competitive side of it, here is the scoring:



BLUE Team = 1902 points
RED " = 1813 points
SILVER " = 1632 points

Highest individual score (all games together):

KERRY ASHTON with	392 points
TIM NORMAN	367 points
KIMBAL CURTIS	367 points
TIBI SCOMAY	335 points

Marine Life Film Night

DON'T MISS IT!

In the UEC Club room Friday 19th May at 7.30 pm.

May 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 COM. MEETING	2	3	4	5 SOCIAL: 10 Pin Bowling, Melville	6 NIGHT DIVE
7 DIVE: South Rottnest and Green Island	8	9	10	11	12	13 NIGHT DIVE
14 DIVE: Stragg-lers (½ day)	15 GENERAL MEETING SLIDE SHOW	16	17	18	19 SOCIAL: Docum. film night, Clubroom	20 Special marine life dive
21 DIVE: Mortimer Hump - Roger's Rock	22	23	24	25	26	27 D.O. TRAINING
28 DIVE: Rottnest	29	30	31			

June 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 PUBLIC HOLIDAY	6 COMMITTEE MEETING	7	8	9	10
11 DIVE: SHORT TRIP - NORTH BEACH AREA	12	13	14	15	16	17 DIVE OFFICER TRAINING
18 DIVE: ROTTNEST NORTH - NEW AREAS	19 GENERAL MEETING	20	21	22	23 SOCIAL: QUASAR	24
25 DIVE: ROTTNEST SOUTH - NEW AREAS	26	27	28	29	30 U.E. GOES UP ON THE SLIP	

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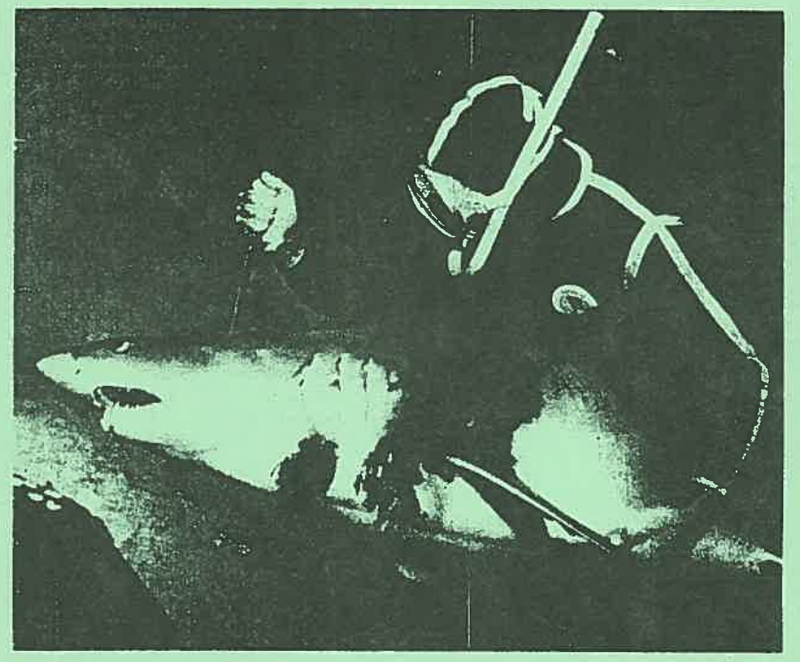


March, 1967

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALL SCUBA MEN

PRICE: 5c.

Registered at the G.P.O., Perth, for transmission by Post as a Periodical

It's all of us ... against all of them, if we're to save the whales before it's too late.

The destruction of the Great Whales is an event of our age. The masthead lookouts of Melville's day have been replaced by sonar and helicopters, the oared longboats with high-powered catcher ships. The reproductive abilities of the whale however, remain fixed to a slower biological clock. A female sperm whale can bear one calf every three years; the calf, if it survives, may not reach breeding status itself for ten to thirty years.

The slow reproductive and growth rates of the whales and the increased killing capabilities of Twentieth Century whaling ships, combined in a predictably tragic fashion.

—from the Supreme Court brief on the whale lawsuit prepared by our attorneys to challenge the U.S. Consumption Department.

TAKING ACTION.

There ARE positive things you can do to help stop the slaughter of whales.

Write to the embassies of governments which continue to whale and indicate your dismay over their violation of the moratorium.

State strongly your disgust at the continuation of whaling in the name of science.

Their addresses are:

1. The Ambassador, Embassy of Japan, 112 Empire Circuit, Yarralumla. ACT. 2600.

2. The Consular-General, Icelandic Consulate, 10 Help Street, Chatswood, N.S.W. 2067

3. The Ambassador, Royal Norwegian Embassy, 17 Hunter Street, Yarralumla, A.C.T. 2600

Send our postcard to the Japanese Prime Minister and encourage your friends and family to join your protest.

Be thoughtful in your buying habits. Do not lend tacit support to a country which does not support the moratorium.

In particular, impose your own sanctions by not buying fish products from any country that kills whales.

Together, we must stop whaling for all time.

Please – carefully consider these options. And, decide that you'll take positive action right now!

"Scientific" or "research" whaling is nothing but a farce. A ploy by these nations to continue their lucrative commercial whaling ventures.

We must use the same tactics to express our horror and disgust at this butchery. We must again lobby, protest, and use every peaceful means we can to stop the hunting of whales once and for all.

Hunting down and killing whales is butchery .... doing it in the name of science is immorality.

Support our new campaign to save the whales. Add your voice to the Greenpeace groundswell, so that our roar of outrage resounds around the world.

U.E.C. COMMITTEE

After hours

PRESIDENT	Barry Kennedy	453	6927
VICE PRESIDENT	Dennis Stubberfield	457	3333
SECRETARY	Carolyn French	387	5021
TREASURER	Peter Horton	445	2336
DIVE OFFICER	Vacant		
TRAINING OFFICER	John Pasculich	450	0111
SAFETY OFFICER	Adrian Edwards	457	2117
BOAT OFFICER	Dennis Stubberfield	457	3333
BUILDING OFFICER	Richard Naylor	342	4205
SOCIAL & P.R.	Ian Cowan	417	4140
EDITOR	Susie Ashton	331	2385

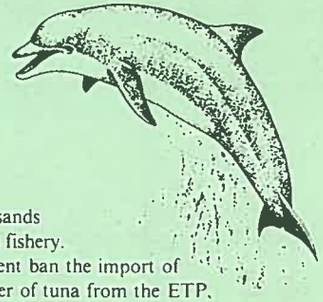
Tuna Fishing Threatens Dolphins

Since 1959, 6½ millions dolphins have been killed as a result of the practice of fishing for tuna by setting nets around dolphins. For reasons not yet understood, large schools of yellowfin tuna are often found swimming beneath massive dolphin herds in part of the Pacific Ocean known as the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP). Capitalising on this associative bond, tuna vessels track, chase down, corral and then encircle the dolphins with nets in order to maximise their tuna catch and profit yield. In 1986 alone, an estimated 130,000 dolphins were killed in the Eastern Tropical Pacific as a direct result of tuna fishing operations. This problem, thought by many to have been resolved, actually has worsened in the last decade and remains the largest intentional slaughter of cetaceans in the world.

The manner of death of these dolphins is extremely horrific. Trapped in an every decreasing encircling net, they shriek in panic as they attempt to charge the net; flippers and parts of their bodies tear away and they become entangled in the net and drown. Pregnant females abort, and some of those dolphins still entangled are hauled aboard with the net and crushed in the winch power rollers.

You can help Greenpeace in its fight to stop this unnecessary slaughter of dolphins by filling in the below section of this leaflet and sending it to Senator Richardson today. Also, please remember that the above fishing methods are not practised in Australian waters, so only buy Australian produced tuna.

Senator Graham Richardson,
Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment,
Tourism and Territories,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA, ACT, 2600.



Dear Minister,

I wish to strongly protest against the continuing slaughter of thousands of dolphins in the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP) tuna purse seine fishery.
I join with Greenpeace in requesting that the Australian Government ban the import of tuna from Thailand and any other country identified as an exporter of tuna from the ETP, until such times as the dolphin kill is reduced to zero.
I also ask that you express my concern to the governments involved.

Yours sincerely,

Finally, as a trained diver, you know all the usual things like having servicable gear, reliable watches, and deapth gauges, tanks in test etc. You know you should beware of surface rips and currents and return to the boat/shore with approximately 50 ATA of air. You know your lost buddy procedure and you think you could carry out a rescue and apply EAR and CPR!.

OR ARE YOU A COWBOY NOBODY WANTS AS A BUDDY?

They tend to produce mucous secretion and can therefore contribute to sinus blockage. (2).

SOCIAL SECTION

QUASAR - Ring Ron before the 20th June if you want to enjoy an hour of fast action space age game on the 23rd June at 7.30 pm.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER - I am still looking for a couple of homes on the south side of the river to cater for a few Club members. We will start and finish at the Clubhouse, if you cannot make it home you can sleep there. Date of the Progressive Dinner will be advised.

HOLLYWOOD NITE - Just $2.00 per head.
Hey the winter chill is knocking at our back doors, so drag your rags out and turn them into riches, dress up as a movie star or celebrity or drag queen.
Bring a few friends and your favorite drinking spirits or buddy also - this might sound strange - but bring buble making tools and liquid eg. dishwashing liquid and wire rings so we can blow bubles.
Nibbles will be provided with music. 8.00 pm. at the Clubrooms.

IAN COWAN
Your Social Director
Phone number is: 417 4140.

WHO IS STILL KILLING WHALES?

Official IWC figures show that the following countries killed whales 1987 and the 1987/88 antarctic season:

Country	Number	Species	Type of whaling
Japan	317	Bryde's	commercial
	188	sperm	commercial
	304	minke	commercial
	273	minke	scientific
Norway	375	minke	commercial
Iceland	80	fin	scientific
	20	sei	scientific
USSR	158	gray	aboriginal
Greenland	9	fin	aboriginal
	85	minke	aboriginal
USA	31	bowhead	aboriginal
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	2	humpback	aboriginal
TOTAL	1842		

Because it may increase your susceptibility to the bends by assisting in bubble expansion. (1)

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

By Barry Kennedy

SUSIE ASHTON, JULIE RAINES and DAVID PEARSON have organised a questionaire which will be sent to all members of this Club. The purpose of this exercice is for the Committee to obtain your thoughts on how the Club should be run and what type of activities you would prefer to take part in.
In order to promote our sport and in particular our own Club events, we need this information from you. Please fill in and return these forms to us.
Those of you who fail to do this, will receive persistent reminders from us until you do.

CONSERVATION.

We are all aware of the damaging effect humans have had on this planet. I would like everyone to think seriously about the problems we have caused and are still causing. Perhaps you can think of someway we as a Club can contribute something towards conservation of our marine environment.
If we are to heal this planet of ours, we need to act now!

A COMMENT FROM U.E.C. SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

We only get one life, one shot at this world, but if this continual environmental rape of our planet continues - we - yes you and I could see the irreversible effects in our lifetime, not to mention the sorry legacy we leave for future generations.
... we who enjoy the majesty, beauty and mystery of the of the sea should be prepaired to stand up and voice disapproval of and condemn further polution of the sea.

GREENPEACE COMES TO PERTH.

Whenever there is an environmental disaster the name Greenpeace inevitably crops up. Now this international peace and environmental organisation has opened an office in Perth.
Over the last 19 years the organisation has focused attention on the destruction of the world's seas and surface. Greenpeace began in Australia in 1977 as a direct result of whaling activities at Albany's Cheynes Beach. Their achievements thus far include the non-violent confrontation of Japanese whalers, halting atmospheric nuclear testing in the Pacific and preventing the senseless slaughter of Canadian seals.

This global organisation relies on the support of millions of people. If you wish to offer your support or receive more details call the new Perth office on 3223317.

NOT CUDLY, BUT...

By BARBARA PARKER.

The destruction of the oceans as viable habitat for plants and animals that live in them is now proceeding at an unprecedented rate. We can empathise with whales, dolphins, seals and peguins as they battle to survive the slaughter and the effects of the pollution mankind has visited on them. But other humbler and less appealing creatures are vulnerable as well and are being lost to us, before they and their possibly wonderful attributes are even known. This loss of species diversity takes place not only when the rain forests are raped, but in the sea also, as shallow coastal waters take the brunt of " drain-off" wastes and pollutants.

To illustrate:

In August 1975, Dr. BRIAN BALDO of the Clinical Immunology Unit, Princess Margaret Children's Medical Research Foundation, contacted the W.A. Museum, who in turn contacted DENNIS and myself, wanting a random grab-bag sample of marine invertebrates from local waters. We obliged with a mix of sea-squirts, soft corals, sponges etc.

We later received a letter from BRIAN, quote;
"... my tests have shown that the red sponge you collected contains an amazingly potent substance that lyses human and other animal red blood cells i.e. it contains an extremely powerful haemolysin. After doing preliminary tests I sent some of the sponge extract to a scientist at the Institute of Marine Biochemistry in Aberdeen, Scotland. This chap is an expert on marine toxins and his tests have confirmed our results and shown that the haemolysin is at least 50 times as potent as the strongest haemolysins he had previously encountered. He is extremely interested, since until now, he has always used star fish as a source of lysins and has been unaware of their presence in sponges. If this work is to be carried out it is now important to obtain more of this sponge and have it identified as to its exact genus and species..."
We peasants by now understood this haemolysin to be a powerful blood de-clotting agent.

Back into the water for more, both for DR. BALDO and the team in Aberdeen. We called it the Lysin Sponge for want of a better name. LOISETTE MARSH, then Assistant Curator of Molluscs at the Museum got on the job to Professor P.R. BERGQUIST of New Zealand who eventually identified it as one of a group Tethya Ingalli Bowerbank, said group yet to be further revised someday.

In September 1976 we were posted to Geraldton, from where we made a couple of flying visits to Perth to dive for and arrange for more specimens to be collected and delivered to Princess Margaret Hospital where they were packed in dry ice and sent air freight to Sydney, where BRIAN BALDO was now working with the Roche Research Institute of Marine Pharmacology.

SAFETY SPOT

By Adrian Edwards

I hope you regulars have noticed less emphasis lately on "rules" etc. as applied to diving. This has been deliberate in an attempt to create a more enjoyable and less rigid atmosphere within the diving scene.
If you have thought in the past that our "rules" were too restrictive then think about the following:

1. As a dive club our main aim is to get you out to a good dive site, let you have an enjoyable dive and then get you safely home again. We try to do this the best we can even if we cannot boast to be as fast or as comfortable as some others.

2. If you spend big money on dive charters, you have to dive to their rules and go where they want to take you. We still have the flexibility to allow a majority view (weather permitting) of where we would like to dive!

3. Any rules we impose as a club are only there to protect you. They are not designed to make life a misery.Life would be more miserable if we had to fish you out of the deep sea!

SO, HERE THEN AGAIN IS ALL WE ASK OF YOU WHEN OUT DIVING ON THE U.E.C. CLUB BOAT:

a. Obviously, when under way, the skipper is boss. Please respect this little thing and do as requested without delay. This is for the boats and your safety.
b. Don't just jump in the water and disappear without giving the D.O. the oportunity to log you in. Go in as a buddy pair, dive within sight of each other and reappear as a buddy pair. This is for both of your safety.

c. On the club dives we still use RNPL-BSAC dive tables. Please bear with this even if you have qualified on other tables. (We know you can do more frequent dives at deeper than 9 m. on the USN derived tables, so please don't remind the D.O.). We will be only too happy to help you work them out. Better still, get a set and do some examples for yourself! They are very easy.

d. "Weapons"while tolerated in moderation, are the sole responsibility of the user at all times, even when stowed. Please don't puncture somebodys new B.C. or worse, their lungs!

The D.O. has the authority to prohibit the use of any weapons at particular "green" sites, so please don't be sour at him / her. They are only doing what the majority of the club members have voted for at General Meetings.
This rule hardly can be called "restrictive".Try taking a gun or gidgee out on the Barrier Reef. They won't be as polite as we are.

BOAT REPORT D. Stubberfield

Well there is not much to report this month, bad weather having washed out most of our weekend diving. The boat and machinery has performed satisfactorily and without incident, a pleasantly unremarkable situation. Two working days were held on board mainly to clean up and repair odd bits and pieces and service the engine and running gear.

The boat was also taken out by three U.E.C. families on a social trip up the river for a barbecue. The boat is available for this type of function and Iam pleased to see it being put to good use. Keep up the good work folks.

The most important part of this report will be to advise that the boat will be slipped on Friday 30th of June, for her annual maintenance programme and suppose I should earn my trophy as the 3rd E.U.C. Whipmaster [and only male]. But my hearts not in it this year, I'm afraid the smell of blood and sound of your screams under the lash dont hold the same enchantment. That doesn't mean you're off the hook, oh no! just that we are training another Whipmaster! Sanding and filling will start promptly on Friday and continue throughout the weekend [rain or shine].

Seriously, we will try and keep the amount of work to a minimum, and concentrate on those things which make the boat go faster, provide more comfort and put her top shape for resale. This will include some weather proofing, seating, the engine is to come out to facilitate a thorough going over and considerable work under the hull to give her the best possible speed. Iam very keen to see us try these planing strakes up front as Iam sure it will improve her performance at very little cost.

We also have to consider the work needed to get the best resale value we can, but this will be minimal if we do all the above. A big part of the acquiring of a new boat is of course selling this one, and my investigations so far have indicated a replacement will cost us as much as we can torture out of ourselves. Our only hope of a cheaper deal will be to have the cash up front, and avoid having to wheel and deal "subject to sale" of our boat.

More of this later. Meanwhile I will be seeking to form groups of expertise, electrical, mechanical, carpentry, painting and miscellaneous!, so if you have any preferences or skills to offer please get in first [then you may be absolved from cleaning bilges] and let me know how you can help.

I have been delving into the mysteries of fibreglass boats meanwhile, but at this stage my promised article on this type has not reached the final draft. It will be forthcoming, I promise, probably next month as I will able to get the time to complete it by then.

Well that's all this month, I look forward to hearing from you, and will attempting to have a few organised to give you all at the June meeting.

Cheers Folks! Bligh-Stubby!

From there he wrote;
"...without your help it would have been very difficult to keep this work going. I hope you may be able to obtain more of the small circular red sponges for me. The lysin toxin it contains continues to be of great interest. The emphasis is to find compounds which are pharmacologically active and hopefully, which will ultimately be marketed and used clinically. The studies I have already initiated with the workers in Aberdeen, Scotland are continuing..."

We were thankfull when GRAHAM CHITTLEBOROUGH, then with the C.S.I.R.O told us they had been able to find some off Sydney. Of course it is a filter feeder, and needs clean unpolluted water to survive, so it may not be around there now...
The sponge is small orange-red and globe shaped. It ranges in size from a golf ball to a cricket ball. It hides modestly among the Poseidon Grass in Cockburn Sound.

BIAN BALDO later published a paper on the results, and we were further informed that the substance could be a great advance in the treatment of heart attack (coronary thrombosis) owing to its greatly superior potency, but that time consuming clinical tests must take place before a new drug may be used on humans and up to 10 or 15 years may elapse before a new one is released for general use by physicians.

We of course dived for the love of it, the big pharmaceutical companies had to do all that long and costly testing, but you can imagine how interested we were when the West Australian on 18 April this year, carried a modest headline on page 8, "NEW HOPE FOR HEART VICTIMS and told of the release of revolutionary new clot-disolving drugs that can halve the risk of death from heart attack.

Before we carelessly kill off small harmless creatures in the name of progress, we could ask ourselves if, in harming them, may we not be harming ourselves more.

Note:
The above incident was covered in the U.E.C. NEWS of April 1977 in an article by DENNIS PARKER, "Something to Do".

Do you know?

Why you should not take a hot bath or shower after diving? (1).
Why you should avoid milk or milk products before diving? (2).
Why you should drink plenty of water before and after diving? (3).
Find the answers somewhere in the magazine.

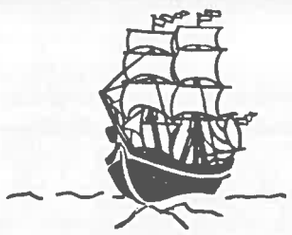
Research (or scientific) whaling operations mean the same boats shooting the same harpoons at the same populations of whales.
The whalers won't stop - until they are forced to.
Or, until there are no whales left to slaughter.

I leave it up to you to make up your own mind about the persons in this story and on our front page. Ed.

April 23, 1829. Captain Fremantle almost choked with disbelief and rage. He'd just felt his ship, the Challenger, run aground underneath his feet.

All the way from England without mishap, only to hit a rock just off the coast of Western Australia, and within sight of the colony he'd come to help found.

It wasn't Fremantle's fault though. He'd sent the ship's master ahead in a boat to scout a safe passage through the broken maze of islands and reefs that guard the coast.



The master had found a safe passage between Garden Island and Carnac Island. He'd marked all the dangerous rocks with floats and returned to the ship.

Then he'd bravely sailed forward — right onto one of the rocks he'd just marked.

Fremantle was furious.

But the Challenger slewed round, lifted on a slight swell and scraped off the rock before any damage was done.

That didn't make Fremantle feel much better. The ignominy of it. Running aground! He felt the need to let blood!

If he'd stayed on board it probably would have been the master's. But he chose another victim. He had himself rowed over to Garden Island and vented his rage by slaughtering a few sealions.

They're rarely seen on Garden Island today.

June 1989

18 DIVE: ROTTNEST NORTH - NEW AREAS	19 GENERAL MEETING	20	21	22	23 SOCIAL: QUASAR	24
25 DIVE: ROTTNEST SOUTH - NEW AREAS	26	27	28	29	30 U.E. GOES UP ON THE SLIP	

July 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
NO DIVES SCHEDULED DUE TO MAINTENANCE WORK ON THE CLUB BOAT						1
2	3 COMMITTEE MEETING	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AVON DESCENT RESCUE TRAINING WILL BE HELD AT BELLS RAPIDS BRIGADOON. EVERY SATURDAY. EVERYBODY IS WELCOME TO WATCH AND BARBIQUE FURTHER INFORMATION TIBI 341 3001 ANYTIME.						
16	17 GENERAL MEETING	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 SOCIAL IN CLUB ROOMS
30	31					

To avoid dehydration. (3).

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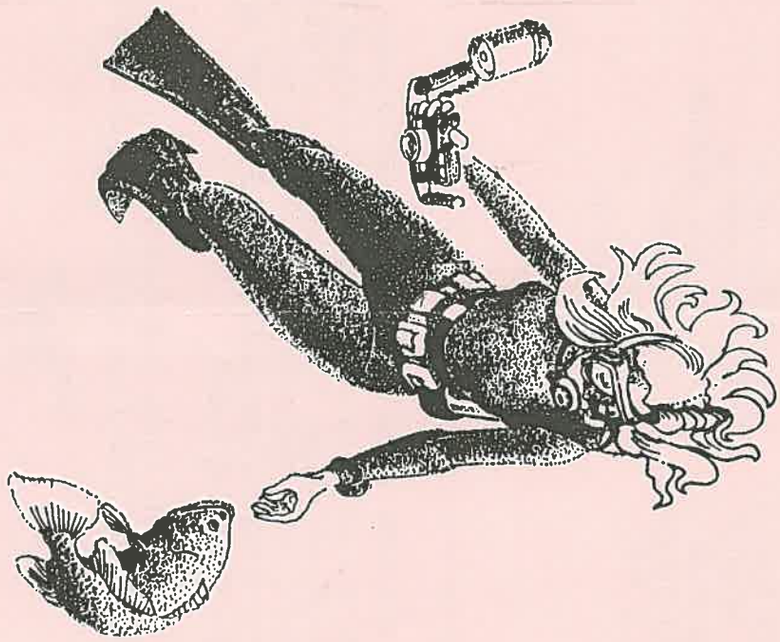
U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine

July '89



Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.

U.E.C. COMMITTEE

After hours

PRESIDENT	Barry Kennedy	453 6927
VICE PRESIDENT	Dennis Stubberfield	457 3333
SECRETARY	Carolyn French	387 5021
TREASURER	Peter Horton	445 2336
DIVE OFFICER	Vacant (book dives with Barry Kennedy)	
TRAINING OFFICER	John Paskulich	450 01[illegible]
SAFETY OFFICER	Adrian Edwards	457 2117
BOAT OFFICER	Dennis Stubberfield	457 3333
BUILDING OFFICER	Richard Naylor	342 4205
SOCIAL & P.R.	Ian Cowan	337 3238
EDITOR	Susie Ashton	331 2385

THANK YOU FOR YOUR QUICK RESPONSE TO THE SURVEY. THE RESULTS WILL HELP US TO DO THE BEST FOR YOU. HOWEVER, SOME RESULTS ARE STILL OUTSTANDING, SO PLEASE SEND THEM IN BY THIS MONTH, OR - EVEN BETTER - COME TO THE GENERAL MEETING ON MONDAY 17th AND GIVE IT TO ME THERE.

I ALSO WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK TIBI FOR PRODUCING THE JUNE EDITION OF THE MAGAZINE WHILE I WAS AWAY.

Ed.

SOCIAL SECTION *by Ian Cowan*

Geday, frozen fellow bubble blowers! Yes, I have been blowing frozen bubbles. I went for a dive at Woodmans Point - it brought back memories. Back then, UEC didn't have a big enough motor to drive their portable hookah.

However, the dive was fun, it does look picturesque as the rain falls on the flat, calm water surface from underneath. Starfish, sea anemones and other unusual artifacts were found. Then fellow colleagues congregated at the New Market Hotel. You can guess the rest of the day!

NOVEMBER 4th - PENCIL IT DOWN IN YOUR SOCIAL CALENDER ALREADY NOW! *You "must" be seen on the scene!* It's the

Divers' Cabaret

the social function of the year for the diving community with entertainment and a smorgasbord meal at the Fremantle Sailing Club. ("Rock bottom prices" promised.)

Book with IAN a.s.a.p. to make sure that you get a seat at our table!

HOLLYWOOD NIGHT - 29th July
There will be other people from outside the Club, so your friends will be welcome. Bring your own drinking spirits and munchies and come for a giggle and a laugh as we blow bubbles through your BYO simple wire loop. Don't forget... dress as a movie star or drag queen and even I'll have a drink with you while we blow bubbles! Starts 8 pm in the Club rooms.

STOP PRESS * STOP PRESS * STOP PRESS * STOP PRESS

As a part of our Social happenings in the Club, we'll organize a Dinner Night Out at one of Perth's many ethnic restaurants every second month or so. The first one will be at the famous Mongolian restaurant KUBLAI in Oxford Street.
Kerry and I have already been there several times, because of its high value for price and good food. In fact, it depends on yourself if you like the tucker, because YOU make your own combinations in a bowl and then the Chef stir-frys it in front of you. If you didn't like your first "concoction", just make another one! As many times as you wish!
The set price is $15 for as much as you can eat and B.Y.O. drinks.
I have pre-booked a table for 10-15 people, so ring me on 331 2385 to secure a place for FRIDAY FUN on the 18th of August at 7.30.

U.E.C. DIVERS ATTEND S.D.F.A.'s ASSISTAN INSTRUCTORS COURSE

Just recently, during the weekend of the 1st and 2nd July, five members of the U.E.C., along with about 15 other SDFWA club members, found time to participate in an inaugural Assistant Instructors course run here in Perth by the SDFWA.

Those members were: Julie Raines, Ian Cowan, Michel Roux, Dennis Stubberfield and Adrian Edwards.

The purpose of the course was to *introduce* divers to the initial process of what will be required of them to obtain a nationally accredited Level 1 Assistant Instructor and eventually, if they wish to proceed, to a Level 2 Full Instructor in Scuba teaching.

The acquisition of such qualifications would enable the member to instruct within a SDFA club to Open Water Diver level and also the "core" unit subjects for Advanced Diver Awards, along the same lines as FAUI, NAUI and PADI. In other words, once the U.E.C. has a Level 2 Instructor within its ranks, it can train to and issue Open Water Diving qualifications equal in recognition nationally to the three other commercial bodies.

The five divers began their "indoctrination" at 6 pm Friday and went through the whole weekend, virtually non-stop until 6 pm Sunday. Many topics were covered and guest professional Dive Instructors addressed the course on lecture and coaching techniques and class management. Each student was required to give a small, hastily prepared lesson on a diving topic and also in-water teaching skills in the pool were tested. Post mortuus were held enabling students and instructors to dissect and criticize each others faults.

On Sunday, an interesting ocean compass swim with an underwater search and recovery game provided some light relief for some - frustration for others! However, some valuable lessons were learnt at the same time.

One of the "shocks" of the course was an "unannounced" theory exam which was quite advanced in technical detail, asking questions on diving physics and calculations on air, etc. A few posers on dive tables and the workings of regulators, all added up to some results which the five candidates hope are never revealed! Still, this was what the course was designed to show up.

The starting point has now been completed and these members can now proceed to assist under an Instructor. As soon as the U.E.C. has one of its members officially accredited as a full Level 2 Instructor, then it will begin training again. Hopefully, this won't be too far away!

FROM THE EDITOR....

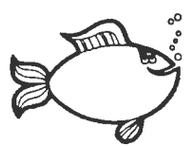
Back to winter cold Perth from a wonderful and exciting dive expedition around Bali! Five of us from ***Barrakuda Diving Centre*** took off on the 6th June and landed in Denpasar about 4 hours later, full of high expectations. We were **NOT** disappointed, even though we had a lot of rain (unusual for that time of the year, they said). The visibility was still good and the water temperature 28 C. Our "dive safari' was arranged by ***Paris Diving Academy*** over there, and very well organised.

Specially notable dives were our dives on the WW2 wreck at Tulambem. It's a shoredive from a stony beach, but all the kids from the village carried our heavy gear on their heads all the way down to the water edge. The 75 meter long American cargo ship is now "plastered" with the most wonderful coral growth. The many different fish are all very "friendly" and will eat banana, bread or rice, left over from your lunch box. We also spotted a huge stonefish that was so well camouflaged that I had to use my magnifying glass to discover him!

Another outstanding memory is the snorkel we did at Menjangan, the little island in the National Park up north. There is no diving equipment for hire up there, so you must bring it with you from down south (which we hadn't done). Incredible variety of fish and coral that we could see in the 25 metres visibility waters from the surface!

We also did drift dives and a "shark dive" around Nusa Penida and other islands close to Candidasa, where we were stationed for about 14 days. The whole trip lasted for 17 days and gave us some time to explore the island 'on land' as well. We tried all the local food and drinks available and all I can say is: ***"We had fun!"*** ... and I'd go back any time to do it all over again!

GOSSIP COLUMN



EVA BOOGAARD receives second prize amongst top photographers of the ***W.A. Underwater Photographic Society***. Eva's subjects included coral, jellyfish, fans and a cuttlefish. Congratulations, Eva, we are proud of you!

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

KERRY & SUSIE are going in the ***Avon Descent*** with the rest of the loose heads on the 5th and 6th August. The craft is a four-man motorised rubber ducky. Bright orange, if you wanted to know (NOT PINK!) No support crew yet - Oh, how we trust the U.E.C. Rescuers Extra-ordinaire!

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

BOAT BITTS *by Dennis Stubberfield*

The boat is now up on the "Hard" at Royal Perth Yacht Club, sitting snugly next to the Offices of Matilda Bay Marine. As usual, the trip up the river went smoothly. The only tricky bit was trying to "paddle" a 10 m exCray boat, engineless, around from the wharf crane at R.P.Y.C. to the "Tammy" lift bay, a distance of some "miles" or so it seemed. DAVE KENNY took pity on us and fired up "Nancy D" to complete the job under tow. He didn't want us to end up on the old brewery site, he said, which was quite on the cards in that S.W. gale.

So, there She sits, our beloved "Underwater Explorer", waiting for our attention, faster and more comfortable.

PRESIDENT BARRY will be in charge of carpentry, PETER HORTON has the motor in hand, and I will be general dogsbody and attempt to keep you all occupied. With that in mind, would you all please contact me as soon as possible and let me know what you are able to contribute and when, so that I can keep reasonably organised. In addition, one of our prime requirements is for painting to be carried out on warm, sunny days as much as possible, therefore, if any one is willing to help out during the week, I would like you to contact me.

Meanwhile, there is plenty of scraping, sanding, filling and cleaning to keep every one busy at weekends down at Royal Perth Yacht Club, where the friendly team spirit, jokes and tales of peerless diving incidents, both past and future, abound. I sometimes think most of the Club's forward planning is done over quiet sessions during boat slipping.

Cheers Folks!

Bligh-Stubby
WHIP MASTER

DID YOU KNOW...

that in the days of sailing ships and cannons there was a metal tray called a Monkey beside each cannon, used for stacking the cannon balls on. The tray was made from brass. On cold days the differential contraction between the brass tray and the cannon balls made them topple off, hence the expression "cold enough to freeze the (cannon) balls off a Brass Monkey".

phytoplankton is the ultimate food source for the multitudes of fish, birds and mammals such as seals and whales which inhabit the Antarctic. Currently, there is pressure on the Australian government to allow mining in the Antarctic - ***will we sit back apathetically and allow Man's greed to destroy one of the very few unspoiled parts of the Earth's surface and watch a brilliant survivor like the Emperor penguin pass into history?***

TRAINING TOGETHER *by John Paskulich*

WINTER COURSE

If you have a friend who wants to learn to scuba dive (after all these years that you have heard him/her talking about it) now is the time to get started!
I am more than happy to take only two pupils to start the theory and pool training now, so when spring time comes, you can be diving with your certified mate and enjoy the best diving season of the year together!
For further arrangements and an introductory meeting, please ring me on 450 0111 at work or 490 1782 a/h.

WINTER SALE

US Divers Regulator Conshelf 14 with combo- gauge $240

TABATA Horse-collar BC with back-pack $ 60

All in perfect condition!

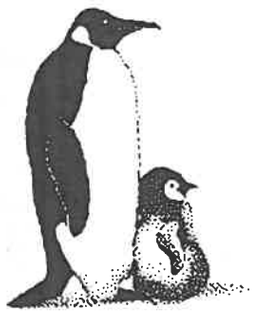
Don't miss out on this great opportunity to acquire your OWN diving gear. No more hassle with hiring from here and there, paying a bit more every time you want to go diving!

RING me on the above numbers.

* . * . * . * . * . * . * . * . * .

CONSERVATION CORNER

THE EMPEROR PENGUIN must surely be one of the most remarkable creatures on earth today an it exists only in one of the most inhospitable and most threatened environments - the Antarctic.



Few animals can survive the extremely harsh conditions of Antarctica but the penguin has adapted to achieve the seemingly impossible task of living and raising young in temperatures as low as minus 80 degrees. Emperor penguins grow to a height of about one metre and weigh as much as 46 kg at maturity. They are flightless of course but can travel amazing distances overland, waddling on webbed feet or tobogganing with the aid of flippers and are excellent swimmers. Their diet consists of fish, squid and plankton while their main enemy is the Leopard seal.

A superb diver, the Emperor penguin is able to reach depths of 250 metres and stay under water for more than 18 minutes in search of food - try that after plunging through a hole in the ice into waters barely above zero degrees, all you macho hunters (without a tank of course)!

Penguins mate about April - then clever Mrs P shoots off to the relative comfort of the ocean, leaving the old man to look after Junior (in egg form at this stage). One can only surmise that mating with a female Emperor penguin must be a mind-blowing experience because male penguins are then prepared to stand in a huddle in the pitch blackness of an Antarctic winter at temperature far below freezing for two months talking about it!

Many thousands of male penguins, each with an egg carefully balanced on top of his feet to insulate it from the icy ground temperature, crowd together for warmth and protection from the Antarctic gales which may exceed 240 kph. They shuffle around continuously so that each gets a turn in the relative warmth of the centre of the group before being shoved to the freezing perimeter of the colony.

About July the chicks hatch and with amazing timing the female penguins arrive back to take over the baby-sitting and allow the slightly jaded fathers to waddle 100 km back to the nearest open water and their first feed for some 4 months.

Both parents then take turns journeying to the sea (which is by now getting closer as temperature rise and the ice melts) to get food for the youngster in the race to raise it to maturity and get it to the open sea and independence before next winter sets in.

Surprisingly, the waters around Antarctica are the richest in the world for food supply producing more plant matter per acre in summertime than good agricultural land. This plant matter or

SAFETY SPOT

by Adrian Edwards

WINTER CARE OF YOUR GEAR

Now that winter is well and truly upon us and the boat out of the water, you should take the opportunity to check and service your gear ready for the next season. Of course, those of you who dive regularly throughout the year (some say winter is the best time!) won't have to worry, as you know your gear is always up to scratch.

REGULATOR: If it is more than 12 months since you had it serviced - do so now! The cost is minimal compared to a failure under water. Another point; even if you plan to sell your regulator, you will make an easier sale, and get a better offer, if you have a current service certificate.

B.C.: Wash it out inside carefully with a very, very weak solution of warm water and detergent or anti-mould liquid. Rinse thoroughly with cold water, drain and slightly inflate and store in a dark, dry cupboard.

TANKS: Have tested, if out of date! Make sure some air is left inside. (Never leave a scuba cylinder completely empty!) If your tank has been left empty for some time, have it checked inside for moisture by an approved testing station. They will dry it out for you.

MASKS: Wash thoroughly, dry and stow out of light and resting so the seal is not distorted.

WET SUITS: Wash in a bath of warm water and weak disinfectant. Dry in the indirect sun, then store hanging up in a cupboard. Don't fold away with creases in suit!

All your other bits and pieces should be similarly looked after. Remember, it costs a fortune these days to fully equip a diver.

Your gear should now be ready to go diving again when the boat goes back in the water.

Cheers!

"Don't save me just yet — my whole sex life is flashing before me."

mesa - Who are they?

The *Marine Education Society of Australia* is an organisation formed to represent the broad spectrum of interests in marine education in Australasia.

Membership is open to all interested individuals and organisations.

For more information you can ring Lynne Williamson on (09) 561 1600 or drop a line to: WA. MESA, PO Box 1039, Fremantle 6160.

THEY ARE FIGHTING BACK

IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT DIVERS WERE ATTACKED BY ISOPODS IN SYDNEY WATERS. THE REPORT SAID THE ISOPODS CRAWL UNDER FACE MASKS AND HOODS AND START TO CHEW ON THE DIVER'S SKIN. SOME DIVER SAID THEIR TOES WERE ATTACKED AS WELL!

(Ask TIBI if you don't believe this.)

July 1989

9	10	11	12	13	14	15
AVON DESCENT RESCUE TRAINING WILL BE HELD AT BELLS RAPIDS BRIGADOON. EVERY SATURDAY. EVERYBODY IS WELCOME TO WATCH AND BARBIQUE FURTHER INFORMATION TIBI 341 3001 ANYTIME.						
16	17 GENERAL MEETING	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 SOCIAL IN CLUB ROOMS
30	31					

August 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4 AVON DESCENT	5 AVON DESCENT
6 AVON DESCENT	7 COMMITTEE MEETING	8	9	10	11	12
13 ROTTNEST DIVE	14	15	16	17	18 KUBLAI RESTAURANT 7.30 PM	19
20 ROE REEF DIVE	21 GENERAL MEETING	22	23	24	25	26
27 JACKSON'S ROCK DIVE	28	29	30	31		

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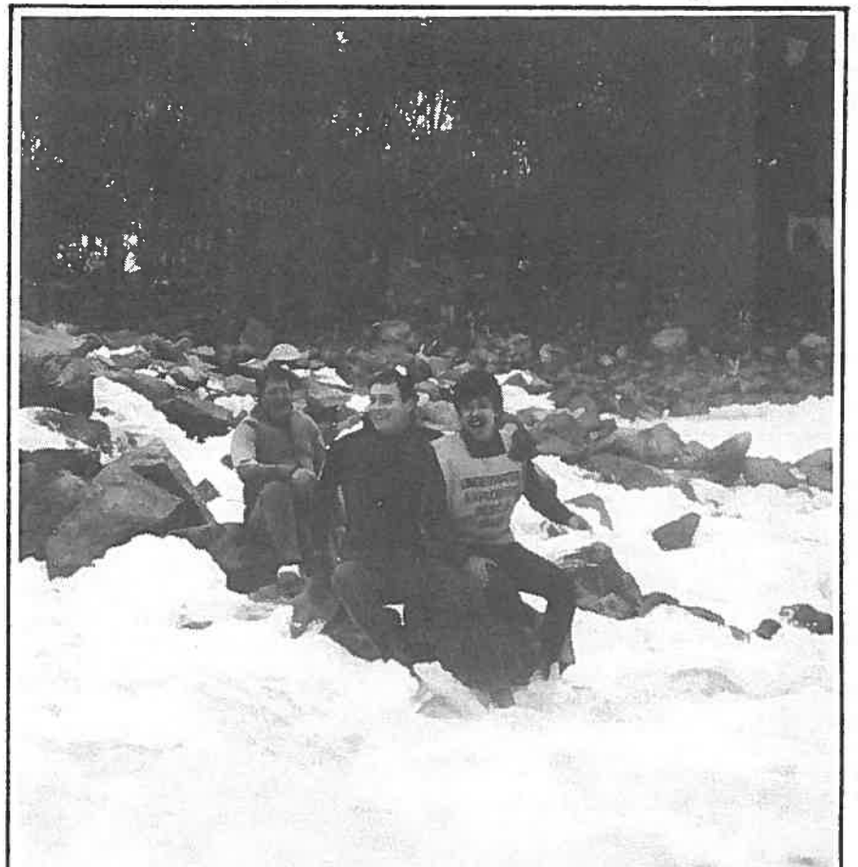
Monthly Magazine August '89



Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.

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SAFETY OFFICER	Adrian Edwards	457	2117
BOAT OFFICER	Dennis Stubberfield	457	3333
BUILDING OFFICER	Richard Naylor	342	4205
SOCIAL & P.R.	Ian Cowan	337	3238
EDITOR	Susie Ashton	331	2385

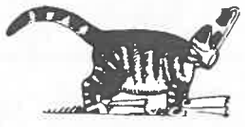
FROM THE EDITOR....

47 of 53 Club members read ***all*** of the magazine. Great! That makes it worth doing it and also working on improvements all the time - and THANK YOU for your suggestions! One of them was to allow other organisations to advertise in our magazine, and I think that is a very good idea, but my 'spare' time these days are somewhat limited (because I have to keep up a *paying* job as well). Therefore, you are more than welcome to help me out to find some potential advertisers! ! Tell them it will be a very reasonable price for their ads.

I hope you'll find my little additions in this edition (and change of the cover) to your liking. They are also results of the survey.

DEADLINE for September magazine: Tuesday 5 September at 2400 - and I mean it!

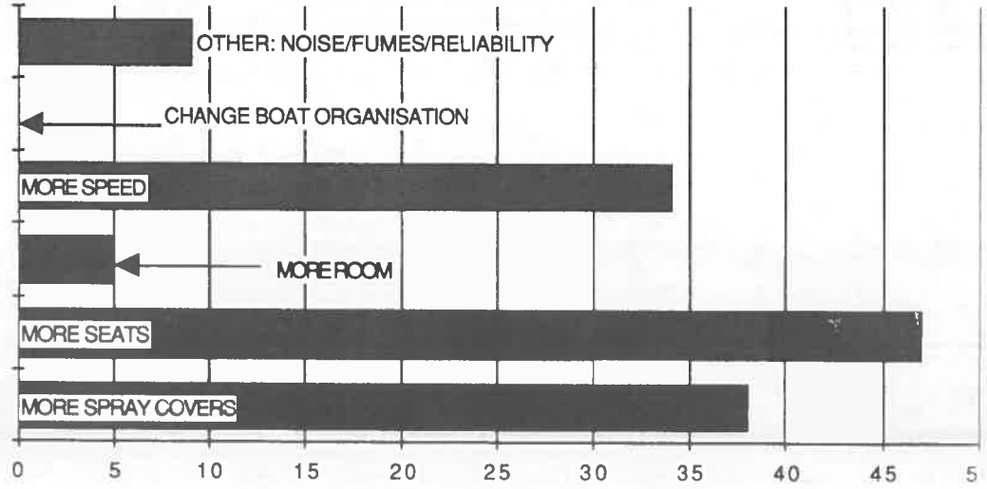
Send your material to: Susie Ashton, 5 Ralston Road, Kardinya 6163,



Susie

COVER PHOTO THIS MONTH
shows us the "hard working" UEC Rescuers at Extract Falls

BOAT ALTERATIONS



SCORE (FIRST CHOICE EQUALS 6 AND SO ON DOWN)

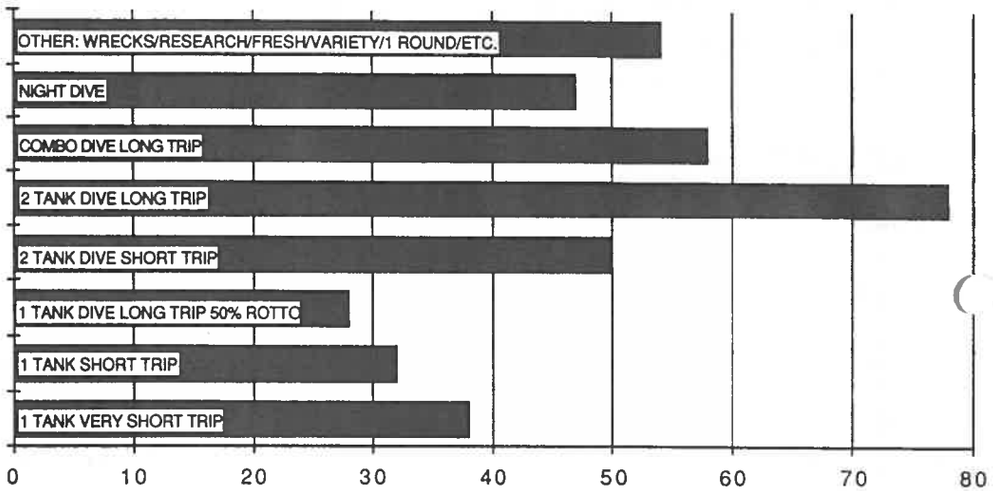
STOP PRESS * STOP PRESS * STOP PRESS

SHIPWRECKS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

Seminar held by the Australian Institute for Marine Archaeology - VII Annual Conference in Perth, September 4-10, 1989.

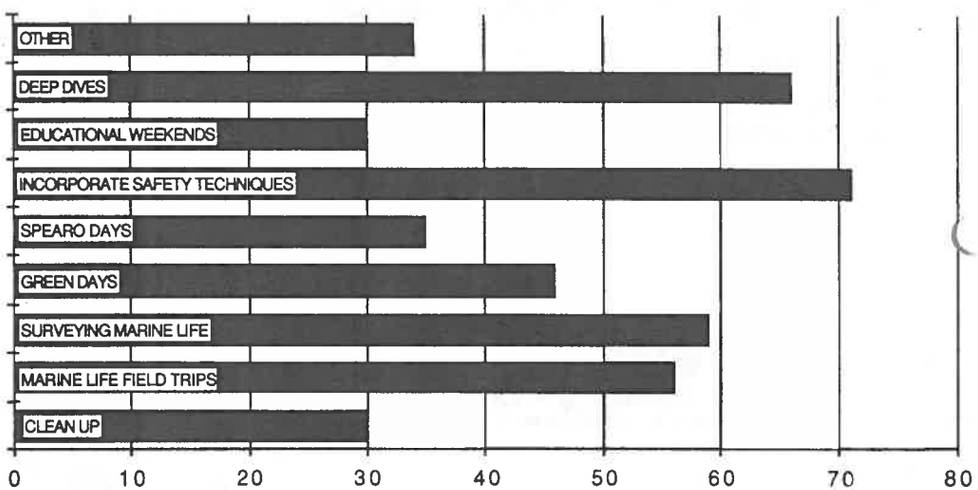
* Public welcome to all or part of the conference.
* Field trip to Rottnest 8/9/10 Sept with wreck diving and congenial company.
* Contact the Convenor at the Maritime Museum on 335 8211, extension 141 or 135.

DIVE PREFERENCE



SCORE (FIRST CHOICE EQUALS 8 AND SO ON DOWN)

DIVE THEME



SCORE (FIRST CHOICE EQUALS 9 AND SO ON DOWN)

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM *by Barry Kennedy*

QUESTIONNAIRE

I am really pleased at your response to our questionnaire! Most members promptly returned them (completed, of course) to the sub-committee, and I thank you for this. There are now only a few outstanding.

BOAT

Work on the boat is proceeding painfully slowly, due mostly to the weather and our involvement in other things (like the Avon Descent Rescue and the coming S.D.F.A. Instructor Course). However, I'm sure Dennis will fill you in, in his Boat Bitts.

TRAINING

If things go well we should begin training through S.D.F.A. again by this summer. More about this in next month's magazine.

JOHN PASKULICH is currently running an Open Water Course, and we should be hearing more from him at this month's General Meeting.

See you there!

COMMITTEE COMMENTS *by Caroline French*

CLUB FEES
have changed, effective from the next A.G.M. in November:

Ordinary membership (increase $3)	$45
Family membership (increase $6)	$70
Junior membership (increase $2)	$25
Social membership (increase $3)	$15
Nomination fee (unchanged)	$25
Diving fee (increase $2)	$20

Charges to fill tanks will be $3 for one tank and $5 for two.

THREE NEW U.E.C. DIVE MARSHALS have been nominated and accepted by the Committee.
They are: **Julie Raines, Michel Roux and Ian Cowan.**
They will be rostered with a current Dive Marshall for the first few dives that they are to run.

Any other member who wishes to become a Dive Marshall should speak to Barry, who is the current Acting Dive Officer. He will present their nomination to the Committee for approval.

* * *

It is planned to install a bank of cylinders on the Club compressor next summer which would make filling of tanks much quicker. Also, we would like to install a hot shower in time for the summer dive season. So, next summer... ***why not come back to the Club room after your dive, have your tanks filled cheaply, have a hot shower and a beer!***

BOAT BITTS *by Dennis Stubberfield*

Work on the boat has been disappointingly slow this month, due mainly to extremely bad weather, especially at week-ends, but also due having our most experienced workmen tied up by higher priorities, and, when they were available, a very notable lack of response by the general Club membership. Should this trend continue, we will **have** to buy a new boat, no matter what it costs, because the existing one will fall apart and lie derelict!

Despite the above, considerable progress has been made, although there is still a massive amount still to be done. Work on the engine is complete and it is sitting at home on the trailer looking beautiful in its new coat of paint and a freshly balanced propeller has been installed for it to drive. Sanding and filling of the bottom and sides is virtually complete and painting, hopefully by spray, is next. I did not intend to go so far as to burn off the old coats of paint on the sides, but it unfortunately had to be done, which set us back badly. Fortunately, DAVE at Matilda Bay Marine can accommodate us for a little longer, but we must not have the boat sitting there with nothing being done!

Electrics and carpentry are the major requirements at the moment, with extensive modifications to the cabin, the canopy, and the instrumentation being underway; and quite a bit of repair work to sides, back, and fore deck still to be significantly progressed. Finally, there is a fair amount of fibreglass repair work to be done, and I would like a volunteer skilled in this work, to take charge of it, procure materials, and finish the job. Please ring me as soon as possible any one out there for the fibre-glassing work; we need you badly (I mean "goodly").

When the planned modifications started are complete, I hope we will have a much roomier, drier, and slightly faster boat, which fulfils the requirements you have indicated in the questionnaire returns. Your Boating and Technical Sub-committee have no problem agreeing with your requests. We too want a roomier, drier and faster boat! Skippers the world over, young or old, like to be dry and get home quickly too! (Crammed conditions don't affect Skippers - they take, forcibly if necessary, as much room as they need!)

Finally, I'll end this report with two items. First the bad news: All members are desperately needed for work on the boat, so please contact BARRY or ME as soon as possible; and now for the good news: There will be a "free" **Saturday Social Boat Trip** for all helpers and wives/husbands/families, etc, as soon as a warm Saturday occurs after slipping. Boat usage will go up this year, as it is intended to hold more diving and social events with the boat than ever before, and I intend to further the cause by taking time out to get behind that effort.

CHEERS FOLKS!

Bligh-Stubby B.O. & P.V.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:
49% attend non-diving social activities
75% approve of the type of social activities
79% approve of the frequency
42% are willing to help organise a social activity

COMMITTEE:
91% think the Committee is doing a good job
42% are interested in becoming a Committee Member
34% are willing to help the Committee
(Don't worry... we'll soon dig your name out!)

Dive Preference, Dive Theme and Boat Improvements were scored with top points going to first preference, then to second preference and-so-on down to zero for no answer. These results are presented in the graphs.

Most preferred was:
1. Dive Preference - **a two tank dive, long trip.**
2. Dive Theme - **dives incorporating safety techniques.**
3. Boat Improvement - **increased seating.**

Many individual comments and suggestions were made throughout the questionnaire. These have been taken into account and passed on to the appropriate Officer. ***MANY THANKS*** once again!

HAVE A NICE DAY

The Survey Sub-Committee

MEMBERSHIP:
68% joined by word-of-mouth
13% by advertisement
19% "other"
73% think that UEC needs more members
64% think we need a membership drive
68% are willing to introduce 2 or more members
70% are willing to assist in a membership drive
30% think that a new boat would attract more members

MEETINGS:
81% think Monday night is suitable
13% think Fridays would be better
53% like a 7.30 PM start
81% like to hear reports from the Club Officers
87% like a Speaker organized at every meeting (qualified)
47% are willing to do a presentation
47% are NOT willing to do a presentation
75% are prepared to pay for nibbles at meetings
81% prefer a more "homely" atmosphere in our Club room
9% have furniture etc to donate! (*OK, where is it!)*

THE MAGAZINE:
85% read all of it
15% only bits and pieces
94% happy with the size
98% happy with the format
89% happy with the content
36% think the mag. can be improved

SAFETY SPOT *by Adrian Edwards*

The results of the UEC survey have revealed some interesting statistics, not the least being on "Safety". An analysis of the survey showed that 87% of the members were generally satisfied with our safety procedures, while 13% were not!

It would be easy to play 'the numbers game' and rest on our laurels and say that the democratic majority were happy, therefore the 13% who were dissatisfied could be ignored. But this isn't how we like to run your club and is the whole reason why we ran this survey! Your committee, and in particular your Safety Officer, are now concerned that there is about half a dozen members out there who are **not** satisfied with how we deal with ***your*** safety while out diving.

Naturally, we would love a situation where almost everyone was happy with everything, so all we can really do, I guess, is to keep at it, and try to achieve perfection.

An intriguing statistic to emerge from the survey was that almost an identical number of members (13%) gave the thumbs down to our safety procedures, and in answer to the question on Refresher Courses and Safety Drills on the boat, the figures were the same; (13%) didn't want them!!

Because the names of the members surveyed have been kept confidential (as promised) not even I know if the same members noted on one hand against doing more safety drills and refresher courses, while on the other hand being dissatisfied with our procedures. Therefore, the only way I guess we can improve things in this department, is for the member who have any comments or constructive ideas to offer, please contact me at the club meetings or at home on 457 2117, and I will certainly put any new ideas to the Committee and see if we can all end up being happy.

I hope to discuss this in a bit more detail at the next General Meeting on the 21st, if any of you 13% want to turn up.

NOTE: Unfortunately, I will be a bit late in turning up at that meeting (about 9 PM) so could you all please take this article as my spoken report (that saved a bit of boring time, didn't it!) and I will gladly discuss any ideas with anyone after the meeting.

See you then!

DID YOU KNOW...

that in March 1979 a man was treated for the bends after he had been diving in 30 metres of water for two hours. He developed the bends about an hour after finishing his third dive!

TRAINING TOGETHER *by John Paskulich*

1. One student being trained at the moment and should be finished part time course in a few weekends.

2. Cross-overs available to any member without NCAS approved qualifications. All inquiries to me on 450 0111 (work). Candidates must have an up to date log book and provide all their own equipment (of acceptable standard).

"Aaah... my leg!" *by Ian Cowan*

Young Tim, Wanita and I arrived at the Westrail campsite part of the Quarries to find tents already erected, ready to move into (place our swag). The kitchen was operated by Westrail staff so there was hot drinks available and a tinny in the esky if you wanted one. After the lovely evening meal we were driven into Northam by a Westrail vehicle and driver to take part in the pageant with the rest of the floats. This is going to be perfect for next year as I'll be organizing a float for the UEC, so any ideas will be gratefully accepted. All we need is some people on the back of a trailer handing out leaflets which will be organised by then. We returned and bedded down for the night.

5 AM we were awaken and had our bacon & eggs around the huge fire which had been feed with full length railway sleepers just in front of the kitchen. In our groups we headed off to our allocated sites. RICHARD NAYLOR and myself on one side of Extract Falls. RON PHONEMYINT and "BIG TIM" on the other, accompanied by State Emergency Service. We sat in the morning silence, people quietly setting themselves up in the morning mist for the best viewpoint with cameras and thermos flasks and bulk warm clothing. I thought to myself: "*Keen, aren't they*" as we sat on the rocks in our wetsuits.

The morning silence was broken by a screaming motor - **here they come!** This bloke knew what he was doing... full throttle over the falls he went with his high pitched prop as he went airborne, touching the water only twice as he went over successfully; no problems. "*Well, why are we here if it is that simple?*" I thought to myself. But some were not so lucky. One boat faulted at the top and was sucked over side ways, wedging the boat at the top of the falls. As one of the competitors tried to free the boat his leg slipped and he went under, the water pressure holding him down. His buddy grabbed him by the life jacket and dragged him up as he said: "*My leg is stuck!*" Like lightening we moved in to free and assist the groaning competitor to a dry rock for assistance by the SES. The water pressure bent the boat into a banana shape before we finally freed it.

32% are Female and 68% male.
40% are active or past Club Officers.

DIVING:
45% are warm weather divers only
6% says that seasickness affects their diving (17% SOMETIMES!)
57% prefer some dives with **one round** of diving
68% are generally satisfied with the Club dives
89% are happy to dive at "green areas" sometimes
81% are happy with the Club's choice of dive sites
85% prefer a buddy who is NOT spearing
33% prefer a buddy who is NOT collecting ANY marine life
94% want to learn more about marine life
79% want to participate in more "theme dives"
45% think our Club should be more conservation orientated
6% want us to be less conservation orientated
45% say we should stay the same (regarding conservation)
64% want the Club to restrict collection of live animals
62% want the Club to designate MORE areas as "green"

SAFETY & TRAINING:
87% are satisfied with our safety procedures
83% think we should have more Safety Refresher Courses
83% want brief Safety Drills on some of our dives
89% are generally happy with our Dive Officers
30% are interested in training as a D.O.
36% would like to train new divers

BOATING:
53% are satisfied with the existing Club boat
81% are willing to help making any improvements
92% are generally happy with our Club Skippers
43% are interested in training as Skipper and/or Crew
79% think that we should replace the boat within the next two years

THE SURVEY

Results presented by KERRY ASHTON

What a great response - some 71% of members replied. This participation certainly underpins the success of the survey and all comments and answers have been compiled on a single data base. So as to maintain confidentiality, a number was given to each questionnaire as a control for entry onto the data base. No names will be published with the answers and all the information will be retained by the Sub-committee. However, where you have offered help, your name will be passed on to the appropriate Club Officer.

The preliminary analysis has been presented to the Committee and is listed below for your information. Detailed analysis for specific activities within the Club such as diving, boating, social, etc, will be fed to the appropriate Club Officers.

The Sub-committee thanks everyone for the tremendous response and assure you that it will be used to help improve the Club **for you**, the member.

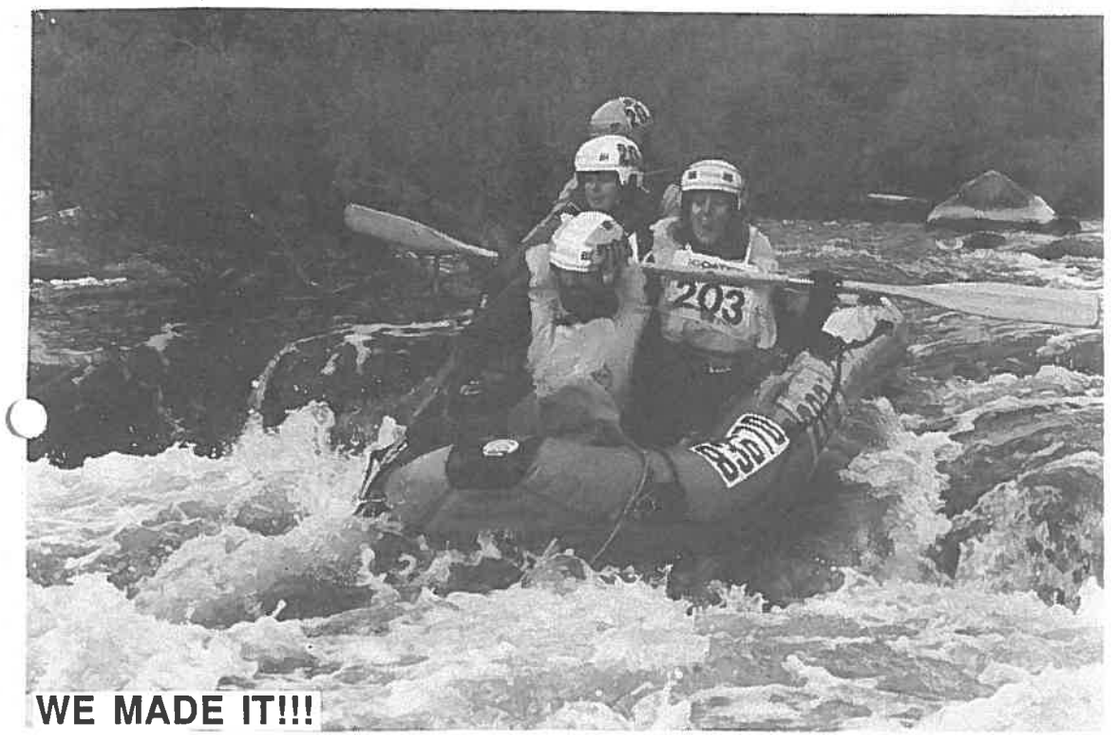
Average age of Club members is 40 years old.
LIFE BEGINS AT 40!

MARTIN SMITH and BRIAN WALKER joined us after they surveyed the start. Not long after another power boat hit the falls the wrong way and was wedged at the bottom of the falls. A helmet rose briefly for a short breath and submerged again! Before my legs could get me there, his buddy had lifted his head so he could breath as he screamed *"Aaah, my leg!""* It was trapped under the boat full of water. Martin, Big Tim and myself lifted the boat and the water pressure just spat him out. He laid floating with a look of shock on his face so I dived and swam to assist him. *"My legs, my legs!"* he cried. *"Relax, your'e in good hands"* I assured, as the rescue boat came over he nosed us to shore as we clung to the side. 'Orange people' were there (SES) to load him onto the stretcher and carry him away.

There were many other cases and incidents that did occur for all of us over the weekend. It would take more than this article to describe, however, in every situation the same rule always applies as in diving:

* **THINK - THEN ACT**
* **DO NOT PANIC**
* **GIVE ASSURANCE**
* **BE POSITIVE**

Congratulations to Susie and Kerry Ashton + Patty and Roger Nottage completing the race on the smallest craft with the most people on board!



WE MADE IT!!!

U.E.C. RESCUE TEAM at the Avon Descent 5/6 Aug 1989

Participants: Ian Cowan, Richard Naylor, Martin Smith, Dennis Stubberfield, Ron Phonemyint, Tim Moore, Brian Walker, Tim Collage and myself.

This year's AVON DESCENT was an exciting one! There was plenty of action for the competitors and us UEC Rescuers. Most of the action happened at EXTRACT WEIR and EMU FALLS. On the first day the Extract Weir was the action place. Unfortunately, Tim M. hurt his back and couldn't help on Sunday. We wish him a quick recovery. Tim, Martin, Ron, Richard, Ian and Brian covered the Extract and earned applause from the crowd when they assisted over-turned boats.

Saturday night at the overnight camp is something that has to be experienced! Words cannot describe the atmosphere, the excitement and the freezing cold! Put your name down early for next year! There will be room for 16 participants - ladies welcome.

Sunday's real action was at Emu Falls. This 100 metre long fall drops some 4 m in two stages. A fall with many sub-merged rocks in the wrong places that put an end to many competitor's dream to finish the race. Here, Ron, Tibi and Tim spent most of their time in the water helping to re-float (or just remove) many boats. We were dying to rescue Susie and Kerry but they didn't fall out of their rubber capsule!

If you have never seen the action at the Avon Descent, have a look at our photo wall for this year's pictures.

TIBI

circulatory system in people over 40 functions more slowly.

* Avoid deep dives and don't make "bounce" dives.
* Divers over 40 should take an extra five minute stop at 10 feet (3 m) an divers over 55 should stop for 10 m.
* Use the "next deeper and next longer" table on repetitive dives to guard against age-related changes in the body that tables don't account for.
* Use ***surface-to-surface***, not bottom time, in all dive calculations to reduce the time underwater.
* Do not exercise or exert yourself after a dive.
* Drink plenty of water before an after diving to avoid dehydration.
* Do not take a hot bath or shower after diving. This may increase your susceptibility to the bends by assisting in bubble expansion.
* Don't drink tea, coffee or colas before and after dives. There may be some connection between the caffeine stimulation of these beverage and decompression sickness.

* Avoid milk or milk products before diving. They tend to produce mucous secretion and can therefore contribute to sinus blockage.
* Avoid restrictive wet or dry suits and similarly restrictive clothing before and after a dive.
* Don't dive right after flying and carefully follow the rules regarding flying after diving.
* Avoid large, high-fat meals before and after diving.
* If any bends symptoms appear, go to the nearest hyperbaric chamber immediately.

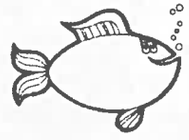
Of equal, perhaps even greater importance are the psychological change which often accompany physical aging. Clearly, emotional states including boredom, loneliness and the patterns of habit and routine take on new importance as one age. The habit of regular diving may well be the most important psychological factor which contributes to continued diving with age.

Because mental functioning can increase with age, an aging diver may be mentally sharper than when younger. Similarly, memory in an active older person may improve across the life span. These higher functions, coupled with prudence in diving site selection, may make diving an even more enjoyable avocation for older persons than was possible in youth.

Finally, emotional resources - one's drives, motives, attitudes and interests - can be bolstered in late life by participating in adventurous activities like scuba diving. The key appears to be to maintain a physically active life-style and a positive attitude regarding the enjoyment of diving.

YES, THERE IS, IN FACT, NO AGE LIMIT FOR SCUBA DIVING!

GOSSIP COLUMN



* * *

ALISON KEEN (in Carnarvon) says *"Hi"* and *"Anyone who wants to bring up their boat is welcome to stay at my place!"* She hasn't done enough diving there.

WHEN ARE YOU TOO OLD TO DIVE?

The effect of Aging on Diving.

Scuba diving equipment first became widely available during the 1950s. Those who began diving them, during their teens or early 20s, are now in the middle 40s to 50s. With their maturity has evolved an interest in the effects of aging on divers.

All divers should be aware of the normal changes which occur due to aging if they are to enjoy diving throughout life. Diving can be a lifelong avocation, as long as one carries a realistic and positive attitude about oneself, one's capabilities and the water below.

Given normal aging - and the absence of diabetes, heart disease, emphysema, hypertension, cataracts, or other diseases which may occur with age - everyone will experience gradual psychological changes which will alter diving capabilities.

As these changes occur, prudent divers will make corresponding changes in depth, bottomtime and multiple exposure dives in order to avoid decompression sickness or other dive-related injuries.

** At 80 years of age, one has 50% of the breathing capacity that one had at 30. Obviously, as breathing capacity is reduced with age, one must consider diving at shallower depths.

** Muscular strength is greatest at age 27 and declines only about 16% by age 57. However, this fact has little impact on the enjoyment of recreational diving.

** Changes in vision with age include yellowing of the cornea and the inability to focus the eye on close objects due to a flattening of the eye curvature. Objects will appear to have less colour and all underwater areas will appear darker. Using a quality high-power diving light and appropriate lenses in masks can help mitigate these changes.

Numerous other changes of age impact diving and divers, including decrements in neurological, reflex speed, agility, hearing, touch, taste, smell, balance, cardiac, skin, hair, muscle and other areas. Physical changes begin at about age 30 (and continue throughout life), reducing the scope of divers' underwater activities.

During a University of Florida research project, several older divers provided comments which any diver concerned about aging should keep in mind. The result is this list of conservative rules that the aging diver should keep in mind to continue diving safety.

* Be in good physical condition through a reasonable programme of diet and exercise. Remember, there are no diving tables for people over 40!
* Keep your weight down to reduce the stress on your heart.
* Do not smoke. Your lungs need all the capacity they can get for diving activities.
* If taking prescription medication before or after diving, obtain the approval of a physician trained in underwater medicine.
* Do not dive when tired or exhausted mentally or physically.
* Pause on the bottom of physically demanding dives before ascending.
* Avoid exertion during a dive - especially shoulders.
* Ascend an descend slowly. The

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Susie,
On a number of occasions I have very nearly put some effort into writing to say that the mag. looks good and to offer congratulations to a long standing and hard working Executive.

Well, your letter has stirred me to put pen to paper and the above still stands, but your questionnaire sounds like voices from the past.

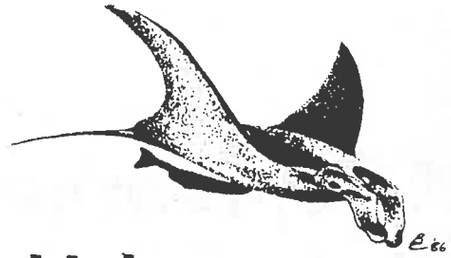
Over the years club membership has waxed and warmed, much to the concern of those in Office at the various stages of downturns.

The real secret to success has always been in a well organised Training Base. All the changes you mention in your questionnaire play a part and have a place in the over all running of the club that will never replace base.

I have read with disappointment the pressure that been put on the club by professional dive organisations for pure monitory gain supported by the government. I still believe that club training is the best because it provide much safer diving after training by maintaining the 'Buddy System' not offered by the professionals. |Some of the cause of accidents lie in areas other than training.

Regards and best wishes to all.

JOHN WALDEN



Holy Moly!

Guess what! It has been suggested that we should decorate the walls in the Club room with enlargements of members' underwater photos.... but we cannot find any good ones anywhere!
How about if you dig out something worth blowing-up from your old album!?! Have a go... see what you can find from a UEC dive adventure and give it to RICHARD NAYLOR at the next meeting!

* * * * * * * *

September 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 PARKER POINT DIVE	4 COMMITTEE MEETING	5	6	7	8 10 PIN BOWLING in Melville	9
10 ROE REEF DIVE	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 MAREE'S AQUARIUM "GREEN" DIVE	18 GENERAL MEETING	19	20	21	22	23
24 ROE REEF DIVE (NEW AREA)	25	26	27	28	29	30 YANCHEP LONG WEEKEND

TUNA BOYCOTT

As we reported in our newsletter last August, millions of dolphins since 1959 have been killed as a result of the practice of fishing for tuna by setting nets around dolphins. Large schools of yellowfin tuna are often found swimming beneath massive dolphin herds in parts of the Pacific Ocean. Dolphins become entangled in the nets, their bodies torn apart as they become entangled or they are crushed in the winch power rollers. It remains the largest international slaughter of cetaceans in the world.

Dolphins are not known to swim with tuna in Australia. However Australian 'manufactured tuna' may be tuna which was actually imported and then processed in this country.

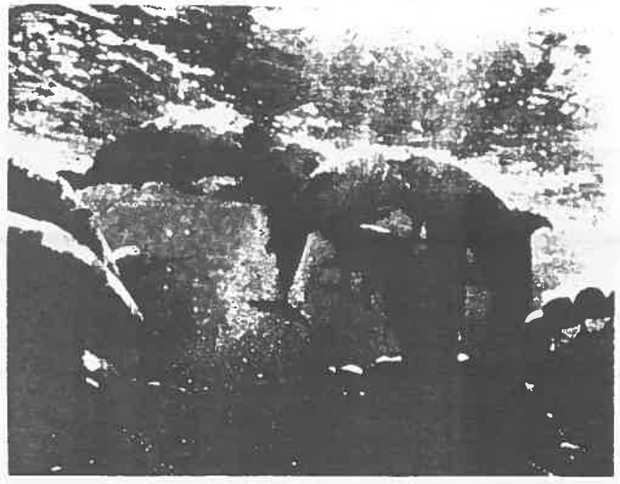
Greenpeace conducted the following survey and they have very kindly allowed us to reprint their findings.

- The following brands contain imported tuna. These brands are either of unknown origin, or their importing companies have refused to co-operate.

WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE BOYCOTT THE FOLLOWING BRANDS. Trident, Coral Reef, Farmland, Coles Brand, Kingsea, King George and Golden Harvest.

- The following brands use only tuna caught locally in Australia. Seakist and Sirenia.
- The following brands use imported tuna (some also use locally caught tuna). With the companies' co-operation, as far as we can determine, they do not use any tuna from the Eastern Tropical Pacific: John West, Safcol, Woolworths, Home Brand, Black and Gold, No Frills, Payless, Greenseas* and Seahaven*.

*Both these brands are produced by H. J. Heinz Australia. Whilst Heinz Australia has assured us that they do not use tuna caught by killing dolphins, it should be noted that their U.S. affiliate company, Star-Kist Foods, *does* use tuna from killing dolphins in the ETP.



Dolphins in a 'purse seine' net, struggle in vain.

CAT FOOD

Some cat food sold in Australia uses tuna waste and by-products. However, due to the distance and costs involved, it is highly unlikely that any tuna from the ETP would be imported into Australia merely for use in pet food. From our research, the following brands appear safe to use as the producers have assured us that they only use waste materials from tuna caught in Australia: Whiskas, Sheba, Dine and Kit-E-Kat.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Support a ban by the European Economic Community on the import of tuna caught by killing dolphins.

Write to:

Mr Stanley Clinton Davis,
Commissioner for the Environment,
European Commission,
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels,
Belgium.

U.E.C. NEWS

Monthly Magazine September '89

Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.

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GREETINGS FROM HAWAII By Charlie Snow

Since arriving here and starting diving on 1st June, I've made 181 open water dives. If nothing else, working as an Instructor/Tour Operator in a resort area ensures my hours stay up. In all honesty, if you ever have a chance to dive Hawaii or go somewhere else, go somewhere else! There are some spectacular dive sites around the islands, but boat charters are fairly expensive and the scenery not as exciting as Australia, Indonesia and other tropical/sub-tropical areas.

Because of its location in the middle of some of the deepest waters of the Pacific Ocean, the Hawaiian Isles have no barrier reefs, lagoons or atolls. Therefore, sea life consists of hard corals on lava rock, tropical fish, large pelagic (open Ocean) animals such as whales, and reef animals such as eels, nudibranchs, etc. It is in no way as rich and vibrant in its sea life as the waters around Perth! What it does have, however, is incredible cavern dives, and dives into the lava tubes that abound on all the islands. It is even possible to dive the big island of Hawaii and watch molten lava as is pours into the sea from *Kilauca Volcane.*

If it seems I might be a bit homesick, then you've read my article truly; Perth waters are incredibly rich and diverse in colour and sea life, and you should consider yourself lucky to have it!

Regards from Waikiki.

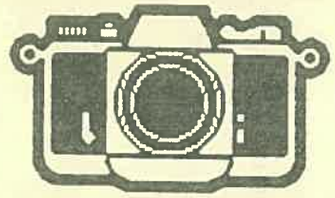
SOCIAL SECTION

by Ian Cowan

What a good night at the Kublai Mongolian BBQ restaurant! Good wine, food and company followed by a very steady drive home 7 AM in the morning.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER
Saturday 28 October

Meet at the Club rooms 6 PM, bus leaving 6.15. (Those wishing to take their own car are quite welcome.) Enticing entre in Cannington, delicious home made soup in South Lakes and the main course, **Lamb on the spit,** will be served in a homely garden patio in Willagee. Desert and port in Kardinya, and as a finishing point, you are welcome to cool off in the swimming pool! $25 a head includes EVERYTHING!!! Deadline for booking is October General Meeting (16th).



FOR SALE

Nikonos V Camera

Nikonos SB-102 Strobe

Ring David Pearson

Phone 362 4871

B & E DIVE
Saturday 25 November

As suggested by the questionnaire, social events should be accompanied by a dive. I agree. Point Peron outer reef is an interesting shore dive - followed by cooking bacon and eggs or breakfast of your choice **(BYO)**, is my suggestion. The gas stoves will be set up on the beach so bring your family and Esky, and I'll see if I can find an Aerobics Instructor so we can all get fit for the season coming. Call me, and we can work out times, meeting place and share car rides down.

IAN COWAN
Your Social Director

Phone 337 3238 all hrs to leave a message

DID YOU KNOW...

Fremantle prisons are over-flowing with convicts so they have to set up tents to cater for them; these are known as contents.

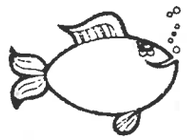
SNUBA DIVING

is easier than snorkelling, yet offers the true underwater thrill of scuba diving! It works like this:

After a brief orientation, two or more *snuba* enthusiasts can dive freely to a depth of six metres. They breathe through standard regulators attached to flexible air-lines. The air-lines are tethered to a tank which is fitted into a light-weight raft at the surface. The *Snuba* floats on the surface while you dive below and is always within easy reach to provide a comfortable resting platform.

The concept was developed in the United States and Patrick Stafford and his partner Duane Beggs of *Snuba Australia* in Cairns are now introducing it to several Queensland resorts. The *Snuba* system is designed for the special requirements of the travelling vacationer - safety, cost, comfort and time. *Snuba* diving is now described as the world's newest, hottest underwater adventure!

GOSSIP COLUMN



Only Swedish Vikings and Australian Cowboys do not get seasick in 5 m swells!

. . .

Spring is in the air.... and Garden Island nudibranchs are "playing up".

Q.DIVE HAS MOVED to Exmouth

There is a newly established scuba centre on Lot 102, Murat Road.
Small craft dives available daily from Bundegi Reef ($15) as well as overnight safaris from $249 and other day trips. For further enquiries, contact Bruce Barlow on 49 1662 for your next diving adventure.

FROM THE EDITOR....

Hi there! I had my Swedish cousin over here who is travelling around the world for a year! He came from The Great Barrier Reef, where he had done some good diving, and insisted on diving the west coast as well! As the "UEC Explorer" wasn't in the water yet, we had to rely on friendly club members with their own boat - in this case FRANK HUBBARD - who took us out that gorgeous looking Spring Sunday Morning (3/9/89)! Ian Cowan and Ron Phonemyint accompanied us in a smaller craft. We towed the boats down to Rockingham and launched them there. The fairly short trip out to the south side of the Garden Island was very pleasant and I could feel how my "withdrawal syndromes" were leaving me... it wasn't long now until I was down there again, under the water. Kerry and I hadn't been diving since we came back from Bali in late June! Well, I can only say one thing... at least 5 of us fairly experienced divers agreed on that it was *the worst dive* we ever have had! The visibility was next to zero, the depth, 3 metres, made it very hard to stay down in that incredible swell, and of course we were all sick, except for Ian and my cousin, who is used to lousy dives from Swedish conditions. He thought this was a great dive because you could see as far as your compass!
Did I see you on our first club dive on the 17th?

DEADLINE for the October Magazine: **Tuesday 3 October**. You are welcome to send your material to my address: **Susie Ashton, 5 Ralston Road, Kardinya 6163.**

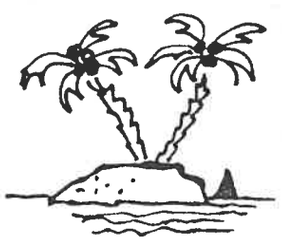
ASTHMA & UNDERWATER SPORTS

Seminar by the Asthma Foundation FRIDAY 29 Sept at 12 - 1.30 pm, Bennet Lecture Theatre, Fremantle Hospital, Alma Street. FREE admittance. Please phone 382 1666 to confirm your attendance.

Maritime Archaeological Association of W.A.
is going to have another attempt at locating the *'Twinkling Star'* and would like to make it a joint venture with UEC. The proposed date is November 4th. Register your interest with Barry Kennedy on 453 6927 a/h.

ROTTO IN MARCH 1990?

Yes, you have to make up your mind NOW, because NOW is the time to pay Dennis a deposit! Must be in his hand at the September General Meeting (Monday 18/9/89) at the latest to secure your place.



PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM
by Barry Kennedy

BOAT:
By the time you read this our boat should be back in the water and operational again. However, because of bad weather, lack of time, and not enough helpers, we were unable to do many of the things we wanted to. Next year I will attempt to have the boat up during the summer when we will - hopefully - get more support from members and better weather conditions.

QUESTIONNAIRE:
Results published in our last magazine show among other things, that 70% of our members favour all day dive outings, while 30% would like short dive trips. I propose to structure our dive trips proportionally to cater for all club members, rather than simply go for majority rule. This will probably mean that now I will be criticized by 70% of the members 30% of the time and by 30% of the members 70% of the time!

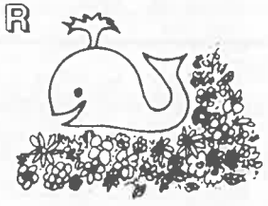
TRAINING:
At the end of this month, half a dozen club members will begin an Instructor's Course to obtain NCAS accreditation. This will be the beginning of the S.D.F. eventually becoming an NCAS Agency. This will allow our club to return to training our own club members as we have done over the past thirty odd years, and hopefully get those people with commercial interests, who have persistently tried to publicly ridicule us, off our backs. Each of our members who do this course will pay out of their own pockets approximately $500. We have been given a choice by the Task Force: Do this course or they will have legislation past to ban us from training.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS
by Caroline French

Notes from the Committee meeting 4 September 1989:

It was proposed to make BONNIE BIRCH, President of SDF (WA), an Honourary Member of UEC until January 1990. She is a very experienced diver and will soon be an NCAS qualified Instructor. The Committee feels that the UEC must support the SDF training effort while it is becoming established. This proposal must be ratified by a General Meeting and we urge you to give it your support.

CONSERVATION CORNER



MORE THAN 2 MILLION WHALES HAVE BEEN KILLED OVER THE PAST HALF CENTURY. Most of the "Great Whales" now face **total extinction** thanks to the ruthless efficiency of a highly developed, worldwide commercial whaling industry. Japan continues to dominate the kill taking 59% of the total number of whales killed in 1987/88. (Japan is also the largest consumer of whale meat in the world.)

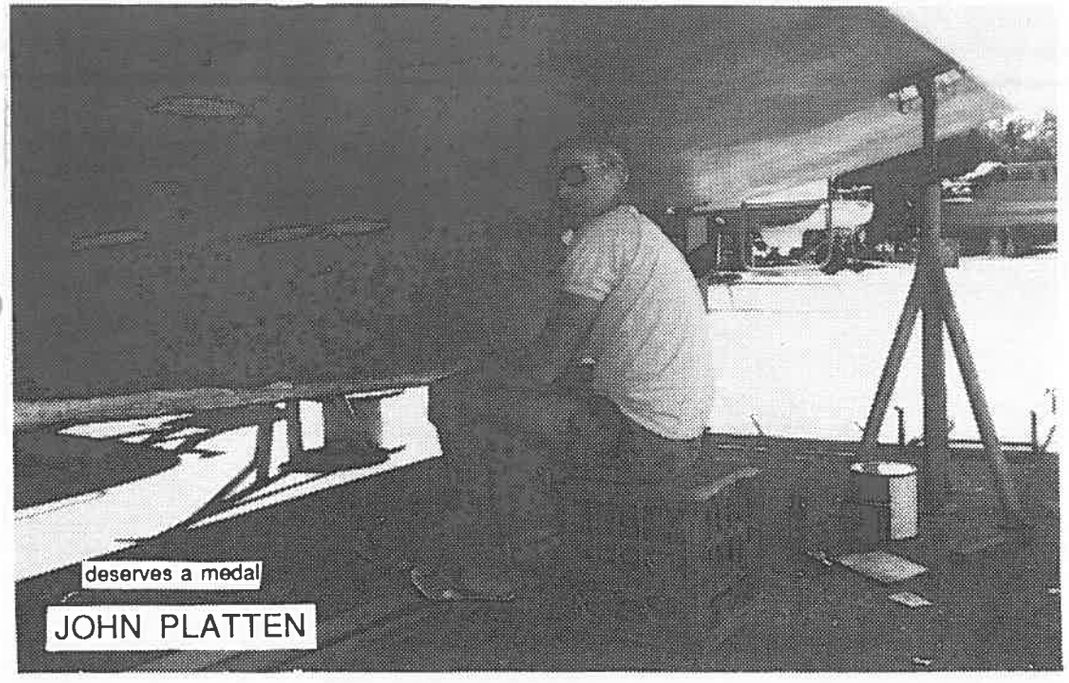
Time, the sheer volume of work and inclement weather (it only rains at week-ends, it seems) have combined to prevent us from achieving the full range of proposed modifications - some of which will still be in progress as you dive, but I'm pleased to say that the work which was carried out was of the highest standard and very obvious to even the casual boat critic. I will report the results of the sea trials next month.

Finally, I must pay a heartfelt tribute to some members who worked on the boat during this slipping. Ordinarily, I realize it is a dangerous procedure to name names, but the effort has been so outstanding that I feel it is justified. Top of the list is JOHN PLATTEN who deserves a medal, also PAT TROY, TIBI CSOMAY and PETER HORTON, who never seem to sleep. As usual, DAVE KENNY offered invaluable help and advice which was greatly appreciated.

That's all, Folks! See you next meeting!

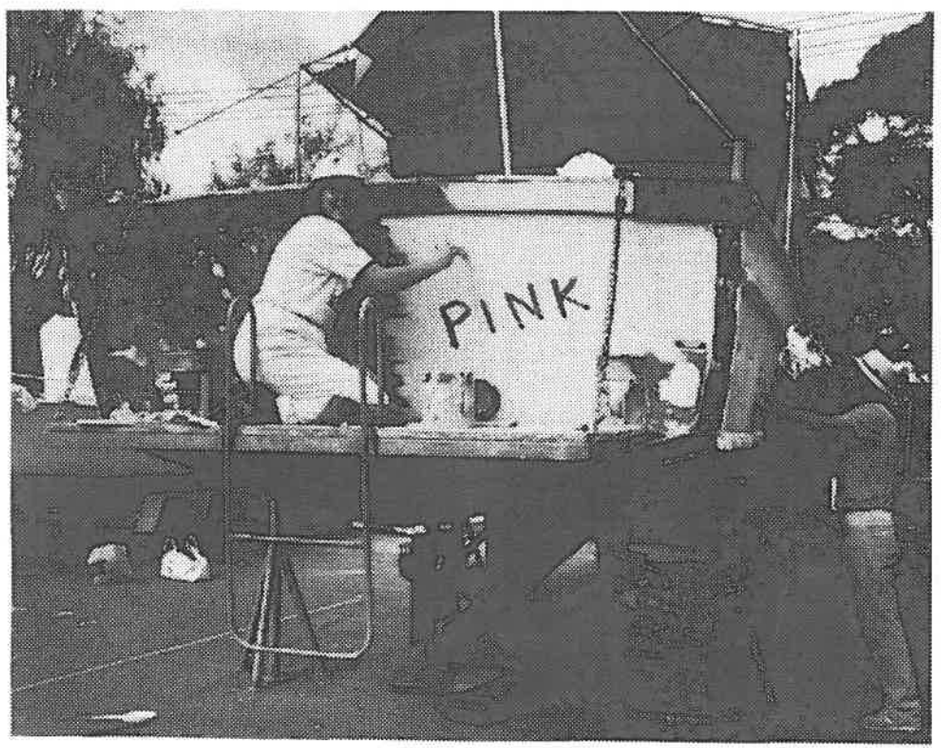
CHEERS FOLKS!

Bligh-Stubby



BOAT BITTS *by Dennis Stubberfield*

Well, at long last, after 9 weeks I am able to report a definite launching date for the boat and our first dive trip of the season. The boat will be put back in the water late Friday afternoon (8/9/89) and tied up at Royal Perth for that evening. The motor will be installed Saturday morning at Royal Perth Yacht Club when a hand-picked team of "experts" will spend Saturday connecting things up and aligning the engine and propeller shaft. Murphy's Law will then ensure a heavy day's work on Sunday to modify and correct all the last minute problems, and hold sea trials, which will end with a trip back to Fremantle to put her on the moorings. Thus, by the time you read this, members will know that diving starts at 0800 hrs Sunday 17th September from East Street Jetty. Skipper and crew to be advised.



TRAVELLING NORTH *by Pat Troy*

During a holiday up north in July I visited a couple of places that may be of interest to those divers who's underwater activities are of a passive nature. I was travelling light so the only diving gear that I took with me was my mask, snorkel and an old pair of flippers. I was travelling with my cousin who is not in the least bit interested in diving so I ventured into the water by myself. The first place of interest was at **CORAL BAY**. Although there is still a considerable amount of evidence of the damage done when the coral spawning went wrong early this year, I wasn't disappointed with the underwater scenery. It was simply a case of walking into the calm water and snorkel diving between 50 and 100 metres from shore. I noticed a lot of dead staghorn coral, however, it's starting to make a come-back and there was a good variety of other corals to keep me interested. There was also a good variety of fish that inhabit coral reefs, most of which I had never seen before because my diving activities have always been confined to the metropolitan reefs and Rottnest.

There's a dive shop just back from the beach called *Coral Dive*. You can hire everything you need for diving from there and the proprietor, Peter Harding, is also a P.A.D.I. Instructor. In addition to hiring equipment and working as an instructor, he takes divers out in his boat to the *Ningaloo Reef*. There is also an air filling station at the dive shop, so there's no problem with tank refills as long as they are "in test".

Some other relevant points for holiday makers are:

1. Caravan park facilities are good and the Deli has an adequate range of food and drinks.

2. Fresh water for showers and drinking is available. The interesting thing about the water is that it is drawn up from 820 metres under the ground! It reaches the surface at about 60 C at 60 P.S.I.

3. The 14 km road between the highway and *Coral Bay* is not sealed. However, it is kept in reasonable condition and you don't need a four-wheel-drive vehicle.

After *Coral Bay* we went up to **EXMOUTH** and around to the *Cape Range National Park*. The road inside the national park is not sealed but is kept in good condition and suitable for two-wheel-drive vehicles. The Department of Conservation and Land Management has established an Information Bureau at a spot called *Milyering*. In the main hall of the building there is a model of the *Cape Range National Park* which shows its proximity to the *Ningaloo Marine Park*. This interested me, because I was looking for a place where the Ningaloo Reef came close to the shore. The model showed that the reef ran very close to the shore at a camping site named *Mandu Mandu* which is about 20 km south of Milyering. After checking with the staff at the bureau we drove down to Mandu Mandu and found that a variety of corals was within 20 metres from the beach. I couldn't believe my luck when I entered the water! At about a depth of two metres there was a fantastic variety of corals and fish life! The water was clear and warm and all that was needed was a mask and snorkel. Entering the water can be a bit uncomfortable if

you are not wearing diving boots because there are some sharp rocks and pebbles on the beach. I put my flippers on to avoid cutting my feet, and slowly walked in backwards. Being in a national park there are a few restrictions on what you can do, but a bit of careful planning can avoid any inconvenience. One point that is well worth remembering, if you are thinking about venturing into the Cape Range National Park, is to take a good supply of fresh water because taps are few and far between. Also, it would be a good idea to visit the Information Bureau at Milyering for advise about where to go and what you are permitted to do. It would be a great place to visit during a winter holiday!

September 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
10 ROE REEF DIVE	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 MAREE'S AQUARIUM "GREEN" DIVE	18 GENERAL MEETING	19	20	21	22	23
24 ROE REEF DIVE (NEW AREA)	25	26	27	28	29	30 YANCHEP LONG WEEKEND

October 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 YANCHEP LONG WEEKEND	2	3 Committee Meeting	4	5	6	7
8 ROTTNEST WRECK DIVE	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 GEORDIE BAY DIVE	16 General Meeting	17	18	19	20	21
22 MORTIMER HUMP DIVE	23	24	25	26	27	28 PROGRESSIVE DINNER
29 JACKSONs ROCK DIVE	30	31				

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W.A. 6000

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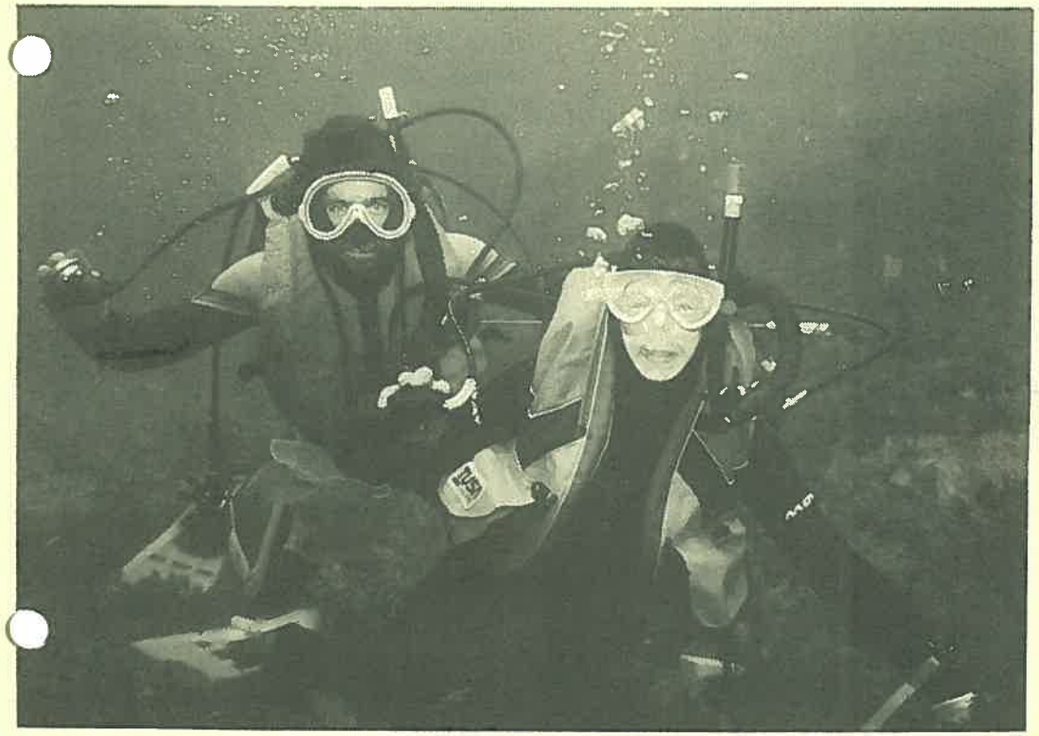

Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.

U.E.C. COMMITTEE

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Phone 453 6927 a/h

VICE PRESIDENT Dennis Stubberfield
Phone 457 3333 a/h

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Phone 457 3333 a/h

BUILDING OFFICER Richard Naylor
Phone 342 4205 a/h

SOCIAL & P.R. Ian Cowan
Phone 337 3238 any time

EDITOR Susie Ashton
Phone 331 2385 any time

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

We are happy to announce that **GREG POBAR** (Manager for the Marmion Marine Park) will give us a talk and slide show on the 16th. The meeting will start at 8 pm sharp.

FROM THE EDITOR...

Well, I'm sorry if you think that this edition of your newsletter is a bit "thin" but as we haven't been able to dive for a while, we cannot have a diving report for a start, but *can I just mention* (as Alison says) that I gladly will print any sort of report that you can provide me with from your dives outside the club. How about it? And I'm still looking for help from someone who could be responsible for the **Conservation Corner**. *Could it be YOU?*

DEADLINE for the next magazine:
Monday 6 November 1989, 11.30 PM.

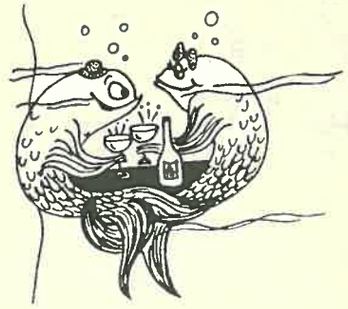
Please send your material direct to me:
5 Ralston Road, Kardinya 6163.

SUSIE ASHTON

HELP!!

I am running out of photos for the mag's front page! DO YOU HAVE ANY?

SOCIAL SECTION



Progressive Dinner

Saturday 28 Oct

See details in September UEC News magazine. Please use the slip on this page when you book and pay. Payments will not be accepted after the October General Meeting (Monday 16th). This year is going to be better than ever, so don't miss out!

Divers' Cabaret

Saturday 4 November

The social function of the year for the diving community with entertainment and a huge smorgasbord meal at the Fremantle Sailing Club. Only $25 but it has to be paid to me on or before the 16th October. (Use the slip below.)
No door sales of tickets available..

Presentation Night

Friday 17 November

The annual presentation of Club Awards and introduction of new Club Divers will be held in the Club rooms followed by a BBQ (BYO meat and we'll get the port!). It will be a good night. Theme is *games night*, yes, fun party with games original, unique and different!

Please await further information about the B & E DIVE scheduled for the 25th November.

IAN COWAN
Social Director

DIVERS' CABARET

NAME.....
PHONE.....
How many people?.....
Amount paid: $.....

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

NAME.....
PHONE.....
How many people?.....
Bus Occupier? YES... NO...
Amount paid: $.....

BOAT BITTS

I can, at last, report on the performance of the boat since her refit. Skipper **PETER HORTON**, who took her out, was still raving about it four days later! *Underwater Explorer* performed excellently, no water leaks, no oil leaks, no vibration - light as a drum. A collective sigh of relief. There are of course a number of items still to be completed and these will be attended to as soon as possible. They include such things as splash guards, seats, etc. It only remains for us to work her hard. For what it is worth, the weather pattern is strikingly similar to 1984 when I first joined the Club - and 1985 was the most fabulous year weatherwise we have had for 11 years - so roll on 1990!

An "Apprentice" Diving Officer/Boat Skipper Scheme has been approved by the Committee to provide Trainee DO's and Skippers for the future manning of Club activities. Each dive trip will be manned by DO, Skipper and "Deckhand", who will work his "tail" off for a suitable recompense.

All those who are interested in becoming a "Deckhand", please submit your name to President Barry as soon as possible for consideration by the Committee. We have to limit numbers but will accept at least five persons. The final number will depend on your response.

DENNIS STUBBERFIELD
Boat Officer and V.P.

IT WON'T HAPPEN TO ME!

If you are one of those people who think that "It won't happen to me", it may pay you to read on a little further. While reading through a dive magazine recently, I came across an article on the hyperbaric unit that has been installed in Melbourne's Alfred Hospital. A doctor working at the unit comments that people who ignore symptoms of the bends and hope that it will go away, risk developing complaints such as brain damage, blood clotting and there is a chance that paraplegia may develop. I consider myself to be a careful diver, but after reading about the long term effects of untreated cases of "bends", I'm going to be EXTRA careful. How about you?

PAT TROY

WANTED

DEAD OR ALIVE

Old book shelves or cupboards suitable for holding the Club's library books. Please contact PAT TROY at the next meeting or ring 328 8163.

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

FEES
Thank you to those members who have paid their fees early this year; you have helped us over a flat spot, which we seem to run into, about this time every year.

SAFETY
Because of career problems our Safety Officer ADRIAN EDWARDS has resigned from his position. Adrian will not be able to resume a position on the Committee for a while yet.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Adrian for the excellent job he has done as our Safety Officer. We wish you the best of luck, Adrian, and hope you will be out diving with us again soon.

BOAT...
is ready to go, if only the weather would give us a break. We need you out there! Give me a phone call and book on for Sunday!

BARRY KENNEDY
President

NEW MEMBERS

The following Family Membership was accepted at the last Committee meeting:

Judy, Glen and Kevin Collingwood, Como

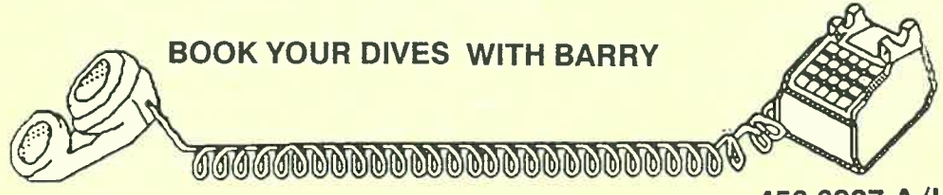
We wish you welcome to the Club and are looking forward to seeing you out diving with us.

A.G.M.

is coming up Monday 20th November. You are welcome to submit nominations for new committee members now... the earlier the better! Send or hand it in to the Club Secretary and don't forget that you must have a "seconder's" signature as well.

If YOU feel that YOU can contribute to the successful running of U.E.C. as a committee member, then nominate YOURSELF!

All positions will become vacant at the November General Meeting.



453 6927 A/H

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15 GEORDIE BAY DIVE	16 General Meeting	17	18	19	20	21
22 MORTIMER HUMP DIVE	23	24	25	26	27	28 PROGRESSIVE DINNER
29 JACKSONs ROCK DIVE	30	31				

10 PIN BOWLING 18 SEPT.

That Friday evening 18 UEC members with friends had an excellent time at the Melville Superbowl.

There was some good bowling with **KERRY, MICHELL** and **RICHARD** getting the highest scores, while others just couldn't get the bowl down the centre. Again, we had the use of the back-room, where we had a bite of Mexican food and watched some of the more energetic demonstrate gymnastics on the carpet. Everybody reconed we should have an other bowling night soon.

FOR SALE

Diving Suit - Scubapro
7 mm thick
Size 5 (slim man)
PRICE: $150.00

RING Graham or Jean Godsmark
Telephone 398 7408.

November 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 DIVERS' CABARET at Freo Sailing Club
5 SWIRL REEF DIVE	6 Committee meeting	7	8	9	10	11
12 DUFFIELD RIDGE DIVE	13	14	15	16	17 PRESENTA-TION NIGHT at Club room with BBQ	18
19 ANGELA'S CAVE DIVE	20 A.G.M.	21	22	23	24	25
26 WEST END DIVE	27	28	29	30		

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Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.

WANTED!

This man's identity!

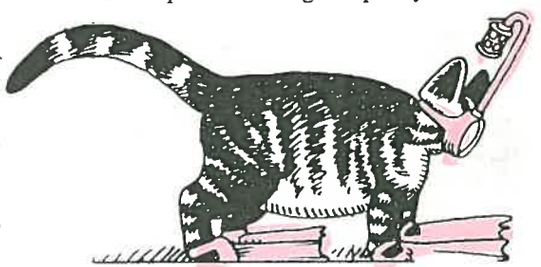
The photographer cannot remember when he took this photo or who you are. It was taken on a club dive apparently, some time earlier this year.

FROM THE EDITOR...

Well, it just has to be **PINK**... this, my last edition of U.E.C. NEWS. I have greatly enjoyed my role as the Club's Editor over the past year. I had a little Apple computer back home to work on, but "they" took it away, so now it's NOT so easy to produce a monthly magazine. Also, I did everything myself, instead of using a sub-committee to help out (but that's the way I am). So, DON'T forget, dear NEW EDITOR, that you are entitled to have five people working for you (according to the Club's Constitution).

However, I'll stay in touch with the committee work to finish our pamphlet, help out with other PR matters, and support the new Social Director (if he wants me.....snicker).

A BIG HUGG and **THANK YOU** to my friends who have contributed with articles and photos during the past year.



Susie

U.E.C. COMMITTEE

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SOCIAL & P.R. Ian Cowan
Phone 337 3238 any time

EDITOR Susie Ashton
Phone 331 2385 any time

KENNEDY

The Outgoing President

COVER PHOTO by ROGER SMITH

From left to right, rear row:
Kramer vs Kramer, Ian Cowan, Brian Jury, Karen Lawrence and Alison Keen.
From left to right, front row:
Margaret Langson, Norm Richards, Karen Beard and Karen Pollack.
We can surely appreciate the trouble (and fun) they all must have had when posing for this photo from their Abrolhos trip in February last year.

MANY, MANY THANKS
to Greg Pobar for his very interesting talk about seals, sea-lions, whales and other favourite marine mammals of ours. The slide show was excellent. Greg is such a good photographer! (I really feel sorry for you guys who missed our last General Meeting.) *Ed.*

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS TO THE U.E.C.:

Michael James Blackwell, Bull Creek
Kate Louise Brown, Subiaco
Jean and Graham Godsmark, Gosnells
Patricia Smith, Fremantle (Social)

CLUB FEES
have changed, effective from the A.G.M. in November:

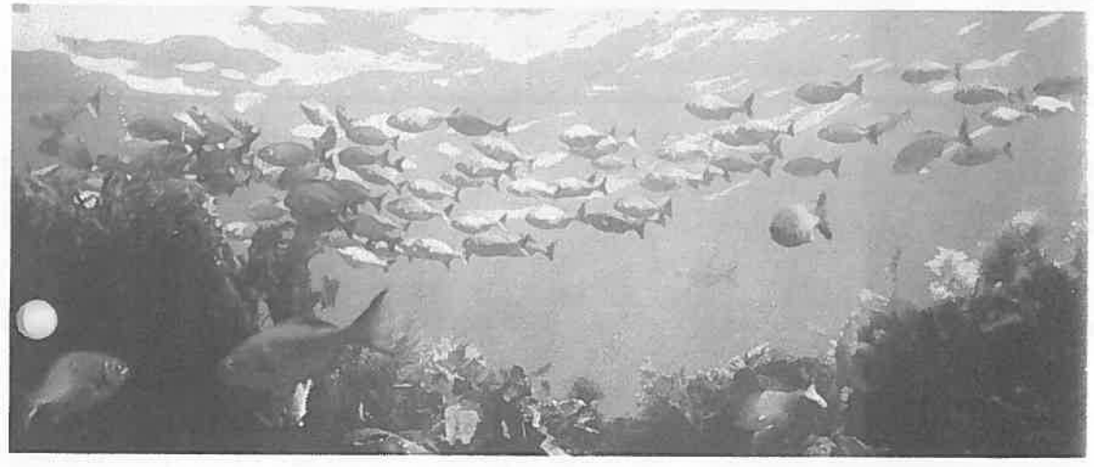
Ordinary membership (increase $3)	$45
Family membership (increase $6)	$70
Junior membership (increase $2)	$25
Social membership (increase $3)	$15
Nomination fee (unchanged)	$25

TAHITI: Tahiti Aquatique B.P. 6008 Faaa Tahiti, Ph 410854. Next to Maeva Beach Hotel, 10 minutes south of airport. Richard Johnson (Yank) PADI. Open boat, single tank $50 including basic gear. 3 sits - fish feeding, drop off, wrecks. Night dives available.

MOOREA: Moorea Underwater Scuba-diving Tahiti (M.U.S.T.). Phillip Molle B.P. 336 Moorea, Ph. 561732, Fax 374 French Polynesia. PADI. Next to Kaveka Village Hotel, 15 minutes west of airport in Cook's Bay. Open boat, single tank $45, basic gear hire $10. Lodging at hotel $70 or with him $60 but minimum 6 days. 15 sites inside and outside reef. night dives available.

RAIATEA: Pension Marie-France, Raiatea Safari Tours B.P. 272 Uturoa, Raiatea, Ph. 663710, Fax 662094. Marie-France Philip PADI, CMAS. 15 minutes south of airport and 500 metres south of Bali Hai Hotel ($70). Open boat with outrigger single tank $45 with basic gear, 2 tank trip $70 with basic gear. Lodging-rooms $36, dorm $12. 4x4 tours, cruises, dives 50 sites, lagoon and reef, fish feeding, etc. BEST VALUE, BEST SITES.

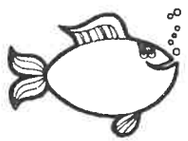
Add *French Polynesia* to all addresses.



DID YOU KNOW...

that the **BUSSELTON JETTY** area has been documented to have more varieties of fish in per area of water than the Great Barrier Reef!

GOSSIP COLUMN



Did ya' hear the story about the Club Gas Stove? No!? Just as well then... too long to repeat here anyway... or ask **RICHARD NAYLOR** to give you a brief run-down on the subject!

* * *

F.A.R.T.S & T.A.R.T.S

Due to the dwindling numbers of younger divers taking part in club dives lately, some of us older divers have decided we have carried the young folk long enough. We have therefore decided to form our own break-away group for divers over forty.

The new group will be known as the *Further Aged Recreation Team* or F.A.R.T. for short.

To be eligible for inclusion in the old F.A.R.T. group you must be over 40 years old and have one or more of the following:

Partial deafness, poor eyesight (magnifying glass supplied), memory lapses, rheumatism, alcoholism, false teeth or incontinence.

We have decided to keep it an all male group as females over forty are much too cranky for us to handle. As not to appear too chauvinistic, we have decided to allow Associate Membership to females under 30 years. They will be known as the *Tender Aged Recreational Team* or T.A.R.T. for short.

To be eligible for young T.A.R.T. you must be under 30 years old, single, broad minded, curvacious in a rubber suit and able to cook crays to perfection. Experience in caring for the aged would be a distinct advantage.

For membership to F.A.R.T. send $10 to Roger Smith. (Sorry, no discounts for pensioners.)

For membership to T.A.R.T. send recent photo to Barry Kennedy, who will contact you and arrange a personal interview. Successful applicants will receive $10 discount off a bikini with our club name on it.

Roger Smith
Ph. 275 8620

FOR SALE

Sea Hornet BC
Size - Small
Price: $240.00 ono
Contact: Glen or Judy Collingwood
A/h phone number 450 6817.

BOAT BITTS

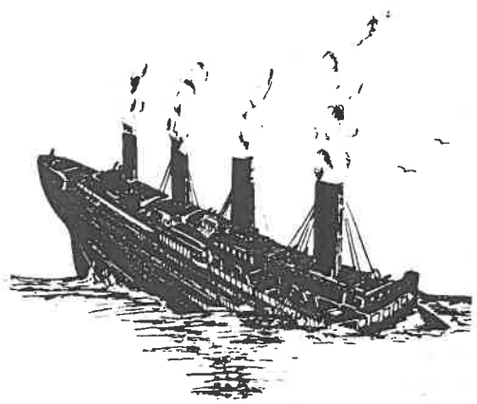
By Dennis Stubberfield

This month has again been a complete disaster as far as diving and thus boating goes, so there is very little to report. Only one Skipper has had a chance to actually give the boat anything like a run, but a couple of small excursions have allowed others to test her handling. These reports continue to be glowing in their tributes - I'm practically going into "withdrawal" myself to have a day out. In short, *Your Boat* is in her best shape ever, and waiting to work.

The "*Apprenticeship*" scheme for future Diving Officers/Instructors and/or Boat Skippers has been approved in principle by the Committee and eight people have put their names down. We can accept a couple more and since no ladies have applied, I will reserve the last two places for you. Come on girls, the guys are out-numbered by girls in the Instructor school I'm now in, so I'm sure you are capable of being Boat Skippers too. The details of this scheme are still being finalised and no doubt the new Committee will get this up and running as soon as possible. Most likely one "Deckie" will be rostered on each regular boat trip and to get their sea time up, a Deckhand will be taken on the non-scheduled trips in rotation. They will be able to have a short rest from the study which will be part of the scheme, because "school" doesn't start in earnest till next February; and besides those who will be responsible for your "in house" training want a few short weeks off themselves.

Finally, as this is my last boat report for a while, may I take the opportunity of thanking you all in general for your help, cooperation and support during the past year and to many in particular who have put in a great effort into bringing the boat up to and maintaining such a high standard. This year has been the most difficult and heart/back breaking imaginable, with breakdowns and stolen gear and I hope your new Boating Officer (whoever he is) will have this season to catch his breathe.

Cheers Folks!



BLIGH-STUBBY
Admiral of Vice!

DIVING THE FRENCH POLYNESIA

By John Platten

The *Society Islands* of French Polynesia finally lured me into their trap on my way back from a trip to the States to be present at my niece's first wedding. The islands themselves certainly live up to the reputation of south seas Edens with their stark volcanic backbones covered in luxuriant foliage. From the air the only vestiges of humanity are found on the coastal fringes where the coconut plantations, cleared fields and villages are visible. The hinterland for the most part is still rain forest, the volcanoes are all extinct with consequently no earthquakes, the lagoons are clean and the surrounding reefs are unbroken except for the occasional passage; in all extremely inviting. Close up, however, the requirements of civilisation lend another somewhat tainted face.

The people are mostly helpful and friendly, it's just the lure of the tourist dollar that has created one of the most expensive holiday sports in the world and certainly the dearest in the "South Pacific". When a coke costs $2.50 and a loaf of bread about $2, you know that the locals feel it as well. Cabs are too expensive while Le Truck (a tram body on the back of a flatbed truck) are cheap transport on Tahiti. Elsewhere Cabs may or may not exist, and if you're looking to hire a car, it would be advisable to book in advance on the islands other than Tahiti.

Rooms run generally from $20 upwards with the median around $70. Internal air fares to the Leeward Island group (Bora Bora, Huahine, Raiatea) run $120-$150 one way for the one hour plus flights. Take your credit cards with you and be prepared to close your eyes to the expense because there are very few ways of penny pinching there, unless you go totally bush.

Much of the prehistory is being rediscovered and some of the ritual sites have been restored so there is plenty for the student of man and his works. The native culture was almost completely subsumed by the Christian missionaries; almost but not so ruthlessly that all traces were extinguished. Crafts and rituals are reviving partly in response to the tourist and partly for the slowly evolving native consciousness. It is still very much a yassah boss environment with typical French/European social, economic and political dominance (the local Chinese business doesn't do too badly either). New Caledonian revolts seem to be a long way off and no doubt the French intend to keep it that way as long as possible.

A knowledge of Tahitian is not required and to learn it you must be there, a book is no help. French on the other hand can be quite useful, although in the usual tourist areas English would be spoken by someone but get on the back roads, or visit local markets, and unless you are good at charades, you would need the knowledge of some French or someone who does.

P.S.: The water temperature measured 25 C on my new gauge in these waters compared to only 16 C down at Busselton. Gee, it was cold there, but **what a super-duper top dive on that famous jetty!!** Unbelievable; you have to see it for yourself. I cannot describe it with justice...**fantastic dive!!**

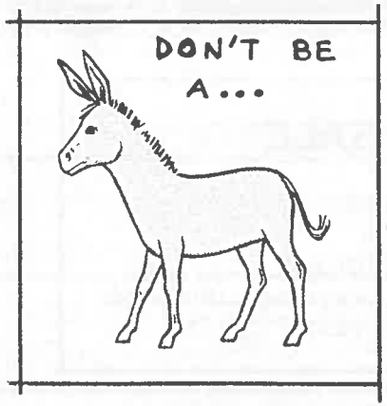
NOTE: "Another common predator of corals is a marine snail (Drupella cornus) which has caused considerable damage to coral reefs in the Pacific and to reefs off Japan. Drupella is common on Ningaloo Reef and appears to be causing extensive damage to live corals. The effects of this predation on the ecology of *Ningaloo Reef* are unknown, but the snails have reduced formerly attractive areas of live coral, with numerous colourful fish, to coral rubble encrusted by algae with few fish."

(From *Coral Reefs of Western Australia*)

(About Ningaloo Reef):
"*Drupella* has increased from an estimated 100-200 snails per kilometre of reef to the present 1-2 million per kilometre. This leaves no room for complacency. At present the alternative views, that the increase in snail numbers is either a natural part of the Reef's ecology or an imbalance caused by human influence, must be considered equally probable.

Any future action will depend on which theory is validated by research. Research must determine *"Why here?"*, *"Is this a 'new' phenomenon?"*, *"What caused it?"*, and *"What will make it stop?"*. Studies of outbreaks in Japan, the Philippines and the Marshall Islands have been largely desceptive and offer little help in selecting between alternatives."

(From *LANDSCOPE, W.A.'s Consevation, Forests and Wildlife Magazine*, Winter 1989.)



Come to the.....

Presentation Night

Friday 17 November 8pm

The annual presentation of Club Awards and introduction of new Club Divers will be held in the Club rooms followed by a BBQ (BYO meat and we'll get the port!). It will be a good night. Theme is *games night*, yes, fun party with games original, unique and different!

CORALS GALORE

By Susie Ashton

It's incredible how many dives you can fit in during one month if you're able to take a couple of days off and travel a bit outside of Perth. Well, we all know that the weather has been a bit lousy lately and I couldn't wait longer to go diving; so we took off up north for a long weekend - two days holiday on each side of a normal weekend makes a "long" weekend! In Coral Bay we teamed up with some other "old" U.E.C. members; *Debbie Gill* and her husband who are now living in Karratha, and *Alison Keen* who works in Carnarvon.

We had organised to hire the dive boat from **Peter Harding, Coral Dive in Coral Bay, Phone (099) 425 940** for the whole day ($300). This was to allow a later start in case we all didn't make the scheduled dive at 9 am on the Saturday.

We were hoping to be able to go outside the reef and dive on the drop-off. However, strong winds and rough seas made this impossible. Instead, Peter took us to two other spots just inside the drop-off. Despite the wind on the surface, at 10 metres depth everything was quiet and gentle. Visibility was good with great sunlight from above. However, there are very obvious signs of the snail *Drupella* munching away on the coral; not a pretty scene at all. They seem to work together in bunches of 10-20 and just plough their way away over the poor corals, leaving a grey and lifeless rock in their wake.

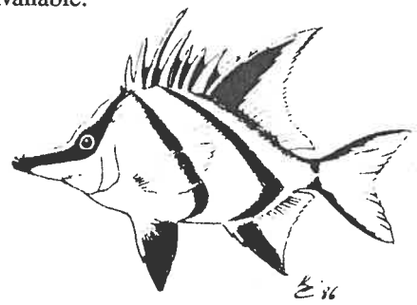
The following day we went snorkelling in the bay before leaving this peaceful place (peaceful during the off-season anyway). That was another experience - quite interesting to see how the coral spawning has killed the corals in this area. I can still remember how colourful these coral gardens were 6 years ago, when Kerry and I stayed there on our way to Perth. Now it looks more like a nuclear disaster area - all ash-grey. The fish life is still there though, and a glass bottom boat takes tourists out every day to feed the fish, so I guess that's why they're still hanging around.

The next day we went off to the *Blow Holes* a bit north of Carnarvon. Very fascinating and majestic scenery when the water shoots up through the holes in the rocks. It is not really a place where you would go for a shore scuba dive though. You are better off snorkelling here and the best place is The Lagoon. It is very shallow though, so check the tide times with the tourist bureau in Carnarvon, so you don't scrape your "little tummy" on the corals! It's very accessible and offers beautiful coral gardens and various fishes. If you are into turtles, there are plenty; one very inquisitive one swam close to us for a lingering appraisal and the visibility was good. I saw the Dreadful Drupella here as well, but they haven't done as much damage yet as in Coral Bay. It probably won't take long before the coral colours are gone here too, because the snails are on the march!

The winter weather seemed quite pleasant with rain at night and 15 (60) with sunny or partly cloudy days and 26 (80). The summer would probably be similar to any place within the tropics. There are definitely mosquitoes but they say no major diseases although a booster for typhoid and tetanus is advisable, especially for diving as coral cuts can be quite nasty once infection develops.

The diving itself ranges from poor to excellent depending on where, when and with whom. There is more colour and more varieties of fish in the Abrolhos Islands, clearer water in Bali and Fiji, bigger fish in Malaysia and Sulawesi and better transport here than in French Polynesia but there is enough in the good spots to keep most divers satisfied.

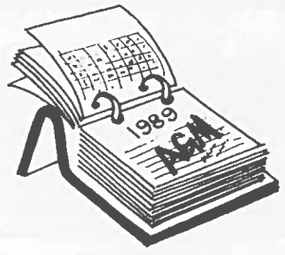
A lycra suit is just enough for snorkelling but a stubby, a top or better a thin wetsuit, is really a necessity for diving. They are available for hire or are included in the local rates anyway. Next time I would take a 3 mil suit and my mask (never can seem to get one that fits properly when hiring them). As most of the underwater terrain is coral covered gloves are a must although currents and surge were not a problem. There are some fish that have been hand fed and have become accustomed to equating divers with food so if you don't have any (the divemaster should tell you if he intends to feed sharks, morays or whatever) cover up any seemingly delectable bits like fingers, toes, ears, etc. A barracuda took a particular fancy to the pink tube with red taped top snorkel I was using. The piece he took out of it would not have made a tasty meal, and he was a bit put out when I took it off and stuck it in the wet suit top I was wearing. Yummy pink to add to yummy yellow I guess, but after being fed by the divemaster he (maybe it was a she) was still hungry and would possibly keep eating as long as there was something available.



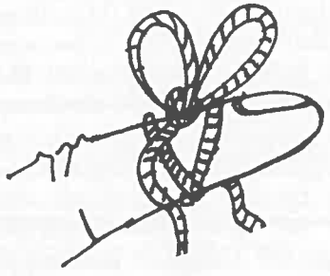
For the places I dived Moorea was a waste of time, the Tahiti drop off was dramatic but not particularly colourful or denizen filled spot but Raiatea in the Leeward group had some nice coral gardens, lots of morays if you like that sort of critter, and a fair variety of coral and fish so would opt for there first. I didn't visit Bora due to time restrictions and stories of rip off prices (in an already inflated economy) but that is just across the way from Raiatea so would likely have similar features unless the diving is near the anchorages which by now would be a disaster area. All in all a nice place to visit but for better diving, more facilities and cheaper, more accessible with a greater variety of packages **Fiji** should be first on your list of English speaking tropical islands.

November 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
12 DUFFIELD RIDGE DIVE	13	14	15	16	17 PRESENTATION NIGHT at Club room with BBQ	18
19 ANGELA'S CAVE DIVE	20 A.G.M.	21	22	23	24	25
26 WEST END DIVE	27	28	29	30		



Monday 20th November



DON'T FORGET

TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

December 1989

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 ROTTNEST EXPLORATION DIVES
3 ROTTNEST EXPL. DIVE	4 COMMITTEE MEETING	5	6	7	8	9
10 ROE REEF DIVE	11	12	13	14	15 NIGHT DIVE	16
17 X-MAS DIVE + BBQ	18 GENERAL MEETING	19	20	21	22	23
24 HUGAL PASSAGE DIVE	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 NORTH GARDEN ISLAND DIVE						

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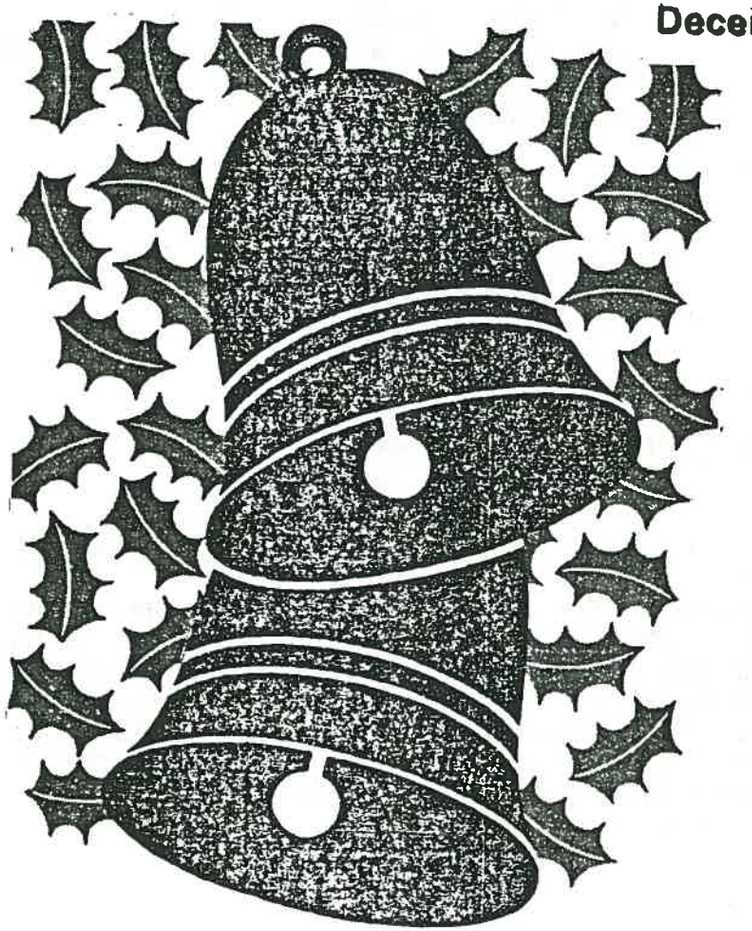
U.E.C. NEWS

December '89



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

DIARY OF COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

17	CHRISTMAS DIVE & BARBEQUE
18	GENERAL MEETING
24 - 31	PLANNED DIVES ARE CANCELLED BUT BOAT IS AVAILABLE RING DIVING OFFICER
31	NEW YEARS EVE (CLUB ROOMS)

JANUARY

1	COMMITTEE MEETING
10	CLUB ROOMS MAGAZINE
15	GENERAL MEETING
16	PRAWNING DIVE

COMING UP

BUSSELTON AND HAMELIN BAY

CONSERVATION

Since the commercial moratorium started, Japan has been increasing its take of small cetaceans, which the International Whaling Commission does not regulate. In the past three years, Japan has taken a total of about 54 000 Dall's porpoises from a total stock in the area where the catch is taken of about 105 000. The scientific committee says such a large catch is "clearly not sustainable". Other species such as Baird's beaked whale and the Pilot whale , are also being killed in larger numbers now than before the moratorium.

DISCLAIMER

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.

UEC COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	MAREE CASLEY	457 3333 AH 420 9555 WK
VICE PRESIDENT	KERRY ASHTON	331 2385 AH
SECRETARY	PAT TROY	328 8163 AH 327 8777 WK
TREASURER	PETER HORTON	445 2336 AH 381 3600 WK
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BOAT OFFICER	BOB COTTON	367 2222 AH
BUILDING OFFICER	RICHARD NAYLOR	342 4205 AH
SOCIAL & PUBLIC RELATIONS	KERRY ASHTON	331 2385 AH
EDITOR	TIBI CSOMAY	341 3001
DIVING OFFICER	BRIAN MURRAY	459 8374

NOMINATIONS

JAMES ALAN WOOD	MT CLAREMONT
ROGER BRUCE NOTTAGE	BOORAGOON

There was a naval supply ship called HMAS Bombo in Western Australia during World War II.

EDITORIAL

The sanctuary in the Indian Ocean, where no whaling has been allowed since 1979 was confirmed for a further three years bv the International Whaling Commission. Japans request of an "Interim Relief Allocation" of 320 Minke Whales, to reduce economic hardship that the moratorium caused to its coastal whalers, was turned down.

What happens after three years is unknown. It is up to all of us to raise our voices against the resumption of commercial whaling. Who wants a number of Japanese whaling ships killing the very same whales we now admire?

MAGAZINE

I am getting in early to thank all those members who will contribute to the magazine this coming year. Anyone can help by writing articles, by saving interesting stories they read somewhere, or by coming along to the Club Rooms on the second Wednesday of each month at around 7.30pm to put the magazine to bed.

NEWS FROM SUNNY CARNARVON

ALISON KEEN

All of you who didn't take up my exciting offer, to feed the sharks and dive the warm waters of Carnarvon, are going to miss out. I moving yet again! Holiday "back" home in the snow for Christmas (Probably won't dive with Liz Aitchinson now Liz Sargeant). Then its even more sunny Karratha for another year. I might even do some more diving there. Any offers?

Serious Note: After a lovely dive weekend at Coral bay with Susie & Kerry, Debbie & Ian, Tour Dive Leader Peter Harding pointed out the following article from "The Encyclopedia of Recreational Diving" produced by Padi.

"Any drug no matter how innocent its purpose, may increase narcosis at depth. Drugs used for seasickness should be tried before diving and then with shallow dives to prevent surprise narcosis. This definitely includes the Scopolamine patch, which has been documented to cause extreme narcosis at depths as shallow as 60 feet/18 metres."

PRESIDENT'S POINT OF VIEW

By Maree Casley

As you all know the AGM was held on Monday 20 November and a new Committee has been elected to take care of Club affairs for the next year. The committee now consists of:

President	Maree Casley
Vice President	Kerry Ashton
Treasurer	Peter Horton
Secretary	Pat Troy
OIC Boating	Bob Cotton
OIC Training	Julie Raines
OIC Building	Richard Naylor
OIC Social/PR	Kerry Ashton
OIC Magazine	Tibi Csomay
OIC Safety	Michel Roux

At this point in time it is worth mentioning that many of the committee members have a lot of work ahead of them and could really do with some help. If you have a bit of spare time please consider giving the committee members a couple of hours a month. Any contribution at all will be gratefully received.All members have a vested interest in making sure that any work the Club needs doing, actually gets done, as it will benefit us all in the long run. If you think you may be able to help, come along to the next general meeting and offer your services.

While you are at the meeting you can also comment on a proposal that has been put to me. The idea is to conduct some weekend dives up at Hillary's, perhaps once a month. This will have several benefits to members such as giving us the opportunity to experience some different dive sites, reduce travelling time and regenerate interest in members that live in the northern suburbs and possibly assist the Friends of the Marmion Marine Park in their

activities in the area. If you have any views on this proposal or some ideas on any of our diving activities, come to a meeting or ring me and I will bring it up at the next meeting.

Before I finish my first report to you as President, there are several points that I want to bring to your attention.

Firstly, there is quite a few outstanding annual subscriptions due. I know that the silly season is nearly with us but please send in your payment as soon as you can. Unfortunately, the people sending us bills don't care if it's Christmas or not, they just want their money!

Secondly, there is quite a few tank fills that have not been paid for. Those people who have not paid for their fills please do so and avoid the embarrassment of having your name appear in the next magazine. They may also find that next time they want a fill it may be refused.

Lastly, it appears that some people are removing drinks from the fridge and not paying for them. This means of course that the rest of the members are subsidising those that are not paying. Please ensure that all drinks and any IOU's are paid for otherwise we may have no alternative but to lock the refridgerator.

I know I sound a bit stingy, especially as this is my first report but the Club cannot afford to let these small matters lapse. Funds are scarce at the moment and money, from any source, is most welcome, so please settle all outstanding accounts.

All that remains for me to do this month is to sincerely thank the outgoing committee for all it's efforts in the past year and promise to continue in their footsteps. A special thank you to Barry Kennedy

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Lisa Chivers of the Diving Task Force, the conference was a real success. If you get a chance to go to the next Dive Alive Conference, grab it, you won't be disappointed.

BOAT REPORT

BOB COTTON

As the incoming Boat Officer, I will take this opportunity to thank my predecessor Dennis (Bligh - Stubby) Stubberfield and the many club members, who gave so much of their valuable spare time in a massive effort to make the club boat more workable and comfortable for the New Diving Season.

I know for a fact that it's been really appreciated judging by the feedback I've been getting from various members.

Having said this I promise you all that this is going to be the busiest and most varied season that the club can put together.

So don't wait for the club magazine, to find out what's going on - keep in touch with your Dive Officer and myself to keep up to date with the club's activities. Because there will be some changes to our general Diving Programme in the New Year. You'll hear more about this at our next General Meeting.

A Boat Working Bee will be organised in the next few weeks this will be a Saturday. I will need a couple of Diving Teams to check mooring shackles and line plus a hull scrub. (ugh!)

Also some minor mechanical work on the motor plus a de-greasing of the bilges and engine. (another inspiring task!)

Well that's about it from me - See you out there soon.

Just a footnote - The Xmas Dive on the 17 December is definitely on! Make sure you're booked on.

DIVE ALIVE CONFERENCE 1989

PAT TROY

The conference initiated by the Underwater Task Force and presented by the Ministry of Sport and recreation, The Australian Underwater Federation and The Fremantle hospital was held on November 18 and 19.

The objectives of the conference were:-
To provide a forum for divers to exchange ideas and experiences;
To educate divers and the wider community about the hyperbaric Medicine Unit at Fremantle Hospital;
To update knowledge concerning aspects of diving; and
To expand recreational options open to divers.

The Facilitator for the conference was the very affable Mr Reg lipson, Reg is a well known Australian diving personality who has a talent for holding people's attention and saying the right thing at the right time.

The conference was opened in the morning by Dr Harry Oxer who among other things is the Director of the Hyperbaric Medicine Unit at Fremantle Hospital. After a short lecture in the education centre at Fremantle Hospital were shown through the new recompression chambers due to be officially commissioned during December.

later in the morning Mr Pat Baker gave an interesting talk in underwater photography. He presented some of his colour slides and answered a barrage of questions from photographers in the crowd.

The official launch of the conference was during the afternoon at the Point Walter Conference and Recreation Centre. After a seminar on diving accidents, a choice of lectures was offered on the different dive tables in use. An introduction to the B.S.A.C.'88 Tables by Don Jacobson was concise and informative. They are not very difficult to follow as he had us working out dive profiles in no time.

Sunday consisted of a choice of lectures on subjects such as underwater hockey, hookah diving, dive computers, dive theory, diving medical examinations, marine reserve management and the technology of diving equipment. In short, there was something for everybody.

who has put in 5 years at the helm of UEC and has bee largely responsible for the Club being in such good shape. Thanks Barry for all your efforts and don't change your phone number, I'm sure I'm going to be needing your advice from time to time.

DIVING REPORT

BRIAN MURR

A number of good dives have been had by members and guests at Rottnest a particularly Carnac/Garden Islands over recent weeks.

The Carnac/Garden Island areas had not been dived by the club previously, t site was relatively shallow, i.e. 15 metres, with 40 minute bottom times. Th allowed everyone 2 good dives over new and exciting terrain featuring lots fish, crays, corals and marine life, something that unfortunately has been lacki at some of our regular sites. The boat was also back at East Street at 3.15 p which could be a record for a 2 dive trip.

From a club point these dives were a success, but for the committee 16 dive and 8 guests, and 12 divers and 5 guests doesn't represent a lot of support fro within. Your committee is working hard to make all trips safe, enjoyable an interesting, but we need members on board for support.

You are after all in a dive club so how about doing just that, DIVING! Yo never know, things may have changed. Sites might be more interesting an other divers may have the same interest. It could be that you may enjoy divin again.

How about making the effort.

The most powerful electric fish is the Electric Eel (Electrophorus Electricus) of South America. An average sized specimen can discharge 400 volts at 1 ampere.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

PR is all about letting other people know the club exists.While there are various media for this, there are a number of things that you the club member can do to assist me.

1. Always practise your diving, with safety the foremost thought in your mind and secondly in comfort. By comfort I mean within yourself and the surrounding environment. Diving to me should be and is enjoyable.
I believe the club provides safety and comfort in diving with a well organised and friendly group. Your own efforts and participation in that safety and environment is a major factor in its success.

2.If you agree with 1 above then tell people about us and encourage them along.

3. Of course if you have any contacts,are good at artwork have 's, etc. please call

(Kerry 331-2385)

****

SOCIAL

From the survey and general club talk I picked up a few pointers,*firstly* use our two main assets the clubrooms and the boat more *secondly* social should compliment diving not compete with it.
I will endeavour to satisfy these points, a good start is that I agree with them.
By the way we need a few extra helpers nothing overly formal just check the (w)rap nights.

Kerry	331-2385
Pat	430-5290
Ron	417-4140
????	????

(continued)

Xmas dive Sunday 17th December

Venue : North Garden Island

Dive : Single Dive

BYO: Lunch/bbq and refreshments

BYOB: Boat (silly!)

This is always popular so book early to be on the club boat. If you do have your own boat please contact me re co-ordinating meeting place and dive site with the Club Skipper and Dive Officer

Club (W)Rap Wednesday 10th January

Be the first to get the news.

This combines the wrapping of the newsletter with an informal social planning and get-together at the club rooms. These will be held on a regular monthly basis, generally the second Wednesday each month.

Prawning Dive Tuesday 16th January

On the banks of the Swan, I would like to keep this one reasonably small, no more than 10. So please contact me for the time and place.

Remember the three D's for the festive season

Don't drink and drive
Don't drink and dive

MERRY XMAS

P.S. See you at the New Years party

★ "Where did you get that plank?"

WHAT is it that lies at the bottom of the sea shivering and whimpering with fear? A nervous wreck.

★ "I'm giving you an appetite-suppressant, Mr Jones — my bill!"

NEW YEARS EVE

NAUTICAL THEME

(SEE IN THE NEW DECADE)

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB

NIBBLES - VARIOUS
MAIN - TACO*RONS*

Calendar

DECEMBER 31 1989 THROUGH 1990

8 O'CLOCK

$$ EIGHT

CONTACT: Kerry 331-2385
Pat 430-5290
Ron 417-4140

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

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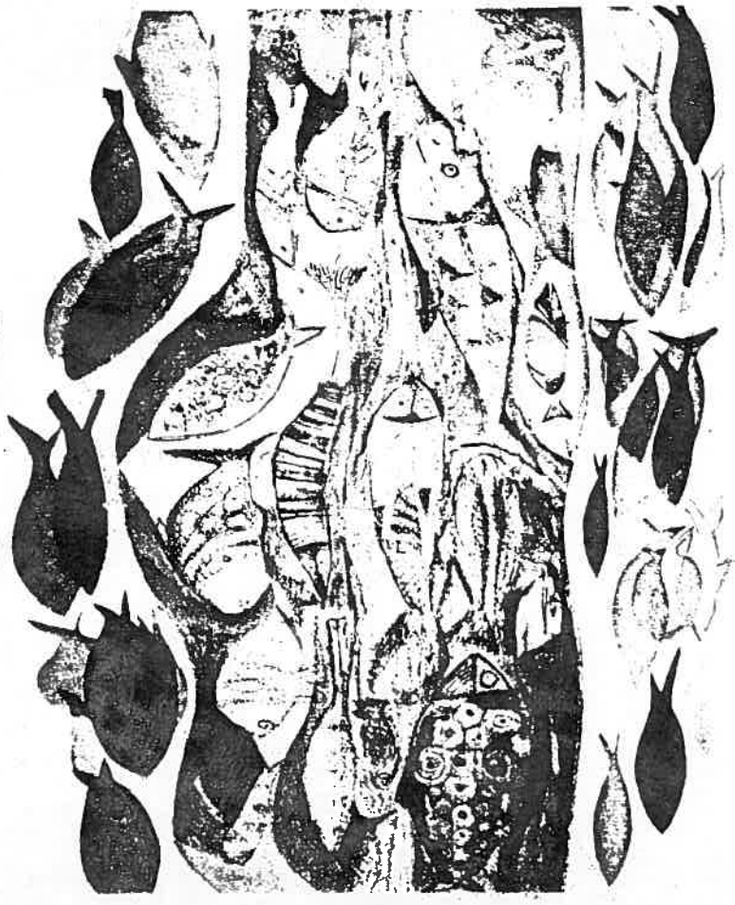
U.E.C. NEWS



Happy New Year

JANUARY 1990

BOAT OFFICER BOB COTTON

(He who speaks the unspeakable.)

PHOTOGRAPHIC DIVE
A FEBRUARY EVENT

"I don't seem to get very good results" or "My gear is fairly basic and I feel a bit of a mug fronting up among those others with their more expensive equipment."

These and similar clich-ed praises crop up all too often from aspiring U/W photobugs.
It doesn't matter how much anybody spends on U/W camera gear
A camera, no matter how fancy it is, is still only a dumb machine.
It just requires a little perseverance and creative imagination to get fairly reasonable results, even with something as basic as the fixed focus, self contained units that are around. So don't let the lack of expensive equipment deter you from participating on this dive.
There will be people on board who are experienced and can help you achieve more satisfying results.
For those photobugs who are still somewhat diffident about their ability to take pics underwater,
you're not going to improve your knowledge with your camera gathering dust in a cupboard. Besides that, whatever pics you wind up getting they are still going to be something to look back on memories recording a unique part of your life.
So don't let yourself be

TRAINING REPORT

By Julie Raines

It is with great pleasure that I write my first Training Report, because it gives me the opportunity to tell you some wonderful news.

Firstly, after much time and effort spent, the S.D.F.A. now has seven N.C.A.S. accredited (government recognized) Scuba Instructors. Four of these people are from the U.E.C.! They are Dennis Stubberfield, Michel Roux, Judy Collingwood and Julie Raines. Three other people also qualified- Sara-Jane Boys, Bonnie Birch and Harold Bloch from Lifeline. But that is not all! The S.D.F.A. also has two Assistant Scuba Instructors- Ian Cowen (U.E.C.) and Geoff Scarf (Lifeline).

This is of course wonderful news. The U.E.C. at last will be able to resume training activities. Not only will this result in additional membership for the club, but create another focus of interest for club members who, to some extent, will be able to become involved in the training programs. In addition our Instructors will be able to run "crossovers". That is they will be able to run a short course and issue new, nationally recognized S.D.F.A. and F.A.U.I. (optional) certifications to divers holding the old S.D.F.A. qualifications.

Shortly after our Instructors became qualified, the S.D.F.W.A. had a meeting to consolidate its ideas and determine a direction to move in.

At this meeting we determined that we would start a "crossover" program as soon as possible, starting with our current Lifeline and U.E.C. members and then extending to other S.D.F.A. divers. Open water diver courses will also be run as soon as possible but may take a little longer to actually organize. In both the training and crossovers the U.E.C. and Lifeline Instructors will team up to help develop the best courses possible for you.

This is the beginning of a new age. Many new and exciting things will be taking place, so stay tuned to your magazine!

MARCH LONG WEEKEND - ROTTNEST TRIP. D.R.STUBBERFIELD.

Well its on again, the premier trip of the year, what we have all been waiting for - yes you've guessed it, THE LONG WEEK END ON ROTTNEST, MARCH '90.

We have Cottages "L", YOUNG, and "E" booked and paid for, allowing about 25 people to attend. At this stage only eight [8] places are left so get in early and contact me personally to book. Please note that a "pencilled in" booking will only be confirmed when I get my hands on money and I cannot hold these bookings open very long without it!

The dates are Saturday, Sunday and Monday, 3rd, 4th, & 5th of March and the cost, although not finalised, will be under $120 all up. All monies must be in my hand by the February meeting [19/2/90].

The Cottages are "Ours" from 28/290 to 7/3/90 and will be available free during this period outside the week-end itself. It is intended that the boat will be taken to Rottnest Tuesday or Wednesday 27-28/2/90, and will be available for members wishing stay and dive from the Island. At this stage approx. 6 people have indicated their intention to use this facility.

The boat will return to Fremantle to pick up the "Week-enders" on Saturday at 0800 hrs and return them on Monday afternoon. The boat will then return to Rottnest, for the remainder of the week until Saturday or Sunday, depending on Club needs. Divers using the boat at Rottnest will be contributing to the Club's list of divesites by doing a considerable amount of exploration as well as enjoying themselves to the fullest. Both activities are regarded as mandatory!

Please contact me as soon as possible with your ideas, requirements and to check all relevant details.

The more the merrier!

Articles for the magazine must be handed to the Editor at the Committee Meeting or mailed so that he receives it on the first Monday of the month:
ADDRESS: 47 LEWIN WAY, SCARBOROUGH 6019
ARTICLES RECEIVED LATER WILL BE PRINTED THE FOLLOWING MONTH.

pleasantly. Actually, it was a merry night (for some) because we we allowed to stay at the "Yacht Club" jetty with Rockingham having its annual 3 day Regatta, and here we were moored up in the middle of it! Next morning I lent my mask to a lovely young Lady, to recover her cigarette lighter from beneath the jetty, which was lost during the festivities (the lighter, not the jetty that is). We set out in fine calm sunny conditions for Casurina Shoal, some 5 miles West of Carnac, making it by about 1000hrs. The only trouble was the 2m+ swell running, which turned a beautiful little dive site into a nightmare! I dont remember having to cope with such horrific surge. We have photographed the spot and hope to see and explore it properly in better conditions. Next, we romped over to the wreck of the "Sepia", to retake photographs of the site. By this time the sea breeze had sprung up into a young gale making sea and diving conditions arduous, so reluctantly, we gave up this foolish idea, losing a buoy in the process!

Finally, we scurried home before the seas and the wind, fetching up at East tired but happy, not having achieved very much. Hopefully, we will resurrect the plan to do some exploratory dives over Friday and Saturday, thus not taking the boat away from normal Club dives and allowing us to pick the best weather (if we ever get any)! "Cheers folks!"

"STUBBY"

DIVING REPORT BRIAN MURRAY

Some excellent dives have been had by those braving the early sea-breezes over the past month on mostly new sites, offering some interesting underwater terrain with lots of marine life.

Obviously some club members are not taking advantage of the efforts your committee is making to make dives safe and interesting for all; so how about some support and book on for new and interesting diving with other club members.

Dives scheduled over the coming weeks are Swirl Reef, West End, new areas at Garden and Carnac Islands and potentials at Rockingham/Safety Bay.

EXPLORATORY DIVE - DECEMBER 1989 D.R.STUBBERFIELD.

An Exploratory Dive trip was attempted, over the period 29/12/89 to 31/12/89 inclusive, during which we planned to find new and interesting places to dive west of Garden Island and Carnac. I say "attempted", because the glorious weather promised by the Bureau, turned positively foul and most people cancelled out and went home! Goodness knows where the forecasters were, it wasn't Perth that's for sure! However, a few stayed to make the most of it, mainly those like me who needed a break of seatime under any conditions to prevent insanity. ["What's that you say? - it didn't work!"].

We got underway at about midday, after a mechanics working Bee on the boat, heading for Woodman's Point to pick up half the crew, then, with all on board headed out West for the first dive. An interesting site was found about 500m Nth. West of Challenger Pass, but conditions turned so foul, Marks to the spot could only be sketched, not photographed. That night the boat was moored in the Marina at Woodies Pt., where only 4 of us elected to stay on board, Maree, Julie, Pat and Myself. Although Suzie and Kerry stayed for our BBQ, which was delightful (both the company, the red and the BBQ that is!).

Next morning, the whole crew repaired onboard, took one look at the skudding Sth. Westerly rain and low cloud (and this is the end of ruddy December remember) and promptly went home, leaving the intrepid 4, above mentioned, with a boat and nowhere to go. We decided to dive for some crabs in the shelter of Sulphur Bay on our way home, and also explore a lump on the chart in this bay, called (by the locals) Sulphur Rock. It turned out to be an interesting dive from a marine biology aspect, and well worth noting. Well then, lunch and the sun came out! Went crabbing, no crabs!, tried the Manta board out, great fun! more glorious sunshine, weather picked up beautifully, although still a screaming gale. Almost nobody wanted to go home now! so it was decided to stay the night at Rockingham instead and try our luck in the morning. [Incidentally we could have been located by phoning radio station VN 6DI, with whom all our movements were logged. Phone 335 8226 or a/h (in emergencies only) 335 8399].

An equally nice BBQ, with the pleasant company of ourselves, and another delightful red, ensured the night passed

BOAT BLATHER

Seeing as we are in the age of flexitime, why can't the people who make up the yearly calendar make them with flexi weekends?

This would mean that as soon as the rotten south westers had abated someone should be able to declare that Saturday and Sunday had officially arrive, whether it is Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. This would enable us to take advantage of the best conditions and select the most favourable days for diving. Hopefully some progressive and forward thinking bureaucrat will look into this in the future. (some hope!) You may have guessed by now that the Boat Officer has very little to report... that's why I started my article with this load of piffle and dross.

(The editor allocates me a certain amount of the magazine so I'm obliged to fill it up somehow.) But seriously people, there ar matter of CLUB business I have to bring to your attention.

Firstly the Skipper orientation programme will being on Saturday 17 February A.M. Those people who placed their names on the original list should contact me at the earliest on my after hours number 367 2222.

Secondly, by the time this magazine reaches you the club boats motor will have been returned and should provide us with a bit more grunt than she has had in the past month or so.

Thirdly, I believe that there are a few spaces left for the Rottnest Long Weekend. If you require more details contact Dennis Stubberfield 457 3333AH.

Lastly, the person who may have found my favourite pipe on board the boat and I suspect deep sixed it...let it be known that even in this enlightened age a keel hauling has not been ruled out.

RING 459 8374 FOR DIVES AND 331 2385 FOR SOCIAL.

SOCIAL

Happy new year fellow divers I hope you are all rearing to go as we move into this new decade. Don't forget those *resolutions* and make sure you...

BOOK THESE DATES

(or at least think about it)

February 17	Valentines Cruise
March 23	Can Pep (Spanish)
April	Film Night
May	Ten Pin Bowling
June	Swedish Midsummer
July	Cocktail Night
August	Greek Night
September	Cheese & Wine Cruise
October	Progressive Dinner
November	Presentation Night
December	Xmas Dive

Generally speaking the social activities will be around the third weekend of the month after the general meeting. This will depend on "special" dates i.e. the valentine cruise.

Stay in touch

ARE YOU A FINANCIAL MEMBER?

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Jan 2 committee meeting vetted an information phamlet on the club for general distribution. These should be avaliable shortly, please see me for supplies.

Some articles or at least information on the club activities should start to appear in a number of local newspapers. If you have any contacts as Journo's give me a call, I definitely need help in this area. Thanks for the text Susie!

Contact: Kerry on 331-2385

★ "You've been very patient all these months, so I'm going to let you . . . ooh, look, a ship!"

"You'd better go, Peter — here comes my husband!"

By using a unique membrane in special glands in their heads seagulls can filter the salt out of water making is fit to drink.

Prawning Dive Tuesday 16 January

On the banks of the Swan, this time it will be Bicton Baths. The prawns are there and delicious, so no excuses for the spouses or the family not to attend Contact Kerry on 331-2385 for the exact time and place.

Skyshow Cruise Mon 29 January

VENUE: 3pm Pt Walter jetty
COST: $10
DRESS: Protective
BYO: Picnic/Refreshments and Chair

Avoid those traffic hassles relaxing on the Swan river with this popular sight and sound show.

Prawning Dive Tuesday 13 February

On the banks of the Swan, a different spot and more prawns?? Contact Kerry on 331-2385 for the exact time and place.

(W)Rap Night Wed 14 February

Be the first to get the news.

This combines the wrapping of the newsletter with an informal social get-together at the club rooms. These are held on a regular monthly basis,usually the second Wednesday each month.

Valentines Cruise Sat 17 February

VENUE: 5pm Pt Walter jetty
COST: $12
DRESS: "Red"
FOOD: Chicken Supper
BYO: Refreshments & Chair

The Swan river, a popular place to pass on that sentimental or comic missive. This will be your night of leisure.
We need numbers for catering, book and pay by the 12th.

Spanish Night Fri 23 March

VENUE: Can Pep
COST: Approx $20
DRESS: Optional
FOOD: Superb
BYO: Refreshments

Our own reserved garden setting, good food,live music and sangria. The house specialty (in my opinion, though I must admit it is all good) is the goat , ...

ALL CONTACTS TO:

Kerry	**331-2385**
Pat	**430-5290**
Ron	**417-4140**

P.S. See you on the boat for the Skyshow or Valentine nights.

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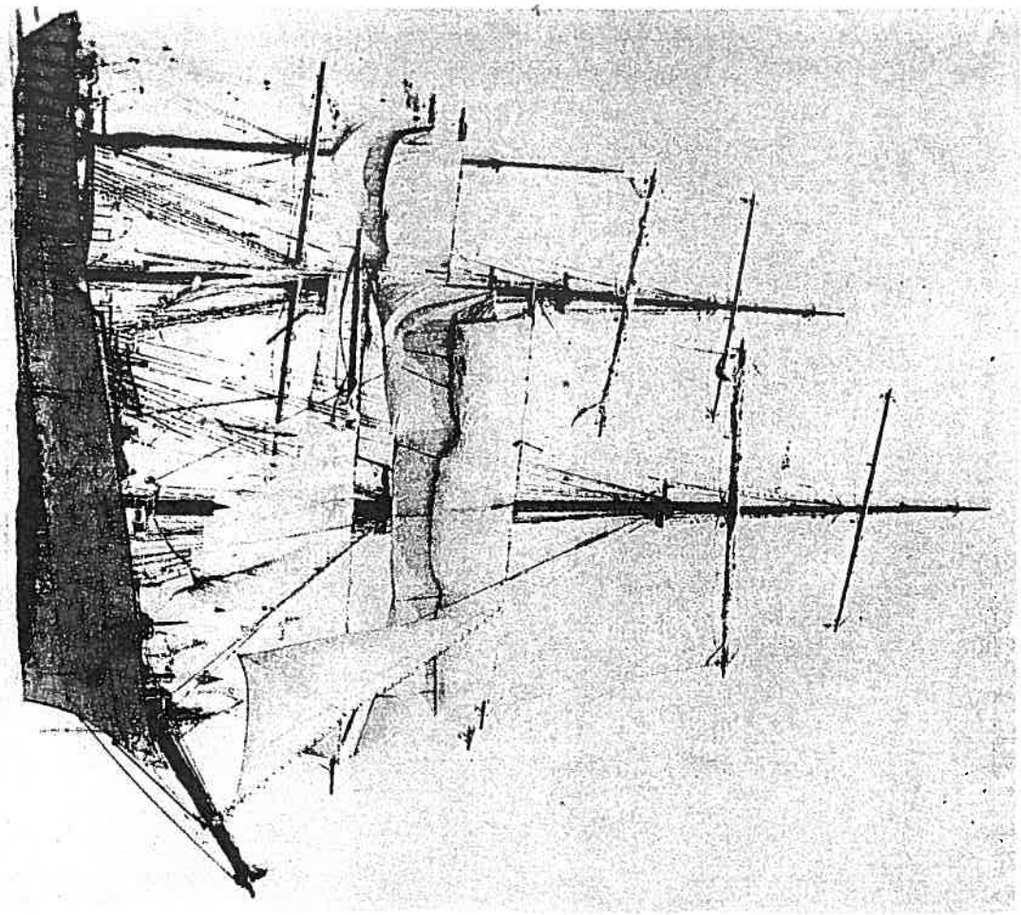
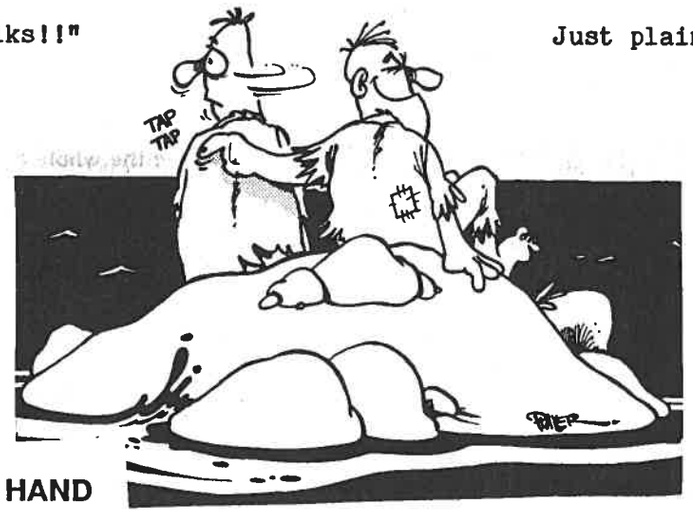
U.E.C. NEWS

FEBRUARY 1990



Thus dear readers and friends was the last exploratory dive celebrated and none but our Roving Reporter could chronicle it let alone enjoy it - which we did strangely enough! We're having more exploratory sessions during late February, early March, Lord knows why, the mere hint of an U.E.C. exploratory dive trip should bring on rain. We'll make a fortune from the farmers next season if we play our cards right!

"Cheers Folks!!" Just plain STUBBY!



GIVE US A HAND

A couple of months ago a group of U.E.C. divers were involved in the cleaning of some yacht at the Royal Perth Yacht Club annex in exchange for some badly needed money for the club. About a dozen divers turned up and although it was hard work, it turned out to be a pleasant social event with a barbecue and a few drinks on the lawn of the Yacht Club afterwards.

We had no real problems getting a crew together to do the work but we could have used about twenty divers. This would have reduced the work load on the crew and the job would have been finished earlier.

There is always the chance that another fund raising event may come along and I'm sure that you would be willing to donate a few hours of your time and energy to raise a few dollars for the club. If you are, let one of the committee members know at the next meeting. We would like your name and phone number at home or at work.

DIARY OF COMING EVENTS

RING 459 8374 FOR DIVING AND 3312385 FOR SOCIAL.

FEBRUARY

17	VALENTINES DAY CRUISE 1700HRS.
18	DUFFIELD RIDGE DIVE B. COTTON, J.RAINES.
19	GENERAL MEETING 2000.
25	FIVE FATHOM BANK DIVE M., J.RAINES.

MARCH

3/4/5	ROTTNEST ISLAND LONG WEEKEND
6	COMMITTEE MEETING 2000HRS.
11	ROE REEF DIVE B.KENNEDY, P.MORTIMER.
13	CRABBING DIVE
14	WRAP NIGHT MAGAZINE 1930HRS.
18	SCARBOROUGH DIVE P.HORTON, M.ROUX.
19	GENERAL MEETING 2000HRS.
23	CAN PEP (SPANISH NIGHT) RING KERRY.
25	WEST END DIVE D.STUBBERFIELD, P.MULLALLY.

2 Points About Dives And Booking Dives - Brian Murray

1. Lately the boat has been fully booked by Thursday night. If you want to dive, I suggest you ring and book on or before that day for the coming weekend as it's first in basis. Phone: 459 8374.

2. If you bring a guest, **please** have them bring their certification card as this allows us to screen and approve your friend, otherwise we can only say "no dive".

BOAT BLATHER.

By Bob Cotton

Well folks, I have to tell you that in the last couple of weeks quite a number of us have been working on the Club boat. This included replacing the mooring chain, the prop and sundry small niggling tasks that have been hanging over since the last overhaul.

Many, many thanks to to those people who gave up so much of their precious time to help. The process of upkeep on any craft is virtually continuous and those of you who may not have been approached to assist previously, be assured you will be asked further down the track.

I note that there has been some improvement in the boats overall performance, I only wish the weather would accomodate us a little more frequently than it has done.

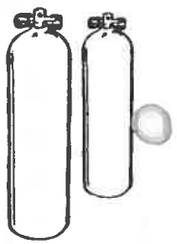
The next maintenance day will be in March when we hope to instal a reconditioned fuel pump to see if we can squeeze a little more from the beautiful beast.

Apart from all that there is not much else I can tell you. So folks, the boat, she is still doing a great job, all you have to do is book on and just get out there and get into it.

BUILDING OFFICER REPORT.

By Richard Naylor

Rostered tank fill and pick-up facilities will commence on 11th February at the Clubrooms. The dates and times will appear in the U.E.C. Magazine each month.



Tank fillers for this month are:

11-17 Feb Richard Naylor
18-24 Feb Ron Phonemynt
25-3 Mar Brian Walker

Tanks will be filled each Tuesday between 6-8pm.
Pick-ups are Friday between 6-8pm.

So, into the cot tired but happy -a snuffle, a snort and drifting off beautifully. It happened at 11.30 pm
Buump! and BUUMP!! again - a bit harder. ALARM! ALARM! Instantly Awake. Eyelids snapped open - banging against the stops! "AVAST" "AGHAST!" "Belay That!" "Man the braces!" "Man the pumps!" "All hands on Deck!" (Sorry we're already on deck).
"Maree - over the side - fend off!" (at 110 decibels). ["While I get my pants on!" - sotto voice]
Instant urgent obedience - not a ghost of a grump - Maree flew over the bow to become a human fender, while I (decent now), trampling Julie and Richard, hauled in on the very stretched stern anchor line, the others helping where they could. (Pat slept ashore in his van - the rotten, decadent swine). Second breath!

No damage, a square inch of scuffed paint, Maree had saved the day and our anchor, still holding fast, would indeed have held a Liner, if the synthetic line had'nt turned into a giant occy strap. (Too thin for the conditions you see "Me Hearties!"). You've guessed it - the wind had backed fresh Nor-east, and we were almost stern on, our canopies a giant sail. A quick council of war - urgent distress call to Cockburn Power Boat Base - 300m due north - with lights still blazing. It was almost funny - our call was heard, they, expecting a drama at sea, and knowing we in the marina only minutes ago, turned their radio room lights off to get a better view out of the reflective glass. Sure enough "U.E." and crew were there. They, as relieved as were, responded to our plea for a berth in their pens, and the Commodore came down himself to help us moor. I could have kissed him - almost. (if he reads this it'll probably be the cabin boy next time!).

Needless to say we slept easily from then on, lulled to sleep by the pattering rain, which set in soon after. Next morning was a grey day, with light, cold rain dripping every where, an impending storm promised by noon and certainly no hope for diving. Pat joined us for breakfast, after a short but extensive search around the marina. All the bacon, all the eggs, sausages, leftovers were consumed even Julie joining in! fat and all - while we made ready for a quick getaway home. Thanking our hosts, we slipped out, Richard taking us back at 12 knots, scudding before the preliminary puffs of rough weather. "U.E". seemed to sense the urgency and picked up her "boost" and revs to her highest levels since her hard standing. Woodman's Point to south mole in 45 minutes.

tender and the wind , still piping, swung to the East - joy for the morrow but a confounded nuisance right then because it meant we had to shift our berth, or be pounded into the jetty! Staying at this jetty at all, proved to be a grave mistake (not that we had any choice) as the general public, whose jetty it is, began arriving with 2 stroke out-boards - stinking, noisy, litt revvers - at 4.00 AM. (Note that please, AM not PM).
Maree was not, repeat, not, a happy little veg. - therefore Dennis was less than cheerful (harassed because it was his fault) - leaving the humour of the morning to Pat, Julie and Richard! We went over to the sea wall for breakfast, as it was now calm and quiet.

The days diving proved to be pleasant, but visibility was terrible, the surge very bad and there were no crays within miles to study. We explored the passage in to Herring bay (Garden Is.) a couple of times during the day, the first time to repair our anchor line and the second out of sheer, indulgent, lazy, slothful wanton idleness. (Our only cray for the day was spotted here by Maree, snorkelling lazily in waist deep water, and captured by Brian. After studying it very briefly we put it back!
The anchor line repair was necessitated after we discovered it had been chaffed down to two 3mm strands!! Had we not been using the trip line and buoy we would have certainly lost it - take note all current and future Skippers!
We arrived home in Woodman's Pt. to a threat of gale force South Easterlies, shifting Nor-east on the morrow. As the barometer dropped my blood pressure rose disproportionately. (The North Easter was not supposed to happen till Sunday PM. Please note that fact dear readers for what is about to follow - as questions will be asked.)
The BBQ was unlimbered, we anchored in the lea of the sea wall every one got comfortable, Pat and Richard bought huge hamburgers, Maree and I porterhoused again and Julie ate something disgustingly healthy like a poppy seed bun. Pat won the prize for the junkiest of junk teas with my icecream and chocolate coming second - since I tried to make a Cabinet Sauvignon spider with it. Oh! it was a merry evening - the blood pressure lowered and optimism set in - what poor fools!

Considerable care was taken with the mooring - stern anchor set in, weighted and made capable of holding the "Queen Mary".

PRESIDENT'S POINT OF VIEW

By Maree Casley

The tide appears to be finally turning and Club membership is now definitely on the rise. This is mainly due to the efforts of Susie and Kerry and their publicity campaign. Most of you would have seen an article in any number of local newspapers extolling the virtues of belonging to the U.E.C. As a result Susie and Kerry are receiving many phone calls from prospective members who are subsequently turning up at the General Meeting.

This is where you come in! Your job now is to welcome these people and make them feel comfortable. The quickest way to discourage new members is to ignore them, so if you see someone new, introduce yourself and show them around. We also need new trainees to keep our instructors off the streets, so spread the word about our new courses.

As you can see from the rest of the reports, the Club is in pretty good shape. We now have a tank filling roster, so if you have any business, send it our way. Brian Murray is working like a slave to encourage more divers onto the boat and to dive in new and interesting areas. Give him a ring and book on early. And for those of you who enjoy night-diving make sure you're on the register, and then expect a call when the weather is suitable. Bob Cotton has been working with the boat and old U.E. is now in working very well.

All the Committee members and their respective "helpers" are doing a wonderful job in each of their areas of expertise and all they need is your support. So how about it? Come diving and come to the meetings and social events and find out what your Club is doing for you.

DIVING IN THE SOUTHWEST.

Crayfishing in Bunker Bay, night dive under the Busselton Jetty or descend into the Canal Rock! INTERESTED? We are planning the weekend 7-8 April in the Southwest diving. Please contact Kerry or Susie Ashton on 331 2385. Minimal cost is guaranteed.

TRAINING REPORT

By Julie Raines

Our first dive course is underway! Our first weekend was both a fun and informative time. In fact it was a family affair with Assistant Instructor, Brian Murray, bringing along his family to pool training. The course runs until 24th February.

Our next openwater scuba diver course starts Sat. 10th March and will run for 3 weekends. Bring your friends along and we will make her/him a dive buddy. The course can be booked through me on 306 1642 a/h.

Need to brush up on your diving? Or do you want to cross over from your old SDFA ticket to the new Government recognised SDFA ticket (and FAUI optional), then book on to our next crossover which is being run Friday evening 9th March and Saturday and Sunday 10-11 March.

SAFETY BAY.

Michel.

Hi everybody!
The tables night is on the safety menu for this month, Wednesday 28th Feb. 7.30pm. at the Club rooms.
Be there, it will be fun, informative and a good revision for everybody, including me!
After a quick presentation of the calculation methods you will be given a chance to practice on different dive profiles. We will use the standard RNPL/BSAC, the US navy and the new BSAC'88 tables and compare the results. You will see the difference is amazing.

If you need more information, see me at the next General Meeting.

APART FROM DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS THE OTHER HAZARD FROM ASCENDING TOO RAPIDLY....

Be involved!

Loud REPORT ON ~~WEAK~~, WEEK END EXPLORATORY DIVE TRIP JAN. 1990
By your Roving, Raving, Ratbag REPORTER:- D. Stubby.

Well folks its happened! I knew it would eventually; The old Rotting REPORTER has been stirred out of retirement, so moved was he by the equally Rotting Holiday week-end weather and its affect on our long awaited, eagerly anticipated, Exploratory Dive trip.
There we were, Rostered Credit Day in hand, two-thirds through Perth summer, Balmy weather, hot, calm, no swell, mirror seas and blazing blue skies. A real swelter. Baking hot deck, wilted divers, sweaty brows and other unmentionable parts (mainly arm-pits), frosty sherbets, late night swims and BBQ's after hard days diving!! Get the picture! - it was obviously pure HELL out there - in the Woodmans pt. marina.

"You've got to be joking! - round the twist in fact!!" spluttered your ratty REPORTER, choking on his 1982 Wolf Blass Grey Carbinet S., still frothing and shaking his fist skywards (at the squalling, wind shredded clouds). Or, if it wasnt blowing your head off - a cold, damp, grey overcast; dripping with boringly consistent, sharply penetrating rain; a foreboding calm before the threatened Sou'-east gale. It was enough to drive a sea-dog to ~~drink~~ more drink and a 2 claret, bacon and egg breakfast!! (Not that your very own "barnacular" sailor would dream of claret at breakfast, ordinarily, BUT this was more than a saint could ~~beer~~ bear. SNORT! SEETH!

Now to objectively report the events:-
Friday 26th: Maree and I quietly slipped, mid-morning out of Success, after refuelling - straight into the teeth of howling, 25 knot Sou-Wester. That sinking feeling settled in my gut - not another hopeless week end. We weathered Woodman's Point 1.5 hours later, to be met by our O.C. Diving Brian and moored at the public ramp jetty. At least the sun shone and it was warm, in the shelter of the Marina, the southern sea wall of which could not stop sheets of spray coming over the top to land 20 to 30 metres inside. The afternoon was passed pleasantly enough, working on the boat, splicing ropes, swapping diving yarns and dare I say unshipping a can or two - of "coke"!! what else!

That evening, we were joined by those intrepid explorers, Pat, Richard and Julie with dinner guest Allan - Brian having gone home to mother - sensible lad. The porterhouse was juicy and

Dive Report - Brian Murray

For those of us prepared to venture out in The Club Boat over the past blustery weeks, diving hasn't been exceptional, but areas visited were new and fairly exciting with lots of life.

A number of divers were still talking about the cave and gully reef we dived behind Carnac and asked to dive there again in the near future.

Considering fourteen (14) of us had two (2) x 40 minute dives we also had 1 hour lunch on Carnac and the boat was back at East Street at 2.10pm, a lot was crammed into an interesting days diving, which also left time to do other things in the late afternoon.

The Club has regular dives like this for those not prepared to stay all day; so just give me a call and put your name down and give us some support.

Four stamps will be issued by Norfolk Island on 19th March. The stamps commemorate the 200th anniversary of the wrecking of H.M.S. Sirius. The 65 cent stamp shows 4 divers working at the wrecksite.

.....

Claude Chapius, a French diving instructor, set a new world record by holding his breath for 5 minutes and 24 seconds under water.

IS IT YOURS? By Bob C. (He Who Speaks The Unspeakable)

Underwear. Once there used to be a veritable plethora of abandoned underwear and other garments left behind on the boat after dives. What has happened? Now we rarely see any of these. This is an alarming developement. Is this another Club tradition that is to slide into oblivion? Hey whatsamatter youse? You think-a our boat she's-a not-a good enough to leave-a your underwear on? You realise that these declining stocks now jeopardises our future jumble sales, conducted at the Clubrooms in an effort to supplement Club funds. (A nice little earner, as Arthur Daley would comment.)

With this diminishing supply of unmentionables, the "Guess who belongs to these knickers" competition is seriously threatened through lack of stock. What a wonderful evening's entertainment it provided when these raiments were presented for perusal. An assembled group would gather and these raiments were presented, brandished a with great flourish actually and any contestant who, upon recognising the garment was required to leap up and shout "I remember them!" Thereupon on recognition had to supply full details of abandonment and sundry juicy snippets of information. You may be assured that if you were the owner of these delinquent unmentionables your most intimate secrets were safe with the entire Club membership.

However, it would seem that in this modern age, these celebrated traditions are, like so many things, to be swept aside for more pristine activities like regular diving, progressive dinners, Valentines cruises and prawning dives.

My sincere hope is that in the near future some new form of diversion will surface to titilate those of us who feel somewhat bereft because of the passing of the abovementioned activities. You may have guessed by now that I'm obliquely drawing your attention to the fact that we DO in fact still have quite a collection of gear in the Club storeroom, so next time you are at the Club, just go and have a quick shoofti and see if it belongs to you.

Front Page: the barque Margit wrecked at Coorong S.A. November 1911

SOCIAL

Those who attended the "Skyshow" quite enjoyed the picnic spread out on the clubroom floor, rather novel, and adjourned to a very cosy spot on the Bicton foreshore. My apologies to those we couldn't contact regarding the boat. The moral is the same as our dive arrangements when in doubt ring the "trip leader".

BOOK THESE DATES

(or at least think about it)

February 17	Valentines Cruise
March 23	Can Pep (Spanish)
April 27	Film Night
May	Ten Pin Bowling
June	Swedish Midsummer
July	Cocktail Night
August	Greek Night
September	Cheese & Wine Cruise
October	Progressive Dinner
November	Presentation Night
December	Xmas Dive

Generally speaking the social activities will be around the third weekend of the month after the general meeting. This will depend on "special" dates i.e. the valentine cruise.

Valentines Cruise Sat 17 February

VENUE :5pm Pt Walter jetty
COST :$12
DRESS :"Red"
FOOD :Chicken Supper
BYO : Refreshments & Chair

The Swan river, a popular place to pass on that sentimental/comic missive. You should have booked and paid by now!!

Crabbing Dive Tuesday 13 March

A great turn out at the first couple of prawning nights, this time we will try for the larger cousins. Depending on the weather, probably near woodies.Bring the spouses and/or family for a nice evening out.
Contact Kerry on 331-2385 for details.

(W)Rap Night Wed 14 March

Be the first to get the news.

This combines the wrapping of the newsletter with an informal social get-together at the club rooms. This is a great chance to catch up on all those diving stories in a relaxed friendly environment. Oh! and you can fill your tanks while you are at it.
The last couple have been well attended and enjoyed by all.

Spanish Night Fri 23 March

VENUE :Can Pep
COST :Approx $20
DRESS :Optional FOOD:Superb
BYO :Refreshments

Our own reserved garden setting, good food,live music and sangria. The house specialty in my opinion, is the goat , ...

Film Night Fri 27 April

VENUE :8pm Clubrooms
COST :Minimal

Avoid those traffic and parking hassles in the casual atmosphere of our own clubrooms. I'm working on getting the "DEEP BLUE". Please let me know by the 25 th Thanks! - Kerry

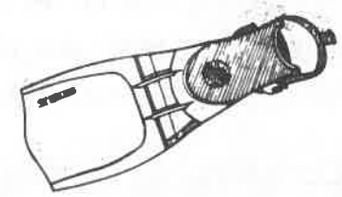
ALL CONTACTS TO:
Kerry 331-2385
Pat 430-5290
Ron 417-4140

Stay in touch read your magazine.

DON'T DRINK
AND DIVE.

NOMINATIONS

Steven William Whalen
Anthony James Beetham
John Robert Howes
Mark Hardwick
David Smith
Michael James Blackwell
George Arnold
Nicholas Wasley
Sharon Wasley



PUBLIC RELATIONS

The last general meeting and wrap nights were quite a buzz. Don't forget you can help out by introducing yourself and the club to new and prospective members. The information phamphlets are avaliable in the clubrooms (near the library) if you need some.

We need local contacts for our articles in the various community newspapers i.e. living in their distribution area. Being a contact involves fielding phone calls and passing on the contact to us.

The Feb 19 general meeting will include an **AUDIO?VISUAL ON PNG**

The Mar 19 general meeting will probably be an equipment demonstration.

Kerry and Susie 331-2385

U.E.C. NEWS
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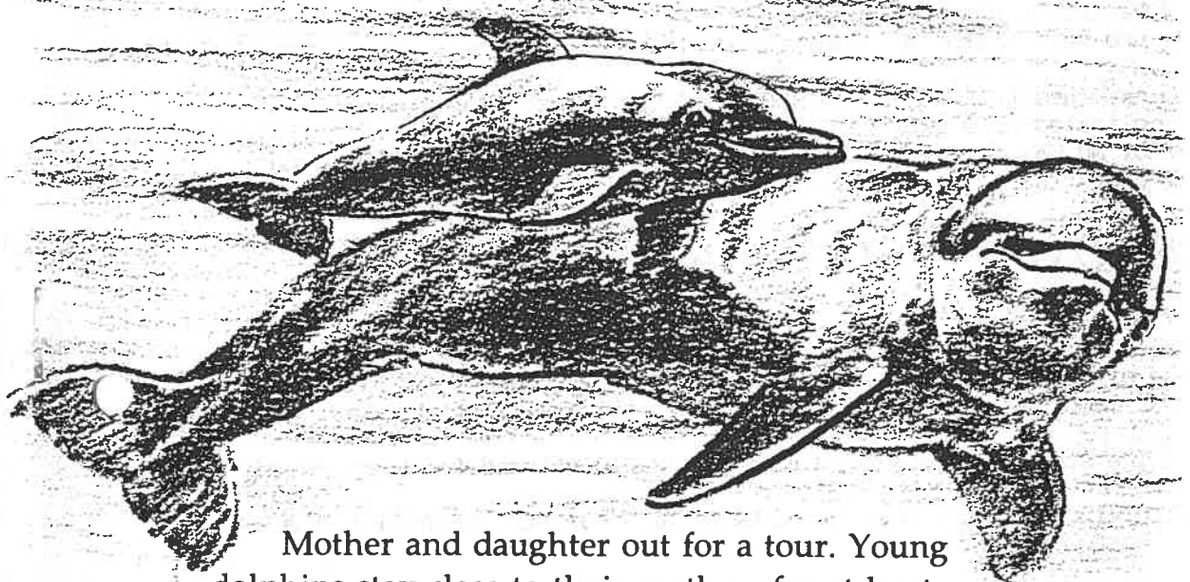
U.E.C. NEWS

MARCH 1990



Mother and daughter out for a tour. Young dolphins stay close to their mothers for at least twelve months. Like most mammals, dolphin mothers are extremely protective.

More than one report tells of dolphins defending themselves and their young against killer whales. This is very effectively done by swimming a full 35 knots (35 nautical miles, or 64.8 km) per hour into the side of the attacker. Dolphins have been known to drive off a killer whale and to kill an attacking shark, yet they are unfailingly gentle with humans and never lose their playfulness.

SAFE DIVING

Tables night : It was held as announced on Wednesday 28th Feb 90.
I can hear you say :
"Oh! that right how was it ?"
If you were there, you would know !!

We examined the use of the RNPL/BSAC table for simple and more complicated dive profiles and ran through the US navy table (FAUI NU_WAY format). We finished the night with an open discussion around drinks and nibbles. Next time, try to be there.

ABOUT THE TABLES

Following a discussion raised at the last General Meeting about the use of the RNPL/BSAC table by the club, the commitee decided at its last meeting that the following rules will apply for the club dives :

.) The standard RNPL/BSAC table will still be used for the club dives.

!) Diving Officers MUST use this table to set the maximum depths and bottom times.

!) Divers who want to dive past the limits set by the RNPL/BSAC table (i.e. use of diving computers and/or use of other tables) must justify their new dive profile to the Diving Officer BEFORE the dive.

:) All divers MUST stay within their limit set for the dive; no excuses will be tolerated.

So, for safe dives the rule is simple :

PLAN YOUR DIVE AND DIVE YOUR PLAN.

Have a good dive ! Michel.

NOMINATIONS

Joanne Jones
Andrew Senior
Sylvia Griffiths
Bruce Porter
Lorna Porter

TIBI

CONSERVATION

THE SEAS WILL RUN RED AGAIN

Whaling authorities consider a return to commercial killing.

The International Whaling Commission is to continue to draw up plans that could allow the resumption of commercial whaling in 1990 after the end of current moratorium.

This is despite a warning from its scientific committee, that stocks of many species are much lower than previously calculated.

TANK REFILLS

Why not drop your tanks off at the Clubrooms after your weekend dive and we will guarantee to have them ready to be picked up the following Friday evening?

Our air is always top quality and the prices are unbeatable around town.

$3 for 1 tank -- $5 for 2 tanks.

RING 459 8374 FOR DIVES AND 331 2385 FOR SOCIAL.

GREEN TURTLES

For over a hundred million years the sea turtle has survived with little evolutionary change. It is one of the really ancient animals, and its aquatic efficiecy to manoeuvre and speed, as well as its defensive shell, testify to its fitness to survival.

Man is the only danger to their continued survival and in Australia only full-blood Aborigines may legally kill a turtle. Otherwise the turtle is completely protected - neither eggs nor reptile may be harvested. Such positive protection, sadly, is not provided in other places.

The green turtle has been hunted for its flesh for centuries. Gourmets pay exorbitant prices for calipee, the prime ingredient for turtle soup. A 90-130kg turtle may yield half a dozen strips of this cartilaginous material cut from the bones of the bottom shell. These pieces may weigh a total of about 3kg wet.

Central American peasants on remote nesting beaches make a practice of "turtle-turning" the female when she come ashore to lay. No turtle, if inverted, can right itself without help.They cut the calipee out of the living animal (getting as much today for the 3kg of calipee as they did years ago for the whole butchered animal), then melt into the night to escape detection. The wounded mother may live on helplessly for days before death.

The turtle's diet is largely turtle weed, a bottom-growing grass, and green turtles may be observed grazing in shallows.Their shell has a smooth surface and the edges are neither indented nor serrated. It is almost eliptical in plain view.

A thriving industry in turtle flesh and oil boomed on islands off north Queensland in the late 19th and early 20th century until World War II. The rusty boiling vats are still to seen on Barrier Reef islands.

The U.S. National Acadamy of Sciences estimates that 6.5 billion kilograms of rubbish are dumped into the world's oceans each year.

DIARY OF COMING EVENTS

MARCH.

Sun. 18	Scarborough dive. Horton, Roux.
Mon. 19	General meeting.
Fri. 23	Spanish Restaurant.
Sun. 25	West End dive. Stubberfield, Mulally.

APRIL.

Sun. 1	Angella's cave. Kennedy, Raines.
Mon. 2	Committee meeting.
wed. 4	Crab dive.
Sun. 8	Parker Point dive. Cotton, Roux.
Wed. 11	Magazine wrap night.
Fri. 13	Yanchep Long Weekend.
Sat. 14	Yanchep Long Weekend.
Sun. 15	Yanchep Long Weekend.
Mon. 16	Yanchep Long Weekend.
Tue. 17	General meeting.
Sun. 22	Swirl reef dive. Smith, Mortimer.

UEC COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	MAREE CASLEY	457 3333AH	420 9555WK
VICE PRESIDENT	KERRY ASHTON	331 2385AH	
SECRETARY	PAT TROY	328 8163AH	327 8777WK
TREASURER	PETER HORTON	445 2336AH	381 3600WK
BOAT OFFICER	BOB COTTON	367 2222AH	
TRAINING OFFICER	JULIE RAINES	306 1642AH	405 5556WK
BUILDING OFFICER	RICHARD NAYLOR		
SOCIAL & PUBLIC RELATIONS	KERRY ASHTON	331 2385AH	
SAFETY OFFICER	MICHEL ROUX	450 3213AH	
EDITOR	TIBI CSOMAY	341 3001AH	
DIVING OFFICER	BRIAN MURRAY	459 8374	

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF W.A.

DIVING REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

For those members who haven't dived on the club boat over the past month, I say "It's your loss".

We have experienced some incredible dives around the southern area of Rottnest, teeming with all sorts of marine life. The unfortunate point is the boat hasn't been full on any occasion, so if you want to support ***your club,*** how about making the effort and booking for a Sunday adventure.

We won't bite you and you will be well looked after by qualified Dive Officers.

For those wanting a single tank back by noon dive to: Carnac/Garden Island or Stragglers, please see me at the next meeting so I can arrange dates to suit everyone.

Next Dives are: 18 March Scarborough
25 March West End

Both are 2 tank dives

It has been calculated that the ice mass covering Antarctica contains nearly 90% of all the snow and ice in the world

But to save the guests having to go all the way to Santo to wreck dive, the owners of Iririki decided to have their own wreck, virtually in their own backyard.

From the surface, snorkellers and visitors in glass-bottomed boats get a perfect view of the sunken 50-metre Konanda, lying in 18 metres of water. Scuba divers can swim through the bridge, cabins, cargo holds and around the still-intact masts and derricks.

It's an interesting and important adjunct to Iririki Islands's diving, deep sea fishing and other water sport activities.

MEMORIES OF ROTTNEST 1990 By Maree Casley

* Snorkelling with 40 dolphins at the West End. Seeing the mothers with their young, hearing their unique "chatter" and observing their grace and beauty has been firmly etched in my mind. I can now draw on this experience for the rest of my life - what a gift these wonderful animals are!

* Pulling up a big, fat North-west blowfish whilst out fishing. Imagine my disappointment when I thought I had brought up something wonderous to serve for dinner only to find that I had a rotten blowie on my hook.

* Seeing a massive blue groper gracing the ceiling of Angela's Cave before casually departing and leaving both Dennis and me with hearts racing and mouths agape.

* Coming eyeball to eyeball with a whopper 10ft shovel nose shark cleverly concealed in the sand at Radar Reef. It seemed far more interested in being tended to by a group of morays than in us, which suited me. Even if they are harmless, they certainly don't look it with their beady little eyes and huge, long tail. Far too menacing looking for my liking.

WRECK DIVING IN VANUATU

When the owners of the Vanuatu tourist resort Iririki Island bought a cargo ship and promptly sank it, it wasn't an insurance scam.

The old Burns Philp trader Konanda had previously been a familiar sight as she plodded around the islands of the South Pacific over many years.

But Cyclone Uma put a stop to that when she drove the old ship ashore in Port Vila early last year, causing irrepairable damage.

Former Ansett pilot Dick Holt, who owns Iririki Island Resort, bought the ship, and stripped her of engines and other valuable items. Then he sank her on a reef near the resort. A few well-placed parcels of explosives in the bow and the engine-room saw the ship disappear in a flurry of spray and dust.

The Port Vila area is recognised as an ideal snorkelling and scuba diving area for those who enjoy coral and other reef formations.

But keen divers who like to explore old wrecks have head off to the island of Espiritu Santo, also in Vanuatu, to really enjoy their sport. There, off the so-called Million Dollar Point, they discover scores of jeeps, trucks, cranes, planes and earth moving equipment the Americans simply bulldozed into the sea at the end of the Pacific War. It wasn't worth lugging home again.

The wreckage - plus a few hundred thousand old Coca Cola bottles - now make up a facinating artificial reef of metal and glass, cemented together by coral, along a kilometer of sea bed.

It's recognised as one of the most exciting dive sites in the world. Nearby, the former luxury liner-cum-troop carrier President Coolidge also lies sunk on the ocean bed for scuba divers to explore. It was the victim of one of America's own sea mines.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Maree Casley

We are now half-way through March and our good diving weather is coming to an end. It seems a pity that summer seemed so short this year. I know that I feel deprived because the season was not terribly wonderful weather-wise and that very soon the weather will become cooler, windier and the swells bigger. I have only been on one night dive this year and hope that before the days become too short we will be able to venture out again. I suppose what I'm trying to say is to make the best of remaining weeks of autumn that sometimes produce some magnificent diving weather.

Keep in touch with Brian Murray to book your diving and also to find out what dives are on. For instance, if there is enough interest, the Club boat will be taken up to Yanchep over Easter to give us the opportunity to enjoy some diving further up the coast. We can arrange accomodation for about 15 people, but there is no reason why you can't come up for just a day if you want to. Contact Brian and let him know what your plans are.

Last year, a group of about 12 of us went up there and stayed in a shearing shed. We all had a wonderful time and there is no reason why this year shouldn't be even better, even though we won't have all the comforts afforded us by the shearing shed!

Lastly, I should mention that history was made over the long weekend, when the U.E.C. committee had it's first meeting at Rottnest. 8 of our 10 committee members were in attendance over the weekend, so it was decided to hold a meeting to discuss Club business. Keep your eyes on Michel's report where he will discuss the use of dive computers on Club dives.

```
*************************************************************
*                                                           *
*                DIVE   DIVE   DIVE                         *
*                                                           *
*         EASTER LONG WEEKEND  13-16 APRIL                  *
*                                                           *
*           RING BRIAN MURRAY FOR DETAILS                   *
*                                                           *
*************************************************************
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SOCIAL

What can I say except loved the Valentines Cruise.

BOOK THESE DATES

(or at least think about it)

March 23	Can Pep (Spanish)
April 27	Film Night
May	Ten Pin Bowling
June	Swedish Midsummer
July	Cocktail Night
August	Greek Night
September	Cheese & Wine Cruise
October	Progressive Dinner
November	Presentation Night
December	Xmas Dive

ALL CONTACTS TO:

Kerry 331-2385
Pat 430-5290
Ron 417-4140

Spanish Night Fri 23 March

VENUE :Can Pep
COST :Approx $20
DRESS :Optional FOOD:Superb
VIVO :Refreshments

Our own reserved garden setting, good food,live music and sangria. The house specialty in my opinion, is the goat , ...

Crab Dive Wednesday 4 April

Prawning behind us, this time we will try for the larger cousins. Depending on the weather probably near woodies.Bring the spouses and/or family for a nice evening out.
Contact Kerry on 331-2385 for details.

(W)Rap Night Wed 11 April

Always well attended and a great chance to catch up on all those diving stories in a relaxed friendly environment.

Oh! and you can fill your tanks while you are at it.

See you at the clubrooms from 7.30pm onwards.

Film Night Fri 27 April

VENUE :8pm Clubrooms
COST :Minimal

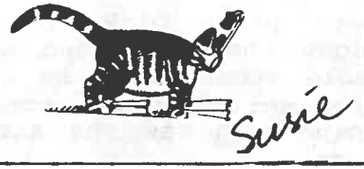
Avoid those traffic and parking hassles in the casual atmosphere of our own clubrooms. I'm working on getting the "DEEP BLUE". Please let me know by the 25 th Thanks! - Kerry

Stay in touch read your magazine.

ROTTO LONG WEEKEND MARCH 1991

Book **NOW** if you want to be there! We have already paid the deposit on three houses. If you want to be with us for "fun in the sun" with lots of excellent diving please **pay $50** at this General Meeting (Mar 19). Only 20 beds,so first in , first gets.

A BIG THANK YOU to Dennis and Maree for running this event over the past years. Next year Kerry and I will be organising this trip,so please contact either of us for further details.



(331-2385)

★ "I tell you, if it wasn't for George here, I would have gone nuts."

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Many many thanks to Pip O'Dell from WAUPS for a fine presentation ondiving in Papua New Guinea. It brought back a few memories for a number of our divers and instilled dreams in perhaps all of the rest.

The Mar 19 general meeting will include an

EQUIPMENT DEMO
by our "own Harry"

The April 17 general meeting will probably be a presentation on
The Life Cycle of Mollusecs
by Shirley Slack-Smith
from The Museum of WA

Kerry and Susie 331-2385

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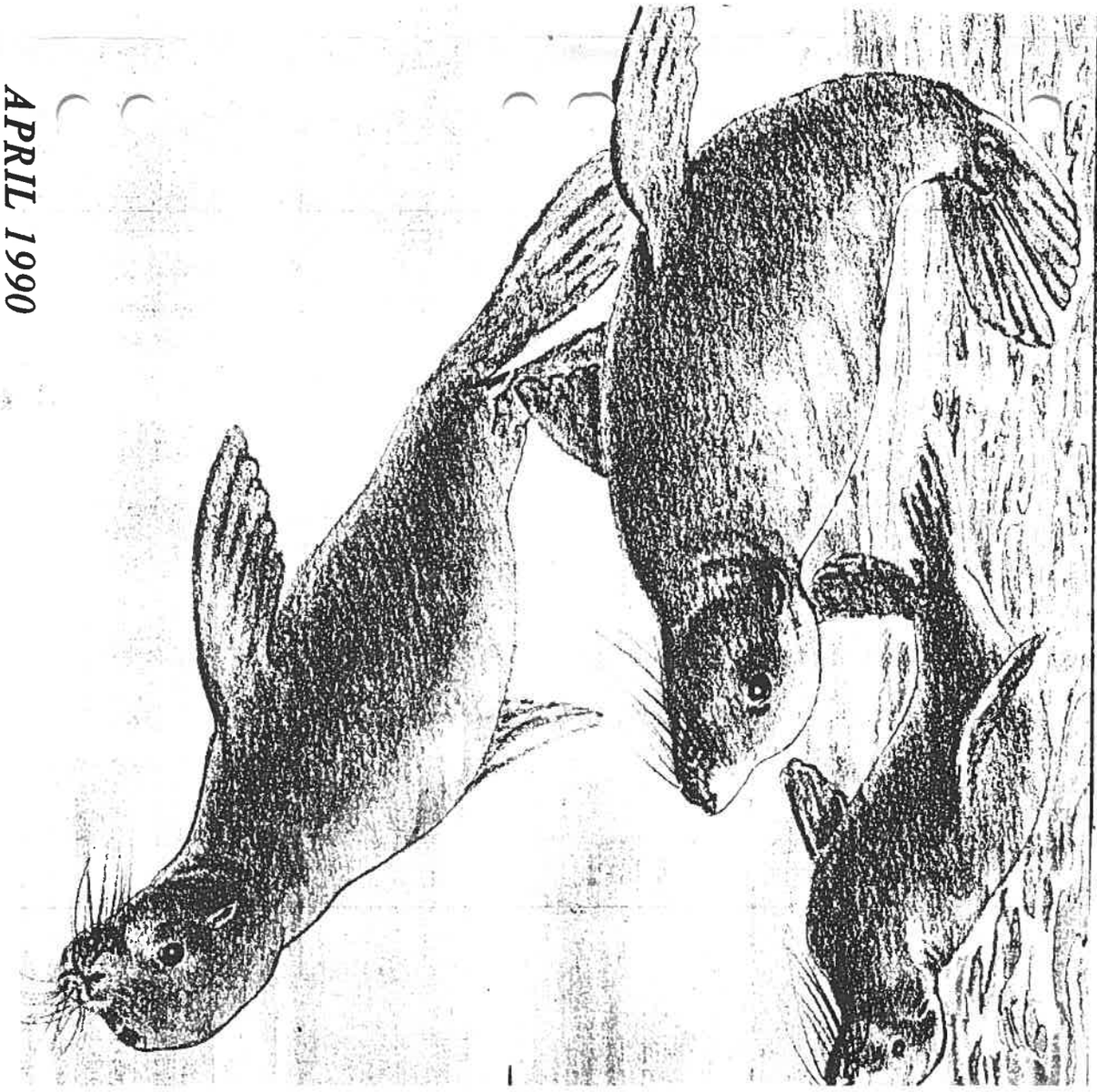
U.E.C. NEWS



APRIL 1990

BOAT BLATHER

By Bob Cotton

March proved to be an excellent and above average month for the Clubs diving. The boat has performed well during this time and many members took the opportunity to rev up their diving activity. I will be sorting out when the boat will be going up on the hard standing in the next few weeks and will present a programme of work to the club. Yes, I will be looking for volunteers to do the usual tasks like scraping and painting. This year however, the boats time out of the water will not be as protracted as previously. That's about all I have to tell you this time. So while the boat is still in the water just book on and get out there and get into it!

THE MARINE STINGER HOTLINE

Australia wide toll free number

008-079 909

For the advice about the treatment of marine stinger injuries.

COMING EVENTS

APRIL

TUES 17 GENERAL MEETING

SUN 22 SWIRL REEF HORTON/MURRAY

FRI 27 FILM NIGHT 2000HRS CLUBROOMS

SUN 29 HUGALS PASSAGE SMITH/MORTIMER

MAY

FRI 11 SUNDOWNER 2000HRS CLUBROOMS

WED 16 WRAP NIGHT 1930HRS CLUBROOMS

NOMINATIONS

CHRIS MURRAY
EAMON ROONEY
JACQUELINE CLAY

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Maree Casley

I am very pleased to report that the boat has been extremely busy these last few weeks, which is good news for the Club.Brian has been organising Saturday dives to take the load off the boat on Sundays, so if Saturday suits you better for a dive, give him a ring.

The apprentice skipper programme is coming along very well also. About 6 people are currently in the process of undergoing formal training at various TAFE Colleges around the place combined with hands-on practice on U.E. at every available opportunity. It shouldn't be too much longer before we get some more skippers to take the load off the current, overworked crop. Good luck to you all in your forthcoming theory and practical examinations.

Lastly, I would like to remind you all that the annual Rottnest clean-up day is fast approaching - sometime in early May I believe. Rottnest provides us, as divers, with some spectacular diving territory and as you know we are very conscious of the need to preserve Rottnest and it's watery environs. Of course, this is mainly because we want to be able to continue diving there. However, not everyone treats the Island with the same respect that we do and this necessitates the annual clean-up. When the Rottnest Island Authority calls for volunteers, I would like every one of us to make the effort to attend, after all we have all enjoyed the wonderful attractions that the Island affords us. Hope to see you all there!

TANK FILLING ROSTER FOR APRIL

Richard Naylor
Building Officer

Richard Naylor	8 to 14 April
Ron Phonemynt	15 to 21 April
Brian Walker	22 to 28 April
Peter Horton	29 to 5 May

Tanks will be filled each Tuesday between 6 and 8pm
Pick-ups are Friday between 6 and 8pm

All members MUST have their names on their tanks.

NO NAME NO FILL

SAFETY CORNER

by Michel Roux

TO BE SAFE OR NOT TO BE, DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ?

If yes, this is for you :
Diving is such a great activity and so varied that there is always something to learn about it. Any subject related to diving may be worth spending a night (if not more) talking and learning about it. So, I can feel you all so excited at the idea of improving your general diving knowledge, the next information night is coming soon. How soon ? It's up to you. It is very simple.

All you have to do is :

1) Pick three subjects in the list below.
   (you can also add subjects to the list if you wish to)
2) Order them in preference order, the most interesting first.
3) Put your name down on the "INFO NIGHT" list along with your three favourites subjects.
4) Wait for something to happen.

The "INFO NIGHT" list is on the notice board in the club room. If you can't make it to the club room, get somebody to do it for you or let me know by phone or by mail.

As soon as we have enough people for one subject, I'll organise the night (or anybody else is welcome to if he/she feels like). That can be videos, slides, seminar, workshop, magazine articles or simply open discussion, depends on the subject.

So may your choice :

1. Decompression sickness.
2. Diving tables - Brush up.
3. Diving tables - US.Navy.
4. Diving tables - The PADI wheel.
5. Diving tables - BSAC '88.
6. Diving computers.
7. Accident management.
8. Resuscitation.
9. The ear.
10. Women in diving.
11. Gas poisoning.
12. Gauges and timing devices.
13. Regulators.
14. Dangerous marine animals.
15. Various Physics calculations.
16. Saturation diving.
17. Speciality diving.
18. Boating.
19. The coral reef.
20. Quizes.

Have a good dive ! Michel.

16/9 Clydesdale st. COMO WA 6152. H-450.3213 W-220.5275

Believe me, you don't have to travel to expensive tourist traps to find a really first class dive, in fact some of the most stunning diving is right here on the metropolitan coast.

Best of all you can indulge yourself fairly frequently as the Perth metropolitan region has the distinction of being one of the few places on the planet ahere the local inhabitants can do this. If you're going to say, look I've been diving locally and there's nothing very exciting around here, then sport , all I can say is you either haven't been diving enough or you ain't been looking enough.

Diving is ninety percent observation. So take your time when you're down there, don't rush about trying to cover a square kilometre in the time allotted because no wild creature is going to jump out of its hideaway and wave to you as you go tearing past. Just wait and observe.

Needless to say, the club ahs been expanding its sphere of operations this season and it seems to have paid off as we discover far more interesting territory farther afield. This I assure you will continue. However it comes back to you, the individual, to make your own discoveries, we can only put you on to what we think is a worthwhile divesite. This is enough from me. Some of you are probably thinking what's happened to the s.o.b. Where's the usual salacious innuendo, the risque riposte of old. Has he gone off the boil? Well, I had to get it off my chest sometime. This seemed as good a time as any.
Take heart, things will be back to normal next month. In the meantime, this is not a signal to slackoff. As I said, you the individual have to make the discoveries. So just get out there and get into it!

While snorkelling up north in Geikie Gorge, I was surprised to see 2 men scuba diving. There are no salties there and the freshwater crocodiles kept out of the way. Couldn't do the same in Windjana Gorge where in a shrinking pool of water, the freshwater crocs were eating each other.

WHAT HAPPENED TO VENI ET VIDI By Bob Cotton

Sliding down the anchor line to the wreck lying on the seabed like some great wounded beast, we are confronted by seemingly endless streamers of Woodmans Pomphrets hanging motionless like a surrealistic music score awaiting orchestration.

Moving over the weed encrusted deck, passing multitudes of ascidians in a vibrant livery of designer colours. Small rays flutter of into gloomy companionways that are inhabited by shimmering curtains of large-eyed Bullseyes. A golden seahorse suspiciously watchful of our every move. School of skipjack sporting through broken hull. A single opalescent jellyfish pulsing through the ocean with it's entourage of tiny lustrous fish that darted in and out of it's languidly trailing, stinging fronds with what appeared to be cavalier disregard of it's sensously, deadly caress. Fanbellied Leatherjacket, Porcupine fish, King Wrasse, Foxfish, Stripeys, Truncate Coralfish, Crested Morwong, - the list is endless. This wasn't some exotic location on some distant shore. This was the scenario of the D9" wreck.

We were very lucky the day we chose to dive on this as it is normally fairly abyssmal. There are only about six days of the year that it is worth diving on, we managed to pick one of the right ones.

This was in fact one of U.E.C.'s specialist dives for photobugs. Although I haven't yet seen the results of of the other photographers who participated on this dive, I'm fairly sure that they would have some quite reasonable pics for their efforts.

This brings me to make an observation about diving locally. In the past couple of months I have been on some really excellent locations where the scenery and fish life have been above average, in fact some of the marine life I haven't seen before.

The reason I comment on this is because when someone comes along and starts describing the exploits of their most recent trip to some exotic reef overseas, you can see the envious expressions on some faces as as all the details are divulged with the usual, flamboyant embellishments that are part and parcel of any travellers tale.

Dive Report - Brian Murray

Although the weather hasn't been too kind, those braving the conditions have enjoyed some excellent diving.

New sites were found on the south side of Rottnest featuring unspoilt terrain and sea life, and some leisurely Sundays have been spent around these areas.

Over the past weekends, some of us have also enjoyed Saturday diving around the Challenger Rocks area - an area rarely dived because of the swells common there. All reports are dives such as these: 2 x 40 minutes back about 2 - 2.30pm are great, so I have scheduled more to cater for any diver(s) wanting to participate on Saturdays.

Either ring me and advise what day you want to go, or alternatively, see me at the next meeting.

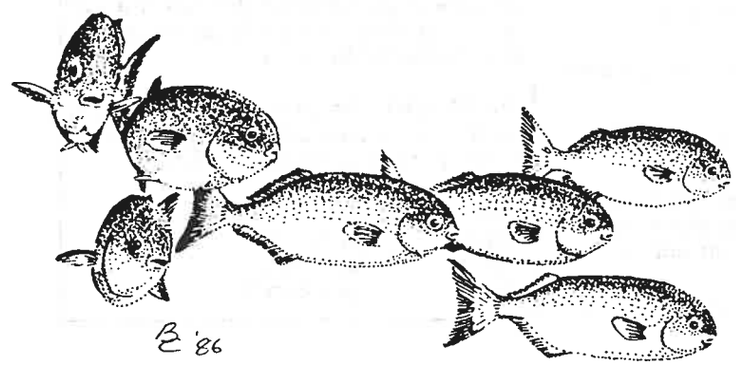
Remember, between April and August, the seas are generally flatter with little to no sea breeze.

Next dives - Saturday 8th April Parker Point - Bob/Michel.

EASTER AT YANCHEP

You're welcome to join our dives from Yanchep so just let me know what day(s) you plan to visit so numbers for the boat can be confirmed on a daily basis.

☆ To book your diving phone 459 8374 ☆



SOCIAL

Great turn out and night for the Spanish "Do". Thanks all, especially to our hosts Chris and Carol.

BOOK THESE DATES

(or at least think about it)

April 27	Film Night
May 25	Ten Pin Bowling
June 23	Swedish Midsummer
July	Cocktail Night
August	Greek Night out
September	Cheese & Wine Cruise
October	Progressive Dinner
November	Presentation Night
December	Xmas Dive

Film Night Fri 27 April

VENUE: 8pm Clubrooms
COST: $3
FILM: THE BIG BLUE

SNACKS INCLUDED in the casual atmosphere of our own clubrooms. Please let Kerry know by the 25 th.

Sundowner Fri 11 May

VENUE : 6-8pm Clubrooms

Drop in for a game of "Mickey Mouse" (darts) or just a chat.

(W)Rap Night Wed 16 May

Always well attended and a great chance to catch up on all those diving stories in the relaxed environment of our clubroom.
Oh! and you can fill your tanks while you are at it. See you around 7.30pm.

Ten Pin Bowling Fri 25 May

VENUE: Superbowl Melville
TIME: 7.30pm
COST: $9
BYO: Platter and Refreshments

We have booked their meeting room for our own private function afterwards.

ALL CONTACTS TO:

Kerry	**331-2385**
Pat	**430-5290**
Ron	**417-4140**

Swedish Midsummer Party

...in the middle of the winter? What's going on here? Well, it's an old tradition from Sweden; to eat,drink and play games for three days at Midsummer, and we are going to do all this in one day in the clubrooms. A totally new experiance for UEC members.

An authentic Swedish smorgasbord with home-made specialities will be served. Have you ever tried pickled raw herring or Jansson's Temptation before?

Teams will be made up (by us) for competition in General Knowledge and Physical games. We can **guarantee** a lot of fun, if you are "the right sort" for some fast action! Prizes for winning team. Limited to 18 persons.

IMPORTANT: Please note that we need to register your interest before the end of May to be able to organise"things" properly!!!

CONTACT: Susie 331-2385
COST: Approx $15
DATE: Sat 23 June
TIME: 3 pm **sharp!!**

FOR SALE

KERRY'S B.C.D. JACKET
WELL LOOKED AFTER
SMALL SIZE SEAHORNET
ONLY $90 PHONE 331 2385

FOR SALE

B.C. JACKET
MEDIUM TUSA/TABATA
$300
PHONE 3371283
FRANK OR KERIN HUBBARD

★ "No dad . . . *here's* your wind surfer!"

WARNING

The "FUN IN THE SUN" LONG WEEKEND DIVING TRIP TO ROTTNEST IN MARCH 1991 is filling very quickly. Limited to 20 persons - 15 divers 5 non divers. Only eight places left!!!
To secure a bed, please pay me a deposit of $50 at this (April) General Meeting.

SUSIE

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Thanks, HARRY for bringing us up to date on some of the latest equipment.Our sport is in a phase of contstant change and update and we always need refreshing.

The **Apr 17** General Meeting will be a

NACHOS NATTER NIGHT
(AN INFORMAL SESSION)

The May 21 General Meeting will present the postponed
The Life Cycle of Mollusecs
by Shirley Slack-Smith
from The Museum of WA

Kerry

It is amazing the great promotional effect of a few members together in the club T-shirt! People approach with questions such as "How can I join a scuba club?"(We distributed some 75 odd leaflets) Even my hero Jean-Michel Causteau must have noticed us (Kerry,Ron P,Michel R and myself) amongst the 350 in the audience at Curtin University on Thursday 29 March. It was a most interesting talk and a wonderful film about seahorses and sea dragons from the expedition's studies in Tasmania and S.A.

At our April General Meeting we will dump our prices even further! You can buy ex stock club T-shirts for $3 and a sweater of the highest quality for only $9!!!

Susie

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(Underwater Explorers Club of W.A. Inc.)

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MAY 1990

U.E.C. NEWS

The British Admiral, 1,781 tons, was wrecked at King Island at the western end of Bass Strait in May 1874 with the loss of several lives.

The other marine creature I've spotted recently and not seen before is the banded cleaner prawns. I believe several other members have spotted a few specimens around Rottnest as well. They've probably been around Rottnest a fair while. It's that I have only just recently discovered them, having always associated them with the more exotic reef systems further North. Regrettably I still havn't managed to take a picture of one of these yet.

Keep hoping that I will see another of these animals on future dives. I think this is about enough from me for now.

Bob Cotton.

TANK FILLING ROSTER FOR MAY

Richard Naylor
Building Officer

RICHARD NAYLOR	6	TO 12	MAY
RON PHONEMUNT	13	TO 19	MAY
BRIAN WALKER	20	TO 26	MAY
PETER HORTON	27	TO 2	JUNE

TANKS WILL BE FILLED EACH TUESDAY BETWEEN 6 AND 8 PM.
PICK UPS ARE FRIDAY BETWEEN 6 AND 8 PM.

ALL MEMBERS MUST HAVE THEIR NAMES ON THEIR TANKS NO NAME NO FILL.

ROUGH WEATHER AND DIVING.

OOHOOH perhaps you need some stabilizer I'm speaking about tablets. There are a few some long some short acting. People it is a problem, and it is individual. Be aware that diving is on the edge don't topple yourself over !! If you must take tablets beware the problems and dive with caution.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *by MAREE CASLEY*

The avid divers in our Club have been very busy these past few weeks and have been rewarded with some excellent dives for their efforts.

Firstly, a group of us went down to Canal Rocks for some diving. Conditions down there were perfect, with very little swell and wind. The weather was so good that we actually managed a dive in the centre of the rocks where the waves and swell are generally crashing through. Once inside the "canals" we found large schools of yellow finned fish that gently drifted about and some large abalone hiding under rocks to take home and feast on.

The following weekend - Easter - was a fantastic weekend. The boat was filled to capacity every day. We found some excellent diving around around Two Rocks and every one is keen to return and repeat the experience. The dive at Cook Lump was particularly enjoyable with large caves and gullies everywhere adorned with soft corals and sponges.

Many thanks to Bill Bousted and Wendy for allowing us to use their beach house. It certainly provided us with more "creature comforts" than the shearing shed of last year. Thanks also to Dennis, David Stubberfield and Glen Collingwood who brought the boat up and to Dennis and David for returning it to the moorings.

A packed boat has also been a feature of Club diving recently. I suppose everyone wants to make the most of what is left of the good diving season. To encourage members to keep their wetsuits out of mothballs, we are offering some diving "specials" during winter. Contact Brian Murray for details of these bargains. Dont forget the boat will be out of the water soon for general maintenance, and all hands will be required on deck to help.

One last point before I close. Congratulations to Julie, Dennis, and Judy for lending a hand in training some disabled divers in association with the W.A. Disabled Sports Association and FAUI at PDA. Many of you may have seen our Julie "Hames", actually Raines cleverly disguised in her wetsuit, featured in a newspaper report. Efforts such as this are invaluable in promoting our Club and keeping it at the forefront of Diving in W.A.

DIVE REPORT - Brian Murray

Again those willing to chance the weather have enjoyed some spectacular scenery as we find more new sites, so, how about making an effort and join us. You may enjoy yourself and our company and rekindle that "Club Atmosphere". See you there!

Next Dives	North Garden Island	Dennis/Julie
	Five Fathom Bank	Bob/Peter

DIVING TRIP - Brian Murray

Would every Club Diver please note:-

Dive Sites - Magazine/Calendar

These will be adhered to depending upon conditions on the day. Should a change of site be necessary, the Dive Officer will advise prior to leaving East Street.

Cancelled Dives

Should conditions be extreme for diving, i.e. - 2M plus swell, 25 - 30k southerly and you have rung the boating weather on 11541, then safely assume the dive will be cancelled. If you are unsure, then by all means go to East Street.

Guests

All Members who bring a diving guest are asked to please have them bring their "C" card, otherwise they just cannot dive with us.

Tanks

Please ensure your tanks have boots and mesh for safety and security to the boat.

"Fun in the sun" long weekend diving trip to Rottnest in march 1991

Only two places left!!! To secure a bed, please pay me a deposit of $50 at this (May) General Meeting.

SUSIE

A velly stlange explession come over honoulable assistants face. He rook at me velly selious. He say all depend on which way wind browing, sometimes then crose in shore not hard to find at all. Other times get brown out to sea and you dont't see at all. He then say, just lemember to keep mouth shut when on surface. Then he go offf behind tlee and have convulsive fit simirar to honoulable dive reader. I now extlemely confused. I still have no descliption of fish and honoulable toulist guide and assistant not in contlol of emotions when I ask about brind murret. When honoulable dive reader and assistant finary get emotions under contlol I say to them, where I go for information on brind murret? Honoulable dive reader say, just go down to hotel where rot of people come over here in big boats and do rot of fishing and ask them, they usuarry see a few alound the bays on Lottnest.

This suggestion seem extlemely rogical to me. So I go to hotel. I walk into main bar and see many people but see no fisherman. I think this going to be most difficult finding out about brind murret. I have sudden good idea. I stand on chair in middle of bar floor and shout, who in here know about all brind murret in bays of Lottnest. A rot of people lush out of bar. Others ar eputting on sungrasses, some become so deepry interlested in newsapaper articles they compretery cover their heads.

I thiniing all Austlalians perhaps not wanting to show tlue emotions about fish with selious disabirity behave in such culious manner. I not get any infolmation here I think so I reave.

When I am getting Jaqpan and go back to exalted university I take up study of mystelious brind murret. I come back to Lottnest many years and do much lesearch on such a puzzring and erusive fish. I also tly to find out why Austlalians behave in sch pecuriear way when question about this. When I finish my lesearch I wlite articles and with numelous corour srides of subject I submit these to National Geoglaphical magazine.

I thinking I become most glorliously famous get World lecognition for lesearch and study of such erusive and culious sea cleature. May even win Nobel Plize. Ah so.

Bob Cotton

BOATING BLATHER

Since may last report the club boat has been fairly active, having been taken to Yanchep for the last long weekend where from all reports things went really well.

The Skipper orientation course programme is moving ahead with our current trainees have passed their T.A.F.E. courses. Congratulations to you all.

Apart from all this there is not much else I can report. So apart from a few possible daggy weekends in the next couple of months the boat is running as per usual. Just get out there and get into it.

****

While going through my slides a few weeks ago I realised that I have now got a fairly reasonable record of some of the more commonly sighted species of fish around Rottnest.

Why I bring this up is that while diving a t Green Island Reef just a couple of months ago I came across the largest school of Zebra fish I have ever encountered. It wasn't till I put it up on the sreeen and actually counted the fish in the picture (some 100 fish and that was only about half the school.) That I realised how big the school was. Normally I have spotted schools of only about between 3 or 4 to a couple of dozen. If you think I'm exaggerating just ask Martin how large it was.

****

SAFETY REPORT BY MICHEL ROUX

HELLOW TO YOU HAPPY DIVERS!

A short report this month. Winter is coming but it does not mean the end of the diving season. We had some great diving lately and you should'nt miss out. Only one advice, be prepared for cooler temperatures. That means take a good jumper and warm drinks with you on the boat. Wear a hood in the water if you have one. Don't hang around in a wet wetsuit, take it off and put warm cloths on. It is worth it even for an hour. Apart from that, I am sill waiting for your preferred subjects for an info night (see last magazine). For those who haven't yet, please let me know. The trend so far seems to be in favour of THE REEF and ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT but I need more entries.

Finally, whoever takes anything out of the first-aid kit MUST let the Diving Officer know, so that I can replace it before the next trip. There are no sea sickness tablets on board anymore.

A STRANGE CURIOSITY -
FROM OUR TOKYO CORRESPONDENT
SOKKIN ITTUYA

Herro to all honoulable leaders. I not understanding. I come to Australia for diving horriday because I see much colour strides of most exquisite conditions. Glorlious brue water, white sandy beaches, most exquisite and beautifury exotic accommodation with a considelable number of attlactive youg radies sunbaking in most desilable bathing costumes. Honoulable toulist agent he say this most exquisite prace to have diving horriday.

So we come to prace called Lottnest. What we find! Sky overcast with dar and thleatening crouds, howring wind, arot of men with big bellies, velly few young radies in desilable bathing costumes. Also ocean with big waves and extlemely groomy conditions. Glorlious beaches leeking of lotting seaweed, prastic bags froating everlywhere, dlink cans in gleat piles on shore. This give me gleat shock. I go to honoulable Austlalian toulist guide and most glorlious dive reader.

I say to him, what hell gone wlong here? H say wat a matter? I say this not like in tlavel blochure. They not show all prastic bags froating everlywhere dlink cans and lotting seaweed on beaches. Dark and groomy ocean with waves of much hugeness. Where all exquisite and most beautiful conditions. He say no wollies sport, soon it be better. Then he say rook, you onry major ploblem alound here is that you dont bump into a brind murret you be o.k. I not understanding this. What is brind murret? Not wanting to appear ignolant and rose face to honoulable Austlalian guide I go to honoulable and most knowredgable correague who study maline biorogy at Tokyo University. I say to him what he know of stlange fish called brind murret? He say he not know of this species and why I ask him. I tell him what honoulable Austlalian toulist guide say. Honoulable correague then say may be it just one fish that get poke in eye and cant see to good.

I don't find my honoulable correagues expranation satisfactoly. I get up gleat coulage and go and ask glolious dive reader, how I lecognise brind murret. Dive reader have coughing fit and he seem to be extlemly distlessed as much tears stleam flom eyes.

This most perpresing. Not expecting to see Honoulable Austlalian dive reader get so emotional over fish with such selious disabirity. H lecover flom this tlauma, he then go his honoulable assistant and say to him, this broke flom Tokyo want to know how he lecognise brind murret when he go diving alound here.

Along the north-west coast of Western Australia, adjacent to the North West Cape is the Ningaloo Reef. It is the only coral reef in the Southern Hemishere found so close to a continental land mass (about 100m off-shore at it's nearest point, and less than 7km at it's most distant). It is far more accessible than the Great Barrier Reef off the Queensland Coast.

Inshore the reef protects a shallow lagoon, offering sanctuary to a fascinating myriad of marine life. Ningaloo Marine Park was created to maintain the natural balance and beauty of this coral garden whilst still allowing for recreational use.

The Marine Park stretches some 260km from the Bundegi Reef in Exmouth Gulf, around North-West Cape, to Amherst Point south of Coral Bay. Seaward, the park extends about 10 nautical miles, encompassing over 4,000 square km of ocean.

Ningaloo Marine Park is the looking glass to a fascinating world teeming with marine life.

Over 200 species of corals have been identified, ranging from the massive, slow-growing porites "bommies", to delicate, branching corals.

More than 460 species of reef-dwelling and free swimming fish live in and around the reef.The world's biggest fish, the whale shark, regularly swims in these warm waters. Growing up to 40,000 kg and 18m long, these monsters of the deep drift slowly across the ocean currents filtering water for the plankton they feed on.

Marine mammals such as dolphins, humpback whales and the dugong can often be seen cavorting in or near the reef lagoon. During summer, green and loggerhead turtles make their way up the beaches to lay their eggs.

On the arid coast and hinterland of Cape Range National Park, which adjoins the the northern end of the Marine Park, coral and marine animal fossils and ancient sharks teeth have been found.

Fish flash like bright lights past coral formations that have been growing slowly for centuries. Life abounds in all it's colour and charisma, oblivoious to the bones and broken bric-a-brac of another age, a long, long time ago.

SOCIAL

BOOK THESE DATES

May 25	Ten Pin Bowling
June 23	Swedish Midsummer
July	Cocktail Night
August	Greek Nightout
September	Cheese & Wine Cruise
October	Progressive Dinner
November	Presentation Night
December	Xmas Dive

Ten Pin Bowling Fri 25 May

VENUE: Superbowl Melville
TIME: 7.30pm
COST $9
BYO: Platter and Refreshments

We have booked the meeting room for a short function afterwards.

Sundowner Fri 8 Jun

VENUE : 6-8pm Clubrooms

Nothing formal just drop in for a chat.

(W)Rap Night Wed 13 Jun

A great chance to catch up on all those diving stories in the relaxed environment of our clubroom.
Oh! and you can fill your tanks while you are at it. See you around 7.30pm.

ALL CONTACTS TO:

Kerry	**331-2385**
Pat	**430-5290**
Ron	**417-4140**

Swedish Midsummer Party

We can **guarantee** a lot of fun, if you are "the right sort" for some fast action!

Teams will be made up (by us) for competition in General Knowledge and Physical games.

Prizes for winning team.

An authentic Swedish smorgasbord with home-made specialities will be served. (Have you ever tried pickled raw herring or Jansson's Temptation before?)

Limited to 18 persons.

IMPORTANT: Please note that we need to register your interest before the end of May to be able to organise"things" properly!!!

CONTACT: Susie 331-2385
COST: Approx $15
DATE: Sat 23 June
TIME: 3 pm **sharp!!**

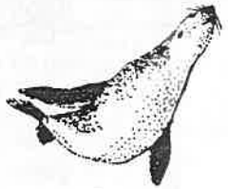
PUBLIC RELATIONS

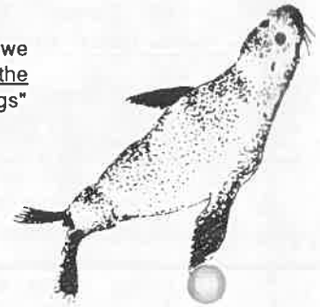
The **May 21** General Meeting will present the postponed

The Life Cycle of Mollusecs
by Shirley Slack-Smith
from The Museum of WA

For Jun 18 we are working on either film work from around Exmouth or a marine biology presentation.

Book a new sweater (large sizes) for the coming winter months and for the warm blooded - well we still have the T-shirts.
Kerry





Canal Rock Diving Weekend

Really posh chalets with spacy kitchen/dining-room/lounge and open fireplace awaited us in Canal Rocks Beach Resort when we arived on Friday 6th April.

Saturday morning - and absolutely glorious weather! I was diving from Peter Horton's boat together with Brian and Chris Murray, Dennis and Maree and Mike Blackwell. I had a superb dive, swaying backwards and forwards amongst all the different sea grasses and, looking for the occasional cray, I stumbled upon a 6ft wobbygong shark resting on the seafloor under a big rock.

The other guys, Kerry, Charlie Snow, Mark Hardwick and Roger Nottage, went for a shore dive. Charlie with his super-duper new Sony underwater video camera (filming seahares making love!) and Mark, being the only one in the gang who managed to catch a good size cray. (Chris's much talked-about "JUMBO" had moved to safer waters.)

Back at the chalets we feasted upon some gigantic fresh abalones thinly sliced up and barbecued in butter by the expert, Brian. We finished the day with a session in our chalet, watching Charlie's "blue" movie, munching on delicious cheeses and sipping our vintage port.

Everybody who still had a filled tank was up bright and early on the Sunday morning and down to the Canal Rocks for a shore dive into the actual canal. This turned out to be a real "fun-dive". It's amazing how strong that water is, passing under the little bridge over the channel into the canal. Not to mention when we tried to get out through the channel on the opposite side to the ocean. Impossible! We had to turn back half way through, and sat on the bottom (9 metres) under the thunder-weather-looking 'clouds' of water smashing in above us. I took place in the middle of a huge school of Yellowfins. That was a great experience!

Back to the chalets again... lunch and packing up. The suggestion was then to dive at the Peppermint Grove on the way back to Perth after picking up the filled tanks at Dunsborough Bay Village Resort (Dunn Bay Road). About half the troop did that dive in search of a gourmet dinner at home. It wasn't too spectacular though. Very hot day to get kitted up on the beach (after we played around on the childrens' playground for a while) and a long snorkel out to a pretty 'rotten' looking reef, where we could only see ugly stonefish and feelers.

To sum it up... of course we had a great weekend away, with fantastic weather, good diving conditions, and in the company of good UEC buddies.

SUSIE ASHTON

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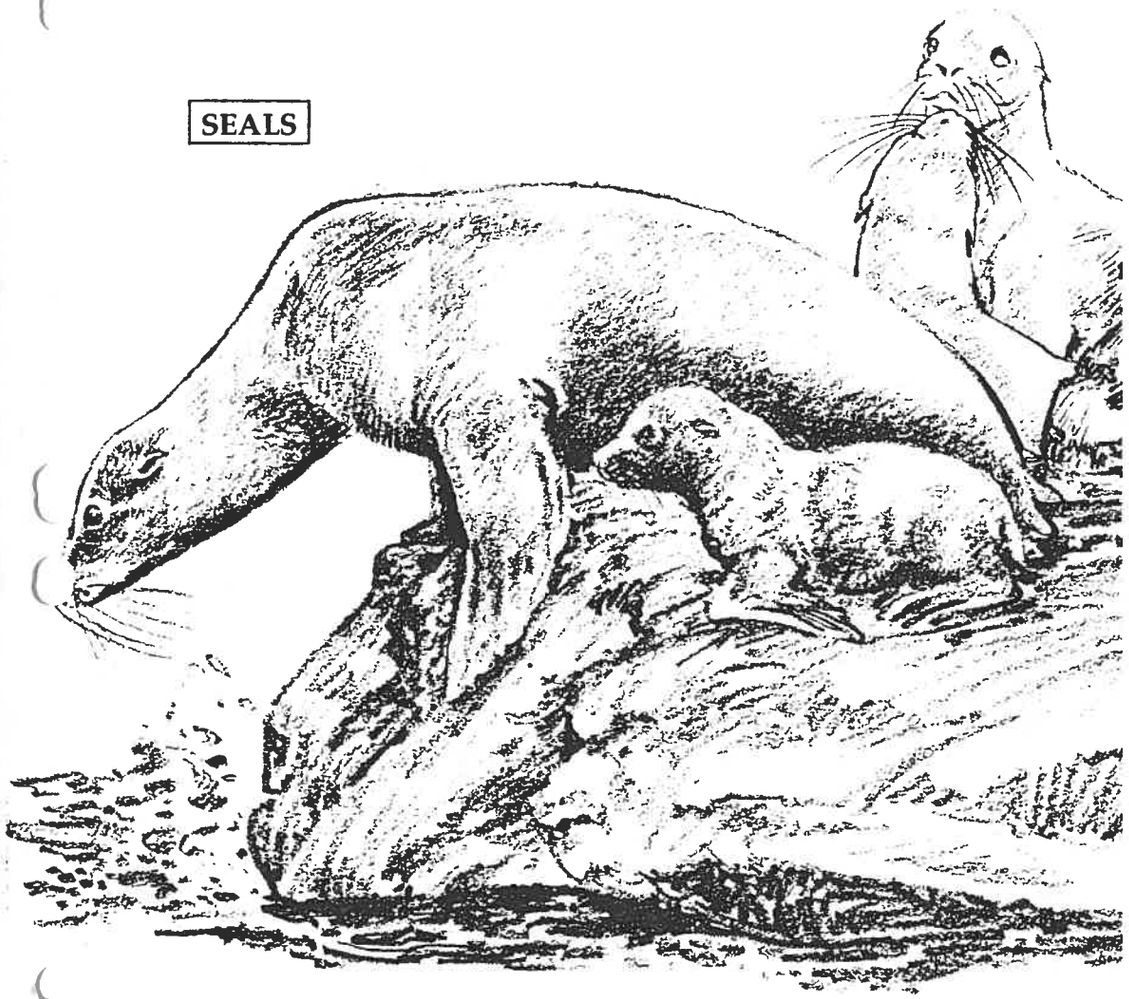
U.E.C. NEWS

SEALS



JUNE 1990

pressure are called beta-blockers. These drugs also have a couple of effects which could be dangerous for divers. They slow the heart so that if called upon to exercise hard to get out of danger, a diver taking a lot of these may have problems.

They can also constrict the bronchi, particularly in asthmatics. If bronchoconstriction occurs under water, pulmonary barotrauma may result.

Clearly, every case of hypertension needs to be considered and assessed individually by a doctor with experience in diving medicine.

A special invitation

TO THE

Avon Descent 1990

DON'T DRINK AND DIVE.

The Western Wobbegong

Orectolobus sp.
Habitat - rocky reef, seagrass meadows, sand.
Depth range - 3-50 metres.
Adult size - to 3 metres.
Common occurance.
Food - fish, octopus, crustaceans.

Wobbeygongs are what is known as cryptic carnivores that adopt a "watch and wait" style of hunting. Immobile and camourflaged, they lie waiting near a cleaning station or in the vicinity of schooling reef fish ready to ambush that approaches within range. Some divers have had Wobbys try to take fish from their speargun cords.

The Wobby has needle-sharp auger like teeth which are designed for holding it's prey, not cutting it.The smaller animals are swallowed in one gulp but the larger ones are held until they are subdued, then swallowed. Wobbygongs are also known to be cannabalistic. The distribution of the Western Wobby is WA,SA,TAS,VIC,NSW, also QLD.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Maree Casley

The big news for this month is the aquisition of a new echo sounder for U.E. The old one we had finally gave up the ghost and it was left to Brian, Bob and Dennis to investigate the purchase of a new one. They finally settled on a GME colour sounder as it has many ancilliary functions built into it such as speed, sumlog and temperture (so you know how cold you're going to get). All of these wonderful features combined with very accurate depth sounding will make for better dive site selection and greater safety. "Great" you say, however, there is one drawback.....the price! Technology like this doesn't come cheap but it is a necessity for our Club and this is where you come in. All it needs is for you to see the Club through the next few months with a small "donation" that you can recoup from your diving fees. Some members have already paid up but "We need you" so how about it? See Peter Horton or Pat Troy if you can help out.

Next on the Club agenda is the annual slipping of U.E. for some maintenance, especially the hull which is screaming out for some more anti-fouling. We cannot afford a lot of work to be done this year, only essential repairs and maintenance. Again a Club effort is required so that the work gets done in a timely fashion and we can get down to the task at hand ie. DIVING. Bob needs all the help he can get so please ring him and lend a hand .... don't wait for him to ring you! The amount of work that can be done is restricted the limited funds the Club has and the resources it can lay it's hands on. This includes tools, spare materials and of course labour.

The Avon Descent is on in August and Tibi has again taken up the task of co-ordinating U.E.C.'s efforts in the rescue teams. This is an ideal opportunity for the Club to demonstrate it's willingness to become involved in volunteer work,that co-incidently is very high profile and newsworthy. So if you want to get on television as well as provide much needed water and rescue skills see Tibi. We need 16 hardy volunteers to attend some training days in readiness for the big event. These training sessions inevitably result in everyone having a good time at the BBQ that generally follows. Everyone is welcome to attend so bring the family to Bell's Rapids to enjoy the day.

JUNE	16	AVON TRAINING
	17	FIVE FATHOM BANK COTTON-MURRAY
	18	GENERAL MEETING
	23	SWEDISH MIDSUMMER
	24	CARNAC-GARDEN ISLAND STUBBERFIELD/ROUX
	29	BOAT TAKEN OUT OF WATER
JULY	WORK ON BOAT AT R.P.Y.C. ANY TIME YOU CAN HELP.	
	2	COMMITTEE MEETING
	11	MAGAZINE WRAP NIGHT 1900 HOURS
	16	GENERAL MEETING

UEC - *proud to be associated with this year's*

AVON DESCENT

UEC COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT	MAREE CASLEY	457 3333 AH
VICE PRESIDENT	KERRY ASHTON	331 2385 AH
SECRETARY	PAT TROY	328 8163 AH 327 8777 WK
TREASURER	PETER HORTON	445 2336 AH 381 3600 WK
TRAINING OFFICER	JULIE RAINES	306 1642 AH 405 5556 WK
BOAT OFFICER	BOB COTTON	367 2222 AH
BUILDING OFFICER	RICHARD NAYLOR	342 4205 AH
SOCIAL & PUBLIC RELATIONS	KERRY ASHTON	331 2385 AH
EDITOR	TIBI CSOMAY	341 3001
DIVING OFFICER	BRIAN MURRAY	459 8374

HYPERTENSION AND DIVING

The latest issue of Diving Downunder,the official publication of the A.U.F., has an interesting article about the effects of high blood pressure (hyper-tension) on the scuba diver.

Blood pressure rises when our blood vessels become hardened and narrow, which happens as we grow older. In 90% of cases the cause of this hardening and narrowing of vessels is not found and doctors refer to this as "essential hypertension". Athough the cause is not known it can still be treated. Some people are affected by high blood pressure at a prematurely young age.

The main problem with high blood pressure is that the heart has to work harder than normal to pump the required amount of blood around the body, because the bore of the blood vessels is narrower.

As we know, when we dive, we often become cold. This causes our blood vessels to constrict even further, so that the heart has to work even harder. It may fail. As a result the lungs fill with fluid and the diver becomes breathless and may even die.

People with high blood pressure are also predisposed to other conditions such as strokes and heart attacks. One of these occurring underwater is likely to prove fatal.

It is therefore important that people with severe hypertension do not dive. However, in some people, blood pressure can be controlled satisfactorily with medicines. The question remains, that should people being treated with medicines be allowed to dive? The answer depends on what medicines they are taking, how much of it and whether it is producing any side effects.

Drugs which lower blood pressure by dilating blood vessels are probably the best drugs for divers with high blood pressure to take. There is one word of caution. Because they dilate blood vessels, these drugs can in some cases predispose to hypothermia, a major hazard when diving.

The other group of drugs commonly used to control high blood

Dive Report - Brian Murray

A number of Sunday dives have been cancelled due to the unsuitable conditions, i.e. 3.5m swell, 2.5m seas, 30k winds. Not good conditions for diving I'm afraid.

On the limited number of days when those brave enough to venture out have dived, the underwater conditions were reasonable, without being overwhelming due to ground swells.

It has been decided to utilise Saturdays as a potential diving day, as well as the scheduled Sunday, to give us the opportunity of at least diving on either day.

Could those interested please contact me, so a list can be compiled of those prepared to dive on Saturdays, should the weather be more favourable.

SAFETY REPORT

BY MICHEL ROUX

Well, another month, another magazine and another safety report. But there is no safety to report...fortunately no accident to report either.
So DON'T WORRY and BE a HAPPY diver. We look after you the best we can.

PS: The club boat will go on the slip soon, so take advantage of this slack time in the diving season to get your regulator in for its annual service !

Michel. (H.450.3213 W.220.5275)

SWISS CHOCOLATE

First of June, it's the first day of the winter in the southern hemisphere and all this cool weather reminds me of Switzerland (and its great chocolate).

Switzerland enjoys a climate much cooler than the one in Perth and when the winter comes, the whole country gets covered with snow. But this is not to discourage the some 2,000 active divers of the country.

As you know, Switzerland doesn't touch any sea or ocean and all the diving activities have to take place in lakes or rivers. It may sound surprising, but diving in Switzerland is a very popular sport and the many clubs are very active. Apart from the rather usual deep diving, cave diving, altitude diving, under-ice diving and night diving; the underwater orienteering, skiing competition, white snow rafting, river drifting, long distance finning, car rally, underwater gymkhana and of course the underwater Christmas tree, are some other activities you can find on the calendar.
The clubs get together to organise national events; chartering trains to throw over 500 divers in the Reuss river off the main bridge in Luzern or hiring an antique cannon to mark the start of the Rhein swim.
The "New years eve's next morning" swim is also good fun and if you need to break the ice to enter the water, I can guarantee you that it freezes your headache till the next morning.
Finally, my club used to run the annual trip to the sea where we experienced some of the most spectacular diving in the Mediterranean sea. So as we say in swiss german :

GUET LUFT ! (which means in short : 'I wish you to breath the very best and tastiest air out of your scuba diving cylinder and to enjoy you dive as much as you can')

Michel.

SOCIAL

Congratulations to Richard Naylor with the highest score and aggregate of the evening.
For consistency - Sharon Wasley
For inconsistency - Nick Wasley
(What a Drop off)
For sledging - Bob Cotton
(Beware the Hustler)

BOOK THESE DATES

July	Cocktail Night
August	Greek Nightout
September	Cheese & Wine Cruise
October	Progressive Dinner
November	Presentation Night
December	Xmas Dive

Swedish Midsummer Sat Jun 23

Sorry folks, fully booked!! You will just have to put up with hearing about it for the rest of the year.

Sundowner Fri 6 Jul

VENUE : 6-8pm Clubrooms

Nothing formal just drop in for a chat.

(W)Rap Night Wed 11 Jul

Be first into the news and make your bookings.
Oh! and you can fill your tanks while you are at it. See you around 7.30pm.

Cocktail Night

Not definite yet - check the next issue of UEC NEWS. However, it will probably be either Friday the 20th or 27th of July.

ALL CONTACTS TO:

Kerry	331-2385
Pat	430-5290
Ron	417-4140

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The May 21 General Meeting was very informative on **The Life Cycle of Mollusecs**. Many, many thanks to Shirley Slack-Smith from The Museum of WA.

The **Jun 18** General Meeting will be devoted to slides and UEC's involvement in the

AVON DESCENT

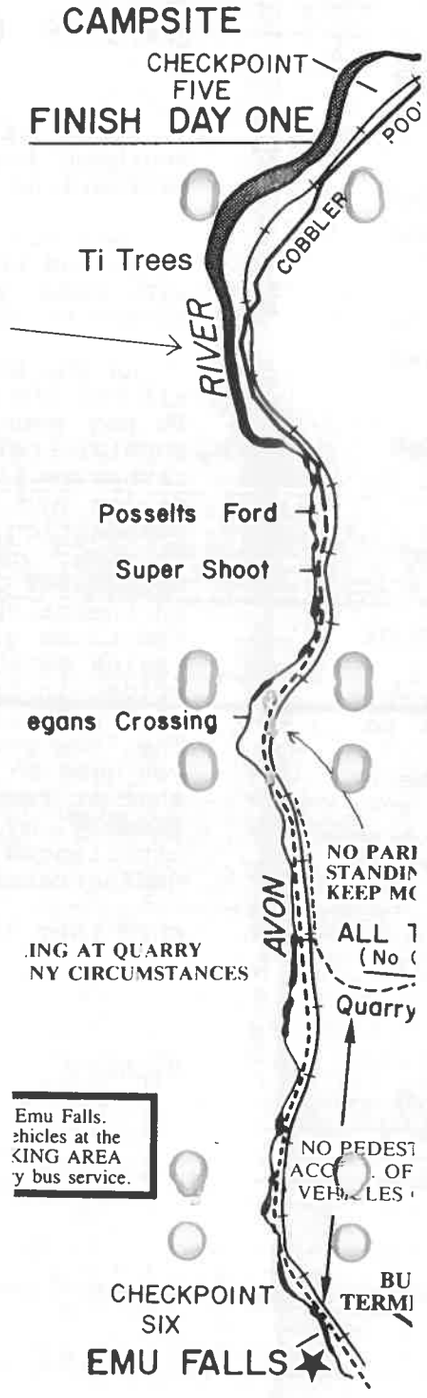
If you are not already inspired, this should do it! Join in and share in the unrivalled camaradie.

We are working on either film work from around Exmouth or a marine biology presentation for July 16.

For the August 20 meeting we will have a representative from Fisheries bringing us up to date with regulations and how the department sees the recreational diver. Surprising how a new season is almost upon us, and yet here we are now, enjoying some of our best diving.

Don't forget to order those sweaters for the "fresh" winter months, and for the foolhardy - well we still have the T-shirts.

Kerry



AVON DESCENT 1990 TIBI

It is that time again. The rains have come, and it is cold. A combination which is ideal for what has become W.A.'s greatest sporting spectacle,-THE AVON DESCENT.

Hundreds of people take to the chilly white waters of the Avon River trying to master the rapids. Thousands come to enjoy the excitement and the thrill. The underwater explorers club is lucky to be part of the action. As in previous years the club has been asked to provide divers for the in water rescue of competitors and their craft.

The Avon Descent is on the 3, 4 and 5 August. Training for the rescue teams will be Saturdays June 16, 23, and 30, and July 7,14, and 21, at 9.00 a.m. at Bells Rapids at Brigadoon. Sunday July 29 we will travel through the valley from Toodyay- to Perth. You haven't misused out there is room for more club members in the rescue team. If you are interest ring Tibi on 341 3001. Avon Descent sweaters can be ordered for $22.55.

BOAT BLATHER

Well people the news is that we now have a new sounder. For those who haven't yet seen it, it is a colour cathode tube type and has an outstanding range of operating modes. Those who have been fortunate enough to have been on the boat after its installation are still bugeyed after the Long Weekends diving.

However to come down to the ground level, I don't have to tell you that it will improve and enhance our diving program for the future, especially for exploratory dives and the "SPEC' dives that we have inbetween our normal diving.

The "Explorer" will be coming out of the water on June 29th, that's a Friday. It will be leaving the mooring at 8.00 a.m. and will proceed up river to R.P.Y.C. E.T.A. Approximately 9.30 a.m. Although I have declared that the amount of work on the boat this year will not be as protracted as previously, there is still a fair amount to do in the short period that it will be up on hard ground.

I would appreciate hearing from those who can spare a few hours a weekend over a month between June 29 and July 30th for whatever tasks that have to be completed before the craft can be put back in the water.

Even if your not a handyman we do need extra arms and legs to give a hand to those doing the technical and mechanical work. This includes scraping sanding and caulking the hull (we are only doing the antifouling part this year) removing the marlin board for regalvanising and some repairs to the dinghy. So contact me at home or leave a message with any of the other committee members. Your help will be appreciated.

TO MAINTAIN CLUB MORALE, KEEL HAULING WILL CONTINUE.

BOB COTTON

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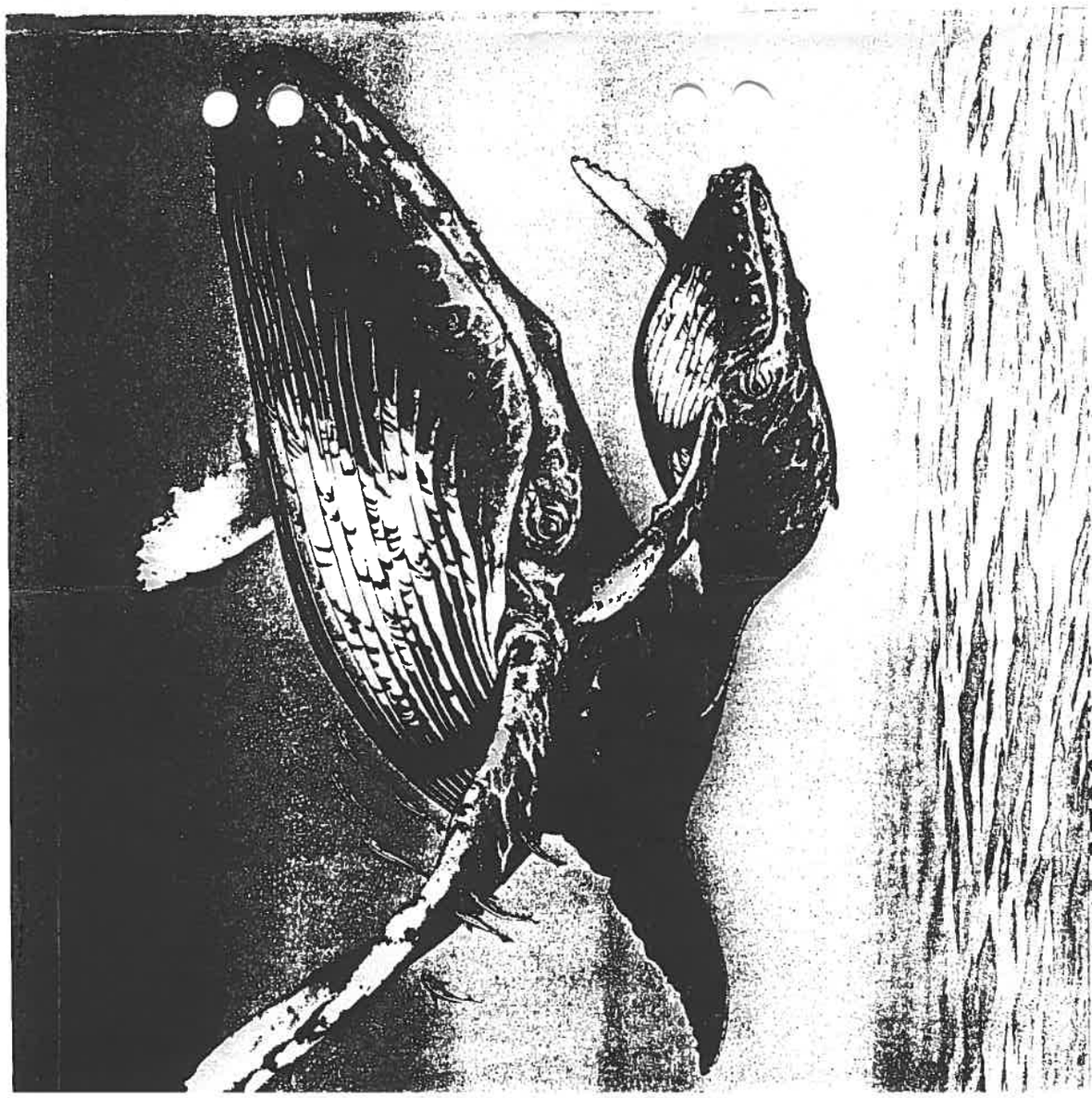


U.E.C. NEWS

JULY 1990

18th June - to all friends and relatives

Abroholos or bust

Mike, Anne and I are off again for three days of diving, fishing, whale watching, and sleeping (and you guessed it!)

TOP GUN is the bait
8 - 10th September is the date
$330 (ex Perth) is what you hate
SCUBA gear is all you take

Interested Club Members
Ring Brian Murray 459 8374

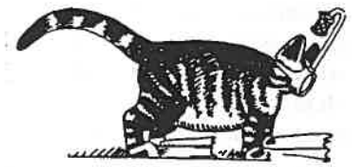
We leave Perth on the Friday in the TOP GUN minibus and return on the Monday night. Food, fills, tackle and bait are supplied (not forgetting divemasters extraordinaire - who also pay $330!)

Deposits of $150 to Mike or I - max. 12 be quick!

Mike Porter 385 1588 (hm)
& Brendon Griffin 381 1926 (hm)

Back in the Editor's chair again...

...t only for this month. (Going to the Bahamas in August for some warmer diving adventures, so it's "Goodbye for now, and see you again late December!" Hopefully, Kerry and I will come back with some wonderful underwater video films from the Caribbean Sea.



Susie

U.E.C. COMMITTEE 1990

PRESIDENT	**Maree Casley** 457 3333 a/h
V. PRESIDENT	**Kerry Ashton** 331 2385 all hours
SECRETARY	**Pat Troy** 328 8163 a/h (W 327 8777)
TREASURER	**Peter Horton** 445 2336 a/h (W 381 3600)
DIVING	**Brian Murray** 459 8374 a/h
SAFETY	**Michel Roux** 450 3213 a/h
TRAINING	**Julie Raines** 306 1642 a/h (W 405 5556)
BOAT	**Bob Cotton** 367 2222 a/h
BUILDING	**Richard Naylor** 272 5614
SOCIAL & P.R.	**Kerry Ashton** 331 2385 all hours
EDITOR	V A C A N T

NOMINATIONS

David Anthony BAILEY, Darlington

(Welcome Darling!)

PLEEEEEEASE...

could the person who "borrowed our cray loop put it back at the club rooms! We would appreciat that very much (or pay us $45).

Susie and Kerry Ashton

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

Hello everyone! As you are all aware, Club diving has been suspended for a month while we do some maintenance work on the boat. BOB COTTON is The Man in Charge and is doing an excellent job in organising the work. Even if you can spare only a few hours, ring Bob at home, or just turn up at Royal Perth Yacht Club. The work required is not hard - just tedious - painting, sanding, filling, etc. If we all pitch in and help, the task will be far more enjoyable and will take the pressure of the few people who turn up regularly to do the work.

The Avon Descent training is still underway at Bell's Rapids, however, we still need more people to volunteer for the Rescue Team. Everyone who has participated in this event in the past has really enjoyed the experience and have many stories to tell. I am sure TIBI will be more than pleased to hear from anyone who is interested in participating this year.

SUSIE and KERRY ASHTON have some "good news" and some "bad news" for us. The "good news" is that they are both flitting off to the Bahamas for several months of diving and living it up, in and around the many islands that comprise the Bahamas. I am sure they will have a wonderful time enjoying the wonders that the tranquil Caribbean has to offer. Bon voyage to you both! The "bad news" is we will surely miss the effort that they jointly contribute to the Social and PR. Nevertheless, RON PHONEMYINT has volunteered to continue as Deputy in this portfolio. I am sure Ron will do an admirable job in putting together some very good social events in true Club tradition. I know you will all lend him your support.

Whilst on the subject of Social, I will take this opportunity to thank Susie and Kerry for the wonderful job of organising the Swedish Midsummer Party that was held recently at the Club rooms. The food Susie prepared was a gourmets delight and the activities organised kept us on our toes throughout the afternoon and evening. Liberal quantities of SNAPS also allowed us the opportunity of perfecting the art of a SKAL, as I am sure... more than one headache will prove.

Some more bad news,unfortunately, TIBI (our Magazine Editor) has resigned from his position and we are in need of a new Editor. This position is a vital one within the Club, as the Magazine not only keeps the Club members up to date with Club affairs, but is also distributed to many other sections of the community. Much of the tedious work associated with the preparing and distributing of the Magazine has now been done away with and is not the daunting job that it once was. If any of you feel that you can assist the Club by taking over from Tibi, please let me know.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tibi for the excellent job he has done in bringing the Club Magazine to us over the past months. On behalf of all Club members: "Thank you, Tibi!"

"RUMANIA

I'm sure that most of us who saw those horrific pictures on television of the miners in Rumania violently crushing the protest sit in against the government, like myself, would have been appalled. Thank goodness it could never happen here, or could it?

When people get into a position of power through an elective process, they often quickly seem to believe that they are the owners of the particular office they hold and also the assets of that office and not as they really are, custodians and temporary custodians at that, of those assets and that office. They also tend to draw around themselves a protective barrier of supporters and cronies who rightly or wrongly defend any decision they make, whilst at the same time ensuring that any opposition is suppressed.

What has this got to do with the U.E.C.? Everything!

Due to employment and other commitments, I rarely get to attend general meetings and as a consequence am not as well informed on club matters and issues as I would like to be. When I am able to attend a meeting, I am naturally going to attempt to make myself more informed as to what is happening, by asking the Committee questions about decisions taken and subjects up for consideration.

When at the June meeting I questioned the proccesses and dubious financial responsibility of the purchase of the echo sounder, I was astounded by the response. Instead of at reasoned reply, I was subjected to a barrage of rudeness, hostility, ridicule and contempt, by those responsible for the purchase and their cronies. The response was so aggressive I felt like a student in Bucharest.

It seemed clear to me that I had touched an open nerve, I had reminded people that club money is not their money, I had reminded them that the club coffers are not a bottomless pit - and they didnt like it! In future I will be attending every meeting I can and at those meetings, whenever I feel its necessary, I will be questioning the decisions, reasons for those decisions and consequences of those decisions that the committee make. At the same time as questioning decisions I will not be backward in coming forward to praise responsible decisions and actions.

If you, like me for whatever reason, have not attended as many meetings as you could have, then I would urge you to make every effort to attend all future meetings. Only by you attending, will the committee act in a more responsible way. After all its not so easy to take a dubious decision when you know that you havent got all those members in front of you in your pocket.

Its your club, but if you want to ensure it remains your club attend the meetings."

PETER LEACH

(At the May General Meeting it was agreed that an echo sounder should be purchased to replace the old one which has given up the ghost. The General Meeting appointed a sub-committee of three to assess and purchase a sounder. Our new echo sounder is in the process of being installed and calibrated now.)

ED.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Funny, the years roll by without a "Letter to the Editor" and suddenly you get TW from the same member. Here they are (un-edited):

"TURNING THE TABLES

At last, after the inevitable driving around in circles trying to disappear up your own exhaust pipe we've arrived at the dive site.

Buddy checks completed all we need now is the DO's briefing. "OK folks before you go over the side the best area should be forward of the anchor. The maximum depth here is 18 metres, so limit your time to 45 minutes and do 5 at 5, enjoy your dive".

A quick check of the tables reveals that the no stop dive time for 18 metres is 57 minutes! Now I don't know how the tables were formulated but I assume they were made up after years of research by doctors and other professionals specialising in diving and diving related medical conditions. I would further assume that a safety margin would have been built into these tables, to take into account the differing levels of exertion caused by the various activities divers undertake.

There is of course the possibility that the members of the Royal Naval Physiological Laboratory were guilty of an error of judgement, possibly a miscalculation of research data. Furthermore it is also possible that a member of the U.E.C. has somehow detected this error and decided to rewrite the tables so that they would be perfectly safe to use.

If this is in fact what did happen then we are very fortunate to have such an alert and professionally competent person in the Club. Indeed the whole diving world should share our good fortune and all diving organizations currently using RNPL tables should be told they are risking their lives by using these tables.

On the other hand, if the 'new tables' are based on nothing more than the whim of someone who thinks he knows best, then its about time we stopped diving on a whim and got back to the sensible and responsible use of the RNPL tables."

PETER LEACH

Lastly, keep your eyes open for some brief notes from our Secretary, PAT TROY. Pat will be contributing notes of Committee Meetings to the Magazine. The idea behind Pat's article is to inform members of the issues, topics and projects that keep the Committee up until all hours on, the first Monday of every month.

CORAL SPAWNING SPECIAL

The September general meeting will be a special 'coral spawning' edition.
Our guest speaker on monday 17 Sep.90 will be **Chris Simpson** from the Environmental Protection Authority. Chris has been actively involved in the research on coral spawning in Australia (QLD & WA) and will be able to tell you what this is all about. The presentation will include a slides projection and will take about an hour.
Because of the presentation, the 'official' part of the general meeting will take place between 7.30pm and 8.00pm.

TO REMEMBER :

'O. 17.9.90.	***7.30PM***	***GENERAL MEETING.***
	8.00PM	***'CORAL SPAWNING' PRESENTATION.***

Michel.

SDFA Scuba Instructor Certificates

After a long wait the occasion to present our SDFA Instructors with their certificates was finally organized. On Friday 18th May 1990 the event was held at the Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation. The Certificates were presented by the Chairman of the Diving Task Force, Phillip Smith (MLA Bunbury). The occasion was attended by representatives from the AUF, commercial dive agencies, Task Force, SDFA Committee and of course our own Instructors. We had an enjoyable evening and were proud to receive these historical documents.

Julie Raines

(Training Officer)

SECRETARY'S STATEMENT

At the Committee meeting held on July 2 the following matters were raised and discussed:

DIVING REPORT

BRIAN MURRAY advised that there will be no diving for a while until the boat is repaired. Also, the final decision about taking the boat to sea will rest with the Skipper after agreement with the Dive Officer. The decision will be based on 7.00 PM television weather reports plus 9.30 PM boating weather reports.

BOAT REPORT

Bob Cotton advised that the boat is out of the water and that the underside has been sanded and is nearly ready to be painted. Bob informed the Committee that Micron 44 anti-fouling paint will cost $145 per tin. Two tins will be required. The Committee approved of the purchase of the paint. It appears that the engine in the boat has to be tested. The repair bill could be very high.

P.R. and SOCIAL

Kerry and Susie are going away for a few months and Ron Phonemyint will be acting as P.R. and Social Officer. Good luck, Ron! You have a hard act to follow.

Kerry advised that the Wrap Nights are going well and more "wrappers" are welcome. Kerry is also going to try and get an article in the next edition of Action Outdoor's magazine.

GENERAL BUSINESS

At the next General meeting, you will be asked to make some decisions on permitting non U.E.C. people to have access to the Club rooms.

TRAINING REPORT

by Julie Raines

In May a number of UEC instructors (Dennis Stubberfield, Judy Collingwood and myself) and Harrold Bloch (Lifeline) were involved in a "Diving for the Disabled Program". This was conducted by FAUI on a voluntary basis and the SDFA instructors were invited to partake.

We all enjoyed the Program and all learnt a lot. It not only gave us the chance to practice our instructor skills, but also the challenge of adapting these skills to suit the circumstances of our disabled friends.

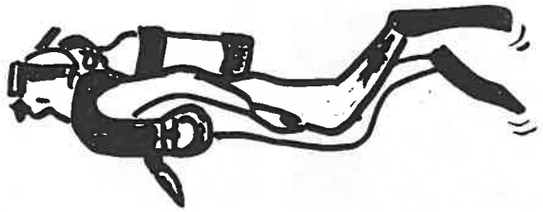
These people were a great bunch, and quite determined to master their diving skills as well as any able-bodied person. We were often pleasantly surprised by their capability and enthusiasm and strove to help them become competent and independent.

In the end three people achieved full scuba diving certification and one was awarded a restricted qualification. (Others could not become certified because they could not obtain medical certification outside of this dive experience course).

Judy Collingwood is to be congratulated. We all thought the practical sessions were reasonably tiring, but Judy, who was leader for one of the two teams, had to teach all of the theory as well!

So with this new experience now under our belts, we are all keen to run our next dive course. Unfortunately both the May and June courses had to be cancelled due to lack of students! Whilst a large number of people have expressed interest, there has been a definite down turn in commitment as the winter months have approached.

Our next course will start at the end of July (Instructor: Judy Collingwood) and another is scheduled for late August (Instructor: Julie Raines). Do keep us gals off the streets over winter please, by providing us with students!



DIVING REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

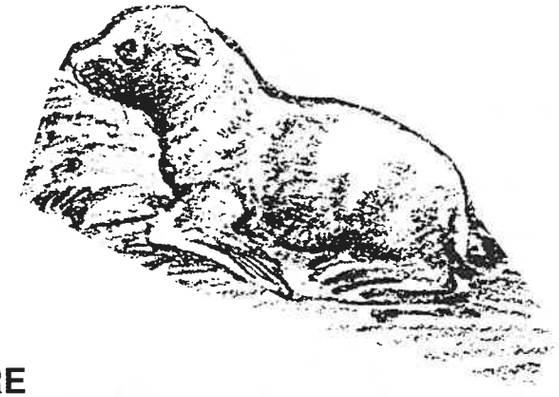
The past months have seen very patchy diving with a number of Sundays cancelled due to unsuitable weather conditions.

On two (2) occasions U.E. managed to take us to Rottnest where in water conditions were good, visibility was average, sites were above average, but surface conditions were uncomfortable.

Our new sounder has made site location easier and your crew can now advise you pre-dive what features are expected below.

As the U.E. is out for maintenance, all diving has been postponed, however, our activities will re-commence in full swing with more varied and interesting diving to be had later in July or early August.

Keep in touch and don't forget the winter diving rate specials.



SHOW THAT YOU CARE

Norway, Iceland and Japan want to resume WHALING. You see they just about killed off several species of dolphins and smaller whales which were not protected. So now, they want the big ones! If this happens, the cover of the magazine might be the only place you see these gentle giants of the sea.

* * *

you buy pet food made in Taiwan you are personally responsible for killing BABY SEALS in South Africa. You might as well club them yourself! South Africans get 10 cents from a Taiwanese sinessman for each dead baby seal to be turned into tinned pet food.

* * *

We have to show them! Boycott anything made in these countries; public outcry has worked for the DOLPHINS among the tuna (or has it?). DON'T buy foreign products if you can, look for an alternative.

TIBI

(What I want to know is (because I'm VERY concerned, having two cats): WHICH pet food? It doesn't tell you on the label that it is baby seals that you give your cats!)

ED.

SOCIAL

I don't believe it!! The BLUE team won again. Thanks all who took part. If you enjoyed it as much as Susie and I did in putting it on ,then the Swedish Midsummer was a success.

BOOK THESE DATES

July 22	Boat BBQ
August 10	Farewell Sundowner
September	Cheese & Wine Cruise
October	Progressive Dinner
November	Presentation Night
December	Xmas Dive

Boat BBQ Sun Jul 22

Time:	2.00pm
Venue:	RPYC
BYO	Food & Refreshments
Cost:	Nil

Come and check out the "new" UEC, or should I say nearly new,on the blocks. Plan the next season's diving or just reminisce. The club barbie will be there and some shelter if neccessary.Give us a call about exact location.
P.S.Call Bob (367-2222) about helping out before hand.

Sundowner Fri 10 Aug

VENUE : 6pm-on Clubrooms

Pizza and pint farewell to Susie & Kerry. Totally informal, any advice or stories of far off places will be taken with a grain of salt and perhaps some spirit.

(W)Rap Night Wed 15 Aug

Be first into the news.Oh! and you can fill your tanks while you are at it. See you around 7.30pm.

ALL CONTACTS TO:

Kerry	331-2385
Pat	430-5290
Ron	417-4140

PUBLIC RELATIONS

A round of applause for our own Bob Cotton for his Avon Descent slide presentation at the June General Meeting. It is a great weekend and if you haven't put your name down yet you'll miss out on one of the biggest sporting events in w.a.

The **July 16 meeting** will be video excerpts of the past exploits of our own volunteers and competitors in the Avon Descent. If time permits a video of the Canal Rocks trip edited by Charlie Snow will be shown.

For the August 20 meeting we will have a representative from Fisheries bringing us up to date with regulations and how the department sees the recreational diver. Surprising how a new season is upon us already.

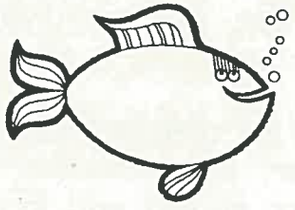
Don't forget to order those sweaters for the "fresh" winter months, and for the foolhardy - well we still have the T-shirts.

Welcome to Ron who will be taking over the Social/PR role for the remainder of the year whilst I am overseas. As always your support and suggestions are welcomed.

Kerry

"Hörde jag SKÅL?"

GETTING DOWN TO IT
at the Swedish Midsummer Party



GOSSIP COLUMN

We now have two "highly" qualified Underwater Videographers in the Club. It's a new Distinctive Speciality Course written and conducted by CHARLIE SNOW (remember him?) and registered with PADI world-wide. This course is now available through Barrakuda Dive (Phone 317 1755) and complements two evening sessions of theory with one weekend in the water (chilly!!), followed by techniques in the class room. The last dive was conducted on the Gareenup wreck, which gave us all some interesting footage.

A very worthy course for the price of $195. Charlie's next U/W Video Course is scheduled on the latter part of August. Pop in to see him beforehand, if you have any questions on videos or housings.

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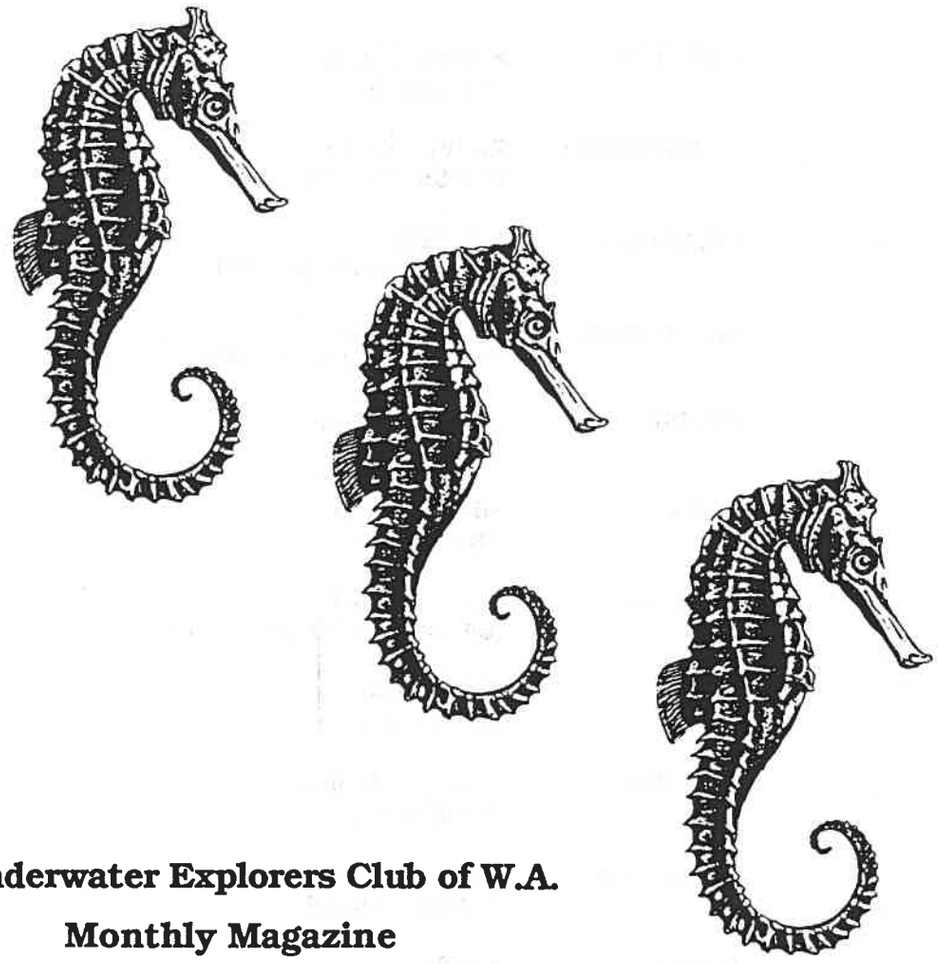
U.E.C. NEWS



Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.

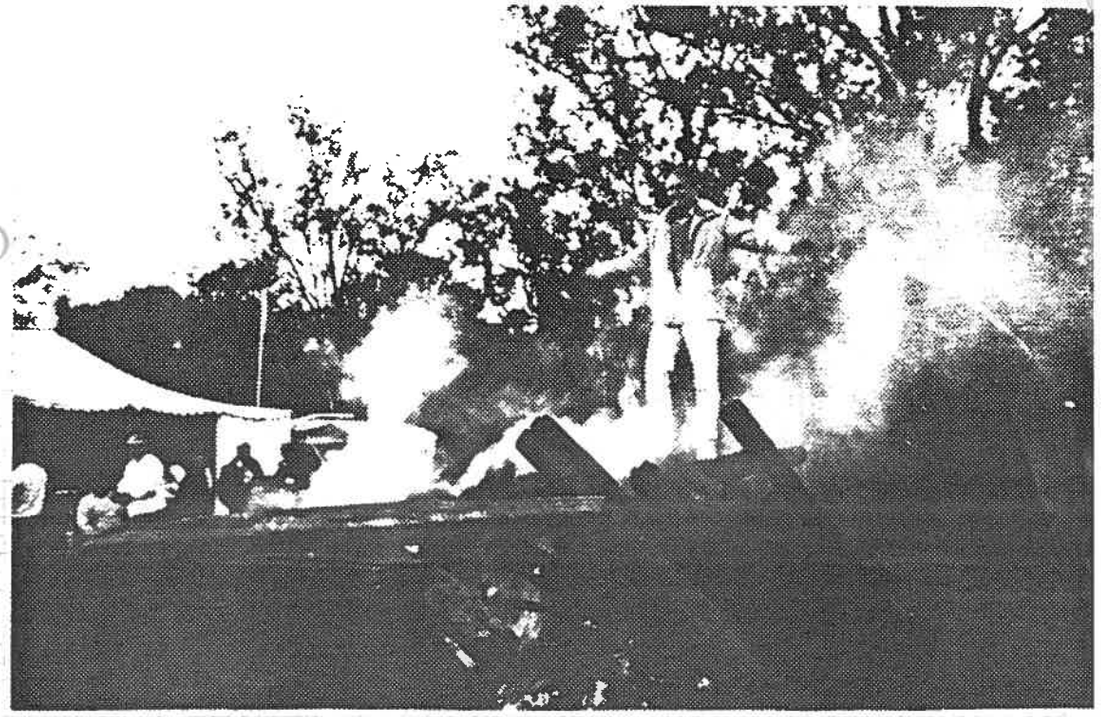
Monthly Magazine

August

90

U.E.C. COMMITTEE 1990

PRESIDENT	Maree Cailey 457 3333 a/h
V. PRESIDENT	Kerry Ashton 331 2385 all hours
SECRETARY	Pat Troy 328 8163 a/h (W 327 8777)
TREASURER	Peter Horton 445 2336 a/h (W 381 3600)
DIVING	Brian Murray 459 8374 a/h
SAFETY	Michel Roux 450 3213 a/h
TRAINING	Julie Raines 306 1642 a/h (W 405 5556)
BOAT	Bob Cotton 367 2222 a/h
BUILDING	Richard Naylor 272 5614 a/h
SOCIAL & P.R.	Kerry Ashton 331 2385 all hours
EDITOR	VACANT



Meanwhile, back at the camp, a camp-fire made of about 100 railway sleepers was burning and it was still burning at 3.30 am when all of us got up, ready for anything. - This getting up early is one of the Descent's bad points. - After breakfast we grabbed our lunch packs and left for our positions by 5 am. The first day went without mishap, except for PETER, who picked a vegetarian lunch pack by mistake, and had to watch the rest of us eating chicken.

Saturday night is fun at the overnight camp site. About 6000 people have turned two paddocks into a busy tent city. Everybody was excited in anticipation of the big day to come. 7am start for paddlers and 11 am start for power boats. Entrants went to bed, but support crews were living it up all night.

We were up by 4 am and left by 6. EMU was running full and the Washing Machine was overflowing. No problem for the entrants. Maybe at Sids they will need us, but Sids was tame this year, too. Was it fun, you ask? Will we do it again? The answer is YES, just try to keep us away!

The following were in the Rescue Team:
Sharon and Nick Wasley, Peter Horton, Dennis Stubberfield, Brian Walker, Richard Naylor, Ian Cowan, Ron Phonymint, Martin Smith, Bill Bousted, Joe and Glen Burley, Kerry Ashton and Tibi Csomay.

THANKS TO YOU ALL! **TIBI**

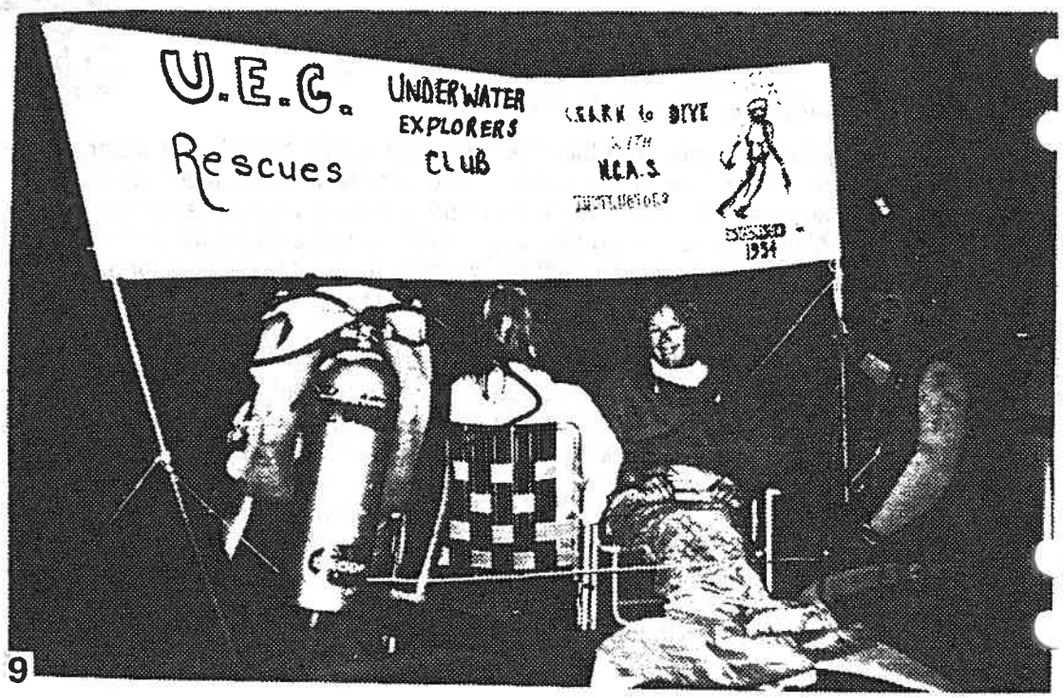
AVON DESCENT 1990

Near perfect conditions on the Avon allowed a record of entrants to complete the race with very few mishaps.

Our RESCUE training seemed to have been a wasted effort as we stood on the waters edge by the trouble spots and nothing happened that required our assistance. But that is how it should be, a good and safe race for all the entrants and our team ready and able just in case we were needed.

The fun started early for some of us, Friday morning, erecting tents and the camp, followed in the afternoon by a mock rescue out of the Avon in Northam , when one of our members was whisked sky-wards by a helicopter winch.

But the best was to come, our own entry in the Northam MADI-GRA. Ian had divers in full rig and mermaids with fish tails, sitting on our trailer. NICKI dressed as an English sheep dog, proudly wearing an Underwater Explorers Diver's bib, was handing out information about the Club. The kids loved him and the crowd applauded our trailer.



It's me again... (The Stand-In-Editor)

Still here, doing the "tour of duty" instead of diving in the Bahamas. But don't worry (I'm not worried) we'll get there in time, and can stay even longer than we originally planned! So, for those of you that didn't turn up at the Club rooms for our "Farewell-Pizza-and-Pint" - have a good time with lots of U.E. dives, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Susie

P.S. Sorry, if it disturbs you with all these different text styles in this edition, but I have had to swap from different computers to put it together, (and I also felt like having a bit of "fun" doing it!).
^S^A^S^@^A"^A"^@^Y^@^A^@^A
^@^@^@^@^@^@^@^@^@^S

DIVING REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

No club diving to report owing to annual overhaul of U.E.

Don't forget our special winter rates for Sunday dives to Rotto and other scheduled areas once the U.E. is operational again.

AVON DESCENT

"Rock dancing Emu Falls was fun."

Ian Cowan

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

by Maree Casley

Winter is well and truly with us and while the boat has been out of the water for repairs, most of us have gone into a period of hibernation. Diving activities have been put on the back burner and we are all waiting impatiently to get back in the water. However, whilst we have all been cooling our heels, the bureaucrats of this world have been busy with pen and ink. Bills!! Great stacks of them have asailed us in recent weeks amounting to several thousand dollars. Like us wanting to get back into the water, they want their money!

This time of the year is traditionally quite lean as far as bank balances are concerned, and we need your help. Although your annual subs are not due until the end of October, they would be gratefully received now. The last committee meeting has agreed to approximately a10% rise in fees applicable from November, so do yourself and your Club a favour and pay the fees now to avoid the increase. Hope to see you all at the next general meeting, waving cash and cheques, otherwise, how about sending it in the mail?

By the time you receive this magazine, U.E. will probably be back in the water. She will have a new coat of paint, new tank racks and an engine in tip-top condition. The sad thing is that, while many of you have been beavering away for weeks on the boat, the majority of you have stayed away in droves. I know you will all be pleased with our spruced up boat, and the majority of you will be secure in the knowledge that you did not lift a finger to help in getting U.E. in top condition. To these members who have worked tirelessly and without complaint over the past weeks on U.E. - congratulations on a job well done! Every Club needs members like you in their ranks - I just wish U.E.C. had a few more like you.

Whilst the finishing touch were being added to U.E. on the weekend of August 4th & 5th, 13 of our divers and a small entourage braved the elements up at Toodyay for the Avon Descent. The only word I can use to describe the event this year was "boring". The high level of the river meant that most crafts had a very fast and safe journey down the river. Thankfully, there were only a few minor injuries and our members were not called upon to perform any heroics. A few of them got wet, helping competitors or craft, but no major rescues were effected. Nevertheless, we all enjoyed the weekend and the spectacle of at least a few coming to grief.

That's all for this month, Folks - see you at the next meeting!

WHAT NEXT??

Asians will soon be clawing their way through the latest WA export, **Sea Horses.** An Albany businessman is hoping to develop a market in Sea Horses which can sell for $1200 a tonne. It would be a shame if the Government allowed such an export, and shame on you divers, if you are planning to catch them!

So, What next...

There is a market in Asia for dogs; you can see them in the markets with their legs broken, suffering, until someone eats them

... or grave robbing is big business in India; skulls and skeletons fetch big money.

I consider killing our SeaHorses just as bad as grave robbing.

TIB!

BOAT BLATHER by Bob Cotton

Well people, by the time you read this, the Club boat will be back in the water. So, saying this, I now would like to acknowledge the enormous effort made by not an inconsiderable amount of Club members. To all these people I, on behalf of the Club, thank you for giving up your valuable spare time to make this one of the best maintenance and refurbishments yet. Before I will allow the boat to be used for diving, it will be given a shake-down, once it's in the water. This means that the various mechanics, engineers, electricians, technicians will take it for a whole day and run it around till we are sure it has no glitches. You, the members, should have a much better boat to use for the forthcoming season; cleaner, better organised, and hopefully a little more comfortable. Well, thanks all from me for now, and might I suggest that whatever it takes to bring on good diving conditions, whether it's burning incense, sticking pins into wax effigies, making offerings to your various gods, sacrificing goats on stone altars or whatever, get onto it right now! We're going to need all the help we can muster. (Sending rough letters to the Weather Bureau is of no use - it's been tried before, and it only seems to get them all confused).

Once again, thanks to all those people who gave us their invaluable support!

THE TABLES ISSUE by Michel Roux

To be or not to be within the table, this is the question...
...people in the diving industry have been trying to answer for over 40 years now.
If there is an answer, it is not simple !

Why is it so complicated ? I'll try here to clarify the issue.
First of all, we must understand that the decompression tables have been designed to avoid the decompression sickness or "bends".
To understand how the tables have been developed, you must understand what causes the bends. I won't explain here the mechanism of decompression sickness (you can refer to any diving manual for details) but we all know that there is risk of decompression sickness if you :
dive TOO DEEP, stay TOO LONG or ascend TOO FAST.
So, what is "too deep" ?
The sport diving community seems to agree that 30 meters or 100 feet is the depth recreational divers should not exceed. But that doesn't mean that any dive shallower that 30 m is without risk. It always depends on the combination of the tree factors : depth, time and ascent rate.
Now, what is "too fast" ?
Hard to say, anything can be too fast (saturation divers must take several days to ascend from a dive) and it depends on how deep you were, how long you stayed and where you intend to stop.
Finally,what is "too long" ?
Here again, no straight answer, you can stay as long as you like if you don't intend to come up !

To be able to design a table, some assumptions must be made and rules set.
First we set a maximum ascent rate (for every different ascent rate you would need a different table).
Then for a set depth it is possible to determine experimentally what a safe dive time can be for an "average diver". If you repeat the experiments for various depth, you can gradual build a non-decompression table. For a full decompression table, you must choose the depths at which the stop have to be carried on and this introduce so many combination that it is impossible to test them all experimentally. A mathematical model must be used to compile a full table.
A mathematical model can not reproduce exactly what is happening in the human body and therefore we must admit that the tables can't be 100% safe.
The accuracy of the model used, the fitness and number of divers used to represent the "average diver", the fitness level and environment in which the table is to be used are all elements which determine what safety factor should be apply to the final table. That is why you may find such big differences between the various tables, none of them are wrong or better or worse than the others. Whichever table you choose to use, you must be aware of how they've been designed and for what purposes and stick to the rules and assumptions made for them.

The UEC choose to use the RNPL/BSAC table because they have been design for safe sport diving, regardless of the environment (diver's fitness, water temperature etc...). This should permit a more relaxed and enjoyable diving within a club.
If you want the club to use another table, go ahead ! but the rules will be different and must know them.
For whoever is interested, I have articles and books on the design and testing of the US NAVY tables, Recreational Dive Planner (the wheel), the Buehlmann tables and the ALADIN computer. I also have more details about the decompression sickness.

SECRETARY'S SPIEL

by Pat Troy

At the Committee Meeting held on August 6, 1990, the following matters were raised and discussed:

TRAINING REPORT

JULIE RAINES advised that she will be conducting an introduction to diving program for beginners. She has five starters and the program will start in mid-August.

BOAT REPORT

BOB COTTON advised that the boat will be back in the water on Monday, August 13. Some minor work will have to be done when she's afloat. Also, there will be a meeting of Skippers and Dive Officers on August 22 at 7.30 pm at the club rooms.

P.R. REPORT

a) The Committee thanked IAN COWAN for his promotional activities at the Avon Descent.

b) The SEAHORSE will now be the Club's logo-type. Susie will make up a few designs for badges that can be stitched onto your jackets. They will cost $6 each.

SOCIAL REPORT

RON PHONMYINT is organising a quiz night for October. Also, there will be a Cabaret at the Fremantle Sailing Club on October 27.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Due to the costs associated with the Club rooms and maintaining the boat, the annual subscriptions go up from November 1, 1990. The new fee schedule will be:

Ordinary Member $50.00; Family $80.00; Country/Social $17.00; Junior $27.00.
Please pay early and beat the price rise!

SAFETY REPORT

MICHEL ROUX will upgrade the First-Aid kit for the boat and check the suitability of existing emergency oxygen facilities.

SOCIAL SECTION

by Kerry Ashton

Haven't quite made it overseas yet, probably the last week in August, so I'm helping Ron put this month together.

BOOK THESE DATES

September	21	Quiz Night
October	27	Progressive Dinner
November		Presentation Night
December		Xmas Dive

(W)Rap Night Wed 12 Sep

Always a good chance to catch up and chat as the work part is minimal.
-See you around 7.30pm.

Quiz Night Fri Sep 21

Time: 7.30pm
Venue: Maylands Hotel
Cost: Only $5

Ever popular, as it gives you the chance to make up your own tables, or perhaps you would like to join a "blind" table. Either way, don't forget to bring along some "grey matter". If you don't have it, bring someone who does.
This year the questions are organised through Margaret. The venue has been checked out by Ian and **Ron is your contact on 417-4140.** Get in early to assist Ron with the floorplan,certainly no later than Sep 17.

Sundowner Fri 7 Sep

VENUE : 6-8pm Clubrooms

Our informal get together.

Divers Cabaret Sat Oct 27

Time: 7.30pm
Venue: Fremantle sailing club
Cost: $25

The annual Divers Ball organised by the Fremantle Yacht Club. Ron is arranging our table(s). You need to pass him the money by Aug 30 to enable the booking to be made.

ALL CONTACTS TO:

Kerry	**331-2385**
Pat	**430-5290**
Ron	**417-4140**

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The **August 20 meeting** will be a visit by Laurie Capehorn, a representative from Fisheries, who will bring us up to date with regulations and how the department sees the recreational diver.

Surprising how the new season is upon us already.

Susie is in the process of organising a club badge with our new logo-type, the SEA HORSE, that you can sew onto your favourite windcheater and jacket. Wearing the club emblem is always good PR, especially when a few of us are together on club activities.

Speaking of the Avon, thanks to Ian for organising the UEC float, mermaid, divers and the "dog". During the weekend many phamlets were handed out to interested or prospective types.

All in all the Avon is a great event and it is a pleasure to play a small part. If you missed this year, make the effort next year, it's worthwhile and fun to boot.

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U.E.C. NEWS

SEPTEMBER 1990

U.E.C. COMMITTEE 1990

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BUILDING	**Richard Naylor** 272 5614
SOCIAL & P.R.	**Kerry Ashton** 331 2385 all hours
EDITOR	Tibi Csomay 3413001

CORAL SPAWNING SPECIAL

The September general meeting will be a special 'coral spawning' edition.
Our guest speaker on monday 17 Sep.90 will be **Chris Simpson** from the Environmental Protection Authority. Chris has been actively involved in the research on coral spawning in Australia (QLD & WA) and will be able to tell you what this is all about. The presentation will include a slides projection and will take about an hour.
Because of the presentation, the 'official' part of the general meeting will take place between 7.30pm and 8.00pm.

TO REMEMBER :

MO. 17.9.90.	***7.30PM***	***GENERAL MEETING.***
	8.00PM	***'CORAL SPAWNING' PRESENTATION.***

Michel.

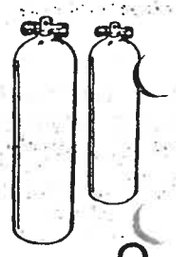
TANK FILLERS FOR THIS MONTH ARE:

Brian Walker	9	to	15 Sep	Ring	451 3448
Peter Horton	16	to	22 Sep	"	445 2336
Ian Cowan	23	to	29 Sep	"	337 3238
Ron Phonmyint	30	to	6 Nov	"	417 4140

TANKS WILL BE FILLED EACH TUESDAY BETWEEN 6 AND 8 PM.
IF REQUIRED PICK UP RING FILLER WHO IS ON DUTY.

ALL MEMBERS MUST HAVE THEIR NAMES ON THEIR TANKS
NO NAME NO FILL.

Richard Naylor



PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM By Maree Casley

Well folks, we weren't exactly killed in the rush at the last General Meeting with people queuing up to pay their annual subs. [illegible] about it team - if we didn't need the money then I wouldn't be making this plea. Avoid the price rise and do the Club a favour at the same time - pay up now! Another way that you can lend support to the Club is to introduce more members to the wonders of diving with us. We have excellent facilities that are hard to beat [illegible]ewhere and our various fees are more than reasonable. Canvass your friends and workmates and see if you can drum up a bit of business for us. It doesn't matter if they can't even dive - we can train them and make sure that they are completely cared for on our Club dives.

This year promises to be a bumper year for diving. Already the weather is beginning to warm up and bringing with it some quite low swells. Get in while the going is good and enjoy some really good diving. We are also planning some Saturday dives where only one tank is required so that you are back in plenty of time to do the weekly shopping or whatever else you do on Saturdays (Is there [illegible] thing else?).
Contact Brian Murray if a short day appeals to you. Also, if you are keen to get in early for some crayfish when the season opens in November let Brian know as we will be running a special dive on the 15th.

At the last General Meeting the final draft for our Club badges was discussed and agreed to. These badges are superb and look fantastic on windcheaters and jackets. They are available in a variety of colour combinations for only $8 so see Ron Phonemyint to place your order. The meeting also discussed "hiring" the Clubrooms to non-members for various activities. It was decided not to allow non-members to use the Clubrooms for reasons of security. The additional income that may have been generated by using the Clubrooms was outweighed by the need to protect our belongings.

Before finishing for this month I would like to remind you all that this month's meeting will start at 7.30PM sharp so that our guest speaker has plenty of time at his disposal. The presentation this month is all about the coral spawning on Ningaloo Reef. Hope [illegible] can all make it.

SECRETARY'S SPIEL

by Pat Troy

At the Executive Committee Meeting held on 3 September 1990, the following matters were raised and discussed.

DIVING REPORT — **Brian Murray**

From November 1990, one-tank dives will be conducted each Saturday.

A cray fishing day out for members will be held on 17 November 1990. Bring your cray gauges as undersize crays will be put back in the water.

The new Roster is ready for skippers and dive officers.

BOAT REPORT — **Bob Cotton**

It has been reported to Bob that there appears to be oil leaking into the bilge. The matter will be given urgent attention.

P.R. AND SOCIAL — **Ron Phonmyint**

There will be a Ten-Pin Bowling Night on Friday, 21 September.

If you are going to the Divers Caberet, the money must have been paid before you read this article.

The annual Presentation night will be held at the Club Rooms on Friday, 16 November. The cost will be $8 each.

Mr. Tibby Scomay
Underwater Explorers Club
47 Lewin Way
SCARBOROUGH WA 6019

CALTEX NORTHAM'S AVON DESCENT

Dear Tibby,

That's the end of the most successful descent ever, it's going to be difficult to match this years' in the future but we will be trying.

Much of the success is due to the dedicated and professional approach by organisations like yours.

Would you please pass on to your members, our committee's most sincere thanks for their continued support and co-operation, their ever ready support is greatly appreciated.

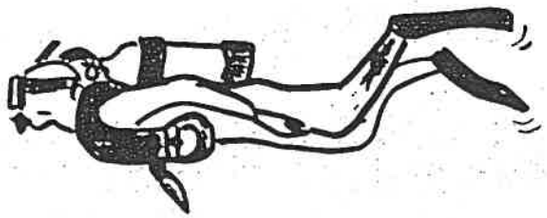
We will, before long, advise a date for a debrief which we hope will be attended by a couple of members of your organisation.

Again our most sincere thanks.

Kindest regards,

Mr. Gerry Post
RACE DIRECTOR

30th August, 1990.



TRAINING REPORT Julie Raines

Our September Diving Course has now been organised. An introductory session was held on Saturday, 10 August.

In this session the students were introduced to the course and given information on the skin diving gear they would be required to have. We have seven starters and all are looking forward to the course.

Next Course is October with Judy Collingwood! Book your friends and acquaintances now!

* * * * * * *

AVON DESCENT PARTICIPANTS

Please return to the Club Rooms any helmets or yellow bibs you may have at home.

It is essential to look after these assets because we will need them next year.

THANKS TO YOU ALL! TIBI

MAGAZINE

Peter Horton, in addition to doing his job as Treasurer will also do the Magazine while Tibi is away on holiday.

GENERAL

Have you thought about the Committee Elections in November?

Would you like to be on the Committee?

* * * * * * *

NOMINATIONS

Melanie Jane YOUNGSON, Subiaco

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

One successful Sunday was had by adventurous Club members to West End and Swirl Reef.

Conditions were good; although visibility was limited.

The season now starts in earnest and some interesting diving is to be had, so how about your support and join us Sundays.

Ph: 459 8374 to book on.

ITEMS OF INTEREST - BRIAN MURRAY

I plan a schedule of Saturday, one (1) tank dives to Stragglers, Hugall's Passage, Garden or Carnac Islands and need a register of interested divers. Contact me if you wish to be included.

—✱✱—

The same also applies for night dives from December on (weather permitting). Again contact me.

—✱✱—

It is planned for the coming season to make the crew of the day responsible for checking any catch to apply to current Fisheries regulations of quota, size etc., before bringing on board U.E.

BOAT BLATHER by Bob Cotton

Well people the boat is now back in the water. Several shakedown cruises were done in the latter part of August and all systems were found to be functioning well. Diving has resumed since then and I believe a fishing trip was arranged. If the weather holds up for the rest of the season it should be a tremendous year.

I am proposing another photographic dive on the 'D9' later this year, either the end of October or beginning of November - date to be advised later.

From this point on its up to you to keep in touch with the Club for up to date info on diving and social events.

That's all from me now, see you out there.

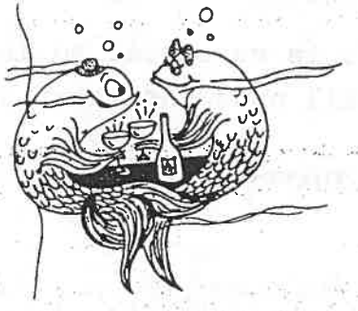
SOCIAL SECTION

12 SEPT (W)RAP NIGHT

21 SEPT TEN PIN BOWLING

16 NOV PRESENTATION NIGHT

16 DEC CHRISTMAS DIVE



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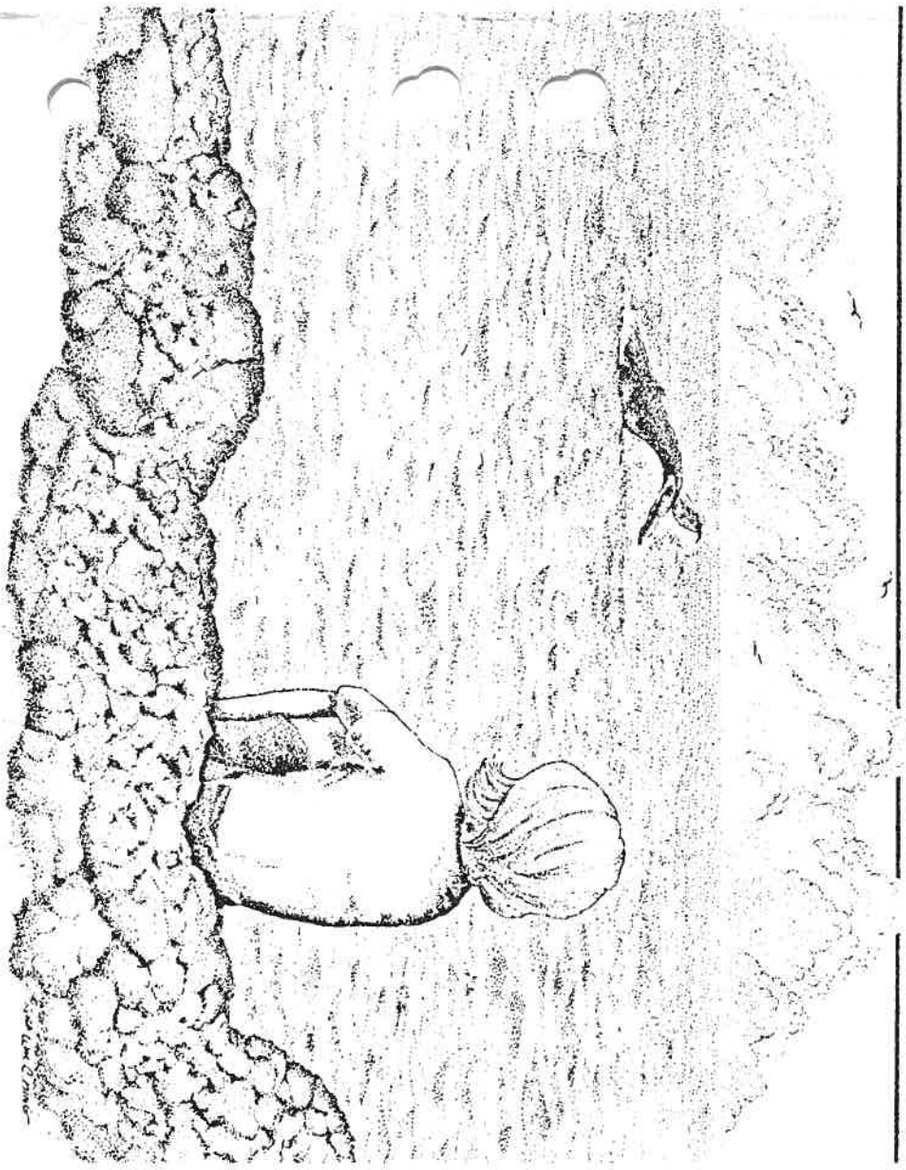


OCTOBER 1990

SECRETARY'S CORNER. PAT TROY.

AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 2 1990, THE FOLLOWING MATTERS WERE RAISED AND DISCUSSED.

TRAINING. JULIE.

THERE HAS BEEN A SLIGHT HOLDUP IN HER TRAINING PROGRAMME BECAUSE SOME STUDENTS HAD DEVELOPED COLDS. SHE HOPES TO FINISH THE CURRENT TRAINING WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

BOAT REPORT. BOB.

THERE ARE NO FURTHER OIL LEAKS.
THE NAME WILL GO BACK ON THE BOAT SUBJECT TO THE JOB BEING DONE AT A REASONABLE PRICE. MARFE WILL GET PRICE AND REPORT BACK TO THE COMMITTEE.

P.R. AND SOCIAL. RON.

STICH ON BADGES CAN BE DONE WITHIN ONE WEEK. HOWEVER THERE MUST BE NO LESS THAN TEN ON ORDER.
THE CHRISTMAS DIVE WILL BE FROM THE SAFETY BAY SAIL ING CLUB.

MAGAZINE. TIBI.

TIBI IS BACK AND NO MORE MR. NICE GUY. HE THANKED PETER FOR DOING THE MAGAZINE IN HIS ABSENCE.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

TIBI IS ORGANISING AN "AVON VALLEY CAMP" TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3 AND 4.

*BRIAN MURRAY WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM DIVERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO GO TO ABROLHOS NORTH DURING SEPTEMBER1991. THEY WILL BE GOING OUT FROM GERALDTON ON "TOP GUN"

DON'T FORGET
12

TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

By Maree Casley

For those of you that didn't make the last General Meeting, all I can say is that you missed a really good night. Chris Simpson from the EPA enlightened us all to the wonders of coral spawning. So much so, that the UEC has offered to monitor the coral spawning (if any) at Rottnest next March. This is a wonderful opportunity for us all to enjoy one of the rare wonders of nature. If any of you are interested in observing this phenomenom and perhaps capturing it on film, get in quick and register your interest with Brian Murray. The exact timing of this event is not known yet, so you will have to be ready to go at the drop of a hat.

Another wonder of nature occurring annually is the migration of humpback whales down the coast and the good news is that it is happening right now. How about a group of us getting together and going out to see what we can see? Again, contact Brian but don't wait too long, otherwise the whales will be in Antarctica. Also,the pressure on the boat is increasing and a suitable slot may not be available.

John Walden, a Life Member of the Club has kindly donated a lot of documents to the Club that he came across whilst in the process of moving house. These documents contain much information about the Club's recompression chamber and our training base at Woodman's Point and is of great historical significance to the Club. Anyone wishing to have a look at these papers see Pat at the next meeting. Thanks John for passing these papers on to the Club.

Lastly, I would like to remind each and every one of you that the continuing sucess of the UEC depends on us all. We need you all to be actively involved in Club activities. Currently, of all our membership only about 15-20% of us dive regularly and that is just not enough for us to remain prosperous. So how about it - come diving with us - regularly!

ANOTHER DIVE, ANOTHER DAY.
by B.C.

The day dawneth. The sun doth riseth. The skipper and dive officer doth prepareth boat.
2. Both fighteth off numerous screeching gulls from boat deck and rigging.
3. The skipper doth stompeth up and down deck. He then rummageth around in bilges most foul and swear and snorteth. He snorteth thus. "A pox on the boat officer and the previous skipper. Thine boat is not in pristine and be unfit for travel out to ocean deep.
4. And lo, he discovereth snorting and swearing not helpeth clean bilges. He doth closeth hatch.
5. The skipper doth taketh up sextant and monocular compass and maketh calculations most numerous. Thus he sayeth "We are on our mooring in the river."
6. "Hallelujah, this be most reassuring."Quoth the dive officer. The skipper then goeth about boat preparation. He tyeth a string of garlic to mast. (To wardeth off evil spirits.) He burneth incense. He sayeth a sooth.
7. It came to pass that all was in readiness and they casteth off from mooring, they setteth sail. Soon they arriveth at East street jetty. They tyeth up.
8. A great multitude of quivering undersea pilgrims awaiteth. Thus the craft is loaded with great clamour and tumult as many varied chattels are heaved aboard.
9. Thus loaded the pilgrims doth clamber aboard The skipper doth rusheth up and down the deck adjusting, retying ropes, there being two of these
10. The skipper then anointeth himself with ungents and creams in readiness for ritual sun worship.(He is a born again heathen.) He doth consulteth book of dive site sooths. He looketh at motley assembly of undersea pilgrims."Why me" He lamenteth under his breath.
11. So it came to pass that the craft and its quivering crew were in readiness for the days adventure.
12. They casteth off. The craft moveth out to sea. Abreeze springeth up. The pilgrims become tremelous. And lo there there is much murmuring "The ocean doth looketh

by Ric. This dive starts by entering a large tunnel near the reef surface and exiting on the wall at about 22 metres. The wall drops down to well over 65 metres and allows an absolutely magnificent sight of white soft corals. You drift-dive along the wall and exit through another tunnel back up again. Absolutely mind-blowing experience.

Another dive that was quite outstanding is "The Great Cabbage Patch", a huge colony of cabbage-like, green coral with Big Jacks, swarms of angelfish, giant clams, and white tip sharks resting on the sandy bottom beside the patch. The extra-ordinary scene at "Jack's Place" was the millions of little Garden eels, sticking up half way or more from the sandy sea floor at 19 metres depth. "The Ledge" was another drift-dive where we saw white-tip reef sharks, and many Clown fish colonies. Notes from our dive logs reveal expressions like "mind-blowing", beautiful Clown trigger fish, huge Tiger cowry shells, incredible colourful Christmas tree worms on brain corals, Fire Coral country (watch the touching!), majestic Lion fish, shrimps with long feelers, moray eels, lots of different Parrot fish and so on for ever. We played with a Puffer fish so Gary Bell (working for Neville Coleman) could get a good shoot. They really look like a little seal puppy in their face when they are puffed up!

The underwater world in Fiji is absolutely spectacular, incredible, with profilic marine life and still quite untouched. Small fish of every imaginable colour and pattern flitted among the many different coral branches. It was very sad to have to leave this diving paradise, but just as well anyway, because we had pushed it a little bit too much - our ears were "playing up" after the long winter-break in Aussie - but we simply couldn't NOT dive when we were over there!
Best regards from us.

DIVE REPORT FROM FIJI by Kerry and Susie Ashton

Introduction

The diving in Fiji has always been considered to be some of the best in the world. We totally agree, having stayed for a week on Taveuni, the third largest of the 240 Fiji Islands. The island is also known as "The Garden Island" and situated near to the 31 km long coral "Rainbow Reef", said to contain the best sites in the South Pacific. When we landed at Nadi International Airport, we didn't really have an exact plan, but by listening to people and asking other divers: "Where is the best diving in Fiji?" we soon found out that we should head to the Somosomo Strait up north between the Vanua Levu and Taveuni islands. So, after one night in Nadi Hotel (because all domestic flights leave in the morning) we took off north the next day to Taveuni.

Dive Taveuni

Arriving one hour later at the little Taveuni airport, (which was just a dirt road really) we rang a place called Dive Taveuni that we had picked up a brochure on from the tourist office. Yes, we were VERY lucky, they had a vacant bure because of a cancellation. They only have 6 bures that takes 12 people and the whole set-up is geared towards divers. It's an excellent place, quite luxurious (A$2000 for five days). Dive Taveuni was established and is run by expatriate New Zealanders Ric and Do Cammick. The Cammicks are renowned for their marvellous hospitality, excellent food and company at their cliff-top property.

The Boat

Every morning we would leave the resort in a converted truck called Darling for a 40 minute ride to the dive boat, which is a catamaran, capable of 30 knots, and perfectly set-up for twenty divers. The crew were all very confident and skillful skippers (and divers). They always left two on the boat, and the other two would go with us divers. They knew every little hole or cave, what to find where, and the current here, there and everywhere.

The Dive Sites

We were diving the famous "Rainbow Reef", so rich in marine life due to continuous movement of water through the narrow passage between Taveuni and the eastern edge of Vanua Levu. "The Great White Wall" is only one of several excellent locations found

menacing." They mutter. "Stuff and nonsense, tis but a gentle zephyr." Snorteth the skipper as he racketh on max. revs and maketh the craft leapeth over foaming crests the height of two men.
13."We are doomed." Squeaketh the green, quivering pilgrims.
14. And it came to pass that the wind now reacheth force nine on the Beaufort scale. The seas are now tumultuous and soaring with white caps.
15. "Save us from a watery doom." Wail the green trembling pilgrims. "These be typical diving conditions." Snorteth the skipper as he doth chompeth on a garlic and curry prawn roll.
16. And lo many pilgrims go their knees and call to the twin deities of regurgitation, Ralph and Ruth. (Pronounceth Raaaalph and Ruuuuuth!)
17. It came to pass that the pilgrims bountiful offerings were duly ignored by the divine deities of the oceans. Thus they rolleth in the scuppers. They calleth frequently for meciful death.
18 Inbetween their raucous offerings to the sea some observeth that the divine deities can on occasion be a selfish and flaky lot.
19. Soon they arriveth at the site of the first dive. The skipper yelleth "Anchor party." The pilgrims taketh up trumpet and bells, donneth ornamental and colourful hats, distribute fermented beverages and begin to sing songs of a lewd and lascivious nature.
20. The skipper fumeth. He taketh up hemp knout and lasheth all about. "Knaves, cease thy frivolousness. Attend the anchor." He snarleth. The quivering pilgrims moveth forward to the bow. Thus the anchor was duly secured.
21." This be thy first dive of the day so hark ye to the dive officer. He doth impart many sooths of wisdom." All the pilgrims yawn loudly.
22. And it came to pass the dive officer begin his many incantations. "Thou shalt not overstay thy dive time." Yawn. sayeth the pilgrims. "Thou shalt not tell fibs about thy maximum depth." The pilgrims yawneth again. "Thou shalt not stray too far from the boat." Again the pilgrims yawneth. "Thou shalt not tell fibs about thy dive time."

"There be no fun in diving anymore." Observeth a pilgrim. "This be a poxy dive spot." Observeth another.
23. Thus the many sooths and incantations being dispensed with the skipper and his kindred heathens donneth their undersea raiments.(Which smelleth like a thousand unwashed armpits or one armpit a thousand times unwashed, whichever be the greater.)
24. They taketh up pikes and spears and leapeth over the side of boat and disappear beneath the frothing brine.
25. Lo and behold, after half an hour plus a quarter, the hedonistic heathens doth reappear on the surface of the brine. And lo there was much gibbering among them.
26. They all doth clamber back on board. And lo there be black looks and dark countenance among them for there be none with any piscotorial trophies to brag about.
27. " thou were right." Muttereth a pilgrim. "This be a poxy dive spot." "There be no fun in diving anymore." Chorus the remainder.
28. And lo the skipper thinketh to himself. Philistines and bloody ingrates. I hopeth I not coppeth this poxy lot again. And the pilgrims thinketh darkly that they notteth come out with such a poxy skipper again.
29. So endeth another typical boat dive. And so they returneth home to complaining spouses and the muelings of discontented offspring. They doth discover that the weeds have taken over the garden, also their favorite gladitorial team hath been humbled, thrashed and slaughtered in the grand arena during their absence.
30. Thus do many pilgrims begin thinking that whatsoever the trials and tribulations of being out on the oceans battling with the uncompromising elements that they be less daunting than the tyranny of domesticity.
31. Thus do many of those who chorused their discontent on their adventure doth maketh much preparation for another. Here endeth the lesson. Amen.

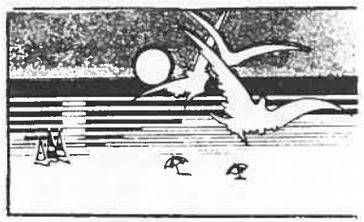
DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

Limited diving conditions have made UEC trips a rarity over the past month with a number of Sundays being cancelled due to weather or poor response.

Summer is on the way and we have some good diving to be had as:

14 October	-	Hugalls Passage	Bob/Judy
21 October	-	Carnac	Barry/Maree
28 October	-	Duffield Ridge	Peter/Julie
4 November	-	Swirl Reef	Dennis/Brian

Don't forget Saturday 1 tank dives.



NOMINATIONS.

GILES RODNEY DALE. MOSMAN PARK.
CHRISTOPHER COURTNEY. COTTESLOE.
CHRISTOPHER JOHN BOYLE. HARVEY.
ERIK LYN HAGEN. HARVEY.
JONATHON MICHAEL BISHOP. COTTESLOE.
SEBASTIAN DOUGLAS KENDREW. MOSMAN PARK.
PHILIP KEVIN R. PASCALL. PEPPERMINT GROVE.
JOHN HUGH MCARTHUR. HARVEY.
MELANIE JANE YOUNGSON. SUBIACO.

SOCIAL SECTION

PRESENTATION NIGHT

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED THAT THE CLUB WILL BE HOLDING IT'S ANNUAL PRESENTATION EVENING ON NOVEMBER 16th. IN ADDITION TO THE PRESENTATION OF AWARDS, THERE WILL BE A BAR-B-Q WITH SALADS, REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC PROVIDED. THE COST WILL BE $8.00PER/HEAD. PLEASE ATTEND AND HELP SUPPORT THE U.E.C. THE MORE THE MERRIER! FUN, FUN, FUN !!!!!! FOR BOOKINGS PLEASE CONTACT RON PHONE-MYINT ON 417 4140.

CHRISTMAS DIVE 16th DECEMBER, 1990.

THE CHRISTMAS DIVE THIS YEAR WILL BE HELD AT THE SAFETY YATCH CLUB, WHICH IS LOCATED AT THE END OF SAFETY BAY ROAD. THIS WILL BE A FAMILY DAY OUT SO BRING YOUR FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS. WE HOPE TO GET THINGS UNDER WAY BY ABOUT 9.00am, SO COME AND GO AS YOU PLEASE DURING THE DAY. IF YOU INTEND ON COMING ALONG, PLEASE CONTACT ME, RON PHONE-MYINT ON 4174140.

SAFETY REPORT.

MICHEL ROUX.

SUMMER IS APPROACHING FAST NOW, BUT IF THE NICE WARM WEATHER SHOULD BE HERE SOON IT MAY SILL BE QUITE ROUGH OUT THERE. ROUGH WEATHER MEANS FOR MANY PEOPLE, GETTING SEASICK ON THE BOAT.

SEASICKNESS IS A COMMON AND UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE AND IT ALSO CAN BE DANGEROUS WHEN COMBINED WITH SCUBA DIVING IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR SAFETY TO PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST SEASICKNESS AND AT LAST TO ENJOY YOUR DAY OUT DIVING WITHOUT FEARING THIS NASTY ILLNESS.

THERE ARE TWO MAJOR WAYS TO PREVENT SEASICKNESS, (A THIRD ONE WOULD BE NOT TO GO ON THE BOAT! BUT DON'T DO THAT, COME DIVING WITH US ON THE U.E.!!!)

ONE WAY IS BY THE EXTERNAL APPLICATION OF A LOCAL ANESTETIC OVER THE INNER EAR REGION. YOU CAN BUY AT THE CHEMIST LITTLE ROUND "STICKERS" THAT YOU APPLY BEHIND ONE EAR BEFORE YOUR BOAT TRIP. THEY ARE EASY TO USE, VERY EFFICIENT, WITH NO SIDE EFFECTS AND WILL PROTECT FOR UP TO 3 DAYS!! UNFORTUNATELLY THEY ARE QUITE EXPENSIVE.
CALLED " SCOP" THEY SELL FOR $10 FOR TWO PATCHES AND SHOULD BE APPLIED 5-6 HOURS BEFORE REQUIRED.

THE OTHER WAY IS INTERNAL, YOU TAKE A PILL!
THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT TYPES ON THE MARKET WITH VARIOUS EFFICIENCIES, ACTION TIME AND SIDE EFFECTS. THE MOST COMMON PROBLEM IS THAT THEY CAN CAUSE DROWSINESS WHICH SHOULD BE AVOIDED WHEN DIVING. HOWEVER, ONE BRAND DOES NOT HAVE THAT EFFECT, IT BECOMES ACTIVE WITHIN AN HOUR AND WILL PROTECT YOU FOR 4-6HOURS. UNFORTUNATELLY (AGAIN) YOU WILL NEED A PRESCIPTION TO GET THEM. CALLED "STEMETIL" THEY SELL FOR $8 FOR 25 TABLETS.

ANYWAY, IF YOU ARE PRONE TO SEASICKNESS, DO YOURSELF A FAVOR AND PROTECT YOURSELF.

SAFE DIVING ALWAYS! HAVE A GOOD DIVE.

AVON VALLEY WEEKEND 3-4 NOVEMBER.

DURING THE AVON DESCENT SEVERAL CLUB MEMBERS EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN RETURNING TO THE AVON VALLEY IN THE SPRING, TO ADMIRE THE SCENERY AND THE WILD FLOWERS.

SEVERAL IDEAS WERE DISCUSSED, AMONG THEM, WALKING FROM BELLS RAPIDS TO TOODYAY (TWO DAYS, 60KM). AND RETURNING ON THE PROSPECTOR, OR RIDING BIKES FROM TOODYAY TO MIDLAND, ETC.

THE BEST ONE, WHICH WILL SUIT MOST TASTES IS TO GO TO EMU FALLS FRIDAY AFTERNOON OR EARLY SATURDAY MORNING, SET UP CAMP AND THEN GO ON SHORT TRIPS FROM THIS BASE.

THINGS TO DO WILL BE:

DRIVE OR HIKE TO BALD HILL (3KM)AND CLIMB IT. BALD HILL'S NORTH SIDE IS BARE ROCK ABOUT 200 M. HIGH. THE VIEW IS GREAT.

WALK TO JULIMAR SPINGS .(3KM).

WALK TO EMU FALLS TO LOOK AT IT WITHOUT WATER.

DRIVE OR WALK TO THE ABANDONED QUARRY AND SWIM OR DIVE IN THE ICE COLD BUT CRYSTAL CLEAR WATER.

CROSS THE RIVER AND LOOK FOR BUSHRANGER MOONDINE JOE'S BROOK AND CAGE.

CLIMB ONE OF THE STEEP HILLS (230M.)

TAKE PICTURES OR JUST LAZE AROUND.

WE WILL HAVE A CAMPFIRE SATURDAY NIGHT AND EVERYBODY WILL BE ASKED TO PREFORM SOME SMALL ITEM TO AMUSE THE REST (ITS A MUST).

TRAVEL: BY GROUPS FROM TOODYAY TURNOFF MIDLAND.(YOU CAN POOL CARS).
FOOD AND DRINKS: BYO.
TENT SUPPLIED.
SLEEPING BAGS : BYO.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT TIBI. 3413001
COST :ADULTS $2 CHILDREN $1 (PARK FEE PER NIGHT).

EVERYBODY WELLCOME.

DID YOU KNOW...

that the **BUSSELTON JETTY** area has been documented to have more varieties of fish in per area of water than the Great Barrier Reef!

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN DIVING FOR A WHILE

HAVE YOU ?

TRAINING REPORT.

JULIE RAINES.

TRAINING IS PROGRESSING WELL. WHILST WE HAVE BEEN HELD UP BY STUDENTS AND INSTRUCTORS ALIKE SUFFERING FROM THE DREADED FLU OUR QUALIFYING DIVES WILL BE HELD THIS WEEK.

NEXT COURSE STARTS ON THE 13- 14TH OCTOBER WITH JUDY COLLINGWOOD. FOLLOWING THAT DENNIS STUBBERFIELD'S COURSE WILL START ON THE EVENING OF WEDNESDAY 14TH NOVEMBER WITH AN INTRODUCTORY SESSION ON THE EVENING OF FRIDAY 2ND NOVEMBER.

THE WEATHER IS WARMING UP SO GET YOUR FRIENDS INTO DIVING.

U.E.C. NEWS

NOVEMBER 1990

Japar

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tired, have an illness coming on, or simply had a drink the night before etc.; let alone any combinations of the above.

Repeditive dives further compound the estimates. They can end up as guestimates!

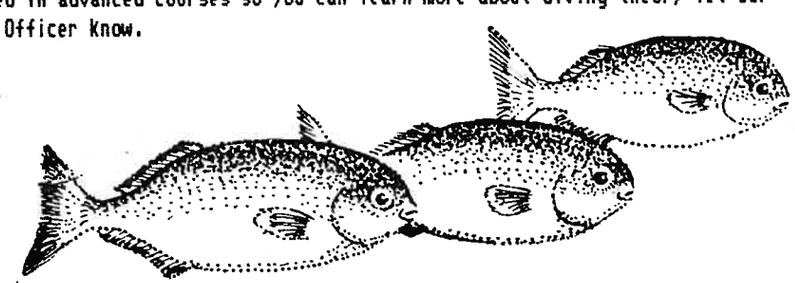
Finally, recent research has brought yet another factor into the picture. A medical condition known as Patent Foramen Ovale has now been implicated in causing the bends. It is estimated that possibly 25% of the population has a small microscopic hole in the wall between the atria of their heart (FAUI News V12: no.1 1990). This means that sometimes bubbles escape through this hole and avoid going to the lungs. Thus those bubbles get shunted around the body again and can have a second go at growing big! It is suggested that this may be one reason why some divers have been bent even though they dive within the tables.

Despite all of this, there are dive tables which appear to have a high success rate. The RNPL/BASC table which has been adopted by the club has only a 0.05% incidence of the bends when used correctly. It has already had some safety factors incorporated into it, mainly in the area of repeditive dives. Some computer manufacturers are advertising some good supportive statistics too, but as with all new science, time will tell.

So know your tables.

Know which tables are safest. Learn to use your tables or computer properly, learn what their limitations are and use them conservatively. Ask yourself, how many predisposing factors do I have? Could I be one of the 25% with a Patent Foramen Ovale? Look at it this way, if you make a mistake you may never dive again. You could even end up a quadraplegic. Take responsibility for yourself and Dive So You Will Be Sure To Dive Again!

** If you are interested in learning/or revising how to use the dive tables ask our Safety Officer or one of our Instructors to organize a session. If you are interested in advanced courses so you can learn more about diving theory let our Training Officer know.



WHAT TO DO WHEN

GET AWAY FOR A DAY

NOVEMBER

THURSDAY 15.	THE 1990/91 ROCK LOBSTER SEASON OPENS.	
FRIDAY 16.	PRESENTATION NIGHT.	2000HRS
SATURDAY 17.	REPAIRS TO BOAT ANCHORAGE FREMANTLE.	
SUNDAY 18.	ROTTNEST DIVE. B. COTTON. J. RAINES.	0800HRS
MONDAY 19.	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. 2000 HRS.	
SATURDAY 24.	FISHING TRIP. ROTTNEST. M. SMITH. P. HORTON.	0700HRS
SUNDAY 25.	STRAGGLERS DIVE. B. KENNEDY. M. ROUX.	0800HRS

DECEMBER

SUNDAY. 2.	ANGELLA'S CAVE. P. HORTON.	0800HRS
MONDAY 3.	COMMITTEE MEETING.	2o00HRS
SATURDAY 8.	FOR SATURDAY DIVES RING DIVING OFFICER	
SUNDAY 9.	DIVE IN THE FISHHOOK BAY AREA. D. STUBBERRFIELD	0800HRS
WEDNESDAY 12.	MAGAZINE WRAP NIGHT. ALL WELLCOME.	1930HRS
SATURDAY 15.	RING THE DIVING OFFICER IF YOU INTERESTED IN DIVES.	
SUNDAY 16.	CHRISTMAS DIVE AND FUN DAY. SAFETY BAY. CORNER OF SAFETY BAY ROAD AND WAIMEA ROAD. FOR ALL THE FAMILY. FROM	0900HRS
MONDAY 17.	GENERAL MEETING.	2000HRS

BOAT BLATHER

THE SEASON IS SLOWLY REVVING UP (AT LAST) AND THE FEW DIVES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL. IN BETWEEN THIS WE HAVE HAD A FISHING TRIP (DEEMED SUCCESSFUL). PLUS THE TRAINEE SKIPPERS HAVE HAD A SESSION RECENTLY AND AQUITTED THEMSELVES EXTREMELY WELL.

RE OUR PROPOSED CHRISTMAS DIVE AND FUN DAY ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 16TH (WRITE IT DOWN - RIGHT NOW !). THIS IS TO CONFIRM THE VENUE WILL BE AT THE CARPARK ON THE CORNER OF SAFETY BAY ROAD AND WAIMEA ROAD. THE BOAT WILL BE THERE WAITING FOR YOU EARLY IN THE MORNING. THIS IS FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE DESIROUS OF A DIVE.
THE DAYS ACTIVITY WILL BE A SERIES OF DIVES ALL AT THE SAME SPOT. THIS IS SO THAT THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE NOT FANATICAL EARLY DIVERS CAN STILL HAVE A DIVE DURING THE COURSE OF THE DAY.

SO IT'S UP TO YOU TO GET YOURSELVES DOWN THERE WITH MUM AND THE KIDS, GRAND-PARENTS, AUNTIE MAVIS OR OTHER UNBEARABLE RELATIVES, THERE IS A NICE SAFE BEACH THERE. BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS AND FOOD.

BARBICUES WILL BE SUPPLIED BY THE CLUB. GET ONTO IT AND GET INTO IT. IT'S GOING TO BE A FANTASTIC DAY FOR EVERYONE.

BOB C. B.O. (VERY BAD ON HOT DAYS).

NOMINATIONS

BRIAN JAMES LEAVY, WILLETTON.
DAVID BLAIR STONE, KARDINYA.
WAH HING LAI, LEEMING .
BRIAN CHRISTOPHER CRUISE, EAST FREMANTLE.

TANK FILLERS FOR THIS MONTH.

PETER HORTON	11-17 NOVEMBER	445 2336
RICHARD NAYLOR	18-24 NOVEMBER	272 5614
RON PHONEMYNT	24- 1 DECEMBER	417 4140
BRIAN WALKER	2- 8 DECEMBER	451 3448

TANKS WILL BE FILLED EACH TUESDAY BETWEEN 6-8PM. RING FILLER ON THURSDAY FOR PICK UP ON FRIDAY.

NO NAME ON THE TANK OR TANK OUT OF TEST, TANK WILL NOT BE FILLED.

FOR SALE.

NEAR NEW HORSE COLLAR B.C. SEVERAL BLUE COLOUR USE IT AS A STANDBY $65 RING 341 3001

U.E.C. COMMITTEE 199

PRESIDENT	Maree Casley 457 3333 a/h
V. PRESIDENT	Kerry Ashton 331 2385 all hours
SECRETARY	Pat Troy 328 8163 a/h (W 327 8777)
TREASURER	Peter Horton 445 2336 a/h (W 381 3600)
DIVING	Brian Murray 459 8374 a/h
SAFETY	Michel Roux 450 3213 a/h
TRAINING	Julie Raines 306 1642 a/h (W 405 555
BOAT	Bob Cotton 367 2222 a/h
BUILDING	Richard Naylor 272 5614

2) They are specified to suit a particular dive profile and may involve stops deeper than 5 meters. Further more they cannot be replaced by a slow ascent.

N_2 RETENTION- A third important factor affecting bubble formation is retention. Some tissues are much slower to "off gas" than others. They are slow to let the N_2 molecules back into the blood stream. Thus as you ascend, the N_2 in these tissues is more likely to form bubbles.

The tables

Dive tables are designed to give you a guide to how long you can stay at a given depth without forming large bubbles when you ascend. These guide lines however do rely on you ascending at the specified rate.

In the case of decompression dives you will have absorbed enough N_2 to give you large bubble formation even on a slow ascent. In this case the dive tables give you a guide to the decco stops you must make in order to "off gas" sufficiently so as to return to the surface in safety.

But guide is the operative word!

In terms of N_2 retention, over 100 different tissue types have been identified in our bodies. Each of them takes on and gives off N_2 at different rates and at different depths. Since people are all different (different proportions of tissues and different efficiencies in their circulation etc.) it is difficult for a simple dive table to take all of these predisposing factors into account.

Even our wonderful new technological dive computers have their limitations. They are still based on an "average person" (what or who ever that may be??) and only take a few tissue types into account. For that reason alone it pays to use the tables and computers conservatively.

But there is more.

Dive tables are determined by models and calculations based on data collected. Relatively speaking, only small amounts of data have been collected on female divers, older people, the overweight, the unfit, people with bad circulation, people who are

ASCENT- One factor which increases excitation is ascending to the surface. As the ambient pressure decreases around your body and in your lungs (which are breathing regulated air), the N_2 dissolved within your tissues ends up being at a higher partial pressure than in the lungs. As you probably realize from your understanding of the most basic laws of physics, things cannot remain this way! The N_2 pressure in the tissues must equalize itself with the pressure in the blood and lungs by moving out- and move out it does!

If our bodies were like a balloon, this would be easy. The N_2 would flow "gently" from our bodies without becoming excited. However, it is not so simple. The N_2 is dissolved into our various tissues, and the pathway from these tissues into our blood, through the heart and out via the complex tissues of our lungs, is a lengthy process. It takes time! If we do not give this outward flowing N_2 time, it will force its way out in a frenzy. The molecules, excited by the sharp pressure gradient, will try to force their way out of the tissues. In the process they will collide and form bubbles (remember the coke bottle demonstration you most probably had in your dive course- when the lid, or pressure, was taken off fast the gas bubbled out). If you are unlucky large bubbles may form and give you the bends.

DISSOLVED N_2- The second factor which plays a major role in the formation of bubbles, is the amount of N_2 you have taken on during your dive. The deeper you dive the more air, and thus the more N_2, you breath. The longer the dive, the more time you will have for the N_2 to actually become dissolved into your tissues. A deep and/or long dive with an inappropriate ascent could mean a bend.

Dives should be followed by slow ascents (generally 10-15 meters per minute) and preferably safety stops such as 5 minutes at 5 meters. Safety stops are a nice controlled way of slowing an ascent. More importantly safety stops are carried out around 5 meters which is a critical depth in your ascent. Remember that the top most 10 meters is where the greatest change in pressure occurs. According to most dive tables it is also a depth at which you do not take on a significant amount of N_2. Thus it is a good depth to "hang around" and gently "off gas" some of that N_2 before making the final ascent to the surface.

Decompression stops are also required for some dives. They work similarly to safety stops accept that-

1) They are essential, not just a safety factor

PRESIDENT'S PLATFORM

by MAREE CASLEY

November in the U.E.C. is an exciting month. Firstly, for all you crustacean lovers, the crayfishing season opens on November the 15th. To Celebrate this long-awaited day, we are putting on some extra dives, in the hope that we can extricate some of these delicious animals from the ocean and into our kitchens. Contact Brian Murray for the dates and Good Luck! (You will need it if I see the crays first).

November also brings with it the Presentation night. This evening is the perfect opportunity to meet all the new members to our Club who have completed the Training Courses that have been conducted throughout the year. It is also the night when we award trophies to the various members for their outstanding contributions to the Club in the past year. The cost is only $8 for a BBQ and salad and promises to be a great evening. Bring the family and come along to enjoy the evening, catching up with old friends and making new ones. Hope to see you all there on Friday 16th of November at the Clubrooms.

Dont forget the Xmas Dive either. This year it is going to be by the Safety Bay Yacht Club on the lawns and beach of Safety Bay. Again bring the family, your food and refreshments and enjoy a pleasant day out. We are running a few dive trips out to the local Reefs, so bring your diving and snorkelling gear, one (1) cylinder for a dive. For divers and snorkellers we will try out our Manta board too, which will be fun for all. (If you dont know how much fun manta boarding is, come along and get the thrill of your lives).

Finally, November is the month where we say Goodbye to the old Committee of Management and welcome in the new. The A.G.M., will be on Monday the 19th of November. After an extremely short General Meeting, we will get down to the task of electing a new Committee, to run the Club affairs for the next year. Following the Elections, there will be a few nibbles and a convivial refreshment or two! All Committee positions will become vacant, so if you feel you have a particular skill, or have a few good ideas that you can contribute to the Club, come along and have yourself nominated for a position. The Club is always in need of members who are willing to give up some of their time and expertise to benefit the Club and diving as a whole. Dont be shy - we need you!
Before finishing, I would like to sincerely thank all the present Committee Members for all their efforts, throughout the year and also for all their help and support afforded to me personally. To all of you...Thank You! #

TRAINING REPORT. JULIE RAINES.

OUR U.E.C. YEAR IS AT AN END. IN TERMS OF TRAINING IT HAS BEEN AN INTERESTING AND FRUITFUL YEAR. ALL INSTRUCTORS HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOME TRAINING. I HAVE THOROUGHLY ENJOYED THE COURSES I HAVE RUN AND I AM SURE I CAN SAY THE SAME FOR OUR OTHER INSTRUCTORS.
WE HAVE TRAINED A TOTAL OF 17 PEOPLE THIS YEAR AND HAVE SORTED OUT QUITE A FEW PROBLEMS, SUCH AS FINANCE, PAPERWORK, THAT CAN BE MAILED OUT AND EXPLORED VARIOUS GEAR AND BOAT HIRING OPPORTUNITIES.
THE INTRODUCTION TO DENNIS' COURSE HAS BEEN HELD AND THE FORMAL COURSE WILL BE UNDERWAY SOON. OTHER COURSES FOR DECEMBER AND 1991 WILL BE SCHEDULED SOON.

SECRETARY'S SPIEL

PAT TROY.

AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 5 1990, THE FOLLOWING MATTERS WERE DISCUSSED:

BOAT REPORT.

BOB COTTON IS LOOKING FOR A SUITABLE BERTH FOR THE U.E. IN CHALLENGER HARBOUR. ALSO THERE ARE SOME MINOR TECHNICAL REPAIRS TO BE DONE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

TRAINING REPORT.

SEE JULIE'S REPORT ABOVE.

DIVING REPORT.

BRIAN MURRAY HAS TWO DIVING TRIPS PLANNED, ONE TO ALBANY, THE OTHER TO SHARK BAY. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

BUILDING REPORT.

RICHARD NAYLOR AND THE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE NICE PERSON WHO BORROWED THE BARBEQUE, USED IT AND RETURNED IT IN A DISGUSTINGLY FILTHY CONDITION. FROM NOW ON, IT WILL COST $5 UP FRONT TO USE AND MUST BE RETURNED CLEAN.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE FOR THE LONG WEEKEND TRIP TO ROTTNEST FROM 20 TO 28. GET IN EARLY.

SOCIAL LATE NEWS!

PRESENTATION EVENING IN THE CLUB ROOMS WILL BE ON THE 16 NOVEMBER COST $8 BARBIQUE WITH SALADS REFRESHMENTS AND MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED. ALL WE NEED IS YOU.

CHRISTMAS FAMILY DAY WITH DIVES WILL BE HELD AT THE SAFETY BAY YACHT CLUB.THE BOAT WILL BE THERE JUST BRING YOUR FOOD, DRINKS, DIVING GEAR. THE BEACH IS SAFE FOR THE KIDS. SWIM, SNORKEL, DIVE OR JUST LAZE AROUND. 16TH DECEMBER. RING RON PHONEMYNT ON 4174140.

BUBBLES, BENDS AND DIVE TABLES

By Julie Raines

Dear diver

Since becoming Training Officer for the U.E.C., I have had a number of interesting discussions about dive tables. Myself and others have come to the conclusion that a lot of people really do not understand dive tables because they do not understand the science behind them. This is not surprising since the science is extremely complicated and in some cases not fully investigated.

Unlike some of my friends, I have had the opportunity to attend a F.A.U.I. Instructor Program in which the science of decompression sickness and dive tables was highly featured. I am writing this article to share with you, the basic science behind decompression sickness as I now understand it. Hopefully it will answer some of the queries that people have raised.

Bubbles and Bends

As you scuba dive, you equalize the increasing pressure on your lungs by taking in compressed air from your scuba cylinder. As you know the main constituents of air are N_2 (80%) and O_2(20%). The deeper you dive the more air your regulator delivers to you and therefore the more N_2 you consume.

The N_2 saturates your lungs and blood very quickly and flows into the surrounding tissues. This is not a problem in itself (otherwise people could not survive in underwater habitats under the sea where they breath N_2 in their air mix). However, if N_2 molecules are given the opportunity to unite together to form bubbles, this may become a problem inducing the Bends (Decompression Sickness).

You might ask, how do the bubbles form?

N_2 bubbles will form when N_2 molecules become excited. When excited they start to move around fast which increases their contact with each other allowing them to form clumps of N_2 gas or bubbles. Three major factors increase the probability of bubble formation.

HONORARY MEMBERS APPOINTED.

THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO POSSITIONS ON THE COMMITTEE OF THE SCUBA DIVERS FEDERATION OF AUSTRALIA WA. BRANCH. HAVE RECEIVED HONORARY MEMBERSHIP OF THE UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB FOR THE COMING YEAR.
THIS IS TO FURTHER THE INTEREST OF AMATEUR DIVING IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

THE NEW HONORARY MEMBERS ARE:

MAX SCOTT BICTON.
JEFF SCARFE ARDROSS.
ANNETTE WESTHOFF ARDROSS.

FISHING TRIP.

MARTIN SMITH.

AT LAST I AM WRITING A FEW WORDS ON OUR OCCASIONAL FISHING TRIPS. THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE MISSED THEM IN THE PAST CAN GIVE ME A CALL ANY TIME ON 458 2224.

ON WEDNESDAY THE 24TH I WAS LUCKY TO HAVE A DAY OFF AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO SPEND IT THAN FISHING.
WE LEFT EAST ST. AT 8AM AND HEADED FOR ROTTO. WE SATRTED FISHING AT A SPOT NORTH OF ROE REEF AND CAUGHT NOTHING ALL MORNING. TIBI SUGGESTED THAT WE GO FURTHER WEST TO A SECRET SPOT HE KNEW NORTH OF THE HUT ON THE WEST END AND BINGO! TIM HOOKED A BIG ONE BUT HALF WAY UP IT GOT AWAY. TIBI ALSO HOOKED A BIG ONE, THE LINE CUT HIS HAND, BUT IT TOO GOT AWAY.
WELL IT WAS UP TO THE SKIPPER TO PRODUCE THE GOODS. I ALSO HOOKED A BIG ONE! AND I PULLED IT IN, IT WAS A 4½ KG. JEWIE. 30 MINUTES LATER ANOTHER ONE.
IT WAS A TOP DAY!

THE NEXT TRIP WILL BE ON NOVEMBER 24 LEAVING EAST ST JETTY AT 7 AM. BAIT SUPPLIED BRING YOUR LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS. LIMIT OF ABOUT 10 PERSONS.

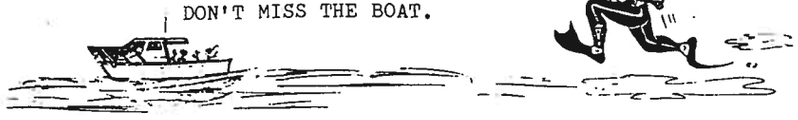
GINGER TO THE RESCUE.

TIBI.

THE CHINESE KNEW IT 2000 YEARS AGO, GINGER IS GOOD REMEDY FOR VOMITING AND AS THE ANCIENTS SUSPECTED IT DEFINITELY IS AN ANTINAUSEA DRUG.
MODERN RESEARCHERS TESTED GINGER POWDER AGAINST COMMERCIAL MOTION SICKNESS DRUGS BY GIVING PEOPLE PRONE TO MOTION SICKNESS ONE OF THREE UNDISCOSED CAPSULES. ONE GROUP HAD PLACEBO THE SECOND GROUP DRAMAMINE AND THE THIRD GINGER POWDER IN CAPSULES. THEY WERE PLACED INTO A ROTATING AND TILTING CHAIR FOR SIX MINUTES. NOBODY WHO TOOK DRAMAMINE OR PLACIBO LASTED THE SIX MINUTES WITHOUT GETTING NAUSEATED OR VOMITING, BUT HALF OF THOSE WHO TOOK GINGER MANAGED TO SURVIVE.

GINGER UNLIKE MOTION SICKNESS TABLETS DOES NOT MAKE YOU DROWSY BECAUSE IT WORKS IN THE GUT AND NOT IN THE BRAIN.
I ADMIT THAT I HAVE TO TRY IT MYSELF TO PROVE IT.
GINGER TABLETS ARE AVAILABLE IN HEALTHFOOD STORES.

DON'T MISS THE BOAT.



What Were You Doing ?

by Maree.

Whatever ever you were doing on Sunday November 4th, I hope you enjoyed it, because neither the Grand Prix, the Cricket nor even a picnic, could compare with the wonderful day that 8 of us had on this 4th of November.
Thankfully, the chaps at the Bureau of Meteorology got it wrong again and the predicted 22 knot southerly wind was in reality a gentle zephyr of about 6 knots. After completing a magic dive at Swirl Reef, where monstrous crays were and giant fish abounded, we headed back towards Geordie Bay for a spot of lunch and some relaxation before our next dive.

Sounds simple doesn't it ? Not so - instead of munching on our sandwiches and muesli bars we were busy whale watching. We were privileged to see 2 groups of whales; the first, a group of 3 quietly making their way south - blowing air through their blowholes and flapping their tails in the sea as whales are wont to do. The second group of three were much more intent on enjoying themselves, by frolicking and generally showing off. It was marvellous to see these giant creatures, literally leaping out of the water and splashing down again. After watching these wonderful animals for a while, proceeded into Geordie Bay for a hasty lunch and kit-up, off to Roe Reef. The dive was on the "Victoria Station' group of caves. This area consists of about 3 interlocking caves that abound with fish life, corals and sponges of almost every description.

November 4th was truly a magnificent day. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day and eagerly awaits the time it can be repeated. On days like this, cancel all else and go out diving, you never know what you will see! #

FOR SATURDAY DIVES CHECK WITH D.O. 4598374

If you cannot make a dive, please cancel before Friday night and give someone else a chance.

SAFETY CORNER

Still sea sick ?? Well, look for Tibi's article in this magazine.

Let's do a bit of statistics, why not ?

Between 1980 and 1986, in Australia 51 sport SCUBA divers died.
Out of these 51 divers :

41 % had lost their buddy **before** the accident.
24 % had no contents gauge.
22 % had no BCs.
22 % were not certified and
12 % dived too deep.

You could always tell them you walked into a palm.

So, as you are all certified divers, if you stick to your buddy and keep an eye on your gauges, you should be OK.

Did you know that :

A normal young man asleep has his blood **95 %** saturated with oxygen.
The same average notsolucky man working will have **93 %** oxygen saturation.
If for some reason his oxygen level is reduced to **85 %** saturation, our poor ordinary man will have to be admitted in an hospital.
With **60 %** this prosaic miserable man will fall and remain unconscious
and with less than **36 %** hypoxic death will occur.

But our typical ill-starred man didn't die, so let's take him to 19,000 feet in the mountains and get him acclimatised. The oxygen saturation in this peculiar hapless man's blood will only be about **75 %**.
If he goes exercising his oxygen saturation level can be as low as **36 %**, without acclimatisation our exceptional lucky man would be dead !

That's all I have for you this month.

Michel.

If you cannot make a dive, please cancel before Friday night and give someone else a chance.

DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

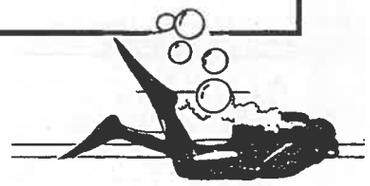
The weather is improving for those of you who are planning to re-commence summer diving, and we have some interesting sites to re-visit over the season.

Still some vacancies for:

Saturday Dives. These are two (2) tank local dives to Carnac/Stragglers or Garden Island, back 1.30 - 2.00 pm.

Night Dives. Unplanned weather permitting one (1) tank dives, same day notice.

If you have other diving requirements or ideas, let the committee know, so we can all become involved as a club and enjoy our diving as a club.



UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB PRESENTATION EVENING

The Underwater Explorers Club Presentation Evening will be held at the Clubrooms on Friday 16 November 1990. As in the past, the evening will be a social event with a barbecue supper, music, etc.

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

U.E.C. NEWS

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

DECEMBER 1990

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

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DECEMBER

SUNDAY	16.	CHRISTMAS DIVE AND BEACH PARTY BYO. BBQ. DRINKS. SAFETY BAY YACHT CLUB. STARTS	0900HRS.
MONDAY	17.	GENERAL MEETING. VIDEO ON HISTORICAL DIVING SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING 1900HRS.	2000HRS.
SUNDAY	23.	ROE REEF DIVE. MARTIN SMITH.	0800HRS.
SUNDAY	30.	ROTTNEST DIVE. BARRY KENNEDY, PETER MORTIMER.	0800HRS.
MONDAY	31.	MEXICAN NEW YEARS EVE PARTY. BOOK EARLY 458 2224.	

JANUARY

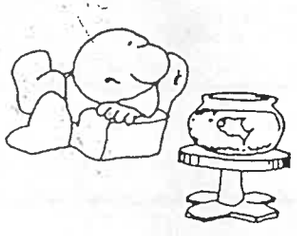
SUNDAY	6.	PARKER POINT.	0800HRS.
MONDAY	7.	COMMITTEE MEETING	2000HRS.
SATURDAY	12.	FISHING! ROTTNEST. BOOK 458 2224.	0630HRS.
TUESDAY	15.	MAGAZINE PREPARATION NIGHT.	1930HRS.
SUNDAY	20.	DUFFIELD RIDGE.	0800HRS.
MONDAY	21.	GENERAL MEETING. GUEST SPEAKER.	2000HRS.
SUNDAY	27.	SWIRL REEF.	0800HRS.
MONDAY	28.	SKYSHOW RIVER TRIP. BOOK EARLY. 458 2224.	1800HRS.

COMING UP: ST. VALENTINE'S NIGHT RIVER CRUISE 14 FEBRUARY.
ALBANY DIVES. APRIL.

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF THE UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

THE FOLLOWING TROPHIES WERE PRESENTED ON THE 16TH NOVEMBER:

DAVE KENNY'S BOAT PERSON OF THE YEAR WENT TO GLEN COLLINGWOOD.
BARBARA AND DENNIS PARKER CONSERVATION TROPHY WENT TO JULIE RAINES.
KEN KENNEDY'S MOST IMPROVED DIVER TROPHY WENT TO CHRIS MURRAY.
LYN JONES' MOST SAFETY CONSCIOUS DIVER TROPHY WENT TO PAT TROY.
BOB WALLIS' CLUBPERSON OF THE YEAR TROPHY WENT TO BRIAN MURRAY.
THE CLUBS RESEARCH AWARD WENT TO DENNIS STUBBERFIELD.
THE CLUBS APPRICIATION AWARDS WENT TO PAT TROY
JOHN PATTEN
JUDY COLLINGWOOD
DENNIS STUBBERFIELD
JULIE RAINES
MICHEL ROUX



SECRETARY'S SPIEL

by Pat Troy

AT THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 3 1990 THE FOLLOWING MATTERS OF INTEREST WERE DISCUSSED:

DIVING REPORT.
BONA FIDE GUESTS OF MEMBERS WILL BE GIVEN EQUAL BOOKING RIGHTS AS FULL MEMBERS ON DIVE TRIPS FOR TWO DAYS DIVING ONLY. THIS SUBJECT WILL BE REVIEWED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE.
8PM ON FRIDAY EVENINGS WILL BE THE DEADLINE FOR CANCELLING DIVE BOOKINGS.
BRIAN MURRAY ADVISED THAT THE PROPOSED DIVE TRIP TO ALBANY WILL BE ARRANGED FOR APRIL. CONTACT BRIAN FOR DETAILS ON 459 8374.

SOCIAL REPORT.
MARTIN IS ORGANISING THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:
1. A NEW YEARS EVE PARTY.
2. THE SKYSHOW BOAT TRIP ON JANUARY 28.
3. ST. VALENTINE'S NIGHT BOAT TRIP FEBRUARY 14.

BOAT REPORT.
IF ALL GOES WELL, THE BOAT WILL BE BERTHED AT CHALLENGER HARBOUR FROM JANUARY TO MARCH 1991. A TOTAL OF THIRTEEN WEEKS. PARKING THERE IS FREE, HOWEVER, A LEVY OF $2 PER CAR WILL BE IMPOSED TO HELP PAY FOR THE BERTHING FEES.

SAFETY REPORT.
GLEN COLLINGWOOD THANKED RON PHONMYNT FOR HIS VERY PROFESSIONAL APPROACH AS DIVING OFFICER ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 2 1990.

BUILDING REPORT.
RICHARD IS BUILDING A BRICK AND CONCRETE WATERTANK FOR DIVE CYLINDERS TO BE USED WHEN THEY ARE FILLED.

GENERAL BUSINESS.
DENNIS HAS PREPAIRED A LOG BOOK FOR DIVERS. HE WILL GET PRINTING QUOTES AND REPORT BACK TO THE COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE! HAVE YOU PAID UP YET?

SOCIAL AND P.R. REPORT.
MARTIN SMITH.

AS YOU SEE ABOVE, I AM YOUR NEW SOCIAL OFFICER. I WILL BE DOING MY BEST TO SEE THAT WE ALL HAVE LOTS OF FUN DURING THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS.
THE NEXT SOCIAL EVENT WILL BE A NEW YEARS EVE PARTY. OTHERS PLANED ARE THE SKYSHOW RIVER TRIP, PROGRESSIVE DINNER, AND A QUIZ NIGHT.
ALL SOCIAL EVENTS WILL BE ADVERTISED IN THE MAGAZINE.

P.R. WE SHOULD HAVE A NEW BUMPER STICKER. IF ANYONE HAS A GOOD IDEA PLEASE GIVE ME A RING ON 4582224.

100 BILLION TONNES OF SEWAGE - 85% UNTREATED - IS BEING POURED INTO THE MEDITERRANEAN EACH YEAR.

INTERESTING VIDEO.
BOB COTTON.

I RECENTLY VIEWED AN INTERESTING VIDEO ON HISTORICAL DIVING AND MARITIME ARCHEOLOGY. IT HAD SOME RATHER FASCINATING AND RARE FOOTAGE OF DIVING APARATUS AND WHERE VARIOUS MUSEUMS AND DIVING RESEARCH GROUPS HAVE RECONSTRUCTED SOME OF THESE ANTIQUATED PIECES OF EQUIPMENT AND ACTUALLY PUT THEM TO USE.

I HAVE ACQUIRED A COPY OF THIS AND I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO PRESENT THIS AS PART OF THE DECEMBER 17TH MEETING.
SO EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT THAT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT HISTORY I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL NOT BE BORED WITH THIS PARTICULAR VIDEO. LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE.

DON'T FORGET THE CHRISTMAS DIVE AT SAFETY BAY ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 16TH. THIS WILL BE AN EXELLENT DAY AND I HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL ABOVE AVERAGE SPOTS TO JUMP INTO.

MINAMATA DISEASE.
TIBI CSOMAY.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS TO CHEMICAL WASTES INDUSTRIE DOESN'T WANT? IS IT POURED DOWN HOLES IN THE GROUND OR EMPTIED INTO THE SEA?
GOVERNMENTS, PEOPLE WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO BE WORKING FOR US, THINK THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS STUPID AND SOULD BE GIVEN THE MUSHROOM TREATMENT ALL THE TIME.
WHEN SOMETHING IS UNHEALTHY OR DAMAGING TO THE PEOPLE THEY ARE THE LAST TO ADMIT IT.
HERE IS ONE OF THE MANY UNFORTUNATE STORIES.

RESIDENTS OF MINAMATA, A SMALL FISHING TOWN ON THE SOUTHERN ISLAND OF KYUSHU, JAPAN, STARTED TO NOTICE STRANGE SYMPTOMS IN THE 1940S. BIRDS, CATS AND PEOPLE IN THE TOWN LOST CONTROL OF THEIR MOTOR NERVES. A SIGN OF BRAIN DISEASE.
AROUND HALF THE PEOPLE AFFLICTED DIED. CHILDREN WERE BORN MALFORMED. SOME WITHOUT BRAINS.
THE CAUSE TURNED OUT TO BE ORGANIC MERCURY, WHICH A CHEMICAL COMPANY DUMPED IN MINAMATA BAY FROM A PLANT MANUFACTURING ACETALDEHYDE.
IN 1968, THE GOVERNMENT HAD OFFICIALLY IDENTIFIED MERCURY AS THE CAUSE AND DUMPING STOPPED.
BUT THE GOVERNMENT KNEW AS EARLY AS 1952 THAT ORGANIC MERCURY WAS POISONING FISHING GROUNDS AND THE PEOPLE.
CAN YOU THINK OF SIMILIAR STORIES, NEARER TO HOME?

WHO CARES ABOUT DOLPHINS. THERE IS MONEY IN TUNA!
TIBI CSOMAY.

PURSE SEINING, WHICH INVOLVES TOWING A BANGE NET TO CATTURE TUNA IS HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL.
YELLOWFIN TUNA SWIM BELOW AND BEHIND LARGE HERDS OF DOLPHIN. FISHERMEN USE THE DOLPHINS TO LOCATE TUNA. THEY DROP EXPLOSIVES FROM HELICOPTERS OR SPEEDBOATS TO DISORIENT THE DOLPHINS, WHICH SWIM CLOSER TOGETHER ALLOWING FISHERMEN TO DRAW NETS AROUND THEM AND THE TUNA. ONCE THE FISH ARE TRAPPED THE CREWS DROP FURTHER BOMBS TO CHASE THE DOLPHINS OUT OF THE OPEN END OF THE NET. THE CREWS EXPLODE ABOUT 200 BOMBS DURING EACH CATCH.
AS MANY AS 120 000 DOLPHINS DIE EACH YEAR DURING TUNA FISHING IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC.
IN THE WORLD'S OCEANS UP TO 500 000 ARE KILLED EVERY YEAR.

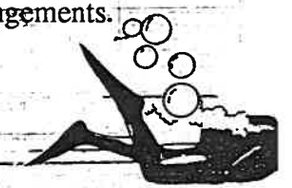
DIVE REPORT - BRIAN MURRAY

As the weather improves the UE is being treated to full compliments on a regular Sunday basis, visiting our traditional dive sites.

For those still in hibernation, please remember to "Book On Early".

If you want to bring a guest and we have room, make sure they have their "C" card and are advised of all other requirements for diving with our club i.e. BCD etc, as we expect all divers to have appropriate equipment.

Finally, if you cancel your Sunday dive, please try to give some notice as others may have been "turned away" and since made other arrangements.



For Diving Phone : 459 8374

MIDWEEK DIVES.
ALL OF YOU WHO CAN GET DAYS OFF ETC. MAKE IT TUESDAY FOR A GREAT DAY OUT CLUB BOAT OR MINE. PHONE PAUL MULALLY 275 6684.

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB COMMITTEE FOR 1991.

PRESIDENT	MAREE CASLEY	357 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	357 3333
VICE PRESIDENT	M. SMITH	458 2224

You could always tell them yo walked into a palm!

WHEELHOUSE WAFFLE

by DENNIS STUBBERFIELD

Well Folk's it's on again, the diving season that is, and the boating section is gearing up to top pitch. Firstly, many thanks to Bob Cotton, who left every thing shipshape, no loose ends and a tight-rope balancing act between boating needs and wants, versus the lack of an endless pot of gold to finance them. Bob did well to curb our excesses, it will be a hard act to follow but follow it I must, in these hard times. However, there are some bright spots amongst the gloom to tell you about. The first of these is that the boat is performing very well indeed and we seem to have overcome our mechanical problems. But, the canopy frame needs replacing - just when, will be dictated by it's falling off the deck and/or another one falling off the back of a truck in front of your ever vigilant B.O. Hopefully when that time comes we may be in a position to improve our weather-proofing a little as well. That leaves just the usual endless list of small jobs to be done which is part of owning our own boat.

Another bright spot is the Committee's acceptance of a proposal to reduce your parking fees when out diving with us! "Oh Yes", I hear you say, "it may be Xmas' but that cant happen." Well it can - by putting "U.E." in a pen at Challenger Harbour for 3 months, (January, February and March) at the height of the season and only taking $2 per vehicle from you. This little piece of piracy will be put towards the cost, which is $530 for the period. The advantages are many and since it is our busiest time, fuel savings, and the parking levy are expected to more than cover the cost. Night dives, refuelling, loading, maintenance, and security in particular will also be much better catered for with this arrangement.

There will be a meeting of Skippers and D.O.s as soon as possible, hopefully before the next meeting to sort out rosters and arrangements for the coming work load. Also All members take heed, this is YOUR boat and YOU will be required to attend a number of working bees during the season to maintain her. The Skippers and D.O.s, who already work hard on our behalf are simply NOT going to do it all for you! The alternatives are quite simple. Every body helps, or fees will be raised to pay someone else to do the work. This consideration was a major factor in the Committees decision to pen the Boat - maintainance will be greatly facilitated, and nobody will be able to say they weren't able to take part because of the difficulties and inconveniences of being on a mooring. In this way I hope to be able to keep "U.E." in top form all season and so take the pressure off the annual slipping, which in the winter months is such a chore.

"Cheers Folks, see you all on deck!"

"Bligh-Stubby!"

PRESIDENTS REPORT

by MAREE CASLEY

The Annual General Meeting for 1990 has come and gone, bringing with it a few changes to the Committee. New faces on the Committee are : Glen Collingwood - Safety & Training Officer, Martin Smith - Social & P.R. Officer and Dennis Stubberfield Boating Officer. I know you will all join me in welcoming the new Committee members. I am sure they, along with all the "Old" faces remaining from last years Committee will all work hard to ensure the continued success of the U.E.C. Please support them in their efforts and join a Sub Committee to ease the burden.

As you know the Club encourages all members to invite guests to join us for a couple of dives. The idea is that prospective new members "can try before they buy" and if they like the way our Club and our diving is conducted, they will join as diving members. Our aim is to impress our guests and to save any inconvenience to either guests or members, the last Committee meeting has agreed that members will not be able to displace guests, already properly booked on the boat. There have been several instances recently where guests have been turned away from a Club dive in favour of a member only to have members fail to appear without cancelling and giving others the opportunity to dive. Not only is this the height of bad manners, it creates a very bad impression among guests and members alike. We need people on our diving - so if you want a dive, book early. If you can't make it, cancel early and give someone else a chance. Of course, we find there are too many people wanting to dive on Sunday, we can also run dives on Saturday. So don't despair, you should be able to get wet sometime on the weekend.

Does the number 50 mean anything to you? It should do - it is the number of Dollars you need to pay for this years annual subscription. If you haven't paid already, you are now unfinancial, so please send it in as soon as you can.

Lastly, I would like to wish all of you and your families a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope you enjoy the Festive Season and look forward to seeing you diving in the New Year.

Please celebrate safely.