

U.E.C. NEWS

(UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF W.A. INC.)

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U.E.C. NEWS



UNDERWATER EXPLORER CLUB OF W.A. INC

JAN 83

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UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF WA (INC) PO BOX 28 NEDELANDS

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PRINTING	J. Lutey 5 Dane Place Willetton	457	8537
EDITOR	C. Print Abrolhos Way Shelley	457	5577

TRAINING by JOHN PASKULICH

1. Tuesday 18th January

7 pm Exam part 2 for Group 1

8 pm Theory lectures for Group 2

Answers to Quick Quiz in December issue.

- i) Volume of a gas varies inversely as pressure applied.
- ii) 2.0 ats
- iii) 100 KPa
- iv) O_2 21%, N_2 78% CO_2 0.03%
- v) Sound travels much quicker underwater
- vi) Sinus squeeze
- vii) This is a sign of the "bends" (itches).
First aid would include O_2 treatment and rest followed by recompression in a chamber.
- viii) 20 metres/minute.

EASTER AT THE ABROLHO.

AN EXHILARATING DIVING EXPERIENCE IN WA'S
BEST CORAL REEF, AN ISLAND CHAIN EIGHTY
MILES LONG WITH AN ESTIMATED EIGHT
THOUSAND TRILLION CORAL POLYPS
IN FORTY COLOURS PLAYING
HOST TO THE BIGGEST
ARRAY OF TROPICAL
FISH IN THE
WORLD

A TRIFLING \$240 WILL SECURE YOU ONE OF THE
THREE REMAINING BERTHS ABOARD THE 60 FOOT
NELLIE MELBA FOR FOUR DAYS OF INCOMPARABLE
DIVING. SWIMMING. EATING RAPPING WITH LIKE
MINDED NATURE LOVERS AND INSPIRED BLUDGING

DON'T BE A GOOSE BRUCE, GET YOUR NAME DOWN NOW
YOU TOO WENDY - IT'S TRENDY!

IT'S AWRIGHT ARFER. KNOW WHA' I MEAN?

VENI ET VEDI

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ACHTUNG * ATTENZIONE * ATTENTION

THIS MONTH'S GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE
CLUBHOUSE AT UNIT 1 / 22 SHIELDS CRESCENT BOORAGOON

**

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FROM THE CHAIR by MALCOLM FERRIER

Those old blank page blues; that's what afflicts me now. Where is the steady ooze of novel and captivating thoughts that issue up from the dank recesses of my mind? Why, on a good day I can summon up enough tommy rot to put a backbencher to sleep; but today... heck I dont know. You see, a president's report is supposed to be inspirational. It is meant to have you positively slaving to join in the Club's affairs. The club motto- now there, s an inspiring little number: "Veni et vedi"... come and see (or "I came and I saw". there, s a bit of disagreement about this), anyway, it is a very apt motto for a club that pioneered a lot of the underwater territory in this state. But coming and seeing do not necessarily go together. If you are one of those high speed divers who zap- about looking for creatures to slaughter, it, s unlikely that you will be having a great aesthetic experience underwater. But if you look; really look; the sea can provide you with much more than a feed. Remember those spring days when you were a kid, lying on the lawn for hours watching the ants and the beetles? Well, I dont know about you, but the sea is about the only place that I can get that feeling of involvement with the natural world now. That's why I get a bit peeved when I see foolish people destroying it. Look after the briny. Leave it in the same condition that you found it. You will only be on this planet for the blink of a cosmological eye but there may be people a million years from now trying to get a bit of pleasure and a feed from the sea. That's what those greedy, shortsighted politicians in Tasmania are unable to appreciate. For the sake of alleviating a trivial economic problem which will scarcely be remembered in half a century, they are taking something priceless away from every human being who will ever inhabit this world.

Anyway, have a good year and "veni et vedi".

Those of us that are planning our trip to the Abrolhos Islands this or any other year might be interested in the following annotated bibliography.

Edwards, H. 1966 Islands of Angry Ghosts.
Aust. Angus and Robertson.

A two part adventure story of the doomed voyage of the Dutch East India Company vessel 'Batavia' wrecked off the coast of Western Australia in 1629. Vivid descriptions of mutiny, terror and personal recollections reflect this historical event. Part two is concerned with the Australian underwater expedition which surveyed the 'Batavia' and recovered relics.

Hugh Edwards is a journalist/diver from Perth whose work includes the Dutch wrecks 'Zeewyk' (1727), 'Batavia' (1629) and 'Gilt Dragon' (1656). In 1964 he won the Lovekin Prize, awarded by the University of W.A. for outstanding newspaper reporting, for his articles on the 'Zeewyk' wreck.

'Islands of Angry Ghosts' won the 1966 Sir Thomas White Memorial prize for the best book by an Australian author.

Three hundred metres southwest of South Mole lie the remains of the "LYGNERN". A Swedish apple boat, she was wrecked on Beagle rocks when an industrial wrangle forced her out of the harbour. This was in 1928. It is a good dive, though a bit hazardous at weekends due to boat traffic. Look for her boiler near the striped channel marker. The rest of the wreck is well scattered as she has been used for demolition practice by the SAS.

COLEENTERATA OR PLATHELMINTHES by JOAN SEWELL

If you want to know what my title is I suggest you do the Marine Biology I course at Fremantle Tech. A few of us from the U.E.C. have recently completed this course, with Colin Wilson at the wheel guiding us through a maze of scientific names and opening our eyes to aspects of the ocean we never really thought about, in fact we enjoyed ourselves so much most of us are continuing with Marine Biology II. The part of the course I most enjoyed was the introduction to identification and naming of marine life, at least to phylum and order - heaps of new words which eventually roll off the tongue as you swim around the bottom. Those funny things - purple with holes are recognisable and you begin to know where it fits into the scheme of things and how it works. In other words a dive is not a dive, it's a whole new adventure of discovery and armed with my trusty camera even the most boring country has new meaning. Enrolments at Fremantle Tech on 15th February, watch newspapers for details.

While it is unlikely that you will find a stone fish in Perth waters, it has a few relatives that can lay you in bed for a day or two. The Gurnard Perch is common, as is the Red Scorpion cod. OK, I'll give you the Latin; *Neosebastes pandus* and *Scorpaenaa sumptuosa*. Then there is the Fortescue (*Centropogon australis*) and the Red Firefish (*Pterios Volitans*). Now I don't propose to describe all this little horrors to you, but it's worth finding out what they look like. I've seen a Red Scorpion Cod on the Sepia and another out of Mandurah.

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***** The U.E.C. has great pleasure inviting *****
you, your family and friends to their

CLUB HOUSE OPENING
CELEBRATION PARTY

ON

SATURDAY 22ND JANUARY

7.30 PM

AT

UNIT 1, 14-22 SHIELDS CRESENT
BOORAGOON

\$5 per person : includes all drinks*,
supper and music.

Dress - casual

***** * Beer, wine and non alcoholic selection *****

This is it folks - after 20 odd years we have a home... come and join us in a rip roaring celebration to make this a night to remember. This celebration postpones the night dive at Lake Leshenaultia which will take place at a date to be advertised.

NOTES FOR YOUR SOCIAL DIARY - 26th February Film Night at Club House - details next magazine.
26th March Fundraising Games Night at Club House - most important to keep this night available.

NOMINATIONS

HARWOOD Steven 72 Gerald Road SPEARWOOD

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BEWARE OF THE 'ALKIMOS' by JOHN LUTEY

The Alkimos which lies just off shore a few miles south of two rocks has developed for itself quite a reputation. However it has not become well known for its record breaking sea passages, its beauty, or even its years of faithful service. It's notoriety stems from its ability to catch fire, run aground, break tow lines, supposedly cause financial ruin and death and last but not least for its resident ghost.

The reputation of the 'Alkimos' was nearly front page news again a few years back when I thought I was going to become its latest victim.

It was Easter 1979 and two dozen or more of the UEC were having their annual long weekend at Yanchep. On the Saturday a group of divers set out on the 'Nancy-D' to dive on the 'Alkimos'. The weather was not the best, it was overcast and a fair breeze was blowing from the North. We anchored a hundred odd metres down wind of the wreck and as O/C for the day I buddied up the divers aboard.

Anne Smith and I went in a foursome with a newly trained couple. We surveyed the wreck from the outside bow to stern on the sheltered side.

For those of you who haven't seen the 'Alkimos' let me digress a little to describe it. The vessel is virtually fully intact, its back is broken and in about the midships some large sections of the sides of the hull have been removed. More plates have been removed from the port or north side of the hull than from the starboard side.

Back to the story - As we swam past the largest hole in the starboard side of the hull I poked my head inside, just itching to get in and have a look about. Anne didn't appear too enthusiastic and I didn't think it would be wise to take

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for a replacement. The model I was still using will be replaced by another model after Christmas - don't get caught for spares.

3. OFF THE SHELF CORRECTIVE GOGGLES

These are more like waterproof glasses. The goggles consist of a light-weight waterproof assembly with two lenses; eye to lens distance is the same as that of ordinary lenses. As in the lenses come already ground, in a range of standard values. The individual lenses can easily be removed and installed. Price \$71.50.

ADVANTAGES: Price-cheaper than the mask and even prescription lenses when you take into account the cost of the mask you supply. Wide field of vision and no ring effect because the lenses are close to your eyes.

Easy to get used to - just the same as wearing glasses on land.

Replacement lenses can be supplied in one day (ex Perth) to one week (ex Melbourne)

Light with a small displacement volume.

DISADVANTAGES: Sealing- only one size mask is available and this won't fit everyone.

I found I need to wear my goggles under my hood to achieve a good seal around my eyes. This is a bit of a hassle.

You will look like a koala bear.

This report is based on a very limited sample. I'm sure you will find other alternatives if you look around Perth. So, if you're thinking about correcting your underwater vision, give it a go. I've never heard of anyone drowning from shortsightedness, but I'm sure you'll increase your diving pleasure if you go for another pair of eyes.

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install the faceplate for the model you have selected. Some models are secured with screws. These seem to be the best bet. Check that you can obtain spares readily, or even better, buy a spare faceplate now. Masks with two separate faceplates are a good idea also and will save on lenses if anything is broken. Try your new mask out on several dives before submitting it for modification. A mask which fits perfectly in the shop will behave differently when you are wearing a hood, and a demand valve stuck in your mouth.

2. OFF THE SHELF MASK WITH CORRECTION

These are similar to an ordinary mask but lenses are ground into the faceplate. The faceplates come, already ground, in a range of standard values. You select a mask which is the best approximation to your spectacle prescription. The brand I was shown was made in Italy and appeared to be high quality all over. It had hardened glass. Price \$97.50.

ADVANTAGES. If you are lucky you can be diving with your new mask in as little as two days - if there is a suitable mask in Perth. The ring effect around the lenses is not as severe because the lenses are ground into the faceplate rather than stuck on. The field of vision is also larger.

DISADVANTAGES. You can wait as much as six weeks for a suitable mask to be freighted. The main cost of the mask is the faceplate - if you break it you will be paying almost the full new cost.

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the two novices into the confined spaces so we continued to swim along the outside.

After we had toured the hull-my three companions wished to return to the 'Nancy-D'. Having seen them safely on their way I left at the chance to go inside the 'Alkimos' alone.

Now digressing again slightly let me explain that I am a strong believer in the buddy system and if divers are buddied up, it is their duty to look after each other. But if someone wishes to dive on their own, they must be prepared to take the consequences if the need arises.

Back to the story again - the inside of the 'Alkimos' was a jumbled mess of pieces of machinery and sheets of steel and the whole ship creaked and groaned as water passing through the hull moved things about. A pile of ballast-bricks were lying on the bottom and naturally I availed myself of one for a moment. After having inspected the hold I was in, I moved through a large opening in the bulkhead which lead towards the bow section. I had just passed through the opening and was deciding in which direction to swim when without warning I was spun around violently several times. I was completely powerless against the force of the water and would liken the sensation as to being caught in a dumper while body surfing at the beach. My biggest fear was of being thrust on one of the many jagged pieces of metal about the place, or of being extruded through one of the small holes in the side of the hull.

When spinning stopped - immediately swam onto the bottom hoping to find calmer conditions or some secure hand holds if the procedure was to be repeated. With a pounding heart I hurried out through the bulkhead and across the first hold I had inspected, stopping only momentarily to pick up a ballast brick to replace the one I had dropped during the malstrom. Then it was out through the side of the hull and back to the sec uri

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f the 'Nancy-D'.

My hectic few moments within the 'Alkimes' were not caused by some supernatural or even extra-terrestrial power rather by the swells coming from the north and entering the hull through the large openings on that side of the wreck. Because the openings on the south side are smaller the water increases its velocity to complete its journey through the hull. (For the technically minded a venturi action occurs). The fact that the openings on each side are not opposite one another tends to make the water more turbulent as well. With the final result being like a scuba diver in a large washing machine.

I hope I haven't put anyone off diving or snorkelling on the 'Alkimos' because it is interesting, plus it is a novelty to dive on a wreck that can be recognised as a ship and not just a scattering of remains around a reef. However take care and only dive in the calmest of conditions.

THE COBBLER OR ESTUARINE CATFISH "Cnidoglanis macrocephalus", common in the Swan River, has three venomous spines; a dorsal spine and two in the pectoral fins. The venom is contained in sacs on the spines. On being stung, the victim feels sudden intense pain and possibly breathlessness. Treat the wound by washing it in salt water and then by immersing it in water as hot as the patient can stand. This will bring immediate relief but the pain will return if the heat is removed, so it may be necessary to keep it immersed for some time until the venom is dispersed naturally. And remember, even dead or frozen cobblers can sting. This treatment is also valid for stingray wounds.

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FOR THE SHORTSIGHTED DIVER by TONY EPTON

Four months ago I decided I was missing out on seeing a lot of things underwater - crayfish, groper, buddies running out of air, the dive boat.....

Here is some information and experience I gained while visiting two opticians in West Perth; OPSM and Oscar Humphries.

Although prices may have changed in the meantime, I hope this article will be useful to those divers who wear spectacles on land, as I have been amazed at the extra detail that I can now see below when wearing corrective goggles.

Basically you have three main choices when buying corrective goggles/masks:

1. PRESCRIPTION LENSES FITTED TO YOUR MASK

The optician will measure and test your eyes, have lenses ground specifically for your eyes, and cement them to the faceplate of your mask. The lenses are hardened, will take about one week to grind and fit and will cost about \$60. You should of course add to this the original cost of your mask.

ADVANTAGES: Your vision is corrected exactly.

As there are many masks on the market suitable for this modification, you can choose one which will fit your rugged, highly individual face without leaking.

DISADVANTAGES: The lenses do not fill the whole visual field - you will experience a distracting ring around the edge of the lense.

SUGGESTIONS: Keep your current mask as a backup and buy a new mask for the lenses. Check that it is easy to remove and

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the Abrolhos Easter trip. In September 1842 the barque 'Ocean Queen' was wrecked near Pelsart Island. The crew landed on the island and buried a box of specie(money) there. After ten days they set out for Fremantle in the ship's boats. The skipper, Captain Scott, bought the wreck at auction and hurried back to the Abrolhos to dig up the loot. He did'nt find it. Fair dinkum! The stuff could still be there! Those wishing to put their names down please form an orderly queue.

Now here's a case of upward mobility. The humble wrasse, (plentiful at Rottnest) is born female and later a proportion of them turn into males. If the male numbers are depleted, more lucky women get promoted.

In the Red Sea there is a small nocturnal fish that has special ducts under its eyes that provide a home for light emitting bacteria. Consider that. The fish gets headlights and the greeblies get to ride around with the big kids. Talk about mixed doubles.

Editor's note. Thanks are extended to the female wrasse for conscientious devotion to the beautification of Rottnest Island.

NOTICE OF MOTION

That the club purchase from Malibu Diving Centre a portable filling compressor for the price of \$2500.

MARTIN SMITH

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DIVING by MARTIN SMITH

Well we are now into the new year and it looks as if the hot weather has come in with a vengeance.

The small boats trip on the 9th January was to the Orizaba and luck was with us at long last - we found it.

It's good to see an upsurge in the number of members owning small boats, perhaps we'll see a return to those heady days of five years ago when we had thirteen boats on one dive at Mandurah. The dive at the Beauvard Reef, near Mandurah on the 16th Of Januaty filled rapidly and again promises to be an excellent day out.

The long weekend at the end of January is at the Caves Caravan Park at Yallingup. I have reserved 6 camp sites. For more information, give me a call. Those who went last year to Canal Rocks will know what a great time we all had.

Looking ahead, the boat trip to Rotto on the 6th Feb. will be the first for the year, so lets make it a good one.

In order to support our printers in their time consuming task each month, we'd like to make the following request of writers submitting typed articles.

- a) 55 letters per line including spaces.
- b) 35 lines per page including blank line
- c) deadline committee meeting, preferably general meeting

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On December 18 we headed out to the western side of Garden Island to look for the Twinkling Star. Going on the survivors accounts of the wrecking of the ship, she should be on a reef beside an upright rock surrounded by three fathoms of water, three quarters of a mile due west from a hill called Mt. Haycock.

The only such feature shown on the chart is only half a mile from shore and not exactly due west. That was the site we searched without finding anything.

We made the five fathom bank our second dive where visibility was brilliant but the bottom boring. On the way back we lined up Mt. Haycock and headed eastwards for it. The echo sounder picked up two spots where the bottom came up to three fathoms. Next time we will have a look at those.

Talking about wrecks, they are not always where they sink, just take the Orizaba. On my first dive it went missing and hasn't been located since.

Our club which has been finding and visiting wrecks for some 30 years, still has no accurate record on how to relocate them. Many dives have been organised to known wrecks without finding them, because those who knew were not there.

Steve Oddy is willing to collect all information available from our members and with charts, compile the information into reference folders which can be picked up from the library and taken on boat trips. Steve would like to hear from anyone who knows how to find wrecks around WA.

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And now, a mishmash of maritime miscellany to elevate your eclectic esotericity (and to reinforce your distaste for alliteration).

Sailing ship terms:

'Clipper' is a title of honour given to a ship of unusual speed and beauty.

'Crojick' a square sail set upon the lower yard of the mizzen mast. The mizzen is the aft mast, so that if you stood at the rear of the ship, the crojick would be the closest sail to you.

The 'scuttle butt' is the fresh water cask usually located on the main deck amidships. Like the present day water cooler it became a gathering place for sailors shirking their duties. Thus shipboard gossip became known as scuttle butt.

'Futtock shrouds' are iron bars to which the topmast rigging is secured. A pity really. A term like that could be put to better use.

And 'shroud screws' were iron contrivances by which shrouds (steel ropes) were hauled taut. You know, I'm beginning to see how they tricked all those eager young fellows into going to sea.

'Gantlines' are lines used for hauling sails up to the yards and 'trucks' were the summits of the masts.

Just a couple more I promise.

The original dungarees were overalls made of coconut fibre. Good grief! A keel hauling would be a positive joy after messing about in the futtock shrouds all day in strides made of old doormats!

And finally one for Dave Kenny.

The ship's carpenter; painters; boatswain etc. were known as the 'idlers'.

Here's a little enticement to get your name down for

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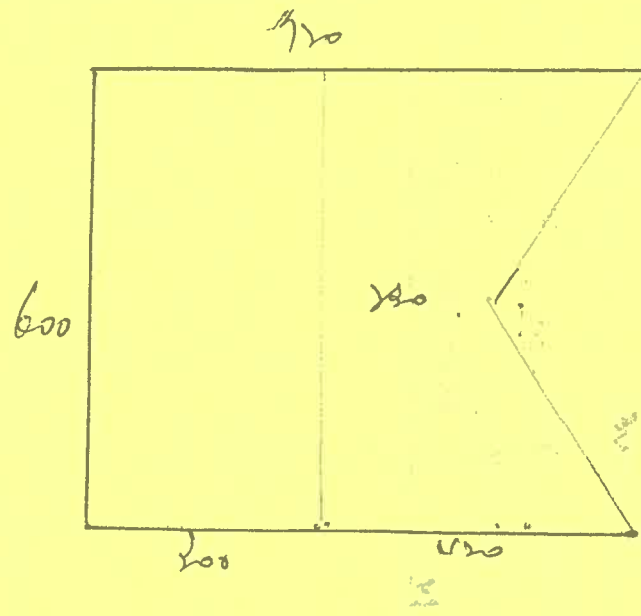
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U.E.C. NEWS



THE CLUBHOUSE

A brand new sign announces the fact that the U.E.C. now owns its own club premises. The members of the Building Committee and other helpers have been busy. The library has been moved from Floreat. Chairs materialised out of an old church, were cleaned and made ready for the first ever General Meeting in the place. Some walls were knocked down others painted. A fridge was purchased. Next job is to clean out a room for the inflatable boat and trailer.

DIVE FLAGS

The legal minimum size of a personal flag is 300 x 200mm (12in x 8in) and 720 x 600mm (28 in x 24in) for a Scuba divers boat.

T-SHIRTS

T-Shirts are still available for only \$5. Get yours at the next meeting.

CAR STICKERS

UEC car stickers are available for 50c from Peter H. Don't forget to ask for a dive flag sticker next time you get your tank filled. They are available from dive shops free of charge. These dive flag stickers advertise the significance of these flags with the message "Diver below keep clear".

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CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE OFFICIAL KIND by Toni Eptom

The bow of the mighty "Vigilant" crashed through the heavy seas as it bore down, wrathful and godlike, upon our tiny inflatable craft. Seagulls wheeled and screamed above the foam flecked waves in its wake. Grim faced marines, their light machine guns slung menacingly, safety catches off, eyed us speculatively from the towering deck. Exocet missiles emerged and slid smoothly into launching position, their heat seeking sensors locked unerringly into our thermos flask. A loud hailer cracked into life.....

Got your attention? Well none of it's true. Read on to hear the real story. Find out why my hands now shake every time; open the letterbox. Find out why images of intimidating legal documents and prison bars periodically surface and blob around in my head.

The time and place is 3.30pm Saturday 29th January. Eagle Bay - the club weekend at Canal Rocks. Ro Johnson, Sean Fullerton, Diedre Davis & I carried our gear across the hot sands to the waters edge. A sixty five foot white vessel drifted silently in the bay. Mistaking it for a luxury cruiser we joked about its suitability as a dive charter boat. As we watched, it departed heading south along the coast. Steve Oddy and Tibi Csomay arrived with the Mike Pollard and soon it was manhandled into the water by many helping hands. Steve headed out to sea in search of a previously located reef. "Who is diving" "I will" I ventured. An adolescent thrill raced through me. This would be my first chance to take the infla-

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table out unsupervised. A technical problem delayed us for half an hour. We stood, waist deep, staring at the water. I was overcome by a sense of futility. By the time we reached the other boat, Tibi was reeling in the hookah hose. Steve surfaced. "Its forty metres here".

"Thats too deep for us. Lets head back a bit" So the previously located reef was not located at all. More delay. I felt a vague sense of alarm. What about the divers on shore waiting to use the boat? They would be feeling the first stirrings of impatience by now. The journey towards shore was choppy and uncomfortable. Then a ten minute wait while Steve checked out the bottom.

"Ten metres but only weed" In my mind the divers on shore became an angry muttering crowd. No suggested that some of us return to shore to give the other divers a go. I only wish we had followed her suggestion. As we headed towards our final dive site, the misterious white vessel re-appeared around the point travelling north.

Steve anchored and quickly entered the water. After a ten minute struggle with lines and half hitches, I realised that anchoring and tying off another boat is not as easy as it looks. The four of us helped each other kit up. Meanwhile the large vessel turned around and headed towards us. This promoted some discussion ending with:

"That boat is getting awful close"

"Just ignore it - let's get on with the dive"

"I dont thing you can ignor it"

I turned around. The "Vigilant" loomed above us a mere twenty feet away. On its deck, two neatly uniformed officers, of the Department of Marine and Harbours, leaned against the railing. One held a

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YOU SHOULD KNOW..

Any person other than a professional fisherman, who catches or attempts to catch any fish shall hold an amateur fishermans licence. It must be produced on demand by an inspector appointed under the Fisheries Act or a policeman.

Spearguns, Hawaian slings and all other pointed instruments shall not be used for the taking of any rock lobster.

No more than eight rock lobster shall be taken in any one day (Licence is a must)

Rock Lobster may be caught with pots or by hand. The daily bag limit for fish is:

Blue Groper 1

Aust. Salmon 5

A daily total of ten of the following species.

Jewfish

Snapper

Kingfish (Samson fish)

Spanish Mackerel

Blue Morwong (Queen snapper)

The limit is either ten of one species or ten of a combination of species.

No fish or rock lobster shall be sold or offered for sale.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 21 AT THE CLUBHOUSE 1/22 SHIELDS CRES. BOORAGOON.

FOR SALE

Full size ladies wetsuit size 3 Abalone.

Only used twice \$60 Pam. 419 1400

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Well, we are all on board and ready for the long journey home. A bit of engine trouble delays our arrival time by about two hours,

A playfull group of dolphins escort up part of the way and by 6.30 we dock. It was a long, long day but well worth it.

MOTION John Pasculich

The U.E.C. to purchase a portable filling compressor. The Committee to be empowered to decide on cost, specifications, supplier and time of purchase depending on availability of funds.

NOMINATIONS

Reg. Bateman 45 Arlington Ave. South Perth
Drew Brown 40 Nicholls Cres. Bullcreek (Junior)
Jane Croft 16 Arkwell Way Marmion
Christopher Croft 16 Arkwell Way Marmion
Dave Fields 332 Belgravia St Cloverdale
Steven Harwood 72 Gearald Rd Spearwood (Junior)
Robert Irwin 209 Action Ave. Rivervale
Shēilah Jones 89 Parramatta Road Doubleview
Ken Jones 89 Parramatta Road Doubleview
Deborah Morris 99 Holden Rd Roleystone
Allan Reeves 38 Whiteside St Cloverdale
Tony Spencer 58 Collick St. Hilton (Junior)
Don Skillbeck 4 Keaney Place, Bentley.
Jeff Swan 11 Middleton Way Bullcreek (Junior)

VACANCY

The U.E.C. is looking for a social organiser. If you would like to help out come to the next General Meeting.

notebook, the other a loud hailer. He raised it to say "What are you doing?"
"We are diving"
"Where is your dive flag?"
We pointed. Our dive flag, the size of a handkerchief, sagged folornly from its float.
"What safety equipment do you have?"
"We have some flares."
"How many life jackets are you carrying"
"None - but we have B.C.'s"
A slow despairing shake of thehead was the only reply.
"Howmany in theotherboat?"
"Two"
"How many life jackets are they carrying?"
"two"
"How many of you altogether?"
"Six"-
"Hmm - six people and only two life jackets,"
The other officer was nowbusy with his notebook
"Who is responsible for this boat?"
"I am." I offered. The officer with the notebook took my name and adress.
"Who owns this boat?"
"The Underwater Explorers Club".
"Right, We'll let the lifejackets go, but your diveflag is inadequate. We passed you twice and used binoculars but we couldnt read it.
"Can we contunue with our dive?" I enquired.
"No. Go back as soon as you can."
Shaken and disappointed we returned to shore, I was quite thoughtful for a while as I considered the prospect of a fine or summons. But our spirits soon revived as we met the excited spectators on shore. After all we certainly had something to talk about for the rest of the weekend, and even thenext week at work.

But in all seriousness people, the men from Marine and Harbours are doing an important job. Just like a novice driver before his first minor accident, we had become lax and overconfident. This timely warning may well prevent a serious incident or even a loss of life. The warnings have been deeded and the Mike Pollard will not be taken to sea until it complies fully with all safety regulations.

ABROLHOS TRIP

All divers going on the Abrolhos boat trip will have to pay sixty dollars by the next General Meeting and the balance by the 26th of March. Anyone who has not yet paid must do so by the General Meeting or else their place will be taken by some one else.

SLIDES NIGHT

Slides will be shown after the next General Meeting. Come and see the best of Ken Jones, Dave Kenny and Roger Smith.

LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND

MARCH 5.6.7 1983

The next club long weekend will be a trip to Cervantes. Seven unpowered sites have been booked at the Pinnacles Caravan Park, with more available if required. Ring Steve Oddy on 401 4028 if you are interested.

Cervantes is 258km from Perth via the Brand Highway. The bay is sheltered by reefs with good diving sites, safe swimming, boating and waterskiing areas. Everybody is most welcome to come along.

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only taking another half an hour- and we do a record breaking entry into the water, so fast that even Martin Smith forgets to take his speagun. Our first dive is around the 40ft mark the visibility is the same. Water temperature 75F. There are plenty of crays nestled deep inside the small caves. So deep that none of these delectable creatures can be caught. However due to the expertness of photographer Ken Jones a few are immortalized. Enough of this prejudice and on with the dive. We can see coral fish, pearly snap jacks bulls eyes and shoals of herring. We dive for 55 minutes and then come up for lunch. Chef Paul and his lovely wife feast on smoked salmon sandwiches, Cheryl and Mal have everthing but a red checkered tablecloth, candles and violins! We stay half an hour on top which ives us 139 minutes R.N.T. for the second dive at the maximum depth of 40 ft.

All geared up we are ready for dive No2. We can see more crays but cannot catch them. Ken spots a fidler ray and a more interesting spotted wobbegong. It is 3-4ft long hidden in the rocks. Wobbegongs are cryptic carnivores that adopt a wait and watch type of hunting their pray. Immobile and camouflaged they lie in ambush near cleaning stations or in the vicinity of schooling reef fish, and whenever anything approaches within range they strike. The needle sharp sugar like teeth are designed for holding pray not for cutting. Small animals are swallowed in a single gulp, while larger species maybe held until subdued then swallowed. Wobbegongs are known to be cannibals but they are unlikely to be aggressive towards divers unless aggravated. Due to the fact that an adult can grow to at least three metres, they should be treated with caution. Up again after 55 minutes. It never ceased to amaze me how time flies when you are down. 55 minutes seems like five.

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THE SAGA OF BEAUVARD REEF BY SHEILAH JONES

Sunday January 16 1983, WA sleeps as dawn breaks, The alarm sounds, Divers are stumbling in the haze over beer cans left from Saturday Night festivities. The mad rush is on for the three S's Sudefed Decongestant, sea sickness tablets and survival kit. The latter consisting of four sandwiches, five biscuits and a jug of water. "Renee K" the boat waiting for us at Mandurah, here we come. What a beautiful day for diving. All nineteen of us anxiously awaiting the plunge into the deep blue sea. ...But there is a slight delay in our departure. Captain O'Brian is so excited on his first diving expedition that he has a bit of trouble backing out of his slip...bit tight but he manges and we are on our way. The sea is calm the water inviting. After an hours cruising the thumping of the engine stops. We had arrived. I am always the last one ready so this time I make it a personal vendetta to beat Peter Mortimer in. Alas! I do. But only with the aid of my - tank assistant Roger Smith could this monumental moment triumph occur. I am all geared up waiting for Peter-to do his official bottom check - No good- Pete says - its all weed, lets find something better- Travelling 20 minutes longer with six geared up divers in 39c is no picnic. Not to mention another hour of searching after the second and third site is rejected. Are we looking for the ultimate dive site in all Australia? Dehydration is setting in but Barry comes to our aid with the sea hose wetting us down. It is comical to see Peter with the hose in his wesuit jacket blowing him up like the Incredible Hulk and Roger swelling up like a blowfish. The rest of us look like pink salmon, with the exception of Ken who resembles a giant red snapper. - At last Mal picks a site-

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FROM THE CHAIR

Malcolm Ferrier

The past eighteen months have seen more advances in the U.E.C. than in the preceding decade. I do not say this because I have been President. In past my own participation in the changes has not been great. The very long and arduous negotiations that resulted in our not only having our squatters status at base turned into something more legal, but in having the government spend some \$10,000 on a new jetty for us, were very professionally handled by the building sub committee. The government had no obligation to do anything for us and had we not had skilled and forcefull people pressing our case we would have ended up with nothing. Those same people steered the purchase of our present building through the system. Elaine Airey, Lyn Jones, Ken Kennedy, Dave Kenny the U.E.C. members are indebted to you. Another highly effective member has turned his attentions elsewhere. Bob Wallis spent many years battling apathy, official intransigence and sometimes a hostile committee, to get a home for the club. Bob wasnt involved when we finally swung it, but his efforts in the past contributed greatly to both the finances and the strong "buy a clubhouse" tradition that has fired the building sub committee. Bob was also heavily involved in building our present building at base. The Fremantle Sailing Club has profited by this clubs loss.

On the training side, we have this year for the first time since I joined in 1974 achieved a standard that students are entitled to expect. It is well run, has good course content and a solid and though small corp of instructors. For this I salute John Paskulich. And while I am recognising effort, I must make mention

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of the Lutey's. Without John and Sue my job would have been a great deal harder. They have given their time and effort unstintingly. They have involved themselves in most of the clubs arduous activities and I am most greatfull for their support.

We have bought a boat - a committee initiative - and it is being well used. But now we must take a look at how we will use our assets. Particularly our funds. For the past few years the club has been running at a loss. The income from club subscription and fund-raising events has not covered costs. We have been making up the deficit by using the interest on our savings. That interest will now be too small to keep the club going unless we watch our spending and step up the fund raising.

Dave Kenny has suggested setting up a finance sub-committee. This group would manage our money and approve major expenditures before passing them to a general meeting for final approval. While recognising the fact that the club can get top heavy with committees, I think this idea is a good one. I think the duties of the finance sub-committee could be included in the building sub committees responsibilities. This body has some excellent managerial talents and their workload has been lessened now. We will be discussing these proposals in committee.

The office of social organiser in the club is a difficult one to fill. It involves a lot of work and very little reward. Over the years a number of good workers have found it too much. Joan Sewell is the latest. Joan has tendered her resignation as OC Social. She cites personal reasons and lack of support from some committee members among her reasons. I am sorry

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Was she looking for that final resting place? No, not yet. She refloated and limped into Fremantle under her own steam. But the owners decided to carry out repairs in Hong Kong. A tug was hired to tow her but the rope snapped in heavy weather 50km from Fremantle and she went aground. They tried to refloat her without success. She was left there six months. Early in 1964 renewed salvage operations were started with success this time. A tug from Manilla the Pacific Star began towing her. The sea was calm the weather fine. She was on her way again. But just. She only travelled four kilometres when the tug was arrested. The Alkimos was anchored, the tug was escorted to Fremantle. Time passed, the law was in no hurry. But the Alkimos had enough, she broke her anchor chain and drifted to its present site. All she wants now is to be left in peace.

THE DIVING SCENE

by Martin

The trip to Mandurah on the 9th January was a great success. With perfect weather we headed South to the Beauward Reef. After several attempts to find exceptional diving country, we had settled for pretty ordinary diving but with great visibility. The following Sunday I endeavored to organise a small boats dive on the Carlise Castle. Unfortunately only one boat turned up. Barry Kennedy, Toni Eptom, Ro Johnson and myself found the wreck. It was great. This is one wreck we must dive on some more. Next.

Get your gear organised for a night dive coming up shortly at the North Mole. Night diving has an added bonus of anticipation of the unknown in the dark....

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GEORGE M. SHRIVER....
VIGGO HANSTEEN.....
ALKIMOS.....

This is a short history of a ship which had all three of the above names, led a charmed life through-out the second world war, cost a lot in repairs and now rests in shallow water, aground near Yanchep.

Visit the ship on a moonless night and Henry will scare the living daylights out of you. You see the ship is haunted by an unfriendly ghost in oilskins. His name is Henry.

Alkimos likes to be where she is. I think she decided to pick here final resting place and now jealously guards her right to be left alone. It means big trouble for anyone who dares to interfere with her.

They tried to salvage her, she resisted. Caretakers were scared off her. People who tried to demolish her went bankrupt, fell ill or suffered injuries.

Occasional visitors like John are warned off. If you read John's story last month you found out that it is dangerous to dive inside the ship. Be warned.

She was built in 1942 one of about 3000 ships, to carry war material to Europe. Most of them finished up below the waves, sent there by the U boats or the Luftwaffe. She came through undamaged, yet there were occasions when other ships around her were sunk one after another. Once she was a sitting duck when she got stranded on a reef all day but nobody saw her and she got off.

When I say she got through undamaged I didn't mean that she didnt need repairs. She was't well built originally and had to be repaired many times to keep her going. After the war she was sold to a Norwegian trader and later to a Greek merchant. In 1963 on the way to Bunbury from Indonesia she struck a reef near Beagle Island.

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to see Joan go. She has organised some excellent social and done it without costing the club money. So this leaves the position free. If you would like to be involved, let us know.

Dont miss the General Meeting. We are having a show of underwater slides by Ken Jones, Dave Kenny and Roger Smith. Photographers of note and all.

Speaking of General Meetings; our experiment with an honour system is in trouble already. At the first meeting we were \$1.60 down. If we lose on a couple of more meetings we will be dropping the drinks in the fridge, so please if you want to be able to have a drink after a meeting, put your money in the tin.

This is the last call for the Abrolhos. Book now for Easter as we will close the books next week. If you are going bring \$100 each, pronto.

WRECKS ARE HAZARDS

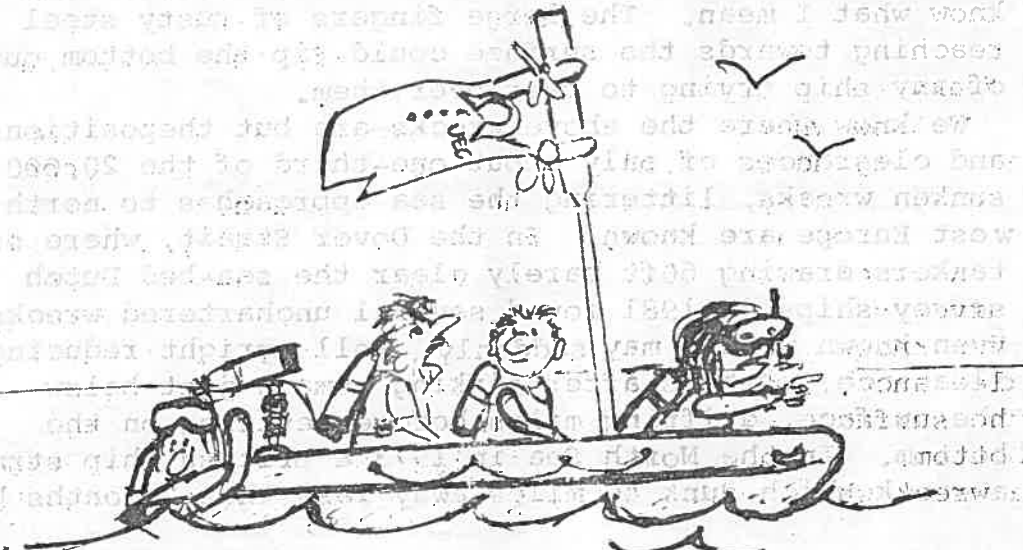
If you have dived on the Orizaba or the Denton Holme you know what I mean. The large fingers of rusty steel reaching towards the surface could rip the bottom out of any ship trying to pass over them.

We know where the above wrecks are but the positions and clearances of only about one-third of the 20,000 sunken wrecks, littering the sea approaches to north west Europe are known. In the Dover Strait, where oil tankers drawing 60ft barely clear the sea-bed Dutch survey ships in 1981 found several uncharted wrecks. Even known wrecks may suddenly roll upright reducing the clearance. Others after sinking remain just below the surface, drifting miles before settling on the bottom. In the North Sea in 1973 a British Ship struck a wreck which sunk 40 miles away less than 2 months before

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Toni that flag is just great...



Anybody care to second Martins proposal?



**Commercial Fish Production
Western Australia 1978/79, 1979/80
(tonnes liveweight)**

WET FISH SPECIES	1978/79	1979/80	OTHER SPECIES	1978/79	1979/80
Australian Salmon	1132.6	1220.8	Crabs	101.8	100.8
Bream, Black	29.0	45.7	Rock Lobster	11460.8	10738.1
Cobbler	175.7	254.0	Prawns, Banana	16.8	164.6
Garfish, Sea	23.5	24.6	Prawns, Endeavour	364.5	290.9
Herring, Perth	276.9	144.1	Prawns, Tiger	1365.6	1043.8
Jewfish, Westralian	185.7	184.2	Prawns, Western King	1620.0	1758.1
Mackerel, Spanish	126.4	122.8	Prawns, Other	74.2	129.4
Mackerel, Scaly	519.6	745.8	TOTAL CRUSTACEANS	15003.7	14225.7
Mullet, Sea	562.8	693.3	Abalone	304.9	311.2
Mullet, Yellow-Eye	593.5	404.4	Scallop, Saucer	393.8	237.2
Pilchard	889.8	826.3	Other Molluscs	246.3	300.8
Australian Herring	912.6	776.3	TOTAL MOLLUSCS	945.0	849.2
Samson Fish	5.7	38.5			
Shark	780.7	1099.9			
Snapper	491.3	698.7			
Sandy Sprat	121.1	84.2			
Tailor	38.7	41.1			
Tuna, Southern Bluefin	1742.4	2496.4			
Whiting, King George	37.8	35.6			
Whiting, Western Sand	226.5	224.3			
Other Wet Fish	667.5	690.7			
TOTAL WET FISH	9539.8	10851.7			

During 1979/80 Western Australia maintained its position as the top fishing State. The catch in Western Australia of fish, crustaceans and molluscs in 1979/80 was worth \$85.7 million to the fishermen, which is 27 percent of the total value for Australia.

Sunday after dark we went for a night dive. We waded in from the boat launching ramp at Canal Rocks and swam around the bay. A very anxious hour was spent by the shore party and a pleasant dive by those taking part.

After that it rained all night.

Monday morning we packed up and drove to Busselton hoping to dive at the end of the jetty. We found the sea too rough and the wind too cold, so after a few drinks in the pub and a feed of fish and chips we decided to abandon all ideas of diving.

TRAINING by John Pasculich

The initial certificate theory exam part one, will be conducted at the Woodman Point base 9am Sunday the 13th. Exam part two will be conducted on the following Sunday, also at base.

It has been decided to close the books on initial certificate training this season, that is when the current course is finished. The rest of the season will be devoted to advanced diver training.

IS IT WRONG TO CATCH YOUR SUPPER?

On the opposite page is a list of fish and the quantity that was caught in 1979 - 80 by professional fishermen in Western Australian waters. In the whole world it is many hundreds of times more.

During the same time while diving with groups of divers I might have seen about 2 dozen fish speared. Ask yourself, who is damaging the balance of nature?

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WAVES

If you have been dumped by a wave coming out of the sea after an offshore dive you know that waves are very powerful and the sea far from gentle.

The large waves at Canal Rocks which were 10ft from trough to crest last time we were down there were not really very big. The average large wave is 25ft.

In 1956 near Cape Hatteras a wave 100ft high was reported. Waves are very destructive when they meet an obstacle like a diver trying to get out of a rocky cliff. It has been calculated that the force of breaking waves on the coast of Scotland can be as much as six thousand tons a square foot.

TOP THIS N WA.

130 scuba divers lined up five metres behind their tanks, fins and weightbelts. The gun went off and there was a mad scramble to put on the gear and get into the water. They were competing in a treasure hunt at Townsville Queensland where sponsors dumped 1300 bottle tops into the water, 40 of which had winning numbers. The bottle tops were distributed over an area of 100 metres by 100 metres. The divers soon stirred up the mud and visibility was reduced to zero. About two thirds of the caps were recovered including the one with the first prize number. The first prize was a five day diving trip to the Great Barrier Reef. Other prizes included diving watches, tanks, underwater cameras and wetsuits.

If your dive is a bad one, try to recall the details of a previous dive which was worse. It will make you feel better.

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SOCIAL MATTER by JOAN SEWELL

Wasn't it lovely seeing quite a few of our life members at the Celebration Opening Party. I hope you had a chance to talk to them as they have some beautiful tales of the 'old times' of diving. To become life members - there is only a few - they had to put in a number of years of hard work into the club and been recognised by being given a life membership. I know they were happy to be present at the opening of our club house - a project they have been closely involved in over the years and early days of the club. It was a pity so many of the current members didn't turn up. I know it is the same old story I keep going on about. I have tried by insuring minimum cost and in return variety, slap up suppers and a variety of drinks, I went on because I have better things to talk about. My warmest thanks go to my catering team - Steve Oddy for the heavy work, the Smith Clan - Anne, Mum and Christine for their super goodies and keeping the bar going; Neda, Janine, Pam and Sue for their tasty contributions to the supper and Mal for the music and Dick for stringing the streamers and last but not least my friend Steve who apart from making his famous chocolate logs, did most of the shopping and gave me much needed support. Unfortunately for a variety of reasons I am resigning from the position of OC Social - so my dears - if there is anyone who loves making sandwiches by the million, tearing up raffle tickets and spending hours getting it all together! then you're the person we need for the next few months. I will be available to help as I have planned the coming events, but will not be able to fulfill all the duties and organising of OC Social, so if there is anyone out there who would volunteer, you will have firm support from me.

LABOUR DAY LONG WEEKEND

Yellingup 1983.

It was that time again. Getting away from it all and roughing it in the bush. No phones to answer, no idiot box for miles around. Just peaceful country tranquillity mixed with plenty of good dives, lots of fish to cook and afterwards just sitting around the campfire yarning and discussing the days events. Camping is really great. It is also very good for making you miserable. Like mosquitoes in your tent, dives which don't turn out too good, no fish to catch, you get seasick or smoke from the campfire gets in your eyes. The list of possibilities is endless, just ask Roger. The best part is that you can tell everybody how miserable you are and even after you return home the stories are good for weeks. Anyway this long weekend didn't let us down, all sorts of things happened. The best dive I am told was on Friday on the Busselton Jetty enjoyed by those lucky few who got away early. The rest of us turned up late Friday at the Yellingup Caves Caravan Park and pitched our tents in the dark. It's a new caravan park under the tall pines with separate toilet block for each caravan. The only thing they forgot is to provide parking space for cars. Sunday morning the early divers got away by seven, to the northern Indicator by Canal Rocks. Weather was building up and the sea was getting restless. For the afternoon dive we all went around to Eagle Bay, where there is supposed to be a reef which we didn't find, instead the coastguard found us and all of us missed out on dives. Sunday morning's dive - Canal Rocks again - was unpleasant for some. In the afternoon most of us went on a wine cellar expedition, returning with some over priced wines.

U.E.C. NEWS

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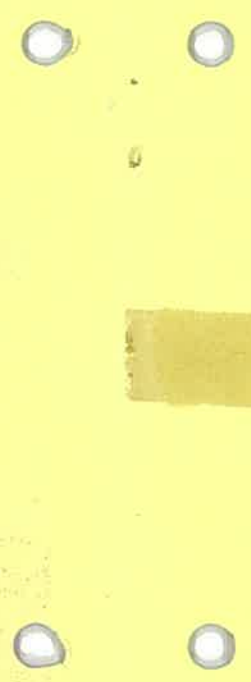


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DONT FORGET QUIZ NIGHT MAY 24TH 1983

FROM THE CHAIR

MALCOLM FERREP

One of the chores that one must address oneself to as President of this club is the fielding of questions from the press. Well, anyway, they did ring me tonight. It seems that Peter Sartori, the affable crayfisher person, who reported the whereabouts of the "LIVELY" to the museum has been offered an interim reward of \$2000. The reporter was more interested in the fact that the reward was two years late, but on reflection I think that the whole question of paying out rewards for reporting wrecks is worth looking at.

It is difficult to see any reason for paying rewards other than the obvious one; an inducement to do the right thing. The stick to this monetary carrot is, of course the threat of prosecution under the museums act. But this alone is not enough. Finding a wreck and then failing to report it could hardly be regarded as a crime, so the fear of prosecution will not induce a diver who finds something unusual in the sea to report it if he fears that he will look foolish by doing so. But the prospect of making a quid may make it worth the chance. It must be remembered that many wrecks are not recognisable as anything more than a strange shaped reef until some excavation has been done; The James Matthews, one of the most important wrecks found in this state was visible only as a few slates on top of the sand, the rest of it was buried. Luckily it was found by experienced wreck divers. The average sport diver would have picked up the slates and then forgotten about it - unless the notion of a reward is strong in his mind. This is why I believe that rewards must be given fairly and ungrudgingly by the Government.

What is a fair reward is not always easy to decide should it be based on the historical value of the wreck; in itself a difficult thing to define? Should there be a separate payment representing a set proportion of the monetary value of the salvage? And what about the effort required by the finder to locate the wreck? Mr Sartori after all merely spotted the "LIVELY" while going about his business and reported it some years later when a radio talk jogged his memory. Had he spent years researching it in libraries before mounting an expensive expedition, would the reward have been greater? I believe a set of criteria should be made public so that divers and beachcombers may be encouraged to report their finds promptly. It may not prevent the kind of tragedy that happened recently in Victoria when looters destroyed a wreck of incalculable historical value for the sake of a few souvenirs; but increased public awareness eventually grows and develops of its own accord, as seen in the conservation movement.

There are still many wrecks to be found in this state. The south coast was visited frequently by sealers and whalers last century and little effort has gone into finding relics of those important times. Similarly, the far north and Kimberly coast, though inaccessible, could hold the clue to pre colonial visits by Asian sailors. Decent rewards could encourage local divers to spend their holidays searching in these places.

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF WA (INC) PO BOX 28 NEDLANDS

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VICE PRES	R.Coles 18 Salen Ct Ardross	364 14
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TREASURER	P.Horton 374 Charles St Nth Perth	444 91
TRAINING	J.Paskulich 23 Cranwell St Thornlie	459 71
DIVING	M.Smith 38 Galaxy St Beckenham	458 21
MEMBER	T.Csomay 47 Lewin Way Scarboro	341 30
MEMBER	K.Cargeeg 32A Beamish Ave Mt Pleasant	
MEMBER	J.Lutey 5 Dane Place Willetton	457 85
MEMBER	P.Mortimer 7 Denham Way Thornlie	

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P.R.	K.Cargeeg 32A Beamish Avenue Mt Plsnt	
PROPERTY	P.Horton 374 Charles St Nth Perth	444912
SOCIAL		
SAFETY	P.Mortimer 7 Denham Way Thornlie	
TECHNICAL	T.Epton 3/155 Vincent St Nth Perth	328 62
RESEARCH	T.Csomay 47 Lewin Way Scarbro	341 30
VN 6PL	R.Wallis 13 Sulman Rd Wembley Downs	446 28

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	J.Bele (097) 212775 (wk)	21 28
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ARCH'OGY	J.Green W.A.Museum	
BIOLOGIST	R.Brown Research Lab Waterman	447 10
DOCTOR	Dr.N.Haimson 3/16 Coode St S.0th	367 55

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Dick Beilby's Perth Diveguide is one book every diver should read. Not only do you get details of 30 dive sites but also a book of other useful information as well.

One of the dive sites is at North Beach in front of the concrete jetty by Malcolm Street. When conditions are right the site is safe and interesting. Entry into the water is from the beach. You have to swim out in front of the jetty until the depth is about 5 metres. If you dive down and swim west from here you find that the rocky bottom gradually slopes to about 10 metres where a final drop off gives away to a flat bottom. If you follow this northward you can explore overhangs and small caves. Exit should be made on the beach so leave enough air for your return under water or you can swim back on the surface.

The concrete jetty is new, but the idea to have a jetty there is old. The first jetty was built sometime between 1905-1908. Nobody knows exactly when. It was about 28 feet long with a seven feet wide pierhead. It was supported by three concrete pipes filled with concrete. It had latticed sides connecting it to the rocks on shore. In 1923 the jetty was extended by 60 feet making it a well known landmark for years. Savage winter storms in later years damaged it and it was demolished in 1965. The new jetty, much shorter, was built by the City of Stirling.

COMING SHORTLY another night dive from the North Mole to the Garrenup. She sank in 1923 about 150metres from the Mole. Ring Martin for more information. 458 2224

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MARCH UEC NEWS 1983

The boat trip on the 27th February was a great success. The "Lysander", skippered by Bob Martin, proved to be a very serviceable boat. We departed the East St Jetty at 0800 and headed for Parker Point. We reached the dive site at 0945. The visibility was excellent and crays plentiful and we also found some beautiful country. The second dive was on Transit Reef and the wrecks of the Macedon and Denton Holme.

The trip to Cervantes on the long weekend was also a great success though numbers were down, the eight of us had a good time. Unfortunately it blew a gale all weekend which restricted diving.

The Abrolhos trip was a disaster. Both the compressor one of the "Horizon's" engines packed up and they made a slow, rough trip back to Geraldton in the dark. We had however, received assurances that the Easter Trip will be flawless.

With the boat trips now being run on a regular basis, will have to get your name down as early as possible if the last trip was any indication of things to come.

Diving over Easter will be arranged a few days before.
Ring Peter Mortimer on 458 8067

QUIZ NIGHT * QUIZ NIGHT * QUIZ NIGHT * QUIZ NIGHT *

THE INIMITABLE UEC QUIZ NIGHT IS TO BE HELD AT THE BOORAGOON HOTEL ON TUESDAY 24TH MAY. THERE WILL BE A TABLE OF TICKETS IN YOUR NEXT MAGAZINE. PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CLUB AND DO YOUR FRIENDS A FAVOUR BY BRINGING THEM ALONG. SHE'S A BURSTER OF A NIGHT MATE.

TRAINING John Paskulich

1. Base will be closed - 3rd April (Easter)
17th April (FAUI Tests)
24th April (ANZAC Weekend)
2. FAUI (NQS) conversion tests; Sunday 17th April.
These will be conducted by Australasian Diving.
16 positions available.
The tests generally include:-
 - (a) Theory exam approx. one hour
 - (b) Equipment familiarity.
 - (c) Buddy breathing while swimming
 - (d) Swimming without a mask
 - (e) Ditch and recovery
 - (f) Scuba rescue
 - (g) 300 metre swim on snorkel with full scuba equipment.

To ensure a high pass rate, candidates must first satisfy the Training Committee. U.E.C. testing will be conducted every base day until the 10th April. Theory nights will be conducted in the week prior to the tests.

You will require a current medical certificate and 4 passport photos before the qualification can be issued. Recommended reading is the "Australian Scuba Diver" by Sinclair and Morrison.

The advantage of the FAUI (NQS) qualification is that it is recognised Australia wide, and it can also be converted to the CMAS International Qualification. The cost of the conversion training is modest and represents a big saving on the regular price.

Please contact us as soon as possible to put your name on the list.

It has been estimated that by the year 2000, twenty percent of the United States' energy needs could be supplied by the conversion of kelp into usable fuels like methane.

ROTTNEST ISLAND FISHES

The Eagle Ray (*Myliobatis Australis*)

Family Myliobatidae

Approximate maximum width is 1.5 metres.

Often seen in shallow water and at night near the water's edge searching the sandy bottom for shellfish. Unlike most species of ray it is rarely found resting on the bottom. It is characterised by its protruding head, pointed pectoral fins and blue bands on its back. It is wary of humans and can be dangerous if encountered in areas of poor visibility.

Pufferfishes

Family Tetraodontidae

Also known as blowfishes and toadfishes, pufferfishes get their common name because of their ability to inflate their abdomens by swallowing air or water. Their skins and entrails contain a poison which is known as tetrodotoxin, and is thought to be at its strongest concentration during the mating season (November to April for the Common Blowfish). Careful removal of these parts of the fish may leave the flesh unaffected, however this is not recommended. Several people and many pets have died in Australia from eating pufferfish flesh but for some reason marine animals such as seagulls and other fishes seem to be immune to this poison.

sort of a living from it at all. We pay the boat operator enough to cover his costs. We are fortunate in having a life member who has a boat and is willing to take us out for a dive without wanting to make a lot of money from it. So why are we being harrassed by the Vigilant? Money of course. They are being used to protect the financial interests of the Johnny come lately tour operators. On the pretext of worrying about public safety they want to put dive trips in the hands of a few people who are often not divers themselves and who need have no training in diving accident first aid or in the specialised requirements of diving expeditions. This club has always attracted the sort of people who dont go for package tours. We train in the sea rather than in pools because it suits the calibre of person that we like to dive with. We dont want to be forced to travel with the tourists because some beaurocrat reckons we aught to. Safety is not the issue. They are not bothered by unsafe diving practices if you are not paying for it. Go ahead and drown, but dont let anybody make a quid out of it!!

Back when the Vigilant was first put in service, it was called, thanks to some official ineptitude, the VIGILANTE. After some weeks someone apparently told them what the word meant, so they changed it to VIGILANT. In the light of recent events I wonder why they bothered.

And finally; if the beaurocrats want to protect something, they could start with those poor sealions out at Carnac who are being driven crazy by stupid tourists. Putting half of the beach off limits would be a good start.

UEC NEWS MARCH 1983

NOTICES OF MOTION

1. That the provision for "Dolphin" committee and all subsequent referenceto "Dolphins" be deleted from the constitution.
MOVED: John Paskulich
2. Junior members be recognised as ordinary member, and be entitled to exercise every privilege open to ordinary members.
MOVED: John Paskulich
3. That the position of membership secretary be entered into the Club's constitution.
MOVED: Ro Johnson
4. That a finance sub committee be set up to approve every expenditure greater than \$100 prior to that expenditure ratification by a General Meeting and to initiate and co-ordinate fundraising ventures.
MOVED: Mal Ferrier

The above motions will be discussed at the April General Meeting.

At this month's meeting, Ken Jones will be showing an underwater movie that he shot in the Farribeau.

We will also be having a chat about the latest dive gear by Glenn Parker of Australasian Diving Academy.

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BY MAL FERRIER:

WHERE THE MONEY GOES: AND WHERE IT COMES FROM

At the last meeting we were requested to give a break-down of the club's income and expenses last year.

We took in --\$8,346 in subs; nomination fees, socials, and lesser items such as sales of T shirts etc.

We paid out --\$11,886

Now, to-be fair, I will deduct the cost of our major purchase - the inflatable, from this.

This will give us a normal operating cost figure of --\$8,386.

The largest expense was social. This was \$4,590 (Remember, we had a river trip that year, and a couple of other large shows). But social earnings of \$3,797 are included in the top figure, so social costs amount to \$793. This is not typical. Generally we break even on social.

But without the social component the club ends up earning a mere \$750 per year.

There is, however, one important figure that I have not included in our earnings:::

INTEREST on savings....\$2,838

This is what has enabled the clubs funds to grow, and this is the item that has now been slashed.

In other words, without the interest, the club pretty well breaks even.

We cant keep spending our capital. If we want any expensive items, we must raise the funds.

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like a football sized clump of brown seaweed. There were some nice cowries which we stashed back in their crannies and, blow me down. I found a superb pencil urchin skeleton something that I've been watching out for for years.

Back on the beach at Carnac we ate, swam, cavorted with the sealions and shot the breeze. Chris turned up a blue ringed octopus hiding in a shell and Tony stole the heart of a dainty female sealion. We also watched stupid insensitive people trying to frighten sleeping sealions into going into the water. I thought it was a terrific day and I am delighted that it was shared by the latest club members.

Not so terrific was the appearance of the Marine and Harbours flagship, Vigilant. They bore down on us like a Philipino pirate boat, sent aboard a couple of uniformed officials and proceeded to write down everybody's names. And what did they ask us? Did they enquire if the dive was being safely conducted? Did they want to know if the dive leader was a fit and proper person to be taking charge of such a potentially hazardous operation? Were they concerned about the qualifications of the divers, or the safety of their equipment? Ah, no, Democracy lovers. What was uppermost in those official minds was - "How much are you paying for this trip?"

Well now, I see myself as being a reasonable fellow. I know that the hapless crew of the Vigilant are only following orders. I also know that the business of dive chartering has attracted a lot of big operators with very large debts, but this club has been running boat trips safely and with considerable benefit to the community for nearly thirty years now. We were doing it when diving was still a remarkable pastime and if the officials will leave us alone we will be doing it thirty years hence. And in all those boat trips I dont know of a single boat operator who retired to the Gold Coast on the proceeds. In fact I dont know of one who made a

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A DISCOURSE ON DIVING by MALCOLM FERRIER

On Sunday 27th February, the current crop of trainees was taken out to Carnac for one of the ocean dives required in the course. There was a gentle breeze from the east, giving one of those slightly ruffled, clear blue seas that make diving into it seem' lifes most pressing need. For many of the completent it would be their first time in the open sea. We opted for a spot west of Carnac where the reef rose up to within 4 metres of the surface. An ideal situation for the new diver, and one holding plenty of interest for the old lad as well. No hunting around this time, we pulled up right over some spendid cavey country. We buddied up in threes and fours. I went with Reg Bateman, a first timer, and Cheryl. Peter Horton took down Chris and Jane Croft, an arrangement which I thought would test Pete's stamina; Jane swims like a tuna and Chris isn't too bad either. Pam Goodridge won a couple of spirited young blokes. Tony Spencer and David Miller, and Barry Kennedy, fairly new to SCUBA himself, swam with Soren Copely and Drew Brown. Jeff Swan had a speargun, and murder in his eye so I sent him off with skipper Graeme Niccol.

As I sit here now and think of sinking down through that clear water I begin to wish I'd gone to Cervantes after all. It is an experience that one really cant have too much off. At least good diving is. I have had some stinkers that made me think wistfully of the Goldfields. That is why the first few ocean dives are so critical to new divers. A bad experience at the start can put you off the briny forever.

But back to Carnac. The bottom is sandy with extensive eroded reef full of canyons and caves providing some enthralling hedgehopping type diving. There was some interesting sealife too. I saw a strange cuttlefish camouflaged to look

We received a couple of interesting items in the mail this week. One was an invitation for experienced divers to join an expedition studying Ciguatera. This is a toxic condition which can exist in tropical fish, and which is responsible for a number of deaths each year.

The expedition is partly funded by the scientists and divers taking part. The organisers stress that it is not a tour and that the divers will be expected to work with the researchers. The expedition is for in excess a year but persons wishing to take part may join it for one or more sections if they wish. Each section is two months duration.

The expedition will leave from Brisbane on June 1st 1983. It will be aboard the 18 metre sailing vessel, "ENDURANCE" and will do research in the Coral Sea, Solomon Islands, and New Caledonia areas.

We have more information in the club files or you may write directly to the organiser, Peter Denton, P.O.Box 1644 Brisbane 4001

We also received a letter from Mr Ray Saunt of Essex UK. He enclosed an old magazine clipping of a story on the early U.E.C. mud dives in Lake Monger.

This practice became a test in the now discontinued Proficiency Award. The last Club member to do a mud dive was June Errington. I watched her wriggle down into 10 feet of goo in Bullcreek, at the foot of Benningfield Road in about 1975.

Mud diving was a daunting pastime. The diver wore neither mask nor fins. A hood was pulled over the head and the demand valve is encased in a plastic bag of water. Air is supplied from the surface. The idea was to wriggle down and attach a shackle to the foot of a pipe. The practice was discontinued along with the Proficiency Award after June's effort. The tradition of the mud dive started in the early sixties when club divers were called upon to salvage a truck which became submerged in Lake Monger; in these days, a rubbish tip.

NOMINATIONS

LISA JONES 172 Risely St, Booragoon
SOREN COPELY 132 Collier Rd Embleton
DAVID MILLER 37 Clarke St O'Connor
IAN COWAN 3 Harrison St Willagee

SHIP WRECKS

'August Tellefsen' 1898 754 ton wooden barque wrecked at Rockingham. She was built over and became part of the Rockingham Jetty.
'Highland Forest' 1901 British barque out of New York wrecked on Murray reefs near safety bay.
'KX1' Dutch submarine built in 1924 blown up near the 'Alacrity' wreckage in 1958. Part of the submarine was beached by the Transfield dredge in the mid 70's.

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ARTIFICIAL REEFS

Artificial reefs provide a habitat for research and experimentation and serve as a haven for numerous fishes and invertebrates. Long ago old car bodies were placed on barren ocean beds and have since become the home for generations of sea creatures.

The U.E.C. has contributed to reef formation with the trail of tyres that can be found to the north of Dyer's Island. Another participator in this activity is the Malibu Diving Club which has created an artificial reef off Rockingham Jetty.

Existing reefs can be made more productive if made larger, but to do this suitable materials must be available and this can be a costly venture. Concrete pipes, piles and slabs have been used off the Californian coast, in fact in about 1976 over 8,000 tons were bulldozed off barges onto two reef sites.

The Californians have also used Liberty ships for artificial fishing reefs. They are generally placed close to shore so that fisherpeople can travel in relative safety. These reefs are often buoyed. Their fishes don't stand a chance.

An artificial reef needs to be pollution free and in some manner enhance the environment. One could imagine a reef designed to grow kelp and if successful, the kelp could be transported to denuded areas that would benefit from its protection. The use of artificial reefs to the scuba diver, well that requires no elaboration.

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To new members I would say, listen to the experiences of others and learn from their mistakes. Your 'ordeal in the water' may then be less frequent but inevitable if your interest in the water environment persists.

With regard to the so called 'King Wave'. The most feasible definition of this phenomena I have seen is, 'Like harmonic vibration which brought down the proverbial Walls of Jericho; a multiple of wave actions which, at a certain point, combine.

The regularity of these can be worked out mathematically, plus heights, etc. However, the instruments required are beyond the scope of this article and the necessity for use by ships unconomical. However, at any point of the coast at any time, you can sit and watch the ocean for the set. It will come at varied intervals of 3 - 25 minutes and in sets of three and seven waves. Try itsome time. At sea they are not so noticeable except for that extra big one.

The sea is impersonal. We as divers should observe its rules; know your capabilities. With this in mind, diving and boating, which go together, will be a source of enjoyment for many years to come. Good Diving.

'Raven 1891 wooden barque of 362 tons foundered on a reef just south of Dyers Island.

'Redemptora' 1888 known as the wreck of stones located 50 metres from shore just south of the A.S.I. shipyards in Jervoise Bay.

WATCH OUT FOR MIKE MCCARTHY'S GUIDED TOUR OF THE JERVOISE BAY SHIPWRECKS COMING UP IN APRIL.

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UEC NEWS MARCH 1983

This article is reprinted from the September 1977 magazine. Some of the events are a bit dated but the theme is timeless and we thought it worth another look. Dennis Parker is a life member of the U.E.C. with his wife Barbara, he edited and printed this magazine for many years and was a prolific contributor for many more. Dennis and Barbara are now living in Mullewa where Dennis is a Sergeant of police.

"ORDEAL BY WATER" by DENNIS PARKER

So many this title will remind one of the wartime story Commander Keeble who, being one of the early exponents of underwater delousing of mines and bombs, was a hero in his own right.

We have had the benefit of experience of his and other like our own first Patron, Lt Cmdr Leon Goldsworthy, V.C. whose book was never published. (See UEC News October 1972, Diving to Danger).

The Younger generations again should learn from the experiences of older members they know, and persons they respect. Barry Martin (UEC News August 1977 and another who come to mind. Dr Barry Wilson, an early UEC member now director of Natural Sciences at the WA Museum, who when he started his biology career used a service gas mask attached to an oxygen type stirrup pump, to explore the piles of the Busselton Jetty.

Closer to home we have Ken Kennedy who among other things free dived to free a large stingray from his nets and put his hand in its mouth, was held when it took half his force. Lyn Jones and other earlier members who with the early equipment - porpose demand valves - which by the way is used by myself, Bob Wallis and I believe John Walden, got into difficulty when the hose was fractured. No built-in non return

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UEC NEWS MARCH 1983

hen used in hookah. Bob Wallis, Hugh Peters, John Walden
r Naaom Haimson, Elaine Airey and Barrie Geddies, as well as
thers, have all had an "ordeal by water". Those quoted have
ostly been concerned with below the water, although John had
fair share above, while whaling.

I believe any person who has out of choice or necessity,
ecided to have the water environment for a sport, business
r profession, will, during the course of that choosing have
is or her ordeal.

On the Ocean we have the examples of the passenger liner, from
emory Southern Cross which, about two years ago off Cape
aturaliste, encountered a big wave which swung the vessel
roadside on, causing considerable damage and injury to a
umber of passengers. The wave occurred in a relatively calm
ea.

My own experience in this sphere was during middle watch
bout lam on an aircraft carrier in 1947. We were heading
nto a storm in the Gulf of Lyons, Western Mediterranean.
he ship was pitching, rolling and corkscrewing. I was
hecking lashings of aircraft on the flight deck abreast
he Island superstructure, the foremost portion being approx-
mately 200ft from the bow of the ship. Looking up, I saw
line of phosphorescence, then I was hit by a wall of water
nd knocked to the deck.

I was found about half an hour later trapped by the aircraft
ashings. My tour was completed for the night. The carrier
eceived extensive damage to the bow section and some compart-
ents were flooded. Many waves were recorded in excess of
eet. The size of the one which I referred to, would have
een anyone's guess.

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My purpose for this article is mainly to get members
respect the sea, never overestimate ability and never
underestimate the sea. Like many emotions, love and
respect go hand in hand. With the sea it is essential.

While on this subject, I might mention three instances
which have occurred in Geraldton in the last month. On
Friday 5th August about 1pm, a 26ft sailing boat, the
skipper and sole occupant having been trolling just out
side the main reef at the entrance to the dredged channel
into the harbour, decided to head for home.

He realised that he was becalmed as the wind had drop-
leaving the rigging he went to start the single cylinder
diesel donkey engine, in the cabin. It would not start
iately. Unbeknowns to him he had drifted into the break-
and then BANG - a huge wave fell on top of the boat, op-
it up like a melon. The skipper managed to grab a life
jacket and swim for shore, about four miles. He made it

That very evening about 5pm, as he was reporting his
incident, a call was received that two men were clinging
to a swamped grayboat. The crew, with the exception of
one member, was rescued, and the boat towed in. The 45ft
crayboat Condor had been coming through the main channel
when picked up by a huge wave. One report being that the
boat fell end over end from the crest. The missing member
was found last Thursday.

The following day a 12ft dinghy with outboard was out
the breakwater. His engine fouled a crayline and he
inished on the rocks of the breakwater.

All incidents cannot be prepared for, or foreseen,
but knowledge of the possibility together with respect,
can prevent many problems either on or below the water.

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U.E.C. NEWS

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UNDERWATER EXPLORER CLUB OF W.A. INC.



U.E.C. NEWS

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1960-1961

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1968-1969

The coral sea off the Great Barrier Reef was the setting for the remarkable sequence of sharks in feeding frenzy.

The underwater set to film the close-up action was a giant pool excavated 30 feet deep by 120 feet in diameter lined with concrete. It was filled with one million gallons of sea water and stocked with 1,000 fish. To keep the water fresh 200,000 gallons of sea water was pumped into the pool daily.

The animal star of the film was a six feet long green Moray eel.

The film story is about a young couple vacationing in Bermuda, where they find an old shipwreck, a fortune in sunken treasure and a cargo of drugs. They find their lives in danger above and below the sea from enemies both human and inhuman.

It is a film well worth seeing, especially for divers.

LYGNERN

West of the South Mole near a marker buoy is the wreck of the Lygnern. She was a Swedish steamer on its first voyage to Fremantle. Because of a dispute she was removed from the harbour on the 18th September 1928 but unfortunately hit Beagle Rocks and became stranded. All the cargo and fittings were salvaged. What remained of the 4896 ton ship became a navigational hazard and was blown up.

VENUS

Was a steam ship. She sunk in Fremantle harbour on 27 October 1920 when somebody left the donkey pump inlet and the bilge open.

PRESERVATION

RO AND TIBI

At the March Committee meeting it was proposed that we attempt to protect two wreck sites in the Fremantle Harbour area for recreational diving. The wrecks concerned are not historical, therefore not protected. They are more or less intact, safe and easily accessible, definitely worthwhile areas to retain as potential recreational dive sites.

The wrecks are the D9 alias Parmelia in Cockburn Sound, which sunk in 1962 (her story was told by Denis Robinson in one of our previous magazines) and the wreck on the north side of the North Mole the Garreenup(?) which sank in Fremantle harbour and was dumped there in 1923. Many divers use this last site as it is accessible without a boat. The only hard part is lugging your gear down and up those giant rocks. It is a great night dive site as well, but watch those rocks.

The idea to preserve these sites came from Mike McCarthy Assistant Curator of the W.A. Maritime Museum. His article "The Shipwreck from a Different View" appeared in "Skindiving in Australia and the South Pacific" He wrote. There is a strong case for the protection of wrecks that can easily be viewed by the diving public, school groups and even for that matter elderly and disabled people. ...easily accessible wrecks have the potential to become recreational facilities., and yet cost virtually nothing to maintain. The appreciation of wrecks as assets is now being recognised elsewhere in the world.

A letter was sent to the Fremantle Port Authority.

A LETTER FROM SPUMS

Spums stands for "South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society". And the letter is about junior divers.

"There is no official policy on the minimum age for scuba divers. However the general principles for junior divers are as follows.

1. Medically fit.
2. Physically fit and developed enough to carry and put on own gear - wetsuit, tank etc.
3. Mentally capable of understanding causes of ear and lung barotrauma and decompression sickness and how to avoid them.
4. Emotional stable.
5. Strong swimmer and snorkeller.
6. Dive buddy to be a competent adult diver.
7. Maximum depth. It is not known what effect depth may have on growing bone, Dr Edmonds recommends a maximum depth of 9 metres prior to fusion of the epiphyses (bone growth centres). This fusion varies between males and females and individuals, ie age 12 to 20 years.
After bone growth maturity maximum depth 27 metres.
A-to avoid narcoisis. B-To avoid silent bubbles.
8. Dive tables. Use modified dive table with a 3-5 minute stop at 3-5 metres adding this stop time onto total bottom time for calculating repetitive dives.

WETSUITS

Never store wetsuits tightly folded or with heavy objects on top. The weight will squeeze the bubbles out of the foam causing it to flatten or show sharp folds which will cause permanent creases.

CONTENTS GAUGE

At one time a contents gauge attached to a divers tank was a fancy option. Now it is a standard piece of a divers equipment. It is the only way to assess accurately how long you can continue to dive. Diving without a contents gauge could be dangerous. It is now becoming compulsory on overseas dive boats. All divers should have one. Do not let a dive shop hire you a regulator without one. Develop the habit of regularly checking your gauge, air consumption and your remaining air supply.

THE DEEP

TIBI

The movie "Jaws" did more damage to diving than any other movie ever made. Then came "The Deep" and the opinion of diving was reversed. The making of "The Deep" was most incredible in movie making history. It was filmed 40 per cent under water often at depths of 80 feet or more, in four oceans. It required a total of 8895 dives and 10730 hours beneath the surface. More than 100 dives were made by the movie's four leading stars yet non had any previous diving experience. The dives demanded by the filming consumed 1,054,000 cubic feet of compressed air, (you could have dive every day for 32 years with that much).

Major filming site for "The Deep" was Bermuda where most of the land action and most of the underwater drama was filmed. Other underwater filming was made in the British Virgin Islands in the Caribbean where most of the action was on a shipwreck. The R.M.S. Rhone a 2434 ton mail ship went down in 1867 with 125 her crew. Filming here was in 80 feet of water.

INITIAL CERTIFICATES

Many new divers will receive their Initial Certificates this year. The trouble is that once they receive their certification they think they are professional divers. This misconception could be hazardous. The initial certificate merely means that a person has completed a prescribed set of requirements and that this person now has enough basic knowledge of diving to go to the next step.

The next step in diving is to take an advanced course. Here the student learns everything from rescue techniques to underwater navigation. These classes are taught under the direction of qualified instructors with emphasis on open water diving. Usually these classes require deeper diving than the basic class and subject the diver to more diversified dive sites under various conditions.

All this will help to condition the enthusiastic diver to diving under conditions not necessarily ideal, but will help him enjoy his diving and dive safely.

Anything that is new and unfamiliar to a person needs practice. Practise makes perfect, and diving is no exception. Once can never know too much about something that is potentially dangerous. So bear this in mind, the Initial Certificate is not a licence to dive, it is an invitation to learn.

FITZGERALD

She was a 23 ton two masted schooner. She was wrecked on Fish Rock in 1862 but despite extensive searches she has not yet been located.

UEC NEWS APRIL 1983

ROONKA PEOPLE

"In many cases there is also a thickening of the bones of the earholes, which is a common consequence of diving in water. This suggests the Roonka people often swam in the river and dived beneath its surface, probably to collect shells". So said a scientist who was examining old aboriginal skulls. How is your earhole?

FOR THE SHORTSIGHTED DIVER

Further to Tony Epton's article on the same subject. Westway Sports in Fremantle stock a mask called Kinugawa Optical Mask. It is a well fitting mask with the normal glass plate. People who are short sighted can purchase optical lenses which can be easily fitted to the inside of the mask. There is a wide range of the corrective lenses available off the shelf. Cost ? \$31.00

THE KISS OF LIFE A HEALTH HAZARD?

Professor Bekker of a University in South Africa said herpes type-1 was regularly being transmitted by facial contact during sporting events. A number of cases are recorded where people have caught the disease after rubbing faces with other competitors. The disease causes painful blisters and sickness. The virus is transmitted most regularly when there is an abrasion present.

SIGN AT COTTESLOE BEACH

"Regulation costume for men and women, dress of dark material, serge, flannel or flannelette, extending from the shoulder to the knee. Those in swimsuits should not loiter on the beach or the jetty."
(Year 1900)

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UEC NEWS APRIL 1983

FROM THE CHAIR

MAL FERRIER

Not much of a report this month I'm afraid. I have been having a splendid time aboard the 'Horizon' at the Abrolhos and the dear UEX News was far from my mind. Next month, though I'll tell you about the trip.

We sent a letter to a certain local newspaper pointing out a few misconceptions that they have, but they wouldn't publish it, and that, I hope is the end of that.

Dont forget to get a party together for the quiz night on May 24th.

ITS UGLY, ITS CRUEL AND ITS BLOODY

The slaughter of baby harp seals on the Canadian ice flows.

The anadian government which permits and encourages the annual massacre of those defenceless and harmless creatures should be made to suffer in every way. You can show that you care by protesting, by condemning and by refusing to buy anything that comes from Canada.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

....To build a warship in the 17th century 4,000 oak trees had to be felled.

....To build a ship considerable amount of curved wood was required, This was bent and shaped in boiling water.

THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

The Great Barrier Reef is the largest coral reef in the world. About 10 percent of the world fish species live there. The reef is the work of coral polyp which forms an underlying skeleton of lime. The greater part of the reef is submerged at all time. Living coral grows along the outer edges. More than 300 different types of coral can be found, with the staghorn coral being most abundant. The Barrier Reef is not a continuous reef but a collection of several coral reefs and islands. Some of them are a mile wide and about 15 miles long. They are separated by deep channels. The outer edges are marked by foaming breakers. The water between the reefs and the mainland is about 200ft. deep with many smaller reefs rising from it.

DIVING DISPLAY

The U.E.C will organise a diving display at the La Plaza shopping centre, Bentley on the 12-17 September.

QUIZ NIGHT

*****FLOREAT HOTEL*****24TH MAY*****7.30PM*****\$3.00*****

Come one, come all, it is nearly time for another famous U.E.C. quiz night.

A mere \$3 a ticket gets you a full night of merriment and mirth and you may even walk away with an arm load of prizes.

Enclosed in your magazine you may find some tickets to this gala event, our success depends on you selling these tickets. Do get on the phone and round up your table of six master minds.

More tickets are available on request.

If you are unable to sell your tickets (a highly unlikely prospect) please return them as soon as possible

All prizes will be gratefully accepted. Enquiries to John Lutey 457 8537 Mal Ferrier 457 5577

A NOVEL WAY TO SALVAGE

TIBI

According to a Japanese legend divers more than a century ago attempting to recover a shipload of valuable vases belonging to the Emperor found that the ship sunk in water too deep for them to dive. So they captured a number of small octopi, tied thin lines to them and dropped them over the side of the workboat which was anchored directly above the wreck. The octopi seeking a place to hide soon found the vases and crawled inside them. The lines were then pulled up bringing the octopi and the vases as well. The vases were returned to the Emperor and the octopi were eaten by the divers. (The usual human reaction, one good turn deserves another

THE DIVING SCENE

MARTIN

The dive on the 2 April was to Rottnest. As a matter of fact we circumnavigated the island. Past Parker Point to Radar Reef. The swell was too big so we didn't dive there. Next we tried the Cathedral Rocks but unfortunately we didn't find the big cave which is featured in the Perth Dive Guide. The second dive on Roe Reef was excellent. Easter Monday with the sky overcast and the clouds dripping we took off again for Rottnest. There weren't many boats out on that day. Yet the diving was fine. We found the drop off at Parker Point. Like the Great Wall of China this wall of lime stone, teaming with life extended as far as the eye could see. And the visibility was good, about 50ft. The top of the drop off was about 40ft the bottom about 75ft. We took a bearing on this site so it will be easy to find next time. The second dive was in shallower water closer to the island. We found a lot of caves to swim through.

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UEC NEWS APRIL 1983

THE HISTORY OF A DIVE SITE

Around the year 1885 afghans and their camels camped on the sands where now Cottesloe beach is. But soon they were replaced by the people of Perth who discovered this beautiful spot. The Fremantle to Guildford Railway helped to make Cottesloe the most popular seaside resort between the years 1900 and 1945. On fine days more than 1600 people travelled to the beach by trains. Cottesloe became the miniature Brighton of Western Australia. There were bands playing, there were the tea rooms and the ice cream parlours, beach concerts and community singing. There were the doggem cars, ferris wheel and the hot dog stalls. There was a jetty built in 1904 150 feet long but it got washed away four months later in winter storms. In 1906 they built a much larger jetty. It has wide promenade with a band stand in the middle where bands played on weekends. The steamer Zephir used to call there on the way to Rottnest. Thousands of people used to stroll along the jetty enjoying the fresh sea air. They used to drink ginger beer out of earthenware bottles and soda out of bottles with the marble stopper. I bet you they have thrown a lot of them into the water.

The jetty was pulled down in 1949. In 1925 a shark killed Simeon Etterson attacking him twice. There were about 5,000 people on the beach and in the water. A shark proof fence was erected in 1936 on concrete pylons, one of which can still be seen standing. The other has been undermined by the sea and has fallen over. The jetty used to be just south of the concrete pylon and if you are lucky you might come across some of those old bottles on the bottom.

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UEC NEWS APRIL 1983

NIGHT DIVE

A very successful night dive was held at the Garrenup on Saturday the 26th of March. After negotiating the side of the North Mole, divers joined Denis Robinson's boat which was anchored above the wreck. There were soon lights flickering in and out of the hull as the divers explored every part of the wreck. With the boat above this was one of the safest night dives ever held.

NEXT LONG WEEKEND

On the Anzac Day long weekend we are going to Rottnest. There is room for 16 divers on the boat, so book early. We leave Fremantle on Saturday morning and return Monday afternoon. Ring Martin on 458 2224. Cost will be about \$30 if we get a full boat, plus of course tank fills. There will be sleeping room for ten on the boat. The rest will have to sleep in tents on shore. If the boat gets booked out but you still want to come, there is the ferry or your own boat if you have one. We can just about guarantee two good dives each day.

IS THERE STILL TREASURE THERE?

TIBI

In 1839 the Elizabeth was wrecked near Wharton Street Cottlesloe. She was a 192 ton three masted wooden barque. It is a shipwreck without any sign of a wreck being anywhere. I am told that only after winter storms could you be lucky enough to see anything of her when the sand gets washed away.

Anyway in 1928 a cannon was found at the foot of pierce street by a local resident. Coins and cannon balls have been found by Wharton and Beach Streets since 1885. An iron bound treasure chest was seen in shallow water

- 6 -

by several early residents of the area. Barry Martin found cannons in 1956 which were raised by the U.E.C.

Articles salvaged from the wreck have been displayed at the Fremantle Maritime Museum. This site is protected under the Maritime Archaeology Act of 1973.

(If you find a watch near the reef its Dave's).

AIR CONSUMPTION

TIBI

At rest lungs hold about six pints of air and about one pint is inhaled with each breath. During times of exertion the lungs can take in more than ten times the amount of oxygen that is used when breathing normally.

Lungs are complex structures and look like the cross section of a sponge. From the wind pipe bronchial tubes enter near the top of each lung and deliver inhaled air. The lungs are composed of about 760 million microscopic air sacks, the alveoli. The alveoli are covered with tiny capillaries and through them the blood delivers waste carbon dioxide and picks up fresh supply of oxygen. Normal breathing rate is 18 to 24 times a minute, about 1400 times an hour and 34000 times a day.

NOMINATION

Bob Martin 35 Livingstone St Beaconsfield.

HEARD ON THE GRAPEVINE:

Pam missed her cup of tea, evidently there was a shortage of this vital fluid on the Abrolhos trip..... Peter couldn't come home fast enough.... Tony is leaving us, he is off to Europe... Rodger is giving up diving..

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U.E.C. NEWS

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MAY 83



U.E.C. NEWS

CLUB OF W.A. INC

Nomination

Neil Haines

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U.F.C. NEWS

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**

U.F.C. ANNUAL WINDUP PARTY

AND

PRESENTATION NIGHT

FRIDAY 24TH JUNE

AT THE CLUBROOMS

MODEST CHARGE

**

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Your entries for the Kerry Stokes
1983 Trophy must be submitted at
the next General Meeting.

You must submit a minimum of three(3)
slides or prints. Please put your name
on the back.

QUIZ NIGHT

7.30 p.m

TUESDAY 24 MAY

FLOREAT HOTEL

LOTS OF PRIZES, LOTS OF FUN

TOP M.C.

This UEC year is sputtering out. The training is over, winter is closing in on the diving trips, and the people who give their time to committee are looking forward to the end of their term. Some of them will be back next year, some gave up months ago. I'm stepping aside. Nine years of committee involvement have made me hanker for a few Monday nights at home. Looking back over all those years and all those people who have pushed and shoved to get the point of view that they knew was right one accepted by their peers, makes me feel like a museum piece. There have been some momentous nights. This club has had some very capable and strong willed people directing its affairs over the years. My terms as President have been mercifully placid compared to the epic struggles that took place five or six years ago. I was fascinated and silent witness to the often inspired, sometimes dreary, occasionally banal debates that took place back in the old Naturalist Hall. Bob Wallis; Dave Kenny; John Walden; Keith Errington; Les Coleman; Mike Pollard; Ken Harrison, Mal Thomson; Ben Bruens and many more. These were all splendid club people, and the differences that occupied us late into many evenings were rarely fired by selfish motives. It is a great shame that involvement in any public activity eventually wears down the keenest workers. The wisdom and energy of these people is very hard to replace. It is sad that too often they come to be regarded as hoary anachronisms by the newer members. I sincerely hope that the people who will inherit this club; its assets and its traditions, will not let the debt that is owed to the selfless workers of the past be forgotten.

For the next four days we dived around Sunomi and Leus took a trip down to Pelsart where we dived in the eastern part of the group; and walked around Gun Island which is in the West. We saw turtles gliding below us and shearwaters soaring above. Dolphins did barrel roll on our bow wave and stared back at us with their black and friendly eyes. We spotted a solitary humpback, and brought the boat right into the upwell of water from his great tail. The whale breached a few metres from us and headed off at a rate we could not match while we listened to the rail in rapt awe at the majesty of that oily grey back pouring itself up, over, and back down into the water. A silent and mysterious creature whom we longed to reach but who had no interest in us at all. Near Sunomi a ten foot wobbegong sullenly patrolled the reef below the boat the size of it a majesty not usually apparent in the species.

The diving was mostly on dropoffs. Typically, a domed top of say twenty feet dropping down to eighty odd feet all around. The top was generally rocky and covered in plate coral while the steep slopes would be thick with staghorn. On the top of the mound the fish were often particularly buffalo bream which were far less cautious than they are here. In the staghorn hordes of tiny coral fish bustle about and pause to stare at the luminescent divers. There are serrated ranks of plate coral all up and down the cliff faces and under the plates; which can be twelve feet across; is a host of creatures living off each other. There are crayfish under the plates too, and they are also less cautious than the Rottnest crays. Diving at the Abrolhos can be an enchanting experience. The conditions are good; and this Easter they were perfect it is probably as good as any coral diving in the world.

EASTER AT THE ABROLHOS by MALCOLM FERRIER

The Abrolhos Islands are in three groups. The southernmost, the Pelsart Group, is 38 miles due west of Geraldton. This group is the largest in area, though there are probably fewer islands in it. Pelsart Island itself and the Half Moon Reef form a crescent about ten miles long and the other islands in the group nestle in the shelter of this bulwark. Most of the islands in this group are small, some barely big enough for the fishermen's huts that perch on them. The most famous island in this group is Gun Island where the Zeewyk survivors lived for some months and built the small sloop that was the first boat made by Europeans in this country. Post office island is also in this group. The diving is excellent in the Pelsarts, though it is more difficult to find good spots because of the distances involved.

Twelve miles to the north is the Easter Group. This is a more compact bunch of islands. It also has the largest number of fishermen's huts on Big Rat and Little Rat Islands. Because of its smaller overall area this group is favoured by charter boat operators. Good and varied dives can be had within a mile of the anchorage. The third group, the Wallabis, is about twenty miles north again and is in fact closer to the Murchison than it is to Geraldton. The Wallabis are more substantial islands, being higher and visible from much further out to sea. These are the islands of the Batavia saga. And so this Easter, aboard the Horizon there came to these low and arid clumps of limestone ten UEC divers. We pulled up at their permanent mooring near Sunomi Island in the Easter Group and sorted ourselves out. It has not been a bad trip across and anyway, the Horizon is a vessel with impeccable sea manners, but we had a few churning stomachs aboard.

I have no idea who will be running the club next season. So far nobody has shown interest. But if you take something out of the club, and if you would like to see it prosper, have a think about pitching in and making things happen. Banjo Patterson wrote a ballad called "Riders in the Stand" about the people who are full of insight about how things should be done, but who never do anything themselves.

It may be cosier in the stand, and you will never lose a but the jockeys are having more fun. Taking a position on a committee can be a real growth of experience and a lot of fun. Or it can be a bludge. And one almost invariably finds that bludgers are the ones who do all the complaining. They express their dismay in themselves by criticising the system. In all this pontificating is to encourage people who want to contribute to the club to get in and do a bit, but to try to head off that person who always seems to sneak into any horse enterprise, the critic who won't have a go himself. The rider should stay in the stand.

Well now, I suppose there are some who would say that I have stayed in the stand, and there have been times when I would have agreed with them, but I'm glad I pulled on the Presidents job. It did me a power of good and the club picked up a few crumbs too. I believe that the worst thing a club official can do is take all the squabbles to heart. I have seen too many good people pack it in because someone upset them in the committee room. It is all froth and bubble when all is said and done and no amount of club politics should sway one from the real business of life; the pursuit of happiness.

"The rule holds good in everything in life's uncertain fight. You'll find the winner can't go wrong, the loser can't get right. You ride a slashing race and lose by one and all you're bound to ride like a bag of flour and win - they'll cheer you in the stand." (Riders in the Stand) A. B. Patterson

A DIVE ON SUNDAY by BARRY KENNEDY

Sunday about 10am the four of us preparing for a dive John, Rodger, Bob and myself. Half a mile west of Carnac 10-15 knot North Wester, a little choppy and a fairly strong current. "Swim upstream of the boat" advises John as we set off. Twelve metres under, the country here is quite good. Heavy reef some small caves usual types and a number of fish. John and I look into a small cave and we are suddenly attacked by a large Cuttlefish. I have to ward it off using my crayfish hook. It attacks us time and time again. Rodger tries to photograph it but it attacks his camera so ferociously and fiercely that we have to leave and let it settle down. John and I pair off and look around an area of reef. I look for crayfish and find only one which disappears quickly back into its hole. Suddenly we are visited by a playful sealion who entertains us for ten minutes with barrel rolls, somersaults and beautiful acrobatic swimming. Mimicking every move we make. 'Fantastic Creature' finally its time to make our way back. Checking my compass we move back towards the boat. After swimming some distance John decides to surface and locate the boat; I wait on the seabed. John signals the direction of the boat from the surface and I take a compass reading as John descends to join me and together we swim on. After some time John signals that he is low on air so we decide to surface. What a shock awaits us. We look around for the boat and there it is some 300 meters away! We must have been swept along in a strong current. We could feel it pulling at us, moving us further from the boat. We began to swim. I start to think that we might not make it, it is so far away. I put my head down determined to keep swimming. John is some 5 yards behind me.

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SDFA

The W.A. branch of the Scuba Divers Federation is unique that it also issues diving qualifications for its affiliated training groups. As a member club, the UEC is entitled to issue their certificate.

There are a number of other groups and individuals doing training in this state. I am not familiar with their methods and am not prepared to pass comment, but they should at least match the standards laid down in our own training policies even be considered.

Members comments are invited.

IN BRIEF

Tony Epton is taking off very soon for an extended stay in Europe and U.K. Keep in touch with us through the magazine.

While the rest of us were electing a new government on May the 5th, John Bele was forming a coalition of his own. John married Diane and took her two children Kingsley and Paul under his wing. John is a 200 foot dive specialist, so I think he'll find himself out of his depth. Dave Kenny was there, so maybe that's why John and Diane chose a harp to serenade them. Best wishes from the U.E.C.

We are having a demonstration of the latest diving gear at the meeting so come and have a dekko.

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MAS (Confederation Mondiale des Activities Subaquatiques)

Translates as the World Underwater Federation, it is represented in many countries including Australia. Their qualification is probably the most readily accepted around the World. Unfortunately, I believe, they will only deal with one diving organisation in each country and this has caused friction between rival groups in Australia.

AUF AND SDEA

The Australian Underwater Federation and the Scuba Divers Federation of Australia are rival organisations, both claiming to represent divers interest. Each has branches in all states. In general, neither group is directly involved in training though the AUF is affiliated with FAUI, a commercial training organisation.

FAUI AND NOS

The Federation of Australian Underwater Instructors and the AUF jointly administer the "National Qualification System". Although their right to use the title "National" is arguable, they do have a standardised qualification scheme operating across Australia. The NOS qualification is recognised by the world federation (CMAS) and as such is a desirable ticket to hold.

PADI AND NAUI

These are American based commercial training organisations competing with the FAUI and having standards comparable with FAUI. I dont believe NAUI operates in W.A.

Ever so slowly I come nearer and nearer to the small IRAG which trails one hundred feet behind the boat. Finally I reach it exhausted. I begin to pull myself along the rope painfully slowly. I look behind. The rope has become entangled around my knife handle and I am pulling the float along with me. I am also keeping it just out of Johns reach as he puffs along behind me. I stop and release it. It quickly floats back to John. I see a look of relief in his eyes as he takes hold of it. By now I am so exhausted it takes me five minutes to get into the boat. Looking back I can see the others swimming towards the boat. I help everyone on board and we begin to plan our next dive. Diving's like that.

Thats Barry's experience. I have had a similar one in the same area. It is a very bad place for rips. A year or two back Wally Woodward was washed away from his boat near Carnac, and had a three hour swim to Garden Island. Wallys way of coping with the situation is worth remembering. He removed his tank and BCV. Inflated the vest, attached the tank to it and set them adrift while he kept afloat with his suit. Had he not done this, he may not have reached the shore at all. Yes he did get the gear back. ED.

QUIZ NIGHT 24TH MAY FLOREAT HOTEL
ROUND UP A TABLE OF SIX
DONATE A PRIZE.: REMEMBER, VIRTUE IS ITS OWN
REWARD.....

* A good yarn never grows old. With no apologies, then, this article is taken from the CUA Bulletin of June 1960.

"ABROLHOS LADY, BOATS AND WHALES" By JOHN ALLCHIN

I'll begin by telling you a little of the inhabitants of our particular island. There are four of us all told, Morris Glazier, known to a few of the older members as an active spearfisherman from ten years back, Ron Caine, also a spearfisherman and belongs to the Geraldton branch of the USFA and lastly, besides myself, there is Miss Muriel Thomas, to my knowledge the only crayfisher-woman on the coast. It's about Miss Thomas that I would like to tell you.

Muriel, whose nickname is Moo, is not what one might expect of a woman who would take on such a hard life. She is not a rough, tough, whisky drinking, navy type of woman, but a very quiet well educated English woman who has been in Australia only four years.

I first met her about six months ago when she was building her boat and getting it ready for the islands. She actually built the boat single handed except for occasional help from friends, and made a very good job of it too, I won't go into details over the boat, but for those interested it is 20ft, 7ft beam, double diagonal planked bottom and bondwood topsides.

Moo works her boat and her gear by herself and is surprisingly strong for a woman. No doubt this is accounted for by the fact that she pulled her pots by hand until this year, when she had a winch installed on her boat. She makes a good living and supports her mother who lives in Geraldton. Before I leave Moo, I would like to mention that this quiet young woman, who I would say is around 34-35 has rowed a dinghy across the English Channel by herself, acting as escort for a cross channel swimmer.

There are about twenty boats working in the Southern Group of the Abrolhos, and most of them are small and are called scooter boats. These boats are worked by one man and most of them make a good living, usually working for seven or eight months of the year. The biggest danger of the thing most feared by the men on the scooter boats is falling overboard.

c) DIVER LIFESAVER

- * RLSSA Sub Aqua bronze qualification
- * RLSSA Senior Resuscitation certificate

d) BEEF DIVER

- * Two dives within 6 hours to 30m or greater and operate within decompression requirements.
- * Perform basic skills such as mask clearing and removing and replacing demand valve at 30m.
- * Complete a minimum of 20 dives with at least three between 20m and 30m

e) EQUIPMENT SPECIALIST

- * Perform basic repair and maintenance on common diving equipment
- * Operate filling equipment
- * Other tasks as directed.

A number of the above tests can be done as part of your normal diving, so ensure you log everything and have it validated by your buddy. Also, from time to time special dives are arranged to complete these skills. See Martin Smith to arrange these. Hopefully we'll have Advanced Diver theory training next season.

and more from John Paskulich.....
FAUI: CMAS: NOS: SDF???????????????

Some recent comment by members indicate a considerable amount of confusion about the many acronyms associated with diving organisations. I'll try to shed some light on the subject.

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UEC NEWS MAY 1983

TRAINING REPORT by JOHN PASKULICH

1. All current trainees have completed the course except for the small boat handling segment. This will be done as soon as the Mike Pollard is operational.

2. Remember; to gain qualification you must do two boat dives with the club. Please contact Martin Smith for this (and dont forget your BCV's this time!)

3. Presentation night will be on the 24th June at the Booragoon clubrooms. The recipients will receive a wall certificate and an ID card. You must supply us with two passport type photos for the ID card. Please do this as soon as possible.

4. Advanced training;

I fully endorse Tibi's comments on this subject. To exploit the full potential of diving you must develop your skills far beyond those required of a basic course. Below is a precis of the FAUI advanced Diver practical tests. You must qualify in all subjects (including a theory test).

(a) RECOVERY DIVER

- * 200 metre compass swim with $\pm 5m$ error.
- * Search an area of 500 sq m and recover 3 small items.
- * Raise a 40kg weight from 20m
- * Three zero visibility dives.

(b) BOAT HANDLER

- * Prepare, launch and operate a small craft
- * Drop and pick up divers.
- * Perform water entry and exit
- * Land craft.

To understand this, you must realise that the motor is going and should a man fall overboard he has little or no chance of getting back in his boat. Unless someone is near and has happened, he has little chance of being picked up.

This has happened to two that I have met here. One lost his boat and was picked up several hours later. The other was me. He grabbed a trailing rope, and although he could not pull himself up to the boat, someone had seen him. When they stopped the boat and pulled him on board only fifteen minutes later he collapsed unconscious on his deck. He was very lucky.

Here are two anecdotes concerning whales and vouched for by reliable witnesses.

Last season a fisherman was working in about fifteen fathoms near a school of whales, between twenty and thirty in number, standing vertically, with about 10 feet of their head above the water. They were small whales about 25 or 30ft long. They stayed in this position for about a minute, turning from one side to the other, apparently watching him. He admits to a little apprehension, for it passed through his mind that they may be killer whales which are known to be very intelligent and quite capable of turning small boats over to eat the occupants. This took place in Whale Bay in the southern part of the island. A similar incident was witnessed by another fisherman. On another occasion, Muriel Thomas and her mother-in-law, a fisherman, were fishing for snapper at Shark Bay, when a whale surfaced near them. Either in its mouth or wrapped around its head was a giant squid or octopus. It surfaced twice and stayed up about fifteen seconds each time. It was less than a hundred yards off so they both had a good view of it. They estimated the octopuses are supposed to live in deep water, but when they were fishing was less than ten fathoms. The whale may have come in from deep water, as it goes down to thirty fathoms and further out. We find quite a few octopuses in our pots but nothing bigger than five feet tentacles.

IN PRAISE OF THE BLUES

Most reef fishes have an adult colour pattern that is typical for the species, although there might be slight differences between the number of lines or spots on the body. The colour consistency ensures quick recognition of members of one's species, and the configuration of the colour, including shape, outlining, brilliance and contrast, can present a signal for interpretation by other fish. Sharp demarcation between colours can hold one's attention and bright colours, although increasing conspicuousness to predators can advertise one's presence to rivals.

Some of the most beautiful colours seen underwater are shades of blue. The horseshoe leatherjacket (*Meuschenia hippocrepis*) is a good example of a bright blue species with a yellow and brown blotch on the mid side of the body, whilst the blue-throated wrasse (*Suezichthys* species) is usually a paler shade of blue. Both species can be found off Rottneest Island and northwards to Houtmans Abrolhos. Even the old sand crab alias blue manna, blue swimmer sandy makes one see blue. Attaining a shell width of 7 3/4" but not as heavy as its colleague the mud crab, "old sandy" is cooked before being sent to market and is generally regarded as more delicately flavoured than the mud crab. And what about the Harlequin Smiler? Found off the entire length of the Queensland coast this member of the Jaw-fishes has brilliant blue bands along its sides. The remaining body being yellow, lilac and purple.

But to conclude this somewhat bruised article, what about the blue species that has a red or yellow band about half way down its length, protruding eyes and a dorsal hump? You can see plenty of them around, especially Sunday mornings

- 8 -

at Woodman's Point.

By the way why is blue such a predominant colour under? We know that it is the last colour to lose visibility. What accounts for the deep blue tonings of the fast swif pelagic fish such as marlin, sail fish and blue finned and how about all of that blue staghorn coral?

MEMBERSHIP

by Membership Secretary -

Herewith is the first warning that your Annual Subscriptions are coming due, the deadline being the AGM on 18th July, 1983.

Because our Treasurer has a kind heart you will be able to pay your fees up to the start of the July Meeting but it would be preferable if this matter was attended to earlier.

If you are still unfinancial in July you will not be able to vote at election time as stated in the constitution - refer sec 13 and 17a.

Your subs are - senior \$25.00, Junior \$20.00

This reminder will be repeated in the June and July magazines after which, if you have not paid your subs, you will cease to receive the magazine.

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U.E.C. NEWS

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JUNE 83



U.E.C. NEWS

GROUP OF W.A.W. TO...
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U.F.C. NEWS



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THE JOY OF BEING SEASICK

TIBI

On the last boat trip to Rottneest three of us lucky divers got pleasantly seasick while the rest looked on enviously.

We three had the time of our life enjoying being seasick, all the others could do was dive.

If you have never been seasick you dont know what you are missing, so we would like you to join us and enjoy it on the next boat trip. If you are not naturally gifted we can give you a few hints on how to make it easier for you too, to be luckily enough to take part. First you must make sure that the trip will be on a day when the sea is rough and the wind is blowing at least a strong gale. To help things along you should have had a heavy night at a party the night before, followed by a good helping of greasy pork chops and a couple of raw eggs for breakfast.

Once on board pick one of the prime positions, either down below near the loo or near the stern of the boat and the diesel fumes. Relax and inhale deeply. Look at something on the boat that moves violently. By the time the boat is about half a mile past the North Mole you should feel a little squeamish. This is a good sign, it wont be long.

When the time comes you will know it. You will turn pale with pleasure, your head will float in the clouds and the pit of your stomach will heave up deliciously.

It will be the point of no return, dont fight it, enjoy it.

KNOW THE HISTORY OF A DIVE SITE

TIBI

ALBANY

In November 1826 a detachment of 44 soldiers and convicts were despatched from New South Wales under command of Major Edmond Lockyer. The expedition arrived in the brig "Amity" on December 26, 1826 and Lockyer named the settlement Frederickstown in honour of Frederick, Duke of York and Albany. The name was never popular and was replaced on January 1, 1832 by the name of one of the Duchies, ALBANY.

It is natural to presume that this part of our coast was visited by many early american whaling ships long before 1622 when the crew of the ship "Leeuwin" first sighted King George Sound. Captain George Vancouver in 1791 chartered the many bays and coastal features. In 1801 Captain Mathew Flinders anchored in the sound for a month. As the French have been active along the southern coast for many years, fear of a french occupation of King George Sound prompted New South Wales to despatch the "Amity". A full size replica of the wooden ship stands on the foreshore at Albany at the exact spot where the original party landed in 1826.

At Frenchman Bay the Albany Whaling Station was operating until 1981. One of the whale chasers was the Chey III which lay idle at the Albany town jetty since 1978. Nobody wanted to buy her so it was decided to sink her in King George Sound. Peter Horton dived on her and he promised this magazine a full report.

THE LOWEST

The lowest point on the earth surface is 400 metres below the level of the Mediterranean Sea. It is the Dead Sea. Israel wants to use this difference in height to generate electric power by pumping water under the desert from the Mediterranean to holding dams above the Dead Sea. From the dams the water will drop 400 metres down in a pressure shaft to the turbines. If you think that the Mediterranean Sea will dry up and that the Dead Sea will run over, you are wrong. It has been calculated that in twenty years the level of the Dead Sea will only rise 11 metres.

THE OLDEST

The worlds oldest surviving ship has been moved to a specially built museum beside the Kings Pyramid in Egypt. The ship is the Royal Ship of Kings Cheops, second king of the fourth dynasty (2613 - 2494 BC). The 48 metre long ship lay in a dry rock chamber for 4600 years. It was protected by the even temperature and humidity provided by the limestone blocks above. Not so in the museum. As the temperature rises during the day the timbers dry out and expand, but during the nights moisture it is not reabsorbed. The Egyptians will correct this by placing five tons of silica gel into the room. (You have seen silica gel in little cloth bags in your pill bottle). The silica gel which is silica dioxide, will give off moisture on hot days and reabsorb it during the cool nights.

COOKING WITH PAUL

On the club's Anzac weekend trip to Rottnest aboard the Lysander, I had a chance to show off my culinary skills with the fish caught by Martin and Steve. Since a couple of people have asked me for the recipe for Garlic Squid (or cuttle fish) here it is:-

You will need.

- 500mg cleaned squid cut into thin strips
- 10 cloves of garlic
- 1/2 a cup of ~~oil~~ olive oil
- 50gm of butter
- 1/2 a cup of Riesling

Crush garlic, blend with the oil and add the squid. Leave it in the fridge overnight to marinate. Next day melt the butter in a thick bottomed pan add the squid and cook over a high heat for two to three minutes. Add the wine, cover the pan and reduce the heat, simmering until the squid is tender. Serve as a first course sprinkled with freshly chopped parsley.

I am planning to do a recipe each month, so if anyone would like to know how to cook a particular type of fish or other seafood, please let me know.

FERRIES

The Ferry Countess will undergo a refit which will include the installation of a new engine. The Ferry Perth will have 45 centimetres removed from her funnel to allow her to pass easily under the Fremantle Bridge.

WAGONWHEELS TO STEAM

The first steamer launched on the Swan river on October 13 1857 was entirely built in the Colony by T.W.Mews in a shed below Mount Eliza. The engines were made by Solomon Cook an American who had a workshop where Boans now are in Murray Street.

The steam boat was called the "Speculator". She had paddles on each side of the hull and the boilers were made of steel bullock wagon tyres riveted together. The pistons were square. Steam leaked every here but the vessel turned out to be very serviceable.

VISIT THE MUSEUM

Now that the diving weather has left us here is your chance to spend a delightful hour or so in the Maritime Museum, Cliff Street, Fremantle. Open 1-5pm Friday - Saturday and Sunday. You can have a look at those cement kegs, bottles and other material salvaged from the Sepia without having to dive 50-60 feet. Among other interesting items to see are Dutch wreck material and the limestone gateway salvaged from the Batavia.

TONI EPFOM

Has arrived in Athens and the Greek islands. He is enjoying windsurfing and visiting the ruins of ancient cities.

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PAY UP OR ELSE

The subscription countdown continues, this could be your second last magazine unless you pay your subs by commencement of the meeting on July 18, 1983. The fees set by the Committee of Management for 83-84 are:

Ordinary members	\$25
Junior members	\$20
Social members	\$10
Country members	\$10

Post your subs to P.O.Box 28, Nedlands or hand it to a Committee Member.

Membership Secretary.

ARE YOU ONE OF THESE?

It has been found that the bulk of the diving gear is sold to infatuates. The purchaser often takes lessons in a heated pool but his diving career rarely survives many ocean dives. He hands his gear up in the family room where he can show it to visitors boasting about his many dives.

WINTER DIVES

After a winter dive a wet wetsuit can get very cold. Take it off, dry yourself and get dressed to avoid chill. Drink something hot.

HARD TO BELIEVE

The surface area of one gram of silica dioxide is 800 square metres.

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THE PRETTY MAIDEN

TIBI

The ship "Kwinana" was originally named "Darius" when built in 1892 by W. Doxford and Sons at Sunderland England for three Melbourne ship owners. One of them was James Service. The ship was 3,295 tons and she was used to transport horses to the Imperial Forces in India. Purchased by the Western Australian Government in 1912 she was renamed "Kwinana" aboriginal for Pretty Maiden. She was used to transport cattle from the Kimberly to Robbs Jetty (which didn't have a jetty and the cattle were just pushed overboard and allowed to swim to shore). The ship could carry up to 780 cattle on each trip.

She also carried timber to New Zealand, South Africa and sandalwood to China.

She suffered a series of mishaps, like scraping her bottom along Success Bank in 1913, fire in the coal hold in 1914 and the same year she hit a rock in the Cambridge Gulf. In 1920 she sprung a leak and later in the same year another fire. Coal was ignited by the donkey boiler just after she left Geraldton. The crew managed to dampen the fire and she limped into Carnarvon two days later. The coal was unloaded but the hot steel plates set alight her cargo of timber. The "Kwinana" was ablaze. The crew could not put out the fire and a message was sent to Fremantle for help. The tug "Wyola" made full speed with fire fighting equipment. The fire was put out but the "Kwinana" was gutted from the funnel to the forepeak. She was made seaworthy for the trip to Fremantle arriving there in March 1921. Unfortunately in Gauge Roads she collided with the S.S. "Port Stephens" suffering more damage.

"THE MIKE POLLARD"

The club's inflatable boat is back in action. The outboard motor has been overhauled and is ticking over like a two bob watch. If you want to use it check it out by ringing Peter Horton 444 9126.

LAST BOAT TRIP

There is only one more boat trip left this year weather permitting it will be to Rottnest on the 26th June (4582224)

PRESENTATION NIGHT

Will be held on Friday 24th June in our own club rooms—22 Shields Crescent.

Time - 8pm

Cost \$5.00 includes light supper and drinks.

Don't miss it.

HAMELIN BAY

That beautiful spot where we sometimes go for long weekends was named after Captain Hamelin of the French ship "Le Geographe". Eagle Bay where we had a clash with the big white boat, was named after the ship "Eagle" which plied the south west coast. Yallingup is aboriginal for "a place of Love". Gracetown was named after Grace Bussell who rescued survivors from the wreck "Georgette" on Calgardup Reef and Augusta after Princess Augusta second daughter of George the III.

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DIVING

Martin Smith

Our monthly boat trip to Rottne got off to a good start on the 22nd. With a full boat of divers we headed for the open sea. The sky was overcast the wind was blowing and the sea was choppy. It didnt look promising at all. We picked a dive site just off Dyers Island. The boat was rocking like a horse which made gearing up difficult and which made some of us sea sick.

Those who went for a dive reported strong currents, almost nil visibility.

For our second dive we tried Roe Reef but conditions there were just as bad. Two divers had difficulty with reverse sinus blocks and one with an ear that wouldnt clear. The three who were sea sick, continued. (See back page for instructions).

Hating to see all that good air left in the tanks going stale Ian Cowan and I went for a third dive - close to the island near Geordie Bay. It was a mistake. While looking under a ledge I was viciously attacked by a cuttle fish. It was quite a shock. (Its usually the other way around). Anyway Ian having a good killer instinct retaliated thus not only saving my life but also providing us with a delicious meal two days later (See cooking with Paul)

The trip back was quite pleasant, we were all looking forward to firm land under our feet again.

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After inspection she was declared unfit for restoration. She was stripped of all fittings and the hull was offered for sale. But there was no buyer. She was towed to Careening Bay to await her fate.

On May 29, 1922 she broke her mooring in a storm and was blown across Cockburn Sound to where she now rest. She lay in shallow water rusting away until in 1941 w she was partly destroyed by the army using explosives. She remained like that until in 1959 the Fremantle Harbour Trust cut her down to low water line. She was filled with limestone and concrete and now the Pretty Maiden is hardly recognised as a once proud ship.

LOOKING EAST FROM BASE

The monument which can be seen on top of the limestone ridge not far from the Woodman Point lighthouse is 30 feet high, was built in 1839 when Cockburn Sound was mapped by Commander Whidham of the HMAS Beagle.

BE PREPARED

Lifesaving instructions on a Black Sea Ship, including how to put on a life jacket.-

"HELP SAVERING APPARATA.
IN EMERGENGS BEHOLD MANY WHISTLES.
ASSOCIATE THE STRINGING APARATA ABOUT THE BOS
AND MEET BEHIND. FLEE THEN TO THE INDIFERENT
LIFESAVERING SHIPPEN OBDIENCING THE INSTRUCST
OF THE VESSELCHEF."

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MASTERMIND - UEC STYLE - JOHN LUTEY

The annual U.E.C. Quiz Night has been and gone for 1983 and once again a bonza night was had by all and we even made a few bob to boot.

In all, more than two hundred members and their friends fronted up at the Floreat Hotel and waited in hushed anticipation for master MC Dave Kenny to deliver the brain teasers.

After an intense battle over nearly three hours involving 80 questions, a table of six including our own PR man Kevin Cargeeg and his wife Lisa emerged triumphant. They scored a very creditable 67 correct compared with 34 correct for the trio who finished last. For their effort on the night they went home with a tin of brains.

The rounds of questions were interspersed with a number of raffles, "who am I's" and a round of extra difficult questions with the top scorer also belonging to the Cargeeg table. Tops and tails again, proved to be a good money spinner, with almost everyone prepared to risk 20¢ for the chance of being the last one left standing.

A few thank you's are forthcoming from the night. Firstly, to Dave Kenny-for again doing a splendid job of delivering the questions and keeping the whole show on the move. To Elaine Airey, Joan Sewell and Lyn Cleaver for hawking raffle tickets to the multitude and for collecting money throughout the night. To Rory Miller for acting as the heavy on the door and helping Sue and Cheryl with the marking. Thanks also to those people who donated prizes, or who

- Muddle along as we are until club training dies a natural death.

- Discard all training commitments completely and become just another "common garden" diving club.

- Spend a lot of money setting up a proper dive school, including the training of professional instructors and then join the dive school rat race.

- Redefine "Training" within the club. This would include revising our initial training course to reduce our dependence on "Base" with the eventual view of disposing of that liability and taking advantage of other, less expensive, advanced training options. This would include the use of guest lecture from the museum to develop our maritime archeology interests and the encouragement of members to participate in such courses offered by the tech. schools as Marine Biology and Coastal Navigation. Club divers could be restructured to reinforce these.

These are my personal opinions only but I feel the club should look at the problem objectively and come to a satisfactory conclusion in the very near future, otherwise we will end up losing out yet again.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

June 20 General Meeting'

June 24 Presentation Night

June 28 Boat trip to Rottnest - ring Martin 458 2224

July 18 Annual General Meeting.

TRAINING A PERSONAL VIEW

John Pasculich

Due to personal commitments I will not be nominating for OC Training next season. This and other factors have prompted me to raise that perennial question, "What are our future plans regarding training?"

Consider the following:-

We only have two qualified instructors available at the moment and no aspiring hopefuls training towards this qualification.

If we persist with the scheme in its present form a substantial sum of money will need to be spent repairing the Woodman Point Base.

Our training aids and equipment are almost non-existent compared to what is offered by the dozen or so other dive schools we compete with. It would be very easy to spend thousands of dollars in this area alone to catch up.

Income from training amounted to less than \$700 this financial year. This is based on subscriptions received from new trainee members, less costs incurred. If instructors expenses were added to this sum would be reduced substantially. Any unforeseen expenses eg repairing base would put us in the red.

I feel several options are open to the Club.

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went out canvassing for donations.

Finally a big thank you to all the members who attended on the night and brought along their friends. Special thanks must go to Elaine Airey for she not only spent most of the night selling raffle tickets, but sold an amazing 36 tickets for the night as well.

TRAINING REPORT

John Pasculich

The 1982-83 season closed on the 24th of May with a small boat handling session at Point Walter. In all a total of 20 divers - in two groups - completed our basic course this season and will receive the SDFWA accreditation. We also conducted refresher training and 24 members gained the FAUI "Scuba Diver" qualification as well. These excellent results were due wholly to the selfless efforts of the training team. My thanks go to our instructors Mal Ferrier, John Lutey and to the others who assisted from time to time.

Dont forget the Presentation Night at Shields Crescent on the 24th June.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IS ON THE 18TH OF JULY
ALL COMMITTEE POSITIONS WILL BECOME VACANT AND ANY FINANCIAL MEMBER MAY BE NOMINATED FOR ELECTION TO ANY POSITION.

THERE WILL BE A GENERAL MEETING ON THE 20TH OF JUNE DESPITE THE OMISSION FROM THE CALENDAR.

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ANZAC DAY LONG WEEKEND

The "Lysander" departed East Street Jetty on time and headed for "Rotto" with a full complement of divers plus gear, tucker, a filling compressor, bedding and two bicycles.

The crew consisted of the elusive Steve Oddy, our own Tibi, ace photographers Ken and Sheila Jones, chef of chefs Paul with Helen, Dave Bennett with Sal, the club's resident "Pom" Peter Mortimer, the man at the helm skipper Bob Martin and myself, of course.

A slight SW wind was blowing, the sky was overcast but we were all very optimistic about the weather for the weekend. We stopped for a dive at Parker Point, where the visibility was great but the fish life was absent. Next we headed for Thompson Bay to secure the pen which Bob reserved for the boat and which was to be out home for the next few days.

After lunch of cold chicken and salads we filled the tanks and headed out to Roe Reef. It was a pleasant dive, conditions on this side of the island were near perfect so we decided to have a night dive off the edge of the Transit Reef as well, after we filled the tanks and did a bit of line fishing.

As soon as it got dark in we jumped. We were rewarded for our effort because the fish were plentiful and the water clear. In the dark we headed back to find our pen invaded by a Knight Errand, a yacht which broke here mooring. By this time the easterly winds stirred up the waves and the whole bay of boats were dancing madly. After dragging the invader back to her own pen we settled down to a very restless night, during which the Night Errand escaped again and started to attack us.

On Sunday we headed for the "Mira Flores" down by "Narrow Neck". We had a bit of trouble finding the wreck but when we did the anchor fell beside the concrete marker. Not a lot left of this wreck and what's there is scattered over a large area along the floor of a canyon. It was a pleasant dive, Ken and I shot off some movie film. After lunch we headed out to North Point Reef hoping to find fish or crays for supper. We got nothing to eat but we found a beautiful garden of coral.

We finished the day off with having a barbeque and a few drinks. Sleeping in the boat was again uncomfortable with the boat rocking madly.

Monday we headed for the "City of York" which was a dream to find. We saw the concrete marker from the boat before we saw the wreck. This was an excellent dive. She is a beautiful wreck, draped over a large reef. The crystal clear water was ideal for more movie making.

The last dive for the weekend was on the outside of Roe Reef where Steve and I collected some lunch which was superbly cooked by Paul. We all had a feast. Thanks to the near perfect weather, the good company, and the good skipper we all had a magnificent weekend.

ANYONE FOR TENNIS

If there is anyone interested in playing tennis on Thursday evenings from 7pm to 10pm at Scarborough please ring Peter Horton 4449126 to arrange a game.

U.E.C. NEWS

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IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET THAT WE
ANNOUNCE THAT A LONG STANDING
CLUB MEMBER, HUGH PETERS PASSED
AWAY ON 9.7.63 AFTER A LONG ILLNESS.
HE WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED.

The countdown concludes -

July 18th is the Annual General Meeting and if you are not financial not only can you NOT vote, but also you can NOT stand for any of the positions falling vacant that night.

To ensure that you are not inflicted with this dreaded condition please pay your subs - preferably before July, 18th but if unable to do so the Treasurer (bless him) will readily relieve you of your subs prior to the meeting, being -

ordinary	...	\$25.00
junior	...	\$20.00
Country	...	\$10.00
Social	...	\$10.00

Postal address is, the Secretary, Post Office Box 28
Nedlands 6009

Enjoy this magazine, it could be your last.

MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY

11 either complete a project, during the season or seasons in which the tests are being taken, that would be of use to the club or to diving generally. Or, write an essay of not less than 2,000 words on a subject allied to diving.

12 Navigation - a. swim 400 yards on a compass and by judging the distance covered, surface within 150ft of a finishing point marked by a buoy.
b. Swim without any navigational aid for 100yds underwater and surface within 50ft of a finishing buoy.

Hugh's story ends here but the Proficiency goes on and since this time not only have Harold and Wally their Certificates so have Dave Kenny, June and Keith Errington, Tony Manikedes, Harry Threlfall, Dot Davies, John Bele, Mike Pollard, Phil McWhirter with my name being added on 24th June, 1983.

As you are aware time has changed underwater thinking and some of the listed tests are no longer considered wise or safe but the Proficiency Certificate is still there in its altered shape for anyone interested in under-taking it. Thankfully there is no time limit as the seasons I've taken are many.

For health reasons dives are no longer conducted in Lake Monger but there is a nice muddy spot in the Canning.....

Elaine Airey.

If the Mud dive is test no. 13, what do the other 12 entail? Plenty! Only one UFC Diver - Chris Sugden who now lives in NSW - has passed all 13 tests. Harold Roberts has one to go and Wally Woodward two. These are the other 12 tests in order -

1. A ½ mile swim without any equipment, in any style and any time but no stops for rests.
2. A 2 mile swim with mask, flippers and snorkel.
3. A ½ mile swim on the surface wearing aqualung, lead belt and basic equipment. No air may be used from the bottle as this test assumes that the diver is without air.
4. Four free dives to 30ft within six minutes.
5. A dive to 200ft.
6. A search in at least 10ft of water on a muddy bottom-blindfolded (the diver is allowed one rest but must complete the search within one hour).
7. Write an article on search techniques used for various types of water.
8. A free ascent from 100ft.
9. A free ascent from 50ft after exhaling all breath.
10. Twelve dives to 100ft or more, spending at least five minutes below at 100ft on each dive.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

What a whizzbang show we had this year! Cosy and not terribly grand, but a capital do none the less. I suppose there were about sixty people there. Some hoary old faces, and a heap of shiny new ones. It was a self help show. Quite a number of members pitched in so rather than miss anyone. I'll thank them en masse. The club rooms were nicely decked out and lit in sort of an early decadent manner. We ate well too. A number of members have asked me for the recipe of Steven Oddy's meatballs. Apparently they are splended for clearing blocked pool filters.

Initial certificates were awarded to...

CRAIG CLARK	STEPHEN HARWOOD
BARRY KENNEDY	NEIL HAINES
SEAN FULLARTON	DAVID FIELDS
CHERYL PRINT	DON SKILLBECK
DOMINIC RONZITTI	ALAN REEVES
VITTORIO RONZITTI	JEFFREY SWAN
KURT BLANKSBY	CHRIS CROFT
TERRY MORRIS	JANE CROFT
BOB COTTON	TONY SPENCER
REG BATEMAN	DAVID MILLER
DREW BROWN	SOREN COPELY

The UFC PROFICIENCY AWARD was presented to
ELAINE AIRFY

A total of twenty six NOS scuba diver certificates were attained by UFC members this season.

Fight Sub Aqua Bronze medalions were earned by the club during the year

This has been a notable year for the UEC. Training in particular has reached a standard hitherto unknown in this club. I thank the many people who contributed this season and wish the incoming committee well.

NOMINATION

Adrian Butcher 20 Eyresford St. Gosnells

ABROLHOS TRIP ABROLHOS TRIP ABROLHOS TRIP

Some Vacancies still exist aboard the "Horizon" for the long weekend of 1-3 October.

Contact the Secretary or John Paskulitch,

Don't forget the AGM. Come and have a say in the running of your club. Remember, only financial members can have a vote. If you have not renewed your subscription for the coming year, you are not financial.

There will be refreshments afterwards. Bring a plate if you wish.

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Divers taking the test had to feel their way down the pipe into the black void, remove a piece of cord hooked to wire wound round the pipe and surface with the cord. The next diver had to replace it. The test proved that the divers could work successfully under at least 5ft of mud (pre-metric days).

"If you held your hand within a foot of your face you couldn't see it" said diver Kevin Curnow as he wiped steaks of mud from his face and chest. The mud test is not a happy experience for anyone likely to suffer from claustrophobia. Two of the boys were hit by it last year, said Woodward.

However, all ten UEC members taking the test this year came through with flying colours. They had to pull themselves down the pipe. Swimming down was out of the question. Flippers, too, were out - the mud was too thick.

To surface, they had to rely on a tender who was standing in a dinghy moored to the top of the pipe. Four tugs on the lifeline meant mission completed and the tender would start hauling the diver up by a rope tied around his waist.

There were special modifications to the divers' breathing apparatus to prevent it being clogged by mud.

The dive was an unpleasant task, but all the UEC members took it in their stride-including one girl (guess who?) Elaine Airey. Others who passed it - Woodward, Curnow, Albert Ottey, Lindsay Jones, Murray Head, Colin Firmin, Keith Wagman, Bob Manwaring and Dr. George Weaver.

UEC NEWS JULY 1983

MUD DIVES

At Presentation Night, after receiving my Proficiency Certificate from President Malcolm who spoke briefly on the Certificate's requirements, I was besigged with queries regarding test No 13, the mud dive.

As there has not been a mud dive conducted by the club for many years the following story, written by Hugh Peters and published in the now defunct magazine "Outdoor Life" will be both timely and interesting.

Published under the heading 'Dirty Work for a Good Cause' it continues.....

The narrow pipe shook and wobbled in the water, disturbing the overall stillness of Lake Monger. All around the pipe the water turned jet black as mud swirled up to the surface.

Suddenly a dirt-streaked diver surfaced and grouped his way to shore. "Phew! It was caked so hard I have to scoop it out with my hands" said UEC diver and Committeeman, Wally Woodward.

It had taken him half an hour of exhausting work to get the mud moving. Now all was ready. the water was filthy and visibility was nil. It was time for UEC proficiency test No 13 - the mud dive. Club secretary Harold Roberts and Woodward had arrived at the lake early and sunk the pipe through the mud.

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UEC NEWS JULY, 1983

TROPHY AWARDS

The HAROLD ROBERTS TROPHY. For achievement, was presented to the club. A letter from Harold cited the acquisition of the Clubrooms as the final achievement. It is to this end that most of the clubs non diving activities have been directed in the past. This trophy is now mounted on the Clubroom wall.

THE DENNIS AND BARBARA PARKER TROPHY. For conservation related endeavour, was awarded to ROGER SMITH.

THE BOB WALLIS TROPHY. For best clubman of the year was awarded to LYN JONES.

THE LYN JONES TROPHY. for the best woman diver was awarded to LISA JONES (No, not a relative)

THE KEN KENNEDY TROPHY. for most improved woman diver was awarded to CHERYL PRINT.

THE DAVE KENNY WRITER OF THE YEAR TROPHY. was awarded to TIBI CSOMAY.

THE DOLPHIN TROPHY. for personal diving prowess was awarded to MARTIN SMITH.

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DIVING by MARTIN SMITH

Well the diving scene this month has been somewhat of a non event. The boat trip on the 24th was cancelled as was the small boats dive. Not to be discouraged I organized a dive on Long Jetty for Sunday the 3rd July. Peter Mortimer suggested also that if the weather was fine, a trip out to the aircraft carrier might be fun. On the Sunday morning the weather was not the best. Steve Oddy was good enough to bring his boat and Peter Horton, Steve, Paul and Ken went for a dive. Also on Sunday Tibi Cosmay Roe Johnson and John Paskalich dived on the "Elizabeth" Hopefully the next boat trip will get off the ground so get your name on the list early.

Well as you all probably know the next meeting is the A.G.M. I would like to thank my sub-committee Steve Oddy, Peter Mortimer and Tibi Cosmay for making my job easier. Also thanks to Steve Oddy, Peter Horton and Barry Kennedy for the use of their boats throughout the year.

Next season I will be standing down from Diving and looking ahead to bigger challenges, the "chair". Remember only paid up members can vote. I would like your support.

By the way, Peter Mortimer has indicated that he will stand for O.C. Diving next season and I know Peter wants to make many improvements and get in more diving.

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UEC NEWS JULY 1983

salvage some of the bullion which the vessel was carrying.

The pertinacity and the perseverance of the searchers was not rewarded in any great extent as the sunken vessel slipped into deeper water before they could benefit by their diving explorations. On several occasions since, the Venus has steamed south to give her owner another opportunity of trying to locate the Pericles.

The Grounding of the Orizaba made the name Venus prominent in the subsequent salvage operations, but perhaps the greatest honour fell to the steamer The Tamerlane was rundown by the interstater Dimboola and she sank in the fairway in the inner harbour Fremantle. Some attempts were made to raise the hulk before as a last resort the raising was placed in the hands of Captain J. Ball and the Venus. It is a testimony to the ability of "Captain Jimmy" and his curious craft that the Tamerlane is now afloat.

The Venus was not an imposing looking craft and she belied her name. A vessel of some 60 tons she gave of the many odds and ends that have gone down around Fremantle. Her top hamper was a strange mixture of dignity and incongruity but her hull appeared comfortably solid.

It now remains to be seen if the old Venus which has salvaged so many big ocean liners can herself be reclaimed.

This tribute to a great little ship appeared in The Western Australian on the 22 August 1923.

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rocks and threw her down in the strip of water inside the reef. As the vessel jumped the reef a man was washed overboard. Three huge waves following in quick succession threatened to engulf the small vessel but she shook herself free. It was the last of these waves that carried another man overboard. As he was swept over the side he called out "I'm all right boys" Neither man have been seen since. Captain Frank Bill and the other three men decided to remain with the vessel and when she struck the beach in the early hours of the morning they were able to wade ashore. Safe on the beach it was decided that the two younger men should go in search of help while the other two remained near the vessel.

The telegraphed message which reached Fremantle read. "SS Venus blown ashore 40 miles north of Fremantle Harry and Charlie washed overboard..."

"HISTORIC VESSEL"

More of the maritime history of Western Australia can be associated with the steamer Venus than any other single vessel on the coast. Dating back many years the wharf sagas relate it in their reminiscences.

The Venus traded along the coast carrying provisions and assorted merchandise between little known landing places. Later she was engaged in river work and was well known as a deep sea excursion steamer. Her outstanding work and that of her Master/owner Captain J. Ball was in connection with salvage when the ill fated Pericles dived to the oceans depths in Flinders Bay, it was Captain Ball in the Venus who sought the wreck and diving where other deep sea searchers refused to go endeavoured to

CHEYNES 3 by P. HORTON

Early last year I was fortunate enough to dive on the old cheynes 3 whaler which was sunk by Michealmas Island Albany, a couple of years ago. I was with a party from M.A.A.W.A. who went there to look at the wreck and also at the triple expansions engine at the old whaling station.

After the drive from Perth on Friday night we stayed at the Museum Field Station which was quite a comfortable little cottage by the Amity replica.

Early on the Saturday morning there were twelve divers heading towards Michealmas Island on a 42ft aluminium boat belonging to South Coast Divers (the local dive shop). The day was overcast which is not unusual for Albany and there was quite a swell running on the bay.

After about half an hour of being thrown around on the boat we came into calm water on the lee side of the Island. We located the wreck which has a mooring rope fastened to the deck and we split into two groups, I was in the second group.

Watching the first group disappear into eighty feet of water the second group got ready. I could not wait to get into the water when the first group surfaced as all they could say was how wonderful it was!

Once in the water my buddy and I descended along the mooring line. The visibility was about fifty feet and the water was very cold, but when you first saw the wreck you soon forgot about the cold - it was a great sight.

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The wreck lies in eighty feet of water and is wedged between two large rocks at an angle of about twenty degrees to the starboard side, most of the winch gear is still on the deck covered in a light algae, even the catwalk to the harpoon gun is still there. We went exploring the inside of the ship although next time I will take a torch. There is a large hole on the starboard side of the ship made by explosives so care must be taken as the metal is sharp when entering the engine room from this part. Quite a few photographs were taken as it is a wreck photographers' paradise. There were a few large snapper swimming around but it is a marine reserve, so no spearguns.

Altogether it was a very pleasant dive and thoroughly recommended for future U.E.C. dive trips.

Sunday was spent sightseeing and a trip to the Whaling Station to look at the engines from the Cheynes 3 which are all in pieces waiting for some money to put them together and put on display at the museum.

We also had a dive at the Whaling Station which was average, not too deep, the bottom was just weed and sand and a few large bones. I did manage to find a whale tooth as a memento of the dive.

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VENUS Tibi

In the April UEC News I used three lines to fill a space left on the last page, describing how the Venus sunk in Fremantle Harbour after someone left the seacocks open. Doe Johnson remarked on the story saying that her father has heard of another ship going down the same way. But was that other ship raised like the Venus?

You see the Venus was raised undamaged and put back into service by her owner Captain J. Ball.

After he retired his son took over the ship. Then almost three years after the sinking big headlines in The Western Australian announced -

VENUS BLOWN ASHORE

The story unfolds daily as reports reach the paper. The ship with six men went to the Abrolhos on a crayfishing expedition. To return the party left the Abrolhos on Monday morning, the weather was fair and remained so all day. About nightfall when the Venus was abreast of the Moore River, it began to blow heavily and a storm appeared to be approaching. About 9pm the full force of the wind and the waves struck them broadside on and forced them inshore towards a line of breakers that marked a reef lying about three miles from the mainland.

When the first huge wave was shipped the steam pipe was torn from the boilers by the force of the impact and it appeared that the vessel would strike, but a tremendous wave lifted her clear of the jagged

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MUSSELS FOR MUSCLES

500gm Fresh Mussels
1 onion finely chopped
1 stalk celery, finely chopped
1 clove garlic, crushed
2 large tomatoes, chopped
1 cup riesling
200ml thickened cream
50gm butter.

Clean the mussels thoroughly, scraping off barnacles with the back of a knife and removing the 'beard', the small piece of weed with which mussel attaches itself to its rock. Discard any which are open or broken.

Melt the butter in a large saucepan which must have a good fitting lid. Add the onion, garlic, celery and tomatoes and cook gently without browning for two minutes. Add the mussels and wine. Turn up the heat to full and put on the lid. Shake the pot gently every couple of minutes. When the mussels are open they are ready. Add the cream and parsley and serve with hot crusty bread.

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ESPERANCE REVISITED

With autumns weather giving way to the onset of winter and heavy swells, diving is at but an end for most of us till next summer. At times like now we look back on the seasons accomplishments and reflect on the experiences.

Last year, I wrote on the splendid diving to be had in the Recherche Archipelago and this year too, it was no different.

Our trip again was to dive on the vessel 'Lion Fish'. Superbly set up for diving and with comfortable accommodation. Setting out from Esperance on 28th February, with favourable seas, we were to have a rewarding experience.

First stop for our party of eight was Remark Island, about 20 KM south of Esperance. The dive site produced some sharp pinnacles in about 90 feet of water and some interesting caves - the groper, boar fish etc. It was a good pipe opener for the days to come

Mondrain Island, which had yielded some classic dives in 1982, again produced the goods. One day 2, Skipper John Margani found some interesting terrain with the echo sounder on the north side of the island. Jagged lines on the paper indicated the bottom fluctuated anywhere from 10 to 25 fathoms, which was certainly promising. We anchored in the 10 fathom section in order that those who wished the shallow water were catered for and yet there was the deeper alternative.

My team opted for the deep. Entering the water we headed for a gully which had shown up on the sounder.

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It was a beauty with the top ledge around 50 feet and then a drop off to 90 feet before rising again in the same fashion. We poked around the ledges for a while getting a few crabs before swimming down the ravine.

Visability in the 100 foot range was, of course, excellent. Down the ravine the water deepened and before long the gauge was registering 125 feet.

What I saw next was one of the most impressive sights I have seen in 20 years of diving. At this depth and growing on top of a rock about the size of a large table, was a massive soft tree coral. It stood about 5-6 feet tall and had a trunk about 1 foot in diameter at the base. The coral was white in colour with the softest tinge of mauve. It was really like a majestic Karri Tree swaying in the breeze, yet here it was in another world silently wafting in the gentle current.

A king in its own domain.

More surprises were in store, however, as beneath this very rock it was fortunate enough to collect two Marginatas.

There were many more dives I could describe during those five days, however, there is another I would like to mention - this one at Cape Le Grand.

The water around the rock, a sharp pinnacle breaking the surface was generally around 100 feet. Visability was not so flash, only about 50 feet. John and I were going to forage for shells and other goodies. After entering the water, we quickly dropped to the bottom at around 105 feet and before long John found a shell - a Rosselli. Not long after, the same area produced a Verol (a large member of the Friedii

group) for me and then we lost company. As you well know time flies when you are busy, as I kept working away at the 110 feet level. After 20 minutes I was rewarded for persistence with a Rosselli myself but kept working after scrutinising the contents gauge.

I was now into compulsory decompression requirements and eventually left the bottom after a 30 minute dive. It is something that I don't normally do, nor would I really recommend for obvious safety reasons, however, it is worth the experience. For those who have not done a compulsory decompression stop, it is an experience - especially in the middle of the Southern Ocean where you can't see the bottom, have no shot line to hang on to, and yet have to spend 7 minutes by yourself encountering the 'blue aub'; seeing nothing but blue water as you slowly gyrate watching the minutes tick off, monitor the contents and depth gauges and listen to the throb of the boat somewhere overhead. It is moments like these you need Minties and not that other white devil turning up. He didn't!

All in all, we dived hard and worked the tables a few times. It's a really great spot and as I said last year - if you have the chance, take a trip.

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UFC NEWS JULY 1983

U.E.C. NEWS

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U.F.C. NEWS



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Mortaraungletacher
mit Bellavista, Piz Bernina und Piz Mortara

Hi John, 5 m in France at the moment, doing some work on a lawn called Chamone at the of Monte Hanc. I'm trying to get but fit after a week of indulgence in Paris. One of the best places I have seen for diving so far, was Sargassum a little island off the tip of Sicily. The water here was fantastic & I saw a number of charter boats lined up with divers. Haven't done any myself. From the prices I've seen in good shops here diving gear in this spe is not much cheaper than elsewhere. I've got swells in France and then I'm off to England. Best wishes, Tony



TIBI CROMAY
47 LEWIS WAY
SCARBORO
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.
**A POSTCARD
FROM
TONI EPTON**



"HE JUST LOVES OLD BONES"
FOR COTTON

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

A disappointingly small number of members turned up at the Annual General Meeting held on the 13th of July. Two of the 23 people present weren't financial members, and the others didn't exactly break their necks rushing to fill the 24 available positions. A certain amount of arm twisting was necessary to convince those nominated to take the jobs on. Nobody, just nobody was willing to be treasurer.

The people who are going to run the club for the next twelve months are:

- President; John Pasculich, Thornlie 457164.
- Vice President; Stephen Oddy, Hillarys 401023.
- Secretary; Martin Smith, Beckenham 4582224.
- Treasurer; ?
- Training; Richard Bone, Sth. Perth 367676.
- Living; Peter Mortimer, Thornlie 458067.
- Committee 1. Peter Horton, Mt. Hawthorn 4449126.
- 2. No Connaton, Claremont 333176.
- 3. Barry Kennedy, Forrestfield 4536927.
- 4. Bob Cotton, Victoria Park.
- Membership; Secretary; Elaine Airey, Beaufort 476627.
- Printing; ?
- Library; Bob Cotton, Victoria Park.
- Public Relations; Kevin Jarceeg, Mt. Pleasant 354037.
- Property; Peter Horton, Mt. Hawthorn 4449126.
- Social; Ian Down, Willagee 327123; and
Soren Copley, Victoria Park.
- Safety; Barry Kennedy, Forrestfield 4536927.
- Technical; Richard Bone, Sth. Perth 367676.
- Research; Tim Downy, Scarborough 341300.
- Radio; A. Wallis, Leabing Downs.
- Auditors; John Cole, Bunbury 097 41413 m.
Lyn Jones, Melville.
- Stenals; John Pasculich, Thornlie 457164.
- Printing; John Airey, Willletton 476627.

ROUGH WEATHER

PAUL.

On Sunday July 24, Tibi, Sean and I went to Cottesloe hoping to dive on the "Elizabeth". Conditions weren't the best, but as it was such a nice day we got kitted up. This was my first shore dive for many months, and brought back memories of my training.

"Always enter and leave the water on SCUBA, in case you're rolled in the surf", the rulebook says. This was one day when it was definitely needed. After swimming out to the edge of the reef, the waves coming through were a bit too big for comfort, so we abandoned the dive and headed back to shore. As we came in, Tibi tried body surfing - I feel he needs a little practice.

Although we didn't get to dive on the wreck, we all agreed it was good practice for difficult shore entries and exits. By the time we had packed our gear away the weather was fairly warm, so we stopped for a swim, much to the amusement of the anglers along the beach.

Tibi dives this site most weekends, so if anyone is interested in joining him, phone him on 3413001.

SOCIAL

Come and play squash at the Broadway Squash Courts on the 20 August. Only \$ 3 to get in.

Ring Ian Coven 3575233 or
Soren Copley 3625943

Or come for a swim every
Wednesday evening at Bonty
Park Pool, ring 3413001.



TALL STORY

A new lighthouse is planned for France's northern coast. It will be the world's tallest lighthouse rising 100 metres above sea level. It will cost \$ 25 million.

Captain J. Lacaille from the Ministry of the Seas explains, "It will give ships, especially tankers which present the highest risk to navigation, a precise position to help them follow the new navigation lanes. Every day about 150 tankers carrying oil travel through the English Channel, often through rough seas with waves up to 11 metres high.

The light from the new lighthouse will be visible 75 km. It will have radar range of 43 km. and radio signals will be beamed as far as 200 km. from it.



SUB-AQUA AWARDS

Sub-Aqua Bronze Medallion

The Sub-Aqua Bronze Medallion is designed as the standard test of a qualified diver life-saver who must show ability both with and without the assistance of diving gear to carry out an effective rescue and the treatment of another diver in an emergency situation.

Age Limit: The candidate must be at least 16 years of age.

Pre-requisites: The candidate must be a member of a recognised underwater diving club and must hold basic scuba qualifications to the standard of Third Class Diver of the Australian Underwater Federation or an approved equivalent standard.



COOKING WITH PAUL.

BAKED TROUT WITH SHRIMPS AND PINE NUTS.

This is a stunning dish for a dinner party and it's very easy to prepare and cook.

- 4 rainbow trout
- 100 gms peeled and cooked shrimps
- 50 gms pine nuts (can be bought in Woolies)
- 4 sprigs of fresh tarragon (from my herb garden)
- butter, salt and pepper.
- 1 lemon

The trout should be cleaned when bought. Cut off the fins with a pair of scissors and rinse trout under cold water.

Tear off four pieces of foil, each large enough to wrap up a trout, butter each piece, and place a trout on the butter. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Divide the shrimps and nuts into four and stuff the trout with each portion. Place the sprig of tarragon on top and seal the foil. Bake at 175 deg. C for 20 minutes. Serve with a mixed salad.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

Editors; Tibi Csomay, Scarborough 3413001.
Paul Malally, Kelmscott 3908267.

Urgently required... Stories for publication... if possible typewritten to fit the page of the UEC News...

FROM THE CHAIR

JOHN PASKULICH

Before embarking on my report I wish to welcome the new Committee and thank those outgoing for their efforts. I'm happy to say that we've inherited a financially healthy club with a hard core of keen diving members. With this in mind I feel our task will be easier in many ways than that faced by past committees.

I hope to see two prime objectives realised this year.

The first is an increased membership. At the last count we numbered about 100, giving us a guaranteed income of around \$2000pa. Considering that our essential commitments such as rates, insurance, magazine costs etc. exceed this amount, we must have more people using our assets to justify keeping them.

A major attraction to potential members is the training we offer. Last season it gained us seventeen new divers. Our new O/C Training has a number of ideas on improving our training even further, so I expect members to get behind him and support any revisions he introduces.

My other main aim is to start to "put the UEC back on the map". In the early days our club was a major influence on diving in this State. It ran the only dive school of any consequence, it was a prime mover in the field of marine archeology and it fostered a public awareness of scuba diving as a legitimate sport. Since these times we've deteriorated to just "another" diving club.

I would like to see us regain a position of influence in the diving community and the first step taken this year will be a publicity exercise at the La Plaza shopping centre. We have space booked to set up a display there in September. Please give this some thought and be prepared to help where possible.

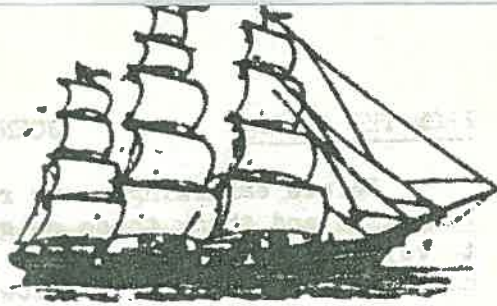
There are many things that can be done to improve our club. If you have any ideas, do not hesitate to get in touch with me or any other committee member and let us know about them.

Don't forget, the next meeting is on Monday 15th August.



SAILS?

With the rising cost of oil shipowners are seriously looking at the idea of powering cargo ships with wind power, but this revival of the age of sail will be without the nostalgic billowing white sails of the clipper area.



One method will use aerofoil sails, to explain simply: Take a cargo ship, fit two masts to the deck. Buy four aeroplanes and cut off the wings. Fit two of the wings vertically to the left and two to the right side of the masts. Connect them to computers and servo motors and you have your wingsail ship. It will give twice as much power as the clippers sails and instead of herds of sailors a computer will do the work.

The second method will use kites. Simply shoot a pilot kite up to catch the wind, a rope from the pilot kite pulls up the large main kite which is attached to the ship by a strong cable. The wind does the rest. (I don't know what you do when you want to stop, I guess you will have to cut the rope.)

DIVING

Martin.

This months diving has been a non event. Apart from a trip with Peter Horton and Peter Mortimer for a dive off Ocean Reef, the bad weather messed up things. Hope it will improve from now on with Peter Mortimer taking over diving.

All of us on the new committee are keen and looking for new fund raising ideas. We hope to get a filling compressor and maybe a good dive boat.



A LETTER FROM BRIAN PRICE, VICTORIA.

Dear Dave,

I'm writing to you as the UEC News doesn't carry the office bearers as it used to so I'm not sure who is who.

Firstly, enclosed is my \$ 10 for country membership if you can call living in Melbourne country. With my travelling about I've found out that my 1965 advance certificate isn't valid anywhere and in fact I've had some hard talking to do to get a dive. As a result I've now acquired a FADI card which is valid overseas as well, so I'm right.

Had two weeks in Cairns recently on leave and did some diving with Don Cowie who runs the Lown Under out of Cairns to the outer Barrier Reef. He runs day trips and I would recommend any UEC member going up there diving to give him a call. He runs a good dive at value for money prices. I guess I'm lucky, if you have to live in Melbourne I manage to get interstate every week and usually to Queensland. My gear goes in a big dive bag and my tank into a strong wooden box (when I take it) so if I finish work on Friday in Townsville or somewhere I manage a dive. Have managed Port Douglas, Townsville and the Whitsundays this year so far, apart from the Cairns sojourn and Hawaii late last year.

Living in Melbourne is deep, cold and with strong currents. I'm diving with a small group from TAA and have dived one of the scuttled submarines off Barton Roads (?) recently apart from in and around the mouth of Port Phillip Bay. Give me Hottnest and Roe Reef anytime.

My best regards to UEC for the ensuing season. Hopefully I may get to dive with the old club about Christmas.

Cheers. Brian Price.

PS; My regards to the old timers as well (sorry Elaine) They'll know who they are. B.P.

as well as training. If we are to get recruits we have to battle for them ourselves. In the past the vast majority have come for the training. This is still so. We get perhaps five trained recruits a year. This, compared with twenty to thirty untrained people. It is often said (usually by people who never come to base), that the distance to base puts trainees off. Well now I reckon there is nobody in the club who has put in more time down there than I have, and I know that to be false. There is the odd grizzle, but the bulk of trainees say that it is worth it to get the type of open water training that is unique in this state and possibly in this country as well.

Base is not a liability. It is an asset that gives us a great advantage over other training bodies. In an age of slick, prepackaged products, the UEC is still making bread with real flour. Give that up and you will be chucking away the only advantage we have. Then we will really have to pedal hard. Our big need is for instructors. I don't know how to overcome this problem, but I'm sure it isn't insurmountable.

WEDDING BELLS.

Mike Blake and Anne Smith married on the 30th of July. A good turnout of club members drank their health and had a splendid time themselves as well.

Congratulations and best wishes Mike and Anne from all your friends in the UEC.

SUB-AQUA AWARDS.

The Sub-aqua bronze medallion is designed as the standard test of a qualified diver lifesaver

NOTES FROM A GENTLEMAN OF LEISURE. Malcolm Ferrier.

It is not my intention to set myself up as a kind of elder statesman, but the Editor did ask me for a few lines and I've never been able to pass up a chance to pontificate. It won't be happening that often, don't worry about that. Ah no. I'm going to do more diving from now on. I'll show Roger Smith. After five hundred hours underwater at base, I'm ready to check out some of those other places I've been hearing about.

Firstly I would like to congratulate the new committee. It looks like a splendid team. I was particularly pleased to see a contender for training. I believe that the UEC must continue training and I reckon our present base is the best place to do it. I reject the notion that we are "competing" with the commercial schools. This implies a shortage of trainees. This has never been the case. We only need about twenty new people per season to keep the club at a comfortable size and we have always had at least that many. I also reject the claim that vast sums of money must be spent on equipment and training aids. We turn out divers as good as any in Perth without a lot of video recorders and such fashionable paraphernalia. Nor is it necessary to spend money putting power on, we operated successfully with our portable hookah and hired tanks last season and can continue to do so. This year our certificates were numbered 600. This is the number of divers certified by this club since the numbering scheme was adopted in the mid 1960s. The true figure including those who failed to complete their training would be well over 1000. The fees for these people represents a lot of money for the club.

There seems to be a belief that the commercial schools send us their graduates. This is not so. Most of the big schools are in the business of selling boat trips



DIVE THE ABROLHOS ISLANDS

NEXT TRIP 1 - 3 OCTOBER 1983

(QUEENS BIRTHDAY LONG WEEKEND)

CONTACT -

JOHN PAKLICI 4597164

PETER MORTIMER 4598067



U.E.C. NEWS

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SEPT 83



U.E.C. NEWS

UNDERWATER

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U.E.C. NEWS



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Faint, illegible text located in the lower right quadrant of the page.

Additional faint, illegible text at the bottom right of the page.

When we reach the opposite side of the canyon, Greg signals to move up onto the coral rim, where we can stand head and shoulders above the water. "Did you see those two sharks?" I ask. "Yes," replies Greg, and then adds, "Did you see the big one that passed just behind us?"

"Let's go back to the boat," I suggest. After moving a kilometre or so along the reef we decide to spear a few cod and then head back to camp. Easier said than done. We all do our acrobatic entry into the water, the boat stays afloat, and we begin our search for cod. I manage to spear a nice fish, and as I head back towards the boat, I notice Rod line up a cod and fire. The spear tears through the top of the cod's head and skids away to one side, leaving the fish flapping about on the seabed.

Suddenly a one and a half metre long shark appears from nowhere and flashes in towards the fish. Rod thrusts out his empty spear gun. The shark veers to one side and glides around in a big arc and comes back towards the fish. By now Rod is standing astride the cod, his empty gun extended forward. The shark glides in, Rod thrusts, the shark veers off. This happens several times.

As I reach the dinghy I throw fish and speargun over the side into the boat and I slide the Hawaiian sling with power head attached out of its special rack and return to where Rod is still defending his catch. The shark glides around us, just out of reach of the sling, then decides to give up.

As he slowly disappears into the gloom, Rod picks up his fish, Greg joins us and we head for the boat. Getting into the boat requires about the same amount of skill as getting out, but we manage OK and head for camp. On the way in, I think to myself 'This is only the first day ... and we're here for another three weeks!'

DISPLAYING OURSELVES

The club will have a display running at La Plaza Shopping Centre, Bentley, starting on September 12th and running through the week. Anyone with a few hours to spare who would like to help with the display, manning it and answering questions, etc, please contact Bob Cotton. This display is being run with a Maritime Week theme, and should prove excellent PR.

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL BOAT HANDLING

A boat handling course, run by the National Safety Council, will start on September 21st. The cost is \$10 per person, for 12 hours instruction. Included in the course is Foul Weather Handling, Magnetic Compass, Survival at Sea, Navigable Water Regulations, Anchorwork, Techniques in Seamanship, Chartwork, Motor Care, Rescue Operations, River Pilotage, Boat Handling, and Ropework. For further information contact the National Safety Council, Safety House, Stancliffe St, Mt Lawley (tel. 272 1666).

U.E.C. NEWS SEPT 1983

Welcome to the September magazine. This is my first month as co-editor and I want to thank Tibi for his help and guidance in getting this issue together.

We are always looking for articles for the magazine, so get out your pens and have a go - you may become the 'Writer of the Year'.

TIT BITS

... A team of French divers is claiming the longest underwater dive in Cocklebidy Cave, on the Nullarbor Plain. The team of five divers has penetrated 5.8km into the cavern. Last year an Australian diving team managed about 3.5km, as shown on TV in 'The Wonders of Western Australia.'

...I believe there are still a couple of places available on the Abroholos trip over the long weekend. Anyone interested please contact John Paskulich.

...Roger Smith is back from his trip to Wales and is suffering from a lack of diving (get out of my pool ...)

... Ian Cowan, one of our social secretaries, has started up a car repair workshop with his friend Steve. They can fix anything (even my old bomb) so they must be good ... phone 336 1318.

The bad weather, which has prevented diving, has brought the tailor on the feed, as usual the northern beaches are best, with a few being caught from the Moles. Bream have been taken from Two Rocks as well. ...Who's looking forward to diving on Key Biscayne if it's not salvaged?

... Ken and Sheilah Jones had a safe journey to Cairns, and they are looking forward to a couple of months diving on the Barrier Reef.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Last month's magazine had a few problems in its production, with a few pages being unreadable. The most important page was the one with the names of the new office bearers of the club, so below is the list again.

President: John Paskulich - Thornlie 459 7164
 Vice-President: Steven Oddy - Hillarys 401 4028
 Secretary: Martin Smith - Beckenham 458 2224
 Treasurer: Rob Coles
 Training: Richard Bone - South Perth 367 6076
 Diving: Peter Mortimer - Thornlie 459 8067
 Committee: 1. Peter Horton - Mt Hawthorn 444 9126
 2. Ro Johnson - Claremont 383 2776
 3. Barry Kennedy - Forrestfield 453 6927
 4. Bob Cotton - Victoria Park
 Membership secretary: Elaine Airey - Bedford 272 6627
 Building: Steven Oddy
 Library: Bob Cotton
 Public Relations: Kevin Cargeeg - Mt Pleasant 364 9237
 Property: Peter Horton
 Social: Ian Cowan - Wllagee 337 3238
 Soren Copley - Victoria Park
 Safety: Barry Kennedy
 Technical: Richard Bone
 Research: Tibi Cosmay - Scarborough 341 3001
 Radio: R. Wallis - Wembley Downs
 Auditors: John Bele - Bunbury 097 212828

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Lyn Jones - Melville
Stencils: Paul Mulally
Printing: John Lutey
Editors: Tibi Cosmay
Paul Mulally - Kelmscott 390 8267

SOME MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT SHARKS by P. Mulally

The initial attraction to feeding is by smell, and at times helped by sight and sound. The feeding rate seems to increase with the amount of sharks present. The solitary shark 'on the feed' will often test objects by bumping them with his snout. When food is found in the presence of other sharks, the rate of swimming increases, and if the prey is large and struggles the tempo increases into a feeding frenzy.

The sense of smell of sharks was tested in the 1960s, with results showing that sharks were attracted by fish extracts in one part per 10,000. It was also found that human sweat was slightly repellent and urine had not noticeable effect, so it's still safe to warm the wet suit in the traditional manner!

Sharks are known to be able to detect low frequencies of sound, much the same sound as given off by feeding or wounded fish. Fish will not scatter when a shark approaches, unless the shark is feeding, or a fish is caught or speared.

The search is still on for a shark repellent that works, with the US Air Force using various chemicals to assist ditched pilots, but it's not really known if any were successful. It would seem that if a shark is encountered when diving, the chances of an attack would be very slim, but common sense should always prevail, especially when spear-fishing.

OCTOBER 26, 1942 ... The American carrier 'President Coolidge' was steaming out of the harbour channel of Espiritu Santo in the New Hebrides. The Pacific war was raging, but for 200,000-odd servicemen Santo was a safe refuge, a gigantic staging base for battle-weary soldiers, complete with 43 picture theatres and four huge hospitals. So for the troops of the 'President Coolidge' the explosion that shook their ship would have been unexpected ... She had struck a mine in the harbour entrance - on of their own. The quick-thinking captain ran his ship up onto a coral reef. All but one marine was saved. The ship, sinking at the stern, listed to port and slid back into 200ft of water.

TO ALL MEMBERS ...

If you have any of the club's library books around the house would you please notify the club of the titles you are holding. If you have finished with them please arrange for their return to the club by the next general meeting. It doesn't matter if you've had a book out for 12 months or more ... we'll be very happy to see its return.

TO ALL SQUASH PLAYERS ...

If anyone is looking for a partner (s), Please phone Ian on 337 3238 or Paul on 390 8267. Both are looking for fresh blood after the club's squash night.

INFERIOR: Dacor C3N3 (twin-hose regulator!)
Seapro FSDS I0
Sportsways I390
* Sportsways 950 Arctic
* The Sportsways Arctic fared very badly, earning the label of 'an over-priced snorkel'.

Considering the above, I conducted an impromptu survey of my own among diving acquaintances.

MODEL	No. IN SURVEY	OWNERS COMMENTS
Tekna T 2I00	I	Excellent overall
Tabata Ventura	5	Very good performance overall (4); good breathing performance but experienced maintenance problems and difficulty in getting comfortable fit (I)
US Divers Aquarius	4	All very good performance and reliability
US Divers Conshelf XIV	4	Very good performance and reliability (3); initial problems but since then very good performance (I)
US Divers Calypso	I	Very good performance and reliability

This note has obvious limitations. I avoided repeating all the technical details given in the original article, and my own survey leaves a lot to be desired, but still it is a starting point for those wishing to pursue the subject further. Comments are invited.

THE BLUE HOLE

Barry Kennedy

May is the time of year when the North West climate is easy to adjust to. That's why we picked this month to visit the Ningalod Reef, just south of Exmouth. This is a beautiful coral reef a few kilometres offshore, easily accessible in a small boat.

This is my first visit here, although my two companions have visited this place many times before. In fact it's because of their underwater tales that I decided to come on this trip. I also want to find out how I will react to swimming among sharks, as there are many along the reef. It isn't long before I found out! Our first trip out is to a place the boys call the Blue Hole.

This is a canyon-like hole in the coral 10-12 metres deep, while the surrounding coral reaches to within 1.5 metres of the surface. We anchor our small dinghy on the edge and prepare to enter the water. This is an act which requires good balance and timing, in order to keep the boat the right way up in the water. We manage this all right and I reach the hole first and slide over the side. The view is fantastic - so many fish and so many brilliant colours ... and there, right below me, two two-metre long sharks.

They slice through the water with a lazy effortless ease, their cold grey eyes staring. I feel a cold shiver go through me as I look behind to see where my friends are. The sharks are moving away from us, following the rock ledge around and into the distance. We follow the same trail but I don't see the sharks again.

The OC Diving, Peter Mortimer, has little to report. Due to the bad weather there have been no dives this month - it seems the weather has been against us each weekend. Just watch the barometer, and if things look good on the Friday, phone Peter.

TRAINING

Richard Bone will start the season's training on October 19th, at the clubroom, 8pm sharp. Will all trainees please attend, and also any members interested in helping out with the training programme. The Training Sub-Committee voted in at the last committee meeting will consist of Martin Smith, Bob Cotton and Barry Kennedy.

BASE

Saturday October 15th has been set aside for base maintenance day. Volunteers are required to help patch things up ready for the new season's trainees. Contact John Paskulich, 459 7164.

DIVING REGULATORS

John Paskulich

In 1980 the US Navy produced a report of tests made on 36 American scuba regulators to determine those that satisfied their new performance requirements.

These results were subsequently published in the American magazine 'Undercurrent' (their divers' equivalent of 'Choice') and then repeated in 'Skindiving in Australia'.

Of the 36 regulators tested, only seven met the new US Navy standards. Twenty-two satisfied their old performance requirements, and the remainder failed completely.

These groups have been graded as SUPERIOR, MODERATE, or INFERIOR performers. I have deleted from the list those apparently not available in Australia.

SUPERIOR: Poseidon Cyclon 300
Scubapro Air I/MkV (4-port swivel)
Tekna T 2I00 B
US Divers Calypso VI
US Divers Conshelf XIV

MODERATE: * Tekna T 2I00
* US Divers Aquarius
* Scubapro Pilot Mk V (4-port swivel)
* Sherwood Selpac SRB2000 and SRB3I00
Sherwood Selpac SRB4I00
Aquadivator 324/USD Conshelf XIV
Dacor Pacer 150, 300, 600 and 900
Scubapro Mk V (4 and 5-port swivel)
Sportsways WL200, W600 and W900

*These only just missed out on being classed as superior

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A young man drowned whilst scuba diving on a wreck. The victim was one of 10 members of a scuba diving club who were to search the wreck of a sunken barque.

The victim had been underwater for approximately 40 minutes when he ran out of air. His buddy shared his air with the victim for about five minutes and attempted to bring him to the surface. Apparently the victim was carrying a bag of pieces from the wreck and was reluctant to let go of his trophy. Unfortunately the weight of his bag forced them back to the bottom. The buddy found himself unable to help and surfaced for other help. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation was given to the victim after they managed to bring him to the surface, but he failed to respond.

We are going to feature reports of diving accidents - one each month - not in order to scare you but to make you sit up and think and to make you learn from other people's mistakes. Case histories are true, just the names and places have been omitted. Just think, had the victims had a chance to read and discuss accident reports, maybe they would have acted differently.

Now read the story again. Place yourself in the victim's place first. What would you have done? Next, you are the buddy faced with such a situation - how will you act?

FROM THE CHAIR

JOHN PASKULICH

The recent diving accident involving a member of the Museum diving team at Rowley Shoals highlights a problem faced by any diver in this State who ventures out of the metropolitan area. Isolation usually means excellent diving but terrible medical back-up.

Reading the reports of the Museum accident it is obvious that divers cannot assume that top-class and speedy medical aid will automatically be available. It took 18 hours to get the patient to Broome Hospital. This was followed by another 800km trip to the nearest recompression chamber before ventual transportation to Perth.

I cannot comment on this particular situation but in general the medical back-up for divers in WA is not very good. Doctors experienced in underwater medicine are rare and as far as I know no regional hospital owns a recompression chamber. Even the one-man chamber at the Fremantle Hospital is UEC property! We must rely on the good grace of the Navy or private companies for recompression facilities.

Considering the rapid growth of sports diving and the revenue it generates in this State alone I feel an urgent up-grading of facilities for divers is essential and justified.

Now on to a happier subject. Our display at La Plaza in Bentley is fast approaching and we haven't actually been swamped with volunteers to help 'person' the stand. Bob Cotton has done a lot of work organising it and it looks a real 'goer' so please give it some thought. It will be held between September 12th and 17th and we intend to 'person' it on Thursday evening and Saturday morning.

BOOK REVIEW by Bob Cotton

'The Encyclopaedia of Sea Mammals' by D.J. Coffey

This book is currently available from most public libraries and is not exactly a recent release. However, it is a fairly recent publication,
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first printed in 1977, and as it is described as the first detailed and comprehensive account of all sea mammals I have decided to give a condensed resume of its contents.

This encyclopaedia details the behaviour, history, distribution and many other aspects of whales, porpoises, seals, sea lions and the like. Although written with the general reader in mind, it will be of value to students and amateur marine biologists. There is a comprehensive collection of photographs, both in colour and black and white, plus line drawings and diagrams.

Where a species is known by several common names, these are all given, together with their generic and specific names. For those readers who have wondered about the ability of all these creatures to dive and ascend without any barotrauma, there is a whole chapter devoted to this and unless you have plans to stick around for several million years to take advantage of Man's gradual evolutionary process of returning to the sea I suggest you stick to the old S.C.U.B.A gear.

CALENDAR MISPRINT

Please note that the marathon swim at Lake leschenaultia starts at 10am, not 01.00am.

A LIGHTER SUNK

About 4.30pm yesterday as the steam tug 'Euro' was returning to her berth at F shed, after having towed out of the harbour the Dutch steamer 'Tjikandi', she collided with the lighter 'Garenup' which was moored against the motorship 'Yngaren'.

The 'Euro' struck the lighter on the starboard bow causing it immediately to sink. The lighter, which was partly loaded with cargo from the 'Yngaren', is the property of the Swan River Shipping Co, and the 'Euro' is owned by the Adelaide Steamship Co.

According to details given to the river police the master of the tug, Captain Martin, attributed the accident to faulty engines on his vessel. He had signalled to his engine room to go astern but the power supplied was not sufficient to prevent the collision. He claimed to have had trouble with the engines of the 'Euro' on previous occasions. As portions of the lighter's cargo floated underneath the wharf, water police remained on duty at the shed during the night.

From THE WEST AUSTRALIAN, August 22, 1923.

NOMINATIONS

Judy Gillespie, 37 Douglas Avenue, South Perth

BIG OFFSHORE PIPELINE JOB COMPLETED

The North West Shelf gas pipeline - one of the major pipelaying operations in the history of the offshore construction industry - has been completed.

Around the world, pipelines have been laid in deeper water. Some are longer. But few, if any, involved the combination of challenges posed by joining the onshore processing plant on the Burrup Peninsula, to the North Rankin 'A' platform, 135km of the north-west corner of WA.

The pipe is large - one metre in diameter - and the steel is 2.5cm thick. At the deepest point, near the platform, it lies 125 metres deep.

A giant lay barge - the EPTM 1601 - began laying pipe in May 1982 and finished the job within five months. While these were routine jobs for the diving companies, the technology used was very much of the Space Age. A feature of the pipelaying operation was the need for two hyperbaric welds to join the pipe, one at the eight kilometre point, and the other where the pipeline meets the North Rankin platform.

Hyperbaric welding involves the creation, on the seafloor, of a dry environment in a unit called a habitat. This is because so-called wet welding will not meet the strict specifications of the job. The task involved a team of eight divers who were also skilled in pipefitting and welding. The divers lived for 10 days on board the ETPM 1601 in a complex of chambers which were suitably compressed in order to enable them to move easily from the barge to the pressurised atmosphere underwater.

A diving bell with an approximately compressed atmosphere carried them to the sea floor, where they worked in pairs, and back at the end of an eight-hour shift.

The divers' task was complex. Unjoined lengths of pipeline lay parallel to each other, overlapping by about 20 metres. First they cut away excess pipe from both ends. Next, aided by hydraulic gear sited on the sea bed, the divers manipulated the pipes so that they faced each other with a gap of about half a metre between them. The gap was bridged by a small section, or 'pup piece', lowered from the barge, so two welds were needed.

To create a dry working environment, the habitat was lowered to straddle the pipelines. It was dewatered by the pressure of the breathing mixture pumped down through an umbilical cord system from the barge.

In the pressurised dry environment, the divers were able to work comfortably without masks. Before they could begin to weld, the divers had to recut the pipe ends, eliminating jagged edges from the previous 'wet' cut and also etching a level necessary for welding. Each weld required 14 hours' work and involved two two-man shifts.

The pipe was successfully joined at the inshore point in 15 metres of water early in November, while the second join was made in 125 metres of water in January this year.

It is through the application of the skills and technology involved in such a difficult operating environment that natural gas from the North West Shelf can be developed, for the benefit of all Australians.

Reprinted from the SHELL REPORT, 1983

SQUASH NIGHT AT THE BROADWAY

The Social Committee would like to thank all who attended the Squash Night at the Broadway Squash Courts. Although numbers were small, competition was fierce and a good night was had by all, rounded off at the Chelsea Tavern.

The next general meeting is on September 19th, and this will be combined with a social night after, so come along for a drink and a chat.

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U.F.C. NEWS

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CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES.

- Saturday October 15. Base maintenance day. Woodman point. Starts 0900 hrs. Come along to help and have a swim afterwards.
- Wednesday October 19. Training starts at the clubhouse at 8 pm. Members interested in helping with training please attend.
- Sunday October 23. Boat trip to Rottnest 0800 hrs. Check with Peter.
- Saturday October 29. Bowling night at Cannington Lanes, corner of Chapman and Burton Roads. Starts at 7 pm. Cost \$ 4.50
- Sunday October 30. Jervois Bay wreck dive. A visit to several wrecks with Mike McCarthy from the Maritime Museum. Ask for more detail at the next meeting.

HAMELIN BAY LONG WEEKEND.

While some of the UEC members headed north to the Abrolhos on Queens Birthday long weekend, several others took the opposite direction to Hamelin Bay...

Saturday dawned on us, the sky was overcast, it started to rain. There goes another lost weekend we thought. But the rain stopped, the sun came out and the weekend turned out to be just fine.

We soon formed two teams, with Martin taking out the inflatable boat with Ian and Sorren first. As soon as they returned, Rob Cole, Marie, Peter and myself took over and headed out into the bay. We dived around Mushroom Rock where the visibility was excellent.

In the afternoon we went out again to dive on the wrecks in the bay but because the waves were breaking over them, we decided not to. We dived on the north side of the big rock which turned out to be just as bare and foreboding as it did two years ago. Diving alone there would be really scary.....

What spoiled the day was the arrival of hordes of skindivers in the morning, who in the name of sport speared all the fish they came across in the bay and threw bucketfuls of unwanted fish back into the water where the waves washed them onto the beach to rot. I have never seen a more disgusting exhibition of wanton killing of fish. They called it spearfishing championship...

Barry Kennedy came later on Saturday, making himself and his family very comfortable in palatial tents. In the evening Martin built a wonderbar campfire around which we sat and yarned about everything from the man in the moon to cardboard cornflakes.

Sunday morning's dive was to the north side of Hamelin Island in the inflatable while Barry took the others out in his boat in search of deep water. Ro arrived later and after setting up her tent went to admire the many wildflowers. Monday morning Rob decided to go for another dive with Marie and Peter while the rest of us surprised ourselves by dismantling the camp and loading everything up by nine o'clock ready to go to Redgate beach in search of the 'Georgette'.

It was Ro who was the moving force behind the idea and I am glad that we listened to her. Diving on the 'Georgette' really made the weekend something to remember.

Read the story of our 'Georgette' dive in the next magazine.



CASE HISTORY NO. 51.

Two men dived to the rescue of a fellow scuba diver being pounded against large rocks. The diver lost his mask and snorkel and was near drowning in heavy surf. The man was diving alone when he was struck by a big wave. His girlfriend, who was watching from shore, raised the alarm. The rescuers ran almost 200 metres among rocks before they could get to him. They tried to lift him out but the waves washed them back three times before they succeeded. The victim swallowed a lot of water, was cut and bruised and was suffering from shock. Do you dive alone?

CASE HISTORY NO. 52.

A novice skindiver found on the bottom among rocks was dead when carried from the water. He was found on the seabed covered with sand among the many rocks about 30 metres from shore. Friends who had been swimming with him raised the alarm after they could not find him. They said they were swimming within 20 metres of him when they lost him. The diver who found the body told them that the victim's contents gauge was caught under a rock. The buddy system does not work 20 metres apart, but it does if it is practiced the correct way. The buddy system requires a one-to-one relationship, two divers diving in close proximity, each looking out for both himself and his buddy. The buddy system breaks down when there are three or more divers in a group, or when the visibility is too good and the buddies tend to drift further apart.

PINNIPEDIA

SEALS, SEA LIONS AND WALRUSES

Bob Cotton.

(Pinnipeds - fin-footed)

There are 32 species of Pinnipeds, so named because they are literally fin or feather footed. These are divided into two super families, the Otarioidea and Phocoidea. The Otarioidea include the fur seals, walruses and sea lions. The Australian fur seal is in this family. (That's the beast you quite often have as a swimming companion around the metropolitan beaches.) The significant feature of this group of mammals is their ability to turn their hindlimbs forward to assist in walking on land. The contact areas of both the hindlimbs and the forelimbs are covered in dark pigmented skin only.

Phocoidea: This super family includes the true or earless seal. There is only one family, namely Phocoidea. They have no external ear but instead have ear canals which, like the nostrils, can be firmly closed when underwater. The forelimbs are relatively short and are used primarily for manipulation rather than swimming, which is mainly accomplished by the movement of the hind part of the body. True seals cannot bring their hind flippers forward to assist in movement on land. Both fore flippers and hind flippers have hair on all surfaces.

... A grey seal became entangled in the plastic band of a carelessly discarded bait carton in the Abrolhos. The seal hasn't been seen for a while and it now may be dead.

SAFETY REPORT.

Barry Kennedy

Consider this situation. The club has chartered a boat with the purpose of diving on a reef somewhere south of Mandurah. Perhaps several kilometres offshore and maybe a couple of hours travelling time from the boat harbour. The boat carries 20 divers, 10 of whom are in the water, having left in groups of five. Suddenly a diver surfaces, obviously in trouble. His buddy helps him to the boat. It appears he has an air embolism.

We don't have any oxygen with us, eight of our divers are still in the water, some of them just left, but by now they are scattered over a wide area. It is impossible to recall them. We know we cannot treat the injured diver, he needs oxygen and recompression as quickly as possible. Do we leave the divers in the water and race the injured person to shore? We know we can radio for assistance to come to the beach and then come back for the others. Or we can wait for the divers in the water to finish their dive, which could take up to an hour. It is very important for the injured person to get to the decompression chamber - it is certainly a matter of life or death.

What would you decide? Would you risk the lives of the divers in the water to try to save the life of one injured person? Or would you delay treatment of the injured diver to make sure all the divers are safely back on board before heading for shore?

A make-believe situation, but it could happen. I think we should consider some safety measures here which would overcome such a situation.

I think all our large boat dives should be accompanied by a second smaller boat, possibly a club member's private boat. This would provide a valuable back-up, not just to provide speedy transport for injured divers, but also for all the other possible situations that can and do sometimes happen, such as mechanical breakdown or even the sinking of the dive boat from a number of causes.

Also I think we should make a minimum number of two boats for all of our small boat trips. The benefits of this go without saying.

Imagine surfacing from a dive only to find your boat has pulled its anchor and drifted away into the distance. Wouldn't it be nice to have another boat nearby? And secondly it is well and truly time we purchased an oxygen equipment for ourselves. Even though we may never have to use it, we should have it. Let's make our sport as safe as we can.

We seem to be always writing on the negative side of diving, but I think it's important that we consider all problems and think of all the answers and become familiar with them so that we can make the positive side of diving even more interesting and more rewarding and - most important - more fun.

MORE POLLUTION

There is a new approach being made to the disposal of liquid PCB's and similar industrial toxic wastes - incinerate them and spread the ashes over the sea. The incineration ship, the Vulcanus II, owned by Chemical Waste Management Inc, can burn liquid PCB's at the rate of eight tonnes an hour. Three incinerators on the ship reduce the toxics to elemental chlorine molecules which leave the vessel in the incinerator's flue. The waste is spread over the sea and absorbed and neutralised by the alkalinity, or so they say - I wouldn't like to dive anywhere nearby.

LOOK AFTER IT

The diving season is just starting after the worst winter weather we have had for a long time, we were lucky if we could dive a couple of times between storms. With no diving around all our gear was stacked away waiting for those fine summer diving weekends.

Now regulators are subject to harsh environments in which they must work and stored away, corrosive contaminants possibly have formed hard crusty deposits in them, doing them more harm than actual use throughout last year.

Before you take to the water, check your regulator. There could be any of the following problems affecting its performance.

If you have a steel tank, rust can clog the filter on the first stage. It makes inhalation difficult.

Hard breathing could be caused by salt crystals adhering to internal moving parts, making them stick or move sluggishly. Inhalation is difficult, and the danger is at depth when it may be impossible to obtain sufficient air.

Water leakage in demand valve mouthpiece could be caused by the deterioration of the rubber disc of the exhalation valve. Get it fixed or else it will flood your demand valve completely when you least expect it.

Clogging can be caused by carbon dust. It comes from the charcoal filter of badly maintained air compressors.

Free flowing of the demand valve is caused by dirt or dust on the high pressure valve seat of the first stage. This allows high pressure air into the low pressure hose and demand valve. Another cause of rapid flow could be cracked O rings or dried-out silicone lubricant.

Don't dive if your regulator isn't performing as it used to - after all it is you who will need air 60ft below.

CMAS

Divers who pass National Qualification System (NQS) tests will have access to international qualifications with the world body of the sport, which is the CMAS (Confederation Mondiale des Activités Sub-Aquatiques). The CMAS was founded in 1959 in Monaco by representatives of 15 countries with Jacques Cousteau as president. Now the headquarters of the organisation are in Paris. The number of clubs affiliated to it number more than 700. CMAS certificates and cards are recognised throughout the world.

SCUBA TANK TESTS

UEC members can now have their tanks tested to S.A.A. standards by Australian Safety Engineers (formerly CO2 Extinguisher Service), Unit I, 36 Kemplia Way, Willetton. The price is very competitive. Contact J. Paskulich or M. Smith.

PLEASE RETURN THE CLUB'S LIBRARY BOOKS AND MAGAZINES IF YOU HAVE FINISHED READING THEM.

The trip to the Abrolhos Islands over the October long weekend was most enjoyable with a good range of food being served over the three days - everything from Welsh pancakes (from guess who?) to Vegemite; Gary proved to be as at home with a knife and saucepan as with a drill and pair of pliers. Below is a recipe for chicken which was 'invented' by Gary and myself.

CHOOK A LA ABROLHOS

Ingredients

2 chickens cut into pieces	15ml tin tomato puree
2 cloves garlic, crushed	15ml tin sliced green beans
2 onions, chopped	1 pkt instant vegetable soup
4 tomatoes, chopped	Pinch of chilli powder, mixed
4 potatoes, chopped	spice, and any herb on the shelf
2 stock cubes	Handful of flour

Method

Coat the chicken pieces in flour and fry in a large saucepan until brown (not black). Add the rest of the ingredients. Cover with stock (from the tap) and simmer until chicken is cooked.

WARNING - This has not been cooked on dry land - if any person should try it, I would be very interested to hear how it turns out!

A full report of the trip will be in next month's magazine.

SHARK!

In 1944, the US Navy gave this advice to its personnel should they meet a shark. 'Remember that the shark strikes with its mouth opened wide, and its vision blocked. If you can avoid its mouth by moving out of its path it is a miss for the shark. If you can attach yourself to it by grabbing a fin, when it turns for another attack you aren't there - you are riding with it. Behind its mouth and out of danger from its teeth. Hold tight and hang on as long as you can without drowning yourself. In the meantime, after missing its target, the shark may lose its viciousness and become its usual cowardly self.

LANDING FEES - ROTTNESST ISLAND

Persons landing on Rottnest Island are required, by law, to pay a landing fee. In order to eliminate inconvenience to persons arriving on the island from private craft, the law provides that the owners of private craft may pay annually a landing fee of \$10, which covers the individual landing fees due to be paid from the craft owners and his passengers. Craft owners who intend to visit Rottnest are asked to forward their remittance for this sum to the Rottnest Island Board, which will then issue a 'landing fee paid' sticker.

WHY IS OXYGEN TOXIC?

Sir William Paton, professor at Oxford University, said at a lecture on the physiology of diving, that we do not know how much oxygen the body can tolerate without harm, or where the gas does the damage. He wants to start a research programme to find a way around oxygen toxicity. A solution to the problem would make deep diving considerably simpler. The most important benefit would be the reduced risk of decompression sickness. With deep diving and high pressures, nitrogen and helium dissolve into the tissues. A diver has to be brought up very slowly from deep dives, to allow the gases to evaporate. If decompression is fast the gases come out of solution while still in the tissues. The resulting bubbles play havoc with nerves and joints.

GOING HOME

Priceless archeological material salvaged from four early Dutch East India ships, Batavia, Gilt Dragon, Zuytdorp and Zeewyk, will be split three ways. A collection for Western Australia, Canberra and Amsterdam. The artefacts going back to the Netherlands will be displayed at a special exhibition to be staged in October next year.

OVERDUE?

The Navy plans to resurvey the Australian coastal waters and produce new hydrographic maps. Next year a converted Fokker F27 aircraft with about a tonne of equipment called the laser airborne depth sounder will start the survey. The laser depth sounder uses neodymium-doped yttrium aluminium garnet laser. It pulses two wavelengths at the rate of 168 per second simultaneously - the infrared at 1064 and the green part of the spectrum at 532 nanometres. The sea surface reflects the infrared beam and the bottom of the sea reflects the green beams. Receivers in the plane can measure water depth from the time interval between the two beams. Some of the hydrographic maps in use today were made with information and soundings taken by Matthew Flinders in 1802.

WAVES AND DIVERS

If a scuba diver near the surface takes a deep breath as the crest of a 15-20ft wave passes overhead and neglects to exhale before the trough arrives, he has, in effect, made a rapid breath-held ascent and risks lung damage. This wave effect has caused the death of at least one diver in the USA who was ascending in heavy seas.

UNDERWATER WATERFALL?

Located in Bass Strait, deep below the surface of the sea, is the world's biggest waterfall. It is 93 miles long with water spilling over the edge and dropping 1200ft to the sea floor below at a rate of one million cubic feet per second. The water movement is caused by differences in temperature and salinity between Bass Strait and the Tasman Sea.

UK SHIPS TO MEET WORLD SAFETY STANDARDS

The Minister for Shipping, Mr Sproat, has told an international conference that Britain is committed to eliminating ships which do not meet world standards on safety, manning, and pollution prevention.

He was speaking to the International Association of Independent Tanker Owners. He referred to the Paris Memorandum signed by 14 maritime countries which established a procedure for inspecting foreign ships calling at European ports. During the second half of 1982 UK surveyors inspected 1350 foreign ships, of which 10 were detained until serious deficiencies were corrected.

SEARCH AND RESCUE INCIDENTS RISE

The Australian Coastal Surveillance Centre in Canberra handled 2288 search and rescue incidents during 1981/82 compared with 1868 in the previous year. There were 335 reports concerning pleasure craft, 144 on Australian vessels and 138 on overseas ships.

There were 14 man-overboard reports and 15 aircraft emergencies.

SURVIVAL

A new survival suit which prolongs life in cold and freezing water has been released in Australia. The suits are suitable for use by defence personnel, fishermen, oil rig crew, and pilots. The suit was instrumental in saving the lives of nine crewmen of the Norwegian fishing vessel 'Haroyfjord', who survived nine hours in a full storm in the North Sea.

The outer shell is PVC coated material, flame retardant, oil resistant and fluorescent. It has attached hood, gloves and boots which are all watertight. The suit has closed cell PVC foam plus an aluminium foil polyester insulation inside plus additional fibrepile lining fitted to places particularly vulnerable. The innermost lining of thin nylon material makes the suit easy to don and comfortable to wear. Testing has shown that the temperature drop of a man in freezing water was less than 2 deg Centigrade in six hours.

NIGHT DIVE

A night dive will be organised by the Australasian Diving Centre at Woodman Pt on Friday, November 25. This is a very safe dive site for beginners. It is also fun for those who wish to wrestle with the Blue Manna crabs. There will be a prize for the biggest crab, the smallest crab and the most unusual item collected. The highlight of the evening will be a few social drinks on the beach and the cooking and eating of the crabs. Ring Marian on 384 3966 if you wish to go.

AN OLD STORY

Aristotle described the diving bell in which Alexander the Great went down in 332BC. He writes that when Alexander looked out of the bell he could see underwater sheep and dogs and a great creature that took three days to pass ... an early symptom of nitrogen narcosis?

FROM THE CHAIR

John Paskulich

At a recent committee meeting it was decided to set up a boat fund. I fully support this move and urge members to do the same. Our existing inflatable, the 'Mike Pollard', is very limited in range and capacity, and is starting to show its age. As well, I feel the money we pay out to hire vessels is "dead" money that could be going back into a club asset.

So far no decision has been reached on the type of boat we want, but one end of the range is something along the lines of what we've been using up to date, that is, 10metres or so in length, with a cabin and a large deck area. The other end of the scale would be an open runabout, around 6 metres long, outboard powered and trailable. I tend to favour the latter, but no doubt when the time comes members will have their say. My only hope is that it doesn't take as long to get our boat as it did the clubroom!

A more pressing matter is training. We start on October 19th, so if you know of anyone interested in learning to dive, contact us as soon as possible. This season we'll have our classroom set up at Booragoon and will also be doing some instructing in the Melville pool on weeknights. This may prove to be more attractive to instructors and students alike as it will leave weekends free. Our training course is our biggest avenue of recruitment so give it all the support you can. Volunteers are welcome.

HELP!

It takes a lot of work to find material to fill eight pages of the magazine 12 times a year. You have to read an awful lot to find something that is suitable and hasn't been used before.

Because we find the time from Tuesday after the committee meeting until posting the magazine one week later doesn't give us enough time, the deadline for stories to be included in the magazine will be the night of the general meeting.

Not that we are overwhelmed with manuscripts - far from it - writers are still very shy to come forward with any kind of material. Haven't you noticed? If there is no name beside a story it was written by the editor. And yet it is your magazine, you must have something to say.

If club members haven't anything to say, the committee members should at least write something about the section of the club's activities they look after. So far, only Library and Safety have.

WRONG AGAIN

John Paskulich

The tragic loss of a diver near Broome recently was reported in typical cavalier fashion by a daily paper. "After leaving his OXYGEN tank behind he decided to free dive and was last seen SWIMMING around at 25 METRES (82ft?) wearing four LEAD WEIGHTS". I might suggest that it probably wasn't an oxygen tank and with that weight, at that depth, he'd be plummeting, not swimming.

This kind of sloppy reporting occurs regularly and only serves to discredit the writer, or worse, mislead their less informed readers. Aren't we lucky to have the UEC News?

U.E.C. NEWS

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HOLLAND I

Tibi

The Royal Navy's first submarine, the Holland I, has been salvaged from the English Channel. It sunk near Eddystone Lighthouse while being towed to the wreckers in 1913. Last year the Navy located the wreck in 63m of water. It was lifted and taken to Devonport Dockyard.

After being on the bottom of the English Channel for 70 years, the sub came up in a remarkable condition. Corrosion was less than in a five-year-old ship. Bolts could be undone with minimum effort, hinges opened, the main engine could be turned over with the valve gear operating. The torpedo door moved freely, and there wasn't one loose rivet in the hull. The electric motor was well-preserved, one battery was taken out, cleaned, filled with electrolyte and recharged. It delivered 30 amps.

Because the sub sunk before nuclear tests and it was shielded by the sea from radiation, the 20 tons of lead in the batteries contained no background radiation at all. (Does this mean that your weight belt might be radioactive?) No-one can explain why the submarine was so well-preserved. Was it because the hull contained so many dissimilar metals - steel, cast iron, brass, bronze and lead - or was it the strong magnetic field they found inside?

After restoration, the Holland I will be housed at the Navy's Submarine Museum at Gosport.

DEHYDRATION - DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS?

Tibi

Long dives tend to dehydrate a diver. Partly because of the dryness of the compressed air evaporates moisture from the lungs, but mainly because the diver's diuresis produces large amounts of urine. Dehydration has an effect on gas micronuclei. Micronuclei are very tiny harmless bubbles which may grow to harmful size during decompression. Most dives apparently produce bubbles. We recognise decompression sickness when symptoms appear. But where is the dividing line between a normal dive and a dive that causes decompression sickness? It is hard to say. What we know is that dehydration will push you towards it. Loss of water from the body concentrates the blood. This effects circulation. Red blood cells are brought closer together which makes the blood flow slower. Sluggish circulation cannot cope with the removal of gas from the tissues. Gas micronuclei or silent bubbles can grow to overt decompression sickness and you can also move toward cardiovascular shock.

So make sure you drink plenty of fluids before, between, and after dives. Give your blood a chance!

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES.

- Monday, November 21 ... General Meeting
- Friday, November 25 ... Night dive, Woodman Point. Ring Marian on 384 3966
- Sunday November 27 ... Boat trip to James Service out of Mandurah
- Saturday, December 3 ... Christmas party
- Sunday, December 4 ... Small boats
- Sunday, December 11 ... Small boats
- Sunday, December 18 ... Boat trip
- December 30-January 2 ... Rottneest long weekend - to be confirmed

GET YOUR FINGER OUT!

We're all a little slow,
Us of the diving scene,
When it's time for us to show
Our thoughts in the magazine.

I don't want to make a fuss,
But as Martin would say
'It's all a little suss'-
The work is Tibi's all the way.

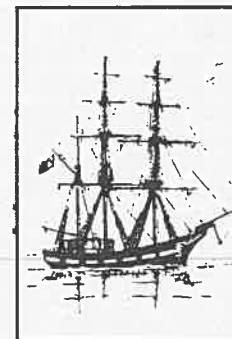
So put your pen to paper,
And have your little say,
Put an end to this caper
Of your slack and careless way.

Tibi and Paul's frustration
Seems to never end,
Like a one-way conversation
From talkative Peter M.

Some of us are trying,
Such as Peter and Bob,
And you hear me crying -
'Get on with the job'.

So think about a story,
Write it down today,
Share in all the glory
Of having your own say.

Our club will be better,
Tibi's work will ease,
Bring us your letter
Is all I ask of you - please!



Barry Kennedy

DIVE THE BARRIER REEF

Ken and Sheilah Jones are still in Queensland, having a great time diving. Here is a letter from them: Ahoy mates! Guess what - we are now resident and crew aboard our new home, the 70ft 'Reef Seeker' ... sold the van and tent and out cruising for the next three weeks before we leave. We have trouble, Sheilah's eye patch keeps slipping ... my earring is heavy and the parrot keeps leaving large deposits on my shoulder and I have trouble standing with the wooden leg ... Reef Seeker is the ultimate dive boat being a motor cruiser with three levels - helipad, three showers, three toilets, large kitchen, videos, bar, lounge area and private cabins, carrying 28 divers. The diving is great, with velvet dark blue seas, the bow wave the only thing breaking the surface in a white foam; watching the reef go by under as if there's no water at all, dolphins playing around, and one spot on Keeper Reef with 40ft deep canyons of sheer coral and fish, with the most vivid blue water we have ever seen ... hope you'll get to see it yourself.

It seems we do a single boat dive quite often these days. This always worries me a little, as most of our boat dives are done in potentially dangerous reef areas which are sometimes very remote. So if you are using only one boat make the most of it, but be careful and make your dives safely. Always use plenty of good quality anchor rope. A good rule of thumb is to allow three times the water depth of rope (in 10 metres of water use 30 metres of rope). A short anchor rope will cause the anchor to dislodge or break, or even break the anchor rope. It is always best to use too much rather than too little. A trailing float and flag are also very handy to have as they warn other boats that divers are below, and they are useful to hold on to while you are waiting for your turn to re-enter the boat, especially in rough conditions when the boat is bouncing up and down.

The first thing to do when you commence your dive is to check the anchor. Make sure it has a good hold and that the rope is not likely to fray on any metal or rock. Then continue to swim in this direction upstream of the boat. Don't lose your boat, don't wander too far away. If you do lose track of where you are, then before you run too low on air surface and locate your boat. It is far easier to swim back casually underwater while you still have some air, than to run out and have to swim back on the surface.

Should this happen to you, however, don't panic. Sometimes the boat seems a long way away, but a slow steady swim will get you there easier than a fast burst. As we have seen in the recent marathon swim at Lake Leschenaultia, people can swim a great distance on the surface when the need arises. And remember, panic is a diver's worst danger.

However, if you continue to dive upstream you will have the tide and current to aid you back to the boat. This is much easier than trying to fight against it should you happen to swim the wrong way. Make use of your compass. It is possible to become separated from your boat if you are careless about the direction you swim in.

Tibi is currently running a series of case histories of diving accidents. As Safety Officer I urge you to study these and become familiar with the dangers that can befall you. Think about what you would do in the same situations. Then if it should happen to you, you will know how to react.

Next month I will be writing on the topic of panic. Watch for it. Since panic is probably the end cause of all diving fatalities, it is something we should study very carefully. Dive safely ... Barry

QUIZ TIME

Answers on page 6

1. How long would a 40cu ft tank last a diver at 10m?
2. Is the tank marking HOAL 1 or 3 legal?
3. What is the testing pressure of tanks?
4. What are the maximum bottom times for a no-decompression dive at the following depths - (a) 21m (b) 27m (c) 30m and (d) 36m?
5. Give a description of an air embolism.
6. What pressure should a diver suffering from air embolism be recompressed to?
7. Why should live cone shells be handled with extreme caution?
8. If a balloon holds 6 litres of air at sea level, what would its contents be at 70m?
9. What are the minimum sizes of takeable (a) western rock lobsters (b) southern rock lobsters?
10. What is the easiest position to equalise pressure in the ears on descent?

The October meeting was rather hectic. Not only did we have Roger Smith with his Abrolhos slides, and Dennis Robinson from MAAWA as speaker, but we also had Glen Parker, from Australasian Diving, who brought along a selection of new season dive equipment.

The gear was too extensive to mention individually but it ranged from top-line regs (more than I can afford) down to \$15 dive torches (more my price bracket). Anyone interested in a \$300 diving knife?

It was a very interesting session, and the bit I particularly liked was his offer of a good deal to UEC members. So next time you're in the shop, identify yourself and see what he can do for you.

TRAINING: The training season started with an introductory talk at the clubroom on Wednesday 2nd November. Nine students attended. If you want to help out, let Ric Bone know on 367 6076.

ONE ENTIRE DAY DISAPPEARED

The night was warm and inviting, and the stars shone in all their tropical brilliance. Captain John Phillips was in a dark corner of the bridge, quietly pulling on a cigar with all the contentment that comes to a sailor when he knows the voyage is half-done.

His ship, the passenger steamer 'Warrimoo', was knifing her way through the waters of the Pacific on her way from Vancouver to Australia. The navigator had just finished working out a star fix and brought Captain Phillips the results. The 'Warrimoo's position was spotted at about Lat. 0deg30'N and Long. 179deg30'W. The date was December 30, 1899. First mate Dayldon broke in, "Captain, do you know what this means? We're only a few miles from the intersection of the Equator and the International Date Line".

Captain Phillips knew exactly what it meant, and he was prankish enough to take full advantage of the opportunity for achieving the navigation freak of a lifetime. An ordinary crossing of the line is confusing enough to passengers, but the probabilities he had before him were sure to confound them for the rest of their lives.

The Captain immediately called four more navigators to the bridge to check and double-check the ship's position every few minutes. He changed course slightly so as to bear directly on his mark. Then he carefully adjusted engine speed so that he would strike it at just the right moment. The calm weather, the clear night, and the eager co-operation of his entire crew worked successfully in his favour. At exactly midnight, local time, the 'Warrimoo' lay exactly on the Equator at exactly the point where it crosses the International Date Line.

The consequences of his bizarre position were many and varied. The forward part of the ship was in the Southern Hemisphere and in the middle of summer, the stern was in the Northern Hemisphere and in the middle of winter. The date in the after part of the ship was December 30, 1899. Forward it was January 1, 1900. The ship was in two different days, two different months, two different seasons and two decades all at the same time. Moreover, the passengers were cheated out of a New Year's celebration, and one entire day - December 31, 1899, disappeared from their lives for all time.

Reprinted courtesy of 'Listening Post'

heads we were taken to 'Unnamed Isle' with a depth of 24m and visibility of more. John B. and myself were first in the water, drifting down with a slight current to the bottom. When I looked up I saw the hull of the boat outlined and the other divers descending, a sight which usually you only see on film. The trip back to Geraldton was quite rough, with Judy being 'trapped' on the flying bridge. The highlight of the return trip was the sighting of whales - the first one took us by surprise by surfacing very close to the boat. All I have on film is lots of foam on the water. Next we saw a cow and her calf, a long way off by the time we had been roused from sleep. When we got back to Geraldton we all agreed it had been an excellent weekend's diving, even with the compressor out of action. When's next year's trip? By the way, I hear John Paskulich has a full-time use for the 'Horizon' compressor!)

FROM THE CHAIR

John Paskulich

The Rowley Shoals diving accident involving a member of the WA Museum team (September issue) had a happy sequel at the last general meeting. A member of that expedition visited us and spoke of the incident. The best part was his description of the diver involved. Although he still has a few problems he's up and about and is well on the way to recovery. That's not bad for a person who was clinically dead only a couple of months before.

The main factors in his survival were prompt cardiopulmonary resuscitation, assisted by oxygen therapy and it is on this note I wish to comment.

I have always been an advocate of the club having improved first aid facilities and I support Barry Kennedy's move towards obtaining portable oxygen equipment for club use (as well as his other ideas on safety back-up - refer to 'Safety Report', October issue). I hope to see some hard facts on availability, cost and training requirements available by the next meeting.

My own contribution will be a demonstration of CPR techniques (mouth-to-mouth and heart compression) directly after the November general meeting. Don't miss it!

Committee meetings: Inconvenience and rising travelling costs have prompted me to change the committee meeting dates. The November committee meeting will still be on Monday the 8th, as normal, but subsequent meetings will be conducted PRIOR to the general meeting.

A 'mini' committee meeting will be held at 7pm on November 21st, just before the general, to see how it works out. If successful, all subsequent meeting will be held in this manner.

QUIZ TIME ANSWERS (Questions on page 2)

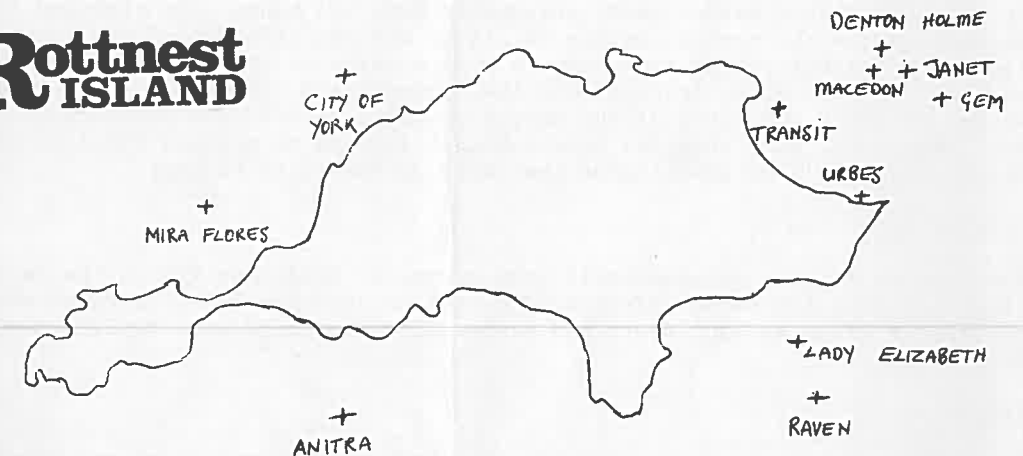
1. 20 minutes
2. No
3. 5/3 of working pressure
4. (a) 40 minutes (b) 24 minutes (c) 20 minutes (d) 14 minutes
5. Following the rupture of the alveoli, gas in the form of bubbles escapes into the pulmonary veins and then into the systematic blood circulation, and circulated to the brain, kidneys, heart, liver and other vital organs. Very common in association with surgical emphysema.
6. 6 A.T.A.
7. They are extremely poisonous, the poison being shot from a small dart which can reach all parts of the shell.
8. 3/4 litre
9. (a) 76mm (b) 98.5mm
10. Vertical, with the head up.

DIVE ROTTNESST ISLAND

Paul Mulally

With summer on the way, the diving gear is being checked out after many weeks without use, due to one of the worst winters for many years. Rottnest Island is always a popular dive site, with a monthly boat trip on the 'Lysander', skippered by Bob Martin - always a day to look forward to. The diving here is equal to some of the best in the world, with many wrecks scattered around the coastline. Below is an account of the more popular wrecks.

Rottnest ISLAND



DENTON HOLME

The 'Denton Holme', on a voyage from Glasgow, was wrecked on the night of September 25, 1890. She was a 998-ton iron barque, carrying water pipes and general cargo. The pilot was sent to meet her, but the 'Denton Holme' did not stop, and she sailed past into the Transit Reef, and stuck fast on top of the 'Macedon'. A bad storm followed, with the ship being totally wrecked. The Master of the ship, Captain Rich, had his certificate suspended for three months as he was found guilty of several charges.

MACEDON

This British-built steamer of 562 tons was wrecked by going too close to the reef while taking a boat in tow. The ship sunk in March 1883, after being holed on the reef. She was carrying 50 passengers, a cargo of mail, horses and a survey party. This wreck is in 3-6 metres of water and is one of the most popular.

TRANSIT

There is little left of this 124-ton, 68ft wooden schooner which sank on May 8, 1842, when it struck Duck Rock on a trip from Bunbury to Fremantle.

MIRA FLORES

This wreck, a 500-ton iron barque, built in England, struck Horseshoe Reef on January 31, 1886. Attempts were made to drive her ashore, but she sank on an even keel. The cargo, some of which was salvaged, was varied and included books, machinery, assorted hardware, furniture, and ammunition. All the crew were saved.

GEM

This wreck is one of Rottne's mysteries, as there is no explanation as to how this British-built cutter sank, presumably with all hands, six crew and four passengers. On the morning of May 18, 1876, she was in sight of the Fremantle lightkeeper after sailing from Dongara with a cargo of wheat. Then she disappeared near Kingston Spit, leaving only the topmasts and cross trees visible above water. No trace was found of the people on board, and divers reported that the hull was sound. Many theories have been put forward to explain the loss of the vessel, ranging from swelling of the cargo of wheat, to kidnap.

CITY OF YORK

The remains of this Glasgow-built iron barque of 1194 tons lie in the bay of the same name only 300 yards offshore. She sunk on July 12, 1899, in rough weather, carrying a cargo of 5000 doors and timber from San Francisco. Twelve crew members died.

JANET

This three-masted schooner was built of jarrah at Fremantle, and was wrecked on December 11, 1887, with a cargo of grain and furniture from Sri Lanka. The crew were saved, and she lies in five metres of water with the two anchors being visible.

URIBES

The remains of this vessel lie in five metres of water, only 10 metres offshore. She sank after the motors cut out and the anchors would not hold. The 'Uribes' was built in 1868 at Stockton-on-Tees and was wrecked in 1942 while carrying a cargo of shells, stores, and a couple of vehicles.

RAVEN

The 'Raven', a wooden barque of 843 tons was wrecked while attempting the south passage, and struck reefs around Dyer Island on March 11, 1891, on a trip to Bunbury. An inquiry held two days later revealed that the skipper was drunk. The wreckage is partly buried by sand, in six metres of water.

LADY ELIZABETH

This vessel was wrecked on June 30, 1878, in rough weather, after leaving Fremantle for Shanghai with a cargo of sandalwood. Conditions got so bad that her master decided to return to Fremantle. Visibility was down to a couple of metres and a man was washed overboard. The vessel was driven behind Dyer Island and sank.

DIVE THE ABFOHLOS

Paul Mulally

On the Friday of the October long weekend, nine intrepid divers made their way to Geraldton to join the 'Horizon'. The trip got off to a bad start for John Brady who was fined \$20 by a vigilant police officer who thought John's spot-lights were a little bright.

John, Len and myself were the last to arrive at the docks, and found one sleeping beauty (Judy, the only girl) and five sleeping uglies. But they weren't asleep for long - Peter Horton can hear a stubby opened at 20 paces and he was first to join us on the deck. The trip out was pretty good with the swell starting at about 2am. We moored at a buoy about 8.30 for breakfast, before our first dive in the Maze. This is an area which is famed for its stag coral. John and I also found a couple of good drop-offs, but little fish life. The second dive of the day was at Wooded Isle, and this was our favourite site on the trip. Plenty of things to look at, but not as much fish life as expected in the deeper areas. Moving to the shallows was a different thing altogether - this was one dive site where we all came up with 'Did you see that? What about that coral? What about that red emperor? and so on. All of us wanted to dive that site again.

We planned on dinner, then perhaps a night dive, so off we went to one of the islands to pump the bottles and have a feed. Once moored, disaster struck - in the form of a faulty compressor ... the most talked about and hated piece of machinery on the boat. The old saying that lightning never strikes in the same place twice was proved wrong once again. The people who had been on the last ill-fated 'Horizon' tour couldn't believe it - how could such a nice bunch of divers have a faulty compressor TWICE? When we came to terms with the fact that the heap of rubbish wasn't going to fill our tanks, action was called for. John had made friends with people on another boat, the 'Island Leader', in Geraldton harbour the day before and he had found out they had compressors, so we had to find them. The skipper set to work on the radio and eventually they were located in the Pelsart group of islands, a trip of about two hours. The decision was made to try and find them and get our tanks filled. When we arrived they had almost finished their tanks and were having a bite to eat. John went aboard and after much bargaining came to the agreement that we paid \$2 per fill. We spent the night there then made our way back to Wooded Isle the next morning. It was a lovely place to dive, with jumbo crays and baldchin groper in abundance.

In the afternoon we decided on a fossick on one of the islands. The skipper put the boat close to the coral and John B. showed his Navy training 'by putting the pick in'. The hard part was climbing down the anchor rope onto the reef. We spent a couple of most enjoyable hours wandering around the uninhabited desert island. Most of us picked up a few shells and bits and pieces. I was surprised to see three dead turtles that had been washed up by storms perhaps. They were all a bit too far gone to save the shells. Roger gave us an on-the-spot biology lecture with an octopus found under a rock. Getting back to the boat proved a little harder than getting off as the tide was on the way in. Len found a large hole in the coral with his right leg which put him out of diving! Once we got him back on the boat nurse Judy took over, making a first-class job of his very bad gash. Gary was at her side with swabs and forceps at the ready. On the Monday morning full tanks were scarce, with Len once again in the spotlight holding an auction for his tank (I'm just joking, we all know the Scots aren't like that). As a few of us wanted more than a couple of metres of water over our

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UNDERWATER EXPLORERS
CLUB OF W.A. INC.

DEC 83



U.E.C. NEWS

UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF WA (INC). PO BOX 28, NEDLANDS
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ARCH'OGY: J. Green, WA Museum

BIOLOGIST: R. Brown, Research Lab, Waterman 447 1366

DOCTOR: Dr N. Haimson, 3/16 Coode St, S. Perth 367 552

PRESIDENT: John Paskulich, Thornlie, 459 7164

VICE-PRESIDENT: Steven Oddy, Hillarys, 401 4028

SECRETARY: Martin Smith, Beckenham, 458 2224

TREASURER: Rob Coles

TRAINING: Richard Bone, South Perth, 381 3320

DIVING: Peter Mortimer, Thornlie, 459 8067

COMMITTEE: 1. Peter Horton, Mt Hawthorn, 444 9126

2. Roger Smith, Maylands, 272 1740

3. Barry Kennedy, Forrestfield, 453 6927

4. Bob Cotton, Victoria Park

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Elaine Airey, Bedford, 272 6627

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PUBLIC RELATIONS: Kevin Cargeeg, Mt Pleasant, 364 9237

PROPERTY: Peter Horton

SOCIAL: Ian Cowan, Willagee, 337 3238

Soren Copley, Victoria Park

SAFETY: Barry Kennedy

TECHNICAL: Richard Bone

RESEARCH: Tibi Csomay, Scarborough, 341 3001

RADIO: R. Wallis, Wembley Downs

MAGAZINE: Tibo Csomay

Paul Mulally

RECEIVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE ARMY AND NAVAL STORES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE ARMY AND NAVAL STORES
FOR THE YEAR 1941

1. The Bureau of the Army and Naval Stores was organized on July 1, 1941, as a result of the reorganization of the War Relocation Authority. It is a part of the War Relocation Authority, which is a part of the War Relocation Administration, which is a part of the War Relocation Authority.

2. The Bureau of the Army and Naval Stores is responsible for the procurement, storage, and distribution of supplies for the War Relocation Authority. It is a part of the War Relocation Authority, which is a part of the War Relocation Administration, which is a part of the War Relocation Authority.

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There is no doubt that there is a drop-out problem in diving, not because diving is inherently difficult or dangerous or appealing only to a few.

Is it any wonder that one year later, only about 5% of people who finish their training after a basic course, become active divers. Very, very few people look forward with pleasure to doing something regularly for recreation, that makes them feel uneasy about their safety. It is true that there are a fearless few who have the confidence to enjoy the sport. But what about the majority? What about the average non-suicidal sportsman or woman who took up diving just to have a good time?

What is the problem? Why do so many people who imagine that they would like to dive never become active divers? The answers are many, but here is one major contender. Inadequate open-water training in so-called basic diving instruction. When a person decides to invest some time and energy in a course, he or she does it with the expectation of some good results. The aim of a good diving course should be to produce, in the student, a feeling of safety, comfort and competence in open water, where all the recreational enjoyment takes place. Then, in open water, students can move at their own pace through a series of well-designed skill levels. For most people, the feeling of safety and competence is generated by real ability. When you are truly good at something, you know it and feel at ease.

Simulation, such as practice in a swimming pool, is no substitute for the real environment. No amount of classroom lecturing or pool practice can instill confidence in the open water. Classroom and pool time is of limited value except to prepare a person for open-water diving. The instructor, rightfully concerned about his students' safety in open water, controls the experience carefully. He selects the dive site and considers the conditions, plans and supervises the entire dive and makes all the decisions.

Another route is to encourage newly-certified divers to join well-recognised dive clubs and dive with more experienced divers.

As I mentioned, these are in my opinion, some of the answers. Doesn't it make you think, when most of the people who sign up for a certification course do not become active divers? Something is wrong when one of the most beautiful recreations on this earth, easy to learn and offering pleasureable experiences unlike any other available on land, is enjoyed by such a small percentage of the population.

I hope this will lead other divers to reply to this article and give their opinions.

NOTICE OF MOTION

John Paskulich

The committee of management be empowered to look for and arrange the purchase of a suitable dive boat. The conditions of purchase will be that members be given the opportunity to view before purchase and the approval to purchase and the method of financing be gained from a General Meeting.

CLUB NOMINATIONS

Leon Kennedy: Linda Young: Margaret Langson: Richard Green: James Davies:
Brian Jury: Lloyd Phillips.



PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

John Paskulich

This is my first ever Christmas message (apart from cards to my aunts) and it is with some trepidation that I present it.

This year has been a bit of a mixed bag. We had a successful training season last summer and this one is looking good as well, but still our membership numbers are down compared to the equivalent time last year. We have to do something about this and I refer you to my article in this issue.

In general diving has been good, bar problems on the Abrohlos trip and also the lousy weather until recently. I am looking forward to the forthcoming summer season.

This is the first year we had our clubrooms and although I think it is a great place it isn't being used enough. We cannot afford to have that much real estate being used only for a few hours a month. If you have got any ideas let us know.

I offer my thanks to the committee past and present and to members who have contributed to the club's smooth running this year. I hope we have the same support in 1984.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and dive safely.

EDITORIAL

There have been too many diving incidents in Western Australia. Hardly a week goes by without someone getting into serious trouble, disappearing or drowning.

All this points to two things. Inefficient diver training and the lack of a proper diver rescue operation. In Victoria all this has changed ...

At the last meeting it was said that we must limit our membership to suit the smallness of our clubrooms. Some time ago we were told we must have new members to increase club funds. Which is it going to be? Let's make up our minds. It is no good advertising we are the most progressive club in WA if we cannot accommodate a few new members ...

All of us experience panic at some time or other. It is a normal human feeling, part of our defence system. A reflex action when we are in danger. Being a natural instinct to provide fight or flight, triggered off by fear, a sudden realisation of danger. It probably enabled our forefathers of long ago to escape some dangerous situations. Many of us possibly would not have been here today, had not panic and a fast dash to safety saved some of the old chaps from some fierce predator. However ... to a SCUBA diver panic is disastrous. We must resist the urge to panic. Problems must be solved in a relaxed and controlled manner. There are times when all of us have some apprehension, when we suffer some fright or shock. Allowing ourselves to panic can have severe consequences. Learn to recognise impending panic. It usually starts with rapid shallow breathing and a feeling of impending doom. This is the time for self-control. A good idea is to start breathing deep full breaths of air, this has a relaxing effect, concentrate on the problem at hand with some positive action. Panic will only lead to a complete loss of control. Controlling panic is something which needs to be worked at. Competence must be built up through traing and experience. Thoroughly practise skills such as flooding and clearing face mask, buddy-breathing and such until you build up a high competence and with that will come confidence. The more confident you are, the less chance of panic. A diver must not lose self-control, which means, maintaining a reasonable level of fitness, not diving after a heavy night, knowing your equipment like the back of your hand, maintaining good buddy contact, and planning your dives to match your capabilities. If you work at this you will find you can comfortably cope with your diving. Handle your dives in a relaxed and controlled manner and you will minimise the risk of panic. Dive safely.

MAYDAY ... MAYDAY

Tibi

The standard international distress frequencies are on 121.5MHz (VHF) and 243 MHz (UHF). Airlines flying over the oceans have to monitor these all the time but the aircraft can only receive signals from up to 300km away. All this is going to be changed with the US SARSAT (search and rescue satellite aided tracking) and the Russian COSPOS satellites which started in February. The satellites fly at 1000km and complete the polar orbit every 100 minutes, regularly passing over all parts of the globe as it rotates beneath them. When something crashes into the sea, the emergency beacon is turned on by the impact and the beacon transmits signals for two days. The satellites pick up the signals which undergo a Doppler shift of frequency. The satellites store the information on tape till they are above an earth station, when the information is transmitted over the radio. A computer analyses the data and calculates the position of the beacon from the Doppler shift to within two kilometres of the signal. What is the Doppler shift? The signals are at a higher pitch as the satellite nears the beacon and lower as it recedes.

WHAT NOW, MARY ROSE?

Tibi

It was on the 11th October, 1982, when Henry VIII's flagship, the 'Mary Rose', broke the surface after 437 years on the bottom of the sea. The four million pounds that has been spent on her so far just to lift her out is only the beginning. Conservation work has not started yet. To stop her drying out the ship is kep saturated with 2700 litres of fresh water sprayed on at a temperature of 2deg C each minute. The chilled water prevents damage by oxidation and keeps away micro-organisms. The 'Mary Rose' was built entirely out of wood, with wooden pegs in place of metal fastenings. There are four methods of conservation possible:

1. Completely submerging in polyethylene glycol. A ship in Bremen was treated in such a way.
2. Spraying with polyethylene glycol. Like the Swedish ship 'Wasa', which was raised 20 years ago from Stockholm Harbour.
3. Freeze drying by passing dry nitrogen over it. A small Roman ship was conserved like that in Marseilles.
4. With controlled airdrying. A method used by the Dutch on a number of small vessels. (The problem with this is the powdering-away of the first few millimetres of the surface.)

Experts from the Archaeological Research Unit of the National Maritime Museum recommend that the polyethylene glycol spray method be used. The problem is that it might take as long as 20 years to complete the treatment.

ODDS AND ENDS

Ian offered to raise money by selling unwanted items at a swap-meet. If you have anything, bring it to the next general meeting.

We are going to have a Quiz Night in May.

We have seven divers training. The course will finish at the end of December.

The kitchen is out of bounds to the common-or-garden variety of UEC member. The social organisers will serve through the hatch.

THERMAL PROTECTION ANSWERS

1. Wetsuits insulate by trapping a body-warmed layer of water. Loosely-fitting suits allow cold water to pump through. Very tight-fitting suits inhibit blood circulation and restrict mobility. The answer is (c).
2. Wetsuits' neoprene rubber contains thousands of tiny cells filled with nitrogen at atmospheric pressure. On descent these compress in direct proportion to the ambient pressure. Answer (b) is right. At 66ft the ambient pressure is three times atmospheric, compressing the wetsuit to one-third its original thickness.
3. Even in the warmest waters, prolonged exposure carries off body heat and eventually results in decreased diver efficiency and safety. Answer (c) is correct.

Buddy-breathing means sharing one diver's air supply while two divers ascend. When one diver's air supply fails, he attracts his partner's attention, signaling that he needs air. His buddy swims to his side, grabs hold of him and gives him air, holding on to the mouthpiece. In turn each diver takes two breaths and together they slowly ascend to the surface. On paper, this method of surfacing sounds very easy. In reality it has problems. For instance, your buddy might be quite a distance away (shouldn't be) or he might not like parting with his mouthpiece.

Assisted breathing requires a lot of practice. You will find that it is easy to share air while you are stationary, but when moving mistakes will occur quite often. When two novices or poorly trained divers attempt buddy-breathing at depth an error will place them in serious danger.

A much safer way to assist is with an octopus rig. An octopus rig has two second stages connected to one first stage. It came about in 1965 when manufacturers of regulators started to add more low pressure ports to the regulator's first stage, initially to be used for underwater pneumatic tools. Soon someone came up with the two second stage idea.

It turned a dangerous and stressful situation into a simple and relaxed way of assisting the diver who requires air.

Even with octopus rigs the two divers must discuss the possibility of assisting each other. A diver who has run out of air should know where the second second-stage is kept on the other person and how to use it.

Practice for an emergency with an octopus rig will result in almost automatic, correct reactions from both divers.

The rig is now recognised as a superior method of assisting a buddy who is experiencing an out-of-air emergency.

The price of one second stage and a bit of hose is perhaps the best investment in diver safety.

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE ON THERMAL PROTECTION

1. A wetsuit insulates best when it fits:
 - (a) Very tightly
 - (b) Loosely
 - (c) Snugly
2. Worn by a diver at 66ft, a ½ inch thick wetsuit will be:
 - (a) Unchanged
 - (b) Less than an eighth of an inch
 - (c) Three-eighths of an inch thick
3. For personal comfort and safety, divers need wetsuits in:
 - (a) Cold climates only
 - (b) Warm climates
 - (c) Anywhere in any climate



NOTICE OF MOTION from Ian Cowan

I move that spearfishing should be allowed on some dives.



The conscious victim usually holds his breath as long as possible, then inhales water, coughs, loses consciousness, swallows a lot of water, briefly continues to swim, then - nothing.

What causes sports divers to drown? The breathhold diver may hyperventilate and black out from hypoxia before his CO2 builds up enough to tell him he needs to breathe ... A scubadiver might get entangled just before it is time to go up ... He might run out of air or lose his mouthpiece ... Narcs himself silly at depth ... Has a heart attack ... Gets bashed against rocks ... Embolises on ascent.

The mechanism of drowning is complex. There are several types. Dry lung or wet lung, salt water or fresh, immediate or delayed.

A quarter of all drownings are the dry lung type. The first drops of water to hit the larynx trigger laryngospasm, the vocal cords clamp together and close the airway, death is by simple asphyxia, lack of oxygen and carbon dioxide retention. In the wet lung type of drowning when water is inhaled into the lungs, powerful cough reflexes against the incompressible water rupture delicate lung tissues, allowing some water to get into the blood.

Another effect depends on the concentration of salts in the water. Osmosis, the tendency of fluids to pass through porous partitions and mix or become diffused through each other, applies to the lung tissues as well. As dilute solutions always pass across into more concentrated solutions, salt water in the lungs will pull water out of the less saline blood. The blood volume shrinks and the lungs get more flooded.

With fresh water the osmosis is reversed, water is taken up by the blood where it breaks down red cell membranes. Potassium leaking out of the ruined red cells causes heart rhythm disorders with sudden death.

Delayed drowning is when the victim recovers and goes home, and later turns blue and dies. What happens is that he drowns in his own body fluids. Irritation of the lung tissues by water caused an inflammatory reaction, lung capillaries leaked fluid, white blood cells accumulated, glands made excess mucus and his bronchial tubes went into spasm. An apparently recovered drowning victim should not be allowed to go home but should be taken to a hospital for observation.

In drowning, time is precious. Start mouth-to-mouth resuscitation right in the water while towing the victim towards the boat, where cardiac massage can also begin if the victim's heart stopped beating.

All divers should know what to do in a drowning accident, how to apply mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and how to do cardiac massage.

Britain is responsible for 90% of all radioactive material dumped at sea. Most of the waste is dumped off the Spanish coast. It contains large amounts of Plutonium-239 and -240 as well as Americium-241. The isotopes emit long-lasting alpha radiation, and could be dangerous for as long as 3000 years.

-o-

HINT.

When you go diving leave information on where you are going, what time you expect to return and what to do if you do not contact them by certain time.

DIVER RESCUE SERVICE IN VICTORIA

The Victorian Division of the National Safety Council of Australia has commenced a diver-rescue and diver-training service in Morwell in the LaTrobe Valley area of the State.

A feature of the rescue service is a transportable decompression chamber which can be flown to any part of Victoria in the NCSA's Bell 212 helicopter and Beechcraft King Air Twin turbo aircraft.

The Beechcraft can fly for Morwell base to Portland in the western district in little more than an hour.

Both aircraft give the NSCA the ability to respond quickly to emergency calls anywhere in the State. The decompression chamber is large enough to carry a doctor who can provide aid to an injured diver on the return journey.

The NSCA has a larger decompression chamber at Morwell to which the portable chamber can be attached for transfer without a change in pressure. The facilities will also be used to provide the most advanced diver training courses in commercial diving in Australia.

The facilities will be available for use by non-commercial divers, including Victoria's 10,000 qualified water sports divers.

The emergency service is being conducted in conjunction with the LaTrobe Valley Ambulance Service, which will take details of emergency calls, and the Bass Strait Medical Centre at Bairnsdale. The Centre's doctors are specialists in the field of pressure-related injuries.

Divers from overseas and throughout Australia have shown interest in the diving course offered by the NSCA. As the only professional diving training centre in Australia, the Morwell centre will provide intensive practical and theoretical training for both qualified amateur and professional divers.

As well as a basic course, the centre will offer tuition at more advanced levels in first aid, bell diving, underwater inspection, and the safe handling of explosives underwater. Ocean dives will be conducted from Newhaven on Phillip Island.

The basic air diving course will run full-time for 12 weeks and only divers who have completed a certified sports divers course will be eligible to apply. Divers who complete the course will have attained or exceeded a level required by the Professional Divers' Association of Australia and the Department of Industrial Development and Technology.

Reprinted from the 'Australian Safety News'.

Wake up Western Australia, you are way behind ...

??????

Which is heavier under water - 10kg of lead or 10kg of concrete?
Answer underneath.



It would be a shock to surface and find the boat gone at the end of a dive, so make sure the anchor is firm and will not slip or drag.

ooooo

Lead weighs more under water because it is denser than concrete, therefore it occupies less volume. It displaces less water so there is a smaller force of buoyancy acting on it. Remember Archimedes' principle? Any object wholly or partly immersed in a liquid is buoyed by a force equal to the weight of liquid displaced.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

John Paskulich

The recent spate of diving fatalities has drawn us closer towards legislative controls of our sport. The way I see it, the general diving community is demonstrating its inability to look after itself and we deserve what we get.

Assuming that the future holds greater official interference and knowing that governments always lean in the direction of the biggest noise, you can guess how much influence one small diving club will have in framing legislation, compared to the combined might of the professional operators.

It will be all their way and we will end up dancing to the tune of the shopkeepers. To counter this possibility and give us a bigger say, we must increase our membership and start showing that we are a large, progressive organisation that demands high standards from both its members and the entrepreneurs who service the sport.

To attract and keep members we have to offer good facilities and cheap, safe diving.

A battered four-man inflatable hardly constitutes good diving facilities. We should think seriously about procuring a decent club boat and putting it to work. With it, we would be able to offer both cheaper and more consistent diving. I am convinced we could beat the \$280 they charge for a half-day at Mandurah. Also consider the number of times a monthly trip has been cancelled and then the following weekend has been perfect. Our own boat would give us a lot more flexibility.

Given that our fixed annual expenses are around \$4000 it is obvious that a greater membership will result in lower individual subscriptions and a rise in income. With more income we could afford to buy safety gear, update equipment and enhance our reputation as a progressive and safe club.

I want to see this a bigger and better club and I expect your support to help us achieve it.



John Paskulich

FIRST AID QUALIFICATIONS

I am endeavouring to arrange an advanced resuscitation course with the Surf Life-saving Association. It will include the use of oxygen equipment. I hope it can be arranged for late January or early February to avoid both the Christmas season and the start of night schools.

The cost will be between \$10-\$20 for 10-15 hours, spread over a few evenings. These figures depend on numbers. Please leave your name with me at the December general meeting.

SHIPWRECK UNDER THE ICE

Tibi

The northernmost shipwreck to be discovered on the seafloor is the British barque 'Breadalbane', which sunk in 1853 among the ice of Canada's North West Passage. She lies in 340 feet of icy water with 6ft of surface ice covering. The wreck has been explored by cutting through the ice and by sending down a manned submersible.

With daylight saving, if you don't know what to do with all that sunshine after work, ring Steve and go for a dive. Ph. 4014-028

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Paul Mulally

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DIVE SRI LANKA

Paul

In 1979 I had my first taste of scuba diving at Hikkadua, which impressed me so much I planned to return to the island at some time in the future. In May 1981 I was fortunate enough to be able to include Sri Lanka in my trip back to England. I had wanted to visit Hikkadua again, but as the monsoons were affecting that part of the island, I was advised to try the north-east area. On arrival at Trincomalee I started making enquiries about the diving and found Underwater Safaris, a new dive school and hotel which was still being built. The staff were very helpful and I booked the boat for the next day. Getting back to my room I carefully checked out my gear to see if it had survived the flight. All seemed OK. The accommodation was very basic, but for \$5 a day who cares, when it only 100 metres to the beach and the temperature is 35C. For dinner I had grilled baby shark with fresh limes, which was pure magic. After dinner I met Paul Brady, a Pom on his way to Sydney, who was also into diving and agreed to join me on the trip next day. Arriving at the dive station at 8am next day, all was ready. The boys had carried the bottles to the boat which was all set to go. The weather was clear with no wind, and it was already about 25C. The first dive site was about one mile offshore in the north bay area called The Rocks, where we made two dives with a depth of between 6-12 metres and visibility being 12 metres. There were plenty of fish around, but as usual they were just out of reach. I also collected two pieces of red fan coral. The next day the weather was just as perfect, so we headed for Swami Rock, situated on the south side of the bay. This proved to be the best dive of the trip. It was a ruined temple, pushed into the sea from the cliff about 80 metres above. The large blocks of stone and pillars were clearly visible in a depth of 24 metres. The fish life was prolific, with a couple of very large rays passing through. The second dive of the day was a few hundred yards along the north side of The Rocks, in a slight bay with excellent visibility. There were some beautiful coral formations, with lots of large formations of fan coral, all in 5-10 metres. On my last day of diving we went out to Grouper Rocks, about one mile past The Rocks. Here we saw the most fish life, with lobsters and crabs in abundance, but as usual they were just that little bit faster than me. The diving in Sri Lanka is very cheap by our standards, about \$25 a day for the boat, tanks and guide. It's one place I would like to visit again and again. How about you?

NOMINATIONS

Paul Brooker
Dane Brooker

19 Mackenzie St, Samson

Distances are very deceptive in clear water. It is also difficult to estimate the size of objects. Divers frequently dive much deeper than planned in clear water due to incorrect estimations, so keep a close watch on your depth gauge.

Before you get into the water, be sure you can get out. Divers have actually stranded themselves in the water when boat diving. Have a ladder, platform or even a loop of line to use for exiting.

A MEMBER'S COMMENT

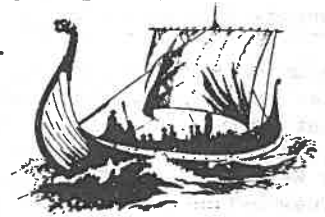
Barry Kennedy

I don't like to criticise our club, and I certainly don't want to start mud-slinging. However, there are some things we need to straighten out, for the sake of the club's reputation and credibility. Mostly the 'head in the sand' attitude towards progress within the club. To suggest we limit our activities and membership to match an inadequate clubhouse shows a definite lack of foresight. The charter boat operators' campaign to wipe out unlicensed boat hire will surely effect us sometime in the future. To take the attitude "It won't happen to us" is only burying our heads a little deeper into the sand. Large boat dives, always a top in club activities, have lately faded away to nothing. The reasons for this are various, but it leaves a void which needs filling. At the moment club facilities are lacking. It is an accepted practice for members to supply their own private boats for club use. While this is helpful for club activities and is gratefully appreciated, it is by no means enough. What this club needs is its own dive boat, available for use at all times. Most of the money paid out for charter boat hire could be channelled back into the club. By charging a reasonable dive fee to members and making the most of our own boat with regular diving trips we would soon be making an income for the club and this is something we need. We need to break down the pessimistic outlook that is prevalent in the club and replace it with a little optimism. We need to make a positive effort to get behind the club and move it ahead. With the popularity of sports SCUBA diving increasing tremendously each year, we have never had a better time to expand and progress. Unless we compete and make our club more attractive to new members, we may find we have "missed the boat". Let's lift that leg out of the grave, and work towards a better and more progressive future.

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... ALL MEMBERS ...

SORT OUT ALL YOUR JUNK AND BRING IT TO THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING ... SO WE CAN HAVE A STALL AT THE LOCAL SUNDAY MARKET TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE BOAT FUND ...



A sea of pollution

Sound still no cleaner

South Beach 'not suitable'

THE SEA, THE SEWER

All over the world, millions of tonnes of raw sewage is discharged into the sea. Around the world's beaches people swim among faecal solids bobbing around in the water. I have seen people bathe among the blood and guts at Robbs Jetty. All this can be blamed on water engineers, scientists and politicians who claim that the sea is the most efficient and cheap way to treat sewage and who allow the discharge of raw sewage from short outfall pipes near to shore. What about long sea outfalls? Is it safe to swim or dive near them? Not really.

Sewage contains one million bacteria from the gut in each spoonful. The theory that salt water and sunlight will kill 90% of the bacteria in four hours after it is discharged is not always achieved. The Water Research Centre and Newcastle University in England have found the four-hour rule greatly over-estimated.

Light is the greatest bacteria killer, but only if it have short wave length radiation below 350 nanometres - the ultra-violet wave lengths. We have plenty of that kind of sunlight in summer, but in winter and on overcast days the ultra-violet rays can be reduced by as much as eight times. This allows the bacteria longer time to live - 12 or more hours. Time enough for it to be washed back to the beaches.

Even if it is diluted 1000-fold it will be reduced from 1000000000 coliforms to 1000000 coliforms per 100 millilitres of water only. And that is still a lot of bacteria.

Looks like it will be goodbye Carlisle Castle, Orizaba and the Five Fathom Bank.

TOOTHPASTE BY-PRODUCT KILLS

Titanium dioxide is used to whiten paint, plastics and toothpaste. The waste created in its production contains sulphuric acid, iron, cadmium, and mercury. In West Germany the Kronos Titan titanium dioxide plant discharges the waste into the Inner German Bight region of the North Sea.

After West Germany, Britain, with three factories discharging into the Humber and Tees estuaries disposes of more titanium dioxide waste than any other EEC country. The waste kills lower forms of marine life and lowers fish resistance to disease.

I wonder which chemical firm produces titanium dioxide in WA, and what happens to the waste? Does it finish up in the ocean?

ANCHORAGE
Rockburn Sound
still as bad as it
four years ago
an exhaus-
tively of the
pollution
worse
Bacterial pollution
of beaches
MURDAY DECEMBER 24 1983
Dr McNulty has now
confirmed that Robb
Jetty is responsible for
the quality of water at
South Beach.
Figures provided by
Department of Conserva-
tion and Environment show
charges into Owen Anch-
orage increased.

COOKING WITH PAUL

Everyone's favourite is fresh crayfish, and now that we are well into the season with lots of crays being taken, below is one of my favourite ways of eating them. It's a very simple way of preparing them, ideal after a dive.

GRILLED CRAYFISH WITH FRESH HERB AND ANCHOVY BUTTER

One or more green crayfish per person (depending on the luck you have!)

HERB BUTTER - 400gm butter
1 cup flagon riesling
1 45gm tin of anchovy fillets (mashed to a pulp)
1/3 cup chopped mixed fresh herbs, eg parsley, chervil,
oregano, savory, dill, tarragon, basil, marjoram
OR 20gm dried mixed herbs
1 spring onion, finely chopped
good pinch of ground black pepper

Leave butter to soften for a couple of hours. Put the wine in a small saucepan. Bring it to the boil and reduce to about 3 tablespoonfuls. If using dried herbs, add them to the wine when it is almost reduced, to bring out the full flavour. Whisk the softened butter until it is white, and add all ingredients together and mix. Put to one side. Split the crays and remove the sac. Place on the grill tray and spread liberally with the butter. Grill until cooked, about 8-10 minutes, basting the flesh every minute. Do not overcook as it toughens the flesh. Serve straight from the grill accompanied by a crisp mixed salad and a glass of chardonnay.

BEING A FISH

Roger Smith

Why is it, when you go to sea on diving trips
That you think of us as something to eat with chips?
I'm something pretty, but never cute, with scales and slime
But that's the way it is down here, it's certainly no big crime.
If only I were like a seal with soft fur and big brown eyes,
Then you might love me instead of making me into casseroles and fish pies.
Take my friend, the dolphin, who has his own TV show
you all say "Lovely" and let him swim on through.
Even the poor old whale has just won distinction -
It just took the Japs and Ruskies to hunt him to extinction.
A member once said we're good food for his cat, which caused a fuss,
But if you think like me, his cat is better for us.
If I see old Roger with his Nikonas in his hand
I like to appear and sport myself - it makes me feel quite grand.
But if I spy those spearo boys of Neddy, Horton and Oddy,
I'll disappear bloody quick, before I'm just one more dead body.
It's a nice world down here, full of colour, adventure and fun -
So please come and join us, but bring a camera - not a gun.



THIS STORY FIRST APPEARED IN THE SUNDAY TIMES AND TALKS ABOUT A SPECIAL EXPEDITION UNDERTAKEN BY HORIZON TOURS.

EXPEDITION STUDIES WHALER

The two charter vessels of Horizon Sea Tours, the 20m Nellie Melba and the 14m Horizon, carried WA Museum and Earthwatch members to the Rowley Shoals, 180 nautical miles west of Broome, to study and excavate a 170-year-old wreck believed to be the British whaler, Lively.

The August expedition salvaged four iron cannons and other artefacts. Nellie Melba was used as an on-site facilities vessel on which members were accommodated and fed with chef-cooked meals, while Horizon was used as the work vessel, carrying divers between the wreck site at Mermaid Reef and the lagoon in which an island camp was established.

Some people on board the vessel during the expedition were expedition leader Graeme Henderson, curator of the museum's marine archaeology: Scott Sledge, Mike McCarthy and Myra Stanbury of the museum. Hugh Edwards, writer and diver. Don Blair, David Totty and Drew Bathgate of Earthwatch. David Dureau, ex-pearl diver from Broome. Denis Robinson, in charge of filming. Garry Gadsby, Horizon Sea Tours tour manager, and master of the vessel, Mark Walsh.

During leisure periods, the crew of both vessels investigated the fishing and found the waters to be teeming with spanish mackerel, sail fish and whao. Photographic evidence shows that large potato cod can be fed by hand.

Tour photographers using underwater cameras took movie film of divers playing with these protected fish.

Pelagic fish abound on the outer reef slope so there is plenty of sea food. The types of fish visitors are encouraged to catch are cod (other than potato cod), trevally, dolphin fish, snapper, sweetlip, barracuda, tuna, mackerel. Sail fish, coral trout, Queensland groper and Maori wrasse were released if hooked. These large fearless creatures, which can live up to a great age, are always the first to disappear on exploited reefs, and spearing or catching any reef fish within the lagoons is discouraged.

From an ecological point of view, boat bilges are never pumped out in lagoons, and rubbish is taken out to sea and dumped in deep water. It is not permitted to construct any permanent structure on land or sand cays at the Shoals as they are unvegetated and potentially unstable. Birds on the islands are not disturbed as many are resting on their migration between Australia and Asia.

Bedwell Island is one of only two known breeding places for the red-tailed tropic bird in WA. The atolls of the Rowley Shoals are seen by Horizon Sea Tours as being an ideal place to photograph and enjoy the wildlife in what have been described as the best geological examples of atolls on the continental shelf. They abound in tropical marine animals, many of which do not occur along the coast. The atolls and their fauna are still in pristine condition, with spectacular shells on the reef flats. The coral gardens are almost untouched and large reef fish are still plentiful.

Sadly, situations like this are becoming progressively more difficult to find in Australia and elsewhere in the world because of progressive exploitation. Horizon Sea Tours encourages visitors to collect dead specimens of shells only, leaving living ones in the area where they are found. Experience has shown that large, spectacular and, at present, common molluscs such as tiger cowries, cones, giant clams and spider shells, which are slow-growing, soon become depleted from reefs by collecting living animals.

Nowhere else along the WA coast can these shells be found in the numbers that they can be found at the Rowley Shoals.

SAFETY REPORT

B. Kennedy

Have you ever stood on top of a very high cliff and gingerly ventured to the edge, to peer down into the depths below? If you have, you will know that feeling of apprehension that fills you and compels you to move back to safe ground. Your intelligence tells you you are quite safe, but you certainly don't feel safe. This feeling is a normal human instinct, passed down through countless generations, to protect us against dangerous situations.

It is very much the same feeling a novice diver has to overcome on his or her first open-water dive. Add to this the thought of large sharks waiting to eat them, poisonous sea snakes and other nasties all over the seabed, then you can understand them being very nervous and afraid.

These feelings, with practice, can all be overcome. It takes time and understanding, but it can be done. Sometimes the situation is made worse by the novice having to dive with an experienced diver, making them feel inferior and not in control. The novice has to follow the experienced diver through all sorts of imagined dangers, not being sure if they are capable yet of doing it, and not being able to do anything about it if it becomes too much for them. This is possibly why so many new divers leave the water after their first few dives, never to return.

Perhaps if they were to understand that they are not alone with these feelings, that almost all new divers have the same fears, that many experienced divers feel apprehension and from time to time feel nervous and afraid. Perhaps then they would stick it out and not give up. Being afraid does not mean being a coward. An intelligent diver will show a lot of caution. A brave and fearless diver is also usually a halfwit who doesn't appreciate the dangers of the sport. What I'm trying to say is don't be afraid of being afraid. Don't be embarrassed about being nervous. Providing you don't allow yourself to panic, you will find you'll be OK. You are certainly not alone.

One of the benefits of diving with a club, if you are a novice, is safety. You may not feel safer, but you are diving with experienced, competent divers who will encourage and coach you. With practice, you can become a confident diver, and perhaps help others through this difficult period.



CASE HISTORY NO. 38

...ice were puzzled over the death of an experienced skindiver who was found in six metres of water without his mouthpiece in his mouth. The dead man was an experienced diver and was diving during the weekend with two other divers when the accident happened.

They were using mouthpieces with airlines connected to a compressor in the boat. When one of the divers felt an emergency tug on the victim's airline, he followed the airline down and found the end resting on the sea bottom with the rubber mouthpiece pulled off. The victim was in a sitting position with his weightbelt still around his waist and his speargun beside him.

The two divers found an abrasion on the victim's forehead which they could not explain. There has been speculation that he may have been hit by a shark. What do you think?

In Western Australia we have some of the best diving in Australia, with locations like the Dampier Archipelago, Rowley Shoals and the Abrohlos Islands (though I must admit to having been to Queensland to see how good it is over there).

A few months ago I had the good fortune to know someone from Port Hedland going to Dampier with a boat for a weekend. On both days we did a shallow dive in the morning at about 8-10 metres, with a deep dive down to about 30 metres in the early afternoon at high tide.

The water abounded in fish of many varieties, plentiful corals and quite a few crayfish, but the best dives were undoubtedly the deep dives, both of which were off Legendre Island at Cape Legendre.

There is 30 metres of water within 100 metres of the island, 10 metre drop-offs and abundant fish life. On the Saturday we anchored in about 14 metres, and going down the anchor line we swam along till we came to a drop-off which went down to 27 metres. Peering over the edge there was one shark sleeping on the bottom, with occasional glimpses of white-lipped reef sharks swimming around, but never coming very close. After going to the bottom we followed this drop-off into shore, seeing another shark sleeping on the bottom, more reef sharks swimming round, turtles, and large rays. When we came to the end and had to ascend there was the spectacle of two manta rays slowly circling around just above our heads.

On Sunday we dived in a small bay where the bottom was more gradual, dropping from 3 metres to 25 metres, with more sharks, manta rays, large mackerel, barracuda and many other fish. Unfortunately the bottom had been stirred up overnight and visibility had been reduced to 7-8 metres from about 10-12 metres.

Other diving excursions have been a weekend trip to the Monte Bellos where the water was full of turtles (it was the mating season). In this area there is a species of crayfish called a blue cray, which grows as big as any jumbo I've ever seen. Again there was a large variety of fish including a few large cod. This trip was on the Nellie Melba, which had only recently come back from a trip to the Rowley Shoals and several of the divers on board had been on that trip. Their descriptions of the clarity of the water and feeding the fish off the marlin board made it sound like a place definitely to visit.

[IT IS RECOMMENDED TO DO THE DEEP DIVE IN THE MORNING, FOLLOWING IT UP WITH THE SHALLOWER DIVE IN THE AFTERNOON -]

NEWS BRIEFS

- ... The inflatable hasn't been in the water for a long time ...
- ... The Albany dive will be on. Ring Peter Mortimer to book ...
- ... For future club dives, bring \$15 along to the next club meeting ...

NOVEL WAY?

We all heard what's-his-name's invention of fixing a mousetrap to a broomstick to catch crayfish with. The latest I heard was the use of a mop. The spines of the cray are supposed to get entangled in the strands. All you have to do is take the cray off the mop (called the Housewife Method). Another method is to use a long thin stick with a feather tied to it. You gently and carefully slip the feather between the cray's legs until it reaches its tail. You then tickle the cray's tail and as it crawls out, you grab it.

THIS STORY WAS PUBLISHED IN THE SUNDAY TIMES RECENTLY, IN A FEATURE ON WATER SPORTS AND SAFETY.

SCUBA DIVING HAS UNKNOWN QUANTITY

Scuba diving is a sport which fascinates everyone who's ever seen a Jacques Cousteau documentary. Those who take it a step further and give it a try, find themselves involved in a sport which seems to have just the right mix of action, excitement, and exercise, plus that unknown quantity ... what will you see or find on the next dive?

The best way - and the safest - of getting involved in scuba diving as a rewarding pastime is to join a club. The Underwater Explorers Club of WA was founded in 1954 in order to promote and participate in diving and allied activities, to encourage the development of safer diving methods and procedures, and to promote diving as a sport to the general public.

Soon after it was founded, the club started training divers at the old Navy jetty at Woodman Point, and it claims to be the oldest diver-training organisation in Australia. The club is actively involved in exploring shipwrecks, and it has been responsible for discovering many historic wrecks off the WA coast. Some UEC members also belong to the Maritime Archaeological Association of WA (MAA WA), and are actively involved in underwater excavation and research.

Diver training courses - still based at Woodman Point - are conducted regularly by the club, for members only. Here the UEC has the advantage over many other diving schools because nearly all the training is ocean training, so students develop a greater degree of confidence and higher level of water skills than those trained in swimming pools.

All students must be medically fit, and no awards are made until they pass stringent practical and written tests. The training includes snorkel diving, hookah (surface supply), diving and scuba.

Regular boat diving excursions are made to various locations from Safety Bay to Ocean Reef and Rottnest, and on long weekends trips are arranged to country locations like Hamelin Bay and the Abrohlos.

New members are always welcome - these should either go through the club's training course or satisfy the secretary that they are fit and suitably trained. They need to show qualifications obtained from a reputable diving school and demonstrate their ability on a dive before being accepted as members.

While out on dives, spearfishing is not forbidden where the occasional fish is involved, but wanton destruction and spearfishing 'competitions' are definitely discouraged.

THE LATEST FROM KEN AND SHEILAH JONES



"Our last weeks in Townsville were great, we finished up staying on the 'Reef Seeker' as crew and dogsbodies ... so went the last diving, on Helix Reef, 150ft visibility. We were the first in and from the surface the sight was a 12ft bronze whaler 50ft down. Needless to say we went down looking over our shoulders 'back to back' ... it came back right under Sheilah but just to have a look and then swam on by. But what a spot, coral mountains with fans 3ft across. Sheilah got hit with a crown of thorns, putting blood everywhere, then a 4ft white tip reef shark came by, but we scared him off! Her fingers ballooned, but after hot water and first aid we picked the bits out and she managed to carry on."

CLUB BOAT: A special meeting of 1/2/84 authorised the club to buy the 32' boat "Bombo" for \$8500.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! A substantial sum of money will need to be borrowed to finance it, and it is now up to us to raise funds to pay for it.

QUIZ NIGHT: Floreat Hotel, Wed. 4th April, 7.30 pm.
Enclosed are 6 tickets (one table) PLEASE SELL THEM. Requests for extras, or returns, to Martin Smith as soon as possible.

DEBENTURES: Members are invited to purchase \$100 debentures in the club to help finance the boat. Contact Martin Smith for details. (In effect a debenture is a long term interest free loan to the club. The committee of management has authorised a discount on boat fees for debenture holders.)

JUNK SALE: We've gathered a lot of odds and ends for a stall at the next swap meet. Members are offered first choice, so come along to the FEBRUARY general meeting with a few dollars in your pocket.

BOAT FEES: When we take possession of our own boat the following fees will apply. They will be revised at a later date.

Standard fee. \$12 each
Advanced payment. \$10 each (assuming minimum of 5 trips are bought in advance) The normal booking procedure for trips still apply.
Debenture holders receive \$2 discount.

NOMINATIONS;

J.S.Cream 115 Walcott St Mt Lawley.
B.Spehr 79 Gladstone Rd Rivervale.
A.D.Gatter 75 Stanley Rd Scarborough.
S.F.Hughes 31 Tamar St Palmyra.
O.C.Peters 4 Bournville St Floreat Pk.
R.Hill 19 Tawning St Embleton.
D.Talbot 9/188 North Beach Drive Tuart Hill.
N. Wilson 21 Howard Pde Salters Point

U.E.C. NEWS

(UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF W.A. INC.)

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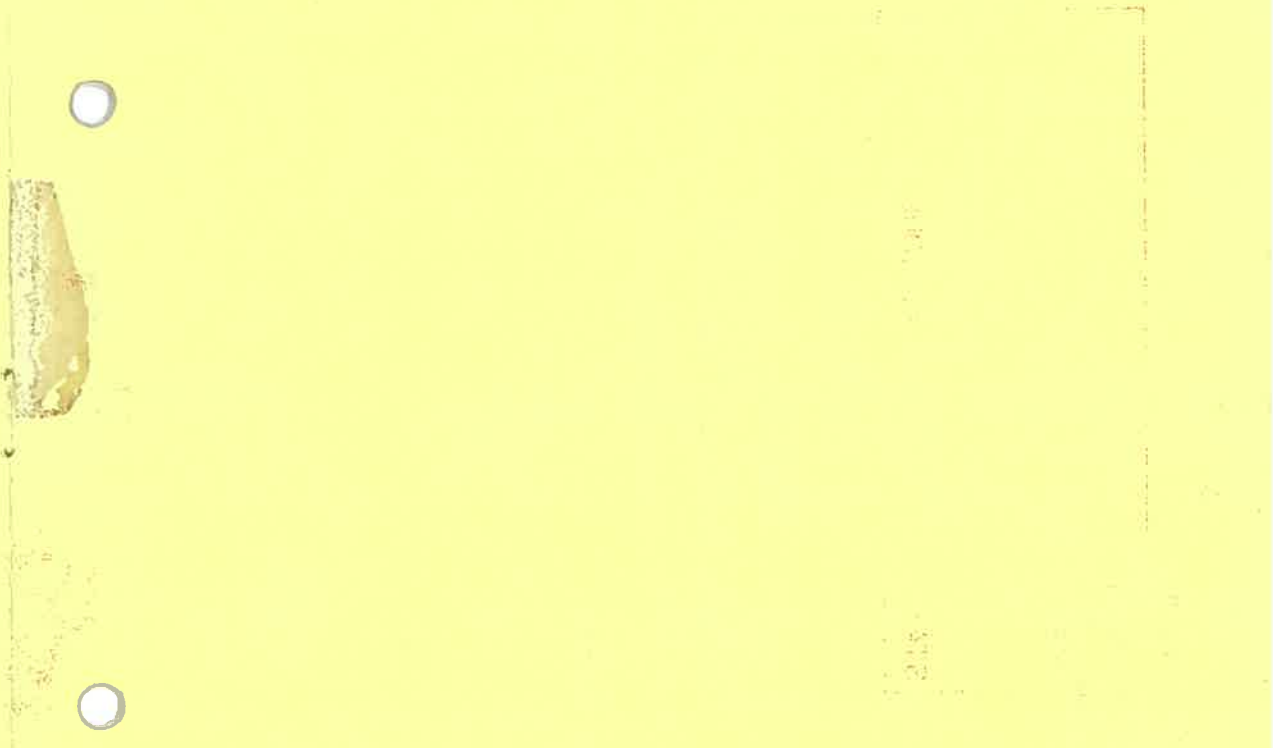
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SCHEDULED DIVING TRIPS

MARCH - 16th ... Night dive 6pm
" 17th ... Rottnest 8am
" 18th ... Spearfishing trip 8am
" 24th ... Deep dive - Rottnest 8am
" 25th ... River dive 10am
" 31st ... Stragglers 9am

All boat trips will be advertised in the magazine or at general meetings - no private trips.

DIVE GEAR HIRE

Barry Kennedy

As a diving club, dealing with various dive suppliers, it soon becomes obvious that some are better than others as far as service and prices is concerned. After a while we know who to deal with and who to avoid, but during the process of learning, we quite often get our fingers burnt.

This applies especially to student and novice divers who usually don't have the experience and knowledge to know when they are being taken for a ride. But what to do about it? Perhaps we should publish some information in our magazine. However, to mention these rip-off merchants by name could land us in hot water, with the libel laws as they are. Maybe the answer lies in working from the other end. We could mention those who we know give a good service and can be trusted to do the right thing by our less experienced members.

One such person who springs to mind instantly is Peter Henry. Peter has always given an excellent service in hire equipment, and he is at 22, Keith Rd, Ross-moyne. You can get fills or hire equipment from 7.30am-8pm seven days a week, or make arrangements for dealing outside these hours by phoning him on 457 3303. Below is a list of hire prices.

Single tank ... \$6 a day

Tank back pack and reg ... \$8 first day and \$6 a day after this

BC ... \$3 a day

Fills ... \$2.50 each

Accessories such as spearguns are available too.

OUR BOAT 'BOMBO'

Over the past few months, most of the talk in the club has been about buying a boat, and at last we have. Now we should get in plenty of good diving. Peter Horton is the OC of the Boat Committee. It has been decided that all boat trips will be advertised in the magazine or at the general meetings. There will be no private boat trips. Each boat trip must return \$60 to cover costs, so where only a handful of divers want to go out the cost will be divided between them.

NOTICE OF MOTION

That spouses and children under 14 of ordinary members be regarded as honorary members to enable them to participate in social events.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Paskulich

It's finally arrived! At long last we've taken possession of our boat. To make it pay its way, it will have to work hard so you can look forward to a dive every weekend. Please give it your wholehearted support and ensure the success of this venture. Ring Peter Mortimer for dive details.

The Quiz Night is only around the corner and tickets are still outstanding. We want to make this a successful fund-raising night so get out and sell! Don't forget it's Wednesday April 4 at the Floreat Hotel.

I have been talking to the Recreation Officer for the Association for the Blind and they are interested in us running a snorkelling course for blind students. These are perfectly healthy people whose only handicap is they can't see. I've suggested we can do it probably in April. Any members who want to get involved in a worthwhile project can contact me directly. In particular I want helpers, but donations, or loan of gear would also be appreciated. Training will be on Saturday afternoons in Victoria Park (for details ring John).

NOTICE OF MOTION

I move that the following addition be made to the constitution and rules of the Underwater Explorers Club of WA (Inc).
Moved J. Paskulich

Item 11 (i) Boat Committee

The Boat Committee shall have an officer in charge who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, and at least four ordinary members whose appointment by the officer in charge shall be confirmed by the Committee of Management. All members of the Boat Committee must possess the following qualifications:

1. Have completed the National Safety Council Boat Handling course or an equivalent as accepted by the Committee of Management.
2. Have either owned or operated small craft for a period of time deemed satisfactory by the Committee of Management.
3. Have demonstrated the ability to operate the club's boat to an examiner appointed by the Committee of Management.

The duties and powers of the Boat Committee shall be in respect of:

1. Sole responsibility for operation, maintenance and repair of the boat, its mooring and all ancillary equipment.
2. Provide a skipper with the above-mentioned qualifications for every trip undertaken by the club's boat.
3. Ensure that all safety standards are maintained.

NOMINATIONS

C. Brooker, 19 McKenzie Rd, Samson
J. Altenuhl, 1A Gosch St, Hamilton Hill
T. Weaver, 21 Iveston Rd, Lynwood
P. Riley, 141 Gilbertson Rd, North Lake
C. Anders, 1 Carrington St, North Perth
Julie Ramsey

WRITE A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR
TELL HIM YOUR POINT OF VIEW

Once again I would like to discuss dive planning, mainly because of my observations of some club members on our dives. As we all know, the white and blue dive flag is supposed to warn other boats of divers in the water. Any boat approaching a dive flag should stay at least fifty metres clear of the boat displaying the flag.

However, as most of us have experienced, a lot of boat operators either don't see, or have no knowledge of what the flag signifies and so they drive past very close without showing any caution.

Should a diver happen to be surfacing at this point, he would be in extreme danger of being run down. Which brings me to the point of this report - no diver should stray far from the safety of the dive boat, unless he has enough air to return safely underwater.

There are also other dangers, such as strong surface currents, which make it very difficult to return to the boat on the surface, should your air supply be too low to return underwater. I have experienced such a situation.

However, with good dive planning, and the help of aids such as compass and visual contents gauge, every diver should be able to finish his dive back at the anchor, from where the dive began.

Always dive upstream of your dive boat, when your air supply is approximately half you should be thinking about making your way back to the boat. If you are not sure where the boat is, simply surface and locate it and return underwater. In this way you should never have to swim long distances on the surface, and so the danger of being run down, or swept away in a current, is reduced.

The practice of completing a dive on a completely empty tank is particularly bad, as most problems develop on ascent - especially in the last seven or eight metres. Should an emergency arise and a diver has to return to the bottom for some reason, he could find himself in trouble with no air. Always allow for an emergency by leaving a small reserve of air in your tank when you complete your dive.

FLASH: UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHERS DEVASTATE FISH POPULATIONS

k. Cargeeg

A startling discovery has been made by a team of reserachers led by Dr R. Woodew Bellevitt, prominent ichthyologist of Hawaii's International Marine Research Institute. The scientists have conducted a series of laboratory experiments and underwater trials which have demonstrated that fish are suffering permanent blindness as a result of exposure to underwater photographers' flashguns.

It seems the internal structure of fishes' eyes is much different to those of mammals. Whereas mammals have inbuilt mechanisms to protect the delicate rod and cone structures of the eyes for over-exposure to illumination, fish do not have this protection - presumably because their marine environment is not subject to marked changes in illumination, and they are never exposed to direct sunlight.

The scientists have shown that exposure to flashlights causes immediate and permanent damage which leads to changes in the composition of the optical fluid, and a resultant degeneration of the sensors in the fishes' eyes. This results in total blindness in seven to 10 days.

This is the first of a series of articles I have been asked to write, on my diving experiences over the past 13 years.

Lady Rock is a small island with a remote light beacon in Mull Sound. Mull is an island off the west coast of Scotland, five miles due west of the town of Oban. I arranged three club diving holidays in this area several years ago, a beautiful place, with numerous rocky islands, clear deep water, the temperature of which was about 45deg F. Lady Rock is very small, maybe only one or two acres above the water, with a much larger area below the water, with a drop-off to 600ft. Because of the deep water, the visibility is very good, 60 to 80 ft. It has quite strong currents running around the islands, so we found that the best way to dive Lady Rock was to drop the diving party in on one side and let the dive boat follow them with the current - the current was normal too strong to swim against in this area - we would then pick up the dive party, motor back to other side, and drop the second party.

When you enter the water, the first thing that draws one's attention is the thick kelp bed 15 to 20ft below. You dive through the fronds, pushing them apart, to find that the sea bed is still another 10ft below. This area consists of the very large strips maybe two or three inches thick, and five or six feet long, very much like a miniature forest of tall, straight trees. The water is very clear here, and the current is considerably reduced by the kelp bed.

This is where large crayfish are to be found, very similar in appearance to the rock lobsters here, but weighing between 1½-6kilos. There are also large numbers of dog fish (small sharks) and huge aggregations of brittle stars. The sea bed in this area consists of rocks and boulders, and patches of white sand. The crayfish, out of interest, are to be found in small caves, and although slower and larger, are not easy to catch until you have had some practice. As you go deeper, the kelp comes to a sudden end at about 50 to 60ft. You look out from the edge of the kelp forest, and stretching before you is a vast area of pink and white plumose anemones, many more than a foot in height. As you leave the kelp bed, you are once again taken by the current, and drift out over the anemones, keeping as close to the sea bed as possible, to slow down the drift. At about 60ft the anemones peter out, and a few scallops are to be found. The fall in the sea bed up to now has been up to 10 to 15 degrees, but now we come to a vertical drop-off, dropping below you as far as you can see. We move slowly along the edge for a minute or two, drawn by the drop-off. I now signal the end of the dive, and head for the surface. We keep very close together at this point as it is not advisable to get separated in these currents.

The dive has lasted approximately 30 minutes, we are all pretty cold, and the time seems to have gone very quickly - but all good dives are like that.

COMMITTEE CHANGES

Peter Mortimer has stepped down from Officer in charge of diving, and Martin Smith will be taking over.

Paul Brooker is now the secretary.

Margaret Langston is in charge of Social. Please give Margaret your full support for coming social events. Her phone number is 457 7244.

Have you ever had one of those days when you wished you had stayed in bed? Well I did, and my diving buddy (or should it be buddess, seeing as how my buddy was a bird) and I had an absolute corker a few weeks ago. We decided to dive at Florida, south of Mandurah, and getting an early start we arrived at the beach hopeful of having a good day. I must admit that when we arrived things looked good, the sea was calm, the weather was good ... what could go wrong? In a word - everything.

Getting changed, my buddy said: "Can you turn me on? It's too stiff for me." (?) "Sure", I said, but when I turned her air on her regulator was continually leaking. Well, that was a minor problem and easily solved by washing the regulator in the sea.

"Why are you going red in the face and uttering such profanities in front of a lady?" she said. "Because I can't turn myself on either, mine's so stiff it's unreal." I eventually turned my air on with the help of a small pipewrench (no diver should be without one) and we proceeded to enter the water.

I'm just washing out my mask when I heard this "Eek!" Cough, cough, splutter, splutter, "Oh heck". "What's wrong with you then?" "I fell down and lost my flippers." "I managed to find one, but after snorkelling up and down for half an hour looking for the other without any success, she said "Never mind, I've got another pair in the car." (Seems like she was expecting to lose them, doesn't it?) Just before she went back to the car she said, "Is there any sign of my mask and snorkel? I dropped them too!" Cor blimey, give me strength, I think, if I don't watch her she'll throw everything away.

"Look, you'd better take my car into Mandurah and buy a new mask and snorkel, and while you're away I'll keep looking for all your lost gear. By the way, try not to lose my car, won't you?"

After half an hour my buddy returned with her new mask and snorkel. So off we go again. Gear on, air on, etc, etc, into the water we go ... well, almost. Just before we got to the water I noticed that the glass retaining band on my mask had disappeared!

Half-expecting my mask to collapse we started the dive, which wasn't too bad. The depth was only 20ft so my mask stayed together. That is, it stayed together until I surfaced at the end of the dive, when there was a plop! and bingo, I've got no glass. Wonderful!

On the way back I unloaded my speargun by firing it into the water - I didn't fancy shooting anyone on the beach, did I? When we got to the beach I took my flippers off and started to wade ashore when I heard this "Eek!" Cough, cough, splutter, splutter, "Oh, heck!" "What's wrong with you then?" "I fell down and lost one of my flippers." Heard this before, folks? Sure you have, only this time I was the one who fell over, not her!

That must be it, you're all thinking, there can't be anything else, can there? Oh yes there can.

At the car I'm packing everything away everything that's left, when I noticed something that will delight all those people who are paranoid about spearfishing - my spear was missing! Obviously it had fallen off after I fired it on the swim back to shore.

At the end of it all I've got to buy a new pair of flippers otherwise I'll end up swimming in circles (any one-legged divers out there want to do a deal?), I need a new mask and a new spear for my gun, after all nobody wants a speargun that fires blanks, do they - except Roger Smith, that is!

When asked about the long-term effects, Dr Bellevitt explained the fish were unable to avoid their natural predators and, if they were fortunate, would be quickly killed and eaten. The alternative was a lingering death by starvation. "It seems," said Dr Bellevitt, "That for years we have been unfairly blaming spearfishermen for the destruction of fish populations, whereas far more damage is being done by underwater photographers."

VISITING ALBANY

Barry Kennedy

The people I met in Albany were so trusting and friendly, it reminded me of the way things used to be in Perth some 20 or so years ago - almost like turning back the clock. The peaceful beauty of this little south coastal town and the fantastic diving to be had there, make a visit to this town well worth the effort. The breathtaking views of the coastline there are totally unlike our own sandy beaches. The huge black granite rock rises almost vertical from the water and towers overhead.

The natural harbour is vast and deep, with the coastline running in and out of several large bays and inlets, with a couple of islands rising black and majestic from the clear blue water.

There are places to dive in the lee of these massive granite outcrops, regardless of wind direction or force. We placed ourselves in the hands of two brothers, Les and Kim from the local dive shop. Two of nature's gentlemen, these guys went out of their way to ensure that our dives were both exciting and satisfying, and at \$10 per diver also were very economical. (One dive trip lasted eight hours and covered over forty miles and included some heavy line fishing, bait and lines supplied, and we got to keep the fish - not bad for \$10!)

The highlight of the trip, though, was the diving, the crystal clear water (visibility over 30 metres). I dived three times, each time over 20 metres, and each time I could see the bottom clearly from the top. Diving on the Cheynes II was an adventure in itself, and enough of a reason to go to Albany.

What interested me most was the marine life, the number and size of fish. Huge blue groper swimming casually only a few feet from us, large shoals of brilliantly coloured fish hovering overhead and milling behind us, all without any apparent fear. The memory of these things will stay with me for a long time to come. There were a couple of points regarding safety, of which I will write at a later date. Apart from them, I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Albany.

VISITING SERVICES IN THE SOUTH-WEST

Everyone talks about the glamorous dive spots like the Abrohlos Islands, Rowley Shoals, etc, but we shouldn't forget that the south-west of our State has a lot to offer.

Below is a list of businesses able to supply the necessities for a successful trip in this region. It is advisable to ring before turning up, as business hours, etc, vary.

BUNBURY: South-West Diving Centre,
Hennessy Rd 097 218322
Fills, tank hire and service
BUSSELTON: Ray's Sports Shop,
Queen St 097 522096



DUNSBOROUGH: Has a small sports shop selling some dive gear. May be good for advice on local sites but NO FILLS available.

MARGARET RIVER: Margaret River Hire Service, 097 572306
Tank fills

AUGUSTA: Augusta Hardware, 097 581770
Tank fills

ALBANY: South Coast Divers,
Stead Rd, 098 415068
Full diving service, including boat trips

ESPERANCE: 1. Esperance Sports Store, (Bob and Marg Haymes)
090 712365 or after hours 090 712039
Fills and service. Excursions by arrangement
2. Boat trips to Woody Island
Don McKenzie, 090 711772

This list may not be complete. If you come across additional shops or organisations that offer dive services in the region, let me know and we'll put out an update at some later time.

PROPOSED SYLLABUS - UEC 'A' CLASS DIVER

Notes: Minimum age - 18 years
Pre-requisites - to hold UEC initial certificate or equivalent approved by Training Committee - to be medically fit
All tests, dives, etc, to be correctly logged in candidate's personal log book and endorsed by a member of the Training Committee
The majority of requirements are practical in nature and can be completed as part of normal club activities
There is no time limit on completing these requirements
Advanced diver qualifications from approved dive schools will be accepted as part-qualification to this award

Diving: Complete a minimum of 30 logged dives, including - three zero visibility dives; two night dives; two dives greater than 30 metres where candidate has demonstrated mask clearing and regulator removal skills; two dives in less than six hours that required calculation of, and adherence to, repetitive dive schedules.

Endurance: Be able to swim for three hours continuously dressed in basic equipment.

Life-saving: Complete a recognised diver life-saving course such as the RLSSAB
Complete advanced resuscitation course that includes oxygen equipment, eg SLSA Advanced Resuscitation Certificate

Boat Handling: Complete a boat handling course approved by the Training Committee OR have operated a power boat in excess of four metres in length and 18kW power in 10 UEC dives and satisfy Training Committee of proficiency
Produce a technical note on the use of marine radio (minimum of 400 words)

Recovery and Navigation: Complete 200 metres underwater compass swim and surface within five metres of target
Organise a search for three small objects in an area of 500 square metres
Raise a sunken object to the surface by an approved method
Produce a technical note (with diagrams) on one of the following - Underwater search techniques
Salvage methods for small objects (eg, out-board motor)
Excavation equipment (eg, airlift, water dredge)

Supervision: Complete at least four boat trips as Assistant Dive Officer, and have - directed skipper to desired location and supervised anchoring
Put out flags, buoys, etc, as required
assigned dive teams
logged divers in and out and supervised calculations
acted as safety diver on at least one dive per trip
used marine radio as required

MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO COMMENT

(EX)-UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHERS

Don't miss this opportunity to get rid of that unwanted photographic equipment. Rolleis, Sunpak strobes, Nikonos 15mil lenses, etc, etc, will be taken off your hands for a fraction of their cost. Contact Dr R. Woodhew Bellevit, International Marine Research Institute, Hawaii.

*
*
* FOR SALE ... FOR SALE ... FOR SALE
*
* Complete underwater photography outfit
*
* Nikonos III camera 35mm and 25mm lens,
*
* Oceanic 2003 rechargeable strobe, Sekonic
*
* lightmeter, 3-1 and 1-1 extension tubes,
*
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GOOD NEWS

The annual clubbing to death of the harp seal pups on the Canadian ice floes has been abandoned this year because markets dried up. All the old dears will have to put up with imitation fur from now on.

The UEC as an organisation should back some worthwhile conservation project as well, like the quokkas on Rottnest or the North Mole wreck (unless we make noises now it might be blown to smithereens one day to make room for the yachts trying to win back that coffee pot).



DIVING REPORT

Martin Smith

The one problem with diving at present is that not enough people turn up on the club dives. On the 18th spearfishing dive, we tried Parker Point but did not get any fish.

On the 23rd, a nightdive, we couldn't get out of the harbour because of the rough conditions, so we dived at Blackwall Reach. Only five divers turned up. On the 24th Rottnest deep dive, with only four divers on the boat, we went to the north of Rottnest and dived about 70ft deep.

The trip at Easter to Dongara has been cancelled due to lack of support. However, Martin is planning to use the club boat extensively over this period, so keep in touch with him.

CALENDAR - MAY (from page 2)

May 5th	Boat maintenance	0900
May 6th	Small boats	0800
May 7th	Committee meeting	2000
May 13th	Training dive	0900
May 19th	Cheese and Wine Night	1930

FISHING NEWS



P.M.

The North Mole has been producing some fine tailor over the past week. A workmate arrived bleary-eyed to tell stories of catching six fish over a kilo each, plus a banjo shark. After his last safari to the grain silo in Rockingham for snapper I was very disbelieving of his stories (we all know anglers), but for once there is some truth in this. So go for them while they are about.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

John Paskulich

By the time this magazine is delivered the Quiz Night will have long gone. I hope I'll be able to report to the April meeting that it was a resounding success.

At the moment the UEC seems to be rolling along quite happily. The new dive calendar is certainly a full one with the boat working every weekend. It's still early days but I feel the boat will prove to be a valuable asset to the club.

Two topics have stirred my interest recently. The first is the apparent public attitude to divers. I quote the recent court case where a proven assault by a crayfisherman against two divers was discharged without penalty, and also recent accusations that fisheries inspectors in power boats were disregarding dive flags in their attempts to catch out wrong-doers. I haven't even considered the idiots who don't even know what a dive flag is.

It makes me wonder if an open season hasn't been declared on the diving population. If you see any behaviour that endangers divers, don't hesitate to report it. Make sure you take numbers and clear descriptions. If it is a club dive, we will register the complaint for you.

The other topic is more pleasant. We have around 15 active junior members at the moment and I want to know if it is feasible to re-open our junior section, where special dives and social occasions are arranged to suit a teenager's budget and situation. These thoughts have arisen due to two facts. One was the Quiz Night, where all the juniors were virtually banned because it contravened licensing laws for them to enter an hotel. The other is that doctors, conducting diving medicals, are starting to place conditions on how and where juniors can dive, such as a depth limitation of 20 metres. This may preclude them for many club dives.

These people will be the backbone of the club in the next few years, so it is our responsibility to do the right thing now.

If you have any ideas, raise them at the next General Meeting.

SNIPPET

John Paskulich

Judy Gillespie dropped a line to me the other day. She's done a bit of diving NSW and hopes to do more. Sends her regards to all, particularly those on last Abrolhos trip.

NOMINATIONS

Stuart Lowth
Robert King
Phillip Leonard
Bruce Seerle
Keith Kitchen
Kevin Colley
Jeff Bowman
Julie Rumsey
Barry Tyson

37 Rocket Way, Bullcreek
3 York St, Forrestfield
269 Stock Rd, Palmyra
18 Meribup Court, Hillman

Boat diving is great diving, for it allows you to reach clearer water and less-frequented dive sites. However, special procedures and techniques are required for enjoyment and safety when diving in this manner. How is your knowledge in this area? Increase your pleasure and safety with proper training, equipment and boat diving procedures.

Safety awareness minimises accidents

HERMIT CRAB

G. Murphy

The hermit crab takes its house along wherever it goes. Other types of crabs have been provided by nature with bodies covered with a hard shell like suits of armour, but the hermit crab's body is soft and thin-skinned. Shelter is found in empty seashells. It spends its life living from one discarded shell to another.

Hermit crabs have five pairs of legs, the first pair are large claws but the fifth pair are small, they are the legs which hang on to the empty shell by gripping the inside tightly.

After moulting, the hermit crab hunts for a larger shell to accommodate its new size. When it finds one which suits its needs it pulls itself out of the old one and backs into the new one, tail first.

Like most crustaceans, hermit crabs will eat almost anything. Their normal diet consists of dead fish or molluscs.

The hermit crab is extremely strong and can carry its home for long distances. The hermit crab comes in all colours from red to yellow but you find blue and purple as well.

The eyes are probably the most interesting detail of a hermit crab. Projected away from its body and perched on thin moveable stalks they allow it to see in all directions. The eyes are just as colourful as the body. They can be blue, green or even white.

Hermit crabs come in all sizes. The tiny red pygmy hermit crab can be as small as a pea, others are as big as an orange.

Next time you go on a dive pick up an empty shell and you might find a hermit crab inside.



WORLD WAR II

R.V.

The military application of diving had first been exploited by the Italians. In September 1941 a Royal Navy tanker that had been tied up securely in Gibraltar harbour suddenly blew up and turned into a useless hulk.

That was the result of five years' work by two Italian naval architects. Their first blueprint for a human torpedo was drawn in 1935. The Italians soon formed a group to operate it. The human torpedo was 22ft long and 21ins in diameter.

It was driven by two batteries and two propellers. Two drivers sat on it wearing oxygen sets. The crew approached their target at three knots with their heads above the water, and then dived under the enemy ship. They placed the 500lb detachable warhead against the keel, set the time and then escaped, using the remainder of the craft.

The peak of Italian success came with the crippling of the British battleships Queen Elizabeth and Valiant, in Alexandria harbour. Six men in three tiny craft crippled two of the most powerful ships in the world.

CALENDAR

April 16	General meeting	2000hours
April 20	Easter - Dongara	
April 28	Night dive	1800hours
April 29	Spearfishing trip	0800hours

Scuba tanks restrict mobility and the weight of the tank and ball increase the effort needed to exit the water. Removal of these items prior to climbing aboard makes reentry easier and safer.

THE SOCIAL PAGE



Margaret Langson

Hi everyone,

As many of you probably know there is a new social committee. Being an organiser of social events is not always an easy task, and we would love to hear from you to find out what you would like in the way of social activities, and what you have disliked about previous events. We need your support to make any activity successful, and as most of the planned social events are on the calendar, there is no excuse for not attending.

Many thanks to all members who assisted with prizes and the organisation of the quiz night. Thanks also to members who managed to sell tickets. The quiz night was a great success, and we look forward to another good night in May for the 'Cheese and Wine Night'. We have arranged for the Wine and Brandy Producers Association of WA to come along to the club rooms on the 19th of May at 7.30pm. A comprehensive range of appetiser wines, white and red table wines, dessert wines, etc, will be available. An Advisory Officer will be present to give a short talk on wines and discuss the wines of the evening, and literature on same will be available, at no cost. We have managed to keep the price down to \$6 for singles and \$10 for couples, this includes admission, wines and cheeses. Tickets are available from the social committee or on the night. Don't leave it too late as tickets are limited, and the event is guaranteed to be very interesting and enjoyable.

The presentation night is coming up on June 29th. The presentation night is when students get presented with their club certificates and diving cards. So all new students please keep the night free.

To give your ideas on social activities, or to book for the Cheese and Wine Night, please telephone Margaret Langson on 458 4336 (work) or 451 7244 (a/h) or Richard Bone on 381 3320 (a/h).

TWO DIVERS DIED IN TWO HOURS BECAUSE OF POWERBOATS

Tib

To add weight to the two previous stories of powerboats and divers, here is what happened in Sydney last year. Both accidents happened in Port Hacking, south of Sydney, within two hours of each other. Geoffrey Watson, 35, died of massive abdominal injuries when he was hit by a powerboat. His diving partner, David Crabtree, said that they started diving at 8am and they had been in the water about 10 minutes when he heard a powerboat pass overhead. He surfaced, but could not find his buddy. Seconds later there was a thud and he heard Watson call for help. He was dead by the time they got him to shore.

The second death was caused by a big powerboat passing overhead as two divers were surfacing. One diver who was low on air panicked and accidentally spat out his regulator. The other diver tried to buddy-breathe with him but he continued to panic, nearly drowning her as well. The body was recovered from 30 metres of water.

Let's
have no
accidents

SAFETY REPORT

Barry Kennedy

Recently, off Rottneest, our dive boat was visited by a fisheries inspector, while our divers were underwater.

Our Safety Diver on board drew the inspector's attention to the fact we were flying the diving flag, which was simply ignored.

This is not an isolated case, I have heard reports from other divers of the same thing happening to them.

The use of power boats to board diving boats, which are displaying the international dive flag and have divers in the water, is a practice we hope the inspectors will cease before someone is seriously injured or killed.

The regulations regarding vessels displaying the flag are quite clear. All other vessels must stay at least 50 metres clear, until the dive flag is lowered.

Fifty metres is a small safety margin at the best of times. Scuba divers must face many potential dangers underwater, without having this small safety zone deliberately broken by over-zealous fisheries inspectors. We cannot tolerate this breach of safety standards.

I must make it clear that it is not our wish to hinder the inspectors, or make their job harder to perform.

The safety of our divers is foremost in our minds. Our club trains and qualifies new divers, we quite often have a high number of novice divers on some of our boat dives.

We have a responsibility to the members to ensure their diving is as safe as we can possibly make it.

Which means protesting very strongly at any practice which will jeopardise our standards of safety. From some recent newspaper reports it would almost seem that it's open season on divers.

The general disregard of divers' safety cannot go unchallenged. It's about time for our voice to be heard.

—| Be a safety conscious ocean
trained diver |—

FOR SALE

Ripple-soled booties, small size. Phone Ro, 383 2776

LEFT AT BASE

A red fibreglass-handled hammer was left at Base after Base Maintenance Day a couple of years ago. If you have taken this hammer into protective custody, now is the time to return it to the Editor who needs it.

ONE OF THE SECRETS ...

... of successful diving is to be able to relax, always keeping energy in reserve for a possible emergency. Over-exertion can lead to a build-up of carbon dioxide and breathlessness. By carefully adjusting weights and buoyancy compensator a diver can become virtually weightless, a very pleasant sensation.

HINTS FOR STAYING WARM

D.G.

Do you freeze on every dive? Do you think cold is something you just have to put up with in order to dive? It need not be that way.

Cold slowly robs the diver of capability underwater. You should be familiar with the effects of the cold - it strips away feeling and strength in your hands, brings on cramps and fatigue, increases air consumption, and brings on frequent urination. Next come the more serious effects of cold, like loss of ability to recall information, loss of concentration, increases chance of stress, the chance of bends, plus loss of muscle control. It is called hypothermia - loss of body heat.

Cold is the greatest deterrent to underwater efficiency, so if you dive warm you will dive more efficiently.

How warm you are when diving starts long before you enter the water. Have you been ill? Or had one too many the night before? What did you eat and when?

Have a good meal a couple of hours before diving; the protein will supply energy gradually over a long period. To provide quick energy, eat simple sugars before and between dives.

Heat should be preserved, so going to the dive site wear a jacket and stay out of the wind.

The next step is to provide yourself with the right type of underwater protection to conserve heat. Remember several thin layers are warmer than one thick layer of wetsuit. A thin vest (1/8th of an inch), a farmer john (3/16th of an inch) and a jacket (3/16th of an inch) are warmer than a 1/2 in pants and jacket.

One-piece suits help to conserve heat as well. But say you have a wetsuit already, what can be done to retain body heat?

There are modifications you can do to your wetsuit, like an additional spine pad which will reduce water circulation, or the fitting of backing strips behind zips, and you can put cuffs on your wrists and ankles.

One important item is a hood, your head being the most efficient heat-radiating part of your body. Cover it up and you retain a lot of heat.

Insulate your hands and feet as well by wearing neoprene booties and gloves. Wetsuits work on the principle of a thin layer of water being warmed between it and your body: prevent water exchange inside your suit by moving through the water slowly and smoothly.

Avoid deep diving where the pressure compresses your suit and so reduces insulation. And if you still get cold, do not exercise to get warm - you only

increase circulation to the extremities where heat loss is the greatest, so get and call it a day.

DIVING UNDER SIMULATED HIGH ALTITUDE

Tests using a module to simulate the effects of atmospheric pressure on divers in 30 to 50 metres of water on a plateau 5000 metres above sea level were done recently at the Navy General Hospital in Beijing, China. Scientists, technicians and medical workers checked divers' brains, hearts, lungs, circulation and other physiological functions while under the medium and heavy pressure conditions and serious lack of oxygen equal to that of a dive on a high plateau. The tests were conducted to find out whether the health of divers working on hydroelectric power projects at very high altitudes would be adversely affected.

IT ISN'T TOO LATE

Every year at the presentation night - which is on the 29th of June - trophies are awarded to members of the club who have achieved something outstanding during the year. Older members of course know about it and should be working hard at it. New members are advised that it is not too late to be in the running. Last year's Writer of the Year won with a story which appeared in the June magazine - so get to it and try to win a trophy.

The following trophies can be won:-

- The Dennis and Barbara Parker Trophy - for conservation-related endeavour
- The Bob Wallis Trophy - for the best club-person of the year
- The Lyn Jones Trophy - for the best female diver
- The Ken Kennedy Trophy - for the most improved female diver
- The Dave Kenny Trophy - for the writer of the year
- The Dolphin Trophy - for personal diving prowess
- The Dolphin of the Year Trophy - for the best junior diver
- The Kerry Stokes Trophy - for the best photographs
- The Mike Pollard Memorial Trophy - for research

THE PREGNANT DIVER

John Paskulich

The information for this article was obtained from a Skindiver in Australia magazine of August 1980. Members may have read of more recent data. If so, please write in and let us know.

It is estimated that in the USA there are about 700,000 women divers of child-bearing age. It would be reasonable to assume that we could have up to 40,000 in Australia. If any of these deep dive while pregnant, they may be placing the baby at risk.

In one US sample of 24 women who dived to over 30 metres while pregnant, three produced babies with birth defects. This is a ratio six times greater than the community at large.

The lack of details of the number of dives, and the types of defects, as well as the smallness of the sample, mean that no firm conclusions can be made at this stage.

Even so the findings are significant and give rise to several points. The foetus is most vulnerable in its first three months. For example, the use of certain drugs, or infections during this time, will often result in deformed babies. It has been suggested that the high partial pressure of oxygen in a deep dive will affect the baby in a similar way. It is important to note that women will already be several weeks' pregnant before it is confirmed, and so they are not able to plan their diving to suit. Another theory suggests that because the foetus obtains its food and eliminates its waste 'second-hand' through its mother, it will also lag behind in its ability to decompress. It may actually suffer decompression sickness on a 'safe' dive. The consequences defy thinking about.

It is advised that women who are pregnant or trying to become that way should limit their depth and shorten their no-stop time by a minimum of five minutes, to reduce any risk.

KILL WITH SOUND

N. S.

Whales and dolphins are known to locate their prey with sonar, but can they use intense bursts of sound to immobilise or even kill their prey? There is mounting evidence which points to the prey-stunning theory being true. For instance, how does a 30-40 tonne sperm whale - at least 10,000 times heavier than its average prey - catch tiny fish like the 4cm long lantern fish? Or how do whales catch squid - one of the fastest-moving marine creatures? Accelerating its huge body to anywhere near the speed needed to catch a squid - about 55km an hour - would not be worth the energy. But if whales used sound, that would explain it, and the variety of their diet - 50 species of fish and 31 species of cephalopod. The anatomy within the massive forehead of the whale - which accounts for more than 30% of the entire body length, could build up sufficient pressure to focus a high density pneumatically-actuated sound beam which could reach 155dB (230dB is enough to kill fish).

DID YOU KNOW ...

... That there is a high degree of co-operation among dolphins who avoid spraying each other with sound - when a dolphin using sonar passes close to another dolphin it shuts off its gear until the other animal passes by.

... That there used to be a coastal steamer named Bombo. It sank 72 miles south of Sydney near the town of Kiana (famous for its blowhole), and now there is a small community called Bombo not far from where the ship sunk.

... That vomiting is very dangerous to divers. New divers should be told what to do if they have to vomit underwater. It should be part of a diving course. Aspiration is the cause of 40% of scuba deaths. If you feel like vomiting underwater, you should take the regulator out, for vomiting into the regulator and then breathing it back may be the cause of aspiration.

... That most waves are caused as the wind gusts across the water, it creates ripples against which the wind can then push and form waves. Wind waves can travel thousands of miles before becoming surf on a distant shore.

MELTING GLACIERS RAISE SEA LEVEL

N. S.

The melting of the non-polar glaciers around the world may be contributing significantly to the gradual increase in the sea level, which has risen 10-15 cms over the past 100 years.

M.F. Meyer, chief glaciologist at the US Geological Survey Project office in Tacoma, Washington, calculated that 18,500km³ of water from melting glaciers has flowed into the seas in this period. This would account for half the rise in the sea level. The other half is the result of thermal expansion - the gradual warming of the oceans. He said that the rise in the sea level since 1880 has had only a slight impact on the land, but this could change if levels of carbon dioxide increase in the atmosphere and lead to global warming up - the greenhouse effect.

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below to about 75 metres on to sand. All around, there were huge round boulders up to 10 metres across. There were three large barracuda swimming in front of us, and I felt our guide would have preferred sharks. We found out later that he felt barracuda were far more dangerous to divers than sharks. We were not able to stay for more than a few minutes at this depth, and we started a slow ascent and decompression, back to the lake. This dive is not to be missed if anyone has the good fortune to visit Malta.

THIS ARTICLE, HEADED "WRECK REWARD 'IS NOT ENOUGH'", APPEARED IN THE AUSTRALIAN, APRIL 27

The Federal Government's interim reward of \$1200 to three men who discovered one of WA's most significant shipwrecks, the Cumberland, could discourage other underwater explorers from reporting discoveries, according to a divers' association. Mr Kevin Cargeeg, of the Underwater Explorers Club of WA (Inc), warned that some divers would find it more attractive to keep millions of dollars worth of relics and bullion rather than report it and receive such a small reward.

"A \$1200 interim reward split among three people doesn't seem to be in line with the historical significance of the wreck," he said. "In the main, rewards are just not generous enough. The feeling of club members is that divers are more likely to report their discoveries if there was a bigger incentive."

The reward was made under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwreck Act introduced after the late underwater explorer Mr Alan Robinson successfully fought a State challenge to his claim over the treasure ship Gilt Dragon.

The three men were given the \$1200 cheque yesterday and two other divers received a \$400 cheque for their less significant discovery of the Lubra wreck off the northern coast of the State. Rewards are generally based on the wreck's historical value. Cumberland is considered significant because it sank off Cape Leeuwin 324km south of Perth in 1830, a year after the colony settled.

"What many divers are concerned about is that the wreck they find may have millions of dollars worth of bullion on it," Mr Cargeeg said. "Museums don't consider most bullion to be of historic value because they already have so much of it, but even so they still refuse to hand it over to the divers. This puts the diver into a Catch-22 situation."

Legislation covering shipwrecks was in stark contrast to British law which treated discoveries as salvage. "The British Government pays quite a lot of money as compensation for a salvage," Mr Cargeeg said. "But it's mad to consider our rewards as any sort of compensation or incentive."



"Got your money's worth out of that fill didn't you?"



"I wish you wouldn't always wear that scuba gear, Captain. It makes the crew nervous."



"Have saufish ever been seen in these parts?"

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

John Paskulich

By the time this magazine goes to print I'll be taking a well-earned holiday in the South-West, but don't worry - Steve Oddy will have the reins firmly in hand while I'm away.

At the April meeting I neglected to report on the progress of our snorkelling course for blind students. At the time of writing we have completed two pool sessions and are very pleased with the results so far. An ocean dive is planned for April 28th.

The performance of these students is astonishing. Admittedly most are excellent swimmers to start with, but with the odd exception they have already exceeded the snorkelling standards required of a scuba diver, and have also mastered some basic scuba skills as well. It is a worthwhile project and we all are thoroughly enjoying ourselves. If you want to get involved in a future course, let me know.

Mike McCarthy of the Museum put an interesting proposition to me recently. He is custodian of the research notes of the late Mike Pollard and would dearly like to see them published. His other attempts to get financial assistance to do so have failed and as a last resort he suggested we apply for a Lotteries Grant to publish them. If successful, we would need some interested people with spare time to put it together. It's a big job but a worthy one, so give it some thought and come forward if you're interested.

DIVING

Martin

The 'Wreck dive' on April 8th went ahead as per the calendar. There was a good response from members as 12 divers fronted up at East St jetty. The weather was perfect, with light easterly winds blowing as we headed for Five Fathom Bank.

With perfect visibility I anchored on the edge of the Bank. (I was skipper.) Jewfish were seen and a few crays were reported. The visibility was perfect. Julie had only one tank which she wanted to save for the 'Sepia' so the two of us went for a snorkel. We up-anchored at about 10.30 and headed for the 'Sepia'. Peter Horton's markings were pretty spot-on and after picking up the wreck on the sounder we dropped the anchor. It was a little dirty in the water and visibility was about 30ft.

Everyone found the wreck despite the conditions. I went back to a favourite spot of mine where a passage goes right inside the wreck. Julie Rumsey gamely followed. I proceeded to show her the rest of the wreck as she had not dived on the site before.

We also found big cement barrels stored 3-4ft high underneath the deck. We both had a good dive and from the reports the rest of the divers did too. Then into Carnac for a spot of socialising. The dive scheduled for the following week was full on Tuesday and a few people missed out, so get in early.

The weather on the following Sunday was nothing short of perfect. Richard Bone was the dive officer and had no hesitation in heading for Cathedral Rock. One hour and forty minutes later we arrived to find a strong swell breaking over the rocks, so we anchored inside Eagle Bay. The caves were quite spectacular. I found it amazing the way the sunlight penetrated small holes

in the roof of the caves and streamed down to the bottom. My buddy (Julie) was also fascinated. There was also an abundance of fish life and crayfish. Everyone had a good dive and it was a spot we will definitely return to. For our second dive we rounded West End and headed for South Point and a quite good second dive, again a first for the UEC.

On reaching the area we picked a spot no deeper than 45ft and was fairly rugged according to the sounder. Well, to my surprise we found some brilliant caves. By now Julie was quite convinced of the fact that a torch was a necessity. To my surprise she again followed, the visibility was perfect with an abundance of fish, crayfish and a small Port Jackson shark, which I nearly swam on top of. Stuart and John saw some jewies. All in all it was a mint dive and a spot where the 'Bombo' will take us again. By now it was a bit late so as soon as Richard and Margaret returned we made tracks. At this time it was almost 3pm with only light winds - a perfect day and, thanks to Margaret and her bingo tickets, the trip back was not boring. We didn't even get wet. Eat your heart out Peter Mortimer. By now you might have been led to believe that I and everyone else had a good time. Well, you're not wrong. It's a long time since I've had such a good day out on the water. I must add that the 'Bombo' handled the load very well, 16 divers all with two tanks.

Well, keep your eye on the calendar and give me a call. It's getting to the time of year when the weather is not so good for diving. So during the winter months there will be advanced training for divers interested in improving their diving prowess. For example, compass work, boat handling, resuscitation, zero visibility, etc.

Looking ahead to the Foundation Day weekend, I will book a couple of chalets at Rottnest and the boat will be there for the weekend. Give me a call.

DIVE CALENDAR

MAY ...	13th	Training Dive	0800
	19th	Wine and Cheese Night	2000 (Clubhouse)
	20th	Rottnest	0800
	21st	General Meeting	2000
	27th	River Dive	1000
JUNE ...	2,3,4	Foundation Day long weekend	
	6th	Committee Meeting	2000
	9th	Boat Maintenance	0900
	10th	Wreck Dive	0800
	17th	Small Boats	0800
	18th	General Meeting	2000

NOMINATIONS

John Ogden



9. When asked for information, steadfastly refuse to give it.
10. Avoid attending general meetings. But if you must, say nothing. Accept everything, and leave before voting starts. It's the perfect way to accuse the committee of 'dictatorship' and the club in general of being undemocratic.
11. When all else fails, curse the secretary, president or leader, preferably in their absence.

I hope all the members had a great Easter break. Although the weather was a bit patchy, there were some good dive sites to visit. One such site was Canal Rocks near Yallingup. For the newer members of the club who have not dived there, it is well worth a visit. The caravan park is well protected from the wind, with plenty of shade trees for the summer months. A small boat is handy to reach the good sites, although shore diving would be enjoyable. One only needs to venture about one kilometre offshore to reach depths of 30 metres and more. This country features giant canyons rising up on each side of you as you swim along the bottom, marvelling at the plant and fish life present. Tanks can be refilled at Yallingup, and with this site only being three hours from Perth, a dive here is a must. Visibility is 20 metres or more.

INLAND SEA, GOZO

Peter Mortimer

This is a short description of one of the dives I did in the Mediterranean Sea six years ago. Gozo is an island north of Malta. We joined a group of divers from the dive shop in Valetta, from where we had hired our bottles for the trip to Gozo. The group consisted of two Americans, one of the owners of the shop, and three of us from our club in the UK. A mini-bus took us from Valetta to the ferry on the north coast of Malta, and we then had to carry all our heavy gear on to the crowded ferry. The trip did not take long, and we passed a lovely small fishing island called Comino which lies in the sound between Malta and Gozo. On our arrival in Gozo, we took another mini-bus to the dive site. The islands of Malta and Gozo have a similar climate and, in some respects, scenery, to WA, being dry and rocky. The mini-bus did not have air conditioning so it was very hot and sticky on the trip. When we arrived at what the locals called 'The Inland Sea', we were confronted by a large bowl-shaped valley, very bare and rocky, with a shallow lake at the north end. Because of the shape of the valley, and the light-coloured rock, it was very much like standing in a large solar oven. At the far end of the lake, a small cave goes through the cliff face about 100metres to the open sea. The lake is an ideal harbour for the small fishing boats.

Putting shade to put on diving gear in the high temperatures was not easy. We then made a rush to the water to cool off. The start of the dive entailed snorkelling across the lake, paying a great deal of attention to the fishing boats. On reaching the cave mouth, which was just large enough for the boats to go through, and only a few feet deep, the dive started and the bottom dropped away quite quickly, and we were soon quite safe from the boats. The water visibility was so good that the mouth at the sea end could be seen. They call it 'The Azure Window'.

Although the dive started in about two metres, the cave drops to about 45 metres at the sea end. The visibility being so good, what appeared to be a small grouper at the cave end turned out to be about 6ft long when we got closer. I am glad to say it disappeared in one of the side caves before we reached it. When we reached the mouth of the cave, there was a wonderful view as the cliff dropped

A NIGHT DIVE AT BASE

Paul M.

As we returned to East St jetty on April 24th, after a couple of excellent dives at Rottnest, there was some talk about a night dive, as there was one planned on the calendar. A quick check round the club members on the boat and it was decided to meet at Base the following Friday at 6pm. The weather was perfect on the night, and when John Paskulich and myself arrived, Julie and Stuart were already there, with wetsuits on and raring to go as it was their first night dive. A couple of minutes later Gary and Soren arrived. My only fear was of being caught up by anglers, but as luck had it there were only a couple on the jetty who left when we arrived (who didn't have a shower?).

We paired off and leapt in, Julie and myself being last. Sinking down into the murky depths, we waited for a few minutes for the silt to settle. Looking round we experienced a totally different feeling from day diving. There were heaps of fish darting about (apart from the ones asleep), and lots of cobbler and flathead to be wary of. Then, only 15 minutes into the dive, the globe in my torch blew! So back to the jetty ... fortunately Stuart bought a torch the same as mine only the day before, so we had to wait until he and John got back so I could use his spare globe.

With the new globe in my torch, Julie and I followed John and Stuart to the drop-off where, to my surprise, it was crawling with prawns, most of them a good size. I spent 10 minutes trying to catch some by hand but no luck. We then made our way back to the rocks where we saw plenty of large cobbler. We were starting to feel the cold so made our way back to the jetty, passing a tiny leatherjacket feeding on a piece of coral.

Everyone had a good dive, and we are looking forward to the next night dive. I would like to dive on the artificial reef at Rockingham on a weeknight, if anyone would like to join me, just ring me on 390 8267.

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Paul Brooker

Here is an interesting article I have read. It's called 'Eleven Ways to Kill Your Club'. Of course it doesn't apply to our club ... or does it?

1. Don't attend meetings, but if you do, come late.
2. If you do attend a meeting, find fault with the work of the officers and other members.
3. Since it is easier to criticise than work, avoid accepting office. Nevertheless, get sore if you failed to get appointed on a committee. If you are then, remember not to attend meetings!
4. If the chairman asks your opinion on some important matter, remain mute.
5. After the meeting, have a good grouch and tell everyone how things ought to be done.
6. Do an absolute minimum of work, but when others willingly put their shoulders to the wheel, complain that the club is run by a clique.
7. Search constantly for weak areas, and when you find them, resign. In fact, try to resign at every opportunity, and persuade your friends to do the same.
8. At meetings, agree with everything. Outside them, be loud-mouthed in your disagreement.

" A DAY AT ROTTO WITH 'BOMBO'"

It is early morning. I am with 14 others on the deck of "Bombo". The sea is flat and greyish blue. The air is cool and crisp. There is a slight breeze, overhead, heavy dark clouds are silently piling up into billowing pyramids. We are moving through a belt of water slightly South of Rottnest. In the days of wind-driven sailing ships mariners feared these waters, today divers fear 'Fisheries Inspectors', and Soren washing the sea gull's S--- off the cabin roof.

What is it about the sea, I wonder as I stare into it's depths, that has always lured man on to explore it's secrets? I think of the great voyagers of the past - Vasco Da Gama, Francis Drake, Magellan, Chichester, Captain Cook and the great voyagers of the future - John Sanders, Barry Kennedy, Dave Kenny, Martin Smith.

It is the underwater world we now explore. A submarine emerges by the side of the boat - NO WAIT - it's only a diver landing on top of another diver and the tank exploding! The other divers going down to great depths for a firsthand look at the oceans habitants and a photographer from the U.E.C. News. (He'll win that photographic trophy yet!)

It is in the oceans, I believe, rather than the skies, that we will finally learn how earth and life formed. And the sea, which gave birth to us all, will shelter us once again. Looking down at the water I see someone's regurgitated breakfast floating past - and come back to reality.

The spray from the ocean begins to fall on deck, people clamber into the cabin to quench their thirst - playing cards for stubbies and diet coke and seeing who has the best joke. "LAND AHOY", someone shouts, the boat lights up as the colour returns to more than one face, eyes brighten at the thought of the Sunday session and Brian's farewell party!

Soon we are tying up at East Street Jetty - after another Exhilarating, Exciting - Excellent Day.

WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT

Don't forget the wine tasting at the clubrooms on May 19th. Tickets can be bought at the door for \$10 a couple.



SAFETY REPORT

Barry Kennedy

On a recent dive trip two of our divers were involved in an accident, a minor accident as it turned out. By some miracle neither suffered any physical harm, although I do believe there was a brown stain in the water around the two divers. Here's what happened.

We were preparing for a dive on the 'City of York' wreck. The first diver rolled over the side of the boat into the water, the second diver does some last quick checks on his gear. Someone yells "You're OK", and over the side he went. Directly on top of the first diver! With a metallic clang both divers disappeared in a seething mass of fizzing white bubbles. As they surface there is a sound similar to a Boeing 707 taking off along the side of the boat. One regulator was knocked down the pillar valve and high pressure air was blasting out right behind the diver's head, causing him some concern. Amid the shouting, pointing and arm-waving the offending valve was quickly turned off. Silence! The two divers came back on board and a quick check reveals no physical damage. Things began to settle down, and everyone carried on preparing for their dive.

The dive was very pleasant, and as the divers surface, they all come up right at the boat, unusual as it may seem. Nobody surfaced the normal 400 metres behind the boat, not even Martin. Everyone was happy and chatting, the little accident all but forgotten. Let's just stop here and look back at what happened.

A valuable lesson in safety is being wasted here, if we don't make use of it and learn from it. It has just happened once, it could happen again, possibly with more severe consequences ... if we let it.

At this point I must state the obvious. When you enter the water from the boat, move clear of the boat and go either to the anchor rope or the stern rope and wait for your buddy. When you are about to enter the water from the boat, for Christ's sake look before you leap.

Having said that, I find there is a second safety risk which has come to light here. Namely, the rapid release of extremely high pressure gas, from a small opening directly behind and facing the back of a diver's neck. (Perhaps our technical man could clarify this point for us?)

On inspecting some cylinders I have found that the outlet hole on some is drilled at an indirect angle which could allow the gas to escape in a spray rather than a direct jet. However some pillar valves do have a direct angle hole. I shudder to think what this could do to the back of a diver's neck should the regulator be knocked out of place or broken off, one way or another. Why is it that we wear our tanks with the outlet facing us rather than away from us? Is there a reason for this? Or could we perhaps turn them around 180 deg and eliminate this risk. Let's keep safety foremost.

TANK MAINTENANCE

1. Always wash tank in fresh water after a dive.
2. Do not use oil, only silicone, as oil could cause an explosion.
3. Store upright, with a little pressure, out of sunlight.
4. Ensure dry air fills.
5. Never empty or fill tanks rapidly.
6. Hydro-test every 12 months.

HOW PREPARED ARE YOU?

Richard (Training/Technical)

Over the past few months I have noticed that there are many dives lost through faulty gear. The problems that usually occur include broken O-rings, faulty hoses, broken straps and, in general, gear that is poorly maintained. Before you think that maintenance is only for rich men, consider the boat trip to Rottneest where you spent \$4 on petrol, \$6 on tank fills and \$12 on the boat, and then find when you got there the diaphragm in the second stage of your regulator has a large hole in it and you cannot dive. This problem would not occur if gear was checked before the dive and the regulator was sent off for its annual service on time. Many problems recently appear to be caused by faulty gear that has been hired, tanks in particular. Just over the past few weeks a couple of people have lost half a dive because of faulty hire gear. The best way to overcome that is to check it before you leave the shop. It only takes a couple of minutes and may save a life.

NAME CHANGE

At the last meeting, it was decided to change the name of the club boat, as it was felt that 'Bombo' did not go with the image of diving. Here are a few names which have been suggested. Add yours at the next General Meeting, on May 21st.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Explorer I | Ocean Explorer |
| Dive Master | Reef Explorer |
| Rotto Express | The Searcher |
| Just Dive | Sea Searcher |
| The Red Devil | Red Explorer |



REPEAT DIVE PROCEDURE

Paul M.

On the past couple of boat trips there has been some confusion over the bottom times for the second dives. The first thing that comes to mind is that we ALL should learn the dive table by heart, as nothing can be worked out properly without knowing the bottom time limits. It is much safer to keep to less than 10 metres on the second dive, but if this depth is to be exceeded, this is the way to work out a maximum depth and time. Take the maximum depth of the first dive and bottom time, eg 18 metres for 30 mins. The maximum time at 18 metres is 60 mins, so a second dive to 18 metres for 30 minutes could take place in theory, but it is wise not to push the tables, so 25 mins would be wiser. Also, by 'bottom' time, it should also include the time on descent and ascent. Using the same formula, if the first dive was 27m for 15 mins, then the second dive could be up to a maximum of 27m for 15 mins. Remember, it is always best to avoid decompression dives. Here are a couple of questions to test your skills:

1. What is the maximum depth for a 30 min no-decompression dive, after a dive to 24 m for 21 mins?
2. On dive I the depth is 40m for 10 mins
On dive II the depth is 30m for 20 mins. How long should the diver decompress for?

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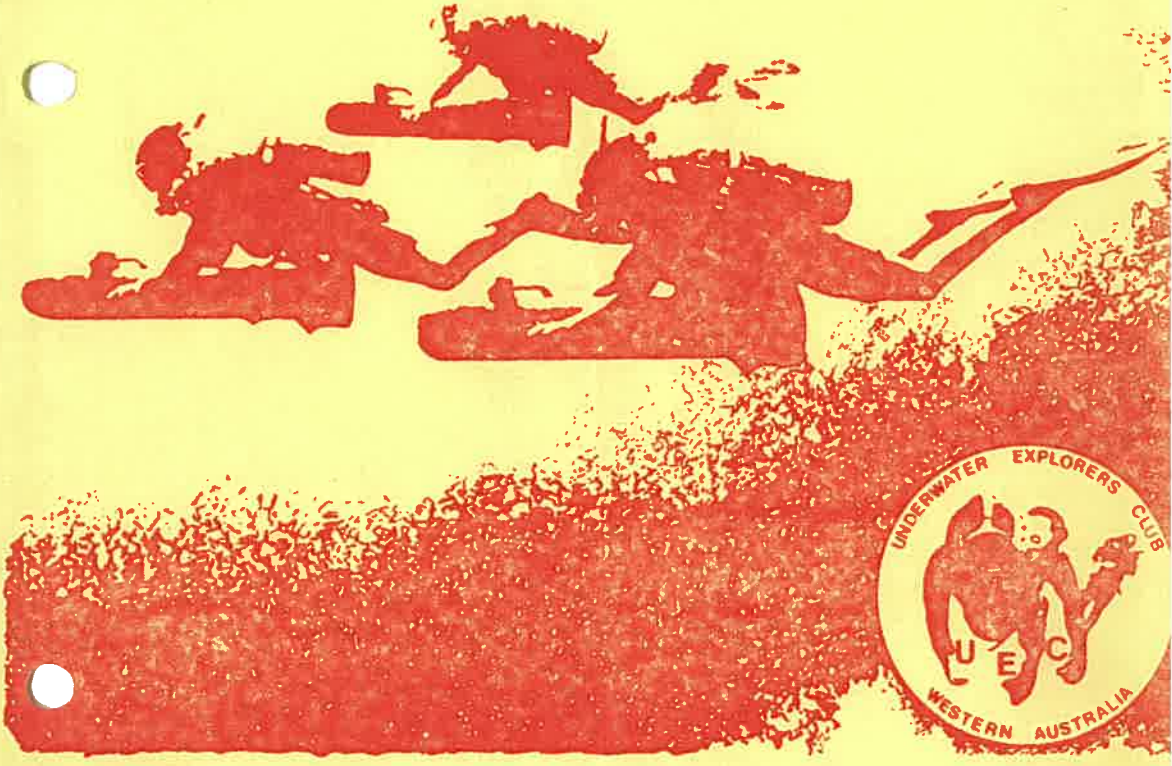
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Who said on a rainy windy Sunday you can't go diving.

Seven keen members turned up at Woodmans Point for a dive. What would a diver do without good old reliable Woody Point. While the rest of the ocean was like pea soup being stirred by a giant spoon, South of Woodman Point was dead calm (at first). Vis was ten metres or more, a magic dive, until, five minutes before the end. All of a sudden a 100 k.p.h. wind wipped the ocean into a frenzie, vis was zero. Dane and John were still out there, but finally reached the beach aided by a compass.

I lost a 6lb weight and a new fin. As we searched the beach for my fin, to our surprise a small whale beached itself in front of us. "It's a Pigmy Sperm Whale " said Steve Oddy ! , lets see if we can save it. As it thrashed about wildly on the beach we grabbed a thick tow rope from the jeep and wrapped it around its body. Two hours later after much blood, sweat and tears (literally) we managed to pull it back to deep water. It then raced straight out ot sea amid shouts of joy and jubilation, then to our shock and disbelief it turned right around and charged straight back onto the beach. Our Carla was in tears, you can't give up she sobbed as she tugged and pulled at its head. We turned and walked away soaked and exhausted, there was nothing more we could do.

When we reached home it was 6pm , I rang our friend from the Fisheries Dept. Mr. Earnie Little who in turn arranged for a truck lifting slings and five men to go to the scene. They arrived at 8pm but the Whale had disappeared. Well we tried our best and as Steve Oddy remarked, " us spearo's can't all be bad ".

LOST : METAL BAND OFF BACKPACK. PETER HORTON 444 9126
HOOD, BLUE AND BLACK. JOHN PASKULICH 459 7164

SAFETY REPORT

BARRY KENNEDY



How do you keep people interested in reading a safety report each month ? Few people like to be told, with regular monotony, how to conduct themselves. Each month the same things over and over " Swim up stream blah! blah! . Good buddy contact blah! blah! " Most must become tired of this after some time. And yet this is a very important part of our sport. The safety of sports divers depends a lot on their understanding of correct procedures. Each time a new group Qualifies and they need some guidance, where do they turn ?

Hopefully, the magazine should provide one avenue where knowledge can be gained. If not, why bother to have a safety report ?

What I would like to see is a little input from the members. Especially from the more senior divers in the club, whose knowledge and experience could and should be shared with the newer members. Have you noticed a hazardous situation ? Have you witnessed any unsafe behaviour either by club members or others outside of the club ? Do you have something to say regarding safety, or the presentation of this report ? I would appreciate any advice, opinion or suggestion. Should anyone feel the need to offer, I would be glad to discuss anything regarding safety. If I can encourage members to participate in being safety conscious, then I would feel this report is worthwhile. In the meantime I risk boring you all with the same old stuff. I would also like to suggest that everybody be a " Safety Watcher " aand watch for things that you consider to be unsafe. Should you see anything that bothers you don't fail to report it. You may save someone's life, and as they say " It may be your own. "

PROJECT STICKYBEAK

DR. D. WALKER

A cautionary tale taken from the Project Stickybeak Non - Fatal Incident file.

The dive was made by two divers who had trained together 18 months previously and continued regular diving as buddies. Two non divers were left in the boat. The water was calm with slight current, the depth 14 metres, the visibility 5-8m, and the sea bottom flat and sandy. There was no formal dive plan but they practiced good buddy nearness at all times. The victim carried a catch bag and speargun, his buddy a speargun. The buddy was aware that there was a spent CO 2 cylinder in his buoyancy vest but corrosion had prevented its removal. A pleasant, trouble free dive was fully anticipated.

Approximately 35 minutes into the dive the buddy motioned to the victim that he was having difficulty in breathing fom his regulator. They were close together and able immediately to commence buddy breathing using the victim's single regulator. However, after a couple of exchanges of the regulator, the buddy handed it back and left the bottom, bolting for the surface. The victim immediately followed, catching him at about 3m depth, having ascended about 10m. Both divers had been negatively to neutrally buoyant at the bottom. The victim remembers that the ascent was controlled and if any-thing, slightly arduous.

Together again at three metres, the victim again attempted to establish buddy breathing, but after a few more breaths the buddy headed for the surface again. The victim followed and believes that he made this 3m. or so ascent without the regulator in his mouth, and that he held his breath because the surface appeared to be just above him.

Both divers hit the surface at almost the same time and fortunately the boat had spotted them and was underway towards them. The victim inflated his buoyancy vest and supported his buddy, but neither diver was unduly upset as the water was calm and the boat near.

The victim, who was now holding two spearguns and a catch bag, now noticed that he had no feelings in and could not move his right arm and leg. He informed his buddy, who than assisted him in removing his gear and helped him to the stern of the boat. From here he was hauled rather uncomfortably face down over the stern ladder and inboard by the two in the boat. By the time the boat reached shore, 10 - 15 minutes later, the victim found he was able to walk without assistance to a private car. which took him to hospital. He told his story at the Casualty Department and underwent a full physical examination. He was not in any great discomfort and felt that the symptoms were diminishing.

Examination included ECG, chest x-ray and neurological check of reflexes. He was told that he had " a bubble in the neck " and " a shadow where air had expanded from the lungs". He was placed in the recovery ward and advised that he would be allowed home next morning. As time progressed, feeling began to return to his limbs, though he was "xperiencing an unusual need to empty his bladder. No treatment other than bedrest was given.

Next morning (day two) he attempted to get out of bed and found he could not move his legs, they lacked co-ordination. He was subjected to further neurological and x - ray tests. He could not hold his legs up when lying down, cold felt hot and sharp felt blunt.

He remained in hospital and over the next few days his condition slowly improved. He was not offered any treatment, drugs or physiotherapy during his hospitalization. He was discharged on day six with advice to take a week off work.

This he was unable to do as he had work commitments. His condition, he was told, was due to shock. He saw a hospital document which gave the diagnosis as "Pneumo - mediastinum".

Four weeks after the incident, he felt that he was only just recovering his normal walking ability and was still suffering sensitive legs and feet and uncontrolled twitching of the legs.

The following points arise from this tale;

1. The initial problem was inadequate air flow, there still remaining 8000 kpa in the tank. It was suggested that this was the result of a faulty J-valve and/or the tank valve had been inadequately turned on.
2. The correct response to this situation was either an immediate ascent - (he was having difficulty but was not out of air) - or had the victim had an octopus regulator there would have been a trouble-free ascent. Buddy Breathing ascents are notoriously full of potential for disaster and should only be attempted by those few divers who are highly trained in it with each other. Break-away is common when difficulties are encountered. In this case it was the donor who suffered pulmonary barotrauma.
3. Starting a dive with non-functioning equipment (the vest) introduces an unnecessary risk factor.
4. The value of the buoyancy vest, the nearby buddy and an alert surface cover are illustrated.
5. Neither diver accepted the significance of the symptoms.

DIVERS MUST BE ALERT TO ASSOCIATE POST-DIVE SYMPTOMS AS DIVE RELATED, THAT " DIVING MEDICINE PROBLEMS" DO EXIST AND ARE NOT THE INVENTION OF WRITERS OF DIVING BOOKS.

6. The Neurologist and others were not divers and were seemingly unaware of the relevance of the diving element of the story presented by the victim.

SELF PRESERVATION REQUIRES THAT THE DIVER IS ABLE TO COMMUNICATE THE BASICS OF DIVING MEDICINE.

Management would have been different had the problem been made known to a Diving Medicine Specialist.

7. This was a case of Pulmonary Barotrauma with mediastinal and neck surgical emphysema and clinical evidence of air embolism.

BELIVE IT OR NOT.

There are some incredible things you can read in old diving magazines like:

- ...Diveshops are cutting the price of a 72 fill to 50 cents.
- ...A company now offers free air for life with every tank sold and the tank is guaranteed for life to the original purchaser
- ... Diver health checks: average cost of a full checkup involving essential tests is only \$ 1.50
- ...Wetsuits could not be regarded as essential equipment but were to be considered optional extra.
- ...Do not shampoo your hair while wearing your wetsuit.

SOCIAL

RICHARD

The Wine and Cheese Night on the 19th May was a great success. The club made a \$200 profit and everyone had a really great time. It is good to see that we can get the support for the social functions. Many thanks to all that contributed.

The next function is the Presentation Night on the 29th June. This year there will be no charge so we would appreciate it if as many people as possible could bring a plate (of food, if you're not an aussie). If you can help please contact me so that we can arrange a variety of foods.

We have organized a night at Monopoles Restaurant. For just \$20.00 a head you get a four course meal, sherry, white wine, red wine, port and coffee, then after 10pm there is music. We have organized the night for Saturday 21st July. If you are interested please contact me on 448 4557 (home) or 420 9355 (work), we need numbers soon. This will be an excellent night out, we have had great reviews from several members that have already been.

A NIGHT WITH NEVILLE COLEMAN.

RICHARD

Neville Coleman, as you may know, is a well renown Australian underwater naturalist. He has devoted his life to discovering and accurately recording every Australian marine animal. So far he has produced many excellent books and magazines aimed at teaching through entertainment.

As mentioned at the May Meeting Neville Colman gave a presentation described as " A NIGHT WITH NEVILLE COLEMAN " on Friday 1st June. A couple of the keener U. E. C. members attended the evening and found it most enjoyable. Neville concentrated on the " fears " and " dangerous " associated with the ocean, illustrating that there is a definite difference.

He explained that most of the things that people are scared of in the water are only fears imposed upon us by society today. Neville's close up (less than 3ft) photos of a 14ft. tiger shark proved that these animals are not as dangerous as they are made out to be. When onto the " dangerous " animals Neville explained how to look out for the animals that can be harmful and he showed how some of the more common sea creatures should be avoided and certainly not eaten.

Being a man of over 10,000 dives he knows what he is talking about and so all those that went not only enjoyed themselves but also learnt something.



FOR SALE

WATERPROOF CAMERA.

Wouldn't you love to preserve the beauty of the underwater landscape on film for your loved ones to share? Now your dreams can come true. For only \$140.00 (retail \$180.00) you can buy a Minolta waterproof camera, unwanted gift still in new box. If interested contact Richard on 448 4557. Offers welcome.

Training

There will be a meeting for all those interested in the advanced diver programme on Wednesday 13th June at the clubrooms at 8p.m.

All students that have just completed the SCUBA dive award are required to **send** to me two passport photos of themselves please do this as soon as possible.

Notice

I have moved (hopefully the last one for a while)to: 24 Kilcain Rd
Greenwood
Ph. 448 4557

If you have any TRAINING, TECHNICAL, SOCIAL or personal enquiries please contact me.

WHAT MAKES THE CLUB MAG.

This is how things go.
All at once it's "Bingo"
If you'll excuse the pun.
Margarett - with the social fun.
Even the talkative Peter M.
Has swaped his Tongue for a pen.
And writes of diving that he's done
Which all adds to the fun.
Kevin tells of blinded fish.
And photographers, the curse of this
Now want to sell their gear.
So the fish won't live in fear
Stories we get from Peter Leach
Of losing his gear on the beach
And goint to sca with " Skipper " Martin
All help to keep us laughing
And Paul Brooker says
That there are eleven ways

BARRY KENNEDY.

For us all to be nurds
So take heed of his words
And our Roger Smith
Has turned into a fish
Or at least it would seem.
From his bit in the Magazine
And John Paskulich
Has helped to enrich
The very good Quality
In the magazine we see
Martin, too has his bit to say
He tells us of the way
We should enjoy the diving fun
And go on boating trips, everyone
And then Tibi and Paul
Put it together for us all
A Quality Magazine
About the diving scene.

WRECK DIVING.

Wreck diving ranges from a pile of overgrown rubble in shallow clear and warm water to large intact vessels with mazes of passageways and holds in deep, dark and cold depths.
Investigating the quiet wrecks in the waters around Rottneest is vastly different from diving on the remains of ships in strong currents.

A diver familiar with the techniques for diving the wrecks in one area is not qualified to dive the wrecks in another. Just as in regular diving where an orientation to any new enviroment or aspect of the sport is needed, experienced wreck divers should be oriented to the hazards and procedures of diving on wrecks in any new area.
Under exactly the same conditions, a wreck diving experience can be beautiful and exiting, or it can be dangerous and harrowing. By being trained, oriented to the wreck and the area, properly equipped, and preaired with thorough planning, your wreck dives can be enjoyed in safety.

What do you know about wreck diving?

Did you know that the mouthpiece should not be removed when entering an air pocket inside a wreck because oxidation may have depleted the available oxygen.?

Or that wreckage, cargo or structures could collapse inside a wreck from your exhaust bubbles?

Or that you should use a penetration line as a safety line when entering a wreck?

Or that you should have two underwater lights, one is a back up light in case the primary light fails?

CORRECTION

" WRECK REWARD IS NOT ENOUGH"

K. R. Cargeeg

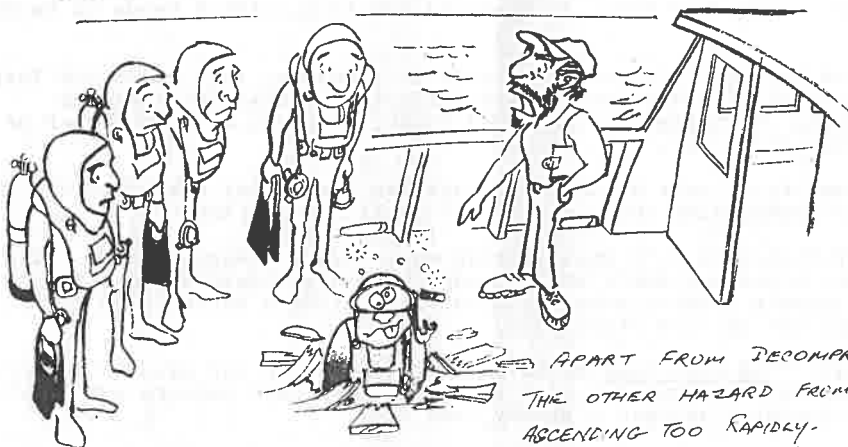
In the May U.E.C. Magazine an article which appeared in the "Australian" of April 27th was reprinted. The article emanated from a telephone conversation between myself and a journalist from the " Australian " , and is a good example of the pitfalls inherant in dealing with some journalist.

In the interview I took considerable pains to point out that there were many diverse opinions about the adequacy or otherwise of rewards, and that many divers were keen to investigate wrecks for their historical value alone.

This was not reflected in the article. Neither was it reported that two of the recipients of the reward had been contacted and were apparently quite satisfied with the amount paid . The comments which appeared in quotation marks and are attributed to me, are either quoted out of context, or are direct misquotations.

It is unfortunate that one must be so wary in dealing with the press. All too frequently such biased and one-sided articles are written by journalists who are determined to report controversy.

A fortunate sequel on this occasion was that I have since been contacted by two radio journalists and have had the opportunity of correcting the report on their radio programmes.



APART FROM DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS
THE OTHER HAZARD FROM
ASCENDING TOO RAPIDLY.
BOB COTTON 84.

On learning to dive with the UEC

READ IT.
NEXT MONTH; BY LINDA YOUNG

In the past five months I've often asked myself why I took it into my head to learn to dive. I still don't have an entirely coherent answer. But I do have a bank of experiences in vivid memory, and some of them keep me coming back.



WARNING ABOUT SYNTHETIC ROPES.

A.S.N.

The Department of Transport has drawn the attention to Marine Notice 22/1980, which stresses the importance of a proper understanding of the properties of and the need for correct handling of synthetic ropes.

A number of fatal and serious accidents have occurred as a result of mooring operations over recent years.

In a recent incident a crew member sustained severe injuries to his legs, one of which was subsequently amputated.

Marine Notice 22/180 stated that:

Synthetic ropes have high elasticity, which decreases with age and wear.

The energy stored in this type of rope when under tension is released instantaneously with removal of load.

Often there is no visual or audible warning when a synthetic rope approaches breaking point.

Persons in charge of our dive boat the "UNDERWATER EXPLORER" and divers assisting in mooring and pulling up obstinate anchors are reminded that they must take account of the characteristics and limitations of the equipment, in order to prevent undue strain on synthetic ropes.

PAINT KILLS SHELLFISH

N.S.

According to scientists at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, antifouling paints are causing the death and deformity of shellfish in the waters around Britain.

Antifouling paints on the hulls of yachts slowly release toxins into the water that inhibit marine growth.

Modern paints contain tin based compounds such as Tributyl Tin (TBT).

Levels as low as 0.1 milligrammes in one litre water can be deadly to many kinds of marine life.

Just imagine what all those America Cup boats with their fresh coats of TBT will do for the Rottneest marine ecosystem.

ELECTRON PROBE CAN TELL.

N.S.

There was a flourishing trade in wine from Italy to other Mediterranean countries during the last centuries B.C. The wine was carried in long necked clay amphorae and many have been found in shipwrecks along the Mediterranean coast. The material from which these storage jars were made in some cases contain melanitic garnet. These can be distinguished by their manganese and titanium constituents. Using an electron probe method for determining the concentration of elements in the clay, French investigators can tell where the jars were made.

Secretary's Message

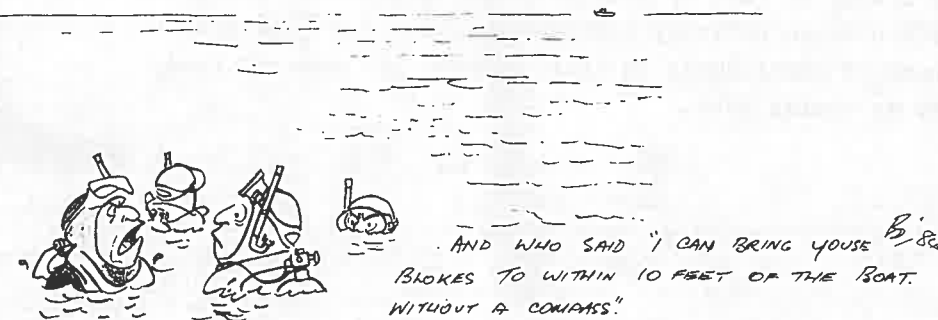
Members last month I mentioned eleven ways to kill a club. Here are eleven of the many ways you can help build our club.

1. Use words like our club not the club.
2. Praise as well as criticise your committee, remember they give their time free for you.
3. Stand up and be counted at the General Meeting, have your say.
4. Tell your friend what a great dive you had last time you went, even if you didn't, they might want to join. (we need more members).
5. If you didn't enjoy yourself don't tell everyone, instead quietly discuss the problem with your dive officer, he wants to know.
6. We need fresh ideas for socials, Contact your social officer or secretary. We want to hear from you the member.
7. Buy a club sweater or T shirt and wear on club outings, look the part, be proud of your club.
8. Don't wait to be asked to help, look around and if something needs to be done offer.
9. After the dive try not to rush off as soon as possible, this gives the feeling that you don't like the company your with and creates bad feelings amongst members. A little chit chat and (can I help you with your gear or boat mate) goes along way.
10. On club dives try to pair up and stay together for safety sake. It doesn't take long to drown, also think of the bad publicity for the club.
11. If you spear fish take only what you can eat, don't spear on wreck sites or favorite dive sites and don't bring loaded guns onto boats or ashore. Incidentally there's nothing worse than swimming along a barren reef after its been shot out or line fished out.

Members we are "The Dive Club" we have everything going for us. We have our own club house and our own club boat. We also have members with small boats and altogether we have a pretty good deal.

Most importantly we have senior members with many years of experience to call on. These members may not dive as often as us young ones, but they still form a very important part of our club by maintaining a stabilizing influence in our club.

"Well" cherio for now members, "oops" I mean club mates.



BLIND DIVERS

JOHN PASCULICH.

During April and May of this year volunteers from the U.E.C. conducted a pilot course teaching blind students the fundamentals of diving. In all, seven blind students and a sighted friend of theirs completed the course.

The purpose of the course was to determine if blind people could learn to dive competently, and our experience proves that this is the case. All that is required is the motivation to do it as well as the usual medical and water skill prerequisites.

The training concentrated on basic snorkel skills but a short segment on compressed air was also included. At the end, all participants were able to fit basic equipment, perform water entries, both from land and boat, snorkel and duck dive competently. All except one with a precluding medical condition completed a short dive using compressed air equipment (hooka or scuba).

Surprisingly few problems were encountered. All the students were highly motivated and most were very good swimmers (one is even competing in the blind olympics swimming team.).

A few variations to normal training techniques are required.

Demonstrations of equipment and techniques require a lot more verbal input, and "hands on" training with equipment is essential. Try shutting your eyes and have someone explain the complexities of something you've never seen before and you'll soon understand what I mean.

Students must also have close contact with their assistant. Shared hooka lines or buddy lines are ideal for this and also serve as a communication medium. Standard line signals can be used.

Students showed a lot of enthusiasm and are pressing for another course of more advanced nature. Since this would cost money, I've applied for a recreational grant to allow it to proceed.

Irrespective of this I've tentatively organised another snorkel course with the Association for the Blind in November. Any members interested in participating are invited to contact me to work out the details.

I can assure you it is a worthwhile project and you'll enjoy it.



FUNNY, THE PREVIOUS OWNER NEVER MENTIONED ANYTHING ABOUT IT BEING SUBMERSIBLE.

NEWS BRIEFS.

The club boat has been renamed the " Underwater Explorer ". The club has applied for a grant to train blind persons.

CALENDAR OF COMMING EVENTS.

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|
| 18th. June | General Meeting | 23rd. June | Boat Maintenance. |
| 24th. June | Training Dive. | 29th. June | Presentation Night |
| 30th. June | Night Dive. | 1st. July | Rottnest Dive. |
| 2nd. July | Committee Meeting | 7th. July | Boat Maintenance. |
| 14th. July | Night Dive. | 15th. July | Wreck Dive. |

16th. JULY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Your chance is comming at the A.G.M. to be somebody in the club. You could be President, or in charge of one of the many sections listed below. If you are interested, get somebody to nominate you. All positions will be vacant.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- O/C Diving
- O/C Training
- 4 General Members



OTHER POSITIONS.

- O/C Boat
- O/C Building
- O/C Property
- O/C Social
- O/C Safety
- O/C Technical
- O/C Research
- O/C Radio
- Editor of Magazine

PRESIDENTS PAGE

John Pasculich

I'm sorry to have missed the last General Meeting. I believe the guest speaker was very interesting. Instead I spent a pleasant two weeks in Busselton. The bay was solid mud so diving was out. I amused myself catching crabs instead.

While there, I made contact with the local dive shop; "Rays Sports" in Queen Street. He services the area down to Margaret River, so he is handy to know. The boss has offered to look after us should we plan an excursion to the district. Just ring him beforehand.

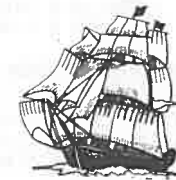
Don't forget the A.G.M. and elections are in July so start working on your favourite candidates for the various committee jobs.

Due to other personal commitments I will not be renominating this time so the Presidents job is up for grabs. I have enjoyed working in both the training and Presidents positions but am finding it a bit hard to devote the time required. In the future I only hope I don't develop the bad habit of prefixing any comments with " When I was President."

The presentation night is on the 29th. of June. It should be a good turn out. See you at the next meeting.

NOMINATIONS.

- W. BEEK 387 Mill Point Road, South Perth
- A Blackwell 20 Girrawheen Street, Armadale.
- Brian James Walker 78 Gibb Street, East Cannington.



USING DECO TABLES

JOHN PASKULICH.

Paul Mulally raised an interesting and important subject in the last magazine on dive tables and repetitive dives. It seems a lot of members are a bit rusty on their use, so I'll expand on the subject.

A Myriad of dive tables are available but they generally boil down to contradictions of either the Royal Navy or the U S Navy tables. These have fundamental differences and I have tabulated them below.

To compound the situation ; experiments conducted in the U S and Europe have suggested a need to formulate more conservative tables specifically for use by sports divers.

Why is this so ?

Navy based tables are designed for use by service divers with access to sophisticated recompression facilities. Servicemen are generally young and fit, and even so, the tables are so close to human limits that decompression sickness still occasionally occurs. U S Navy statistics show an incidence of 0.04% cases of D C S , on dives conducted within the limits ! Using those figures and considering the number of dives our club does we could anticipate at least one accident per year if we used their tables.

Even the R N tables allow for a specefied failure rate.

Comparison of tables. Examples of no deco limits. (in minutes)

Depth (M)	R N (ASCENT 20 m/min)	U S N (ascent 18 m/min)	U S Proposed sport
9			220
10		310	180
12	135	200	120
15	85	100	70
18	60	60	50
21	40	50	40
24	30	40	30
27	25	30	25
30	20	25	20

ALL DIVES
3 minute
stop
3 - 6 m.

Calculation repetitive (combines) dives.

- R N
1. Dives within 6 hours are combined dives
 2. Add the bottom times of your dives.
 3. Do the deeper dive first.
 4. Compare max depth and total time to arrive at the answer.
 5. Second and subsequent dives to less than 9 metres can be ignored.
 6. Never interpolate between scales on the tables.
Re use the next highest value.

U S N
I

Uses a complicated method that is less conservative than the R N .
won't attempt to explain it.

For example - Dive 1, 18m / 40 minutes
Surface duration 2 hours
Dive 2, 15m for ?? minutes

The R N method allows 20 minutes for Dive 2
The U S N method allows 29 minutes for Dive 2

From the above information it is obvious that R N tables are more conservative and thus safer for the average unfit sports diver. I'm not too sure about the validity of the proposed U S sports dive tables because they are designed with a repetitive schedule similar to that of the U S N , but I like their use of a short stop at 3 - 6 metres on ALL dives. This is supported by research done

in the U S by Andrew Pilmanis, of the U S C Catalina Marine Science Centre, who states " open water dives to 100 ft. for 25 minutes produced intravascular bubbles in ALL subjects " and " the degree of bubbling could be drastically reduced by a short stop at 10 feet and eliminated by short stops at 20 and 10 feet.

Other research from time to time has discovered that decompression sickness can be accelerated by such things as fatness and age, by dehydration and by strenuous underwater activity. With all this in mind I would suggest a few personal rules to protect yourself from the " bends " until something better comes along.

1. Ensure all diving remains inside the " no deco " limits.
2. Consider your bottom time as being from surface to surface and not the more correct " time left the surface to time leaving the bottom ". This will ensure an inbuilt margin.
3. Use the slightly more conservative ascent rate of 18m (60ft.) per minute of the U S N tables
4. Take a short deco stop at around 3 - 6 metres on all dives.
5. Ensure you are fit to dive before you do.
6. Read up on your tables before NOT AFTER a dive!

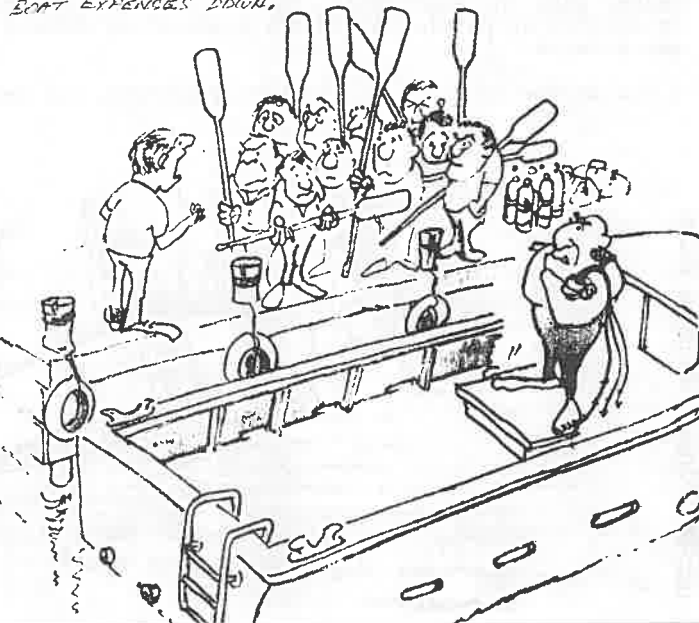
MEMBERS FEES	NOMINATION .	ANNUAL
ORD MEMBER	\$20.00	\$25.00
JUNIOR "	\$15.00	\$20.00
COUNTRY "	\$20.00	\$10.00
SOCIAL "	\$20.00	\$10.00
MAGAZINE ONLY		\$ 8.00
MARRIED COUPLES ORD	\$20.00	\$20.00
& DIRECT RELATIVES JUNIOR	\$15.00	\$15.00

MEMBERS FROM OTHER CLUBS , OLD OR JUNIOR, ANNUAL FEES ARE AS ABOVE

WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

THE CLUB HAS INTRODUCED CERTAIN ECONOMIES TO KEEP THE BOAT EXPENSES DOWN.

BOAT FEES REVISED	
UP TO 2 HOURS RUNNING	MIN. - \$60.00
UP TO 4 HOURS RUNNING	MIN. - \$100.00
NORMAL FEES STILL APPLY	



U.E.C. NEWS

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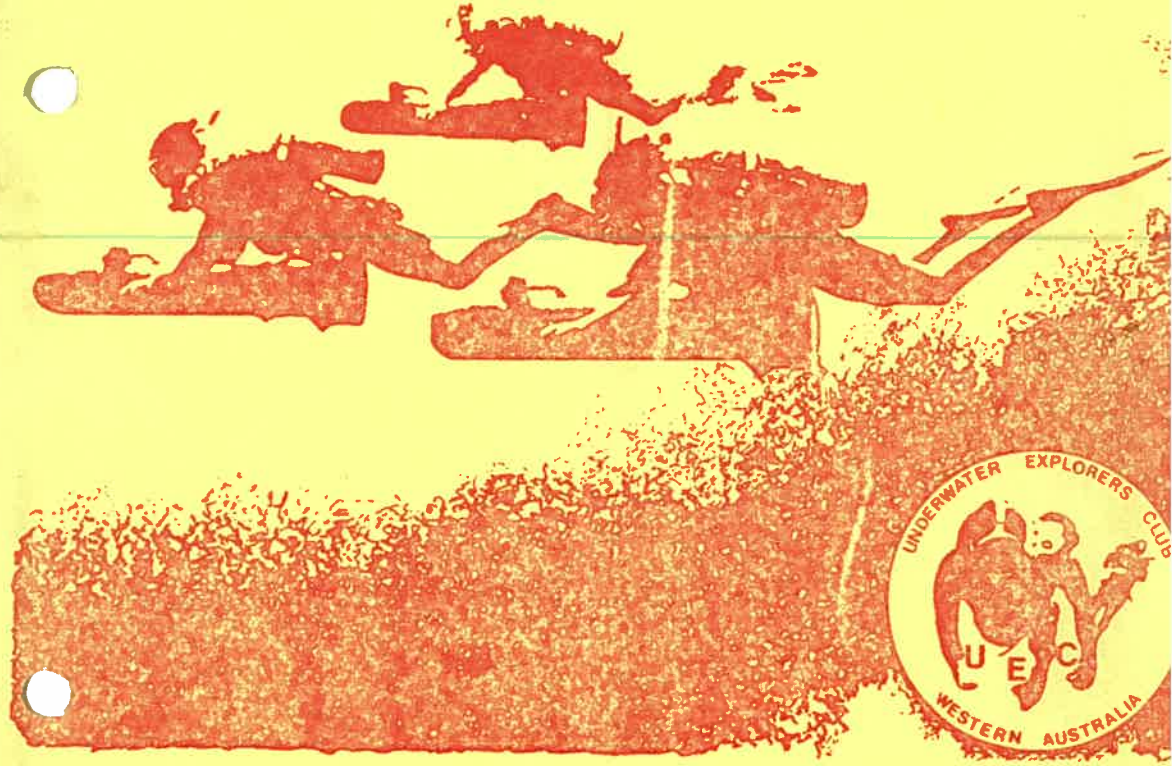
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U.E.C. NEWS

STAWA
© 1988

Handwritten notes and diagrams on the left page, including a large sketch of a landscape or terrain.

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the left page.

Handwritten notes at the top of the right page, including a small diagram with a red border.

Handwritten notes and diagrams in the middle section of the right page.

Handwritten notes at the bottom of the right page.

ENCOUNTER WITH A BLUE-RINGED OCTOPUS - A FAILURE OF MURPHY'S LAW

Based on a report to the PROJECT STICKYBEAK non-fatal incidents file, by Douglas Walker

To most people it is self-evident that their lives are governed at all times by everything implied by saying "Murphy's Law", and to a casual observer this case fits the mould. That such is not the case is here related.

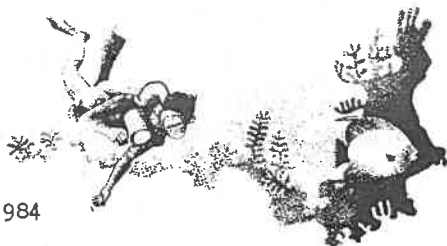
Joe, which naturally is not his real name, was on a day trip with his two young nieces to an island off the Queensland coast. They walked along the beach and the children saw some creatures in a pool. As they were too frightened of the unknown to pick them up, he did so. He seemingly had a vague feeling that the small octopus could be dangerous to children but felt safe in handling one himself. He threw away the first creature and picked up another, which he placed on the back of his left hand. It was after this one had also been discarded that he noticed a spot of blood where the animal had rested. There had been no sensation of a bite.

At this time he was near the launch which had brought them and he told the skipper what had happened. This conversation was overheard by the pilot of a seaplane drawn up nearby in preparation for a flight. The pilot saw Joe collapse to the ground, which was due to his legs becoming weak, and remembered articles recently published in the local paper which gave warning that there were many blue-ringed octopuses in the locality at that time. He had become interested and had read up the symptoms and correct management of the victims of their bite, so immediately diagnosed this as such a case. With the help of two persons standing nearby he quickly assisted Joe into his plane and set off for the mainland where treatment would be available. During this short (seven minute) flight, Joe twitched a few times and then became apparently pulseless and ceased to breathe.

Joe's luck still held, for both the bystanders from the beach who had been co-opted to assist had accompanied him on the plane trip. They were not only aware of resuscitative measures but had recently attended CPR refresher courses. The crisis occurred about seven minutes from the time of the bite. Because of their work Joe was alive on arrival at the airport, where an emergency ambulance awaited, summoned via the plane's radio. On arrival at the hospital an ECG confirmed asystole, brain oxygenation was sufficient, despite the difficulty of resuscitative action in the confined space of a small plane, to prevent irreversible anoxic changes. The end result was complete recovery, though with some amnesia for the fine details of the incident and of the plane trip.

Remarkably few people are bitten by the blue-ringed octopuses despite their large numbers. Which is extremely lucky, as the paralysing effect of their toxin cannot be reversed though it has a short period of action. Support for respiratory function is the total but essential management of anyone showing symptoms after contact with such an octopus.

Reprinted from SPUMS magazine, 1984



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Paskulich

This will be my last message as President of the UEC so I'd best say as much as I can.

From time to time certain elements within the club have levelled criticism at the committee of management and its supporters. For the benefit of those members let us briefly overlook any imagined shortcomings and have a look at some of our achievements.

The first is the acquisition of our 'new' boat, which is proving to be an asset. The next are the social events we've run, viz the quiz night, wine night and presentation night. All were financial successes, a situation rarely achieved in recent UEC history. The latter two partly being due to our insistence on exploiting the clubrooms rather than using expensive outside venues.

Let's not forget the PR display at La Plaza in September last year, the SLSA advanced Resuscitation course in February, and, in particular, the very successful pilot course for blind divers conducted during April and May. The latter project is one of the few that really fulfils the original philosophy of the UEC. The subsequent government grant to continue is surely recognition that our club is regaining its prestige and again becoming a force to be reckoned with in diving circles!

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to all the committee and those club members who got in behind us and gave their time and effort to maintain and strengthen OUR club. My best wishes go to the new committee. I'm sure they will continue in the same vein.

Cheers!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - July 16th

As you will realise after reading John's message, it's that time of the year - time to elect a new committee. If you've felt over the past year that you could do a much better job, then make it your business to get elected. On the other hand if you feel the committee has performed well, perhaps you'd like to do your bit in continuing the good work by taking a more active role in the running of the club. Office bearers are elected by being nominated either in writing or from the floor at the Annual General Meeting. Members then indicate their preferences when nominations are closed. Then, ideally, when the committee has been elected, you give them your full support - pleasing everyone in a club is an impossible task so they deserve all the help you can give them.

FRIGHTENING FACTS ...

Did you know that when you watch dolphins in a Marine Park, you are watching creatures condemned to an early death? Since 1969, at least 57 dolphins and nine killer whales have been imported into Britain. Of these, only 17 dolphins and four killer whales are known to be still alive.

In the wild, dolphins live 35 years, but captive dolphins die at an average age of 10 years. Killer whales live 35 years in the wild. The average age of those that have died in Britain was two years. Of the calves born to captive

dolphins, not one survived for more than a few weeks.

Marine animals are vulnerable to infectious diseases, and they live in cramped conditions. The causes of early death among captive dolphins vary. Some die of liver infection, others were killed by an outbreak of candidiasis. A killer whale called Cuddles died of streptococcal mediastinal abscess and oestomyelitis of the rib.

Mark Glover of Greenpeace said: "The owners knew how quickly these animals were dying, even though no-one else did. Yet they kept taking them from the wild. Profits are all they care about."

SUNDAY, BLOODY SUNDAY

It's early Sunday morning in Innaloo
Coh it's nice in bed, what should I do?
Do I rise and go for a dive?
Decisions, decisions, I just can't decide.

I ponder the question for more than an hour,
Then it's "Sorry darling, I'm going for a shower".
The decision I took was not lightly made -
I had to drag myself away from a voluptuous maid.

Rush, rush, rush, or I'm going to be late -
It's 7.30 now, I'm due in Freo at eight.
Rossmoynne first to collect some spare gear,
Then East Street in Freo, it's going to be near.

Phew, I made it at eight, right on the dot.
That's odd, I'm the only diver stood on this spot!
This isn't right, I'm feeling quite wary ...
The UEC has never ever been early.

A phone call I make, says Pete "You're not to blame,
The time and location are not now the same.
They tried to contact you most of last night."
Answering machine not working? I know that's not right.

So here I am alone standing on the jetty
When I could have been snuggling up to Betty.
You think I'm cheesed off? I really am,
But who in the club really gives a damn?

There's a moral here for one and all -
Before setting out to dive, make a call.
Is it on or is it off? What time, what place?
Who wants to stand on a jetty with egg on his face!

Peter Leach

FROM THE EDITORS

This is the last issue of the magazine for the year. We would like to thank everyone involved in getting it together, especially Helen for the typing.

Paul and Tibi

UEC ADVANCED DIVER AWARD

- DIVING - Log at least the following dives:
1. One zero visibility dive
 2. Four night dives
 3. One night dive deeper than 20m
 4. Three dives deeper than 25m
 5. Two dives deeper than 30m within six hours, decompression stops to be done although should not be made necessary
 6. Log a total of at least 25 dives



- RECOVERY AND NAVIGATION
1. Complete a 100m compass swim in open water and surface within 10m of target
 2. Organise a search for three objects in 400sq m
 3. Raise an object heavier than 100kg to the surface
 4. Produce a technical report of at least 500 words with diagrams on 'Underwater Lifting and Searching'
 5. Organise a blind search for one object in 100sq m



- BOATING
1. Attend a small boat safety course as run by the National Safety Council or equivalent
 2. Satisfy the Training Committee of competence with a boat on four UEC dives
 3. Produce a technical report of approximately 400 words on the use of marine radio
 4. Produce a technical report of at least 500 words with diagrams on 'Small Boat Regulation and Navigation'
 5. Demonstrate competence in using a marine radio

- LIFE-SAVING AND SAFETY
1. Complete RLSS sub-aqua Bronze Medallion
 2. Complete RLSS Advanced Resuscitation Certificate
 3. Produce a technical report of at least 400 words on 'Diving and Carbon Dioxide'

- ADVANCED SCUBA SKILLS
1. In at least 5m of water, ditch all equipment except weight belt, swim 15m, recover all equipment
 2. Swim 25m with 6kg excess weight wearing full scuba but using snorkel only
 3. Swim 300m within 10m, then tread water for five minutes with 1kg excess weight using no aids
 4. Swim 1500m whilst neutrally buoyant, wearing full scuba using snorkel only

- LEADERSHIP
1. Attend a seminar on 'Dive Leadership'
 2. Plan a dive for six people for two weeks to a remote location
 3. Be diving o/c on three UEC dives

- EQUIPMENT
1. Produce a technical report of at least 500 words with diagrams on 'Scuba Equipment' including regulators, scuba cylinders and compressors
 2. Demonstrate competence in using a filling compressor
 3. Demonstrate competence in using a hookah

Each activity is to be logged in the diver's own log book and endorsed by a member of the Training Committee.

SAFETY REPORT

Barry Kennedy

Should a diver become involved in an accident, or near accident, he or she should report this to the divemaster of the day, who will then make a written report to me. The reason for this is quite simple - through this magazine, I can make people aware of potential dangers. There will be no mention of anyone by name, to eliminate any embarrassment and make members feel easier about reporting accidents.

Remember, if people are aware of an accident happening under certain circumstances, they can at least be prepared for the possibility of it happening again. Forewarned is forearmed. However, if an accident or near accident is not reported, it simply becomes a time bomb, just waiting for the right circumstances to catch the next not-so-lucky person. I would ask members to consider this in a serious manner, and to co-operate whenever this becomes applicable. Should I happen to win the position of Safety Officer again next year, I intend to publish, in the magazine, an account of the accidents that have befallen members of this club over the years.

Once again, without use of names to avoid any embarrassment, I wish to illustrate my point with the seriousness of some of these accidents, in the hope of preventing any of them happening to anyone in the future. After all, prevention is what safety is all about, and learning by other divers' misfortunes is much easier than learning from our own misfortunes.

By the time this magazine reaches you we will have installed oxygen equipment in our boat - finally. This is a simple arrangement, consisting of a D size medical oxygen cylinder fitted in the boat. Connected to this will be a first stage regulator, a section of pressure hose long enough to reach any part of the boat, and a second-stage regulator-demand valve, with anaesthetic mask fitted. The idea being, should a diver suffer decompression illness or pressure injury allowing bubbles to enter the bloodstream, we can give 100% oxygen almost immediately and continue this treatment for at least an hour, or until we can land the patient for further treatment by qualified people. 100% oxygen therapy for this type of injury is of the utmost importance, and the sooner treatment starts, the better. Most of the damage caused by bubbles in the bloodstream occurs within the first 30 minutes. Oxygen greatly reduces the size and number of the bubbles and so reduces the risk of serious damage. Having the oxygen cylinder fixed in the boat eliminates the need to secure the cylinder while trying to administer treatment, especially on a heaving deck under rough conditions.

Let's hope no-one ever has to use this equipment. Next season, if we have enough interested people, we will again set up the Surf Life-Saving Association Advanced Resuscitation Certificate Course. The more people who qualify the better and safer our club will be. If you are interested, please let me know.

DIVE THE ROWLEY SHOALS

Aquaventure are running a trip to the Rowley Shoals from October 14-23. The cost is about \$1000 ex-Broome. This includes all diving and food. A couple of club members have already shown some interest, so if you fancy a trip of a lifetime (we hope) phone Paul Mulally on 390 8267 or Dennis Bridges on 401 4879 for further details.

Page 6 UEC NEWS JULY 1984

ON LEARNING TO DIVE WITH THE UEC

Linda Young

In the past five months I've often asked myself why I took it into my head to learn to dive. I still don't have an entirely coherent answer. But I do have a bank of experiences in vivid memory, and some of them keep me coming back: ... the delight of watching the luminous pompom nudibranchs grazing on weed ... the amazement at soft, pastel-coloured spongy rocks ... the heart-lifting freedom and curiosity of fish in their own element ... the fantastic joy of having a sea lion want to swim with you ... the sensual magic of hanging on to a great swath of seaweed and being washed with it back and forth by the invisible power of the current ...

If I didn't have my mouth stuffed with a black rubber regulator when diving, my jaws would certainly drop open with astonishment and delight at the underwater world.

Nonetheless, it's been a scary experience, this learning. And I think that if I'd been through it in any environment but that which the club can provide, my nerve would have given out some considerable time before the NQS examination. The difference between a dive shop six-week course and UEC's training is so obvious it hardly needs definition. As it was put in our very first session, "If we're going to dive with you, we want to make bloody sure you're OK to dive with". On this basis the individual care and attention that trainees receive from experienced members of the club has an entirely practical objective. Yet for terrified beginners, it means the difference between keeping at it or abandoning the whole ghastly business.

How many times must Richard, Barry and Bob have heard me gulp blankly, "I can't do that"? There was the dreaded 15m breath-held swim; the terrible mask-clearing; the unspeakable ditch-and-recovery exercise where you have to swim around a circle with no gear at all ... I still don't do any of these with joy or ease, but that I can manage them at all is a monument to the unpressured and unpressuring methods of club training.

It was achieved by a mixture of calm, gentle encouragement ("just try it six inches under the surface") and libellous defamation of other members ("You should have seen X - he used to ... (leave a brown stain in the water) when he began"). They claimed to believe that my all-over shaking was due to cold; was this diplomacy or innocence? For I knew it was caused by pure fear leading to emotional exhaustion. After a Sunday morning training session at Woodman Point I used to go home and collapse into bed for the afternoon. It played hell with my drinking and socialising.

Memories of a puritan heritage often occurred to me during training, mainly along the lines that suffering is good for the soul. I no longer subscribe to this philosophy, but a related line of thought still gives me pause. It's a long time since I've been a real beginner, less than expertly authoritative at what I do. Perhaps it's a salutary experience to be cast back to the role of learner, to experience again the pains (and the real pleasures, too) of mastering a new skill. When life and death can be on the line - and not just one's own, but also one's buddy's - it's an acute sensation.

I may be saying here that club training is only great for scaredy-cats, that ordinarily confident people can probably survive an intensive commercial training course. Put in terms of bare survival, this may indeed be the case. But even (especially?) for confident young men, I suspect that the UEC training could be preferable, for the sake of the community of divers. A body of divers with conscious standards of and interests in safety will protect not only themselves but all other divers.

It seems that the current club training system is likely soon to have to become more professional/commercial/formal. But it's also clear that within the membership the commitment to patient and thorough training has strong support. I'll add my voice to this group, both for the sake of the future would-be divers who need friendly training, and in grateful recognition of the pleasures

a club training has given me. I look forward to the day when I can assure a beginner that "Everyone starts like this".

Secretary's Message

Members we need more support for our club boat. Two ideas mentioned at the last Committee Meeting were:

(1)When the boat goes to Rottnest, we could take other members who don't want to dive that day to the main Rottnest jetty, drop them off about 9am then pick them up about 2pm and return home. A trip on the Rottnest Ferry would cost \$25 but on the club boat it would only cost \$12. Why not make up a group and use our FERRY I mean club boat instead.

Give Martin Smith or Peter Horton a ring and book now.

(2)If members of the club want to go line fishing contact Martin Smith or Peter Horton and make arrangement. Get a group together and have fun. We want the boat used. The club boat holds 16-17 members, however since it was purchased the average has been 6-7 members per trip. Members this is an expensive club facility and unless it is used we cannot afford to keep it.

We need the boat as part of our club sell to attract new members. So come on those members without boats lets see you on our club boat with your club mates. Why not become a Trainee Skipper by contacting Peter Horton, he wants to hear from you.

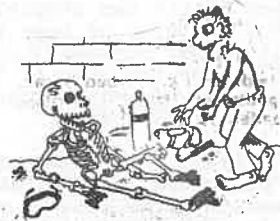
Just think once you become a skipper you get a free ride and help your club as well, you can't ask for a better deal then that.

Cherio for now, club mates.

— WINTER IS UPON US! —

Thank God for those lovely winter days. Sunday 24th of June ten members including myself as skipper and Richard Bone as dive officer headed out to Rotto. After a pleasant trip out we anchored off Salmon Bay in 22mt of water. Vis was excellent and the water was warm. We all dived to the bottom except John Crean who was sick with the flu. Incidentally John came out to help make up the numbers and also to help watch the boat whilst we all had a dive. Thanks for your club spirited help John. Well back to the dive, once on the bottom there was plenty of fish life and magic scenery including a jewie at least 20kg.

We moved a short distance to 10mt depth for our second dive which was just as enjoyable. Members, winter days are pot luck days and if its bad its bad, but if its good its a really good day. So come on members get the gear out of the moth balls and try some winter diving. Remember the boat goes every Sunday at 8am at the East Street jetty subject to weather. Ring the Dive Officer and get to it.



Paul Brooker

SORRY PETER...
SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU...
WE CANCELLED THE
BOATTRIP.

UEC MEMBERSHIP LIST

AS AT JUNE 1984.

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Abrahams N 095279121 | Errington K 3303090 | Parker D Mullewa (L) |
| Agar D 4502632 | Errington J " | Parker B " |
| Airey E 2715868 | Ellam R | Paskulich J 4597164 |
| Altenuhl J 4179400 | Ferrier M 4575577 | Print C 4575577 |
| Anders C 4432794 | Fullarton S 4473646 | Price B Victoria |
| Augustin M 4182931 | Goodridge P 4191400 | Pollard B (L) |
| | Gatter A 3411729 | Peters O 3875745 |
| Bateman R 3681349 | | Roberts H Narrikup (L) |
| Beek W 3679275 | Horton P 4449126 (L) | Rynders W 3379251 |
| Blackwell A 3994388 | Horn D 3307457 | Ronzitti D 3373508 |
| Blanksby K 3378569 | Harwood S 4181850 | Ronzitti V " |
| Bennett D | Harrold P 3970240 | Robinson M Geraldton |
| Branchetti M 3379655 | Hughes S 4191970 | Rizza K Karratha |
| Bone G G1tn 099214395 | | Riley P 3379279 |
| Bone R 4484557 | Johnston R 3832776 | Rumsay J 2935318 |
| Brown D 3321331 | Jones L 3303711 (L) | |
| Bele J Bbry 097212775 | Jury B 2931225 | Smith M 4582224 |
| Brooker C 3373667 | | Smith R 2721740 |
| Brooker D " | Kenny D 3832790 (L) | Swan G 3327762 |
| Brooker P " | Kennedy K 4470012 (L) | Spencer A 3372076 |
| Butcher A 3255544 | Kennedy B 4536927 | Spehr B 4504202 |
| Bowman J | Kennedy L " | Searle B 095277290 |
| | King R 4536908 | |
| Csomas T 3413001 | Kitchen K 095278686 | Thomson M 4546375 |
| Coles R 3641616 | | Talbot D 3445984 |
| Cotton R 3283102w | Lutey J 4578537 | Tyson B 4511708 |
| Copley S 3625983 | Leach P 2726118 | |
| Cowan I " | Langson M 4517244 | Walden J 4584368 (L) |
| Cargeeg K 3359679 | Leonard P 3302460 | Wallis R 4462888 (L) |
| Croft C 4486178 | Lowth S | Wood G 4441227 |
| Croft J " | | Wilson N 4503844 |
| Casley M 4571191 | Mortimer P 4598067 | Weaver T 4575243 |
| Coleman L 384 8685 | Miller R 3612304 | Walker B 45813448 |
| Cleaver S 2762962 | Milne I Shay Gap | Young L 3361248 |
| Cream J 3289768 | Mulally P 3908267 | |
| Curtis P | | |
| Colley K 095281672 | Oddy S 4014028 | |
| | O'Loughlin S | (L) denotes Life Member |
| Davies J 4588507 | Ogden J 3301168 w | |

PLEASE REPORT ERRORS OR OMISSIONS TO SECRETARY U.E.C.

U.E.C. NEWS

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SAFETY

Richard Bone
As Above

BOAT

Martin Smith
As Above

AUDITORS

Lyn. Jones
Dennis Parker

MAGAZINE

Paul Mulally
As Above
Tioi Csomay
47 Lewin Way 341 3001H
SCARBOROUGH WA 6019 326 2717W

THE BOAT REPORT. Martin Smith.

As mentioned at the last general meeting, our boat "The Underwater Explorer" (ex "Bombo") was to be taken out of the water at the Royal Perth Yacht Club for general maintenance.

After we removed the boat from the water, we replaced a section of plywood on the port side - a damage she suffered while still a crayboat - and completely inspected the hull. It was found in an excellent condition. We applied antifouling paint to the bottom and painted the rest of the boat brilliant white with a blue trim.

The Underwater Explorer was out of the water for three weeks only. It might have been longer but for a handfull of enthusiastic helpers.

My special thanks go to Dave Kenny for a marvelous job of supplying material, organising and supervising the work as well as hopping in and doing some of the work himself. Thanks to Peter Horton for doing all the mechanical work and to Mario Branchetti for doing the woodwork. Ro Johnston and Julie Rumsey did an excellent job of sanding down. Thanks to Steward Lowth, Peter Mortimer and Bob Cottor for their help. Barry Kennedy proved to be very handy with a brush. Other helper were Sorren Copely, Ian Cowen, Peter Leach and Allen Getter.

The boat is oack in the water now, looks fine and travels fast. The top speed is 17 knotts. A canopy is being made, which will improve travelling comfort.

The total cost of the overhaul was approximately \$ 600.

I hope to see a lot of divers making use of our new boat, ring me for dives and watch out for our new Dive Calendar which is coming out soon.

If a cuoical container measuring ten inches per side were sealed at surface pressure and taken down to a depth of 20 feet in the ocean the total crushing force on the container would be about.... 5,340 pounds. The area of the container is 10 x 10 x 6 = 600 square inches. The pressure at 20 feet is .445x20=8.9+14.7 =23.6psia. The total pressure on the outside is 23.6x600= 14,160 lbs. The pressure on the inside is 14.7x600=8,820 lbs. With 14,160 lbs pushing inward and 8,820 lbs offsetting the outside pressure, the difference or crushing force is 5,340 lbs.

PRESIDENTS PAGE

Richard Bone

HI.

Being my first President's report I would like to thank the previous committee for their eff last year and on behalf of the new committee I would like to thank the members for electing in for this year. I have seen many changes over the past few years. The purchase of the clubrooms, the "Mike Pollard", and the "Underwater Explorer". Now we will have to try and u these assets and benefit from them.

I am looking forward to a prosperous year. I believe that one of the ways that we can impro the club is to increase the membership. I have some plans in mind, but I would appreciate any suggestions from other members.

As in any club it is important for you to support your committee. You elected us, so show us your support. The main functions that our club has are Diving and Social. If you are interested in a dive give Martin a ring #458 2224, and if you want a good, cheap night out w other club members then give Carla a ring #337 3667.

ember these functions that are coming up soon:

- The inaugural UEC Annual Treasure Hunt.
This will be held down at Churchill Park Rockingham. The actual hunt will start at 10:30am and go for about one hour. The treasure will then be added up and prizes presen to the best hunters at 2:30pm, after lunch. (There are coin gas BBQ's for cooking.)
The date...Sunday 26th August.
Bring the whole family.
Cost is \$3.00 for the treasure hunt.
- The UEC video night on Friday 24th August.
We will have several activities on, including a special visitor to give some videos from the Maldive Islands. The Maldives are considered the best diving in the world - somethi not to be missed.

I'll look forward to seeing everyone at these events.

The Presentation Night was very successful. We raised money from drinks and bingo tickets, everyone had a good time. Special thanks to John Paskulich (MC) and the Brooker family for their help, and to Rory Miller for the lighting equipment.



SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Paul Brooker

With the electing of a new committee and President at the AGM I wish to thank John Paskulich for all the work and time he has put into the club. John did not stand for President this year due to personal and work commitments - our loss John!

Our new President is Richard Bone, who has worked hard for the club over the years, and I am sure he will continue the good work and pace set by John.

Good luck Richard!

Our social night at Monopoles was most enjoyable!

Guest speaker - next General Meeting

Cheerio for now club mates!

Dennis Robinson is to give a talk on the "Long Jetty Project" at the next general meeting or the 20th August 1984.

AWARDS ISSUED FOR 1983/84 SEASON

Initial Certificate

Lloyd Phillips
 Leon Kennedy
 James Davies
 Margaret Langson
 Linda Young
 Brian Jury
 Carla Brooker
 Dane Brooker
 Paul Brooker
 Neale Wilson
 Carl Anders
 Jeff Bowman
 Barrie Tyson
 John Altemuhl
 Alan Gatter
 Shaun Hughes
 Keith Kitchen
 Dennis Johnson
 Kevin Colley
 Bruce Searle
 Peter Riely
 Thomas Weaver
 Phil Leonard



Blind Snorkel Diver Award

Ron Anderson
 Craig Blackburn
 Ian Blackburn
 Martin Furness
 Cameron Johnson-Cooper
 David Regan
 Michael Pritchett

Life Member : Peter Horton

Dolphin Trophy: Barry Kennedy

Best Lady Diver: Margaret Langson

Most Improved Lady Diver: Carla Brooker

LONG JETTY

If you have not dived on the Long Jetty site by now your chances will be reduced when the new marina will be built. While the limestone groin has been designed to miss the actual site, expert divers tell me the sand build up will cover everything.



A skeleton of a man found in the hull of the "MARY ROSE" was buried in Portsmouth - 439 years after he died.



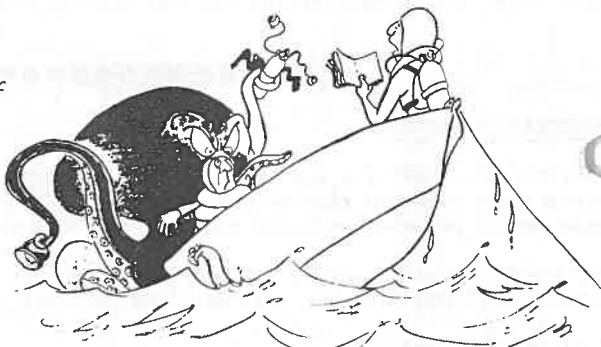
Parts of the "Alex T. Brown", the fourmasted schooner which was wrecked near Yanchep in 1917, are being used as firewood by surfers. Is it history going up in smoke?



A NEW GEORGETTE IN PERTH WATERS

The M T T has a new ferry for Swan River Passenger service. The new ferry is 15 m long and can carry 92 passengers. She has been named M V Georgette and replaces the ferry Vlaming which is up for sale.

However she was not named after the wreck Georgette at Redgate, but after a M T T Secretary.



ACCORDING TO THIS IT'S ON THE ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST.

DIVERS ARE STILL IN THE NEWS...

A Swedish naval ship machine gunned what they thought was an escaping Russian frogman near the Karlskrona naval base and killed a swan.

(The swans up there are not even black, they are white. You would think even colour blind Swedes would know the difference between a black wetsuit and a white swan.)

CLUB OFFICERS FOR THE 1984/85 SEASON

PRESIDENT	Richard Bone 24 Kilcairn Road GREENWOOD WA 6024	448 4557H 420 9355W
VICE PRESIDENT	Stephen Oddy 22 Taylor Way HILLARYS WA 6025	401 4028H
SECRETARY	Paul Brooker 19 McKenzie Road SAMSON WA 6163	337 3667H 410 1163W
TREASURER	Peter Horton 131 Fairfield Street MOUNT HAWTHORN WA 6016	444 9126H 381 3600W
TRAINING	Barry Kennedy 8 York Street FORRESTFIELD WA 6058	453 6927H
DIVING	Martin Smith 38 Galaxy Street BECKENHAM WA 6107	458 2224H
COMMITTEE	Paul Mulally 21 Arbour Place KELMSCOTT WA 6111	390 8267H
	Julie-Anne Rumsey C/- 86 Valencia Road CARMEL WA 6076	293 5318H 323 5555W
	Peter Mortimer 7 Denham Way THORNIE WA 6108	459 8067H
	Alan Gatter Unit 21, 75 Stanley Street SCARBOROUGH WA 6019	341 1729H
BUILDING	Paul Brooker As Above	
LIBRARY	Bob Cotton	
PROPERTY	Barry Kennedy As Above	
SOCIAL	Carla Brooker 19 McKenzie Road SAMSON WA 6163	337 3667H
TECHNICAL	Richard Bone As Above	
RESEARCH	John Paskulich 23 Cranwell Street THORNIE WA 6108	459 7164H

STAY FIT

One of the most difficult problems facing a diver is staying fit.

Once training is finished and the Winter sets in, you find yourself slackening off, and that is bad because unless you dive once a fortnight you get out of shape, lose leg muscle strength, and stamina.

Go diving like that and you will be wheezing and puffing around the ocean trying to swim back to the boat.

So what can you do to stay fit you ask?

Run around the block? Do push ups?

No. Only swimming will exercise those muscles you use for diving. A workout at a pool two or three times a week will maintain good diving fitness. Use mask and fins and swim a minimum of 400 metres each time.

If you are right out of shape, really unfit, then appraise your physical condition. How many laps of the pool can you do without being exhausted? How far can you swim under water on one breath?

Start your swimming slowly with the minimum pool lengths, build this up gradually. Do it a couple of times a week and in a month you can easily work up to a half a mile swim. Keep it up and in two months you will find that the regular swimming has worked wonders for you. You will be fit, feel better, and your diving ability will be restored. You can return to open water diving when the Summer comes again and dive with confidence and safety.

TREASURE IN SWEDEN.

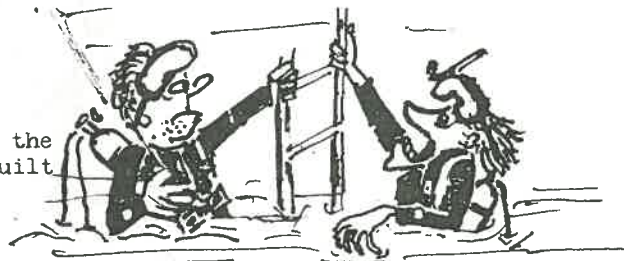
It is his greatest adventure. The King of Sweden, Carl Gustaf is searching for treasure. He is looking for a chest full of gold and precious stones which were lost in 1676, when the largest warship - at the time - the "Kronan" went down south of the holiday isle of Öland.

67 years ago the "Kronan", the proudest ship of King Karl VI turned over in a storm and sunk. In a few minutes she went down with all 842 men on board. The war fund of over one million, which was on board went down as well.

In 1930, wrech researcher Andreas Francen found the ship in 28 metres of water. Since then many hundreds of items have been salvaged from the well preserved hull, but the treasure chest has not been found. King Carl Gustaf, an experienced sports diver, now wants to find the treasure himself.

The North Mole Wreck.

There is a dark cloud hanging over the fate of the north mole wreck. Not from the Americas Cup marinas which are being built around Perth but from a new container terminal nearby which the State Government wants to build there. The north side of the north mole is one of two sites being considered.



THAT WAS A GREAT DIVE!
IT MUST BE MARVELLOUS WHEN YOU HAVE
AIR TO BREATHE AS WELL!

OXYGEN THERAPY

Barry Kennedy

Now that we have Oxygen aboard our boat, I think it is time some facts about the use of this are made known in our magazine.

Being able to supply 100% Oxygen is the most important first aid step when diving accidents occur.

The first half an hour after a diving accident is when most damage occurs through bubbles in the blood stream.

Pure Oxygen washes the lungs clear of Nitrogen, and permits the blood to carry oxygen to damaged tissues.

Oxygen is the single most effective treatment for decompression sickness and air embolism -ot than recompression. Oxygen therapy units which do not deliver 100% Oxygen are of little use to injured divers. The system we have is possibly the simplest and most foolproof. It requires no special talents or qualifications to use.

Oxygen should be administered to all ill divers, with the exception of divers who would not normally pass a diving medical. Non-divers may have chronic lung conditions and Oxygen may cause reactions to occur. However because Oxygen treatment has such a positive effect on the recovery of an injured diver, it is important to treat all diving injuries, or suspected diving injury, immediately with Oxygen.

ON THE BOTTOM.

The greatest source of historical information about the ancient world lies on the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea.

The sailing routes of the ancient mariners followed the coast lines, from one landmark to the next. During stormy weather many of them sunk in deep water. We know that boats sailed in the Mediterranean Sea from about 3000 BC. We also know that they more or less followed the same route until about 1000 A from one landmark to the next, never venturing outside the sight of land. Even in the present modern times ships sink, I can recall 20 or 30 in the last five years.

Just imagine how many must have sunk in the Mediterranean in 4000 years. The bottom must be covered with shipwreck after shipwreck. Unfortunately most of these are beyond the working depths of of scuba divers.

But that they exist has been proven by television camera carrying submersibles

In 1952 a submersible searching for an airliner which crashed into the sea, came across an intact ancient ship in 2500 feet of water.

A french firm working on the idea of laying a pipeline from France to North Africa sighted more than 20 wrecks in deep water.

Old ships were seen in 1966 as well, when submersibles were searching for the H bomb lost off the spanish coast.

Scientists are confident that most of these ships in deep water are well preserved. The marine borer, Teredo Navalis responsible for the destruction of shallow wrecks, is not known to exist below 600 feet.

Other factors pointing to the preservation of these ancient ships are; the Mediterranean has the lowest oxygen content of any of the seas in the world, the water is near freezing on the bottom and the wrecks are too deep for anchor or nets to snag.

If these ships could be raised they and their cargo would provide valuable time capsules of ancient history.

WERS DO IT DEEP

ne skilled and experienced professional divers recently completed a course of training to
qualify them as Diver-Medics at Fremantle Hospital.

is believed to be the first such course to be held in the southern hemisphere and probably
the only such course in the South East Asian Pacific region.

idents came from Singapore, from Bass Strait, and from Western Australia to train in the
techniques needed to examine and care for divers who become ill or injured during their work.

ny divers working in the oil fields have to live under pressure for many days at a time.
ey cannot be brought out to normal pressure outside quickly without killing them, so if they
come ill or injured they must be dealt with under pressure.

e students learned techniques of giving injections, putting up intravenous drips, and other
ills so that they can act as a doctor's eyes, ears and hands within the decompression
chamber. A doctor may be many hundreds of miles away and only able to communicate by radio
the first instance.

udents were able to view at first hand many of the techniques that they learned by observing
the Operating Theatres and Emergency Department at Fremantle Hospital.

from the South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society Journal Vol. 14 1984.)



YOU CAN HELP.

ne following sub-committees need to be formed. Here is a list of the committee and officer-
in-charge.

iving	Martin Smith	458 2224
ocial	Carla Brooker	337 3667
oat	Martin Smith	458 2224
raining	Barry Kennedy	453 6927
echnical	Richard Bone	448 4557
uilding	Paul Brooker	337 3667

hese sub-committees will be finalised at the September committee meeting.

FROM THE EDITORS

t the AGM we were lucky to find eager helpers to assist with the magazine. Julie Rumsey
olunteered to type the articles and Carla Brooker offered to do the difficult job of folding,
taping, addressing, and posting.

Tibi & PAUL .

At this stage, I would like to thank Sue Lutey for typing
encil and John Lutey for printing and distributing the magazine in the first year I was
diting it with Malcolm Ferrier. My thanks go to Helen Mulally for typing and again to John
or distributing last year. We hope the magazine will continue to improve and provide
nformation, amusement, and food for thought.

Tibi

Safety awareness minimises accidents

DIVERS IN THE WAR

Most likely you never heard of "Luigi Ferraro" an Italian who belonged to a group of swimmers -
"The Gamma Group". It was formed during the Second World War to attack Allied shipping in
neutral harbours. Luigi - disguised as a clerk in the Italian Consulate in the Turkish
port of Alexandretta - moved freely among the local fashionable society.

The port was thick with intrigue, besides the Italian Consulate there were five others - German,
Greek, American, British, and French. Spies were everywhere. But nobody guessed Luigi's
real mission. He pretended to enjoy life, playing on the beach mornings and evenings, watching
people go for a swim but declining any invitation to join them in the water. "He couldn't
swim" - he said.

An important war material was shipped from Alexandretta to the Allies. Chromium. It was
loaded into ships about a mile from shore.

On the evening of June 30 1943, Luigi stayed on the beach until the sun went down. In the
darkness he slipped away and disappeared into a shed. Half an hour later, clad in rubber suit
fins and mask, he slipped into the water carrying two explosive charges on his belt. He
1 1/2 miles to the 7000 tonne Greek steamer Orion, ducked under the vessel using an oxygen
rebreather and attached his charges. He was back in town by daybreak.

When the Orion exploded and sank, everybody thought she was torpedoed.

Before the war ended, Luigi sunk, single handed, another ship, and damaged a third.

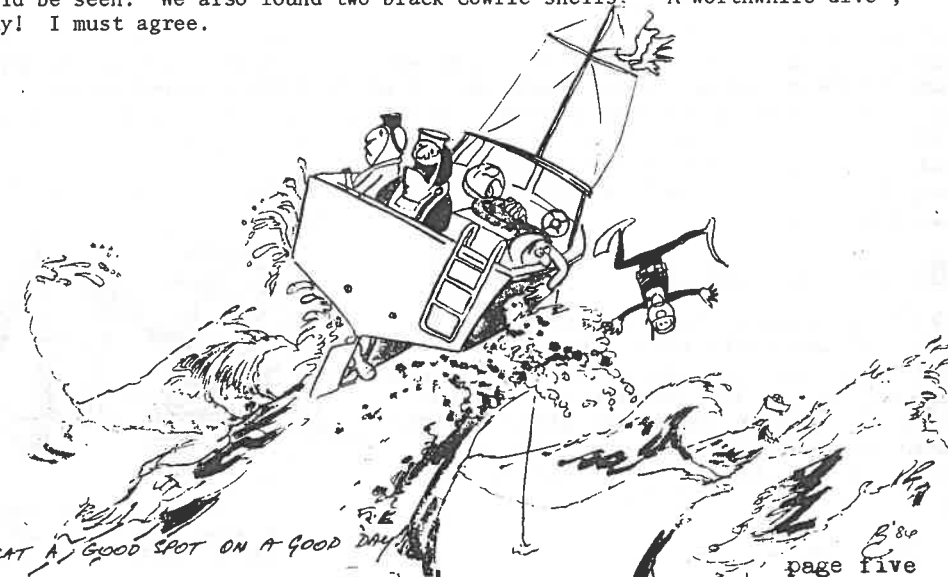
After the war Luigi Ferraro became the President of the World Underwater Federation. (CMAS)



ANOTHER BEAUT WINTER DIVE

Paul Brooker

This time we picked our day and dived on the "Sepia". Dane, Carla, and Steve came along and
what a magnificent dive it was - blue sky, slight seas, and no surge. After the storms of
late the wreck was well exposed and by using our hooka, we were able to spend hour on the
wreck just fossicking around. There were lots of channels cut under the wreck into which we
could crawl, especially without tanks on our backs to get hooked up.
Visibility was 20metres, we could see our boat from the bottom. Bottles and old china plates
and large urns could be seen. We also found two black Cowrie shells. "A worthwhile dive",
remarked Steve Oddy! I must agree.



YOU CAN'T BEAT A GOOD SPOT ON A GOOD DAY

U.E.C. NEWS

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It has been reported that during Committee Meetings males have actually used the female toilet at the clubrooms.

To overcome this terrible social problem, it was wisely decided to insist that Males only use the Male toilet, and Females only use the Female toilet.

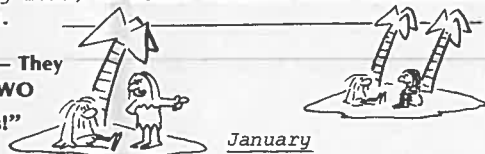
Clearly the Club is discriminating against the Males, who have to brave the dark, wet, miserable conditions (in the Winter months), and the heat, dust, and flies in Summer, in order to relieve themselves, at the rear of the Clubrooms, whilst the Females can enjoy the calm, warm conditions inside. If we project these conditions to all areas of the club, then Martin will have to reconsider construction of the boat toilet, and plan on building two toilets on the boat... Male and Female.

On the other hand, I think I may have the answer....Person Toilets, not Male or Female toilets just simply Person Toilets. This would be in keeping with modern thinking, and I can personally vouch for this very workable system, because our house has a dual toilet system, Person toilets both of them.

Over the last ten years I have found absolutely no problems with this system, the only time I ever have to use the outside Person Toilet, is when the inside Person Toilet is occupied.

Now if the club were to adopt the Person Toilet System, not only would it overcome the problem of policing the Female only - Male only rule, it would relieve Male discrimination in the Club. I believe men should have equal rights.

"Look - They
have TWO
palm trees!"



FORTHCOMING CALENDAR

September

2nd Wreck Dive
9th Boat Dive
16th Small Boats - "Ocean Reef"
21st Dinner at Comedy Restaurant
23rd Boat Trip
29th to North Heads Expedition (Long weekend)
30th

October

7th Boat Trip
14th Cockburn Sound "Wreck Tour"
21st Boat Trip
28th Spearfishing Day

November

4th Boat Trip
11th Coventry Reef (ex Rockingham)
18th Boat Trip
25th Small Boat (ex Palm Beach)

December

2nd Boat Trip
7th Night Dive
9th Garden Island Social Day
16th Boat Trip
Christmas break 23rd to 25th
30th Wreck Dive

January

1st Boat Trip
6th Boat Trip
11th Night Dive
13th Deep Dive
20th Boat Trip
26th to Albany Trip
28th

February

3rd Triggs "Boat Dive"
10th Boat Trip
17th Wreck Dive
22nd Night Dive
24th Boat Trip

ANY QUERIES ON TIMES etc... AND BOOKINGS SHOULD BE
DIRECTED TO MARTIN SMITH, DIVE OFFICER,
ON #458 2224.

MAGAZINE

Tibi Csomay 34-3001
47 Lewin Way
SCARBOROUGH
+
Paul Mulally
+
Julie-Anne Rumsey



At the August General Meeting, a very significant motion was passed. The motion was to discontinue the training of SCUBA divers. This will hopefully open up the doors to many new members from some of the dive schools in and around Perth that up until now have not given us any support.

The club boat is back in the water and going like a rocket. If you want to get any dives from the club boat this season, I suggest you contact Martin very soon to book places. Boat trips are filling and before we know it, we may be looking for another boat.

The new calendar is coming out very soon and I think that it is one of the best I have seen for quite a while. The club boat has increased the number of dives that we are getting and the new social calendar is looking very full.

I have recently contacted the Australian Underwater Federation (AUF), and I have some membership forms from them. If you are interested in getting international certification, then you can do it through AUF. AUF is the only way of getting international certification and you must be an NQS qualified SCUBA diver or above.

NOTES ON TRAINING

Richard Bone

Now that we have discontinued SCUBA diver training we are referring all of our new untrained members to one of the shops listed below at which they can get a 10% discount on the cost of the course, or on equipment. The referral will be in the form of a letter that must be endorsed by the Training Officer, the President, or the Secretary.

The shops participating are:-

- Australasian Diving Centre	Claremont
- Craigie Sports and Tackle	Craigie
- Divers Emporium	East Fremantle
- Indo-Pacific Divers World	Mt. Hawthorn
- Malibu Diving	Rockingham
- Glengarry Sports and Diving	Glengarry (Equipment only)

Please support these shops and make it known that you are UEC members.

SOCIAL REPORT

Carla Brooker

Video-Nite

The video-nite on the 24th August was a great success. We had an excellent turnout and everyone had a good time. We look forward to having more of these in the future.

Social Calendar

Ten-pin Bowling

Date: 21st September
Time: 8.00pm
Venue: Melville Super-Bowl, cnr. Leach Highway and Stock Road.
Cost: approx, \$6.00

The club has held several 10 pin bowling nights before and they have been very good fun for all. Come along and pit your skills against the club champion.

Comedy Dinner Theatre

Date: 28th September
Time: 8.00pm
Venue: Comedy Dinner Theatre Restaurant, cnr. Stirling and Newcastle Streets, Perth.
Cost: only \$18.00

This will be an excellent night, not to be missed. The price, (\$5.00 reduction), includes pre-dinner cocktails, soup, main course, dessert, with drinks served with dinner, and then a comedy play "On Any Wednesday", with coffee and chocolates at the interval. We need a good attendance to keep the price down, so come along for a great night out. Money must be paid into Carla or Richard as soon as possible.

Wine and Cheese Night

Date: 20th October
Time: 8.00pm till late.
Venue: Clubrooms
Cost: \$7.00 single or \$13.00 double.

Remember the last Wine and Cheese night? It was really great and this one will be just as good. This time we will have the Wine Information Bureau, as last time, and there will be a light buffet meal included. Bring along your friends for a real fun night out, you might even learn something. Tickets available from Carla and Richard.

DIVING JITTERS - Why Unwarranted Fears Aren't So Irrational

Instructors anticipate that new divers will be excited and somewhat nervous about making their first "deep" dive. Students sometimes withdraw and are reluctant to become involved in small talk; some chatter and make jokes to reduce stress, more time than usual is devoted to pre-dive equipment checks. As divers, we tend to demonstrate these behavioral patterns whenever we reach beyond proven expertise and pursue new challenges to grow. It's normal.

In fact, overt excitement, enthusiasm, even pre-dive jitters are not necessarily undesirable emotions. They increase sensitivity and awareness and can significantly enhance the sweetness of success. Part of healthy psychological readiness is understanding and accepting these emotions as normal. Certainly, they are not to be feared as harbingers of something terrible about to happen.

Unwarranted apprehension, on the other hand, is quite different. Irrational concern for one's safety, when the situation doesn't necessarily call for extra precautions, should never be ignored.

Sometimes experienced divers feel uncomfortable about making a dive. Regardless that they have logged hundreds of hours under water diving in the exact same place, doing the exact same kind of underwater activity they will be doing today, they have bad vibes and are nervous. For no obvious reason, they are apprehensive.

These feelings of doubt may be generated by subliminal awareness that the diver's equipment hasn't been adequately checked and maintained for proper performance. It may stem from physiological reasons. The diver's health may be below par. An illness may be coming on. Lack of physical conditioning can contribute to uneasy feelings. The dive plan may be confusing. Irrespective of cause, unjustified apprehension before a dive must be given attention.

Sometimes it's prudent to cancel the dive. When equipment has been satisfactorily checked, the dive is well planned and when the divers are all well and in excellent physical condition, but some intuitive message continues to eat away at their self confidence, abort the dive.

DEEP DIVE - ROTTNES

Julie-Anne Rumsey

On the 12th August thirteen divers boarded U.E. on her first trip out after repairs. Conditions looked excellent with light winds, flat seas, - even the sun was shining!

From the start entertainment was the order of the day. Soren provided music on the bow, and Mario did an unscheduled dive at Fremantle Sailing Club to retrieve an errant padlock which fell overboard whilst refuelling was being carried out. Mario did not surface with the padlock but with a bucket (servicable), and a gull's egg (which Peter Mort. insisted was fresh but would not prove). The padlock was retrieved in the meantime by Brian - a new club member.

In high spirits we set course for Rottnest - Green Island - and had got halfway when Stuart decided more entertainment was called for....and fell overboard! Congratulations Stuart for being the first, but please, in future, wait for the boat to stop before going for a swim!!!

We anchored on the second drop-off out from Green Island to do a scheduled deep dive. Maximum depth was 26metres, and for safety reasons the diving party was split into two groups, the second group waiting for the first to return before starting their dive. I buddied with Martin and Stuart and we had a great dive. The scenery was interesting with lots of holes to fossick in, and with good visibility and no surge, conditions proved excellent. We found and dragged to the boat an anchor (anybody need a spare-see Martin), and were buzzed by a large school of Tuna - a magnificent sight.

Back on board everyone agreed it was good diving - as was the second shallow dive.

We had a relaxing trip back on still flat seas, and were treated to the sight of someone water skiing from Rottnest to Fremantle!

If you weren't there - you missed a great day.

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Richard Bone 448 4557H
SAFETY OFFICER 24 Kilcairn Road 420 9355W
TECHNICAL OFFICER GREENWOOD
VICE PRESIDENT Stephen Oddy 401 4028H
22 Taylor Way
HILLARYS
SECRETARY Paul Brooker 337 3667H
BUILDING OFFICER 19 McKenzie Road 410 1163W
SAMSON

TREASURER Peter Horton 444 9126H
131 Fairfield St 381 3600W
MOUNT HAWTHORN
TRAINING OFFICER Barry Kennedy 453 6927H
PROPERTY OFFICER 8 York Street
FORRESTFIELD
DIVING OFFICER Martin Smith 458 2224H
BOAT OFFICER 38 Galaxy Street
BECKENHAM
COMMITTEE Paul Mulally 390 8267H
21 Harbour Place
KELMSCOTT

Julie-Anne Rumsey 293 5318H
C/- 86 Valencia Rd 323 5555W
CARMEL

Peter Mortimer 459 8067H
7 Denham Way
THORNLIE

Alan Gatter 341 1729H
Unit 21, 75 Stanley St.
SCARBOROUGH

LIBRARY Bob Cotton

SOCIAL Carla Brooker 337 3667H
19 McKenzie Road
SAMSON



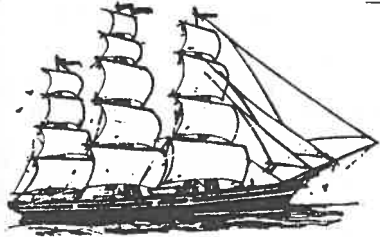
I TOLD YOU WE HAVE TOO MANY DIVERS ON BOARD!

The many stumps of the old Long Jetty still project from the sand and seagrass. Flotsam and jetsam of the past litters the seabed. A few whalebones may be evident amongst old bottles and broken ships crockery. A heavy chain snakes its way over the seabed probably from the Priestman Dredge now buried in the material it once excavated.

In early 1984 the State Government approved the construction of an America's Cup marina adjacent to the northern groyne of the Fisherman's Harbour to seawards of Bather's Bay.

Hopefully with foresight and planning, a portion of this historic body of water will be preserved for all time in recognition of the role which it played in the history of the State.

.....REPRINTED BY COURTESY OF THE PORT OF FREMANTLE Volume 7 No 10.



Nominations: John Brady. Robert Sangston.
--

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Paul Brooker

Members. as part of my monthly report, I shall include all motions passed at the Committee Meetings. This should help keep you, the member, informed.

Special Meeting 26th July 1984.

- 1 Motion that Martin Smith be allowed to spend up to \$600.00 on the club boat repairs.
Carried unanimously.
- 2 Secretary moved that all expenditure by any officer of this club must receive prior approval at a meeting of the Committee of management of General Meeting before purchasing any goods or hiring of any labour.
Carried unanimously.

Committee Meeting 6th August 1984.

- 1 Motion that the club send a thankyou letter to Dave Kenny.
Carried.
- 2 Motion that a Committee recommendation that we abolish scuba training and canvas for qualified divers through dive shops and other means be carried to General Meeting for discussion.
Carried.

Once again I am happy to report club improvements. The club boat has been overhauled and looks and runs well - 12 knots cruising speed I've been told. Our thanks to Dave Kenny for all the time and labour he and his men put into the job. Incidentally, Dave's bill was only \$473.00 and I would say without his help the bill would have been more like \$1,500.00.

Peter Horton as usual saved the club heaps on the steering gear which was U.S. Our thanks also to the rest of the members who pitched in and helped.

Another improvement was the removal of the glass partition at the clubrooms, and with the roll-up at the last General Meeting we certainly needed the space. Thanks to Dane Brooker and Steve Oddy for their help..Social Committee now handle the drinks to take some of the load off Peter Horton.

A new social calender is being drawn up so please try and support your club. Give Carla a ring on #337 3667 and be a part of the scene.

Experience has taught me that to prepare psychologically, I must:-

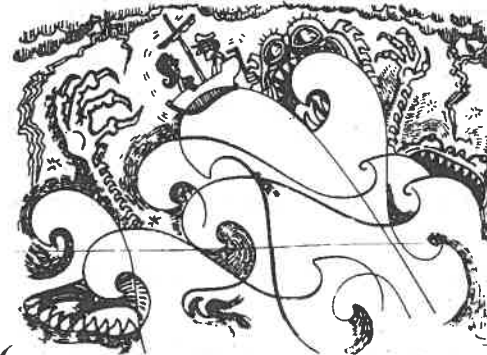
- Have an acceptable dive plan, one that I am comfortable with, based on my diving expertise,
- Check all personal diving equipment for proper functioning,
- Be in satisfactory physical condition to meet the physical demands of the dive and to be capable of coping with any emergencies which could arise,
- Know my buddy and what his diving capabilities and limitations are,
- Not push beyond safe limits regarding time and depth,
- Not participate in any dive that I intellectually or intuitively feel is unsafe.

Psychological readiness is more than a positive attitude. A highly motivated diver may inspire another diver to participate in a dive that is well beyond his existing experience and capabilities. He could easily ignore or forget the importance of the above check list. He could have the "right" psychological readiness and not be prepared to make a dive.

Psychological readiness encompasses all of the above. Prepare physically, prepare through good dive planning and you will be better prepared psychologically. A sport diver about to make his first open water dive to a maximum depth of 20 feet should be excited. A sport diver with three open water dives contemplating a dive to 100 feet should be apprehensive. Common sense is alerting him that, perhaps, it's too big a step.

Train well. Maintain your equipment. Keep yourself in good physical condition for the kind of diving you wish to pursue. Plan your dives within your safe limits or seek additional instruction to advance safely. Always know your buddy's capabilities and limitations. Dive when you really feel up to it and want to. Listen to your intuitive feelings. Gain confidence by advancing slowly.

Do these things and you will be psychologically ready for sport diving. And if you're not, perhaps it's best to skip today's dive.



Article by Walt Hendrick, Sr.

YOUR FIRST
OPEN WATER DIVE
MISS?
THERE IS NOTHING
TO FEAR!

FOR SALE LIFE JACKET SMALL BOOTIES RO. 383 2776
--

SOME MUD-DIVE SITE.

RESEARCH	John Paskulich	459 7164H
	23 Cranwell Street	
	THORNLIE	

Discharging at the head of the Arabian Sea is the River Indus, from which India takes its name. The Indus is an ancient river some 35 million years old and has its source in the high ranges of the Himalayas whose snows now feed it. The river discharges 200 cubic kilometres of water annually. It also carries to the Arabian Sea some 450 million tonnes of suspended sediment. This enormous sediment load has created the Indus Cone, a 2500 metre thick pile of loose sediment on the floor of the Arabian Sea 1500 kilometre away from the mouth of the river. The sediment is so thick that the sea floor is sinking under the weight.

BATHER'S BAY AND THE LONG JETTY - Early Development in the Port of Fremantle

by Jon Carpenter

"The landing took place in a little bay close to the mouth of the river, to the southward of it, being the only landing in that neighbourhood where boats could go with security, the bar at the entrance of the river generally being impassable."

The words of Captain Fremantle in a despatch sent to the Admiralty on October 8, 1829.

Great uncertainty surrounds the question of whether the landing actually took place in the South Bay which is now reclaimed as the Fremantle Esplanade or in Bather's Bay between Arthur's Head and Anglesea Point. Today the boundary of Bather's Bay is best defined as that area between the south mole and the fishing boat harbour mole.

In any event, the open expanse of water between these two points has played an important role in the development of the Swan River Colony and the establishment of Fremantle as the port.

Early disappointment with the land made it all the more imperative to maintain the sea lifeline between the colony and the outside world. To this end, Bather's Bay as it became known was the site of the first and subsequent jetties.

Whaling

In 1837 a jetty was constructed by the Fremantle Whaling Company, established in 1836. The jetty was situated near the northern end of Bather's Bay. Later the tunnel under Arthur's Head was cut to provide access to the High Street. The Swan River Guardian reports on Thursday May 11, 1837:

"The depth of water at the point of the jetty is 8 feet (2.4m), and it is thought that vessels can lay off at a very short distance, and land cargoes with the greatest ease. It is in contemplation to form a tunnel through Arthur's head from the jetty into the town, so that casks and goods may be stored in the warehouses of the merchants with the greatest facility."

Reports in the Fremantle Gazette of late have indicated that the WA Museum will supervise an archaeological dig in the vicinity of the Round House, to try and locate this jetty and other remains of previous occupancy.

The Fremantle Whaling Company caught its first whale off Carnac Island and towed the creature into Bather's Bay.

Today the view from Bather's Bay to Carnac remains unobstructed as it did in the days of whaling activities.

Whaling was a staple local industry for many years, reaching its zenith in the 1850-60's. Interestingly it is recorded that aborigines congregated in Fremantle during the whaling season and feasted on whale blubber from which the oil has been boiled.

South Jetty

In 1854 the south jetty was completed, having been built between Bather's Bay and South Bay. It was 484 feet (147.5m) long with a depth of 9 feet (2.7m) at the end. The jetty was used mainly by lighters which loaded and unloaded cargo for ships at anchor in the roads.

The Long Jetty or Ocean Jetty 1872-1921

Mason, Bird & Coy. of the Canning Saw Mills built and completed the first section of the long jetty in 1873. The structure extended from Anglesea Point and ran in a south westerly direction for 750 feet (228.6m). The depth of water at the end of the jetty was 12 feet (3.6m). Large vessels (drawing more than 10 feet 6 inches (3.2m)) unloaded cargo into lighters whilst at anchor in Gage Roads.

In 1887 R.O. Law was contracted to build a new approach and extend the jetty in a westerly direction towards Gage Roads. The new section was to be 42 feet (12.8m) in width compared to the original structure which was 15 feet (4.5m) wide, with a narrow approach. Six vessels accommodated alongside the jetty which was 2837 feet (864m) long when finished, water depth alongside was 20 feet (6m). It was around this time the term Long Jetty came into popular use. Both the South Jetty and Long Jetty were served by tram tracks and later by the railway which was opened in 1881.

The Long Jetty was extended by 457 feet (139m) in 1896 to reach its final length of 3294 feet, (1004m). Eight vessels could now be brought alongside, the low water depth being 22 feet (6.7m). The opening of the harbour in 1897 meant the Long Jetty was no longer required for shipping.

Demolition at the time was only averted by recommendations to convert the structure into a promenade. In 1906 a fence was erected for safety reasons and in 1907 a hall was built at the jetty extremity. A few unsuccessful attempts at providing entertainment saw the hall removed South Beach.

The jetty eventually fell into despair (sic) and R.O. Law secured a contract for demolition of the structure he in part had built. The Long Jetty was finally demolished in 1921.

Many of the well established families of Perth and Fremantle first set foot in Western Australia by walking over the planks of this historic jetty.

Municipal Sea Baths

The baths were constructed between the Long Jetty and the South Jetty and were opened during the summer of 1906-07. In 1917 they were closed down.

Loss of the Priestman Dredge

Fremantle harbour works commenced in 1892 when the first load of stone was tipped at Rous Head, marking the commencement of the North Mole.

Four dredges were used during the harbour works. A Priestman Dredge removed rock blasted from the bar across the mouth of the Swan River, but was used mainly to clear sand from the inner basin.

On the night of the 11th May, 1893, a clam shell bucket dredge known as the Priestman capsized in the bay to the south of the Swan River mouth. Attempts at righting the vessel the next day failed and she sank to the bottom where she has remained to this day. The boiler, diving pump, crane and mooring chains were salvaged in the days that followed the Priestman's loss.

The wreck site was discovered in October, 1978 (by author) and inspected by the WA Museum soon after. The vessel's association with the harbour works and its year of loss (1893) has resulted in the vessel being declared protected by the Historic Shipwreck Act.

Bather's Bay Today

Looking out to sea from the shoreline of Bather's Bay in 1984 the scene is much as it must have been in early colonial days. Garden and Carnac Islands, historic places in their own right are still prominent features of the skyline.

The few wooden piles that remain above sea level indicates where part of the Long Jetty once stood. Little evidence, considering the 3/4 mile (1.2km) long structure that almost enclosed the bay.

To really be transported back in time, one only has to go beneath the waters of Bather's Bay

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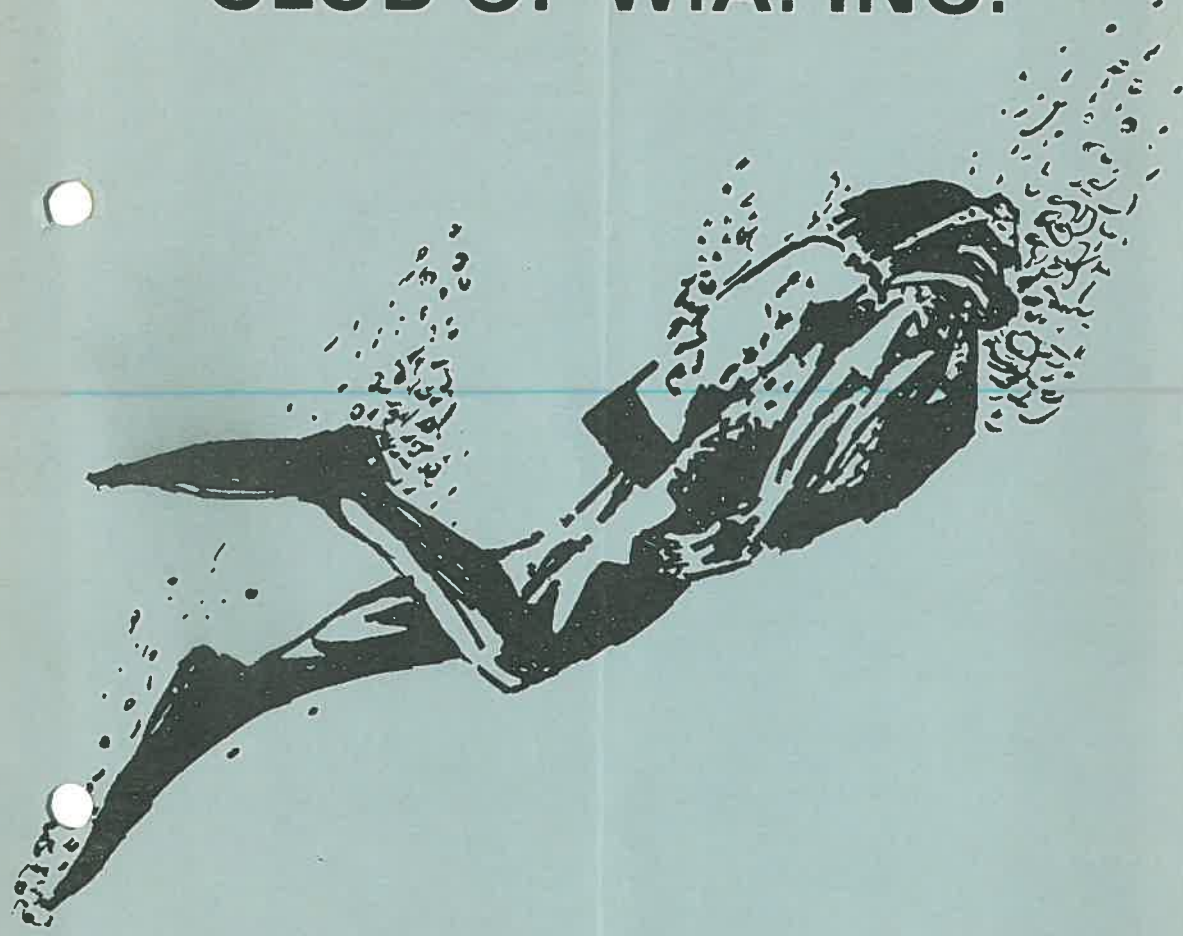
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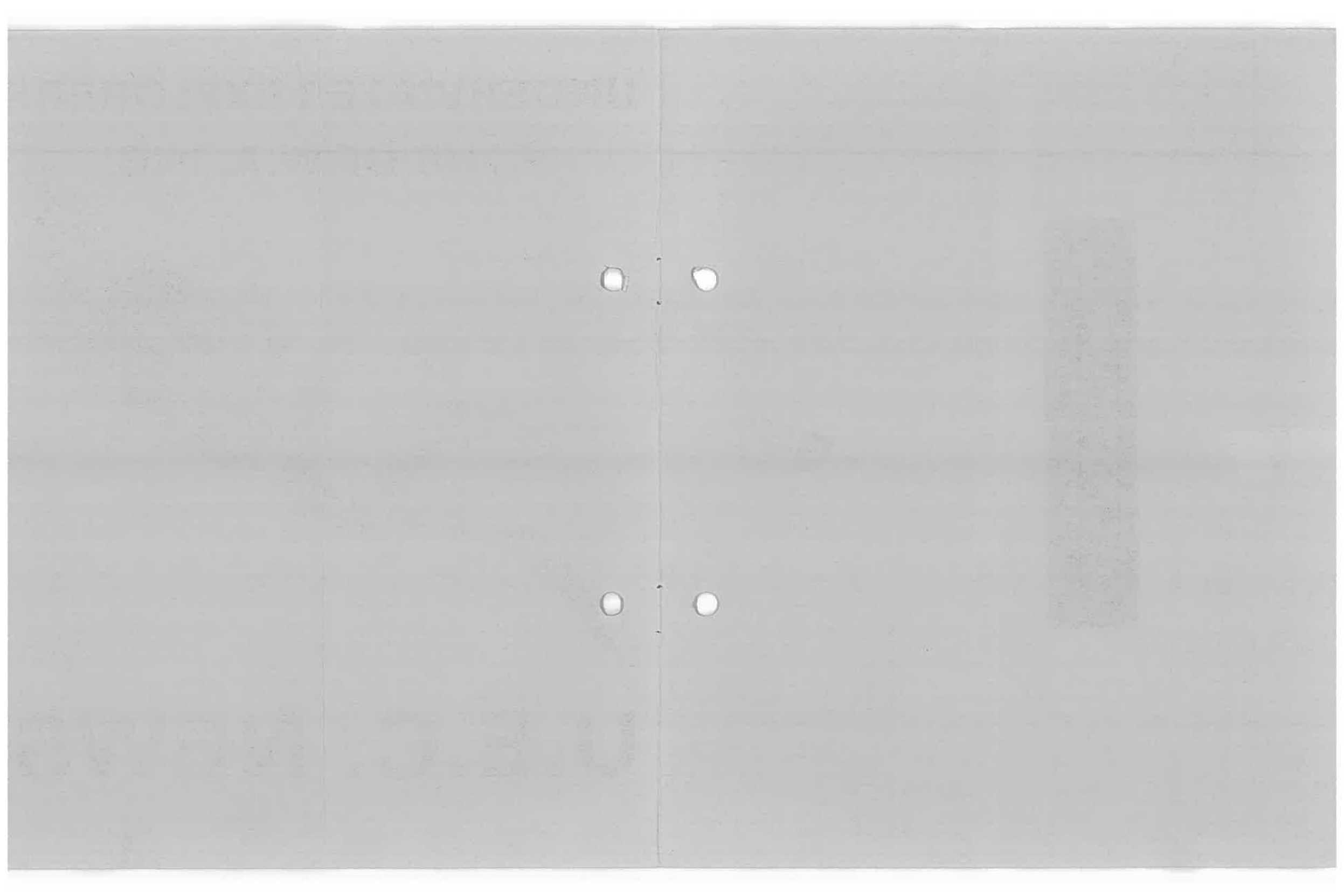
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Underwater Explorers Club of W.A.
Unit 1/22 Shields Crescent
Booragoon.

U.E.C. NEWS

**UNDERWATER EXPLORERS
CLUB OF W.A. INC.**



OCT 84



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Paul Brooker

Motions passed at the last Committee Meeting.

MOTION: That a letter be sent to FAUI re Blind training.

Moved: B. Kennedy; Seconded, P. Mortimer.

MOTION: That sub-committees be accepted.

Moved: M. Smith; Seconded, S. Oddy.

MOTION: That lock on fridge be removed.

Moved: B. Kennedy; Seconded, M. Smith.

The club door has been re-varnished. Dane Brooker donated the varnish, brush and labour, thanks Dane.

Martin has invited me to look after small boat outings so anyone with a boat please give me a ring and we can go out as a group. Much safer than going out on your own.

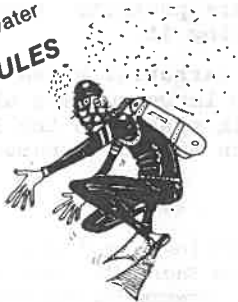
My Guest speaker at the October meeting will be an officer from the Marine and Harbours with films on boat safety.

"Cherio for now club mates!"

WANTED

A fibreglass swivel boat seat. Anyone in the know about a second hand one, please phone Paul on #390 8267.

When you enter the water
OBSERVE THE RULES



I THINK YOU'LL NEED
AN OCTOPUS RIG.

SOCIAL REPORT

Ten Pin Bowling

The ten pin bowling night was well attended. All those who came along had a great time. Look out for the next one.

Comedy Dinner Theatre

A few club members had a most enjoyable evening at the Comedy Dinner Theatre.

Come along to our next restaurant night.

If you are interested in Social events, contact Carla on #337 3667.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Richard Bone

Times are slow for the Club at the moment, but hopefully, soon things will pick up. We now have calendars at several dive shops and are getting enquiries from people picking these up.

The boat is running well and Martin is organising trips whenever possible. Don't let Winter put you off. Come along to meetings and show some interest in the club. The club needs your support, especially now, so let's see you on the boat, at the socials, and at the meetings.

OUR CLUB

Barry Kennedy

Now that we have deleted initial training from our activities, we really need some other projects to keep members actively involved. Stagnation and boredom soon become breeding grounds for man weakness. It becomes difficult to enjoy each others company without having to be on guard against subtle insults and aggressive attitudes. Sarcasm, thinly disguised as humour begins to raise it's ugly head. People soon become dissatisfied with this undesirable atmosphere.

To overcome these negative attitudes, we need more active projects, these tend to bring out the better nature in people.

One of the objectives of the club is to create fellowship. This is often an elusive quality which needs to be nurtured and encouraged. Active projects such as repairing and painting the club boat create feelings of friendship and fellowship among those who participate. Those who don't, really miss out on something good and satisfying.

It seems the more people contribute to a club, the more satisfaction they receive in return. It's not hard to contribute something constructive, like writing an article for the magazine or painting a door - or offering to help with some of the other work. You can become involved in all aspects of club activities. There should be, and there is, more involved in club membership than simply going on diving trips. Apart from social events and diving programmes, there are some other activities that you can become involved in which are coming up soon.

These include:

- Training for a boat skipper, to handle our club boat.
- Assist with training of handicapped divers.
- Help with advanced training of club members.
- Cleaning, painting, and maintenance of club rooms and dive boat.
- Designing and building a display unit, for the purpose of promoting the club.
- Producing a video tape of club activities for promotional display.
- Manning such display unit at a shopping centre.

Add something of value to the club, become involved.

LIBRARY

Members are asked to return outstanding books and magazines. "Australian Sea Fishes" is ONE book which is missing.

ENJOYED THE LAST WINE AND CHEESE NIGHT? ANOTHER IS BEING HELD ON OCTOBER 20th. SEE YOU THERE.



BUDDIES V LONERS

Julie-Anne Rumsey

When I did my diving course back in January, emphasis was placed on using the 'buddy system'. We were told to always dive with a buddy - which did not mean entering the water with a buddy and then separating for the dive, but diving together.

Recently I had the annoying (yes, annoying) experience of diving with a buddy who did not want use the system. I might add it was not a club member, or on a club dive, and the diver in question was an experienced one. I should have been prewarned with his question "do you want to buddy - or can we lose each other", however after we had been in the water for a few minutes, despite my answer of "yes, I would prefer to stay together", my "buddy" disappeared from sight. After surfacing several times to see if the separation was accidental, ie was he looking for me, I presumed (correctly) that he had gone off by himself, and I went back to the boat to await his return.

The point is that the buddy left by another's desire to dive alone not only is placed in a hazardous situation if he/she should get into difficulty, but also has to contend with the nagging worry that even though it is 99% certain the other diver has "gone it alone", he/she may have got into difficulties, and a potentially good dive is spoilt.

All divers, experienced and inexperienced alike, can find themselves in a situation where they need the help of another. The 'buddy system' is not only a safety precaution - but can add to the enjoyment of diving by sharing the same sights to discuss afterwards.

The buddy system does work, but it needs at least two to make it work. My annoyance was not abated on this occasion when I was told that the diver in question was known for his preference to dive alone - and that I was warned beforehand. While he was happily finning around, I was sitting on the boat, hoping that he had in fact not got into difficulties.

Think of your buddy, and his/her peace of mind. If you do lose him (and it can happen at the best of times), surface and look for him. You might need his help if you find yourself in trouble.

MUTE POINT?

Mr. Chris Thomas, Fisheries Officer at Cervantes, said that sharks injured by the indiscriminate dumping of rubbish from fishing boats could become a threat to swimmers - and divers.

The sharks become entangled in bait wrappers thrown overboard by careless fishermen. Sharks have been caught with uncut bait bands cutting into and rotting their flesh. The sharks were in agony and starving. Most were caught near popular swimming beaches - and dive sites.

Divers. Our safety is at stake! Complain to the authorities. Tell them to take stricter action against fishermen!

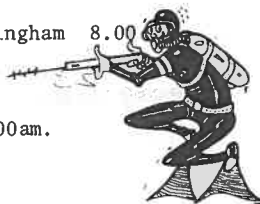
OCTOBER DIVING DATES

PUT THE FOLLOWING DATES IN YOUR DIARY AND BOOK THROUGH MARTIN #458 2224.

- October 14th: Cockburn Sound Wreck Tour. U.E. leaves Palm Jetty, Rockingham 8.00
- October 21st: Boat Trip. U.E. leaves Fremantle Ferry Jetty 9.00am.
- October 28th: Spearfishing Trip. U.E. leaves Fremantle Ferry Jetty 9.00am.

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Page Two



HMAS Stirling

A warship on commissioning has two histories : the history of the name and the history of the ship.

HMAS Stirling was selected to honour the name of Captain James Stirling, RN, the Naval Officer who landed on Garden Island in 1827 and returned in June, 1829 to found not only the first settlement in Western Australia, but also the first free settlement anywhere in Australia. HMAS Stirling is the name of the Naval Support Facility on Garden Island.

The idea of a Naval Facility in Western Australia to support units of the Fleet based on the Indian Ocean is not new. Such base was first planned about 1909. The site selected was in the Woodman Point area. Construction of that base to be known as the Henderson Naval Base was begun in 1911 and ceased in 1914, with little to show for the considerable amount of effort and money expended.

Work on HMAS Stirling started in 1971 with the construction of the causeway from Point Peron on the mainland to Parkin Point on Garden Island.

HMAS Stirling is an Intermediate Maintenance Support base designed to support four destroyer escorts and three submarines.

Garden Island is about 9 km long and 1½ km wide at the widest point and has an area of about 7400 hectares. The island is believed to have separated from the mainland about 6000 - 7000 years ago and is on top of a submerged sand dune and because it is all sand, it is environmentally extremely sensitive to exotic influence. No flora or fauna alien to the Island is permitted in HMAS Stirling.

All native flora and fauna on the Island are protected species. There are heavy penalties for either disturbing or destroying it.

The Tammar is an indigenous kangaroo like marsupial which inhabits the Island. They are nocturnal creatures and emerge in large numbers after sunset. There are a large number of tiger and black snakes on the Island and both species are poisonous. Carpet snakes, which are not venomous also abound.

THE SALVAGE OF THE AMSTERDAM

When the 500 tonne Dutch East Indian, the Amsterdam lost a rudder in heavy gale in the English Channel in 1749, the Captain ran the ship ashore on England's Hasting Beach. The ship landed in quicksand, and sank. The hatches swelled shut, preventing salvage of anything from the ship. The same quicksand also helped to preserve the ship which will now be salvaged at the cost of £4 million.

The operation will be difficult because of the quicksand - but the Director of the British Museum is confident, and believes that the attempt will succeed, even if it takes six or seven years.

SOME HOLE

Guy Pautot of the Centre Oceanologique de Bretagne, with his team working on the research vessel Jean Charot, reported finding a new hole in the Red Sea. It is 10km long, 6km wide, and 1490m deep. These holes or brine pools are rich in metallic salts and are formed where the African plate butts onto the Arabian plate, right down the centre of the Red Sea.

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DID YOU KNOW?....

- ...That Wildlife Protection Act includes a total ban of the export of Australian sea shells? The penalty for exporting shells is \$100,000 or five years in gaol?
- ...That Western Australia's 12,000km coast is defended only by the destroyer escort HMAS Stuart, the survey ship Moresby, and three patrol boats? (Quoting Mr. Brice).
- ...That the Marine Act was updated last July. The maximum fine for dangerous driving of a boat is \$1,000, and the penalty for causing a collision is \$10,000 fine or two years in gaol?
- ...That it is estimated that there are 20,000 different kinds of fish on earth? How many can you name?
- ...That a diver with nitrogen aquired from two or more dives can get bent bounce diving to f a stuck anchor, even if he is inside the no decompression limit?
- ...That hard work after a dive can cause the bends?

SHARK BAY THREATENED AGAIN.

In 1974 the Conservation Through Reserves Committee recommended that the Shark Bay region be set aside as a multipurpose national park for public recreation and conservation of flora, fauna and unique natural features.

The State Government has agreed in principle to the Shark Bay region being nominated for inclusion in the World Heritage list. In the southeast lobe of Shark Bay is a hypersaline (saltier than normal) expanse of water known as Hamlin Pool. A huge geophysical structure, Faure Sill, separates Hamlin Pool from the rest of the Bay and is responsible for the increased salinity. The sill is a huge wall (This one is in the proportion of 45 km x 16 km and the water only a few metres deep). The end result of all this is the creation of an environment ideal for the formation and continued growth of stromatolites. Outside Hamlin Pool, Shark Bay supports a myriad of marine life from whales, dolphins, dugongs and sharks (the bay was well-named) to the smallest of hermit crabs and snails. However Agnew Clough Ltd and Australian Mutual Provident Society have recently been granted two mining

leases on Peron Peninsula. They have also applied for an exploration licence in the same area. The Conservation Council is totally opposed to such developments in a potential World Heritage area.

WHAT YOU CAN DO.

- 1) Write to Mr. Ron Davies, MLA, Minister for the Environment, Ground Floor, 20 Barrack Street, Perth, W.A., and to Mr. Brian Burke, MLA, Premier, 32 St. George's Tce., Perth, W.A. 6000, urging them to nominate Shark Bay for World Heritage Listing and to ensure that no mineral exploitation is permitted. Tell them that you understand that the Western Australian Government already agrees in principle to the idea.
- 2) Ask them also to declare the whole area of Shark Bay as a marine sanctuary under similar management guidelines proposed by the National Parks Authority for Ningaloo Reef.
- 3) Send your replies to us.



OCTOBER LONG WEEKEND

Martin Smith

At last the long weekend was here. Stuart and I travelled with Mario on the Friday night to North Heads, north of Jurien Bay. Barry Kennedy had left the previous day to mark the track and set up a base camp. The others were to arrive on Saturday. Barry had marked the site well and we arrived about 10.00pm.

First light Saturday morning we were up and about, eager to pick out some good diving sites. The weather was perfect with light South East winds and smooth seas. Our campsite was 20metre from the edge of a small reef inside a bay. We walked to the top of a small limestone cliff overlooking the area and saw numerous reefs on which to dive, close in to shore.

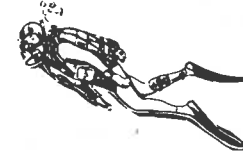
After breakfast we launched Barry's boat and headed South to find a good dive spot. The visibility was good, depth about 40feet, and lots of fish including some Baldchin Groper.

By now Brian Walker, Neil Wilson and Allan Blackwell had arrived and the next 2 hours were spent erecting Brian's rather large tent.

In the afternoon we did a shore dive around the point on the hookah. Ian Cowan soon arrived with his boat. That night we stoked up the fire and listened to Mario's music.

Next morning we launched Ian's boat and ventured out to chase some 'jewies'. Barry and his divers picked out a nice spot inside the reef. Both dives were good with excellent visibility but no fish. The afternoon we dived around the reefs near the shore. Mario did a spot of rod fishing but was unsuccessful.

Well, that's about it. The weather set in on Monday morning and put an end to diving. A good weekend was had by all. Thanks Ian for the use of your boat, and also to Barry for your boat and hookah.



WHILE BACK IN PERTH.....

Julie-Anne Rumsey

Peter Horton kindly took Peter Mortimer, Brian Jury, and myself over to Rottnest on the Sunday of the long weekend, in his boat.

The weather was pleasant, and the seas flat, so we headed out from Cockburn to Parker Point, making the most of the conditions, and making it in double quick time! Parker Point proved just as colourful as ever, with the visibility being better than we had seen for some time.

We decided to make our second dive on a reef just off the North of Garden Island, but the poor visibility made it the shortest dive ever, and we returned to the boat to find an alternative dive spot - where we could see!

We found just the spot West of Carnac Island. The visibility was good, and the scenery one of holes and ledges - well worth the extra hassle of unkitting and kitting up, (although I admit to being lazy and remaining kitted in the move). We had some good finds on this dive. I found a very nice Cowrie, a diving knife, and another piece of colourful coral for my collection. Both Peter's found good Cowries and assorted shells.

Thankyou to Peter Horton for the trip - another good day's diving.

Water is a much more hostile environment than air because of its thermal capacity and specific heat. It takes a thousand times more heat to heat the same volume of water than it does to heat a similar volume of air. Water conducts heat 25 times faster than air does. Seventy one per cent of the body volume is within an inch (or 2.5 cm) of the skin, thus reducing the distance through which heat has to be transported to the outside world. This very adaptation for losing heat is a danger to those of us who entertain ourselves by submerging. It is even more of a danger for those who involuntarily find themselves in the water. Very many of the deaths from drowning that occur after aircraft land in the water, or ships are sunk, are precipitated by hypothermia interfering with the ability of the person to think or swim.

The body in contact with water which is colder than itself, the normal situation, rapidly loses heat to the surrounding water. This sets up convection currents in the water which move the heated water away from the body, cold water moves in and the process starts again. Add to this small scale heat transfer the water movement due to swimming movements and one can see that this is a potential for very high heat loss. In fact it is much better for the submerged individual to avoid moving and huddle in to a little ball, the so-called Heat Exchange Lessening Posture (HELP) than to try and swim. Lack of movement reduces heat loss considerably.

The factors governing heat loss are the temperature of the water, the amount of heat generated in the body and the amount of insulation to slow down heat loss from the body. If one compares the heat losses of a thin person and a fat person, both while sitting still in water and swimming, one discovers that a thin person cannot sustain the swimming without a large drop in core temperature, while the fat person, thanks to his insulation keeping heat in his core, can maintain his body temperature, which is one of the things that explains why long distance swimmers on the whole are well covered people.

The human body copes with cold by vasoconstriction and increased heat output. When the human body goes into water, at first there is a high rate of heat loss. This decreases as vasoconstriction occurs. Then the rate of heat loss decreases again as increased heat production starts. The use of a wetsuit removes the first,

steep part of the heat loss curve, and by increasing the insulation around the person, allows more efficient retention of the extra heat generated. However, a wetsuit does not stop heat loss. It merely reduces it.

Cold induced vasoconstriction affects both the arterial and venous sides of the vascular tree. This results in increased resistance, causing a rise in blood pressure, and an increased venous return to the heart resulting in a larger cardiac output which accentuates the rise in blood pressure. Both systolic and diastolic pressures rise in the immersed vasoconstricted human.

If the person has hypertension, this rise in blood pressure can be extremely high. The increased cardiac workload has been thought to be responsible for a number of diving deaths in those with the older age groups, that is the over 30s. This is based on American figures which do show that as divers get older, the proportion of definite cardiac deaths increases. Many of these deaths occur at the end of the dive when the person is on the surface of the water. They are not drownings.

At the beginning of cold water immersion experiments there is a rise in core temperature because the shut down of limb circulation keeps the warm blood in the core.

COLD INDUCED MALFUNCTIONS

The first symptoms of heat loss are feeling cold, followed soon after by shivering. And then, long before you have reached a dangerous temperature at your core, there are the mental changes of slowness of thought, slurred speech, with these goes incoordination. Cold affects the transmission of nerve impulses down nerves, and also affects the rate of contraction of muscles. A combination results in malfunction and difficulty in fine movements, and as one grows colder, the grosser movements get affected as well. Anyone who has been exposed to low environmental temperatures knows that their fingers go numb, that the sensation of touch is impaired and their fine movements are soon impaired.

The early signs of hypothermia are very similar to those of the early signs of alcoholic intoxication, a certain sense of well being and ignoring the obvious problems around one. This is a very dangerous situation for a diver. One of my colleagues in Melbourne went diving in October some years ago. When he surfaced at the

end of the dive, he was unable to climb into the boat. He had to be helped in. In his own words, he was blue with cold, and yet he was not the slightest bit upset that he was too weak to climb up into the boat, a thing he could normally do quite easily. He has no real memory of this, all he remembers is what his friends have told him. He obviously had difficulty concentrating. He did not progress through slurred speech, disorientation and hallucinations to drowsiness and coma.

Of course, somebody floating in a lifejacket who gets cold enough to go unconscious will not have the protective reflexes to avoid breathing in water when a wave gets up and slaps him in the face.

People who are becoming hypothermic often stop swimming. They just quietly sink. History is full of sad stories of wrecked sailors clinging to the mast until one by one they lost their grip and fell into the water. This is certainly due to hypothermia, a hypothermic loss of muscular control, leading to falling into the water and drowning. During the Second World War, many men were found floating dead in their life jackets. They had not drowned. Their lungs were perfectly normal. They had died from cold, from loss of body heat.

On Arctic convoys from the UK to Murmansk, the expectation of life for a downed fighter pilot in his standard flying suit was less than five minutes after he was in the water. They were often still alive when they were pulled into the escorting destroyer's whaler which reached them in five minutes or less, but they died in the boat on the way back to the destroyer. Those that did survive always had to be helped up the scrambling nets, they could not get themselves up as muscular power had gone from cold. The introduction of immersion suits that kept the man's clothes dry dramatically changed the picture. With the layer of dry clothing trapping air between him and the survival suit, he could live for half an hour or more without getting into the situation that five minutes exposure had given him before.

Under cold water it is necessary for insulation to be applied to the head because the scalp, unlike the rest of the body, does not have a cold induced vasoconstriction. The head goes on losing heat even though all the other surface vessels are severely constricted. As the head is some nine to ten per cent of the body surface area, and a good half of this is scalp, there

is a large loss in heat from in the head. Mind you, it is a lot more comfortable to go diving without a hood, but in cold water it is very sensible to wear one. Without a hood there is only a very small distance between cold water and the brain and the tissues are not efficient insulation. So the brain cools locally as well as being cooled by a cooler blood flow.

Cold induced mental change is the major problem of incipient hypothermia for divers because once one's brain does not work properly, one makes wrong decisions.

Heat loss in a wet suited diver does not stop when he gets out of the water. Most wetsuits have nylon cloth on both sides of the neoprene. The water trapped in outside cloth will evaporate in the air currents that eddy round the diver as the boat moves to the next dive site. The heat for this evaporation comes from the diver's body. So he will start the second dive colder than he was when he finished the first dive unless he takes his wetsuit off and puts dry clothes on between the dives.

AFTER DROP

Once a drop in core temperature has occurred the core temperature continues to drop after a person is removed from the water and dried. When wrapped up well and no longer losing heat the core temperature continues to drop. It continues even when active rewarming is started.

This after drop can be as much as 1°C. It is due to the cold parts of the body draining heat from the core as they warm up. Whatever method of warming is employed this after drop will occur.

PREVENTION AND TREATMENT

Hypothermia only occurs when heat loss exceeds heat gain. The most important treatment is to prevent the occurrence of hypothermia. Not staying underwater too long, not diving when chilled and warming up thoroughly between dives are simple, sensible things to do. Feeling warm is no guarantee that your heat losses have been replaced. The only way to be certain that heat losses have been replaced is to start sweating. This shows that the body needs to lose heat.

FROM "SPUMS" JOURNAL.

U.E.C NEWS

(UNDERWATER EXPLORERS CLUB OF W.A. INC.)

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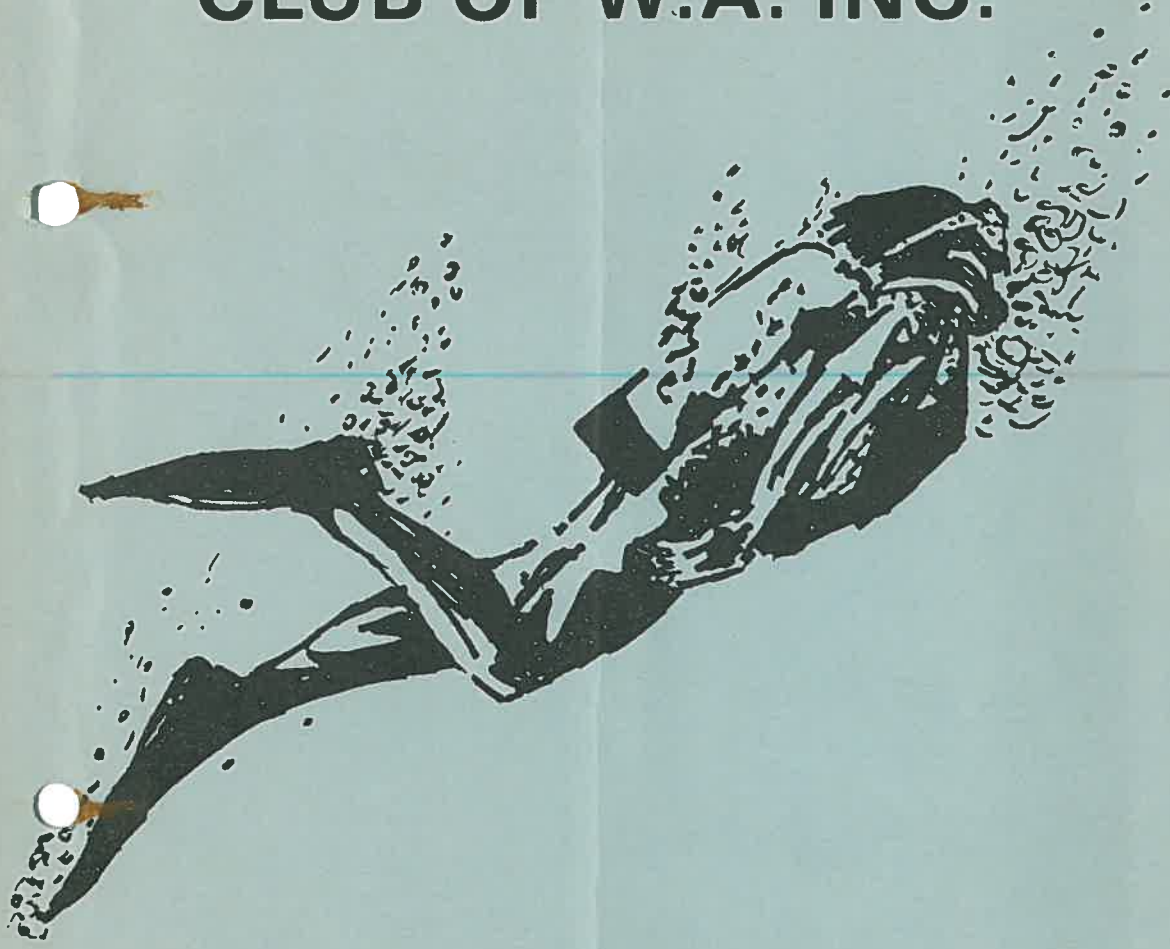
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NOV 84

**UNDERWATER EXPLORERS
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U.E.C. NEWS



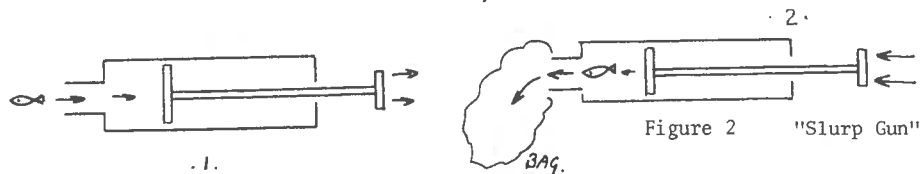
that they would be more able to cope with the temperature variations that can occur in a tank. My main source was a small protected inlet in Shoalwater Bay near Rockingham. The water is of wading depth for over 100 metres from the beach and is subject to substantial temperature variations. I also collected a few specimens while diving around the Jervois Bay groyne.

- 2 Collecting methods: My own methods were simple. I either hand collected the more sedentary species while wading in the shallows, or in a couple of instances trapped fish in a net while diving.

The latter method was unsatisfactory in one case where I had several small fish in the net at the same time as sea urchins. By the time I had surfaced all the fish were dead, presumably poisoned by the urchins. This was supported by subsequent information obtained about toxins in sea urchin spines.

More satisfactory methods of collecting while diving are: Use clear plastic bags filled and open one end. The fish can then be driven into the bag and sealed. A TV documentary showed this method used with reasonable success by marine biologists in Queensland. Smaller specimens can be caught with aids such as "slurp guns". In principle they act like a bicycle pump in reverse and consist of a large clear plastic tube partly open at one end and fitted with a plunger and handle. The open end is placed as close as possible to the victim and the handle withdrawn, sucking it inside the tube. The contents can then be expelled into a plastic bag. Figure 2 shows the principle of a "slurp gun".

Other surface methods such as netting can be used but some damage can be expected to occur to the animals and a substantial death rate may result.



- 3 Transportation and handling: Minimum handling, gentle treatment and speed are the main features of successful transportation of specimens. Most sedentary forms can live for several hours in an ordinary bucket (with lid) filled with seawater, but in the case of fish this time should be dramatically reduced as they use up oxygen rapidly. Also gentle handling is important as they may injure themselves on the walls in panic.

Another method of transporting fish, that I have seen, is to place them in a plastic bag half filled with water and then blown up with pure oxygen and sealed. This will cause a greater oxygen content in the water and also reduce injury.

When placing animals in the tank ensure that the temperatures are similar or the shock may be fatal. A simple method is to immerse the whole container in the tank until equilibrium is reached and then release the animal.

NOMINATIONS

PETER HARDING KAREN POLLICH



Tuesday nights have been selected as the meeting night for all those who are interested in a workout at Beatty Park pool each week.

To get in shape you can do laps of the pool, swim underwater, or duckdive to the bottom of the 5m pool.

Bring wetsuit, flippers, and mask.

DIVING REPORT

Martin Smith

The dive on the 29th October, was to be off Dwyer Island at "Rotto". A pleasant day was forecast and we had eleven divers onboard ready to brave the elements of the deep. On anchoring over a suitable spot, Peter Mortimer, (Diver OC), organised his divers, and then it was on for young and old. One not so old person in Ian Cowan did the unforgivable. He forgot his diving gear which meant I (myself skipper), could go for a dive. What a shame. Quite a good dive, some nice caves, and a couple of good drop-offs.

Well at the end of the dive we have the problem of people surfacing too far from the boat and also down current. Again I ask divers to either buy a compass and we can run a navigation course if they are not sure of how to use it correctly, or each diver will be instructed to tow a personal diving flag.

On the second dive we attempted to find the "Lady Elizabeth", but had no success so we did a dive on nearby reefs.

Back at Fremantle we were boarded by the Marine and Harbour Police. They asked how much we charged for a boat trip and checked the vessel for safety gear. The current system of payment for boat trips is illegal. As from now all boat trips are free to all club members. No fee will be charged for the use of the club boat.

Recommendation: That all boat trips are free to all club members. No fee will be charged for the use of the club boat. Members willing to participate in club diving activities will be asked to donate a nominal sum of money to the running, maintenance, and constant upgrading of the clubrooms and equipment.

DID YOU KNOW?

...That each cubic mile of seawater is estimated to contain \$5 billion worth of dissolved chemicals?

...That all magnesium produced by the United States today comes from the ocean?

WRECK FINDERS

John Paskulich

The WA Museum is compiling an "honour board" of WA wreck finders. They have reasonably accurate records from the early 1970's, but information on prior discoveries is scarce.

In response to a circular I put out, I've received a letter from an old UEC member, Eric Christensen, giving details of selected wrecks.

Below is an extract from his letter. If any other older members can add to it, we would be pleased to hear from you.

CENTAUR... USFA or the Blue Water Wanderers, a reader of the West Australian Newspapers, Jack Curnow may be able to supply further information.

JAMES SERVICE... Reg Evans, Hugh Edwards, & Harold Roberts, searched the area after reports by local fishermen. Wreck found by this party.

CARLISLE CASTLE... Harold Roberts, Lynne Jones, and a party from Albany. Joe Caslehow & Vic Moir included. Party searched from the "Huntress". Wreck found.

ZEDORA... Hugh Edwards found this wreck in mistake for the "Lancier".

ULIDIA... UEC party comprising Harold Roberts, Albert Ottey, Lynne Jones, & Reg Evans. Others were in the party, names forgotten.

LADY ELIZABETH... Barry Martin, now deceased, others involved but not known.

MACEDON... Tom Snyder, now deceased. Ron Gray and Terry Sullivan also believed to be involved.

CITY OF YORK... UEC members found and positioned the wreck. The party went on the "Burbler", Reg Evans boat.

IT'S WATCHING YOU

R.L.Forward

We share this planet with a form of intelligence so foreign, so completely lacking in mammalian attributes that it might have risen from the pages of a bad science fiction. Yet this highly intelligent creature lives and thinks foreign thoughts as it watches us float past its hidden lair. Almost every time we go for a dive - the alien in our sea is...the octopus.

Starting as a lowly clam, the octopus shed its protective shell and ventured out into an evolutionary gauntlet that whipped it into a highly intelligent shape. Like its mollusc relative, the squid, the octopus has imaging eyes, sophisticated manipulators, and a large brain.

The evolution of intelligence in molluscs happened independent of the rise of the vertebrate brain, and yet the two separate developments of intelligence on Earth produced many similar characteristics - flexible limbs, a centralized brain, and eyes with lenses.

There are however, some interesting differences. We have four articulated limbs, octopuses have eight flexible ones; our brain, like that of every vertebrate, is a two lobed mass of nerve cells perched above the mouth, but the brain of an octopus is a five-lobed ring of nerve cells around the oesophagus, behind the mouth. The circulatory system of an octopus has three pumps pushing a green copper compound, our two-lobed pump pushes a red iron compound. These features make the octopus seem even more alien, though we have shared this planet since primeval times.

To some, the octopus is a devil fish or sailor-killing monster. Yet it has a "rightness" when seen in its own environment. Tiptoeing across the sands on curled legs, gliding across rock-strewn seabeds, its undulating flesh automatically follows the grooves and ridges of the ocean floor. But when propelling itself at high speed through the open water, the flexible body reconfigurates into a smoothly curved, ideally hydrodynamic shape.

The octopus gave up the security of a hard protective shell for the independence of motion, running instead of hiding. In the process it developed a brain that far outstrips those of the immobile oysters and clams. The soft, unprotected flesh of the octopus is all too vulnerable, especially in an ocean inhabited by voracious toothed sharks.

However, to eat an octopus, you must first catch it, and there is no better expert in camouflage and escape. It can change its shape, its form, its surface texture, even its colour, to elude the notice of predators and divers. When all else fails, it can squeeze its amorphous body into the tiniest hiding place. An untrained diver can pass a dozen octopuses without knowing they are there. It takes an experienced eye to distinguish them from the rocks and weed and branches of coral. The remarkable camouflage of the octopus is largely due to two types of colour cells, called chromatophores. The darker ones produce browns and reds, the lighter produce oranges and yellows. An adult has several million such cells, more than 100 cells per square millimetre of skin. When an octopus is moving, its colour pattern flows in the direction opposite to its motion. Even when fleeing to safety the octopus appears to be stationary - an optical illusion.

The texture of the animal's skin is also controlled independently of colour. Muscles working on small portions of skin can make it smooth or bristle it up in an extreme case of gooseflesh that simulates a sandy surface.

The creature's astounding ability to mimic its surroundings indicates that the brain exerts a high level of control over body functions.

Octopus intelligence has not been extensively investigated, but a few experiments have found that even smaller members of the species are capable of rapid learning. In one experiment a fishbowl filled with water and containing a crayfish was sealed with a cork and placed near an octopus. The octopus spent a long time probing the container's smooth sides and rough top, after

of selected corals, invertebrates and fish are kept in the same tank and only simple aeration is used. It appears that the inhabitants complement each other and dispose of wastes before they become toxic. This method has been imitated by other hobbyists with results ranging from highly successful to disastrous. It is not recommended to the beginner.

- 2 Sterile System. Aims to keep the water as free as possible from diseases and toxic chemicals produced by decaying waste.

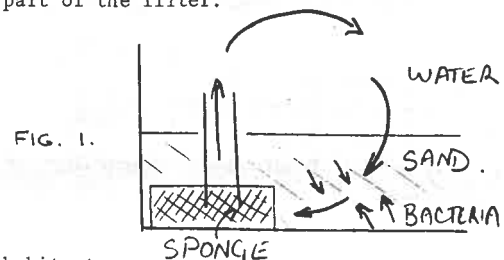
Synthetic seawater is essential. Constant coarse and fine filtration is employed as well as chemical absorbers. Sophisticated methods like UV light sterilisers may also be used. All components are regularly removed and washed to prevent build up of algae. The water quality is ideal for sensitive species, but filter feeders or detritus eaters could not survive.

Aesthetically, they often appear 'sterile' as well.

- 3 Mixed System. Employs a 'biological filter' and for most hobbyists is the preferred system.

The water is constantly passed through a coarse filter which may be under the sand or external to the tank. Bacteria, mentioned previously, develop in the filter material. Organic particles are trapped in the filter, attacked by the bacteria and progressively reduced to harmless products as described by the nitrogen cycle. The filter bed should not be disturbed until it is clogged and then only partly replaced to ensure viability of the bacteria.

Figure 1 shows the principle of a sub sand biological filter. In this case, the sand serves as part of the filter.



Water circulated by air driven pump. Waste is trapped in the sand and sponge and is broken down by bacteria.

The Inhabitants

- 1 The tank should be allowed to reach equilibrium in the nitrogen cycle before it is stocked.
- 2 Care must be taken to select compatible species. For example carnivores may prey on small fish, certain pufferfish release poison fatal to other species. Anemones have been known to blind inquisitive fish that have ventured too close.
- 3 Overcrowding must be avoided. A rule of thumb is 1" of fish to 2 gallons of water (25mm to 10 litres). A typical 90 litre tank could contain 9 - 10 small fish or 4 - 5 50mm specimens.
- 4 Feeding. Generally fish and invertebrates can be divided into carnivores or browsers. Another rule of thumb is that if a fish has a small mouth it is a browser, a large mouth indicates a carnivore.

Algae growth should be encouraged if browsers are kept. The diet for meat eaters should be varied as experience has shown that loss of condition is common if only one type of food is provided. A range of commercially produced dry food is available. Live food such as mosquito wrigglers and brine shrimp is also recommended.

- 5 Disease. Many diseases exist and can usually be controlled by proprietary medicines. Traces of copper in the water are considered beneficial to fish for reducing infection but at the same time are toxic to molluscs. An excellent reference on diseases is contained in "The Marine Aquarium in Theory and Practise" by CW Emmens, and available from the library in the South Fremantle Tech. College Annexe,

Collecting Specimens

- 1 Sources: I considered it best to collect specimens from shallow, protected water, assuming

BASIC THEORY OF MARINE AQUARIUMS

John Paskulich

The following article is made up of extracts from a recent project I did, as part of my studies in Marine Biology at the South Fremantle Tech.

Since a number of our members actually like looking at fish rather than only shooting them, I thought an article on marine aquariums is appropriate.

The Tank

- 1 It should be as large as possible. Ideally greater than 90 litres. Smaller tanks require greater attention to ambient temperature and filtration and severely limit the number of fish that can be kept.
- 2 Construction should be all glass. Metal frames are prone to corrosion from salt water. Other materials such as fibreglass should be carefully tested as they may leach toxins.
- 3 A lid is recommended to reduce evaporation.
- 4 Lighting. Indirect sunlight or fluorescent is required for a minimum of 12 hours per day.
- 5 Water temperature. Tropical - 25 to 30 degrees C.
'Cool water' - 15 to 20 degrees C.
Tropical temperatures are achieved by thermostatically controlled tank heaters. In the other case, the tank should be located in a cool part of the house, out of the direct sunlight.

The Water

- 1 Salt content should be between 3.3% and 3.8%.
- 2 PH should be around 8.2%.
- 3 SG should be 1.025 at 20 degrees C.
- 4 Oxygen content should exceed 6 ppm. The amount of dissolved oxygen in water is a product of water temperature, surface area and water movement at the surface. Aeration (bubbling), does not directly introduce oxygen into the water but creates surface movement and a cycling action.
- 5 Synthetic seawater. It is difficult to exactly duplicate the composition of seawater in the home but a number of manufacturers now market various mixes that will perform satisfactorily. The main advantages of artificial mixtures are, they overcome the supply and transport problems of seawater and also do not contain unwanted organisms or diseases.
- 6 Natural seawater. If collected from an unpolluted source, it is the best choice, but, even so, problems exist.
Micro-organisms such as algae, are present. These die soon after the water is collected and encourage a massive bacteria bloom that will cause havoc among the tank's inhabitants. A new tank will take some time before it reaches equilibrium. Refer to the following section 'Nitrogen Cycle' for details. Experiments by one author showed that tanks, deliberately overcrowded with fish, and containing natural seawater had a much lower attrition rate than similar set ups containing sythetic mixes. No explanation was offered as to why this happened.

The Nitrogen Cycle

When a new tank is set up, the nitrogen cycle commences. Decaying organic material causes rapid ammonia production. This encourages the development of bacteria such as NITROSOMONAS. These in turn convert the ammonia to nitrous acid and nitrites. Both toxic to fish. Other bacteria such as NITROBACTAR then develop and convert these products to nitric acid and nitrates which are relatively safe. When all these bacteria are established, the tank will reach equilibrium. The resulting nitric acid levels can be controlled by adding calcium carbonate in the form of shells and coral fragments to the tank. Nitrates serve as food for algae and as such can be controlled.

Filtration Methods

- 1 Natural System. Developed in Indonesia, this system uses no mechanical aids. A combination

which it returned to it's lair in irridescent frustration. After a while it left it's hole, unhesitatingly wrapped three tentacles around the bowl, one around the cork and pulled. The cork floated to the surface and the octopus got the crayfish. In similar experiments, the octopuses have ultimately solved the mysteries of a screw top on a jar.

If small octopuses can demonstrate such intelligence, what could a giant deep sea squid achieve. An octopus is a very quick learner. In one experiment, the researchers lowered a black disc into a tank. The octopus touched it and was immediately rewarded with a piece of fish. Then a white disc was placed in the tank. This time the octopus received a mild electric shock and withdrew in indignation. When the black disc was again placed in the tank, the octopus came out, touched it without hesitation, and received it's reward. But when the white disc was lowered into the tank the second time, the octopus looked at it, began to extend it's tentacles and then declined. The speed of learning in this situation again reveals an intelligence of higher order.

The octopus has excellent vision. It's eyes are the equal of all the higher vertebrates', including mans'. Though they developed seperately, there is a remarkable degree of similarity between their eyes and ours. Both have lids, irises, crystalline lenses, and retinas.

The arms of an octopus are much more wersatile than the human arm and hand. An octopus eats a crab by making one crack in the shell, then inserting it's tentacles to pull out the meat. The tips can reach into the smallest portions of a lobster's leg and the pieces of meat are carried from sucker disc to sucker disc, all the way back to the mouth at the juncture of the arms.

The octopus's sense of touch is more developed than ours, which is based only on pressure. The octopus sees and smells with it's skin covering it's tentacles. With the touch of a tentacle tip, the shape, texture, smell, and chemical composition of an object all become immediately apparent.

Once an octopus gets to know a person and has overcome it's natural fear, it likes to be petted. Any handling, however, has to be done gently. The large ones are especially fragile.

For a spineless creature the octopus has been remarkably daring. After discarding it's shell it became a predator - not a prey.. It walks, it swims, and jets above the ocean floor like an underwater superman. It's intelligence is demonstrably worth attention.

Could it be that octopuses are so foreign, so alien, that we are not intelligent enough to evaluate them?

EDITOR'S NOTE: Before petting an octopus, make sure it is not a small blue ringed octopus, or a giant deep sea squid. Both are dangerous.

EDITORIAL

Recent tragedies in the diving world point strongly to the fact that the buddy system is an absolutely essential procedure which must be followed on every dive.

It must be understood that no diver, regardless of ability or experience should go on a dive alone, but should be accompanied by another diver who has acknowledged and accepted the responsibility for the other's safety under any circumstances requiring mutual assistance.

For the buddy system to be effective you must observe a strict diver distance range which must not exceed 3 metres, even with good visibility. Greater distance reduces the chances of rendering immediate assistance in an emergency situation.

Mutual protection and responsibility must be accepted, each other's ability discussed, the type of activity and signals to be used agreed on, and finally, make yourself familiar with each other's gear.

DIVING WITH A CHIP ON YOUR WRIST

Tibi Csomay

The transistor, with it's compact size, low power requirement and high reliability, is gradually working itself into the sports divers world.

If you leaf through the latest diving magazines you will find several advertisements for computer ized diving aides. Some look and function like a watch on the surface, others you strap on your wrist when you dive, and yet another which is on the back of a combination of gauges.

Let's look at the combo first. On one side you have a contents gauge to 4000PSI, a sapphire-jewelled depth gauge to 240 feet, and a rare earth samarium cobalt compass.

Holding it in front of you as you dive, you can tell the direction in which you are swimming, how deep you are and how much air you have left.

Not bad... but there is more, turn it over and there is a digital dive timer which automatically tracks your bottom time, surface interval and number of dives. And... just in case you lost your knife, a razor sharp survival knife has been attached to it to help cut your way out of trouble.

You should have a dive watch when you dive. Better still you should have a small micro-computer which combines the features of a sophisticated watch with an automatic dive timer.

It looks like any digital watch but the resemblance ends there. Descending below 4 feet the watch automatically records and displays the current bottom time. When returning to the surface the watch starts to record and display surface interval. The watch can store seven bottom times and intervals in it's memory log for recall any time. On the surface the watch function displays time of day, day of week, and date with alarm, stopwatch, and backlight. Underwater, touch the mode button to read the time of day. The time display will remain for five seconds before changing back to display your current bottom time. The stop watch can be used underwater while your bottom time continues to be recorded. What's more, it is water resistant to 330 feet, even if you aren't.

There is another type available, not in the shape of a watch, more like a small packet of cigarettes. It continually measures the uptake and discharge of nitrogen as well as tells you the remaining no-decompression time with credit for the shallow part of the dive. It records maximum depth, bottom and surface interval time as well.

If you like your arm to look like a christmas tree and light up as well this next one is for you. The makers describe it as a wrist computer. It tells you at a glance your actual depth and maximum depth you have been to. It shows your lapsed dive time, it warns you when you come near your no-stop limit, tells you if decompression stop is required with the time for the stop and at what depth. If you do decompress, it has a decompression countdown. If you are coming up too fast, it has an ascent rate warning. On top it records surface interval and desaturation time, and shows your ascent time.

The high intensity liquid crystal display ensures visibility on night dives or in murky water. Unlike the others it displays six different types of information at once.

Unfortunately, none of the above are available here. But I had a look at ^{WHICH IS} one in a Stirling Highway dive shop. It is similar to the combo described before, but with the digital display actually built into the depth gauge.

The depth gauge is to 200 feet. The needle showing your actual depth pushes a slave needle to your maximum depth where it remains until reset after each dive.

The digital functions are bottom time, number of dives and surface interval displayed in a small oblong window in the face of the depth gauge. It is automatic and prior to your dive the display is blank. It activates when your depth exceeds 10 feet and immediately starts to record your bottom time and tells you that it is your first dive. Upon ascending to five feet or less the bottom time freezes and the surface timer is activated and continues until your next dive. If you remain on the surface for less than 10 minutes and dive again the frozen bottom time will continue to count again from where it let off.

If you remain on the surface for 10 minutes or more (up to 12 hours) before your next dive, and dive again, the bottom timer will zero and restart recording the bottom time of the second dive.

After your last dive, the digital display will record your surface time for 12 hours after which the display will clear and the unit shuts down.

There is a variation to the above unit where the digital display is built into a watch which looks like a wristwatch but has no watch function.

These transistorised dive timers sound very tempting and if you have plenty of money some of them are available to buy....but you have to remember one thing, it-doesn't matter how many gadgets you have, the safety of yourself and your buddy is still up to you.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Richard Bone

Hi!

The crayfishing season is open soon, and the weather is getting good for diving.

For those of you that enjoy the taste of a good crayfish, the season is opening on the 15th of November and I am certain that many club members will be keen to participate.

The diving season is just getting started. The boat is going out every weekend, so get in and do some diving.

See you at the next meeting.

TRAINING

Barry Kennedy

As you know, we are currently a non-training club. This situation came about despite my opposition to it as Training Officer.

What I am afraid of now is dwindling membership in a club which becomes stagnant with the same old members. What is needed, is a continuous flow of new blood into the membership. Training our own divers provides this and more, it also produces a club activity in which members can become involved. Also, training divers is a tradition in this club, which spans three decades.

Did you know, in the early days of SCUBA diving in this state, the UEC was the only qualifying body? Divers who needed workers compensation, I believe, had to have a UEC ticket. Even police divers were trained by the UEC. What a shame to bring all this to an end simply because of a few minor problems. I for one, would like to see our training programme continue, I shall certainly work towards this end, all I need is a little support. Should we continue our training, there would be some small changes, such as more pool work and more use of the club boat in our training programme.

Now to move on to another subject which has won my approval, an excellent idea which has come up before, but for some obscure reason has never been implemented, and that is.....

Changing our AGM from the middle of Winter to sometime in January.

The benefits of this change are obvious, by January we have many more active divers to contest the positions in the committee, also collecting our annual dues should be much easier, as most members are active in the club at this time of year. Most people seem to have other interests through the Winter months, and it's not until about January each year when we begin to have a full roll call again. I can see only good things to come from this change. Any improvements that can be made, should be made!

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

One UEC member recently scored top points for a Wood duck of the year award. He was so keen for a day's good diving that he left all his diving gear in the car on the Fremantle jetty!

All divers on-board that day agree that you make an excellent deck hand.....Ian!

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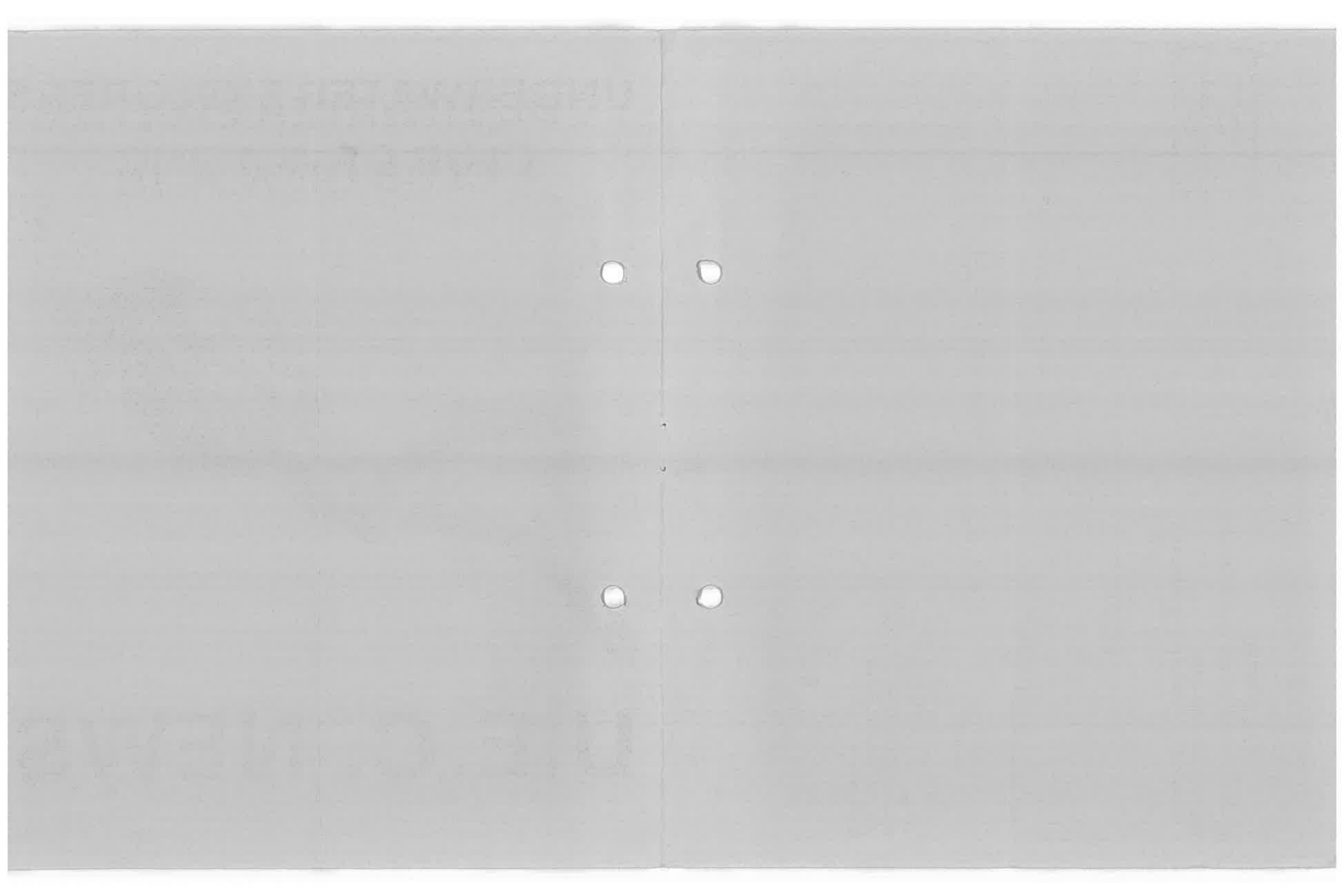
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THE ANSWERS TO THE FOLLOWING CLUES CAN ALL BE FOUND IN THE ABOVE ARRAY OF LETTERS.
 CLUE: ALL ANSWERS RELATE TO DIVING...AND MAY BE FOUND WRITTEN HORIZONTALLY, VERTICALLY, BACKWARDS, OR DIAGONALLY.

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1 We breathe it | 20 How to ascend |
| 2 A "no no" before diving | 21 Basic equipment for breathing |
| 3 A common type of shell | 22 Every dive should have one |
| 4 An important system | 23 Hold secrets and history |
| 5 They help us move faster | 24 Divers' language |
| 6 Interesting as long as you have light | 25 Standard dress for divers |
| 7 It contains a valve | |
| 8 A predator | |
| 9 To work it must be turned on | |
| 10 Type of fish...and a boat | |
| 11 A necessity before firing | |
| 12 Ours | |
| 13 A magnet for divers | |
| 14 Another world | |
| 15 The season is almost here | |
| 16 Boats should have these | |
| 17 Tells you the pressure or depth | |
| 18 A chamber no diver wishes to see | |
| 19 Atmospheres | |



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL UEC MEMBERS.

FIVE FATHOM BANK DIVE

Pam Goodridge

Well, hi everybody, it's Pam Goodridge here. I haven't written for quite a while - you could say Julie persuaded me. My day started off at 6.00am getting my hubby off to work and then leaving little reminder notes for my children, which they almost ignored. I wasn't feeling too special as it was the morning after the night before, but the weather looked promising so I told myself I could have a sleep on the way home in the boat. The boat left at 8.20am, later than usual and I was the culprit, I checked my borrowed tank and found it was empty so had to dash to the nearest Dive Shop to get it filled up - it pays to check sometimes. After lifting me on board - the boat is a long way down - we started down the river and a Harbour and Lights boat stopped us to check Lifejackets and Registration, but two minutes later we were on our way again, it was very pleasing to note that they were checking everybody, perhaps they could check them on the way home and do breathalizer tests - we might have some dangerous people off the water?

After a discussion we decided to go to the Five Fathom Bank as the weather was perfect for this area. Peter had a good talk to us before we went in on how not to get too far away from the boat and to use a compass if possible. What a lovely dive, it was 17 - 21m deep and 30m visibility, not much current or swell. There was an abundance of fish - Banded Sweep, Dhufish, Wrasse, to name just a few. We also saw numerous Western Gregory who were very keen to defend their territories to the extent of trying to bite us. It was good country, holes, caves, nooks and crannies extremely interesting with lots of places to look into. I was well looked after by my two buddies and we ended up right back at the anchor rope without having to go up top to check.

The second dive was off Carnac Island just as good in it's own way, 6 - 10m deep, the visibility was only about 7m, there was a lot more swell but quite comfortable diving, the fish were mainly smaller but the terrain was just as interesting as the previous dive.

Then back to Carnac Island for lunch. We went into a bay and everybody but Tibi and I went for a walk on the Island. I wasn't too happy about the Tiger Snakes so I got a nice tan instead while Tibi looked after the boat. Then that was it for the day, we got back about 3.00pm after a smooth trip back on the boat. What a lovely day it had been.

FROGMEN OF WW2

Tibi Csomay

In 1944 German Navy swimmers were training near Venice, experimenting with underwater equipment copied from the Italians.

October 1944 the British forces had advanced beyond the Waal River. Their front line was spread over two bridges at Nijmegen. It was essential for the Germans to have these two bridges destroyed. They couldn't do it with planes, the RAF and the ground defences were too strong, but they possibly could do it using the river. The Waal River flowed from German held territory through British lines and out again into German held area. The plan was to float explosives down the river, attach them to the bridges and blow them up.

The frogmen had to swim approximately 20 kilometres, with the assistance of the strong current.

Twelve divers entered the water towing six high explosive charges roped together in pairs. On arriving at the bridges the charges were sunk and tied to the bottom of the piers. The frogmen set the delayed fuses and drifted away.

Pre-arranged coloured rockets fired inside German lines told them when it was safe to leave the river.

They were captured by a Dutch underground patrol and two divers were shot trying to escape.

Four of the charges blew up, wrecking one span on one bridge and badly damaging the other.

Dear Member:

In response to the ex-President's resignation letter, the Committee of Management would like to point out that the letter was out of order, misleading, and purely a personal opinion.

The Editor and Committee had no prior knowledge of the letter being sent to all members except the Committee.

Committee of Management

A COMMENT.

by BARRY KENNEDY.

I would like to say a few worus on Richard's resignation letter. I hope that this type of propaganda can be avoided in future. I would like to suggest that all articles to the magazine and all added notes, papers and letters could be consigned through the normal channels and so come under the scrutiny of the magazine Editor before publication.

If nothing else, Richard has shown us a prime example of unethical behaviour, with his deceptive half-truths and deliberately misleading statements.

However the members of this club will soon have the opportunity of deciding these issues in the proper manner.

REMINDERS...

General Meeting on the 17th December.

Special General Meeting on the 18th December.

Please make the effort to attend as only by attending can you have a share in the say of how our club runs. Remember that this is ours and your club, and to remain as such, needs the support of members.

BOAT TRIPS

With warmer weather conditions, many divers are coming out of the woodwork, and as such the boat is getting more divers each weekend. Clean the cobwebs off your tanks, mothballs out of your wetsuits and ring Martin on 458 2224 to book your place on the boat.

TRAINING REPORT.

Barry Kennedy.

The current course we are running for blind students is progressing well. John has this in hand and is doing an excellent job. People are showing a great deal of interest in this project, (we have more qualified Instructors than students.) We have a lot of people helping us with it and I would like to extend my thanks to all of them for their interest and time.

The video project.

I still need people with video cameras to offer their services, but I feel this may have to wait until our current problems have been solved to the satisfaction of the Members of this Club.

SHARK HUNTING

With the precision of a surgeon, Vic Ley moved in towards his target. The visibility was down to less than two metres. But the dark shape of a grey nurse shark could be seen through the clouded sea. Slipping the safety latch off his speargun, Ley glided towards the fish and then cautiously placed the tip of the spear at the shark's pectoral fin. The next few seconds saw all sorts of mayhem as the fish became aware it had been snared by the spear. It swam blindly in circles becoming trapped by the line which was attached to both the spear and a boat 20m above on the surface.

The exercise was not one of shark killing. Instead it was all part of an attempt where man could learn more about the lives and habitats of sharks. Vic Ley could only be described as a master diver with more than 20 years experience. He works out of Port Macquarie and catches sharks for the locally based King Neptune Park. With the park's owner Syd Murphy, Ley has been catching sharks for a two-fold purpose. He wants to prove a theory that the nurse is not a killer. Ley also wants non-diving members of the public to see and enjoy the grace and splendor of the fish.

Regarded as one of Australia's leading divers, Ley has no hesitation in swimming and playing with the grey nurse. He operates on one theory: "The grey nurse is not a killer like many believe. I think this is because many people are wrongly informed about sharks." In the hope of getting the facts straight about sharks, Murphy and Ley plan on establishing one of the biggest collections of live sharks in Australia. "This way we will be able to educate people about the real habits of sharks."

Ley has a number of favourite spots on the mid-NSW North Coast which he uses as his shark hunting ground. With many shark gutters running along the coast, he can normally find his targets sleeping in the rock walled caverns (sic). Using a hooker (sic) he storks (sic) the gutters in the hope of not disturbing the sleeping fish. While on some occasions there may only be one fish in a particular gutter, other trips can provide as many as 20 resting sharks. Once a likely contender is found Ley moves in. He will make the hit and then clear the area as soon as possible. A watch is kept over the target to ensure it does not become trapped or fouled. After the fish settles down it is pulled towards the waiting craft on the surface. When the landing is completed the shark is kept in a small tank until the boat arrives back at Port Macquarie. "We then transfer the fish directly to our shark tank so that a settling down process can begin," says Ley. He will also enter the tank and attempt to feed the shark straight off. This period is the most crucial according to both Ley and Murphy because if the fish does not settle, then survival can almost be forgotten about. Even though fearsome in appearance the shark displays a docile and friendly manner when placed in the tank for the first time. "We just wish more people would realise, understand and form a new impression of this creature," says Ley.

A sad fact is the grey nurse is rapidly heading towards extinction. Ley and Murphy agree that breeding sharks in captivity would be an almost impossible task. "What we would like to achieve is the education of people who may work towards having the grey nurse protected in some way. " Many of the fish are being slaughtered mainly because people think the grey nurse is a man-eater

Ron and Val Taylor have recognised the plight of the shark and made a movie labelling the grey nurse the "Vanishing Species". The couple fear the threat to the shark's future far more than the shark's threat to their own lives while scuba diving. Vic believes the horror stigma which has been attached to sharks will never be totally removed. "At least we know many people will change their opinions of sharks when they learn the true habits of the fish." He just hopes the message gets across before it's too late and the grey nurse is lost forever.

(Article by John Freer, taken from Skindiving in Australia and the South Pacific.)

DIVE FOR CRAYFISH.....FAILED

Julie-Anne Rumsey

On the 24th November I went on a private boat to dive the waters south of Carnac Island in the search for the divers' delight - Crayfish. My buddy and I were both used to diving off large boats (luxury), and took a while longer to get ready in the relatively smaller boat, with the added hindrance (sorry Dad and Uncle Les) of two non-divers who tried their best to associate names of articles that we divers know down pat... eg "No, that is not the BC - that is the regulator, the BC is that bright orange thing with Moray on it."

In fairly choppy water we eventually sank gratefully to the bottom, ignoring the request to surface every 15 minutes so that we could tell anxious diver-helpers that we were OK. The spot proved an excellent dive spot with many ledges and holes - all abundant with of-size crays. Depth was only 6metres and we spent a marvellous hour and fifteen minutes groping into the holes to try and catch at least one cray. We failed in our quest, much to our embarrassment as we had assured the "elders" of a night's feed. My find of a rather nice Cowrie did not seem much of a substitute, especially when we surfaced to find both people on board suffering badly from sea sickness!

My buddy and I learnt one thing about crayfishing - you don't promise anyone anything. Just say you'll bring back a cray if there are any about, and that you are going for the scenery. In this way you can then say that "No there weren't any crays, but you should have seen the scenery", (even if it was woeful), thus saving a red face and the title "Crayfisherman Diver...FAILED!"

MUTLEY

A report from Germany

Thick, soft fur, intelligent eyes under bushy eyebrows: that is "Mutley", the only dog in the world that can dive.

"I did not have to teach him", said Gene Alba, the owner of the dog. "It came naturally. As I swam out to sea for a dive one day, Mutley followed. As I dived below the surface I noticed him following me. That gave me the idea."

The 28 year old student made a diving outfit for his dog. Mutley sat beside him with his tail wagging while he was putting it together. On the first try he enjoyed scuba diving so much that he did not want to leave the water.

Mutley now has a wetsuit, buoyancy vest, small tank of air, and a plastic bubble space helmet. The helmet is fitted with a twin hose regulator. Mr Albas's scuba feed for his buoyancy vest has a tee piece built into it and the dog's buoyancy vest is connected to it.

Mutley and his owner can dive for a maximum of 20 minutes.

Pictures of the dog diving can be seen at our club rooms.

MAGNETIC FISH

Next time you go diving leave your speargun at home and take a magnet instead. Joseph Kirshwink and Andrew Dizon of the National Marine Fisheries Service in La Jolla, California, dissected tissue and organ samples from three, one year old yellow fin tuna, and analysed them for the presence of magnetic properties. Two samples had magnetic properties, they were of frontal and dermethmoid bones, both parts of the fish skull. X-Ray diffraction revealed that the magnetic material in the samples was magnetite. The site of the magnetite deposits, the ethmoid region of the skull, was also innervated by the supraophthalmic trunk nerve, which suggests that it is a likely site for a vertebrate magnetic sense organ.

This points to the fact that fish, just like migrating birds, can navigate using variations in the Earth magnetic field.

ROTTNEST FERRY CARPARK

Julie-Anne Rumsey

Recently, a club member returned to his car after diving to find that one of his car windows was broken and the car cassette/radio, assorted cassettes, clothing, coin money, and other personal items stolen.

The Fremantle Police have received quite a few similar reports over the last two weeks of thefts at this carpark, and have stepped up patrols of the area accordingly.

The Police cannot be in the area all the time, and to ensure that your days diving is not spoilt on your return, the following precautions should be taken:

- Lock your car.
 - Make sure gear is attended at all times.
 - Don't leave valuables in the car.
- Tempting items such as handbags, briefcases, and suchlike should not be left in the car, or at least should be hidden from view.

Also, it is worth noting that parking is charged at the rate of \$1.00 per day, Sundays included. Tickets should be purchased from the ticket machines and displayed on the dashboard. Parking Officers also patrol the area and will impose parking tickets (\$7.00 fine) on cars illegally parked.

CALLING ANY POTENTIAL WRITERS

The Editor and Typist would be more than happy (ecstatic morelike) to receive articles, anecdotes, cartoons, ideas, etc... etc... to put into the magazine. I'm sure that there are some club members who have hidden talents that they could provide to ease the burden of delving into magazines and marine books to print the magazine each month. You would even be forgiven for submitting an article on a dive you have done away from the club!! Anonymous submittances are acceptable.....censored by the Editor!

Did you know that black fishnet stockings are back in vogue?

One club member is well in the know about the latest fashion trends, and wears his under his overalls! Should we believe his protests that they are ideal for prawning and catching fish?... on a river cruise?

GEAR TALK

TG:

When was the last time you pulled the boot off your tank?

Do you come home from a dive, hose the salt water off your tank and stack it in the garage until next time?

Didn't you know that sand trapped between the boot and the tank will scratch the paint, moisture especially salt or pool water will get under and corrode the tank?

After the next dive, pull the boot off your tank, wash both, and allow to dry before you put the boot back.

When was the last time you had your tank tested? Remember that tanks need annual tests and need to be stamped for certification of soundness. Dive shops will not supply air to tanks out of testing - very embarrassing to receive a red sticker! It is also a good idea to have regulators tested at the same time - by a qualified person.

NOMINATION

Dennis R. Stubberfield: Unit 37/12 Wall Street, MAYLANDS

2500 PEOPLE DIED IN A POISON GAS LEAK FROM A PESTICIDE FACTORY IN BHOPAL INDIA, COULD IT HAPPEN HERE?

There are 5000 different chemicals in common use in Australia and more than 70 000 available on the world market. About 100 or so new chemicals are brought into use in Australia each year.

These are startling figures and in them rests a deep-seated implication for the environmental future of Australia.

Housewives, farmers and workers in factories, shops and offices need to become more aware of the effects on health and the environment of the increasing range of chemicals available in Australia, the NSCA Federal President, Mr Clive W. Peterson said recently.

"People generally have insufficient regard for the hazards associated with many chemicals in everyday use despite warnings printed on the labels", he said.

"They become too familiar with hazardous chemicals used for cleaning purposes, for example, and careless in the use, storage and safe handling of them. The long-term effects of many of the new chemicals brought into use in Australia each year are unknown."

While chemicals confer many benefits on the community when properly used they also may have



significant adverse effects on people's health and the environment. Only a small number of the chemicals in common use have undergone systematic evaluation and assessment of their potential health hazards.

The risks of exposure to a chemical are not the same for all groups in the community. Very young children and elderly people in particular can have a high risk potential.

Specialised industries are facing problems with the safe disposal of chemical wastes and there is an increasing residual buildup of the toxicity levels in soil, air and water in some parts of Australia to the detriment of future generations. A lack of uniformity between Federal and State requirements for locally-made and imported chemicals has made it difficult to effectively regulate and control chemical labelling, packaging, transport, storage and end-use from the viewpoint of maximum safety benefit to the community.



The Advantages of a Good Club: A good club reports the latest in equipment, literature, legislation, training methods, and dive areas. A good club provides a place to go, companionship, and a source of diving buddies and training for newcomers. Clubs organize public service activities and promote conservation.

Whereas an individual may not be able to afford to rent or charter expensive gear such as an air compressor or a boat, a club can.

HOW THE CLUB WAS DESCRIBED IN A BOOK PUBLISHED IN 1973.

Underwater Explorers Club of WA

The Underwater Explorers Club is a large club which has regular underwater excursions and training days. **ACTIVITIES:** Large boats are hired to take members to venues along the coast for fishing, wreck exploration, photography, shell hunting. Club has built an artificial reef near Rottnest from car tyres. **FACILITIES:** Clubhouse near Woodman's Point. Club owns a Hookah unit and two portable breathing units. **TRAINING:** Supplied by club every Sunday morning during summer. **MEMBERSHIP:** 150. **FEES:** Senior \$10 and \$12, Junior \$10 and \$3. Country \$5. Boat trips cost members \$2, non-members \$3. season \$5. **CONTACT:** D. Kennv. 37 Etwell Street, East Victoria Park 6101.

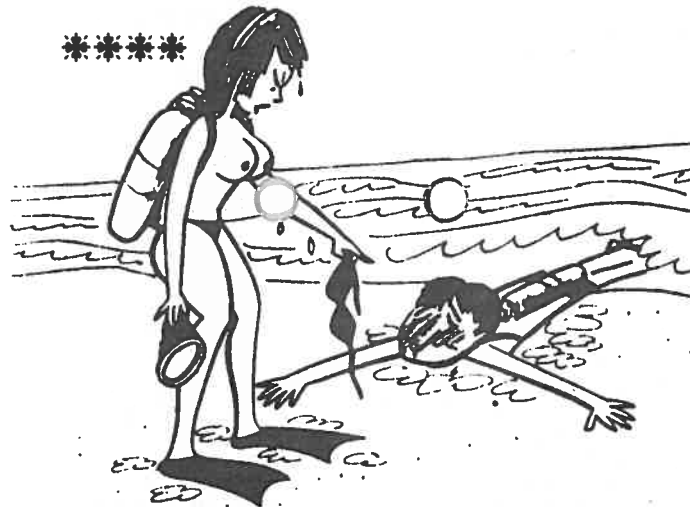
Doubts cast on coastal engineering

Significant changes in design against coastal erosion emerged at an international conference in Britain last month.

"For more than a century jetties, groyne seawalls and other structures have been built in a futile effort to trap sand and to protect beaches" said Robert Dolan of the University of Virginia, in a paper which reflected the views of many delegates. "These structures . . . have in most cases caused further problems. Engineers and planners . . . now believe that the best method for beach restoration should not alter the natural processes. Rebuilding beaches artificially by replacing sand lost to the system permits the natural process to continue unhampered" delegates at the ICE conference in Southampton were informed.

Several other speakers referred to the continuing uncertainties of groyne design, and the trend towards greater use of 'beach nourishment'.

Michael Owen of the Hydraulics Research Station UK argued for a new approach to the design of sea walls. The additional concept of a 'design storm' should be abandoned, he said. Instead, sea walls should be designed on the basis of the frequency of occurrence of given overtopping discharges, since it was these which govern the degree of flooding behind. This radical change would cut seawall construction costs substantially, he claimed, although much more effort would be needed at all stages of design.



"Next time you start something like that, be sure you have a double tank!"

In brief

■ US firm Oceaneering International has used a new method of removing and relocating offshore oil and gas production platforms to turn a Marathon Oil rig off the Louisiana coast into a submerged artificial reef. The company claims its method is more efficient, less risky and results in considerable savings. The platform was toppled by explosive charges then floated horizontally to the surface with four buoyancy tanks, each 3.6m diameter and 24.6m long.

PIPE PLOUGH: Woodside Offshore Petroleum in Australia has won an award from the Institution of Engineers in Western Australia for this 340t submarine pipeline plough. The plough was used last year to trench 118km of the North West Shelf for the 1016mm diameter pipeline for natural gas and liquids. The plough is 28m long, requires a pulling force of 400t and incorporates a computerised data retrieval and control system, underwater TV and automatic steering. The plough has been sold to ETPM of France and is expected to be used to trench North Sea pipelines.