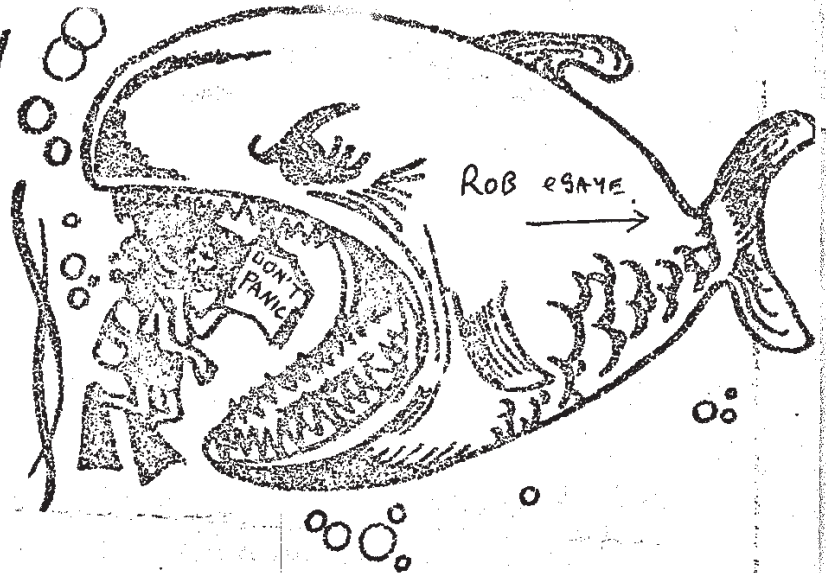


Auckland University

Underwater Club

Private Bag, Auckland.

Newsletter,



1971, No. 5 (September).

S. G. a.

This was held in the Botany Lecture Theatre on Wednesday the 8th of August. About 20 hardy souls attended and elected a new committee for 1971-72. This consists of members as set out below;

President. D. Rowe

Secretary. T. Friedlander

Treasurer. G. Aislabic.

Committee. M. Bacon (Miss)

S. Collard -Scruby

G. Don

C. England

T. Murray

B. Moorhead.

At the meeting farewells were extended to Garry (who is now in the States and doing a Ph.D. at USC) and to Rob, who is married and to go to the Great Barrier in March.(G.B. Reef that is, not Island)

Bob Andrucci showed us some of his slides, which went to prove that a Rollei-Marin is about as good as any camera. Bob promised to come back and tell us how at some later date.

The Tear-Off

And that does'nt mean that this is another Craccum! In fact it refers to the section under the dotted line at the end of this publication. This section is intended to find out some VERY IMPORTANT data, and to ensure that all of you return ypur bit, we have enclosed a stamped addressed envelope, SO USE IT!!

If enough people fill in the section as requested, dives and parties will be run over the vacation.

It is particularly important that the question referring to the Winstone party be accurately filled in, as we must have accurate attendance numbers for this (if you don't know what I'm talking about, see Newsletter

will be sent a letter in late December detailing where and when.

As in Newsletter 4, please inform past members, and add their reply to your 'tear-off'.

ACTIVITIES, XMAS 1971-72

1) A party (whoope) to celebrate our 10th Birthday, to celebrate the everlasting end of the Diving Course(all good things come to an end sometimes, even Peyton Place), to give out certificates, and to drink up that credit we have at Corbans.

..... to that end we had better have.....

0) Sea Test, probably incorporated with a divecamp at T1 point in late Nov.

2) Further dives over vacation, depending on professed interest.

3) The Winstone party, IF YOU CAN POSSIBLY MAKE IT COME & IT WILL BE A GOOD DO, FREE AND ALL THAT, AND WE OWE AT LEAST THE DECENCY OF A GOOD TURN-OUT TO PEOPLE LIKE THIS.

THE BOAT

Honorable committee decided we need a boat, of small dimensions, and light of weight. To be water-tight and capable of carrying at least 1, but probably about 10 (slightly to greatly overloaded) divers.

Seriously, we do need a boat, for a safety tender if nothing else, and we hope to buy a Parker- craft, or similar, capable of carrying about 3 divers(+gear, of course). If you know of where we can get a good one cheap, ring Grant (our Treas.)

Any suggestions as to name will probably be rejected, but send them in anyway.

Which reminds me of.....

THE COMPETITION

To design a badge for the club, for a prize of \$10-00. Open to any-one. Draw your entry on a piece of paper, about 3" round, send it to me at 176A Upland Rd., Remuera, and hope. PS include your name and address.

CLUB GEAR.

This may be borrowed by any member, provided he/she fills in a form admitting full responsibility for gear borrowed. This includes all gear like tents, lamps, stoves, bottle (when we get it back) BCP etc.

Don't try to borrow gear when the club plans a trip at the same time. We might just get a bit nasty.

If you want gear, ring any Exec Member, i.e., me, Dave (same place) or Grant.

If anyone reading this has club gear, send the stuff back home, its all

boomerang, even after months or years!!

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Garry is no longer with us, so you have a New Ed. As this is my first issue (of any kind) I will make a few points.

- 1) I can't ,as yet type as well as Garry, so bear with me.
- 2) Newsletter will come when I have sufficient material to warrant it. I dont feel like writing a major article every month, so get off your chuffs and help . ANYTHING will be accepted, in any form, but will not necessarily be published. This includes cartoons, drawings, serious or non-serious articles or letters (write to me, I get lonely), suggestions etc.
- 3) If you dont like Newsletter for any reason tell me, verbally or in writing.
- 4) There will be no more poetry or Quotable Quotsa, for the simple reason that I do not have Garrys library, or his knowledge.
- 5) Hope you enjoy the newsletter.

FRED (ED.)

.....
THE TEAROFF.

- 1) Will you be in Auckland over vacation?
- 2) If not, where will you be?
- and when?
- 3) Will you come to Ti Point in late Nov?.....
- 4) " " " " the 10th Birthday Party?
- 5) " " " " Winstones Party?
- 6) Are you interested in dives here in the vac ?
- When
- 7) Are you still interested in the club?
- 8) If not, why not?

- 9) Do you intend to join again next year?
- 10) Suggestions and comments.

CLASSIFIED.

This Section will appear in each Newsletter, and will cover all manner of notices, including such things as dives (club and other) for sale, wanted to buy etc..

This month

FOR SALE.

Full set SCUBA in excellent condition.

Includes:

- * Tank - US Divers, Just had its first (required) Hydrostatic test, and passed (of Course)
- * Reg - US Divers 'Deepstar', recently fully serviced, At present being used by Dr. HALL for research, to Be returned shortly, after another service (check)
- * Contents Gauge - US Divers 'Sea - Vue' - in A1 cond.
- * Bac Pack - US Divers.

This gear has been well looked after by an experienced diver.

Price - \$ 150-00 the lot.

Present Owner - Brian Coffey, c/- Botany Dept. (write or phone)

May be bought separately at Negotiated price.

There are also several articles advertised on the notice board, details of which I can't quite remember, but which I think includes A woman's wet-suit, and at least a part set of SCUBA .

ARTICLE * THE WHANGATEAU DEVELOPMENT AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Whangateau Harbour is about three miles south of Leigh and the harbour entrance is quite popular with lung divers and spearfishermen. The channel is bounded on one side by Ti Point and on the other by a long, low sandspit.

The owners of the sandspit have decided to develop it as a commercial venture and consequently an earth causeway with a small bridge in the middle has been pushed across the harbour.

The end of the sandspit is noticeably unstable and it has been observed (pers com Roger Grace), between 1963 and 1969, to grow or diminish quite markedly. Because of the basically unstable nature of the sandspit, one can only guess what effect the causeway will have. Most definitely it is going to change the hydrological make-up of the harbour and it MAY have detrimental effects from the diver's point of view.

Minor reclamations in the harbour may have individually appeared to have no adverse effect, but collectively they have contributed to changes in the currents and perhaps the end of the sandspit. (Over the period 1963-1969 the sandspit ~~was~~ decreased in length by 150 yards)

The ARA seems to think that the causeway will have no adverse effects. However, there are good oyster beds in the upper harbour, and if the water flow to this area is reduced, there is a good chance that these beds along with the other marine life associated with the area, will deteriorate.

This raises another point—the disposal of sewage. The developers originally wanted to discharge treated sewage into the harbour and let the tide carry it out. Residents and council have objected and at present the ARA is investigating alternative discharge points. Alternative points are off the rocks at the southern end of the beach, or better still, an outfall 3000 feet offshore. It appears that the prohibiting factor will be the cost—the ARA say they "can treat sewage as pure as you want it provided you can pay". If the treated sewage is discharged into the harbour, it will only be released on an outgoing tide. This is fine, but at the time when the discharge rate is a maximum there will also be the greatest number of people in the area, i.e. mid-summer. As well, the temperature will be higher, meaning that the harbour water and effluent will be warm and the nutritive effects of the effluent may be accelerated. The effluent, no matter how pure, will still have to flow out of the harbour over large, widely used pipi and cockle beds. Shellfish are inclined to absorb the harmful constituents of treated sewage and concentrate them over long periods of time. In this case the shellfish are inedible as they may host typhoid and other diseases.

From the diver's point of view, the best solution is an offshore discharge pipe—the further offshore the better. Anything we can do to influence people that an offshore discharge is the only safe, acceptable solution is another step towards the protection and preservation of our already endangered marine environment.

Brian Moxhead

(In my, and the committee's , opinions this Newsletter needs more of this sort of thing. So pen to hand all with a grouch and let us know how the environment, especially the local marine environment, is faring. Note for today the Ak. Harbour Board plans for the Upper Harbour, and a certain comment as to likely opposition. Ed.)