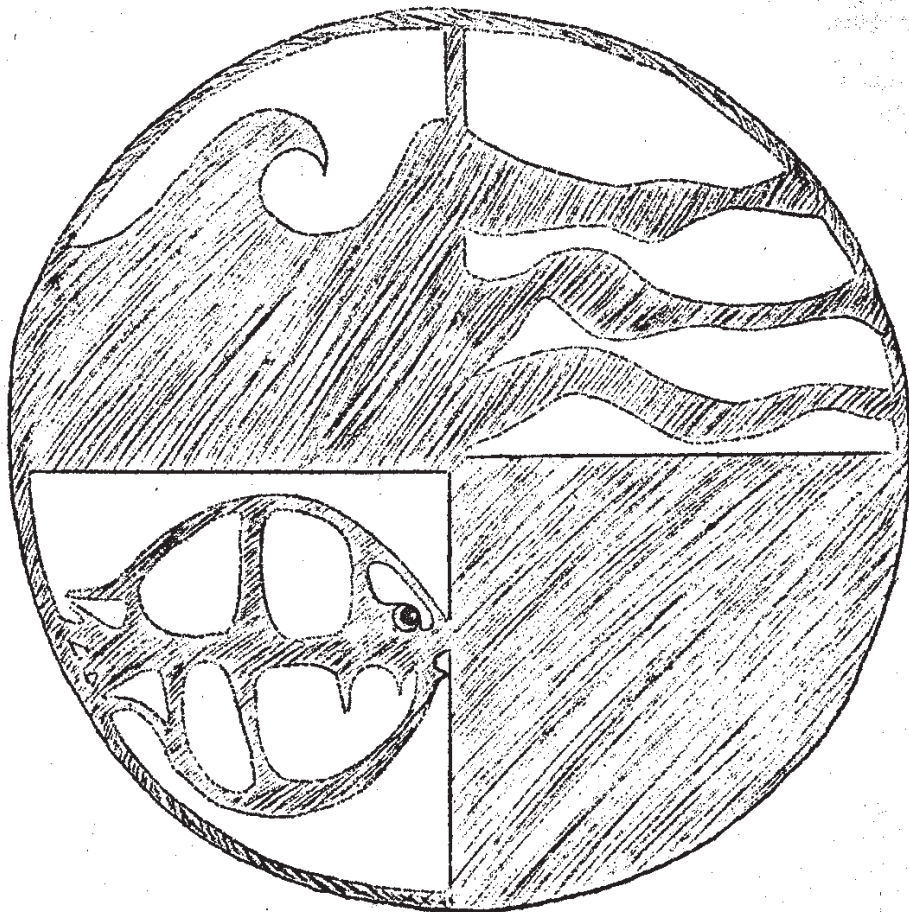


1975 FLOTSAM
APRIL



FLOTSAM
AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY UNDERWATER CLUB NEWSLETTER
MAY 1975

COVER designed by ANDREA SHANNON.***** (one free day trip at your convenience!..)

WHALES

These vast creatures are rapidly being exterminated for profits by powerful countries such as Japan and Russia. Catches are exceeding maximum sustainable yields and within a few years even the most plentiful species will be reduced to a mere handful on the edge of extinction.

The IWC which controls whaling worldwide, has shown remarkably little forethought in allocating quotas; this is explainable as it is dominated by the whaling nations. New Zealand left IWC in 1969 after its whaling industry collapsed, but it can rejoin again, and exercise its vote against continued whaling.

Project Jonah is an organisation dedicated to the protection of whales, and is an international concern which has only recently come to N.Z., where its prime aims are to get N.Z. to rejoin the IWC and to seek for a 10 year moratorium on whaling. To promote public interest it prints newsletters, holds film evenings, and serves petitions to the heads of Governments. To do this however, it requires money - the organisation can only be effective if it can make itself heard.

To help Project Jonah in its efforts, AUUC has donated \$25, and purchased a rubber 'Save Whales' stamp which can be used on all AUUC correspondence. We hope this gives a very worthwhile cause some help.

If any members are interested in Project Jonah, I plan to pin their newsletters on the AUUC notice board - please don't swipe them - also, they are holding a film evening soon and will be showing the following:

"WHALES DOLPHINS AND MEN"

15th JUNE

PARNELL LIBRARY HALL****



""SAVE WHALES""

Richard Burton

TRAINING REPORT

At time of writing, the seven course lectures of the 1975 AUUC training course have been given and the theory test is to be held on May 5th.

A baths selection night and six baths training nights have been completed and according to my records five trainees and two instructors are known to have survived.

One sea training day has been held at Leigh.

This year seventy two would-be SCUBA divers showed interest in the course. Of these, nine people contented themselves with instruction in snorkelling which was given on three baths nights under the tender care of Roger Grace.

Forty seven trainees were finally selected to be instructed in SCUBA. We were able to accept this number only by the adoption of a system by which trainees were constantly regrouped with others of their abilities. This meant that those who had done a lot of diving previously, moved through the baths

continued..

course quickly, and more time (and baths space) was thus available for those who were not as readily gaining confidence and a grasp of techniques.

I feel that this system proved to be a successful one and hope that this view would be generally shared by instructors and trainees.

Of the forty seven starters, fifteen or so people dropped out owing to presumably various reasons that have never been explained to me.

Main difficulties confronted by many trainees in the baths seemed to be lack of fitness and lack of confidence and relaxation in the water. In my opinion this stems largely from the contemporary trend of moving onto SCUBA without sufficient snorkel-diving experience.

However, at the first sea dive, both Dave Rowe and I were impressed with the standard of the ten divers that attended, so I'm confident that most trainees that had these problems have now overcome them.

A request on my part for criticisms/suggestions from the training group, concerning the course, resulted in a response from one person (Thanks Peter), so I would still be very pleased to receive such by phone, anonymous letter, personal assault, Wells Fargo, etc. (Editors note: I suggest personal assault!)

My appreciation goes to those who have so willingly given their time to help with the course by giving a lecture and/or instructing at baths nights.

Particular thanks goes to Dave Rowe whose assistance has been invaluable.

Luv,
John Catton

P.S. Any spelling errors are undoubtedly the doing of the editor...

(Thanks pal! S.C.)

*****GALAH DAY*****

***Galah Day got off to a soggy start on Sunday, when half an hour after it opened it rained down heavily on the participants. The AUUC Committee members who turned up (and who worked very hard) were nice and snug inside waiting patiently for visitors to come to the display of equipment (kindly lent by SPORTWAYS LTD.) and animals, and to watch films and slides, (films also lent by SPORTWAYS). Business was slow in the morning but picked up later in the day. The club raised \$16 for Galah Day.

DO YOU WANT TO ENJOY YOUR DIVING IN 10 YEARS' TIME?

Many new members to AUUC will probably be unaware of a decision reached by NZUA policy makers several years ago. While political blunders are being made in Wellington over marine reserve applications, divers in the NZUA decided to make some effort to prevent the destruction of a beautiful and scientifically valuable diving spot - the Poor Knights Islands.

A voluntary ban has been placed on the removal of all bottom-dwelling animals at the Poor Knights, including sponges, black coral, shellfish etc.,. Spearers are allowed to take pelagic fish (see below) but must not spear reef fish. This ban is 'voluntary' only in the sense that it has no political backing. However all divers affiliated with NZUA (which includes all financial members of AUUC) are bound by these rules. Take note, because they will be enforced on club trips.

Since the Poor Knights rate as one of the best diving spots in the world it obviously makes sense to conserve its resources - a marine reserve application is 'pending' but it may be too late at the rate the Labour Government operates (National would probably be no better!) Already there have been eight foot high black coral trees ripped off - they look a hundred times better underwater and more people can see them. Most fans, corals and sponges rot out of water and become a slimy mess, so why take them?

Spearable fishes are defined as roving, ocean-going species which are replaceable from (hopefully) large stocks. Taking several of these is not going to greatly deplete their numbers. However several of these is not usually territorial animals with a highly developed social organisation, ie. only a finite number live in an area and they will not be rapidly replaced if speared. You only have to compare Goat Island beach with an unexploited coastline (if you can find one!) to see how a reef can become an underwater desert when pressured by divers. Within half a mile of Goat Island beach, divers have hand-fed 10lb snappers - a little thought goes a long way. It could all be like this.

Rare fishes such as some of the groupers and parrotfishes should not be speared at all - extinction of these species in N.Z. is possible and likely if you don't know what it is the chances are its not edible.

These rules must be adhered to at the Poor Knights, and if you still want to enjoy diving in ten years time, apply them to all your diving trips.

Look, touch, and photograph, but DON'T TAKE. Then you will know it is going to be there for you to look at next time.

Pelagic, spearable fishes	Reef Fishes	Rare Fishes
Kingfish	Lizard fish	Spotted Black Grouper
Kahawai	Mado	Hapuka
Horse Mackerel	Sea Perch	Bass
Trevally	Rock Cod	Toadstool Grouper
Tarakihi	All parrotfishes (incl.	Golden Ribbon-Grouper
Snapper	Spotty, banded,	Lord Howe Is. Coral F.
Blue mao mao	Sandagers, and scarlet)	Boarfish
Pink mao mao	Red mullet	Painted Moki
Blue Moki	Roughies	Black Spot Goatfish
John Dory	Black Angelfish	Bluefish
Porae	Marblefish	
Shark	Red Moki	
Stingray	Demaiselles	
	Cleanerfish	
	Red Pigfish	
	Kelpfish	
	Leather Jacket	
	Splendid Perch	
	Butterfly Perch	
	Silver Drummer	
	Parore	

Malcolm Francis &
Richard Burton

NATURE NOTES

While preparing to dive around the north-eastern side of Rangitoto Island in March, we noticed a small fish swimming at the surface, amongst pieces of floating Carpophyllum kelp. We immediately donned masks and flippers and madly chased this small fish round and round the boat. After much shouting, laughing, swimming and swallowing of water, we managed to catch the fish in a wire basket.

It was a squat fish about 6cm long, with a rounded, broad, transparent tail and large, bright yellow eyes. The scales were small and the overall colour gold, but with patches of olive green on the ventral surface and longitudinal silver streaks on the dorsal. All fins were large and bright gold with dark green stripes, and the chin was silver. These colours, although appearing bright out of water, gave the fish perfect camouflage amongst the kelp.

In the aquarium it settled down quickly and fed on filamentous green and blue-green algae, but would also eat small pieces of cockle dropped into the water.

This fish has been tentatively identified as a juvenile silver drummer, Kyphosus sydneyanus, possibly the smallest of which has been found. This species goes through a series of colour changes before the drab silver-grey of the adult form is reached at about 40cm long. The silver drummer belongs to the family Kyphosidae, many species of which have juveniles which spend the first few months of life floating at the surface, amongst weed.

Ken Grange.

THE N.Z. SNORKEL PHOTOGRAPHY CHAMPIONSHIP

The Photocomp. was held this year on Friday, 28 March, in Wellington. Two divers from AUUC - Malcolm Francis and Ian McLean - took part in the event (more about them later!).

The "N.Z. Champion Snorkel Photographer 1975" was Bob Rosemergy from Waikato.

At the pre-dive briefing, the 22 competitors were issued with one 20 exposure roll of black and white film, and with the rest of their equipment headed off to the area of the dive, which stretched from Ohiro Bay up to, but not including Lyall Bay.

The competition took place over a period of four hours. Although the weather stayed reasonably fine, there was a heavy swell in some areas and underwater visibility was down to a murky 15feet in places.

The object of the competition was to photograph as many identifiable species of fish as possible (more than one species of fish could be photographed in a single exposure). Competitors were issued with a list of 53 eligible fish and this included the most common fishes in the area plus some rare species. The fish had to be in their natural habitat, and photographed by the competitor below the surface of the sea. One point was awarded for each species - thus the competitor with the highest number of points was declared the winner.

As for Malcolm and Ian - well - besides the fact that they constantly mistook each other for a local species of fish - and Ian's camera fell to pieces - and Malcolm was too busy half the time looking for our dinner, ie. crayfish - and it was mighty cold after a couple of hours - they still thought it was worth it, and the cray was a nice prize in itself.

Just as an afterthought, I expect most of the fish lucky enough to be 'shot' by the photographers on Friday, got 'shot' again on Saturday, when the N.Z. individual spear-fishing competition was held. I wonder what they did with their heap of dead fish?! At least you can put photographs in an album....

XX Shirley

EASTER CAMP - MATAI BAY

Scene: Early Good Friday morning, outside the university, nine people, one minibus and a pavement load of gear.

The whole AUUC camp appeared doomed from the start because of the bulk of vital supplies. But with a large back seat, an even bigger roof rack capacity and careful packing we were off to Matai Bay at the northern end of Doubtless Bay in the Far North.

The voyage up was spent at the rear end of traffic queues avoiding no-parking signs and cops. Our journey was halted to visit the excellent sea aquarium at Manganui Wharf, and we reached Matai Bay by late afternoon to find a good contingent of AUUC members had already established a camp site (right next to the rubbish tins.) We were twenty-five in all. Only when the light faded and hunger pangs set in did we discover all the supplies had not been loaded, where were the two primus stoves and hurricane lanterns?

Saturday morning's calm was shattered by the early morning bugle calls and the flag-raising of an opposing camp site. The flat, clear water attracted some hardy pre-breakfast swimmers, they soon returned running and shivering. Breakfasts were eaten in shifts, huddled around the antiquated but reliable rusty toaster. To be truthful, we did eat well, we resorted to open air barbeques for dinners. These meals were satisfying even though we did not know what was in them besides sweetcorn and weetbix.

In the water, visibility was seldom less than fifteen metres, so that the diving was superb. Most parties explored Jolliff Point with its profusion of fishes, crustaceans and echinoids - an odd mixture of familiar creatures of northern rocky shores and unexpected tropical rarities. For those with able-bodied cars there was the lagoon close to Cape Kari Kari, a short hair-raising swim through white water and we were out of the lagoon falling into the clear deep water beyond. Here the rock caves bristled with moray heads, there were conger eels, pairs of red-banded coral shrimps and large trumpet shells too.

Most of the party also dived near Kohotutea Point (The Cove). I shudder to think of the numbers of sea eggs that were opened to feed the flocks of friendly fishes that arrived before the meal was served. We were surrounded by dozens of Sandager's parrotfish, all phases from juvenile cleaner fish to full adult males; and both sexes of red pigfish, all hovered around in swirls of yellows, reds and blacks. Yet how daintily these fishes pecked from their half-urchin bowls! Only the coarse leather jackets inquisitively nibbled our fingers. Shoals of small snapper came too, but not the old twenty-five pounder, he hovered at the limits of visibility, humped and wary.

Tuesday morning found a reluctant residium of our party packing the last of the gear, surrounded by an almost deserted Matai Bay. We left the tranquil beauty of Doubtless Bay to return to the bustling noisy city.

Richard Willan

*****Does anyone have a weight cast which they can either sell or lend to the club please?
If so, contact one of the committee members. Thanks.

*****Watch the notice board for news about the trip to Whitianga in the May Holidays.

*****Your club requires a new Treasurer in about a month's time. All of the hard work will have been done by then, so if you feel you might like to lend us a hand until the next AGM in August or thereabouts, we would appreciate your assistance.

*****STICKERS! STICKERS! STICKERS! STICKERS! Need I say more!

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY UNDERWATER CLUB *Ullt names*

List of Members April 1975

ANDERSON Dave	31 Plunket Ave, Papatoetoe	POP 85404
ASHTON Toni	40 Sonia Ave, Remuera	548481
ANSELL Judith	44 Sainsbury Rd, Mt Albert	
BAILEY Paul	11 Woodford Rd, Mt Eden	606471
BARBOUR Simon	11A Queenstown Rd, Onehunga	OH 655359
BATTERSHILL Chris	51 Rawhiti Rd, Onehunga	663061
BEGGS Billie	303 Manukau Rd, Epsom	606959
BERGIN Colleen	26 Birdwood Cres, Parnell	360169
BERNARD Nick	14 Malabar Drive, Ellerslie	595681
BILKEY Jeff	8 Raleigh St, Mt Eden	602860
BLOW Roy	53 Rosedale Rd, Browns Bay	696966
BOWERING Douglas	86 Calgary St, Balmoral	556917
BRADLEY Mark	6 Thornhill Place, Glendowie	362417
BRETT Dane	27 Whittaker Place (Int. House)	863208
BRETT Wade	553 New North Rd	
BRIGHT Colin	Flat 9, 224 Carrington Rd, Mt Albert	
BURTON Richard	4 Eric Price Ave, Takapuna	(Committee) 493564
CAMPBELL Graham	9 Cordelia Place, Avondale	677331
CAMPBELL Niels	12 Cremorne St, Herne Bay	764275
CARR Gary	3 Ferguson Ave, Greenlane	597426
CATTON John	74 Balmoral Rd, Mt Eden	(Training) 687064
CHADWICK Chris	49 Symonds St (O'Rorke Hall)	71042
CHENNELLS Mark	99 College Hill, Ponsonby	
CHRISTIAN Deborah	8 Clonbern Rd, Remuera	HWK 47532
COLLINS John	51 Turama Rd, Auckland 6	658929
COLLINS Ruth	51 Turama Rd, Auckland 6	658929
COUCHMAN Richard	112 Vodanarvich Rd, Te Atatu Sth	HSN 65470
CRAIG Philippa	55 Fairview Rd, Papatoetoe	POP 81484
CROW Stephen	49 Symonds St (O'Rorke Hall)	71042
CUMMINS, Shirley	66 Sarsfield St, Herne Bay	(Publications) 74740
		Ext 9728. or 768 812
		602948
DONOVAN Michelle	45 Queens Ave, Balmoral	
DONOVAN Wayne	29 Garadice Rd, Rothesay Bay	498700
DOWSETT Rosemary	42 Northcote Rd	585119
DREADON Philip	144 Long Drive, St Heliers	766824
DRAPER Bill	46 Anglesea St, Freemans Bay	466316
EAGLEN Paul	230 East Coast Rd	541514
ELLIOT Peter	8 Hilltop St, Auckland 5	594950
FAIRBURN Paul	32 State Ave, Onehunga	765479
FERGUSON Bruce	6 Wanganui Ave, Herne Bay	
FOWLER Alan	30 Crakei Rd, Crakei (NZUA Vice President)	548253
FOY Richard	41 Tirimoana Rd, Te Atatu South	HSN 67252
FRANCIS Malcolm	58A Great South Rd, Remuera (Treasurer)	547082
FREER Chris	48 Edmund St, St Heliers	581983
FULLERTON Gaye	26 Tobruk Cres, Milford	494947
FULLERTON Rob	26 Tobruk Cres, Milford	494947
GENTLE Mark	49 Symonds St (O'Rorke Hall)	71042
GOLLOP Bruce	10 Rotoiti Ave, Pakuranga	768656
GRACE Roger	36 Sussex St, Ponsonby	687820
GRAY Adrian	21 Royal Terrace, Sandringham	765834
GRAY Steve	30 Clifton Rd, Herne Bay	784456 (Bus)
GRIFFITH Alan	21 Rosewarne Cres, Kelston	364994
GUISE Richard	30A St Stephens Ave, Parnell	
HAMILL Paul	54 Princess St, Otahuhu	OH 67796

HANDFORD Christine	3 Auld St, Torbay	BSY 86778
HARRISON Tony	20A Laurie Ave, Parnell (Gears Officer)	370681
HATRICK-SMITH Roger	11 Waimea Lane, Remuera	546083
HENDRY Geoff	11 Ormonde Rd, Remuera	549478
HOFFMANN Gerard	40 Seafield View Rd, (Grafton Hall)	71015
HENDRY Mae-Lin	8A Martin Cres, Northcote	488924
HOUVA Maria	27 Whittaker Place (International House)	362417
HUNT Peter	6 Penrhyn Road, Mount Eden	685657
JACOBSEN Bernard	86 Manuka Rd, Glenfield	448382
JERSE Adriane	Flat 14, 22 Aratonga Ave, Greenlane	548570
KALNINS Arnold	6 Puriri Ave, Greenlane	502872
LATAMER Brian	152 Railside Ave, Henderson	
LATAMER Roger	as above	
LEE Sue	21 Momona Rd, Greenlane	547727
LE MARQUAND David	24 Washington Ave, Glendowie	582526
LEYS Simon	14 Bassett Road, Remuera	500399
LIBSCOMBE John	10 Dennis Ave, Manurewa	MAN 63579
LOTT Stephen	77 Takaho Rd, Titirangi	TGN 8410
MARSDEN Alistair	74 Seacliff Ave, Takapuna	458763
MARTIN Chris	9 Mahoe Ave, Remuera	595245
MASKELL Craig	1351 Dominion Road Extension	676202
MASON Mark	82 Sandspit Rd, Howick	HCK 48334
MCCALL Suzanne	25 Ridings Rd, Remuera	545616
MCDONALD John	20 Kingsford Road, Balmoral	699538
MCHARDY Paul	102 Valley Rd, Mount Eden	605126
MCLEAN Bruce	66 Kupe St, Orakei	540367
McLean Bruce	26 Birdwood Cres, Parnell	360169
MERKENS Erik	78 Cliff View Drive, Green Bay	873753
MITCHELL Paul	40 Seafield View Rd, (Grafton Hall)	71012
MUNRO Joy	49 Symonds Stree (O'Rorke Hall)	71040
NELSON Dennis	119 Braemar Rd, Castor Bay	467713
NICHOLLS Andrew	389 Dominion Rd	689223
NICHOLLS Anne-Marie	49 Symonds St (O'Rorke Hall)	31821
NUNWEEK Brian	11 Ormonde Road, Remuera	549478
O'LEARY Gerrard	4 Palmerston Road, Birkenhead	487331
PATTISON Alan	10 Wairaki Rd, Mt Eden	688712
PEART Gillian	15 Harcourt St, Grey Lynn (Committee)	768391
PENNIKET Andrew	27 Whittaker Place (International House)	362417
PITT Roger	15 Koraha St, Remuera	544271
PORTER Robyn	131 Vauxhall Rd, Devenport	450506
POULGRAIN Rodney	27 Whittaker Place (International House)	362417
POWER Fergus	49 Symonds Stree (O'Rorke Hall)	71040
POWRIE Fraser	15 Sandringham Road, Mount Albert	603477
POYNTER Mark	31 Lynwood Rd, Kelston	872923
ROBERTS Grant	52 Parr Terrace, Milford	468037
ROBERTSON Grant	89 Tarawera Tce, Kohimarama	589547
ROBINSON Martin	49 Symonds Street (O'Rorke Hall)	71040
ROWE David	16 Marama Ave, Mt Eden	603348
RUTHERFORD Chris	10 Kakariki Ave, Mt Eden	686206
RUTHERFORD Sue	as above	as above
SAYES Gerrard	140 Lucerne Rd, Remuera	542528
SCHAEFER Shirley	164 Calliope Rd, Devenport	452709
SHANNON Andrea	Flat 3, 7 Ngapuhi Rd, Remuera	500854
SISSON Bob	6 Newington Rd, Henderson	HSN 69602
SKEATES John	9 Cape Horn Rd, Mt Roskill	679727
SKEATES Graeme	as above	as above
SLARK Cindy	19 Stanley Point Rd, Devenport	453155
SMITH Cindy	243 Hurstmere Rd, Takapuna	496642
SMITH Mike	as above	as above
SPACKMAN Kerry	172 Hillsborough Rd, Mt Roskill	657010
STAREY Sarah	7 John St, Ponsonby	

