



The ANU SCUBA Diving Club Newsletter



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ANU SCUBA Club WWW site
http://student.anu.edu.au/Clubs/ANU_Scuba_Club/

ANUSC

December 1998

Hi Bubble Buddies!

Welcome to a newsletter packed with goodies! (*It must be Christmas!, Ed.*) We have a number of events planned around the Christmas period: check out the updated dive calendar. This issue we have some annual reports and details on our AGM and the election of the executive (*great reading for all you Bubble Fiends that didn't make it, Ed.*). We also have a number of trip reports! And don't forget our fabulous Christmas Party to be held on Springbank Island organised by our very own Party (Animal) Officer Bill (Maggot) Keating.

going to be on the North coast with dry itchy scales, would just like to help out, or can offer accommodation along the way, then let Jeremy know where you'll be, how you can be contacted etc. and we'll see if you can't help him bring the boat home! Contact Jeremy for details.

Jeremy Weinman
Phone: 6254-7502 (H)
6249-5071 (W)
Email: weinman@rsbs.anu.edu.au

Competitions Galore

The New GPS

The Club is now the proud owner of a Garmin GPS 12 with a waterproof bag to keep it in. Lots of information about our GPS, its GPS manual, and GPS in general can be found on the WWW at:

<http://www.garmin.com/support/>
<http://www.garmin.com/manuals/gps12.pdf>
<http://www.trailwalk.com/gpstech.htm>
<http://www.absolutegps.com/>

Why have a GPS?: GPS stands for Global Positioning System, the navigation system put into place by the US Department of Defense. Conceived at the height of the Cold War as an ultra-reliable means of navigation, its military uses have been largely superseded by civilian applications. In our case, the GPS will be invaluable for marking and (save time) relocating our favourite dive sites.

Name the New Boat

As inducement to come up with a good name (better than *Big Bird* ... chuckle!) a competition is being held where the winner gets a weekend of free rides on our new big yellow dive boat. Some ideas include: *Big Bird, Pansy, Daisy, Pufferfish, The Yellowfin* (as opposed to just *Yellowfin* ... resemblance to names of other lesser boats is probably just coincidence) and *The SeaDragon*.

I like the latter name. The real critter is a pretty creature that lives underwater (and on our main WWW page) which is what the ANUSC is about! And seadragons (the mythical kind) can eat *Yellowfins* for breakfast! We even have the basis for a nice design logo for the bow of the boat on the WWW site! (*see also the banner of this newsletter, Ed.*)

The New Boat

The new boat (yellow RIB 5.3 metre NAIAD) is expected to be picked up from NAIAD in Brisbane on Sunday 27th of December, 1998 (necessitating a drive up the day before). Jeremy Weinman will do the drive up to Brisbane on Boxing day to pick up the new boat. The idea is to come home over a few days, and it would be a shame not to squeeze in a dive or two along the way. This is NOT an extended dive trip, as the boat will need to get back to Canberra for a more complete fitout, but if you're

So the diving gauntlet has been well and truly thrown down and it is up to you folks to think of something better (if possible). Send votes for your preferred name to the Editor (preferably by Email) and once we have enough entries the ANUSC Committee will try to choose a winner.

ANUSC T-shirt competition

Every Club worth its salt (*and we should have plenty of that! Ed.*) has a Club T-shirt. So to remedy this calamitous state of affairs, a competition to design an ANUSC T-shirt is being held with first prize being a free T-shirt (*and second prize is two free T-shirts! Just kidding! Ed.*). So come on all you artistic and creative types, start sending in those ideas to the Editor. Again the ANUSC Committee will help to choose a winner.

ANU Scuba Diving Club AGM 1998

Jason Haines and Jeremy Weinman

Attendance 15. (quorum 20)

1) Annual General Meeting was opened

2) Committee reports were given. (See next section.)

3) Election of Office Bearers

3A) Our Election Process

By our constitution, the AGM elects only the Executive [president, treasurer, secretary, gear officer(=vice-president)], then the Executive appoints (elects) the remainder of the Committee (boat officer, student officer) and any other positions it wishes to fill (party officer, gear issue officers, LMI organiser - normally these are appointed as non-Committee positions, but the Executive can appoint any role as a Committee position).

3B) Elections at the AGM

Since the AGM was inquorate (shame on those of you who didn't turn up), we could not proceed to 'elect' office bearers. However, we used the meeting as a guide to the Executive, and under Clause 6(e) of the Club Constitution, we proceeded to fill, one at a time, the vacant positions of president, secretary, treasurer and vice-president (gear officer) by section 6(e) of our constitution and intend later to confirm these temporary Executive appointments at a General Meeting held e.g. during the Xmas BBQ.

3C) A Hicup

A few days after the AGM, we discovered a problem. At the time of his assuming the role of President, Jerry Keating did not realise that he was an Associate Member of the SU. The SU Constitution states that Associate Members can not hold Club Executive positions or vote. Sadly for all of us, Jerry chose to keep the ANUSC within the SU Constitution and resigned his position of President at a Committee meeting held Tuesday 24th November. The remaining Executive then elected Jason Haines (the previous President) to fill this temporary vacancy until such time as our next General meeting (at the xmas party) can elect a replacement. The Executive then unanimously appointed Jerry to the Committee as a Special Committee member.

4) Other matters

4A) Motion to raise fees from \$5/10 to \$10/20 for students/non-students.

Motion raised and unanimously supported.

Recommended to be raised again for a vote at the next quorate meeting. [Note here that fees can only be changed by a motion at a general meeting]

4B) Committee decision that SCUBA gear renewal is to be the Club's next spending priority was raised and noted. This decision met with the unanimous approval of the meeting.

5) The Dive Calender was planned.

(See Page 6)

The Meeting was adjourned.

ANU Scuba Diving Club President's Report 1998

Jason Haines

It has been an excellent year for the Club. Our membership rose again this year to reach 126 by the AGM. The Club has had an eventful year. From Kristina's stunning result at the Treasure Hunt, to emergency rescues at Mystery Bay, and a fantastically successful Musgrave.

Just over a year ago the Sports Union appointed a new executive officer. This has seen major changes to the operations of Sports Union clubs. The Club grants system has become fairer and more open and Club's have been put through an audit of membership and finances. Due largely to forethought by this year and last year's committee, the SCUBA Club came through with flying colours.

The changes in the Sports Union further required to prepare and submit a Three Year Plan at the end of last year (1997). This allowed us to budget, and receive grant money, for the new boat purchase. Our new NAIAD is currently being built and will be collected by the years end. The new boat will see the retirement of the Cherokee which has served the Club for many years. The sale of the Cherokee will leave the Club with monies to update some of the aging SCUBA gear.

It has been a successful year for the Club. The new year will see the Club with a new boat, new SCUBA gear and a strong and active membership. I won't be in Canberra next year and so won't be renominating for a committee position. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with the Club and have made many friends through it. I will miss these friends and the Club and I wish both of them well for the future.

SPARE AIR

For some underwater related humour try *Sherman's Lagoon* at:
<http://www.slagoon.com/>



ANU Scuba Diving Club Treasurer's Report 1998

Jeremy Weinman

I am happy to report that 1998 has been a very good year for us. In 1997, Jason and I prepared a conservative 3 year plan which would take us through the purchase of the new boat and the acquisition of new Scuba gear. Due to our conservative budgeting and a number of additional factors, we are considerably ahead of budget at the end of 1998. Consequently, we will not need to take out a foreshadowed \$2,000 loan from the SU to assist with the purchase of the new boat and now will be able to fast track the replacement of Club Scuba units. Three additional factors assisted our budget surplus:

a) A very successful LMI trip returned ~\$1,500 to the Club after expenses. The largely fixed cost nature of this trip means that it is the last few people of the group of 25 which makes the difference between a loss and a small surplus. Thus, thanks are due to the LMI organiser who worked hard to ensure that we went with the full complement. This years surplus has allowed the Club to purchase the permit for 1999's LMI trip (~\$1,200) without touching its investments (ear-marked for the new boat and Scuba Gear).

b) The new boat has come in considerably under budget, in large part to us delaying the purchase until we had a chance to see the Schram/Harding/Jenkins NAIAD 5.3 ("Yellowfin") and to then to base our boat on the "Yellowfin". This has resulted in a delivery price considerably less than we had originally anticipated. This lower price means that we can fit-out the new boat from the 1998 budget, rather than spreading this process over 2 years as we had originally planned.

c) Our amount spent on maintenance of boats and gear was less than budgeted. While I personally would've been happy for us to have spent up to budget on these items, the savings here means that we have money available to begin the replacement of Scuba gear (regs & B/C's) in early 1999.

ANU Scuba Diving Club Boat Officer Report 1998

Jeremy Keating

Despite several catastrophic & always untimely failures I am pleased to report that 1998 has been the least demanding of my 3 years as boat officer. Aside from structural problems with the *Cherokee* most of the breakdowns have been caused by failures in the boats electrical systems. I believe some of these problems will continue to plague us as the components concerned were simply not built to withstand the drenching they receive with our usage patterns.

The replacement for the *Cherokee* is a Naiad 5.3m RIB fitted out to take 6 divers. For those familiar with the boat Yellow Fin the new club boat will be the same in almost every way. We will have the clubs black trim, a narrower console & no windscreen. The 90 hp engine is not for winning the treasure hunt boat race (though we will of course) it is to make this boat easier to handle in big seas when fully laden without having to constantly apply full power. It should not be necessary to stress this engine as we have our Johnsons in the past. Going fast is fun but its hard on the boat, the crew and the engine. Once this engine has been run in and the boats dynamics understood we should consider marking a "club red line" on the tachometer that allows a good fast plane but not "blow the *Daf* away speeds". When driving this boat for the first time take great care. While the dry weight will only be 120kg greater than the *Daf* those privileged to have ridden aboard or driven Yellow fin will testify that this is a much much bigger boat. Take the time to get used to it particularly in confined spaces. It takes a lot of stopping! As I've said, it will also have more than double the power. The club is well and truly out of the runabout league. The cost will be \$24,854 plus around \$1800 for fit out which includes a GPS (finally!)

As in years past I would like to thank, on behalf of the club and myself, everyone who has helped with the maintenance and repairs of the boats. This includes those who have dropped in when passing the shed at night just for a chat. Just as importantly, if something breaks, or you find something that needs fixing, don't ignore it. As a member of ANUSC it is your problem. At least report it or better still fix it yourself, with another if necessary, you'll learn something in the process and it's fun, mostly.

ANU Scuba Diving Club Gear Maintenance Officer Report 1998

Martin Tyson

Hello this is your friendly gear officer. While much of the Club Scuba gear is old, it has been consistently maintained. As happens every year we need to point out the need for users to NOT DRAG THEIR GEAR THROUGH THE SAND, and to WASH THE REGS AND THE INSIDE OF THE BC BLADDER after use. (There are instructions on how to do this on the web site, and handouts in the Gear Shed). However, there comes a point where it is no longer economical to continue spending lots of money on some of the oldest gear, and we need to replace it. I am currently pricing new Buoyancy Compensators and regulators for the club to replace the stuff that needing retirement. Hopefully we can start turning over some of our old gear as soon as possible. That's about all really.

Montague Island Seal Dive September 26th - 27th

Dingo

It was kind of later than optimal as we headed over the Clyde and definitely dark after we ate non-descript food at an Asian(?) restaurant in Narooma. The adventure had already started before the first dive. Even after I had realised that the rather largish sign on the left that I had passed at Warpish-speeds was where we had to go, the true nature of the accommodation Sigg casually referred to as the Mystery Bay "primitive" campsite was only starting to make itself apparent. After negotiating a labyrinthine maze of dirt tracks, and startling (well if we ran over your tent you'd be startled too!) more than a few weary campers it occurred to me that travelling on these tracks was part of the problem. I saw the light (or should I say several lights) off in the distance and as a straight line is (sometimes, depending on how much you've had to drink!) the shortest distance between two points I forged off into the bush where no self-respecting FWD Corolla would normally dare. After scaring a few gum trees (which don't normally see erratically driven red vehicles bearing down upon them) we emerged in a clearing amidst some ANUSC campers and a few startled Germanic words from Sigg. At least we didn't run over the tent!



Excited ANUSC divers at Mystery Bay Primitive Campsite



The Daffodil crew checking the H₂O temperature ... Brrr!

The following day, after a hearty breakfast and helping launch both the Club Boats, we scored a ride on the Daf out to Montague Island.



The Cherokee hanging with the seals at Montague Island.



The attractive end of an anonymous diver on the DAF!

Hmmm ... were they shark fins or seal fins. Happily the latter and it was cool to see these streamlined creatures up close. Once underwater, it was clear to see that these underwater cruise missiles were in their element and it was all I could do sit weightless and pan my disposable underwater camera quickly enough to catch more than just empty water. In fact I spent so much time doing this, joyfully snapping pictures, that my buddy disappeared (probably in disgust) from sight. Hmmm ... this losing buddy syndrome is becoming a habit. I surfaced and surmised that he had been taken by a mythical rabid killer seal. Happily soon after I was aboard the Daf my recalcitrant buddy came up as well which meant I wouldn't lose my ANUSC buddy deposit (non-refundable if you don't return your buddy to the Gear Shed on time properly washed and refilled!).



Nature's own underwater SCUD missiles ...

That night we had a bonza sit around the fire telling tall tales, drinking port and listening to some guitar accompanied songs from the ANUSC choral group. Another neat dive amongst the seals was managed the following morning, confirming the must-do nature of this dive. It certainly met with my seal of approval! (*Groan, Ed.*)

Beldiver's Treasure Hunt Bawley Point (Kioloa) and Ulladulla November 21st-22nd

Dingo

"There be treasure I say ... there be treasure ..." squawked the parrot on Kathy's shoulder. Rumours abounded about the old crafty Buccaneer Steve. He is said to have repeatedly buried treasure in these parts. Some say as many as 300 gold doubloons. Stormy weather drove him and his motley crew south from his favourite hiding places near the fabled Gantry to anchor and offload his treasure in a sheltered cove near Kioloa.



Waves breaking over the Gantry ... lets go to Kioloa!

Two competing scurvy ridden pirate crews battled for the prize. The schooner Yellowfin was joined by the Cherokee and the DAF but the still far from placid conditions meant they lay beached on the shore. (on their respective boat trailers!)



The conditions at Kioloa, if not the divers, were calmer.

The scurvy crews battled hard, and it soon became clear that it was every pirate (or buccaneerette) for themselves. Some emerged from the battle with dozens of doubloons while others were content (or had to be content) with a few and an unlucky few with none. Approximately, 250 of the doubloons

were recovered. In the afternoon, a few of the less scurvy ridden of the crew, with Old Seadog Jeremy at the helm, took the Daffodil out from Ulladulla to "Home Bommie" site of the legendary seal cave.



There be treasure me heartees ... but register first!

In the evening, there was much feasting and imbibing by both crews. We even partook of the legendary rock solid icecream which is perhaps even now defrosting as I write. Afterwards, the crafty Buccaneer Steve, in an amazing display of generosity (as pirates go), rewarded some of the luckier treasure hunters with treasure from his personal hoard. Yours truly is still in shock after gaining some of the major prizes. Some further highlights (?) included watching Bill play with his multipurpose gear hanger and someones inflatable sausage. (I do fear for Kristina's safety.)

The following day, some of the braver souls ventured out on the *Cherokee* and the *Daffodil* to the legendary Pinnacles, south of Brush Island, in search of enlightenment. However, the wave motion was conducive to dragging anchors and emitting stomach contents and the Bhudda was 40 metres down and had fallen over. Enlightenment came in the form of a leaking high pressure hose for Seaman Blair and an aborted dive for those of us who were still oscillating vertically on the surface. Further enlightenment came in the form of GPS coordinates for the Pinnacles taken with the Club's new GPS.

The capable organisers and the big turnout by Beldivers and ANUSC ensured that the treasure hunt weekend was an excellent social occasion.

ANU Scuba Club Office Bearers

Interim President: Jason Haines
Treasurer: Jeremy Weinman
Secretary: Harold Schranz
Vice-President (Gear Officer): Martin Tyson
Boat Officer: Peter Liston
Student Officer: Rowan McMurray
Party Officer: Bill Keating
Special Committee Member: Jerry Keating
Gear Issue Officers:
 Sara Whitfield, Ulrike Mathesius,
 Rowan McMurray, David Power
LMI Organiser: Jeremy Weinman

The Diving Calender

If you want to go on a dive please get in touch with the trip organiser around one week beforehand.

Jervis Bay

December 5th — 6th

Jervis Bay is a great pre-Christmas dive. We will be camping at Bristol Point, which will give us great access to some of the dive sites on the south side of the bay. Note that Rowan intends to stay on for December 7-8 assuming there are suitably experienced people to drive the boats and a sufficient number of divers. If this interests you, get in touch with Rowan!

Uschi Wiedemann (WEEKEND coordinator)

Phone: 6247-6322 (H)
6249-2294 (W)

Email: Uschi.Wiedemann@anu.edu.au

Rowan McMurray

Phone: 6241-1722 (H)
018-473-570 (W)

Email: m9305482@student.anu.edu.au

Christmas Party

December 15th 1998

Hello great diving Christmas Party boffins!

Yes... The ANUSC christmas party is happening!!!

Why: The mighty fine Christmas party.

When: Tuesday 15th Dec, 5.00pm onwards.

Where: Springbank Island. Meet on the shore closest to Springbank Island - west from the Canberra Hospital Rubble on the same shoreline.

How: We will paddle the club boats across but other forms of locomotion are acceptable (throw your eskies on the boat) and swim or lilo across.

Facilities: There are toilets, big free gas BBQs (big flat hotplates) and tables with bench chairs on the Island (it is a barbie Island). (*Oh, really Ken, it must be made of plastic, isn't it fantastic! Ed.*)

Gear: BYO food and beverage, towel, bathers, LANTERN (if you have one), rain coat, warm clothing, cool clothing, frisbies, balls, etc etc

Rain: In the event of bad weather you will be advised where we will have the extraordinary party. (*otherwise it'll just be ordinary? Not likely! Ed.*)

RSVP RSVP RSVP RSVP also can you tell me when you will get to the lake shore ...

Spiel: The party should be excellent fun ... a great chance to have good yarn and tell some tall stories while you sip and guzzle your favourite drinks. We will also elect a president for the club since Mr Worms can't do it due to the bizzare SU constitution. If you have any questions or comments get in touch with me.

Maggot (Bill Keating)

Phone: 6288-2449 (H)
6249-2222 (W)

Email: bill.bt.keating@centrelink.gov.au

Xmas - Boat pickup

Xmas/New Years diving

Jeremy Weinman

Phone: 6254-7502 (H)
6249-5071 (W)

Email: weinman@rsbs.anu.edu.au

Jan 23rd - 26th - Australia Day Bittangabee Bay

Bittangabee Bay, Green Cape, Ben Boyd National Park

Jerry Keating/Jeremy Weinman

Phone: 6239-7929 (H)
6280-4499 (W)

Email: jkeating@compuetech.com.au

Feb 6th - 7th

Montague Island

Kristina Sands

Phone: 6288-2449 (H)
6288-2449 (W)

Email: Kristina.Sands@anu.edu.au

Feb 24th

Market Day

Our club ovrks because it has a constant turn-over of enthusiastic members. Come and give your club a hand and help man the stall at market day, set it up or take it down.

Harold Schranz

Phone: 6242-8716 (H)
6249-3437 (W)

Email: Harold.Schranz@anu.edu.au

March 6th - 7th

Rusty Divers Weekend - Ulladulla

A good weekend for beginners and rusty divers.

Jeremy Weinman

Phone: 6254-7502 (H)
6249-5071 (W)

Email: weinman@rsbs.anu.edu.au

Canberra Day - Eden

One of the best dive spots on the South Coast. two sunken tugs, heaps of fish and coral and a tunnel.

Sam Lee

Phone: 6286-5100 (H)

Email: 13013543@student.anu.edu.au

Equipment Rules — Tanks/Vests/Regulators

The ANU SCUBA Diving Club has several (about 10) complete sets of SCUBA equipment (tank, reg, BC), together with a number of additional tanks and some older style BC's, purchased and maintained with a combination of Sports Union grants and Club generated funds. This equipment, stored locked in a cage in the ANUSC gear store (a green double garage) on North Oval, is subject to constant and demanding use so the following hire charges and rules have been formulated in the interests of all club members, of the Sports Union, and of the issuing and maintenance officers.

Gear hire charges:

Full set for a student Club member on a Club trip weekend \$0
Full set for a non-student Club member on a Club trip weekend \$10
Full set for any Club member on a non-Club trip weekend \$20 or
Regulator \$10 BCD \$10 Tank \$5
Deposits are \$30.

The Rules:

1) One set of gear is provided only to qualified divers who are **current members** of **both** the ANU SCUBA Diving Club and the Sports Union. Persons not known to the issuing officer may be asked to show their ANUSC and/or their Sports Union/Student card and may be checked against the list of current members. You cannot borrow a 2nd set for a non-member. ANU student members can use this set of gear for free on Club outings, non-ANU student members are required to pay a \$10 usage fee.

2) Gear is available for use on Club dives as described above - subject to a \$30 deposit, refundable when the equipment is returned **the next week**, complete and unabused, **washed** and with the **tanks full**. Borrowers are not guaranteed exclusive use and may be required to share with other Club members on a dive.

3) When not required for Club purposes, equipment may be hired for private use at a fee of \$20 per set, plus the usual deposit. *Equipment is for the support of diving as a club, and is not available for private use when a Club outing is scheduled, regardless of however many sets appear to be spare.* The Club does not accept advance bookings for the use of equipment.

4) Equipment may be borrowed and returned around 5:30 pm on Thursdays, via the rostered issuing officer, **who attends only on request**. In order to allow everybody fair access, gear **must** be returned by the Thursday following the week of issue. **If you don't ring a gear officer, or a Club official if you can't contact one, to arrange return of your gear you must expect to lose your deposit.**

5) The member signing for gear remains fully responsible for it until it is signed back in. Negligent loss or damage will be treated in accordance with current policy of the Club and the Sports Union, which retains ownership of all Club equipment. Borrowers are expected to keep track of all gear issued to them, particularly on dives where it is shared.

6) **To avoid damage, always remove jacket vests from tanks before transport.**

7) After use wash ALL gear in fresh water, rinse out vests internally, and return them half- inflated. Hose down your tanks and tank boot. **Ensure that the dust cap is tightly fitted to the reg before soaking. Water in the reg will damage it and can result in total failure of your reg or gauges. Apart from the danger to you or other users, this costs us lots of money to replace.**

8) **NEVER EVER leave tanks or hoses or vests in your car in the hot sun.**

9) **In the interests of safety and to avoid inadvertent re-issue, all faulty gear must be labelled as such on return, AND reported personally to the gear maintenance officer by the borrower.**

Gear Officer: Martin Tyson **Email:** Martin.Tyson@ffp.csiro.au
Phone: 6282 7590 (H) 6281-8224 (W)

Gear Issue and Return

(Thursdays only unless you arrange otherwise)

*** Remember, people will only attend if you contact them beforehand ***

See http://student.anu.edu.au/Clubs/ANU_Scuba_Club/gearissue.html for the latest roster.

Ulrike Mathesius 6249x3087 (W) 6241-5335 (H) ulrike@rsbs-central.anu.edu.au	Rowan McMurray (041)847-1051 (W) 6230-2420 (H) m9305482@student.anu.edu.au	David Power 6207-1719 (W) 6248-8161 (H) david_power@dpa.act.gov.au	Sarah Whitfield 6281-8248 (W) 6248-8161 (H) sarah.whitfeld@cbr.for.csiro.au