

JUNE 1964

A U.R.G. club transfer, suitable for use on car windows etc., will be available shortly. The design was chosen from a very comprehensive range submitted and should have popular appeal.

The 'pot dip' at H.M.A.S. 'Rushcutter' was held as scheduled on Saturday, 23rd May, and was well attended. Lt. Roberts of the R.A.N. put through two groups of divers who were taken to a simulated depth of 66 feet. Several experiments were conducted inside the chamber, including demonstrating the crushing effect of the compressed air on sealed tin and plastic vessels. An inflated balloon was taken into the chamber and under pressure was reduced greatly from its original size. Tape recordings were taken, via a phone in the chamber, in an attempt to record the voice distortion due to increased air pressure and flash photographs were taken of the divers inside the chamber through the observation ports. After the dive an informal discussion was had with Lt. Roberts and various types of Navy diving gear were inspected.

On Saturday 23rd, before the 'pot dip', a group of members commenced work on the club boat. Some minor renovations are still necessary and any member who is willing to assist could contact Howard Couch for details.

A request was received from a lecturer of Sydney University for a small, live Port Jackson shark, or any other small shark, for research work. any diver wishing to assist can contact John Lander, phone WL 4346, who will arrange for collection of the shark at any time.

There are still some sets of divers log books available for members at a cost of 5/-. They comprise of 50 sets of sheets designed to cover all the necessary information required to record the dive. Also included in the cost will be sets of specially prepared information sheets which will be distributed when complete. The logs can be fitted to a standard 2 punch hole folder which are available at most newsagents.

At the May club meeting, held at the Y.M.C.A., Pitt Street, two excellent films were shown. The first dealt with the mechanics of the nematocysts or stinging cells, of animals such as the sea anemone, jelly fish, etc. This was filmed, in the main, through microscopic lenses and disclosed some amazing features of these cells. The second film was of the bathyscaphs FNRS 2 and FNRS 3. It showed their design, construction and use. Both these films were of a high entertainment and educational standard and it is hoped to screen more films of this nature in the future.

The club financial year ends in June and annual subscriptions are due on 30th June. The July meeting sees the election of the new committee for 1964/65 and nomination forms will be sent to all members. These forms must be lodged, if nomination is desired, with the returning officer before 8p.m., July 15th.

During May, a trawler was hired to take U.R.G. members on an ocean dive and an early start was made from Dolans Bay. The first dive was off Boat Harbour in water of exceptional clarity. Although not rich in marine life, the water provided an opportunity for some good underwater camera shots and the flat seas made the dive very enjoyable. The second dive was made to the south, off Jibbon Bombora, which was running spasmodically. The water here lacked the clarity of the previous location but made up for it by the richness of its marine life. Some excellent examples of gorgonian coral were recovered at the conclusion of the dive. The boat returned to base at 3p.m. and a further dive is scheduled for June.

The subject preference forms have been completed and are now filed on punch cards. Using this method, if a group of divers is required for some particular project, members who recorded a preference for the subject in question can be quickly sorted out of the file and contacted. The result of the survey is listed below and future group activities will be guided, as much as possible, by the result. The suggestions put forward by members have been noted by the committee and will be acted upon as necessary.

Survey Results

1. Underwater photography	6	Marine biology
2. Salvage and wreck investigation	7	Ichthyology
3. Practical diving	8	Underwater medicine
4. diving equipment engineering	9	Diving competition
5. Shark investigation	10	Diving record atte....

REPRINT FROM SKINDIVER MAGAZINE

Ever dive deep with your wet suit and experience the problems associated with changes in suit buoyancy? Spanish divers have developed a device which may overcome this problem.

directions are as follows: obtain a standard vest type inflatable life preserver. Vulcanize a light, flexible 10" piece of rubber hose to the bottom of your life vest. Insert a small metal tube in the end of the hose to provide enough weight to keep the tube hanging downwards regardless of your position in the water. The device is now complete.

It works like this: when you find yourself in a position where you are too heavy to comfortably maintain your equilibrium, blow a little air into your vest through the regular oral inflation tube. Put in just enough to maintain equilibrium or slightly more. If you are maintaining yourself so you are slightly positively buoyant, you will be swimming with your fins elevated and will not disturb the bottom. Also, should you have an accident, you will automatically rise to the surface. The amount of buoyancy is ...plied? by the 10" tube in the bottom of the vest. as the air expands in the vest, itnt out through that tube allowing an above ambient pressure in the vest which is roughly equivalent to a pressure of 10" of sea water.

Members of your group are currently testing the functioning of this device and recommendations will be submitted to members.

METHODS OF PRESERVING WOODEN ARTIFACTS RECOVERED FROM THE SEA

Seal immediately in plastic bags filled with sea water. When convenient, drain off water and soak objects in POLYETHYLENE GLYCOL which permits the wood to be kept dry without shrinkage and deformation.

NO-DECOMPRESSION RULES OF THUMB

1. At depths less than 30', diving is unlimited
2. Allow 125 minutes of no-decompression diving time at 30' and subtract 25 minutes for every 10' increment to 60' inclusive.
3. Allow 40 minutes of no-decompression diving time at 70' and subtract 5 minutes for every 10' increment to 120' inclusive.

These rules, created by the U.S. Navy prior to 1956 account for an ascent rate of no more than 25' per minute. This old standard rate of ascent was revised to 60' per minute in 1959. Therefore, these rules of thumb have an added margin of safety, especially concerning the shallower depths.

U.S. NAVY NO-DECOMPRESSION LIMITS

<u>Depth (feet)</u>	<u>No-Decompression Limits (Minutes)</u>
10	unlimited
15	"
20	"
25	"
30	
35	310
40	200
50	100
60	60
70	50
80	40
90	30
100	25
110	20
120	15
130	10
140	10
150	5
160	5
170	5
180	5
190	5

CAUTION: The no-decompression table applies only to SINGLE DIVES made in a TWELVE HOUR PERIOD.

Please forward all news items, articles, etc., for publication to 'U.R.G. News',
C/- B. Jentsch, 44 Cooperbrook Ave., Gynea Bay.

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Hon. Editor