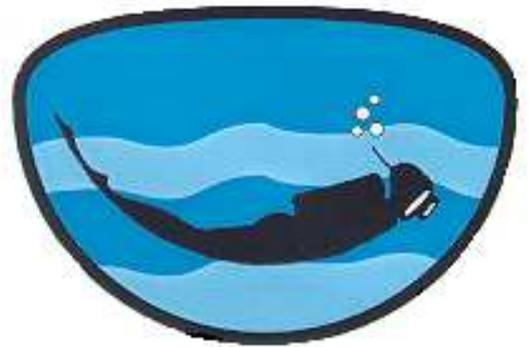


September
2015

Canterbury Underwater Club Inc. Newsletter



Canterbury Underwater Club

PO Box 2287

Christchurch 8140

www.canterburyunderwater.org.nz



Committee Members 2014 – 2015

Committee members are here to help if you have a question about the club or any of our facilities.

Position	Name	Contact Details
President	Wayne Lester	p: 03 342 4949 m: 021 436 913 e: president@canterburyunderwater.org.nz
Vice President	Don Smith	p: 03 388 9299 m: 0277 214 903 e: jodonx2@gmail.com
Secretary	Lynette Baker	p: 03 965 3454 m: 021 058 3566 e: secretary@canterburyunderwater.org.nz
Treasurer	Mark Buckland	p: 03 322 9335 m: 027 706 5516 e: treasurer@canterburyunderwater.org.nz
Editor	Jo Mckay	p: 03 338 8654 m: 027 296 1985 e: editor@canterburyunderwater.org.nz
Committee Lodge Custodian	Phil Baker	p: 03 965 3454 m: 0272 555 074 e: unfehlbar@xtra.co.nz
Committee	Lesley Curry	m: 021 246 4689 e: lesleycurry50@gmail.com
Committee	Stephen Curry	m: 021 229 7278 e: stephencurry50@gmail.com
Committee Trips Co-ordinator	Mark Ewing	p: 03 980 3002 m: 021 222 1672 e: m.ewing@ewings.co.nz
Committee Trips Co-ordinator	Gareth Halliburton	m: 021 668 412 e: garethha@fcc.co.nz
Committee	Warren Price	p: 03 354 5522 m: 0274 821 866 e: warren@bfis.co.nz
Committee	Laurence Sunshine	m: 022 487 3906 e: laurencesunshine@gmail.com
Assistant Lodge Custodian (non-Committee)	Ian Waite	p: 03 308 8866 m: 021 355 379 e: ianwaite@canterburyunderwater.org.nz

Club Meeting Information

August Meeting Summary

The minutes from the August meeting can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Next Meeting

Tuesday the 8th of September. Please arrive at 7:30pm; AGM starts at 8pm.

New Members

A new member application has been received from Vinni Pietras-Jensen.

Poetry Competition (thanks to Warren Price for sending this in)

An Australian Poetry Competition held in the Sydney Opera House had come down to two finalists; a university graduate, and an old aboriginal.

They were given a word, and then allowed two minutes to study the word and come up with a short four line poem that contained the word.

The word they were given was 'TIMBUKTU'.



First to recite his poem was the university graduate. He stepped to the microphone and said:

Slowly across the desert sand,
Trekking a lonely caravan
Men on camels, two by two
Destination - Timbuktu

The crowd went crazy!

No way could the old aboriginal top that, they thought.
The old aboriginal calmly made his way to the microphone and recited;

Me and Tim a huntin' went
Met three whores in a pop up tent
They were three, and we were two
So I bucked one, and Timbuktu.

The aboriginal won.

Presidents Report

Another successful year for our club with financial members at a constant level.

Summary of the year:

Monthly meetings at the After Hour Hangar saw many interesting topics on the agenda with a wide range of diverse speakers. We had speakers from the Ministry of Primary Industries speaking on the Kaikoura Marine Reserve, NZUA about their future path, our members talking about their trips - Dive Poor Knights and the Antarctic. The mystery auction and the quiz were really good fun nights along with the gentleman from "Whisky Galore" who also brought some samples for tasting. Two meetings were held at different venues the Hitching Post and the Naval Point at Lyttelton.

Dive trips have been rather slow with mainly the same reliable members turning up. Those who take part find them really enjoyable and a lot of time and effort goes into the organising of these trips.

Marlborough Sounds - Labour Weekend, Okiwi Bay - Show Weekend, Akaroa – Christmas, clean up - Magazine Bay, Lyttelton.

The club's sixtieth anniversary was celebrated in style at the Club Lodge in Kaikoura with a 60's theme party at the beginning of November and this was a great success. Mid-winter Christmas dinner was enjoyed by the small number that attended.

Lodge - in March we saw a change in the Lodge Booking Office and with help from Mark the transition went smoothly.

Maintenance has been done by a small but dedicated team with huge input by Lynette and Phil who spent two consecutive weeks stopping and painting the lodge and the annex. The slip is still an ongoing issue but with a small sub-committee and a grant we now have a completed engineers report and engaged a lawyer. A grant application has been lodged for new carpet.

Finance - again Mark has done a fantastic job managing the club's finances with more money on fixed deposits. The grant we received for the slip helped ease some financial pressure as fundraising was on the small side. We sold the Entertainment Books again and the life jackets are ongoing.

Newsletter - A great job was done by Jo with Lynette's assistance bringing us interesting and up to date articles. It is not an easy task finding good material month after month so input from members is greatly appreciated.

A very good feature in Saturday's Press a few months ago on a club member's diving experiences was great publicity for the club attracting quite a few enquiries regarding membership.

We have also had a robust discussion on "Free Divers" wanting to join our club and whether we will accept them.

Lastly I would like to thank all the committee for all their time and effort over the last 12 months. Too often serving on a committee can be a thankless chore but without these dedicated people the CUC would not be the respected club that it is today. Thank you to the club members that support the club and I wish the incoming committee all the best for the next 12 months.

Safe Diving

Wayne Lester - President 2014/15

Committee Attendance

Wayne = 11	Don = 8	Mark B = 10	Warren = 9
Jo = 7	Gareth = 8	Mark = 10	Bert/Laurence = 9
Steve = 8	Lesley = 9	Phil = 10	Lynette = 11

And also from the president... A Bloody Great Aussie Poem

The sun was hot already - it was only 8 o'clock, the cocky took off in his Ute, to go and check his stock.

He drove around the paddocks checking wethers, ewes and lambs, the float valves in the water troughs, the windmills on the dams.

He stopped and turned a windmill on to fill a water tank, and saw a ewe down in the dam, a few yards from the bank.

"Typical bloody sheep," he thought, "they've got no common sense, "They won't go through a gateway but they'll jump a bloody fence."

The ewe was stuck down in the mud, he knew without a doubt, she'd stay there 'til she carked it if he didn't get her out.

But when he reached the water's edge, the startled ewe broke free, and in her haste to get away, began a swimming spree.

He reckoned once her fleece was wet, the weight would drag her down, if he didn't rescue her, the stupid sod would drown.

Her style was unimpressive, her survival chances slim, he saw no other option, he would have to take a swim.

He peeled his shirt and singlet off, his trousers, boots and socks, and as he couldn't stand wet clothes, he also shed his jocks.

He jumped into the water and away that cocky swam, he caught up with her somewhere near the middle of the dam.

The ewe was quite evasive, she kept giving him the slip, he tried to grab her sodden fleece but couldn't get a grip.

At last he got her to the bank and stopped to catch his breath, she showed him little gratitude for saving her from death.

She took off like a Bondi tram around the other side, he swore next time he caught that ewe he'd hang her bloody hide.

Then round and round the dam they ran, although he felt quite puffed, he still thought he could run her down, she must be nearly stuffed...

The local stock rep came along, to pay a call that day.

He knew this bloke was on his own, his wife had gone away, he didn't really think he'd get fresh scones for morning tea, but neither was he ready for what he was soon to see.

He rubbed his eyes in disbelief at what came into view, for running down the catchment came this frantic-looking ewe.

And on her heels in hot pursuit and wearing not a stitch, the farmer yelling wildly, "Come back here, you lousy bitch!"

The stock rep didn't hang around, he took off in his car, the cocky's reputation has been damaged near and far. So bear in mind the Work Safe rule when next you check your flocks - spot the hazard, assess the risk, and always wear your jocks!

[Book Review - The Soul of an Octopus: a Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness \(thanks to Ted Loughnan for sending this in\)](#)

Sy Montgomery, published by Simon & Schuster, 263pp, £12.99

The octopus is a dread creature, so alien that it seems to exist only in our nightmares. In the sea on which his ancient mariner sailed, where “the very deep did rot”, Coleridge evoked these eldritch beasts: “Yea, slimy things did crawl with legs/upon the slimy sea.” For Victor Hugo, the octopus was a deathly demon, almost sexual in its devouring mien. The “devil-fish, horrible, sucks your lifeblood away”, he wrote, imagining it consuming its victim “with innumerable hideous mouths”.

The possession of more than the usual four limbs appears to have consigned the octopus to this fate. Pliny claimed, “No animal is more savage in causing the death of man in the water.” Nor is there any more terrifying vision than the vast and loathsome Kraken, rising up to drag good men and ships down to the abyss.



It's not surprising that it has taken us a long time to reappraise the octopus, imbued with such mythical awe, as what it really is: an intelligent animal with entwining arms so filled with neurons that each of them possesses a separate personality. In the current nature writing boom— fuelled in part by new scientific discoveries — the revision of the octopus is just one in a series of natural histories, of creatures from corvids to cetaceans, which indicate that our awareness of other species is expanding exponentially. As an interviewee in Sy Montgomery's remarkable book declares, “It's really only in the last 20 years we could even be having this conversation. We're only starting to understand animals.”

Doing for cephalopods what Helen Macdonald has done for raptors, Montgomery, a naturalist and author based in the US state of New Hampshire, sets off for the New England Aquarium in Boston to commune with captive octopuses. She is quickly entranced. As she plunges her arms into their tanks, the animals use their tentacles to taste her skin. Yes, they are slimy — Montgomery describes them memorably as “a sort of cross between drool and snot” — but their slime is a protective layer and a lubricant. An octopus's ability to secrete itself in the smallest crevices (whether a cave or, in the case of an escapee from an aquarium, a water pipe)

is limited only by its sole hard structure: its eerie, parrot-like beak. Captive octopuses pose a notable problem for aquarium keepers: they are just so smart. At one establishment, staff couldn't work out why prized fish were disappearing from a tank. CCTV footage showed that during the night, an octopus in a tank at the other end of the room was lifting its lid, crawling over to the fish tank, claiming its prize, then sneaking back home as if nothing had happened.

Yet the octopus's most amazing talent may be another kind of subterfuge – its –ability to camouflage itself. It can replicate complicated patterns (even a chessboard) by means of millions of chromatophores in its skin, triggered by sensory organs in its tentacles that determine the surface and even the texture of the terrain it seeks to mimic. A single octopus on a Pacific coral reef was seen to change 177 times in a single hour. This skill is not instinctive but learned.

How did such an apparently simple creature come to be so clever? Jennifer Mather, an “octopus psychologist”, proposes that the evolutionary process may have begun when the octopus's ancestor lost its protective shell. The newly mobile animal became an active hunter and also more vulnerable – hence the need for disguise. Other studies suggest that in their ability to change colour, shoot clouds of defensive ink and construct shelters (a recent YouTube clip showing one using a coconut shell for that purpose went viral), octopuses exhibit something close to a “theory of mind”, the ability to anticipate the thoughts of other animals.

Montgomery becomes attached to her subjects – literally, courtesy of those manifold suckers. Sadly, octopuses are short-lived – many survive for only three years – so her relationships with Octavia, Athena and Kali at the aquarium are both ecstatic and fraught with accelerated life. She is unabashed in her emotional response to animals that flush red with excitement during their encounters with human beings. At one point, she describes Kali's pupils as being dilated as “those of a person who's newly in love”.

From Boston, we follow the author out of the aquarium and into the open sea as she learns to scuba-dive in order to get even closer to her beloved beasts. Her tone is homey (the adjective “awesome” is used liberally) and her interpretations are unashamedly anthropomorphic. Although her lively account is made rigorous by the injection of scientific commentary from various experts, emotion is never far away.

The “civilian” characters in the book have their own stories: we encounter Anna, a teenage girl with Asperger's syndrome, and Wilson, another aquarium volunteer whose wife is dying. Both find solace in the company of octopuses. Yet these human tales pale beside those of the animal. As a creature described as possessing “intelligence without a centralised self” and whose skin expresses its mood, the octopus has an existence of a complexity that defies the apprehension we project on to it.

Most people these days see octopuses only as an item on the menu. Montgomery's charming, eye-opening book may not change your life, but it may make you think twice about eating them.

Membership Renewal

Canterbury Underwater Club Inc
PO Box 2287
CHRISTCHURCH

Annual Subscription Invoice for the Period 1st July 2015 to 30th June 2016

Fees:

Senior \$75.00
Junior \$45.00 (up to 18th birthday)
Couple \$85.00
Veteran \$36.50 (60 years and over with five or more years of CUC membership)

*A rebate of \$5.00 is allowed if payment is received before 31st October 2015.

Members who fail to pay their subscription by the 30th November 2015 will have their names removed from the club list and will have to reapply for membership and pay the joining levy.

Remittance may be sent to PO Box 2287, Christchurch, or paid to the Treasurer at monthly meetings, or remitted directly into our Bank Account online or via any branch:

KiwiBank Limited

Account Name: CANTERBURY UNDERWATER CLUB INCORPORATED

Account Number: 38 9014 0722283 00

Please make sure you include **your name and "CUC Subscription" as a reference.**

PLEASE COMPLETE, DETACH AND PRESENT WITH PAYMENT

Type of Subscription: (Circle one) Senior / Junior / Couple / Veteran

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Members Name: _____

Name of Spouse / Partner: _____

Address: _____

Phone: Work: _____ Home: _____ Mobile: _____

Email Address: _____

Signed: _____

Canterbury Underwater Club Inc- Lodge Information

The Canterbury Underwater Club Lodge offers a fantastic facility to both members and non-members with dedicated boat parking, gear washing facilities, fish filleting stations, crayfish cooker and a communal cooking and living area.



The lodge can sleep a maximum of 20 people in its' five rooms, specific rooms can be requested when booking but may change to accommodate the numbers of person in a party.

The Annex rooms (11 to 16) can sleep up to 16 people and will be reserved for members only unless the entire Lodge has been pre-booked for a Group.

This will not apply to holiday weekends and may be varied for either of the above if the lodge is only or likely to be partially occupied during your stay.

Please *remember* that you need to bring your own linen and bedding.

Member Rates

Members and Partners \$15.00 per person per night
Child 5-17 years \$5.00 per child per night
Child under 5 years Free

Member Cancellation Policy:

Prior to mid-day on the day of arrival No Charge
Later than mid-day on the planned day of arrival 1 night charged

Cancellation of a Booking for a holiday weekend must be done 3 days prior to the planned day of arrival or a two night penalty charge will apply if the beds booked cannot be re-let. The booking agent will advise the Treasurer and Secretary in these events.

Non-Member Rates

Adult \$26.00 per person per night
Child 5-17 years \$10.00 per child per night
Child Under 5 Free

Vouchers can be used for non-members (for a stay when accompanied by a member) but will be redeemed at the non-member price.

Non-Member Cancellation Policy:

Cancellation of bookings and refund of deposits will be as per standard motel practice for Groups or Individuals.

Lodge Booking Information

Bookings are handled by the Norfolk Pine Motel. To lessen the impact on them in the running of their own business, we kindly ask that you respect the following instructions:

1. E-mail is the preferred booking method.
2. Phone bookings should be made no later than 7pm and no earlier than midday.
3. Please do NOT use the motel's 0800 number; doing so will incur a \$4 charge.
4. Please let Norfolk Pine know how many people in your group so they can allocate beds and also the member/non-member make up of your party.
5. Payment must be made upon collection of keys – Vouchers, Cash or Cheque only please, NO EFTPOS.
6. Uplift keys before 8pm; please phone them if you are running late.



Ron Zhang , Norfolk Pine Motel

124 The Esplanade

Kaikoura

p: 03 319 5120

f: 03 319 6405

e: norfolkpine@clear.net.nz

General Lodge Rules and Obligations for ALL Users

- **No Pets** of any description to be taken onto or into any part of Club Lodge facilities.
- Any visiting guests may not over-night at the lodge unless booking and registration is completed at Norfolk Pine Motel prior to 8.00 pm and it does not interfere with any other persons booking.
- No smoking is permitted at the Club Lodge.
- Alcohol consumption is permitted in moderation.
- General noise to be kept to a minimum late in the evening to be respectful to others staying at the lodge.
- No undersize Fish/Crayfish/Shellfish or excess quota of any species to be kept at the club lodge.
- BBQ and Crayfish Cooker are only to be used outside.
- Clean up when you leave. There are no cleaners. We are totally reliant on club users.
- Keys must be returned to Norfolk Pine on the day of departure, lost keys will incur a \$25.00 fee.
- Please direct any complaints (other than minor booking issues), suggestions or issues with the lodge facilities to a committee member.

These conditions of use of the Lodge are authorized by the President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the Canterbury Underwater Club Inc. and take effect from 01-06-2015.

Signed on behalf of the executive of the committee:

Mark Buckland - Treasurer

Dated 01-06-2015. Updated 01-06-2015.

Minutes of Club Meeting – 11th August 2015

Meeting opened 8.10 pm

Wayne opened the meeting, thanked everyone for attending.
37 attended

Guest: Rob (friend of Mark E), Quin, Adrian and Jono

Apologies: Jens C, Don S and

Apologies accepted by Wayne, Seconded by Warren Kelly

Reading and Approval of Previous club Meeting Minutes from: 14.7. 2015

The minutes were taken as read and accepted. Moved by Wayne and seconded by Grant

Matters arising from previous minutes: None

Trip reports/events:

Club trips - Gareth spoke about the club dives and that he has now programmed 6 months dive activities are on the website. Not a lot of diving happening at the moment. He went for a shore dive in Kaikoura and had a lot of gear issues, otherwise a good dive.

29th August – Kaikoura shore dive

30th August – Taylors mistake

12th September – Deep freeze at lake Coleridge

19th September – Kaikoura boat dive (have 3 divers already)

17th October – to be confirmed

24th-26th October – Linkwater – need boats, motels have space

14th November – Show weekend – to be confirmed.

Long term planed dives

- Poor Knights Waitangi weekend dive trip. This trip is full but Gareth will take more names as reserves. Please contact Gareth if interested.
- 2017 – Fiordland

Any more ideas please contact Gareth, especially if you have a boat and would like to take members.

General Business

Subscriptions. These are now due, from the first July and you have until November to pay them. Members can you please email the secretary to update any personal details, especially your email address has changed to avoid newsletters not being received.

Lodge.

- Wayne informed members that the whole lodge is booked for the weekend of the 12th September.
- Wayne has also had an enquiry from Canterbury University who would like 2 rooms for about 3-4 months over the Christmas period as they are wanting to do a marine study. Great revenue.
- Dominic mentioned that the lodge is looking really good with its new paint job.
- The bench top is currently been made and should be available to be fitted the weekend of 22nd August. He will take it up but we will need builders to help fit it.

Slip. Warren reported that Geoscience has completed their report and it has been sent to the Lawyers. The Lawyers will then give the above property owner notice.

Survey Dive. This is now not going to happen as work safe has become involved and has stopped the dive.

AGM – Next meeting. Wayne reminded members that the club is looking for an editor

Meeting closed 8.25pm

Wayne called the official part of the meeting closed.

Raffle

1st – Warren Price (beef)

2nd – Adrian(mystery)

3rd – Steve C (wine)

4th – Dominic (pork)

5th – Jo M (wine)

6th – Warren Kelly (vouchers)

7th – Grant P (vouchers)



CHRISTCHURCH BRANCH

75 Blenheim Road, Riccarton Christchurch
Monday to Friday 8:30am to 5:30pm
Saturday and Sunday 8:30am to 5:00pm

Burnsco Marine and Leisure is the biggest seller of marine and motorhome accessories in New Zealand. Burnsco is 100% NZ owned and operated and has been serving New Zealanders for over 100 years. With 13 stores from the Bay of Islands to Christchurch, you're never too far from your favourite one stop boat and RV shop.

Burnsco stocks over 10,000 products. It's a huge range - marine electronics, safety gear, fishing tackle, kayaks, anchoring, clothing, marine paint, plumbing, electrical and lighting, yacht fittings and much more. So the chances are that you'll find what you need at Burnsco. And if they haven't got it, they can get it for you - fast! Mark and his team are known for their friendly, helpful and expert customer service. They know their stuff and can advise you on what will work best for your boat or motorhome.

When you're in the store, sign up for the Burnsco Card. It's free! And it gives you exclusive savings on many product lines, Rewards vouchers based on accumulated spend, entry into all Card promotions and prize draws, and invitations to Guru nights where experts explain products and techniques.



www.burnsco.co.nz

christchurch@burnsco.co.nz

Support Burnsco's as they supported us. Don't forget to say you are from Canterbury Underwater Club and thank them for their sponsorship when you are shopping with them.